

2009 American Studies Symposium

April 16th-18th

Featured Speakers



JOHN STAUFFER is Chair of the History of American Civilization and Professor of English and African and African American Studies at Harvard University. Among the leading scholars of the Civil War era, antislavery, and interracial alliances, he is the author or editor of seven books and more than 50 articles. His most recent book, *GIANTS: The Parallel Lives of Frederick Douglass and Abraham Lincoln* (2008), has been a *Boston Globe* and *Amazon.com* bestseller and was featured on the *Diane Rehm Show* and *Book TV with Susan Swain*. His book *The Black Hearts of Men: Radical Abolitionists and the Transformation of Race* (2002), a collective biography of two black and two white abolitionists who forged bonds of alliance that were unprecedented in the nineteenth century, won four major awards, including the Frederick Douglass Book Prize, the Avery Craven Book Prize, and the Lincoln Prize runner-up. Stauffer received his M.A. from Purdue University in 1993, his Ph.D. from Yale University in 1999, and has been selected to receive a 2009 Distinguished Alumni Award from the College of Liberal Arts at Purdue. He lives in Cambridge, MA with his wife, Deborah Cunningham, and their son, Erik Isaiah Stauffer. (Biographical information copied with permission from <http://www.harvard.edu>.)



SEAN X. GOUDIE is Associate Professor of English and a member of the Advisory Board for the Center for American Literary Studies at Penn State. His book, *Creole America: the West Indies and the Formation of Literature and Culture in the New Republic* (U Penn Press, 2006), was awarded the 2007 Modern Language Association Prize for a First Book. Goudie's research and teaching seek to devise new paradigms for understanding American literature and culture across the centuries, challenging bounded "national" estimations of the field in favor of "hemispheric" and "transnational" approaches. With particular emphasis on North American and Caribbean relations—historic, political, economic, and cultural—Goudie's scholarship has been supported by grants and fellowships from the Mellon Foundation, the McNeil Center for Early American Studies, and Vanderbilt University's Center for the Americas. Goudie's current book project examines the ways in which the Caribbean region becomes a primary locus for U. S. empire building in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries by treating artistic and literary proponents of such expansionism as well as its detractors both in North America and the West Indies. (Biographical information copied with permission from <http://www.psu.edu>)

(Dr. Goudie's plenary address is sponsored by Dr. Kristina Bross and the Early American Reading Group, E.A.R.G.)