

Summer Incentive Award

Mr. James Mackenzie

Assistant Professor, Tenure-Track, Communication, Media & Journalism, Arts & Letters

Summer Incentive Award

Dr. Esther Morgan-Ellis

Associate Professor, tenured, Music, Arts & Letters

Almost everybody can sing a Stephen Foster song. "Oh, Susanna!" is perhaps the best known today, with "Camptown Races" as another strong contender. Two of Foster's songs—"My Old Kentucky Home" and "Old Folks at Home"—have been adopted as state songs, by Kentucky and Florida respectively. What few people know, however, is that all of these songs were born out of the practices of blackface minstrelsy, and all originally offered stereotyped and offensive portrayals of African Americans. "Oh, Susanna!" and "Camptown Races" both give voice to the minstrel character Jim Crow—a foolish but happy black man who is always good for a laugh. "Old Folks at Home," which was originally sung in dialect, expresses the yearning of an ex-slave for the plantation, while "My Old Kentucky Home" describes the suffering of slaves in terms that were already distasteful to black Americans at the time of the song's publication in 1852. Most of these songs were popularized by white performers who blackened their faces, donned comical outfits, and assumed African American identities on the minstrel stage.

Today, these songs mean something quite different to the American who sing them. This change in signification has been made possible by means of various transformations in the songs' text and context. Dialect, which originally betrayed the supposed ethnicity of the speaker, has been stripped away. References to "darkies" have been expunged. And certain offensive verses have been eliminated. In sum, Foster's most popular songs have been recast as expressions of white identity. "My Old Kentucky Home" and "Old Folks at Home" now express generic nostalgia or state pride, while "Camptown Races" is merely a comic nonsense song for children. The fate of "Oh, Susanna!" is a bit more complicated: While it is no longer associated with the Jim Crow character, it has become linked with another stereotype, the white hillbilly.

This project will trace how and when these changes came about. It will also offer conclusions about why these songs changed, and what those transformations have to tell us about American culture and identity. Because I am specifically interested in the collective construction of meaning thorough the practice of community singing, I will be focusing on sing-along media, including song books, song slides (from which lyrics and images were projected), and sing-along films, radio programs, and television shows. I have already completed a cursory survey of forty-seven song books published between 1913 and 2003, which has revealed certain key facts. For example, dialect and racist epitaphs were no longer printed after the 1950s, while at the same time illustrations ceased to portray explicitly black subjects and instead favored white subjects—often hillbillies or cowboys.

*The final product of this investigation will be a 13,000-word book chapter for inclusion in a volume tentatively titled *Music and Cultural Value*, currently under consideration at Oxford University Press. This project will also be presented at a national conference and on the UNG Dahlongega campus.*

Summer Incentive Award

Dr. Harrison Davis

Associate Profesor, Tenured, Counseling, Health Sciences & Professions

Racial discrimination can be an unpleasant psychological experience for individuals who belong to an ethnic minority group, however the study of race-based stress is only recently gaining traction. Further research needs to be done concerning the psychological well-

concept and preliminary data for a major NSF-RUI grant. Students and faculty alike will work on the development of presentation/communication skills via dissemination of research progress at local, regional, national conferences. The results of this chemical research have high potential for publication

Summer Incentive Award

Dr. Melissa Schindler

Assistant Professor, Not tenured, English, Arts & Letters

The proposed UNG Presidential project will examine African-American perceptions of Latin America in speculative literature. Recent years have seen an explosion of interest in "afrofuturism," an aesthetic

Summer Incentive Award

Dr. Jennifer Jones

Assistant Professor, Tenure-track, Teacher Education, Education

Summer Incentive Award

Dr. Robert H. Scott

Assistant Professor, Tenure track, History - Anthropology - Philosophy, Arts & Letters

The central aim of this project is to complete, as a co-editor and author, an edited volume on Buddhism in East Asia. While there are many good general introductions to Buddhism, the prevailing tendency of available introductions is to focus on the origins and development of Buddhism in South and Central Asia. This volume will be distinctive in 2 respects: 1) in providing a general introduction, for use in undergraduate classes, to Buddhism as it has developed in East Asia, in particular in China, Korea, and Japan, and 2) in placing a strong emphasis on pedagogy (in Part 1) with the aim of providing a useful resource to teachers who may be adding (or considering developing) content on East Asian Buddhism in their courses, but who may not have specialization in this area.

Summer Incentive Award

Dr. Joanna Carrega

Assistant Professor, Tenure Track, Nursing, Health Sciences & Professions

Background/Significance

Over the past decade, several initiatives have been implemented to improve breastfeeding rates and support across the United States (U. S. Department of Health and Human Services [U. S. DHHS], 2011a). Currently, most new mothers in the U.S. choose to initially breastfeed; however, 60% do not meet their intended breastfeeding goals (Antsey, MacGowen, & Allen, 2016). Perception of inadequate milk supply is an important factor associated with early discontinuation of breastfeeding during the early postpartum months. Stress and significant sleep disturbance during pregnancy or the early postpartum period may disrupt secretion of prolactin and oxytocin resulting in low milk volume (Van Cauter & Tasali, 2017; Stremler, Sharkey & Wolfson, 2017) for some new mothers.

Purpose

To examine the impact of maternal stress and sleep disturbance during pregnancy and early postpartum period upon 24-hour milk volume among first-time mothers. Factors associated with postpartum sleep disturbance and postpartum well-being will also be explored.

Methods

A descriptive correlational study will be conducted that follows 50 first-time mothers of healthy newborns from the third trimester of pregnancy through one month postpartum. Mothers will be recruited from childbirth classes or primary care offices during the third trimester. Objective measurement of sleep characteristics using a wrist actigraph will be performed during pregnancy and postpartum. Self-report measures of stress, sleep disturbance, fatigue and depressive symptoms will be collected at two week's postpartum. Infant test weights as a measure of milk volume also be performed at age two weeks. Infant's feeding method will be assessed at age one month. Pearson's product moment correlation and hierarchal regression analyses will be used for data analysis.

Implications

Findings from this study will be useful in developing future interventions that reduce stress, promote sleep, and improve well-being along the perinatal continuum to support new mothers in achievement of their breastfeeding goals.

Expedition to find the Northwest Passage and its encounters with Inuit folk traditions. Later chapters will focus on the image of pirates in western culture (five) and the portrayal of violence towards U.S. citizens abroad in body horror films (six).

The chapter for which I seek funding for research and drafting, however, examines the "legend" of John Henry. I will specifically compare historical versions of the Ballad of John Henry to contemporary speculative fictional retellings, especially the work of Balogun Ojetade, a local Atlanta artist and writer. I

Summer Incentive Award

Dr. Ahmad Ghafarian

Profesor, Tenured, Computer Science and Information Systems, Business

researchers by VirusTotal and Ransom-as-a-Service (RaaS). Each dataset consists of hundreds of the most recent real ransomware files.