

Welcome new faculty for the 2009/2010 school year!

SPOTLIGHT on: Dr. Karla Huebner, Visiting Assistant Professor Art and Art History

Dr. Huebner received her Ph.D. from the University of Pittsburgh and wrote her dissertation on the artist Toyen, one of the founders of the Prague surrealist group. Her M.A. is from American University; her B.A., in Theatre Arts, is from the University of California at Santa Cruz.

She will be teaching courses in the history of Western art and looks forward to working with her new students and colleagues at Wright State University. Her research currently focuses on the areas of Czech modernism, international surrealism, and the history of women, gender, and sexuality. Dr. Huebner has articles forthcoming in *The New Woman International: Representations in Photography and Film, 1890s-1930s* (University of Michigan Press) and *Aspasia 4*, and she will be presenting a paper on Toyen at the College Art Association conference in February.

Dr. Huebner writes fiction and plays music when time permits, likes to bike and ski, and belongs to the Dayton Area Rabbit Network.

Dr. David Niven, Assistant Professor Political Science

- B.A., 1992, Rutgers University
- Ph.D., 1996, Ohio State University

Dr. Opolot Okia, Assistant Professor History

Danielle Rante, Assistant Professor Art and Art History

SPOTLIGHT on: Dr. Nicole Richter, Assistant Professor Theatre, Dance and Motion Pictures

Nicole Richter completed her Ph.D. in Communication with an emphasis in Film Studies from the University of Miami, Florida in May 2009. Her dissertation titled “Our Veils Anticipate Our Shrouds: Eroticism in the Films of Catherine Breillat” is an authorship study of the controversial French feminist film director Catherine Breillat. Dr. Richter completed her M.A. in Film Studies from the University of Miami in 2006. Her thesis was titled “The Collaborative Authorship of Tim Burton and Johnny Depp,” which she presented a portion of at the 2007 Society for Cinema and Media Studies Conference. Nicole completed her B.A. at Concordia College in Moorhead, Minnesota, where she double majored in Philosophy and Psychology.

While at the University of Miami, Dr. Richter became the Founding Editor-in-Chief of the peer-reviewed international online journal *In Short: The Journal of Small Screen Studies*. She is currently in post-production for a documentary she is directing, titled “Billie Lynn,” about an environmental activist kinetic sculptor working in Miami. She has a forthcoming chapter titled “Feminist Aesthetics in Sofia Coppola’s Marie Antoinette” in the edited collection *Feminist Theory Does Hollywood: From the Home Computer Screen to the Multiplex* published by Routledge. Dr. Richter is an active scholar, presenting papers at several conferences a year. In 2008 she presented her paper “Imprisoning Women’s Bodies: The Role of Architecture in the Films of Sofia Coppola” at the Society for Cinema and Media Studies Conference, “Black Women’s Voices in Filmmaking” and “Films that Argue” at the National Communication Association Conference, of which the latter was selected for the top paper panel of her division, and “Meditations on Waking Life” in the Philosophy Division of the Popular Culture Association Conference. In past years she has presented papers titled “Postmodern Cyborg Desire in Bjork’s Music Videos,” “Severed Bodies: The Gothic in Tim Burton’s *The Nightmare Before Christmas*,” and “The Ambiguity of Otherness in Sofia Coppola’s *Lost in Translation*.” In 2005 her paper titled “Feminist Epistemology and Debate,” was nominated for the top student paper by NCA.

In the summer, Dr. Richter teaches debate at the University of North Texas Mean Green Workshops and at the University of Miami Hurricane Debate Institute. Nicole’s primary research interests include feminist theory, sexuality studies, American philosophy, especially the work of Stanley Cavell, and film studies.

**Deborah Thomas, Assistant Professor
Theatre, Dance and Motion Pictures**

Welcome, one and all!