Washington Insider

NARA Creates Plan for the Founders Online

The National Archives responded to concerns raised by the Committees on Appropriations of the U.S. Congress that the complete papers of America's Founding Fathers are not available online. Archivist Allen Weinstein submitted a report outlining the program "The Founders Online," a plan for providing online access, to researchers, students, and the general public. The plan outlines three basic steps that remain: digitizing the existing 217 volumes and publishing the Papers on a single web site to allow for research and inquiry across America's Founding Era collections; transcribing and preparing the remaining papers (approximately 90,000 documents); and creating an independent oversight process to ensure that performance goals are established and met by the parties carrying out all aspects of the work. The report is available at www.archives.gov/nhprc/publications.

Commission to Consider Creation of National Museum of the American Latino

The week of May 9, the president signed into law a bill creating a commission to study the potential establishment of a National Museum of the American Latino. The new law sets up a 23-member commission charged with producing three things in a 24-month timeframe: (1) a national conference to bring stakeholders, experts, policymakers, and other interested parties together to discuss the museum's viability; (2) a fundraising plan to create an extensive public-private partnership; and (3) a report to Congress detailing a recommended plan of action on how to move forward with taking the museum from concept to reality. The report would include recommendations as to possible locations within the District of Columbia and the question of whether the museum should be part of the Smithsonian Institution.

Senate Panel Holds National Archives Oversight Hearing

On May 14 the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee's Subcommittee on Federal Financial Management, Government Information, Federal Services and International Security held an oversight hearing on the programs of the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) and the National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC).This was the first oversight hearing on the National Archives in well over a decade.

Smithsonian Says "Hooray for Hollywood"

The Smithsonian Institution this week announced an agreement with 20th Century Fox to allow the use of its name and facilities for the filming of "Night at the Museum II: Escape from the Smithsonian." The movie is the sequel to the 2006 film "Night at the Museum" starring Ben Stiller that earned over $250 million at the box office in the U.S., and over $500 million worldwide. This is the first time in its 162-year history that the Smithsonian Institution has allowed its name to be used in the title of a movie produced for theatrical distribution.

Sources for the column include the Consortium of Social Science Associations' Washington Update, *the National Coalition for History's* Washington Update, *and the National Humanities Alliance's* NHA-Announce.

PS Political Science & Politics

October 2008

Here's a preview of some of the articles that will be published in the October issue of *PS: Political Science and Politics*:

Symposia

Gender, Race, and the 2008 Presidential Election
Georgia Duerst-Lahti

Election Forecasting
James Campbell

Features

The 2006 New Orleans Mayoral Election: The Political Ramifications of a Large-Scale Natural Disaster
James Vanderleeuw

Income, Preferences, and the Dynamics of Policy Responsiveness
Joseph Daniel Ura and Christopher R. Ellis

Indoctrination U.? Faculty Ideology and Changes in Student Political Orientation
Mack D. Mariani and Gordon J. Hewitt

The Profession

Trial by Fire: Surviving the Job Talk Q&A
Ron Hassner

A Primer on Applying to the Liberal Arts College
James E. Hanley

Struggling to be Noticed: The Civil Rights Movement as an Academic Agenda Setter
Tasha Philpot

"Written, Published . . . Cross-indexed, and Footnoted": Plotting the Production of Scholarship on Black Women's and Gender Studies in Political Science
Nikol Alexander-Floyd

The Teacher

All-Knowing or All-Nurturing? Student Expectations, Gender Roles, and Practical Suggestions for Women in the Classroom
Michelle Dion

Empathy, Prejudice, and Fostering Tolerance
Kristen Renwick Monroe

Learning to Learn; Learning to Win: How to Succeed in the Simulated World of Model NATO
Andrey Meleshevich

Bottom Up Comparative Politics: Game Theory Abroad
Ruth Lane

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