



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear PRF Colleagues,

Welcome to another exciting academic year! I am pleased to once again serve as President of the Princeton Research Forum, with a term ending in 2021. In this letter, I'll bring you up-to-date on recent PRF activities, welcome new members, and share a few thoughts about scholarship and creative work.

Twenty-one PRF members attended the Annual General Meeting held June 9 in the home of Ashwini Mokashi, chair of the Humanities Group and former PRF President. Among the accomplishments of the past year was a change to the bylaws to make terms for all offices consistent (two years each) and concurrent, with elections every two years (odd-numbered). A list of the newly elected Officers is published at the end of this newsletter.

In the past year, we reconstructed the PRF website www.princetonresearchforum.org, under the leadership of Lina Genovesi, Webmaster. Fellow Members: be sure to let Lina and Karen Reeds, Newsletter Editor, know whenever you have new publications to be added to your Member Publications list on the website. We all benefit when our organization shows on-going evidence of scholarly and artistic achievement.

During the Meeting, we celebrated a year of informative and stimulating Works in Progress (thank you, Ellen Gilbert, chair of that committee) and the award of a PRF Hutner Presentation Grant to Ashwini.

The group commemorated three long-time members who passed in the past year: Rosemary O'Brien, Fannie Peczenik, and Helen Schwartz. They are greatly missed.

There are several notable changes in the Officers list for the next two years. Karen Reeds, in addition to her role as Grants Officer and National Coalition of Independent Scholars (NCIS) Liaison, has agreed to serve as Newsletter Editor, accepting that mantle from Linda Arntzenius, PRF Vice President. I am certain we would all agree that Linda has transformed this periodical into a visually attractive vehicle for communicating well-written content.

We also welcome Roger Moseley as the new Secretary, a role he accepted from Karen Reeds who previously held this position. Jamileh (Jamie) Gerber has taken on the role of Library Access Chair. She is the person we need to contact when we need to use one of PRF's treasured Princeton University Library access cards. Jamie herself worked as a Bibliographic Specialist at PUL in years past and has a wealth of library expertise to share. See her Guide in this Newsletter for more details.

Our thoughts this year are also with Patricia Hyatt, our Calendar Editor, who is recovering from injuries received in an accident and other medical issues. She is undergoing physical therapy, and we wish her health and happiness as she remains an important part of PRF.

The flow of curiosity

I've been thinking recently about not only the important part that PRF plays in our lives, but also the role that scholarly and artistic activity occupies in our sense of wholeness, health, and well-being. Some of us are energetic and productive every day, but it is easy to become side-tracked and disturbed by the news, social justice, health issues, and regret. Sometimes, we ask ourselves, why bother? Isn't companionship and conversation enough? Haven't I

written (or painted or played) sufficiently to merit some down-time?

The answer to these reasonable questions may defy logic. I think one of the unsung merits of PRF is the way it encourages us to stay true to the path of the scholar and artist. Our past contributions have changed us forever. We have become the person who cares passionately about a school of art, a branch of science, or a wedge of history. Our contributions have initiated conversations with other scholars around the world, and we find ourselves in the dance, perhaps even the embrace, of the evolution of new ideas. We cannot stop the flow of curiosity and the way it pummels our thoughts with fresh perspectives. We not only make contributions to our fields of expertise, but we also continue growing in a way we might have thought impossible.

So this is the time to fulfill old dreams or create new ones. What is it you always wanted to express or achieve? Or never dared to? This year could be your chance. I remember 10 years ago, thinking, “I always wanted to write stories about Beethoven. Have I given up? I have the time, I don’t have to write a masterpiece. What am I waiting for?” And so write I did.

Even when you don’t think it’s changing your life, PRF is there in the background helping make creativity happen.

Resist at your own peril. Do something awesome this year!

Best wishes to all,
Linda Holt, President

===

PRF WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS: MANSOUR AJAMI AND JEFFREY L. SPEAR

The Membership Committee and the Executive Board are pleased to welcome two new PRF members: Mansour Ajami and Jeffrey L. Spear.

Mansour Ajami holds BA and MA degrees in Arabic literature and philosophy from the American University of Beirut and a PhD in Arabic literature and Islamic studies from Columbia University. He taught Arabic language, literature, and culture at

Princeton University, Columbia University, The University of California, Berkeley, and several others in the U.S. and abroad. He was also an Arabist reviser/translator at the United Nations. Dr. Ajami is a poet in Modern Standard Arabic, in Levantine colloquial Arabic, and in English. He is a singer and composer of Arabic music. He is married and has two adult children, and has lived in Princeton for thirty-nine years. His books in English include: a memoir, *The Book of Generations: A Reunion with Memory*; a scholarly study of medieval Arabic literature: *The Alchemy of Glory: The Dialectic of Truthfulness and Untruthfulness in Medieval Arabic Literary Criticism*; and the anthology, *Pouring Water on Time. A Bilingual Topical Anthology of Classical Arabic Poetry*.

Jeffrey L. Spear



Jeff writes: I was born in Seattle in 1942, son of Abe and Sonia Spear. My father’s family came to the US from a village in what is now Ukraine when he was nine. My maternal grandmother’s family left Crimea in 1905 when she was 13 after a pogrom and on the recommendation of the Feodosia Chief of Police because she was associating with radicals.

I attended public schools in Seattle and graduated from the UW with a BA in English. My PhD dissertation at Minnesota was on John Ruskin and formed the basis of *Dreams of an English Eden*, Columbia University Press, 1984. I was an assistant professor at Princeton and then moved to NYU where I directed the Expository Writing Program for five years, served as Deputy Chair, and taught Victorian Studies until my retirement in 2017.

In addition to the figures in my dissertation – John Ruskin, Thomas Carlyle and William Morris – I have

published essays and lectured on a wide range of Victorian figures and topics including Dickens, the Pre-Raphaelites, Victorian visual culture, Dracula, Kipling, exhibition culture, and British India (particularly the fate of the “devadasis”) and most recently on the cartoon feature film *Sita Sings the Blues* and the lyrics of Leonard Cohen.

Here in Princeton I served three terms on the Board of the Princeton Regional Schools. I was the primary author of the one federal grant we received and served during the last round of school construction, which defied precedent by staying within the allotted budget despite the best efforts of the contractors.

===

Chances are that you know independent scholars in the area who haven't yet heard about PRF. Point them to our website princetonresearchforum.org, invite them to our gatherings, and urge them to get in touch with our Membership Chair, Terri McNichol, for an application form:

info@princetonresearchforum.org
Membership Chair
Princeton Research Forum
P.O. Box 264
Kingston, NJ 08528-0264

===

PRF ACCESS TO PRINCETON UNIVERSITY LIBRARY: A GUIDE

Jamileh Gerber, Library Access

The Princeton University Library System offers Access Cards as a courtesy to some local nonprofit organizations. Our membership dues enable PRF to pay the annual fee (currently \$640) for our three Access Cards.

How to get a PRF Access Card

- Obtain the card from me by calling or texting ahead of time at (864) 710-0529 or emailing me to arrange a pick-up time. Parking is easy.
- Make mutually convenient arrangements to return the card to me as soon as possible.

What you can do with the Access Card

- The card entitles you to access to all the collections on site in Firestone and the branch libraries on Princeton University campus.
- At Firestone and Marquand libraries, you have to show the card to the guard to use the terminals and get into the stacks. At the eight other subject libraries, you can walk in during the daytime without the card. On evenings/weekends, if the library is open, but the building is locked, you will need to slide the card to open the door. Be sure to check ahead of time whether you will need the Access Card.
- You can use the online card catalog from home (<https://catalog.princeton.edu/>) ahead of time to search for the call number and location of the items you want to see while you are in the library.
- You can use libraries' catalogues, networked databases, e-books, and other digital collections at any of the libraries' public workstations. There are librarians and guides at most of the stations. They are happy to help patrons and guide them to the stacks.
- There are information sheets and guides to help patrons find the materials on stacks by call number, subject area, and locations.
- There are maps that show where you are standing and where the elevators are. The online catalogue entry for an item includes a map to its location.
- Several of the Library's discovery tools are freely available to anyone with access to the Internet.
- Items labeled RECAP in the catalogue are kept in offsite storage and should be requested online several days ahead of your visit. These items include both PUL's collection and items stored on behalf of New York Public Library and Columbia University.
- Since the recent remodeling of Firestone Library, PUL's Special Collections have moved deep into the stacks. Special Collections has its own special access policies. You do **not** need to use a PRF Access Card to see the rare books and manuscripts, but you do need to apply for a Special Collections account/card (even if

you had one of those cards in the past). Go to the Access Office in Firestone to show your photo ID and fill out the forms. Call (609) 258-5737 for more details.

Limitations

- You must use items inside the library. You are not allowed to borrow any material. Borrowing must be done through Inter-Library Loan via your local public library.
- To borrow books, you have to get a PUL Guest Borrower's Card. It requires paying a hefty fee and abiding by other conditions. Ask the Access Office for details: <https://library.princeton.edu/services/access> (609) 258-5737. If you are working on a big research project, the Guest Borrower's Card may be cheaper in the long run than Princeton parking while you are working in the library. You can renew the books indefinitely online.
- PRF card holders are not entitled to certain library services, such as tracing missing books, using DVD, VHS, reserve materials, requesting items through Princeton University Library's interlibrary loan, retrieving books that have been received but not processed. If an item is checked out to another user, ask the library if you can consult it quickly in the library.
- Some of the databases are not available to non-Princeton University users outside of the library. By agreement with some database vendors, the use of some databases is restricted to Princeton University faculty, staff, and students only. (But don't hesitate to ask a library staff member to access a restricted database on your behalf.)

===

PRF BOOKS AND AUTHORS

This year saw a remarkable list of new books by PRF members (see the Spring/Summer 2019 Newsletter on our website). Now our authors are figuring out how to tell the world about their work. They are delivering public talks, giving television interviews, mounting websites, writing op-eds, blogs, and columns. Every time our colleagues get identified as

independent scholars and Princeton Research Forum members, we all win. Some ways we can help spread the word:

- *Buy their books*
- *Go to their events*
- *Review their books on Amazon, Barnes & Noble, GoodReads*
- *Comment on their blogs*
- *Watch their YouTube videos and vimeos – and click the Thumbs-up buttons*
- *Suggest new venues for talks*
- *Follow them on academia.edu, researchgate.net, linkedin.com*
- *Share their links with anyone who might be interested – but especially book review editors*
- *Invite friends to the upcoming Humanities Group discussions of PRF authors' books (watch the PRF Calendar for dates).*

Karen Reeds

===

Lara Freidenfelds's second book, [*The Myth of the Perfect Pregnancy: A History of Miscarriage in America*](#), will be out in January 2020. Meanwhile, she has been pruning her scholarly library. PRF members with overloaded bookshelves will appreciate Lara's insightful essay, "[Is a Historian's Library an Archive or a Living Thing?](#)" at <https://larafreidenfelds.com/blog/> and <https://nursingclio.org>.

===

As this Newsletter goes to press, **Shelley Frisch** is at the famed Frankfurt Book Fair to help promote her new translation of *Last Letters: The Prison Correspondence, 1944-1945*, by Freya von Moltke and Helmuth James von Moltke, edited by Helmuth Caspar von Moltke, Dorothea von Moltke, and Johannes von Moltke, with an afterword by Rachel Seiffert. Here in Princeton Shelley has appeared at Labyrinth Books with the three editors – the son and grandchildren of the courageous couple who took part in the civilian German Resistance to Hitler. (Dorothea is a co-owner of the wonderful bookstore, which has hosted many PRF speakers.) For a selection of these heart-breaking letters: <https://www.commonwealmagazine.org/standing-light>.

===

Winnie Hughes has been giving stirring readings from her new book, *Frost Flowers*, and other poems – at a PRF gathering at Ellen Gilbert’s house, at the Princeton Public Library, and at The Watershed, the nature preserve that has inspired many of her poems.

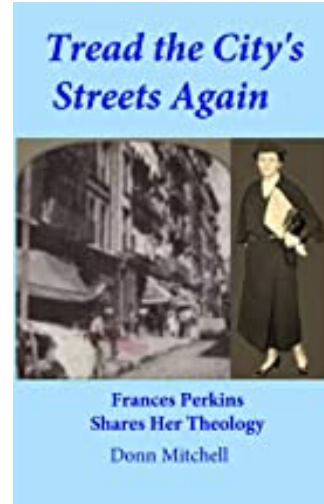
For a sample, check out the audio recording and text of Winnie’s poem, “Dyslexic” at The Poetry Foundation’s “Poem of the Day” podcast: <https://www.poetryfoundation.org/podcasts/75110/dyslexic>.

For more information about the book: <https://www.finishinglinepress.com/product/frost-flowers-by-winfred-hughes-nwvs-147/>



===

Donn Mitchell alerts us that his book about Frances Perkins, *Tread the City’s Streets Again*, will begin appearing in bookstores over the next several months. Until now, it has been available through print-on-demand, but it is already listed at Barnes & Noble and Amazon. The bookstore version is graced by a new cover featuring endorsements from notable scholars. To quote just one, C. K. Robertson says: “in this well-researched and highly engaging book, Donn Mitchell introduces...an eminently practical Christian visionary...A must read in today’s often cynical political reality.”



An E-book version (PDF format) has been available for ordering via www.AnglicanExaminer.com, for some time, but a new version in E-pub format will be available soon.

===

Ashwini Mokashi has found receptive audiences for her book, *Sapiens and Sthitaprajna: A Comparative Study in Seneca’s Stoicism and the Bhagavadgita*, both in India and locally. The book was launched in April at the Bhandarkar Institute, where Ashwini delivered the 18th P. V. Bapat Memorial Lecture: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QB6zP5z0Vqw&t=2776s>

Over the summer, she gave well-received talks to smaller groups in New Delhi and Florence, Italy, and published op-ed pieces in the *Indian Express* and the Marathi daily paper *Loksatta* about the intertwined concepts of wisdom and happiness. Back in Princeton, Ashwini was interviewed by Joan Goldstein on “BackStory with Joan Goldstein”: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3ez6lhp85DM&feature=em-comments>, one of Princeton TV’s most-watched programs in August. It has also been uploaded to Internet Archive: https://archive.org/details/pctvnjv-Backstory_with_Joan_Goldstein_7.19

To heighten her internet presence, Ashwini has recently posted material on Academia.edu, researchgate.net, linkedin.com, philpapers.org and Amazon’s Author Central Information,

https://www.amazon.com/Ashwini-Mokashi/e/B07WSH13HR/ref=ntt_dp_epwbk_0 and launched a blog and a YouTube channel, “Ashwini Talks,” that puts her videos in one place: ashwinimokashi.wordpress.com and <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCAOdCfuv0ZIrzGyBDt8DP-g>

Mark your calendar! On Saturday, November 2, 2019, 10am-noon, at the Mary Jacobs Library, Rocky Hill, you can join Ashwini and the PRF Humanities Group in a discussion of the heart of her book: the intertwined concepts of wisdom and happiness in Roman and Indian antiquity – and how they still apply today.

==

Also mark your calendar for the upcoming talk by **Roger V. Moseley, MD** on his new book, *Morality: A Natural History*, Tuesday, December 3, 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm, Princeton Public Library.

What is morality and what is the source of our moral ideas? Roger presents a multi-disciplinary discussion of the question, revealing a common thread among seemingly diverse fields of study. He posits that morality is rooted in evolutionary forces that optimize human welfare; and given that no species lasts forever, it is at our peril that we neglect our evolved moral values of cooperation, altruism, truthfulness, and empathy.

Roger’s book grows out of a lifetime facing ethical issues as a physician (as well as his thoughtful participation in the PRF Science Group’s many discussions of evolution). A graduate of Princeton University, he took his MD at Harvard Medical School. Following military service as a combat surgeon in Vietnam, he became Chief of General Surgery at the Medical Center of Princeton. He has written many papers in the surgical and scientific literature and has served as a physician to high-altitude climbing expeditions on four continents. Now retired from surgical practice and mountaineering, he continues to serve on the Medical Ethics Committee of the Penn Medicine Princeton Medical Center. For more information: <http://www.rogermoseley.org/>.

==

“BACKSTORY WITH JOAN GOLDSTEIN”

For years, Joan Goldstein has been bringing fellow PRF members and their books to the attention of our region through her interviews on the Princeton TV program, “BackStory with Joan Goldstein.” All of these PRF conversations are worth your attention and so are Joan’s many other community television broadcasts. (If we’ve missed any, please let Joan and Karen Reeds know.)

- Linda Arntzenius: https://archive.org/details/Back_Story_with_Joan_Goldstein_Show_3.11
- Elizabeth Ettinghausen: <https://vimeo.com/92868102>
- Lara Freidenfelds: <https://vimeo.com/142892808>
- Jamileh Abhari Gerber: <https://vimeo.com/150673910>
- Linda Holt: <https://vimeo.com/329114277>
- Laura Kahn: <https://vimeo.com/164089491>
- Ashwini Mokashi: <https://vimeo.com/352973152>

==

THANKS TO THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Before there can be an election, there has to be a Nominating Committee! The 2019 Committee members were: Jeannette Brown, Matthew Erdelyi, Joan Goldstein, and Linda Holt *ex officio*.

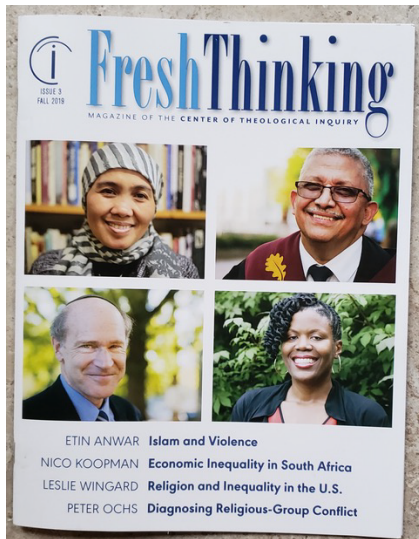
At PRF’s Annual General Meeting on June 9, the Committee presented the slate of candidates for the positions on the PRF Executive Board and Standing Committee Chairs. The nominees were all elected unanimously. They will serve for two-year terms, for the academic years 2019/2020 and 2020/2021.

The Board thanks the members of the Nominating Committee for their efforts and the new officers for their willingness to serve. The list of officers appears at the end of this Newsletter.

==

MEMBER NEWS

Linda Arntzenius continues to conduct the Institute for Advanced Study's oral history project and to serve as consultant and contributing editor for the Center of Theological Inquiry's recently launched publication *Fresh Thinking*. You can see the second issue, published earlier this year, here: https://issuu.com/ctinquiry/docs/ft_mag_issue_2. The third issue (see cover below) includes her report of the 2019 William Witherspoon Public Lecture on Theology and Science delivered by Dirk Evers of Martin Luther University in Halle-Wittenberg, Germany, and her coverage of the Witherspoon Symposium on "Divine Action and the Naturalization of Consciousness."



During the summer Linda again traveled to her native Scotland to conduct further research on her project on the life of Revolutionary War General Hugh Mercer. She met with members of the 1745 Association at a commemoration of the Battle of Dunkeld (August 1689). On her return Linda attended the first International Conference on the American Revolution to be held at the Museum of the American Revolution (Oct. 3-5, 2019). She is preparing to present a Work-in-Progress on her subject to PRF in the near future.



Members of the 1745 Association at a commemoration of the Battle of Dunkeld (August 2019). From left: Michael J. Nevin, Kevin Smith, Glen MacDonald. Photo by Linda Arntzenius

Mark your calendar! In conjunction with members of US1 Poets' Cooperative, Linda will present "A Celebration of Poet Jean Hollander" at the Princeton Public Library, November 11, 7 p.m. (doors open at 6:30 p.m.). Hollander taught literature and writing at Princeton University, Brooklyn College, and Columbia University and directed the much-missed Writers Conference at The College of New Jersey for twenty-three years. A long-term member of US1 Poets' Cooperative, she produced, together with her husband, Dante scholar Robert Hollander, an acclaimed translation of the *Divine Comedy*, which Joan Acocella of *The New Yorker* called "beautiful...more idiomatic than any other English version I know." The program will feature readings of Hollander's works by local poets, including Linda and fellow PRF Member Winnie Hughes.

===

Joyce Irwin presented two papers at conferences abroad this past summer. At a conference in Halle, Germany, entitled "The Place of Religion in the Enlightenment," she discussed a metaphorical map of religious groups as designed by the 18th-century Pietist theologian Joachim Lange. Those whom we would regard as Orthodox Lutherans he labelled as "Pseudo-Orthodox," considering himself and his fellow Halle Pietists to be truly Orthodox. A related paper was presented in Edinburgh at the meeting of the International Society for Eighteenth Century

Studies. With the title “What Really Matters? Differences on Indifference among Early Eighteenth-Century Lutherans,” Joyce pointed out that a major source of division among Pietist, Orthodox, and Enlightenment thinkers was the relative value placed on religious doctrine or moral behavior. In addition to these two conferences, Joyce attended the Bach Network Dialogue meeting in Cambridge, England, and spent two weeks at the Herzog August Bibliothek in Wolfenbüttel.

===

Terri McNichol was awarded a 2019 PRF Hutner Presentation Grant for her Idea Café illustrated talk, “The Four Treasures: On Becoming a Chinese Sage,” at the 2019 GlobalMindED Conference June 5-7, 2019 in Denver, Colorado. As a longtime college educator, Terri was attracted by the conference’s mission of fostering collaboration among educators, entrepreneurs and business leaders, policymakers in government and nonprofits, and first-generation college students. Her talk on calligraphy and painting as paths to wisdom in ancient Chinese culture drew upon her own work as an artist, a historian of Asian art, and a teacher. Terri’s description of her presentation:

Since ancient times, the Chinese recognized correspondences between human beings and nature. In the classics, Confucius identifies persons of wisdom as appreciative of mountains whereas altruistic individuals delight in water. With the development of writing, a symbiotic relationship developed between calligraphy and painting, the Twin Arts. Wáng Wéi (699–761), China’s rock star poet from the Tang Dynasty (713–765), was praised with the epigram: “His poems are sound paintings; his paintings, silent poems” — and thus wedded poetry and painting for the ages. But it does not stop there: a well-executed brushstroke, according to the art historian Wen Fong, is expressive of beauty and joy through movement; it involves not only the muscle actions of the artist’s finger, wrist, and arm, but also mental, emotional, and psychic states. Like signatures and autographs, calligraphy is said to reveal its maker’s innermost being. Thus the Chinese refer to both calligraphy and painting as the artist’s *xin yin*, or “imprint of the heart.” I

displayed the four treasures as well as four original Chinese ink paintings and accompanied them with a discussion of brush strokes and symbolism.

In September-October, Terri exhibited several luminous watercolors in the group show, *Four Women from Trenton*, at The Center for Contemporary Art in Bedminster. One painting captures Mel Leipzig – the show’s curator and Terri’s long-time teacher/ mentor – at the easel himself.



Terri McNichol, watercolor, “Mel Painting the Garden State”

Terri’s artist statement for the exhibition:

It is the fluid and transparent nature of watercolor and its range of infinite possibilities, initiated at the stroke of the brush, that drew Terri McNichol to this medium. Terri was introduced to Trenton’s rich artistic community at an early age, beginning with Saturday morning art classes and studying with internationally known Trenton portrait artist, Peggy Peplow Gummere, in high school. After completing training in radiologic/nuclear technology, she pursued her passion for art by taking evening classes with Mel Leipzig at Mercer County Community College for many years.

Later, she studied with the New Jersey artist Lois Dodd at Brooklyn College while majoring in Chinese art history, language, and philosophy. Terri completed her master's degree at New York University. Her paintings have garnered many awards here and abroad. Watercolor's affinity with Chinese ink painting opened up the splendid world of the art of China, particularly its landscapes. In teaching watercolor for two summers in her ancestral home, Ireland, she experienced a deep kinship between Irish poets and Chinese artists in their mutual response to the forms of mountains and water. Closer to home, Terri is a great admirer of the American watercolor artists, Winslow Homer and John Singer Sargent, and the subject of the symbiotic relationship humans have with the sea. The paintings in this exhibit reflect her deep American roots and continuing passion for painting the New Jersey landscape and figurative subjects reverently engaging in religious rituals.

Two of Terri's paintings are featured in Gary Wien's JerseyArts enthusiastic review of the show: <https://www.newjerseystage.com/articles/2019/10/04/four-women-from-trenton-at-the-center-for-contemporary-art/>. To enjoy them all: <https://cargocollective.com/renstudio/2019-Center-for-Contemporary-Art>.

===

Maureen Mulvihill sends this report on her recently published online essay about the remarkable nineteenth-century independent scholar, Mary Fairfax Greig Somerville – and on the pleasure of adding a copy of Somerville's work to her collection of rare and special books by women. (See also Maureen's illustrated preview of the essay in the Spring 2019 PRF Newsletter.)

"LOOKING SKYWARD": MULVIHILL COLLECTION ADDS MARY SOMERVILLE

Mulvihill Collection Acquires Mary Somerville, "Queen of Science" With Image Gallery & Apparatus

Devotees of astronomy and women scientists may appreciate my recent essay for Rare Book Hub (San Francisco) <https://www.rarebookhub.com/articles/2670>

on celebrated Scots polymath and science writer, Mary Fairfax Greig Somerville (1780–1872). The essay's display page welcomes you with an image of her self-portrait (she was also a passably good painter, a member of Turner's circle).

The essay concerns my purchase of an elegant copy of Somerville's international bestseller, *On the Connexion of the Physical Sciences* (London: John Murray, 1834, with 5 aquatint plates; 10th ed., 1877). My copy, from Burmester Rare Books (Bristol UK), is a decoratively rebound second edition, 1835, with additional notes and drawings. My essay includes a brief overview of Somerville's career and networks; an apparatus of sources; and 14 images with generous caption notes (six of the images are from my copy of the book). The essay is determinedly contextual, and connects to earlier figures: Galileo, Cavendish, Vermeer, Pepys, Newton. Its dedicatee is Rosalind Franklin, "dark lady of DNA."

I am delighted to add Somerville to my cabinet of curiosities. She lends a new dimension and continuing value to the Mulvihill Collection of Rare & Special Books by Women Writers.



Contemporary image of Somerville. Bust, 1842, by sculptor, Sir Francis Legatt Chantrey. Royal Society Library. Commissioned by then President of the Royal Society, Prince Augustus Frederick. The original Chantrey Somerville was placed in the Society's Great Hall, and several copies of the bust were circulated. The figure became so popular that Liverpool shipbuilder, William H. Potter, requested Somerville's permission to copy it as the figurehead of an honorary ship he had just completed for sail in the China and India trade: *The Mary Somerville*.

Karen Reeds was tickled to learn that her review of two very learned books about the pioneering Renaissance anatomist, Andreas Vesalius, is featured as an Open Access Review by *Renaissance Quarterly* (Volume 72, Issue 2 Summer 2019, pp. 630-632):

<https://preview.tinyurl.com/ReedsReviewRQ>.

====

PRF MEMBERS MAKE MEMORABLE MUSIC

There's music in the air whenever PRF members meet, and this is particularly true for our Treasurer, Joyce Irwin, our President Linda Holt, and our concert pianist, Kairy Koshoeva.

A renowned historian of Lutheran music and theology, Joyce is an Alto with the Princeton Pro Musica, while Linda, a music journalist and Beethoven enthusiast, sings Tenor 1 with the Greater South Jersey Chorus (GSJC), based in Haddonfield, NJ. Kairy, who teaches at The New School for Music Studies in Kingston NJ, was recently interviewed by Elaine Strauss for *U.S. 1* about her life as a performer: "A Pianist Converses in 'International Language'"

<https://princetoninfo.com/a-pianist-converses-in-international-language/>.

Members, their families, and friends have difficult musical choices to make on the weekend of November 2-3, when each of these musicians will be in concert, but in different places!

On Sunday, November 3, at 2:30pm, Kairy is playing Brahms's *Three Hungarian Dances* in duet with Charl Louw in the New School's free faculty and student concert, "A Musical Cornucopia." at Nassau Presbyterian Church, 61 Nassau St., Princeton.

A few steps away, in Princeton University's Richardson Auditorium on Sunday at 4:00pm, Joyce and the Pro Musica, under the direction of Ryan James Brandau, will perform Mozart's haunting *Great Mass in C Minor*. The program also will include Mozart's sparkling clarinet concerto. Tickets: <https://princetonpromusica.secure.force.com/ticket>

Linda and the GSJC will sing the breathtaking Puccini *Messa di Gloria* with the full Bay Atlantic Symphony under the direction of Jed Gaylin and a

chorus of some 132 singers under the artistic leadership of Dr. Chris Thomas. The event will be held 3 p.m. on Saturday, November 2, and repeated at 2 p.m. on Sunday, November 3, in the Guaracini Performing Arts Center (the PAC is part of Rowan University). Tickets:

<https://bayatlanticsymphony.org/guaracini-pac>

Vineland, NJ. The all-Italian program will also feature orchestral selections by Rossini and Verdi. As Linda is quick to remind people, Puccini is the composer who made Cher cry in *Moonstruck*. This stirring performance will provide an unforgettable experience for those unfamiliar with Puccini's sacred side.

Holiday harmonies, and beyond

The Princeton Pro Musica and the GSJC also have winter holiday concerts coming up:

- Princeton Pro Musica, 3 p.m. Sunday, December 15, in the Trenton War Memorial, Trenton NJ.
- GSJC at 8 p.m. Friday, December 13, and 3 p.m., Sunday, December 15, both in Christ Our Light Catholic Church in Cherry Hill, NJ. The program will include Vivaldi's popular *Gloria*. Tickets:

<https://greatersouthjerseychorus.org/performances/tickets/>

Watch for the details of Kairy's upcoming performance of Bach's *Goldberg Variations* at Westminster Choir College on January 31, 2020.

The GSJC will join with the Philharmonic of South Jersey on April 26, 2020, to present Beethoven's *Ninth Symphony*. Linda says that singing in the chorale finale—the Ode to Joy—has been a lifelong dream for her, and will be especially meaningful in the 250th anniversary year of Beethoven's birth.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NCIS, IHS, and PRF

PRF is an affiliate group member of NCIS, the National Coalition of Independent Scholars. As such, all PRF members are eligible to submit manuscripts and book reviews to NCIS's open-access, peer-reviewed journal, *The Independent Scholar*.

PRF Authors, take note! *The Independent Scholar* also publishes reviews of books, which may be authored or reviewed by independent scholars. The reviews are published on-line once the review has been approved by the editors. They are then published in the next edition of *The Independent Scholar*. Suggestions for suitable books should be sent to the Book Review Editor, reviews@ncis.org. Guidelines and PDFs of past volumes of TIS (going back to 2007) can be found at www.ncis.org/the-independent-scholar/tis. Queries should be addressed to tis@ncis.org.

PRF members are not automatically NCIS members, however. Consider joining NCIS as an individual member, as several PRF members have done. NCIS benefits you as an individual, as a member of PRF, and as a part of the larger community of independent scholars: <https://www.ncis.org/join-ncis>. For more information, visit: <http://www.ncis.org/>

The Institute for Historical Study is another independent scholars organization. Based in Berkeley, California, it is, like PRF, an affiliate of NCIS. The IHS newsletters are available online at: <http://www.instituteforhistoricalstudy.org/>. Take a look – they are packed with interesting ideas and resources.

MAILING ADDRESS & WEBSITE

PRF's mailing address is: Princeton Research Forum, P.O. Box 264, Kingston, N.J. 08528-0264. Website is: www.princetonresearchforum.org.

WORK-IN-PROGRESS

To arrange for a work-in-progress or presentation, please contact WIP Chair Ellen Gilbert.

DUES REMINDER

PRF observes the academic year from September 1 through August 31. Annual dues for an individual are \$40; the bargain price for a couple is \$60. A lifetime membership is \$400. The official deadline for receipt of dues for 2019-2020 will be December 31, 2019. Please mail checks to: **Princeton Research Forum, P.O. Box 264, Kingston, NJ 08528-0264.**

PRF PRESENTATION GRANTS

Giving a talk at a meeting? Save your receipts and apply for a PRF Presentation Grant when you get home. The grants help our members cover some of the costs of registration, travel, and accommodation. The first five grants awarded in a given year are named in honor of our late colleague, Frankie Hutner (1918–2014), a founding member of PRF whose generosity continues to fund these grants. Grants are awarded on a rolling basis, with no annual deadline. To be eligible, applicants must be PRF members in good standing for at least one year, must be an independent scholar, must incur presentation-related expenses in excess of \$300 that are not fully reimbursed by any other grant or institution, and must not have received more than one Presentation Grant within the previous five years.

If you meet the criteria, please send your documentation as soon as you have given a presentation to: Karen Reeds, PRF Grants Committee. Grant recipients are asked to write a short item about the presentation and conference for the PRF Newsletter. (See Terri McNichol's report on her recent PRF Hutner Presentation Grant, in Member News, above.)

NEWSLETTER SCHEDULE

Fall Issue: *deadline* mid-late September for publication October 15.

Winter/Spring Issue: *deadline* mid-late January for publication February 15.

Spring/Summer Issue: *deadline* mid-late April for publication May 15.

PRINCETON RESEARCH FORUM OFFICERS 2019-2021

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: Jamileh Gerber
Membership: Terri McNichol
Newsletter: Karen Reeds
Program: Pamela Sheehan
Publicity: Winifred Hughes
Webmaster: Lina Genovesi
Work in Progress/Presentation Seminars:
Ellen Gilbert

Chairs of Study Groups:

Humanities: Ashwini Mokashi
Poetry: Winifred Hughes
Science/Science History: Boris Katz

info@princetonresearchforum.org

Princeton Research Forum, P.O. Box 264, Kingston, NJ 08528-0264