

wellesleyweek

3-10
november
2008

author discusses race in america, from passing to post-racial

Bliss Broyard, right, grew up feeling there was something about her family that she didn't know. As her father Anatole — a literary critic for *The New York Times* — lay dying, her mother revealed what her father wouldn't — he was part black.

"My father truly believed that there wasn't any essential difference between blacks and whites and that the only person responsible for determining who he was supposed to be was himself," Broyard wrote in *One Drop: My Father's Hidden Life — a Story of Race and Family Secrets*.

Following her family's revelation, Broyard — who was raised as white — began to look into her father's Creole history and genealogy and learn about the family she had never known. She will present the lecture "From Passing to the Post-Racial: Does Race Still Matter?" Thursday, Nov. 6, at 4:30 pm in the Library Lecture Room. A reception will follow at Harambee House.

Annie Seaton '90, who has accepted a position as assistant professor and dean of multicultural affairs at Bard College, will be on hand to provide a response and frame discussion around the question: Does race still matter? She has written on race mixing in 20th-century culture and has organized courses and conferences around

the intersection of race and new media, examining visual constructions of race, such as blackness and Jewishness, via literature, literary theory, psychoanalysis and film.

Ten years after DNA tests proved that a male in the line of Thomas Jefferson fathered children by his slave — and on the eve of an election that might see the first black president — discussions of race are still evolving.

"These private stories are changing the ways we view race in America," said Diana Williams, history. For more information, contact blissbroyardatwellesley@gmail.com.



discovering the link between physics and privacy

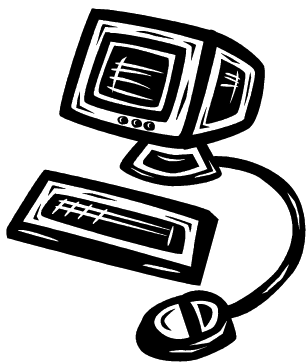
Who — or what — keeps track of all the phrases we type into search engines like Google every day? Do we have any personal privacy in an Internet age? On Wednesday, Nov. 5, physicist and MIT professor of quantum-mechanical engineering Seth Lloyd will address these questions in a lecture, "Surfing the Quantum Internet," at 12:30 pm in Science Center room 278.

According to Lloyd, audiences might be surprised to learn just how much privacy the Internet affords us. "Fortunately, even if the Constitution doesn't guarantee your right to privacy on the Internet, the laws of physics do provide such a guarantee," he said.

But how do the laws of physics relate to computing? In his lecture, Lloyd will teach listeners the basics of quantum mechanics,

and he'll explain how these principles operate when we use the Internet. "At bottom, the computers and communication systems that make up the Internet are governed by the laws of quantum mechanics. Quantum mechanics is weird," he said. "Quantum weirdness provides, amongst other strange and funky effects, an inalienable right to privacy."

Lloyd gained recognition in his field when he became the first to develop a realizable model for quantum computation; now, his work focuses on the construction and operation of quantum computers and communication systems. Lloyd is also director of MIT's W.M. Keck Center for Extreme Quantum Information Theory and author of the book *Programming the Universe*. For more information, call x3120.



bullying, or worse?

According to Nan Stein, senior research scientist at the Wellesley Centers for Women, sexual harassment and violence in schools is often hidden by the use of other more acceptable, softer terms — such as "bullying." When educators use euphemisms for these incidents, their violent and illegal nature is obscured and they are often not reported to school officials or to law enforcement.

Stein will address this issue in "Locating a Secret Problem: A Rising Pandemic of Sexual Violence in Elementary and Secondary Schools" Thursday, Nov. 6, at 12:30 pm in the Cheever House Library.

"The consequences are more than mere confusion; rather, we are unable to get an accurate indicator of the gendered nature of school violence and safety," she said. For more information, call x2552.

WellesleyWeek is published each Monday during the academic year by the Office for Public Affairs. All events are free and open to the public unless otherwise noted. For directions, go to www.wellesley.edu/CampusMaps/. Phone numbers are dialed 781 283-xxxx. Campus-sponsored event listings are welcome via an online form at www.wellesley.edu/PublicAffairs/WellesleyWeek/Forms/wellswkform.html or e-mail wellesleyweekcalendar@wellesley.edu. Submissions can be mailed to WellesleyWeek, Office for Public Affairs, Wellesley College, 106 Central St., Wellesley, MA 02481. Deadline for calendar submissions is noon on the Monday prior to publication. For paid subscriptions, call 781 283 2373. View **WellesleyWeek** online at www.wellesley.edu/PublicAffairs/WellesleyWeek/archiveweek.html. For more events, go to <https://calendar.wellesley.edu/wv3> for the online campus calendar.

news

wellesley researcher examines ‘level of voice’

Why do people have difficulty speaking their minds? Sally Theran, psychology, researches this problem, called “level of voice” — a way of gauging how comfortable people are in expressing themselves in relationships, either among friends or with parent and teachers.

Her work, “Predictors of Level of Voice in Adolescent Girls: Ethnicity, Attachment and Gender Role Socialization,” published online in October in the *Journal of Youth and Adolescence*, looks at an ethnically diverse group of 108 14-year-old girls to find out what gives some young women the strength to be

open and honest — and why others keep their thoughts and feelings to themselves, resulting in lower “levels of voice.”

“Lower level of voice means someone speaks with a less authentic voice,” said Theran. “In interactions with others, they may not say, ‘Look, we have a problem,’

since they are worried about threatening a relationship. Actually negotiating a conflict indicates a higher level of voice.”

Some researchers have said lack of voice is a feminine characteristic. But the results from Theran’s participants, who rated themselves on scales of highly feminine and highly masculine traits, was not consistent with that theory.

“Being more feminine is not a predictor of lower levels of voice,” Theran said. “Being feminine doesn’t mean you are not able to speak your mind.”

So how can you remain authentic in relationships? The solution, Theran said, is bringing these issues out into the open.

“You socialize girls from an early age to talk about their feelings openly and honestly, and you continue to do that,” she said.

“For example, you can find a nice way to say, ‘You hurt my feelings,’ rather than to allow a problem to fester.”



charitable giving campaign extends options

For the past several years the college community has contributed to four organizations as part of Wellesley’s annual Charitable Giving Campaign: Community Works, Oxfam America, Rosie’s Place and United Way of Massachusetts Bay.

In response to the community’s commitment to expand giving opportunities and organizations, the campaign will add the Massachusetts affiliate of the National Alliance on Mental Illness, referred to as NAMI-Mass. NAMI is the nation’s largest grassroots organization for people with mental illness and their families. It is dedicated to the eradication of mental illnesses and to the improvement of the quality of life for persons of all ages affected by such illness. Members and friends work to fulfill this mission by providing support, education and advocacy.

The campaign will kick off with a Charitable Giving Open House Thursday, Nov. 6, from 9 am to noon in the Wang Campus Center, room 104, the Cow Chair Room. It will be held in conjunction with the Human Resources Benefits Fair in Tishman Commons.

“The committee believes that a workplace giving campaign is just one of the many benefits of working at Wellesley,” noted members of the committee, chaired by Donna Volpe Strouse and Bridget Belgiovine. “We challenge all faculty and staff to consider giving...any amount will support our 2008 Wellesley College Charitable Giving Campaign.”

Charitable giving information will be sent electronically to faculty and staff during the first week of November.

colleagues

in the news

marjorie agosin, Spanish, was featured during the Massachusetts Poetry Festival — a three-day celebration of poetry in Lowell, Mass. The festival featured emerging and award-winning poets, including U.S. Poet Laureate Robert Pinsky and Martín Espada, a University of Massachusetts-Amherst English professor. Agosin has written several books of poetry, including *Brujas y algo mas: Witches and Other Things*.

margaret cezair-thompson, English, discussed her novel *The Pirate’s Daughter* at the Wellesley Free Library. *The Pirate’s Daughter* was inspired by Errol Flynn’s accidental arrival in Jamaica in 1946. Spanning two generations of women whose destinies become inextricably linked with the matinee idol’s, the novel tells the story of a vanished era, of uncommon kinships, forbidden passions, betrayal and atonement.

marion just, political science, gave a presentation on race, gender and the media in the 2008 election at Wells College in Aurora, N.Y. Using various statistics, Just analyzed media coverage of the candidates and showed how their coverage might relate to race and gender issues in the U.S. Hillary Clinton was often portrayed as cold and calculating in the press, for instance, but also criticized for showing emotion — a common problem for female politicians. “If they appear to be too tough, they appear as too unfeminine,” Just said, as reported in the *Auburn Citizen*. “But if they appear too feminine, then they appear to be too weak.”

alejandra osorio, history, delivered the lecture “Inventing Lima: Baroque Modernity in Peru’s South Sea Metropolis” at the Baker-Nord Center for the Humanities at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio. The lecture, which outlined the role of cities in the making of the 17th-century Spanish Empire, was part of an ongoing seminar on comparative urban history sponsored by the history department, ethnic studies, the Baker-Nord Center and the Council on Minorities. Osorio’s research focuses on the intersection of politics and urban culture in colonial Latin America.

calendar

monday november 3

online registration for spring 2009 begins.

cws application deadline for Luce Fellowship. Info: x2352.

gathering. Buddhist sitting. 12:30 pm, meditation room, Houghton Chapel. Sponsor: Religious and Spiritual Life. Info: x2793.

german table. 12:30 pm, Tower Court private dining room. Sponsor: German. Info: x4177.

cws workshop. "Creating an Outstanding Graduate School Application." Speaker: Milton Komfeld, founder, YourDean.com. 5 pm, PNW 212. Info: x2352.

gathering. Pooja service. 7:15 pm, Multifaith Center, Houghton Chapel. Sponsors: Hindu Community and Religious and Spiritual Life. Info: x2974.

esl tutoring. 6-8:15 pm, PLTC small conference room, Clapp Library. By appointment. Info: x2480.

lip sync. 8 pm, Tishman Commons, Wang Center. Sponsor: House Presidents Council. Info: HPCmail@wellesley.edu.

tuesday november 4

gathering. Buddhist sitting. 12:30 pm, meditation room, Houghton Chapel. Sponsor: Religious and Spiritual Life. Info: x2793.

colloquium. "Euler Products and Twisted Euler Products." Speaker: Solomon Friedberg, mathematics, Boston College. 4:15 pm, SCI 396. Sponsor: Mathematics. Info: x3148.

lecture. "Brain and Visual Perception." Speaker: David Hubel, winner of Nobel Prize in physiology or medicine, 1981. 5 pm, SCI 278. Sponsor: Neuroscience. Info: x3154.

election night. 7:30 pm, Pendleton Atrium. Sponsor: CPLA. Info: CPLAmail@wellesley.edu.

wednesday november 5

cws application deadline for Carnegie Fellowship. Info: x2352.

gathering. Buddhist sitting. 8:30 am, meditation room, Houghton Chapel. Sponsor: Religious and Spiritual Life. Info: x2793.

clinic. Flu shots. 10 am – 6 pm, Health Center. \$20, cash only. For students only. Info: x2816.

chinese table. 12:30 pm, Tower Court private dining room. Sponsor: CSA. Info: CSAmail@wellesley.edu.

lecture. "Surfing the Quantum Internet." Speaker: Seth Lloyd, quantum-mechanical engineering, MIT, and director, W. M. Keck Center for Extreme Quantum Information Theory. 12:30 pm, SCI278. Sponsor: Computer Science and Physics. Info: x3120. (See story, page 1.)

reading. Speaker: Angela Krauss, author. 5 pm, FND 423. Sponsor: German. Info: x2584.

cws info session. Georgetown Law School. Videoconferenced. 5:30 pm, PNE 127. Info: x2352.

gathering. Unitarian Universalist worship circle. 6 pm, Multifaith Center, Houghton Chapel. Sponsor: Unitarian Universalist Chaplaincy. Info: x3484.

senate. 6 pm, Academic Council Room, 4th floor, GRH. Info: cgmil@wellesley.edu.

thursday november 6

open house. "Annual Benefits Information Day." 9 am – noon, Tishman Commons, Wang Center. Sponsor: Human Resources. Info: x2215.

open house. Charitable Giving. 9 am – noon, Wang 104. Sponsor: Charitable Giving Committee. Info: x3425.

clinic. Flu shots. 9 am- noon, Tishman Commons, Wang Center. \$20, cash only. For Wellesley employees only. Info: x2816.

spanish table. 12:30 pm, Tower Court private dining room. Sponsor: Spanish. Info: x2402.

french table. 12:30 pm, Bates private dining room. Sponsor: French House. Info: x2413.

workshop. "Composers' Colloquium." 12:30 pm, Jewett 218. Sponsor: Music. Info: kobermue@wellesley.edu or pgilbert@wellesley.edu.

gathering. Buddhist sitting. 12:30 and 7 pm, meditation room, Houghton Chapel. Sponsor: Religious and Spiritual Life. Info: x2793.

lecture. "Building Animals: Sloths and the Question of Evolutionary Constraints." Speaker: Emily Buchholtz, biological sciences. 12:30 pm, Whitin Observatory. Sponsor: Science Center. Info: x2500.

lecture. "Locating a Secret Problem: A Rising Pandemic of Sexual Violence in Elementary and Secondary Schools." Speaker: Nan Stein, senior research scientist, Wellesley Centers for Women. 12:30 pm, Cheever House. Sponsor: WCW. Info: x2500. (See story, page 1.)

lecture. "From Passing to the Post-Racial: Does Race Still Matter?" Speaker: Bliss Broyard, author of *One Drop*. 4:30 pm, Library Lecture Room. Sponsor: African Studies. Info: svickery@wellesley.edu. (See story, page 1.)

lecture. "Living in the Past? Changes and Challenges in the Historical Profession." Speaker: Barbara Weinstein, history. 4:30 pm, Newhouse Center. Sponsors: History and Latin American Studies. Info: x2605. (See story, page 4.)

esl tutoring. (See 11/3 listing.)

friday november 7

gathering. Muslim Friday prayers. 12:30 pm, Multifaith Center, Houghton Chapel. Sponsor: Religious and Spiritual Life. Info: x2655.

gathering. Shabbat service. 6 pm. Contact rrostin@wellesley.edu for weekly location. Sponsors: Hillel and Religious and Spiritual Life. Info: x2687.

film. *The Shop Around the Corner*, 7 pm, Mr. Smith Goes to Washington, 9 pm. Sponsor: Film Society. Info: eglatter@wellesley.edu.

theatre. *Two Gentlemen of Verona*. 8 pm, Shakespeare House. Tickets: \$5 for members of campus commu-

save the date

11/11: Lecture. "Cosmopolitan Canopies: Race Relations in Everyday Life." Speaker: Elijah Anderson, sociology, Yale. 7 pm, PNW 212. Sponsor: Sociology. Info: x3565.

11/12: Student night at the Davis Museum, "Davis After Dark." 6 pm, DMCC. Sponsor: DMSAC. Info: x2034.

nity and \$10 for off-campus. Sponsor: Shakespeare Society. Info: shakespearemail@wellesley.edu.

saturday november 8

clinic. Flu shots. 11 am – 2 pm, Health Center. \$20, cash only. For students only. Info: x2816.

tournament. Intramural round-robin tennis. 1- 4 pm, Towne field house. Faculty and staff welcome. Info: x2008.

film. *Mr. Smith Goes to Washington*, 7 pm, *The Shop Around the Corner*, 9:15 pm. (See 11/7 listing.)

theatre. *Two Gentlemen of Verona*. (See 11/7 listing.)

sunday november 9

alana fall open campus. Overnight admission open house for prospective ALANA students and parents. Info: x3291.

gathering. Protestant worship service. 11:30 am, Multifaith Center, Houghton Chapel. Sponsor: Religious and Spiritual Life. Info: x2656.

theatre. *Two Gentlemen of Verona*. 2 pm, Shakespeare House. (See 11/7 listing.)

gathering. Catholic Mass. 4 pm, Multifaith Center, Houghton Chapel. Sponsor: Newman Catholic Ministry. Info: x2688.

monday november 10

alana fall open campus. (See 11/9 listing.)

gathering. (See 11/3 listing.)

german table. (See 11/3 listing.)

book reading. *One More Year*. Speaker: Sana Krasikov, author. 4:30 pm, Library Lecture Room. Sponsor: English. Info: x2448.

gathering. Pooja service. (See 11/3 listing.)

esl tutoring. (See 11/3 listing.)

ongoing:

exhibit. *The Way We Were*. 4:30 pm, Jewett Sculpture Court. Through 11/25. Sponsor: Art. Info: x2042.

exhibit. *Black Womanhood: Image, Icons and Ideologies of the African Body*; *Ellen Zweig: HEAP; Recent Acquisitions: Works on Paper*. Davis Museum and Cultural Center. Through 12/14. Sponsor: DMCC. Info: x2034.

exhibit. *Art From the Native Soil: Chinese Paintings and Prints from Huxian, Junshan and Qijiang*. Jewett Art Gallery. Through 11/8. Sponsor: Art. Info: x2056.

don't miss ...

changes and challenges in the historical profession

The appointment of Barbara Weinstein, a historian of modern Brazil, as president of the American Historical Association (AHA) in 2007 was emblematic of a significant shift in the historical profession.

“Professor Weinstein is the first female Latin Americanist to become president of the AHA, the largest and oldest such professional association in the U.S.,” said Alejandra Osorio, history. “Her presidency reflects an important shift in the power dynamics within the academy — traditionally dominated by American and European historians and white men — but also in the ways the very study of history has changed its geopolitical emphases.”

Weinstein, a professor of history at New York University, will present the lecture “Living in the Past?: Changes and Challenges in the Historical Profession” Thursday, Nov. 6, at 4:30 pm in the Newhouse Center, Green Hall.

Reflecting on her experience as president of the AHA, Weinstein will discuss what she considers to be the most important transformations in the historical profession over the last half century, as well as the aspects of the historical discipline that are most resistant to change. Challenges facing the historical profession, both within academia and with regard to its place in public life, include questions related to the Internet and open access, disputes over classification of government records and continuing efforts by groups outside the historical profession to define how history should be taught, she said.

Weinstein has written extensively on Brazil and Latin America, including the books *For Social Peace in Brazil: Industrialists and the Remaking of the Working Class in Sao Paulo, 1920-1964* and *The Amazon Rubber Boom, 1850-1920*. For more information, call x2605.



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