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## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Colleagues,

It is a pleasure to welcome you to another edition of the PRF Newsletter. The past few months have been busy ones for our organization as well as for the individuals who make up the heart of PRF. First, I'd like to extend a special welcome to new member Diane Zizak. PRF is a dynamic process rather than a fixed entity. The influx of new members keeps that energy circulating with new ideas and fresh perspectives.

With that in mind, a warm welcome to Diane whose profile appears in another section of this newsletter. Congratulations, Diane, we are pleased to have you as part of our organization. Special thanks, as well, to Terri McNichol, our Membership Chair, for reaching out to prospective members and responding with information and enthusiasm to inquiries.

### **New Website to be unveiled soon**

One of the main ways PRF communicates with the world at large is through its website. As you may have noticed if you tried our URL lately, the site is "under construction." We have migrated to a new host and server, and are working hard to make this a comprehensive website with a user-friendly navigation system. We hope to convey the forward-looking attitude of PRF and to provide information needed to contact us and find PRF resources quickly and efficiently. Many thanks to Board Members Linda Arntzenius, Lina Genovesi, Karen Reeds, and others who have led the charge to revise and perfect the PRF online presence. We are hoping to have the site, [www.PrincetonResearchForum.org](http://www.PrincetonResearchForum.org), up and running soon.

Late winter is not only the time for new beginnings but also a time to look back at achievements that have formed the foundation of our scholarly

commitments. This year, the PRF Science/Science History Group is celebrating 20 years of eager discovery and engagement. Incredible though it may seem, science is under attack in our time. What is fake? What is true? The Science/Science History Group fearlessly takes on challengers and provides a forum for reading and study, sharing and defending the facts. Good work, Group Chair Boris Katz, and regular attendees at the monthly get-togethers. PRF Colleagues, if you have any interest in science, make it a point to visit with the Group, which usually meets at 12:30 p.m. one Friday each month except during the summer season. Look for details in the monthly calendar so capably produced by Patricia Hyatt, Calendar Editor and Board Member.



While you're at it, check out our other two lively discussion groups dedicated to Poetry and the Humanities. These groups offer an enjoyable way to grow in our own fields of interest, and to learn about other disciplines and practices. There is no reason a scientist cannot be a poet, and vice versa!

### **Check your calendars**

Speaking of Calendars, I invite you to attend the monthly luncheon at the Institute for Advanced Study

at noon on the third Thursday of the month (summer excepted). Even if you are not on the Board, you are warmly invited to attend the Board meeting held every other month at the end of the luncheon (Board meetings begin around 1:10 p.m.).

Finally, do not miss our occasional Works in Progress or Presentations. There are two articles in this issue about recent events in this category. The next will be Roger Moseley's presentation at 3 p.m. on Sunday, February 18. A hearty expression of thanks and gratitude to Ellen Gilbert, Work-in-Progress Chair and Board Member, for her tireless efforts and professionalism in arranging and hosting these activities. If you are not receiving the Calendar via e-mail, please contact me.

I hope you have been following the various announcements of grants I've been sending out since the fall. Karen Reeds, PRF Secretary and Grants Liaison, is our indefatigable researcher and contact person for grants. Remember, too, that we have our own Frances C. Hutner grant, which provides a small but much appreciated monetary award to help cover the costs of presentations at major conferences by PRF members. To apply for a grant, please contact Karen.

Although most members have sent in their annual dues to Treasurer Joyce Irwin, if you haven't had a chance to do so, please mail a check to Joyce c/o PRF at P.O. Box 264, Kingston, N.J. 08528-0264.

Stay tuned for a date and details about our spring get-together. If you have questions or ideas for ways to improve PRF and its activities, please send me an e-mail. Similarly, if you have new members to recommend, Terri McNichol will be pleased to hear from you. Your comments are always welcome! Here's to a rewarding and enjoyable rest-of-the-season. I hope to see you soon at some PRF events!

Best wishes to all,  
Linda Holt, President

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## **BROWAR WORK-IN-PROGRESS ON COGNITIVE BEHAVIOR THERAPY AND THE CYCLE OF ADDICTION**

*Report by Linda Holt*

The opioid crisis is making headlines, and no wonder. According to the National Institute on Drug

Abuse, more than 90 Americans die every day from opioid overdoses. Opioids include drugs such as prescription pain killers, heroin, and fentanyl (a synthetic opioid). More than 33,000 Americans died of opioid abuse in 2015, with an economic impact of more than \$78 billion a year, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

(<https://tinyurl.com/yal6ptgs>)

Unlike those addicted to other substances such as alcohol and cocaine, opioid abusers may have begun using drugs as part of a medical plan recommended by their physicians. Some switched from prescription pain killers to a cheaper but equally deadly drug, heroin. Given these alarming statistics and the lack of a viable program to end addiction, what can be done to stem the epidemic and help those in pain reclaim their lives?

PRF member Naomi Browar may be part of the answer. Naomi is a psychotherapist in private practice, and formerly a senior therapist at Princeton House Behavioral Health. Naomi provided feedback and editing on a book that her husband Robert Youdin, PhD submitted for publication to Oxford University Press, on a new approach to the substance abuse crises. Naomi described the book as an integrative, non-pathologizing, non-stigmatizing approach to the study of substance abuse, which is based on neurological functioning and the brain's adaptive capacities.

"The treatment industry today relies heavily on medication and rehab as the main routes for treating addiction," she told PRF colleagues during a Work-in-Progress presentation October 29, 2017, in the home of member Ellen Gilbert. "The burgeoning field of epigenetics and the brain's ability to encode new neural pathways due to neuroplasticity indicates that psychotherapy can be the most effective, long lasting and safest course of treatment. We think medication should be short term," she said. "At present, however, lack of affordable healthcare and the health insurance companies decide the duration and type of treatment. This needs to change."

### **Need for self-compassion**

According to Naomi, people need a customized treatment offered on a case-by-case basis. She likened the overall therapeutic approach to a three-legged stool, with the seat of the stool being resiliency. "In order to be resilient, you need the three pillars: healthy coping skills, insight, and self-compassion. Self-compassion is very important in substance abuse cases, where people often feel the weight of shame and guilt." Recovery is a process

that requires a “lifestyle change” that also incorporates exercise, nutrition, mindfulness, and good sleep hygiene. Using a strengths-based humanistic perspective, and employing cognitive behavior therapy, the therapist and patient work together to help facilitate the change process.

“Substance abuse isn’t the root problem, it’s a symptom,” Naomi said. “Depression, anxiety and/or psychosocial stressors, such as deterioration in health, death of a family member, financial insecurity, loss of employment, and loneliness, especially for older adults, can be some of the underlying issues that drive addiction, and are exacerbated by the psychotropic substance. Naomi also stressed the importance of community. According to a World Health Organization study, developing countries have better outcomes regarding schizophrenia than the US. In many such countries people suffering from the disorder are not stigmatized, less medicated, and live within their community. Another example of community is the popularity of support groups in the UK. Rather than stigmatizing people who claim to “hear voices,” a support group system called the Hearing Voices Network (<https://www.hearing-voices.org/>) provides a nonjudgmental place for people to share experiences of this type.

Naomi noted a concept, attributed to Viktor Frankl, that we need to pay attention to the space located between a stimulus and a response. For example, a person seeing it is 5 p.m - time for a drink—but before taking that drink, there is a space, a short time in which to use coping skills to change the habitual response of drinking. “In that space lies our power to choose a different response,” she said. “In our response, lies our growth and freedom.”

Naomi’s Work-in-Progress provided much food for thought for those in attendance who look forward to seeing Naomi and Robert Youdin’s book when it is published.

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## **JOEL GREENBERG SHARES EXPERT KNOWLEDGE OF JAPANESE ART AND ARTIFACTS**

*Report by Linda Holt*

The weather outside may have been frightful, but the art indoors was delightful, thanks to a presentation by PRF member Joel Greenberg on Japanese art and artifacts on January 7, 2018. The Work-in-Progress, arranged by PRF Board Member Ellen Gilbert, took

place in the home of Joel and Roslynn Greenberg in Princeton. Joel described the couple’s long fascination with Asian and European art, although Japanese culture is their particular interest. Joel focused his talk on a variety of art forms from the various era of Japanese history, in particular the Nara (645-794), in which the power and influence of Buddhism grew; the Kamakura (1185-1333), named for the new seat of government under a military dictatorship known as Shogun; and Edo (1615-1868), in which the government moved to the city now known as Tokyo.

Because this was a PRF Work-in-Progress, Joel also sought feedback and perspectives from the small but keenly interested group of PRF colleagues attending the presentation. Works discussed ranged from a *jinbaori* (surplice) that would have been worn by a samurai in the 17<sup>th</sup> century to pieces of furniture such as a cabinet and a hutch. Especially delightful were Joel’s comments on a hanging scroll by Mori Sosen (1747-1821), which was a depiction of playful monkeys, one of the artist’s signature themes.

The Japanese sense of aesthetics permeates even the most humble utensils of domestic life; for example, elegant ceremonial rice stirrers standing like columns in the corners of a room. Joel also invited ideas from his guests as to whether a woven (using the *kesi* technique) portrait of waterfowl was Chinese or Japanese in origin. The presentation ended with a discussion of netsuke (“net-skeh”), a miniature sculptural object used to fasten a cord to a sash, as well as the politics of ivory, once an important artistic medium.

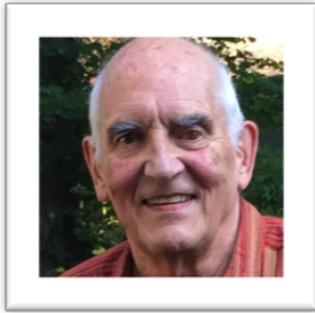
Joel retired as president of Princeton Synergetics, Inc., and is a docent at the Princeton Art Museum as well as an amateur photographer whose work has appeared in publications, art shows, and private collections. He was Vice President of ECON, Inc., a member of Princeton University’s Aerospace Department, Vice President of the Ventures Research & Development Group, and a member of RCA’s Corporate Staff Operations Research Group where he performed new business studies for the Corporation.

Of particular interest is Joel’s important contributions to the field of casino game analysis. He played a major role in the setting of Blackjack rules and procedures in Atlantic City, taking into account fairness to the general public and casino profitability and viability concerns. He also has served as an expert witness to the state’s Casino Control Commission.

But, as those attending the Work-in-Progress discovered, if you want to know about Japanese art, then you can safely place your bet on Joel Greenberg.

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## **UPCOMING WORK-IN-PROGRESS BY ROGER MOSELEY FOCUSES ON THE EVOLUTION OF MORALITY**



PRF will welcome member Roger Moseley when he presents a Work-in-Progress on Sunday, February 18, at 3 p.m., in the home of Work-in-Progress Chair Ellen

Gilbert. Roger will present his recent work on the evolution of morality. Although he has sent his book-length manuscript to prospective publishers, Roger regards it as still a work-in-progress and would welcome feedback from PRF colleagues on a topic that will be of interest to many in the humanities and sciences. The work-in-progress will take place in the home Ellen Gilbert, 227 Stuart Road East, Princeton, NJ 08540. Please RSVP to Ellen.

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## **THE SURPRISING TALENTS OF PRF MEMBERS BORIS KATZ AND TERRI MCNICHOL**

Working as an independent scholar can be lonely at times. PRF does much to form community for its members but there are still things we don't know about each other. With that in mind, here are the accomplishments of just two PRF members.

**Boris Katz** has been cartooning since the early sixties when he was a math student in the Republic of Belarus, in the former USSR. "I regularly read Polish and Czech satirical magazines and greatly admired the cartoons in them," he recalls. "and I was inspired to try my hand at creating my own." One of his first

cartoons was of a robot in a junkyard holding a piece of metal and saying "Poor Yorick." In a short time, his cartoons were being published regularly in Belarusian daily newspapers and in the Belarusian Literature and Art magazine from 1965 to 1980. "It was great fun and even provided a small financial reward!"

Born in 1947 in the small city of Pinsk, Boris had hoped to follow his earliest interest in biology but at that time in the Soviet Union, he says, "there was too much ideology associated with biology and "although genetics came to be allowed again after many years of suppression as 'imperialist pseudoscience' there was still much Communist Party interference, and it was difficult for an ethnic Jew to get into biology." Since he also loved mathematics, a subject he describes as being "further from ideology than any other branch of science," he moved to Minsk to pursue math at the Belorussian State University, where he received his B.A. and M.S.

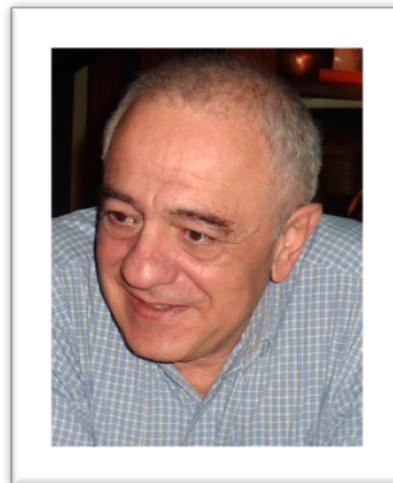
Many years later, Boris was delighted to learn that the American satirist and mathematician Tom Lehrer had immortalized the two cities of his youth, in his song about the great Russian mathematician and geometer, Nikolai Ivanovich Lobachevsky (1792-1856), which includes the line "I have a friend in Minsk, who has a friend in Pinsk..."

Before emigrating to the United States in 1980, Boris worked for the biggest Soviet computer company developing system software and doing research in mathematical logic, theory of formal languages and complexity of algorithms and computations. He published a number of math papers and began working towards his PhD, which he hoped to continue in the United States. Indeed, he brought the draft of his dissertation with him but, as the sole breadwinner in his family of five, could not continue his research at that time. Instead, he worked for several companies, including Lehman Brothers and IBM.

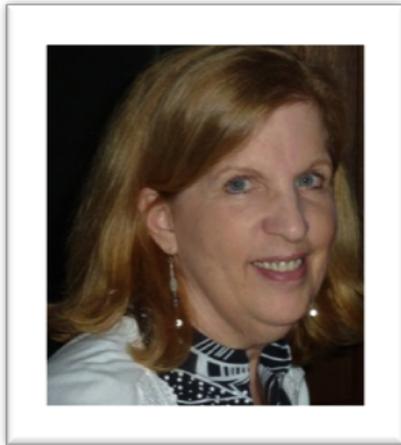
In 2000, he started his own business, running a small internet search engine until 2014, when he retired. The flexibility of running his own business allowed Boris the opportunity to start serious study in the areas of evolutionary biology and psychology. He enrolled as a non-matriculated graduate student at Rutgers. "I was very lucky to have the chance to take several courses with the great evolutionary biologist Robert Trivers," he says. "Today, I consider myself a serious amateur biologist and continue to pursue independent studies in evolutionary biology and Darwinian social theory."

Fortunately, he has also had some time for cartooning. Asked to share his current favorites, he says that while he still believes that the Polish and Czech cartoonists of the seventies were the best in Europe, his favorite American cartoonists are Roz Chast and John Callahan. "The best cartoons to me are the one that reflect on the human psyche and show inner struggles, conflicts or motivations. Most of Roz Chast's cartoons do this well," he says.

While he continues to draw cartoons, though much less often than in previous times, Boris has not published in the United States. "Two months ago, I submitted several cartoons to *The New Yorker*, but haven't heard back yet. I like to think that this is not because they didn't like my cartoons but because they mistook my email for spam!" For now, Boris shares his cartoons only with family and friends. "I try to come up with a cartoon for New Year's and send it to friends and to several groups, in which I am a member." Besides his membership in the Princeton Research Forum where he coordinates the activities of the Science/Science History Study Group, Boris volunteers to help to run the 55Plus organization in Princeton and serves as its webmaster. Besides cartooning, Boris's hobbies include reading, listening to music, attending the theater, playing ping pong and travel. And, he says: "I love to talk to people."



**Terri McNichol's** recent paintings include the works shown below from her "Moonlight Swim" series and "Seasonal Field" series, which may be viewed at: <http://cargocollective.com/renstudio>.



With a background in Chinese art history, Terri explores, in her paintings, correspondences between Chinese and Western landscapes. "Shan-shui," literally "mountain-water," the term for landscape in Chinese art, has long been a sacred source of inspiration for poets and painters. Terri observed these same relationships in her ancestral home in Ireland. The Twelve Bens with their interlocking water forms in Connemara have attracted Irish poets for centuries. Could it be an indication that Western artists have communed with the forms of Nature, the mountains and water, through "listening" as was done in the East, she wonders? And, if so, could the contemporary artist regain this primal contact with nature? Or has this historical lineage been severed? Whatever the case, the Irish landscape with its propensity to music and mysticism proved to be an ideal subject for Terri.

Painting from "Seasonal Field" series by Terri McNichol



After completing a series of six-foot triptychs of the Irish landscape, she has since turned her eye to the landscape where she resides, painting views of the surrounding fields in the changing rhythms of the four seasons. Also a fine

portrait painter, Terri hopes to paint portraits of PRF members such as her painting of the late Elizabeth Ettinghausen shown in a recent issue of this newsletter.

Painting from “Moonlight Swim” series by Terri McNichol



## MEMBER NEWS

**Linda Arntzenius** will read her poem “When Chicken was a Luxury,” which has been accepted for inclusion in the forthcoming 2018 issue of *USI Worksheets*, the annual journal of USI Poets’ Cooperative, at the journal’s launch party on Sunday, April 8, 2 p.m., at the Princeton Public Library. Linda is currently working as consultant and contributing editor for a new publication from the Center of Theological Inquiry. Titled *Fresh Thinking*, the publication includes several of her articles including “Observing the Art or Thinking Aloud,” and profiles of former Irish Ambassador Philip McDonogh, theologian Peter Phan, and Britain’s Emeritus Chief Rabbi, Sir Jonathan Sacks. Last summer Linda again traveled to the north of Scotland to conduct further research on her project on the life of Revolutionary War General Hugh Mercer. She hopes to present a Work-in-Progress on the subject to PRF soon.

**Matthew Erdelyi’s** recent scholarly activities include publication of the target article: Erdelyi, M.H. “The Continuity Hypothesis.” *Dreaming*, 2017, 27 (pp. 334-344). His paper, “Jokes as a Serious Model of Dreams,” has been accepted by the *International Association for the Study of Dreams*, and is to be presented at Scottsdale, Arizona, on June 17, 2018. In addition, he has been asked to participate in “The Ups and Downs of Memory,” an Invited Colloquium (for the fall of 2018) at Brooklyn College, CUNY.

**Lara Freidenfelds** was interviewed by anthropology professor Kate Clancy for her “Period Podcast.” They discussed Lara’s book, *The Modern Period: Menstruation in Twentieth-Century America*. Listen to it [here](#). Lara also published several essays on the Nursing Clio blog, including “Let’s Question All Versions of the Myth of Perfect Motherhood,” which takes on Lara’s pet peeve of cherry-picked and misleading demographic facts, and proposes a corrective to the *Time* magazine cover story on “The Goddess Myth.” Read Lara’s essay [here](#). For more on Lara, visit: [www.larafreidenfelds.com](http://www.larafreidenfelds.com).

**Shelley Frisch** has a new translation out, published by HarperCollins: Katja Petrowskaja’s *Maybe Esther* is described by the publisher as: “An inventive, unique, and extraordinarily moving literary debut that pieces together the fascinating story of one woman’s family across twentieth-century Russia, Ukraine, Poland, and Germany. Katja Petrowskaja wanted to create a kind of family tree, charting relatives who had scattered across multiple countries and continents. Her idea blossomed into this striking and highly original work of narrative nonfiction, an account of

her search for meaning within the stories of her ancestors.

In a series of short meditations, Petrowskaja delves into family legends, introducing a remarkable cast of characters: Judas Stern, her great-uncle, who shot a German diplomatic attaché in 1932 and was sentenced to death; her grandfather Semyon, who went underground with a new name during the Bolshevik Revolution in Russia, forever splitting their branch of the family from the rest; her grandmother Rosa, who ran an orphanage in the Urals for deaf-mute Jewish children; her Ukrainian grandfather Vasily, who disappeared during World War II and reappeared without explanation forty-one years later—and settled back into the family as if he’d never been gone; and her great-grandmother, whose name may have been Esther, who alone remained in Kiev and was killed by the Nazis. How do you talk about what you can’t know, how do you bring the past to life? To answer this complex question, Petrowskaja visits the scenes of these events, reflecting on a fragmented and traumatized century and bringing to light family figures who threaten to drift into obscurity. A true search for the past reminiscent of Jonathan Safran Foer’s *Everything Is Illuminated*, Daniel Mendelsohn’s *The Lost*, and Michael Chabon’s *Moonglow, Maybe Esther* is a poignant, haunting investigation of the effects of history on one family.” Shelley will take part in a panel discussion on the subject of translation at the Princeton Public Library, on the evening of March 15.

**Lina Genovesi** continues to serve as an Editor with Labcompare, a division of American Laboratory. Her latest article is “Figuring Ductless Hood Design in Lab Renovation” (<https://www.labcompare.com/345982-Figuring-Ductless-Hood-Design-in-Lab-Renovation/>). More of her articles can be read at <https://www.labcompare.com/659-AuthorProfile/3890-Lina-Genovesi/>.

**Linda Holt** has received a contract from Harvard Square Editions (HSE) for *Invictus*, her latest historical fiction novel about Beethoven. HSE is a publishing house run by Harvard alumni that grew out of the Harvard Alumni Association group, Harvard Writers and Publishers. HSE publishes literary fiction with a social or environmental message that transcends national boundaries. The book, which has been shortlisted for the Goethe Book Award sponsored by Chanticleer Book Reviews (no relation to the Goethe Prize of Frankfurt), takes a fictionalized view of Beethoven’s childhood and is the prequel to *The Black Spaniard*, published in November 2016 (Unsolicited Press).

Linda discussed her books, written as L.L. Holt, with host Marvin Rosen, WPRB-FM Princeton community radio, in an interview on “Classical Discoveries” on December 6, 2017. For more on Linda’s writings visit: [LLHolt.com](http://LLHolt.com); *The Black Spaniard* <http://tinyurl.com/y8demk3n>; and for a recent concert review: <http://bit.ly/2BhVp2X>.

**Joan Goldstein** has taped another TV30 conversation with author Brad Borkan who travelled from London to further explore his book, *When Your Life Depends on It: Extreme Decision Making Lessons from the Antarctic*. For the interview, visit: <https://vimeo.com/252929189>.

**Joyce Irwin** presented a paper titled “Telemann’s *Donnerode* in the Context of Enlightenment Nature Theology” at an international conference at Temple University on the theme “Georg Philipp Telemann: Enlightenment and Postmodern Perspectives.” Held October 11-14, the conference was the first one devoted to Telemann in the English-speaking world and received support from various German sources as well as Temple University. Performances by Tempesta di Mare and the University’s Baroque Orchestra and Concert Choir were also on the program. Joyce is also pleased to report that her 1993 book *Neither Voice nor Heart Alone: German Lutheran Theology of Music in the Age of the Baroque*, has been reprinted by Wipf & Stock. Originally published by Peter Lang, the book had long been out of print but available through Amazon for a high price. The paperback reprint is available directly from <https://wipfandstock.com> for the very reasonable web price of \$19.20.

**Donn Mitchell** is making final editorial revisions on his forthcoming book, *Tread the City’s Streets Again: Frances Perkins Shares Her Theology*, which is planned for launch in May 2018. The timing is significant because May is observed nationally as Labor History Month. Also, the Episcopal Church has set aside May 13, the date of her death, as the feast day for Frances Perkins in its calendar of holy days. This year, May 13 falls on a Sunday and is also Mother’s Day, so Donn has been invited to write a church-wide bulletin insert which parishes may use to educate their congregations about the mother of the federal social safety net, linking her to both liturgical observances and popular culture. He will also speak at the Church of the Ascension in Manhattan on that date.

At the same time, Donn is at work obtaining co-sponsors for the Frances Perkins Center’s planned exhibit at the General Convention of the Episcopal Church, which he will attend in July.

He will then return to Gladstone’s Library in Wales, where he will offer a short weekend course entitled, “Seeing Christ in Human Rights,” intended to develop a Christology of human rights. Last summer he presented a paper for a conference at the library on the topic of “Gladstone, Butler, and Conscience in the Anglican Tradition.” He also spent a week at the Bodleian Libraries and Pusey House in Oxford researching the Anglo-Catholic Summer School of Christian Sociology, which Frances Perkins attended in the 1920s and 30s. Donn continues to teach to courses in ethics at Berkeley College in New York and as Editor & Publisher of *The Anglican Examiner* (<http://anglicanexaminer.com>).

**Maureen E Mulvihill** reports that her recent activities (of which more in a future issue of the PRF Newsletter) include a guest lecture, a magazine feature on her rare book collection, her interview with the Rare Book School in Charlottesville, her “Swift” essay, now hosted online, and an upcoming piece on print historian, Elizabeth Eisenstein (EMA media ecology journal).

**Larissa Zaleska Onyshkevych**, who served as PRF President in the 1990s, has published a review article on Irena Kowal’s ‘true life novel, *Displaced*, in *The Ukrainian Quarterly*. LXXIII, 1-2, 2017, 128-134. Larissa’s recent book, *Borders, Bombs . . . and Two Right Shoes: World War II through the eyes of a Ukrainian Child Refugee Survivor*, printed by CreateSpace, 222 pages. ISBN: 0692746544; ISBN-13: 9780692746547, is available via Amazon: [https://www.amazon.com/dp/0692746544/ref=cm\\_sw\\_r\\_fa\\_dp\\_t2\\_ysxqyba23S77X](https://www.amazon.com/dp/0692746544/ref=cm_sw_r_fa_dp_t2_ysxqyba23S77X)

**Robert Youdin**, who is currently under deadline with Oxford University Press for his book on baby-boom addiction (the subject of Naomi Browar’s recent Work-in-Progress above), recently published two books: *Clinical Gerontological Social Work Practice* and *Psychology of Aging*. For more, visit: <http://www.youdin.net>; <https://www.amazon.com/author/robertyoudin>.

## PRF WELCOMES NEW MEMBER DIANE ZIZAK

Diane Zizak joined PRF as soon as she became a full-time resident of Princeton. Here she talks about her recent move.

“Although I have been coming to Princeton for about 20 years, it was only as a ‘part-time’ resident. I had been living in New York City and working for the Department of Education full time until this last

summer when I officially retired after over 30 years of service. My husband, [PRF Member] Matthew Erdelyi, and I have had something of a 'commuter marriage' over the years, and we are now both enjoying our time together here in Princeton.

My career and interests have taken me on a road that included several divergent paths. I feel that I am now at a point in my life where I can continue with my journey and integrate my education, experience and interests going forward.



My background and credentials in education have provided her with the means by which to raise her daughter in NYC as a single-mom and granted me the opportunities to continue my own personal growth while exploring my keen interest in the Chinese language. In addition, I have maintained my involvement, albeit in a limited fashion, with the areas of cognitive psychology that have always fascinated me, specifically, studying the limits of consciousness.

I find myself with a renewed and refreshed interest in psychology and relish the fact that I now have the time to become involved in exploring the areas of research psychology that are truly exciting. Through my association with PRF, I hope to expand my contacts with the academic world and keep my finger on the cutting-edge pulse of this growing field.

As a (relatively) new resident of Princeton, I am committed to reaching out and meeting new people, getting involved with the community, and participating in the cultural and educational riches that this town has to offer. Since my husband is already a member, I have had the chance to learn a little about the Forum 'from the inside', so to speak. PRF has welcomed me to attend several functions, including the annual wine & cheese socials that were hosted at the home of Winnie Hughes. In addition, I have had the pleasure of participating in the Poetry Study Group for the last month or so. It has truly been a delight!

I look forward to expanding my horizons and being a member of PRF. Although I only 'checked' a couple of items in the list of committees, I would certainly be open to assisting in whichever areas present a need."

PRF is delighted to welcome Diane.

## SCIENCE/SCIENCE HISTORY STUDYGROUP MARKS 20th ANNIVERSARY

The PRF Science/Science History Group celebrated the 20th anniversary of its founding on Friday, February 9 when it met to discuss the book, *The First Scientist: Anaximander and his Legacy*, by Carlo Rovelli.

Initiated in February 1998 by Evelyn Witkin and Karen Reeds, the group has held monthly meetings continuously for the past two decades, save for the annual summer breaks. During this time, a complete listing of every meeting and every book read has been kept by Evelyn Witkin. Books are suggested, recommended, and scheduled by the group member. For a number of years, they met monthly over lunch in the Dining Room of the Institute for Advanced Study. More recently, they have been meeting at the homes of members, who have generously offered their hospitality, on the second Friday of each month from September through May.

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The following books are scheduled to be discussed: March 9, 2018: *This Idea is Brilliant: Overlooked, and Underappreciated Scientific Concepts Everyone Should Know* edited by John Brockman; April 13, 2018: *The Evolution of Beauty: How Darwin's Forgotten Theory of Mate Choice Shapes the Animal World* by Richard O. Prum; May 11, 2019: *Inheritors of the Earth: How Nature Is Thriving in an Age of Extinction* by Chris D. Thomas; September 14, 2018: *The River of Consciousness* by Oliver Sacks. For further information, contact Boris Katz.

As an indication of the breadth and depth of the group's interests, here is a short excerpt from the long list of titles the Science/Science History Group has read over the past two decades:

*Pythagoras' Trousers* by M. Wertheim;  
*The Biology of Violence* by Debra Niehoff;  
*Nonzero* by Robert Wright;  
*Darwin's Spectre*, by Michael R. Rose;  
*The Sun, the Genome and the Internet* by Freeman Dyson;

*Guns, Germs and Steel* by Jared Diamond;  
*Chaos: Making a New Science* by James Gleick;  
*Our Cosmic Habitat* by Martin Rees;  
*Linked: The New Science of Networks* by Albert-László Barabási;  
*Galileo's Finger: The Ten Great Ideas of Science* by Peter Atkins;  
*The Language Instinct: How the Mind Creates Language* by Steven Pinker;  
*Isaac Newton* by James Gleick;  
*His Brother's Keeper: A Story from the Edge of Medicine* by Jonathan Weiner;  
*The Origin of Species* by Charles Darwin;  
*Uncle Tungsten: Memories of a Chemical Boyhood* by Oliver Sacks;  
*Perfectly Reasonable Deviations from the Beaten Track: The Letters of Richard P. Feynman*;  
*The Double Helix*, by James Watson (Norton Critical Edition);  
*A Feeling for the Organism: the Life and Work of Barbara McClintock* by Evelyn Fox Keller;  
*American Prometheus: The Triumph and Tragedy of J. Robert Oppenheimer* by Kai Bird and Martin J. Sherwin;  
*Death by Black Hole and Other Cosmic Quandaries* by Neil de Grasse Tyson;  
*The Expression of the Emotions in Man and Animals* by Charles Darwin;  
*Proust was a Neuroscientist* by Jonah Lehrer;  
*Uncertainty: Einstein, Heisenberg, Bohr and the Struggle for the Soul of Science* by David Lindley;  
*On the Nature of the Universe by Lucretius*, verse translation by Ronald Melville;  
*The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* by Rebecca Skloot;  
*The Hidden Reality: Parallel Universes and the Deep Laws of the Cosmos* by Brian Greene; *Leonardo's Legacy: How Da Vinci Reimagined the World* by Stefan Klein (author) translation by Shelley Frisch;  
*Thinking, Fast and Slow* by Daniel Kahneman; *The Particle at the End of the Universe: How the Hunt for the Higgs Boson Leads to the Edge of a New World* by Sean M. Carroll; *The Strangest Man: The Hidden Life of Paul Dirac* by Graham Farmelo; *Predictably Irrational: The Hidden Forces That Shape Our Decisions* by Dan Ariely; *The Meaning of Human Existence* by E.O. Wilson; *Heart of Darkness: Unraveling the Mysteries of the Invisible Universe* by Jeremiah P. Ostriker and Simon Mitton; *Huxley: From Devil's Disciple to Evolution's High Priest* by Adrian Desmond; *Planck: Driven by Vision, Broken by War* by Brandon R. Brown.

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## STUDY GROUPS

**The Science/Science History Group** met in February at Roger Moseley's home in Princeton to discuss the book *The First Scientist: Anaximander and his Legacy*, by Carlo Rovelli. For a list of upcoming meetings and readings, see article above.

**The Humanities Group** read *The Gift of Anger* by Arun Gandhi in February and will read Lewis Carroll's *Alice in Wonderland* in March. In April, the focus will be on *The Tibetan Book of the Dead*. The group meets at the Mary Jacobs Library in Rocky Hill, NJ, in the conference hall downstairs on first Saturdays of each month from 10 a.m. to noon. For more information, contact Ashwini Mokashi.

**The Poetry Group** will finish a selection of William Carlos Williams's poetry and move on to T.S. Eliot during February and March. According to organizer, Winnie Hughes, the group has recently expanded and is livelier than ever. It meets at the home of Hildred Geertz on the first Sunday afternoon of the month and alternately at the home of Winnie Hughes or Janet Townsend on the third Monday of the month. The next meeting will be Monday, February 19, at 7 p.m. at Janet Townsend's home, 145 Hickory Court in Princeton. For more information, contact Winifred Hughes.

## PRF OFFICERS 2017-2018

**President:** Linda Holt; **Vice-President:** Linda Arntzenius; **Treasurer:** Joyce Irwin **Secretary:** Karen Reeds; **Members-at-Large:** Joan Goldstein; Ludmilla Popova-Wightman; **Committee Heads:** Calendar: Pat Hyatt; Grants Officer & NCIS Liaison: Karen Reeds; Library Access: Eva Bodanszky; Membership: Terri McNichol; Program: Pamela Sheehan; Publicity: Winifred Hughes; Newsletter: *Open* (Interim Editor: Linda Arntzenius); Work-in-Progress/Presentation Seminars: Ellen Gilbert; Webmaster: Lina Genovesi

**Chairs of Study Groups:** Humanities: Ashwini Mokashi; Poetry: Winifred Hughes Science/Science; History: Boris Katz

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