



Johnson-Ross Wins Fulbright Scholar-in-Residence Award

Professor Debbi Johnson-Ross, Department of Political Science & International Studies, has landed a Fulbright Scholar-in-Residence award. The award will bring to campus Dr. Christopher Molem, an economist from Cameroon who specializes in globalization, development, and political economy. His expertise in African economies and globalization will help to bring added depth to courses offered by McDaniel's Political Science & International Studies Department. Dr. Johnson-Ross will work with Dr. Molem to develop an interdisciplinary course on Africa and to formalize a program in African and African-American studies, and to team teach a course on "Development and Economic Rights in Africa."

Dr. Molem will present a series of faculty discussions on the theme of "Twenty-first Century Challenges and Africa" to stimulate thinking in approaches to teaching about Africa, and he will engage in both on-campus and off-campus outreach.

The Fulbright program is the U.S. flagship program for international academic exchange with over 140 nations. It offers a variety of awards, for long- to short-term exchanges; for senior scholars to students, and for research and/or teaching.

Visit www.cies.org for information.

Johnson-Ross Wins Again: "Help America Vote" Award



Professor Debbi Johnson-Ross, Department of Political Science and International Studies, has won a "Help America Vote" grant from the U.S. Election Assistance Commission. Funds will be used to recruit and train up to 100 McDaniel College students to work for the Carroll County and Baltimore County Election Commissions as poll workers (election judges) in the November 2008 election. The project team includes Dr. Charles Neal, Dr. Herb Smith, and Dr. Julia Jasken. The project also aims to encourage McDaniel students to become cognizant of the elections process and civic education, and help in elections in their own communities. Johnson-Ross will launch the project with a Fall 2008 on-campus symposium on campaigns and the election process. The symposium is also designed to educate students about civic rights, responsibilities, and opportunities.

Music Education Major Wins Grants

McDaniel College graduate Stacy Fitzwater secured funds to create a project that would encourage environmental awareness and research-based activities around Earth Day. Professor Robin Armstrong administered a crash course in grant-writing during her World Music Pedagogy, even asking Gil Harootunian, Director of the Office of Academic & Government Grants, to guest speak in the class. Upon graduation, Stacy secured a job teaching in New York state, and she was proactive about approaching a local environmental company for funding. Stacy's grant award is a wonderful result of McDaniel's transformative teaching.



Alles Wins Fulbright to India

Professor Greg Alles, Department of Philosophy & Religious Studies, has won a Fulbright Scholar grant to study the oral literature of the Rathawas, a minority tribe in India. He will focus on the Rathawas' epic tales, his immediate concern being to document that rich body of oral literature, particularly performances of it. His interest as a scholar is in Rathawa systems of thought, especially in systems that

are customarily designated as religious, for they can teach us much about how human beings conceptualize religion and religious realities. Greg is particularly interested in studying the local systems of knowledge, a more nuanced way to study epics and the worlds around them than fitting them into some pre-established pattern defined by European or North American theorists.

Greg's project grows out of a previous Fulbright experience. He was a Fulbright research scholar in India in 1988–1989. His project focused on the religion and rhetoric of the Valmiki–Ramayana. That research led to Greg's book, *The Iliad, the Ramayana, and the Work of Religion: Failed Persuasion and Religious Mystification* (Penn State Press, 1994).



Pithora on cloth by Mansingbhai Rathawa, personal collection, Gregory Alles. Photo by Susan Ruddick Bloom.

Pithoro paintings, which fill the central walls of Rathawa houses, play a major role in religion among the Rathawas, which Greg studies. Embodied in the painting, the god Pithoro receives offerings such as goats, chickens, vegetables, and liquor and protects the family as well as the crops and domesticated animals from harm.

New Grants.Gov Deadlines: Think “Minus 5”

Grants.Gov has become more user-friendly and reliable after three years of testing. The result is that the U.S. Department of Education (ED) was the 1st federal agency to announce that it will require applicants to have their e-submissions accepted by and transmitted from Grants.Gov into the ED system by the grant's deadline. Grants.Gov can take up to 48 hours to transmit an e-submission, which means that if a grant application is due on the 18th, one has to submit it to Grants.Gov on the 16th. Moreover, if a technical error invalidates an application, one must re-submit the entire application. This means that applicants really need to submit an application on the 14th (for a deadline on the 18th) to make sure they have time to correct any technical errors and re-submit via Grants.Gov. Many times Grants.Gov works faster than the 48 hours, but sometimes it does not. It can also take up to 1 day to upload an entire grant application into Grants.Gov. To protect their applications, all applicants should have their e-submission ready to go 5 days before the “real” deadline. For a deadline on the 18th, the application should be ready to go on the 13th. Other federal agencies are lining up to announce the same requirement...soon.

AGENCY DEADLINE	18th
Grants.Gov Time:	– 48 hours
Technical Error/ Re-Submission	– 48 hours
One-day e-prep	– 24 hours
SUBMISSION DEADLINE	13th

Quotes from the feds....

“People who get grants are people who re-apply for grants.” — Fred Winter, Senior Program Officer, National Endowment for the Humanities: “Federal Funding Opportunities in the Arts and Humanities” panel at the National Council for University Research Administrators national conference, Washington, D.C. November 5, 2007.