



Volume 3, No. 2

NEWSLETTER

February 2002

From the Director:

The tragedies of Sept. 11 and the war a half a world away have made any research we have done at the Southwest Center seem extraneous this past autumn. Measured by the need to find the source of the anthrax attacks or the challenge of guiding an unmanned missile at a military target without hitting

distinguished scholars to Dallas to critique their work. This fall teams reviewed Omar Valerio-Jiménez's manuscript, whi-251 (ap)Tj10.02 0 0 10.02 436.4406

solving pressing societal problems.

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"Applied" and "pure" research, however, are not mutually exclusive. Applied research may lead to serendipitous discoveries and pure research may have practical consequences. Who could have

foreseen before September 11 that the nation would need experts on Afghanistan or speakers of Pashtun?

Because we cannot predict the specific kinds of knowledge that society will need in the future, universities neglect pure research at the nation's peril. We need to leave openings for lines of inquiry that seem on the surface to be extraneous, for those lines may lead to solutions to tomorrow's unforeseen problems. Similarly, we need to leave space for the mind to play in seemingly non-productive ways because that appears to foster creativity.

In that spirit, then, work at the Clements Center has gone on in the long shadow of September 11. Our three post-doctoral fellows, all completing books, have deepened their research and sharpened their writing and thinking. We have brought teams of

David J. Weber

~~~ **Welcome to the New Assistant Director** ~~~

The Clements Center's Executive Board recently named Sherry Smith, SMU professor of history, the Center's Assistant Director. Her responsibilities include collaborating with David Weber and serving in his place when he is away.

Andrea Boardman's position is now that of Executive Director, as she manages the day-to-day operations of the Center, working with David and Sherry.



~~~ **Spring Brown Bag Lecture Series** ~~~

Location: Texana Room, DeGolyer Library

The series began on Wednesday, January 16 with a presentation by **Omar Valerio-Jiménez**: "River of Hope: Everyday Forms of Resistance along the Lower Rio Grande." After the U.S.-Mexico War, the Rio Grande became a tool of resistance for various people from both sides of the border who used the river to obtain freedom and escape from peonage, prison, the military, slavery, and bad marriages. Dr. Valerio-Jiménez is this year's Summerfield Roberts Fellow in Texas History at the William P. Clements Cent



Intriguing Work by this Winter's Clements-DeGolyer Visiting Scholars

~~~ Next Grant Deadline is March 15! ~~~

Once a year, in a special collaboration between the Clements Center and the DeGolyer Library, visiting scholars receive research travel grants to work in the DeGolyer's special collections. **Michael Kimaid**, our first visitor of 2002 left behind an unforgettable snowstorm in Buffalo and arrived in Dallas on January 1st. A Ph.D. candidate at Bowling Green State University, Professor Kimaid is exploring cartography as the basis for a comparative analysis of Spanish imperial and American national, political, and cultural systems d



A Trans-Borderland Conference
Sponsored by the William P. Clements Center for Southwest Studies



**“Social Control on New Spain's North American Frontiers:
Choice, Persuasion, and Coercion”**



~ **Nuevo León:** Cecilia Sheridan (CIESAS COAHUILA, Saltillo, Coahuila, Mexico)
"Transformaciones en la territorialidad nativa hacia el noreste de Nueva España"

10:15–10:30 a.m. Coffee Break

10:30 a.m.–12:00 New Mexico, Sonora, and Nueva Vizcaya
~ **New Mexico:** Ross Frank (Ethnic Studies, University of California, San Diego)
"'They conceal a malice most refined': Controlling Social and Ethnic Mobility in Late Colonial New Mexico"
~ **Sonora-Arizona:**