

REQUIRED Cover Page



APPLICATION FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT GRANT

**All applicants please complete this cover page.

Choose one: <input type="checkbox"/> Creative activity <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Research activity <input type="checkbox"/> Professional Enhancement activity	Date of Last PDG Award (Semester and Year awarded): <u>N/A</u> Date of ATU Faculty Appointment (Semester and Year): <u>FALL 2001</u>
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1. Project Title: "AMERICANS ON ITALY, ITALIANS ON AMERICA"
2. Name of Principal Investigator/Project Director: DR. PAOLA GEMME
3. School (abbrev): LFA 4. Department: ENGLISH
5. Campus Mail Address: 141 WITHERSPOON 6. PI/PD Campus Phone: 968-0487
7. Amount Requested: \$ 1,833.58 8. Total Cost of Project: \$ 2,433.58
9. Does this project involve: 10. Duration of Project: 9/29/07 - 10/7/07

Yes No

- ☐ ☒ human subjects?
☐ ☒ animals/animal care facility?
☐ ☒ radioactive materials?
☐ ☒ hazardous materials?
☐ ☒ biological agents or toxins restricted by the USA Patriot Act?
☐ ☒ copyright or patent potential?
☐ ☒ utilization of space **not** currently available to the PI/PD?
☐ ☒ the purchase of equipment/instrumentation/software currently **available** to the PI/PD?

NOTE: If the answer is "yes" to any of the above questions, the investigator must attach appropriate documentation of approval or justification for use/purchase.

SIGNATURES

Carol Brucher 7-23-07
Department Head Date
J. Duncan 7-24-07
Dean Date

This Section to be completed by the Office of Academic Affairs

PDC Committee Award Recommendation: Yes ___ No ☒
PDC Committee Proposal Rank: ___ of ___ Total Proposals.
Recommendation of VPAA: Yes ☒ No ___
Recommendation of President: Yes ___ No ___
Award Date: _____

*Proposal does not fit into
timeline for committee review.*
J. Hamm
7-24-07

AMERICANS ON ITALY. ITALIANS ON AMERICA
PAOLA GEMME, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF ENGLISH

ABSTRACT

My project, "Americans on Italy. Italians on America" has two components:

a. I was invited by Italian historian Daniele Fiorentino to give a presentation on his panel, "National Ideals and International Interactions between the United States and Italy, 1848-1948" at the International Conference of the Italian Association of American Studies to be held in Macerata, Italy, on October 4-6, 2007. Although we do not know each other personally, Fiorentino is familiar with my book, Domesticating Foreign Struggles: The Italian Risorgimento and Antebellum American Identity (Athens, GA: U of Georgia P, 2005). That is why he invited me to participate in the panel. In my presentation, "Drawing the Revolution: Thomas Nast's Sketches of Garibaldi's Expedition to the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies," I will analyze a collection of American drawings of an important episode of the process of nation formation in Italy. This is a subject I had only touched upon in my book and always thought deserved fuller development. Since the Italian Association of American Studies publishes the proceedings of its conferences, my presentation will soon be revised into an article.

b. In order to reach Macerata, I will be flying to Rome, the location of the Centro di Studi Americani, the most important collection of Italian scholarship on American Studies in Italy. I intend to spend three days at this library to start researching the issue of the birth and development of the discipline of American Studies in Italy. Some Italian historians have investigated specific moments of this development in Italian publications, but, to this date, there is no monograph on the topic and almost nothing available to a wider international community. I am hoping to make the rise and evolution of an academic interest in American culture in Italy my next book-length project.

PURPOSE

This trip has several purposes:

1. To expand on research that has already led to my publication of a book by fully investigating Thomas Nast's sketches of General Giuseppe Garibaldi 1860 expedition to the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies, a central moment in the process of the unification of Italy.
2. To establish a working relationship with the group of historians directed by Daniele Fiorentino. So far, we have conducted research on the same topic, American views of nineteenth-century Italian politics, independently, but my conference presentation would most probably lead to future collaborative projects.
3. To conduct research on a new topic, the development of American Studies in Italy, at the Centro di Studi Americani in Rome.

SIGNIFICANCE

Although Thomas Nast is an important American cartoonist, there is not a lot of scholarship on his work. Specifically, his drawings of Garibaldi's 1860 expedition for the Illustrated London News are only covered in a chapter of Giuseppe Prezzolini's 1933 Come gli Americani scoprono l'Italia and on pp. 40-41 of my book. A more recent, more extensive study of these sketches would complement a 1967 biography by Albert Bigalow Paine, which remains the standard book on Nast.

As for the metacritical examination of the rise of the discipline of American Studies in Italy, there has been a recent spurt of interest by Italian Americanists, evinced in several conference presentations at the last AISNA international conference. There is no book length subject on the topic, however, nor anything on a major American journal such as American Quarterly. The best, most recent scholarship on the subject, just released in the proceedings of the 2005 AISNA conference, explores only specific moment or figures of the study of the United States in Italy, and some of it is available only in Italian. There is

a definite need for a study that would be both more comprehensive and more easily available to an American audience.

PROCESS FOR ATTAINING THE OBJECTIVES

I will be preparing a fifteen-minute presentation on Thomas Nast's sketches of Garibaldi's expedition to the Kingdom of the Two Sicilies in the next two months.

The conference itself will afford the opportunity of establishing a working relationship with Daniele Fiorentino and Matteo Sanfilippo, the two Italian historians who share my interests and whose work includes several collections of essays on U.S. images of Italy, among others, Sara Antonelli, Daniele Fiorentino, and Giuseppe Monsagrati, eds. Gli Americani e la Repubblica Romana del 1848 (Rome: Gangemi, 2000) and Daniele Fiorentino and Matteo Sanfilippo, eds., Stati Uniti e l'unità d'Italia (Rome, Gangemi, 2004).

I will revise the presentation into an article for publication in the conference proceedings in the weeks following my trip, and hope to have a publishable manuscript by the end of Christmas break.

I will spend the three days prior to the conference at the Centro di Studi Americani in Rome. There, I intend to start my investigation into the development of American Studies in Italy by perusing the thirteen volumes of proceedings of AISNA conferences since the founding of the association in 1973. Such proceedings are an essential archive of Italian interpretations of American culture in the past thirty-five years. The last volume, Ambassadors: American Studies in A Changing World (Rapallo: Busco, 2006), edited by Massimo Bacigalupo and Gregory Dowling, is of particular interest to me because it contains several essays where Italian scholars themselves reflect on the Italians study of American history and culture.

DISSEMINATION OF RESULTS

My presentation on Thomas Nast will become an essay in the proceedings of the conference, which are generally published within eighteen months after the conference.

My research on the development of American Studies in Italy is still at the level of an interest to be pursued and very far from the publication stage. Still, since American Studies in the United States is going through a so-called “transnational turn,” a disciplinary transformation which includes, among others, an interest in the study of American culture outside the United States, major American studies journal in the U.S. would be interested in the subject, including American Quarterly, the official organ of the American Studies Association, American Studies International, issued by George Washington University, or Comparative American Studies, published by Sage.

BIBLIOGRAPHY OF PUBLICATIONS TO BE CONSULTED AT CENTRO DI STUDI AMERICANI IN ROME

Bacigalupo, Massimo, and Gregory Dowling, eds. Ambassadors: American Studies in A Changing World. Rapallo: Busco, 2006.

Bisutti De Riz, Francesca, and Rossella Mamoli Zorzi, eds. Technology and the American Imagination: An Ongoing Challenge. Venice: Edizioni Supernova, 1993.

Clericuzio, Alessandro, Annalisa Goldoni, and Andrea Mariani, eds. Telling the Stories of America: History, Literature, and the Arts. Rome: Nuova Arnica Editrice, 2000.

Corona, Mario, and Giuseppe Lombardo, eds. Methodologies of Gender. Rome: Herder Editore, 1993.

Mamoli Zorzi, Rossells, and Sergio Perosa, eds. Società e pratiche linguistiche dell'avanguardia americana del primo '900. Brescia: Paideia Editrice, 1981.

Nocera, Gigliola, ed. America Today. Highways and Labyrinths. Siracusa: Grafià Editrice, 2003.

Piccinato, Stefania, Clara Bertocci, et als., eds. Birth of *Which* Nation? America's Self-Images, 1865-1929. Perugia: Edizioni Guerra, 1989.

Pisapia, Biancamaria, Ugo Rubeo, and Anna Scacchi, eds. Red Badges of Courage: Wars and Conflicts in American Culture. Rome: Bulzoni Editore, 1998.

Rizzardi, Alfredo, ed. In the Puritan Vein. Nelle vene del puritanesimo. Brescia: Paideia Editrice, 1981.

__ __, ed. Italy and Italians in America. Albano Terme: Piovan Editore, 1985.

Tedeschini Lalli, Biancamaria, Marina Camboni, et als., eds. The Tranquillized Fifties. Albano Terme: Piovan Editore, 1985.

Vistarchi, Angela, ed. The City as Text. Sassari: Chiarella Editore, 1989.

PROPOSED BUDGET FACULTY RESEARCH GRANT

SUPPLIES

- Admission to Centro di Studi Americani: \$7.00 a day from 10/1/07 to 10/3/07: \$21.00
- Photocopies at Centro di Studi Americani: \$50.00

TRAVEL

- Personal car transportation to and from LR Airport on 9/29/07 and 10/07/07: \$73.92
- Airfare from Little Rock to Rome, Italy on 9/29/07 and 10/7/07: \$1,200.66
- Train from Rome to Macerata and back on 10/3/07 and 10/6/07: \$130.00

LODGING

- Hotel in Rome from 9/30/07 to 10/2/07 and on 10/6/07: \$520.00
- Hotel in Macerata from 10/3/07 to 10/6/07: \$186.00

MEALS

- \$28.00 a day from 9/29/07 to 10/07/07: \$252.00

FUNDING PROVIDED BY LFA

- \$600.00

TOTAL PROPOSED BUDGET \$1,833.58

PAOLA GEMME

Department of English
141 Witherspoon
Arkansas Tech University
Russellville, AR 72801
Phone: (479) 229-2095
E-mail: pgemme@atu.edu

EDUCATION

PhD in English, The Pennsylvania State University. August 1998.
Director: Susan K. Harris

Laurea in Comparative Literature, summa cum laude, University of Genoa, Italy, 1990.
Minor in American Studies.

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

- Associate Professor of English and American Studies, Arkansas Tech University, Russellville, AR, fall 2001-
- Visiting Assistant Professor of American Studies, University of Genoa, Italy, spring 1999-spring 2001.
- Graduate Student Lecturer, The Pennsylvania State University, fall 1990-spring 1998.
- Instructor of Italian, Institute for Applied Language Studies, University of Edinburgh, Scotland, spring 1990.

ACADEMIC HONORS

Voted in a student poll one of the best five teachers in the College of Liberal Arts of the University of Genoa for the academic year 1999/2000.

Graduate Assistant Award for Outstanding Teaching, 1994: awarded in a university-wide competition by the Graduate School and the Office for Undergraduate Education at Penn State University.

Annette K. Baxter Prize, 1993: awarded by the American Studies Association to the best student papers presented at the annual convention.

Fulbright Student Fellowship, 1990: awarded to pursue graduate studies in American culture in the United States. One of two conferred each year to Italian candidates in the humanities.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Books

Domesticating Foreign Struggles: The Italian Risorgimento and Antebellum American Identity. Athens: University of Georgia Press, 2005.

Scholars of American Studies have recently called for an internationalist approach to the study of American culture. In Domesticating Foreign Struggles: The Italian Risorgimento and Antebellum American Identity, I attempt to move towards a critical practice that resituates American culture within the global context in which it evolved. I analyze American texts that comment on the process of nation formation in nineteenth-century Italy and argue that this discourse on Italy articulated America's own national identity. Since I understand the formation of national identity to be a dual process entailing not only differentiation from groups outside the national body but also the creation of an imagined internal ethno-racial homogeneity, my study focuses both on how ante-bellum America defined its political identity in the confrontation with Italy, and on how the discourse on Italy contributed to the identification of the racial and cultural prerequisites for American citizenship.

Articles in Journals and Books

"Fuller and Catholics at Home and Abroad: Notes towards a Transnational Antebellum Ethnic History." ESQ 48.3 (2002): 135-158.

"Domesticating Foreign Struggles: American Narratives of the Italian Revolutions and the Debate on Slavery in Antebellum America." Prospects 27 (2002): 77-101.

"Imperial Prospects of Political Philanthropy: A Study of Antebellum Accounts of Italian Liberalism." American Studies International 39 (2001): 18-51.

"An American Jeremiah in Rome: A Study of Margaret Fuller's Tribune Dispatches." RSA: Rivista di Studi Anglo-Americani 11 (2000): 103-25.

"Rewriting the Indian Tale: Science, Politics, and the Evolution of Ann S. Stephens' Indian Romances." Prospects 19 (1994): 375-87.

"Representing the World in Discourse: A Socio-stylistic Analysis of Multivocality in The Journal of Madam Knight." Quaderni del Dipartimento di Lingue e Letterature Straniere Moderne dell'Università di Genova 6 (1993): 83-100.

"The Return of the Flesh: Woman as Resisting Character in Poe's Tales of Female Resurrection." Methodologies of Gender. Eds. Mario Corona and Giuseppe Lombardo (Roma: Editrice Herder, 1993): 147-57.

Encyclopedia and Biographical Essays

Forthcoming: "Guatemalans." Latinos and Latinas in U.S. History and Culture: An Encyclopedia. Eds. Camen Lugo-Lugo and David Leonard (New York: Sharpe).

"Latino Manhood." American Masculinities: A Historical Encyclopedia. Ed. Bret E. Carroll (London: Sage Publications, 2003) 263-6.

"Joel Tyler Headley." American Travel Writers, 1776-1864. Dictionary of Literary Biography 183. Eds. James Schramer and Donald Ross (Detroit: Brucoli Clark Layman, 1997) 162-7.

"American Women Writers to 1900." Reader's Guide to Literature in English. Ed. Mark Hawkins-Dady (London: Fitzroy Dearborn, 1996) 872-3.

"Legacy Profile: Ann Sophia Winterbotham Stephens (1810-1886)." Legacy: A Journal of American Women Writers 12 (1995): 47-55.

PAPERS DELIVERED

"Towards an International Approach to the Teaching of American Studies: 'Global Perspectives on the United States.'" 2004 MAASA Conference, University of Kansas, April 2004.

"Italian Patriots and American Slaves: The Debate on Abolition in U.S. Accounts of the Italian Wars of Independence," Futures of American Studies Conference, Dartmouth College, June 2002.

"Of American Tutors and Foreign Pupils: American Narratives of the *Risorgimento* and American National Identity," Organization of American Historians Annual Meeting, Indianapolis, April 1998.

"Domesticating Foreign Struggles: American Narratives of the *Risorgimento* and the Debate on Republican Citizenship," American Studies Association Annual Meeting, Kansas City, November 1996.

"Employing Role-playing in the Teaching of Early American Literature," American Literature Association Annual Convention, San Diego, June 1994.

"From Environmentalism to Scientific Racism: The Evolution of Ann Sophia Stephens' Indian Romances," American Studies Association Annual Meeting, Boston, November 1993.