

the Roosevelt *review*



In cooperation with the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) of the U.S. State Department, the Museum of the City of New York and well-known photographer Joel Meyerowitz have created a special exhibition of images of the catastrophic destruction of the 9/11 attacks at the World Trade Center, New York, entitled "After September 11: Images from Ground Zero." The RSC has been honored to feature this exhibition from October through December 2002. Photo: ©Joel Meyerowitz / Courtesy of the Ariel Meyerowitz Gallery, New York.

Something Old, Something New

The year at the Roosevelt Study Center included some of our "old" scholarly favorites such as the presentation of the annual Theodore Roosevelt American History Awards to Dutch masters students and the Netherlands American Studies Association (NASA) conference. Held jointly with the Association of Canadian Studies, this year's NASA conference focused on the unique place that Native Americans have in the culture and history of North America. It was accompanied by an excellent photo exhibit from the collection of the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian. This year was also the occasion of the Four Freedoms Awards Ceremony which brought Nelson Mandela, among other notables, to the Abbey.

The RSC also celebrated its share of new academic achievements. The RSC's executive director became a visiting professor at the University of Ghent and the RSC established a special chair for the study of American culture at the University of Groningen. In addition, a post-doctorate researcher joined the staff of the RSC and a new grant for a Dutch student/researcher was established through the generosity of the Netherland-America Foundation in New York. And last, but certainly not least, in recognition of the RSC's role in the study of American history, the U.S. embassy chose the RSC to be the venue for an astonishing photo exhibit of the World Trade Center site. A remarkable year of renewal. ☐

*Newsletter of
the Roosevelt
Study Center*

2002



The activities and research programs of the Roosevelt Study Center in the year 2002 have been made possible by financial and in-kind contributions.

The RSC gratefully acknowledges the generosity of the following contributors:

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“History, taught for a directly and immediately useful purpose to pupils and teachers of pupils, is one of the necessary features of a sound education in democratic citizenship.”

Theodore Roosevelt, Presidential Address, American Historical Association, Boston, Massachusetts, 1912.

The Theodore Roosevelt American History Awards

Started in 1987, the annual Theodore Roosevelt American History Awards (TRAHA) aim to promote the study of American history in the Netherlands in general and to encourage the use of the RSC’s unique historical collections by Dutch university students in particular. Sponsored by the Theodore Roosevelt Association in Oyster Bay, New York, each year the awards recognize the three best Masters theses on an American history topic written by Dutch graduate students.

It is fitting that these American history awards presented by the RSC should be named in honor of Theodore Roosevelt. Not only did TR serve as the twenty-sixth president of the United States ushering in the 20th century, but, in addition, he was a prolific writer of history books and in 1912 was elected president of the American Historical Association.

Since its inception, including this year’s entries, a total of 134 M.A. theses have been submitted by Dutch universities for consideration. This time the universities of Leiden, Utrecht, Nijmegen, and Amsterdam as well as the Free University in Amsterdam have nominated a total number of seven M.A. theses as being the best of the past academic year. Historians Berteke Waaldijk (University of Utrecht) and Tity de Vries (University of Groningen) were joined by TRAHA 2000 prize winner and RSC staff member Gonny Pasaribu to serve as jury members.


The three jury members of the TRAHA 2002 (left to right): Berteke Waaldijk, Gonny Pasaribu, and Tity de Vries.



Standing in the RSC exhibition hall are (left to right) the three prize winners of the TR American History Awards 2002, Anne van Duuren, Marcel Proos, and Roel van den Oever.

To begin the awards ceremony on April 12, 2002 at the RSC, the seven nominees gave oral presentations of their theses outlining their most important conclusions. The topics ranged from Dutch-American relations to various aspects of U.S. political, intellectual, gender, film and musical history. This was followed by the jury’s report in which all seven theses were reviewed. The jury concluded that it had been a joy to read all the theses as the authors had provided interesting and, in many ways, challenging arguments. Nevertheless, the jury decided that this year there was no entry that met the criteria for receiving first prize. Instead, the jury decided to award two second prizes and a third prize.

The second prize winners were Anne van Duuren (University of Utrecht) and Roel van den Oever (University of Nijmegen). Ms. van Duuren won for her thesis “A Female World of Love and Friendship? White and African American Female Relationships on Nineteenth-Century Southern Plantations,” and Mr. van den Oever for his thesis “What Are You Looking At? Madonna as a Gay Icon.” The third prize was given to Marcel Proos (University of Leiden) for his thesis “The Whole World Was Watching. The American Mainstream and the Riots at the 1968 Democratic Convention in Chicago.”

All seven nominees were awarded a diploma and a copy of *The Man in the Arena*, a collection of Theodore Roosevelt’s speeches. In addition, the winners of the second and third prizes received a cash prize of € 250 and 125, respectively, as well as a Theodore Roosevelt Inauguration Medal. 



Theodore Roosevelt, Oyster Bay, New York in 1916.

A Word About the Roosevelt Study Center

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The Roosevelt Study Center is a research institute and conference center for modern American history and European-American relations. It is named after three famous Americans: President Theodore Roosevelt (1858-1919), President Franklin Delano Roosevelt (1882-1945), and Eleanor Roosevelt (1884-1962), who trace their roots to the Dutch Province of Zeeland from where their common ancestor left for the New World in the mid-seventeenth century.

The Roosevelt Study Center is affiliated with the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences and is a founding member of the American Studies Network, a cooperation of the twenty foremost American Studies centers in Europe. In developing its activities and building its collections, the RSC is supported by the Provincial Government of Zeeland, the Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute at Hyde Park, New York, the Theodore Roosevelt Association in Oyster Bay, New York, and an Advisory Board of prominent European scholars.

The RSC offers European students and advanced scholars of American history:

- a research library with collections of historical documents and books on U.S. modern history not available anywhere else in Europe;
- a grants-in-aid program for European researchers;
- an annual prize for the best Dutch M.A. theses on American history topics;
- a program of exhibitions, international conferences and seminars on American history, U.S.-European relations, and the contemporary meaning of FDR's Four Freedoms;
- conference rooms with audio-visual facilities;
- a publication series;
- an annual newsletter.

The RSC library may be used year round for research, but by appointment only. Please contact the secretariat in advance of your visit. Office and library hours: 9.30 to 12.30 and 13.30 to 16.30. The RSC exhibition hall is open April through October, Monday through Friday, from 9.30 to 12.30 and 13.30 to 16.30.

For information on the RSC holdings and its activities, please visit our website: www.roosevelt.nl or contact the Roosevelt Study Center, Abdij 9, P.O. Box 6001, 4330 LA Middelburg, the Netherlands, tel. +31 (0)118-631590, fax +31 (0)118-631593, e-mail: rsc@zeeland.nl.



The RSC staff in 2002 (left to right): Ph.D. candidates Gonny Pasaribu, Tom Kuipers, Usha Wilbers, and Elke van Cassel, post-doctorate researcher Giles Scott-Smith, assistant director Hans Krabbendam, secretary Leontien Joosse, and executive director Cornelis A. van Minnen.

New Scholarly Positions

New professorships and a new staff member have been added to the list of the RSC's achievements. Although the RSC has always worked closely with many universities, in the last two years this academic cooperation has been extended significantly by several scholarly positions. In 2001 RSC Director Cornelis A. van Minnen was appointed part-time visiting professor of American history at the University of Ghent, Belgium. This appointment reinforced the already existing bond between that university and the RSC. Then, in January 2002, the RSC established a special chair for the study of American culture and cultural theory at the University of Groningen, the Netherlands. Dr. Wil Verhoeven, a specialist in American literature and American studies affiliated with that university, has been appointed professor of this new chair for the next five years.

The RSC is also happy to welcome Dr. Giles Scott-Smith who joined the RSC staff in 2002 as post-doctorate researcher. Dr. Scott-Smith is working on a three-year study of the Foreign Leader Program and its operation in the Netherlands. The program, known as the International Visitors Program, originated as part of the Fulbright Act for educational exchanges passed by the U.S. Congress in 1946. The purpose of this program was to organize visits of influential individuals from the media, politics, the economy, and the cultural world to the United States. Using archival materials and interviews with former participants, Dr. Scott-Smith will examine the goals and effects of the program in the context of post-war Dutch-American relations. 



Professor of American Culture and Cultural Theory Wil Verhoeven.

A research program from the RSC and the University of Nijmegen examines how magazines mirrored and disseminated culture in twentieth-century America.

Modeling American Culture: American Magazines in the Twentieth Century

Magazines and periodicals have long been recognized as important historical sources. In recent years researchers in the United States as well as in Europe have increasingly come to view magazines as entities also worthy of study in and of themselves. Not only do magazines function as mirrors or barometers of political, social and cultural life, they also serve as instruments of the production, dissemination, and consumption of culture.


On April 18 and 19, 2002 the Roosevelt Study Center hosted an international conference entitled “Modeling American Culture: American Magazines in the Twentieth Century.” The conference was organized by three RSC staff members – Elke van Cassel, Tom Kuipers and Usha Wilbers, all of whom are writing critical histories about influential American magazines. Their projects are part of the RSC/University of Nijmegen research program “Magazines and Periodicals as Instruments of Twentieth Century American Culture.” The conference was sponsored by the Public Affairs Office of the American Embassy in The Hague, the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences in Amsterdam and the Roosevelt Study Center.



In the middle, keynote speakers Ellen Garvey and Margaret Beetham, surrounded by RSC conference organizers Usha Wilbers (left), Tom Kuipers, and Elke van Cassel.

The two-day program demonstrated a variety of approaches to magazine research and brought together international scholars from a number of disciplines – such as history, literature and mass communications – as well as participants from the publishing world. Some forty scholars from the Netherlands, France, Germany, Turkey, the United Kingdom, Canada and the United States attended the conference.

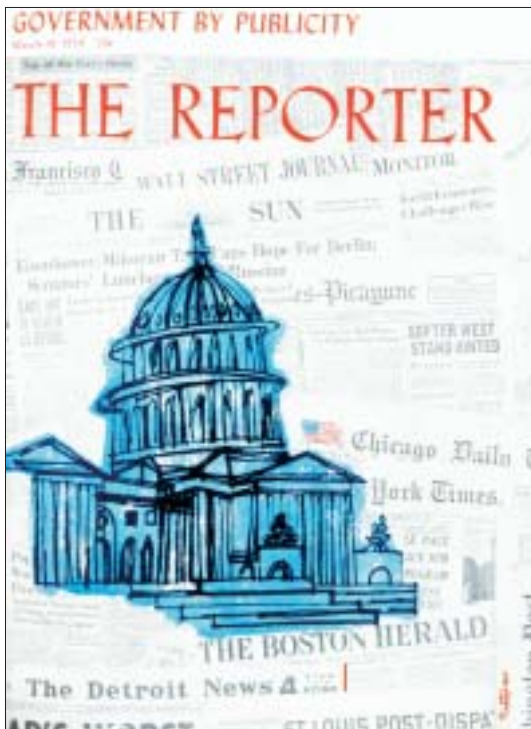
Five panels were held covering such topics as “Literary Magazines as Cultural Institutions,” “Instigators and Powerbrokers,” “Magazines Constructing Gender,” and “Magazine Audiences.” The first day focused on agenda-setting literary, political, and opinion magazines, while the second day was dedicated to papers on audience-directed commercial magazines. In addition, the program included two keynote speakers: Ellen Garvey of New Jersey City University, U.S.A., and Margaret Beetham of Manchester Metropolitan University, U.K. In her lecture Garvey, a former president of the Research Society for American Periodicals, pointed out the importance of the interaction between magazine researchers from different disciplines. Beetham addressed the methodological aspects of magazine research.

The conference served as a great stimulus to the research work of the three RSC organizers who aim to finish their Ph.D. studies within the next two years. 

The Paris Review reflects the literary culture of its times.



Satirical wit is characteristic of The New Yorker.



The cover of The Reporter from March 19, 1959 commenting on the press.

“In the future days, which we seek to make secure, we look forward to a world founded upon four essential human freedoms. The first is freedom of speech and expression.... The second is freedom of every person to worship God in his own way.... The third is freedom from want.... The fourth is freedom from fear.... That is no vision of a distant millennium. It is a definite basis for a kind of world attainable in our own time and generation.”

Franklin Delano Roosevelt, Message to Congress January 6, 1941.

The Four Freedoms Awards: Strengthening Democracy by Fighting Poverty

Dignitaries and Four Freedoms Awards laureates (left to right): Queen’s Commissioner Willem T. van Gelder, Crown Prince Willem-Alexander, Ernesto Zedillo Ponce de León, Gro Harlem Brundtland, Nelson Mandela, Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands, Princess Máxima, William J. vanden Heuvel, Thomas Dine, and Nasr H. Abu Zayd.



The Four Freedoms Awards are bestowed annually by the Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute upon people who advanced the principles of freedom of speech, of religion, and of freedom from want and from fear. Since 1982 the awards have been presented in even-numbered years to distinguished international figures in Middelburg, capital city of the Province of Zeeland. In odd-numbered years the medals are awarded to outstanding American citizens in Hyde Park, New York, the former residence of Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt.

On June 8, during a moving ceremony in Middelburg’s Abbey church, attended by Her Majesty the Queen of the Netherlands, the Prince of Orange, Princess Máxima, and some eight hundred dignitaries from many countries, the Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute presented the 2002 awards to Nelson

Mandela, Ernesto Zedillo Ponce de León, Gro Harlem Brundtland, Nasr H. Abu Zayd, and to Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty.

After welcoming remarks by Queen’s Commissioner in the Province of Zeeland Willem T. van Gelder and Roosevelt Institute Chair Emeritus Arthur Schlesinger, Jr., citations were read by Roosevelt Institute’s Co-Chair William J. vanden Heuvel, President Christopher Breiseth, and the great grand-daughters of Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt, Elizabeth and Margaret Roosevelt Johnston.

The 2002 Winners

The medal for Freedom of Speech and Expression was presented by Erik Hazelhoff Roelfzema (“Soldier of Orange”) and Schuyler G. Chapin, former New York City Commissioner for Cultural Affairs, to Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty in recognition of

its work for more than fifty years “to sustain democracy, challenge totalitarianism, give hope to the oppressed and courage to the forces of freedom.” In his acceptance speech, President of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty Thomas Dine maintained that despite the end of the Cold War there are still areas in Europe, especially in some former Soviet Republics and in the Balkans, where the freedoms of speech, press, and assembly are in jeopardy. Now actively broadcast in thirty-three languages, the programs of the organization are targeted at people in European and Asian countries and in areas where the practice of Islam is dominant.

For his courage to attack religious intolerance, for which he was exiled from his home country Egypt, the Freedom of Worship award was presented to Nasr Hamed Abu Zayd by Wim Stokhof, Executive Director of the International Institute for Asian Studies at Leiden University, and Reverend Forrester Church, Minister of The Unitarian Church of All Souls in New York City. Abu Zayd, Professor of Islamic Studies at Leiden University, emphasized in his address that Islam is “not a violent terrorist religion by nature” but has been abused, politicized and manipulated by some to serve a certain ideology.

For her “tireless work to realize the basic human rights of health, opportunity, and dignity for the world’s sick and poor,” the Freedom from Want medal was awarded to Gro Harlem Brundtland, former Prime Minister of Norway and, since 1998, Director General of the World Health Organization. She received the medal from Laurens Jan Brinkhorst, Netherlands Minister of Agriculture, Nature Management and Fisheries, and the Roosevelt Institute’s President Christopher Breiseth. In her acceptance speech Dr. Brundtland expressed her belief that in the first decade of this new century “the fight against poverty is the central global cause” and that “world leaders struggling to chart a course towards a more stable, secure and peaceful world [should] realize the importance of reducing poverty, suffering and inequity.” Health, she insisted, should be “at the heart of our struggle for sustainable development.”


Former President of Mexico Ernesto Zedillo Ponce de León received the Freedom from Fear award for his successful efforts to lead “a peaceful revolution that has strengthened democracy and brought prosperity and respect for human rights to the people of his country.” The medal was presented by Arthur Schlesinger, Jr. and 1982 Freedom from Want laureate and former Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund H. Johannes Witteveen. In accepting the medal, Mr. Zedillo warned for the dangers of today’s

protectionist decisions by the world’s major trading partners. These, he said, could have dramatic consequences for the least-developed countries and economic progress throughout the world. He referred to President Roosevelt’s belief in internationalism and his outright rejection of unilateral, isolationist, and interventionist actions.



Nelson Mandela, former President of South Africa, and Four Freedoms Award laureate.

The 2002 Four Freedoms Award was bestowed upon former President of South Africa Nelson Mandela “whose singular courage shattered the walls of Apartheid, whose vision gives hope to the oppressed everywhere, whose long walk to freedom has liberated humanity to seek a better world.” He received the medal from the Netherlands Prime Minister Wim Kok, and Elizabeth Roosevelt Johnston. In his acceptance speech, Nelson Mandela, like Dr. Brundtland, focused on the “gross inequality in the world.” Despite having “the capacity to feed, clothe, shelter, educate, and medically treat the population of the planet,” there are still “large masses of the population subject to the most abject forms of poverty and deprivation” all over the world. In his view, globalization was up till now “a weapon for the strong and mighty” that did not address poverty. Like Mr. Zedillo, Mr. Mandela pleaded for a strengthening of multilateralism and criticized the unilateralism of single nations and groups of nations who attempt to dictate international conduct and affairs. But in spite of all the problems that face humanity, he was still hopeful that there are men and women giving their best efforts to create a better world, based upon the freedoms as expressed by Franklin D. Roosevelt.

The speeches delivered at this eleventh Four Freedoms Awards ceremony in Middelburg’s Abbey have just been published as volume 20 in the series Roosevelt Study Center Publications and copies can be ordered from the RSC. 



The Four Freedoms Medal was first minted and presented in 1982. Obverse (top) features a portrait of the president with the inscription, Franklin D. Roosevelt Freedom Medal. Reverse depicts two men and two women symbolizing the Four Freedoms with the words “Speech, Worship, Want, Fear” engraved below the figures.

New Acquisitions at the RSC Library

The microform collections at the RSC form an invaluable primary reference resource for scholars of American history. At present they cover many aspects of U.S. modern history beginning with the presidency of Theodore Roosevelt and continuing through that of Gerald R. Ford. Also in the RSC library are the U.S. State Department records of U.S.-Dutch diplomatic relations from the 1780s through the 1960s. In 2002 grants from the Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute and the Zeeland Library enabled the RSC to add the following new collections to its already unique holdings.



President Ford's scrapbooks are now available at the RSC library.

President Ford Scrapbooks

The Gerald R. Ford Scrapbooks provide an overview of Ford's public life from high school through his post-presidential years. Based upon the original documents at the Gerald R. Ford Library, this microfilm collection covers the period 1929-1978. Though it consists primarily of newspaper and magazine clippings, it also includes photographs, souvenir programs, invitations, holiday and courtesy messages, and other correspondence.



Amiri Baraka, a leading figure in the Black Arts and Black Power movements.

The Black Power Movement

The first part of this microfilm collection covers Amiri Baraka's (formerly known as LeRoi Jones) career from his involvement in the Black Arts movement in the mid-1960s through his nationalist and Marxist periods into the late 1970s and early 1980s. The collection consists of a trove of rare works of poetry, organizational documents, rare print publications, and a small amount of personal correspondence. The second part of this collection contains the papers of Robert F. Williams, one of the most underestimated forces in American political history, who during his most influential years lived in exile in Cuba and China.



General Westmoreland.

The War in Vietnam: Classified Histories by the National Security Council

For the study of virtually any aspect of America's role in Vietnam, this microfilm collection offers indispensable information. The documents include the White House Situation Room reports, the Papers of the Vietnam Advisory Group, Reports and briefings from U.S. ambassadors to Vietnam, military messages, and communications of the president with Vietnamese leaders.

Papers of William C. Westmoreland, Part I
General Westmoreland served as head of the Military Assistance Command in Vietnam (MACV) from mid-1964 through mid-1968 and in four subsequent years as U.S. Army chief of staff. These papers – most of which

were originally classified between confidential and top secret – include Westmoreland's correspondence, daily history notes and schedules, memoranda, cables, and reports to and from components of MACV, the U.S. ambassador and staff, the Mission Council, and the South Vietnamese government. This microfilm collection also contains Westmoreland's public statements, interviews, and a small collection of headquarters memoranda of telephone conversations.

Documentary History of the Franklin D. Roosevelt Administration


Selected from more than 17 million pages concerning the FDR administration, this 15-volume print publication presents topics such as New Deal relief, legislative crises, national defense and security issues, relations with foreign countries, and several other subjects. These revealing documents offer researchers critical insights into the machinations of the Roosevelt White House, Roosevelt's presidential style, his policies and programs, and the colorful characters who advised and influenced the president. This is a valuable addition to the RSC's core collections on Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Dutch in America, 1800s Immigration Records

Robert P. Swierenga, a specialist in Dutch immigration to the U.S., has compiled this remarkable CD-ROM. It includes sources from the National Archives in Washington DC, the Canadian National Archives in Ottawa, the National Archives in The Hague, Frisian population registers, and church records in congregational and denominational archives.

Henk van Stekelenburg Collection

The RSC recently acquired the rich collection of the late Dutch historian Henk van Stekelenburg (1929-1999). Van Stekelenburg was the expert on Roman Catholic emigration from the Netherlands to the United States in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The materials donated by his estate to the RSC formed the basis of three books and numerous articles he published about this subject. These books, archives, correspondence, pictures, and interviews are a welcome addition to the growing RSC collection on Dutch immigrants in the United States.

To facilitate research, printed finding aids accompany each of the microform collections. A complete list of the RSC archival materials and audio-visual collection on modern American history is available on the RSC website: www.roosevelt.nl. 

“Democracy cannot succeed unless those who express their choice are prepared to choose wisely. The real safeguard of democracy, therefore, is education.”

Franklin Delano Roosevelt, Statement on the observance of Education Week, September 27, 1938.

The RSC Research Grants Program

Thanks to generous contributions from the Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute and from Mr. Curtis Roosevelt, the RSC is able to offer European students of American history a unique opportunity to conduct research in the attractive and pleasant ambiance of the RSC library. The library holdings include numerous U.S. historical documents not available anywhere else in Europe.

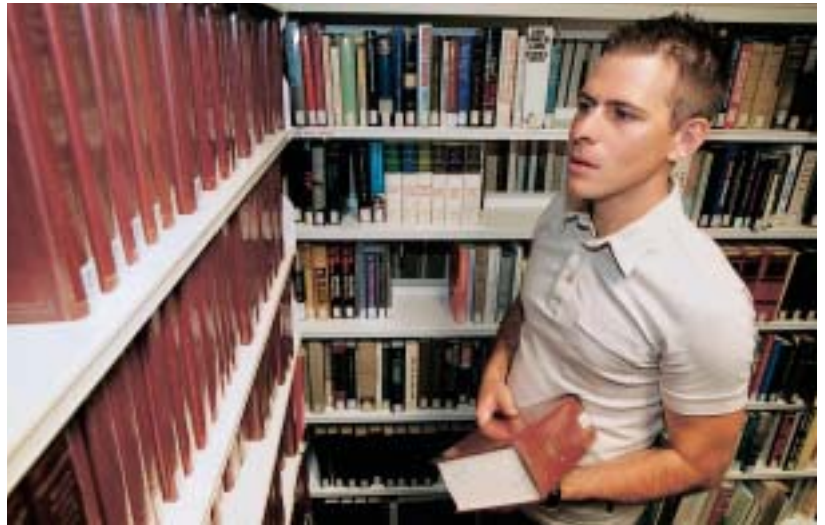
In addition to a per diem of € 30, the RSC grant covers travel expenses and a lump sum of € 45 for photocopies. The research period at the RSC covered by a grant ranges from a minimum of one week to a maximum of four weeks. The maximum grant is € 950 .

In 2002 the following persons received an RSC Research Grant for their projects:

- Diter den Baes (University of Ghent, Belgium), “The Role of Religion in the Southern Christian Leadership Conference” (M.A.);
- Annelieke Dirks (University of Leiden, Netherlands), “The Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee and the ‘Beloved Community’” (M.A.);
- Tina Kuehr (University of Bonn, Germany), “Civilizing (Domestic) Dependent Nations: The American Policy of Education towards Native Americans and Filipinos, 1889-1909” (M.A.);
- Ron Robin (University of Haifa, Israel), “The Culture and Politics of Disease Control: The Rhetoric of Public Health at Home and Abroad during the Progressive Period” (book);
- Francis Vlieghe (University of Ghent, Belgium), “The Influence of World War I on Belgian-U.S. Relations” (M.A.);
- Ales Sosnovsky (Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic), “Victors or the Vanquished? U.S. Policy toward Japan and Korea in 1945-1950” (Ph.D.);
- Caroline Lievens (University of Ghent, Belgium), “The Radicalization of the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee” (M.A.);
- Ingrid Kalkhoven (University of Utrecht, Netherlands), “School Bussing and the Nixon Administration (1969-1974)” (Ph.D.).

European students seeking a masters or doctorate in American history as well as

advanced scholars are invited to apply for the 2003 Research Grants. Application forms and relevant information on the RSC archival collections can be downloaded from the RSC website: www.roosevelt.nl.




NAF-Roosevelt Grantee 2002 Erik Kramer at the RSC library.

New NAF-Roosevelt Grant

The Netherland-America Foundation (NAF) in New York has enabled the RSC to offer a Dutch student/researcher in the field of American history and culture a grant of US\$ 3,000 to help cover research expenses. Aimed especially at supporting M.A. and Ph.D. candidates, a prerequisite for the grant is that applicants submit a proposal based on research to be conducted both at the RSC and at an archive somewhere in the United States.

In 2002 the first NAF-Roosevelt Grantee was Erik Kramer, a historian who recently graduated from the University of Amsterdam. Mr. Kramer used his NAF-Roosevelt Grant in preparation of a Ph.D. research project, “The Reagan Administration and the Containment Strategy.” For this study he worked at the RSC library in Middelburg in August and at the Ronald Reagan Library in Simi Valley, California, in October.

Applications for the 2003 NAF-Roosevelt Grant should be submitted to the RSC before March 1, 2003. 

This joint effort of NASA and the Association of Canadian Studies demonstrates the unique place of Native American culture in the history of the Americas.

NASA Conference on “First Nations of and Photo Exhibit on



Conference organizers (left to right): Hans Bak, Nergis Mazid, and Jaap Verheul.



“Ghost Dances” by Canadian playwright and performer Yvette Nolan.

From May 29-31, 2002 the Roosevelt Study Center was the venue for the annual Netherlands American Studies Association (NASA) conference. Based upon cooperation between NASA and the Association of Canadian Studies in the Netherlands, the theme of this year’s conference was “First Nations of North America: Politics and Representation.”

The enormous interest in this subject was testified to by the fact that this three-day conference attracted almost a hundred participants from nine countries, including the ambassador of Canada and the public affairs counselor of the U.S. embassy in The Hague.

A highlight of the program featured an evening performance by Canadian playwright and performer Yvette Nolan, who also gave one of the keynote lectures. Other keynotes were delivered by Choctaw author LeAnne Howe, who spoke about the politics and power of Native American women, Canadian author Aritha van Herk, Yale University scholar Alan Trachtenberg, and his colleague Lavonne Brown-Ruoff from the University of Chicago, who spoke on early Native American writers’ representations of native life.

In total, thirty-five papers were presented in plenary and parallel sessions, focusing on such topics as the politics of treaties, method and media, objects, art and artefacts, politics and identity, creation and fabrication in religion,

depictions of Native Americans in American literature, and First Nations in photography and the media. A selection of the papers presented at this meeting will be edited and published by the conference organizers.

Photo Exhibit on Native American Children
In connection with the conference on Native Americans, the RSC organized a summer photo exhibit on Native American children, which was open to the public from June 17 through September 27. Some fifty photographs from the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian in New York City were on display. Although most of the images were made by white photographers in the period 1890-1940, the exhibit also included some contemporary photos picturing young Native Americans, which were made in the 1990s by photographers of Native American descent.

The exhibit traced the development of Native American children from birth through adulthood as they participate in their families, at school, at work and with friends. Some photographers tried to illustrate how Native Americans had adapted to the dominant white culture; others portrayed how they had managed to maintain their traditional way of life.

To give an impression of the diversity of Native American cultures, pictures of tribes from all over the continental United States were selected, and a map of the U.S. indicating the original locations of the various tribes was included. Further enhancing the exhibit were several display cases with children’s books and toys which gave insight into how mainstream society has often depicted Native Americans. ☞



During their first year, Native American babies were transported in portable cradles. These twins, Alompum and Tax-a-lax born in February 1898, were grand-nieces of the famous Cayuse Chief Joseph (In Mut Too Yah Lat Lat, 1840-1904).

North America: Politics and Representation”

Native American Children



A studio portrait of a young Navajo with headband, earrings and necklace taken around 1907 in Arizona. Studio images were often ordered by the Federal Government for scientific or political reasons.



The extended family played an essential role in Native American life. This photo, taken around 1886, depicts Long Wolf and his family who were from the Lakota tribe. Long Wolf worked at Buffalo Bill’s “Wild West Show” and this was probably a publicity photo for the show. Long Wolf and his family are dressed in traditional clothes. By the 1870s numerous photographs were made of Native Americans, often for political purposes.



Goyathlay (1825-1909), better known as Geronimo, the famous warrior of the Chiricahua Apaches, is portrayed here with his wife and children in his melon patch at Ft. Sill, Oklahoma, around 1895. Having been “pacified”, Geronimo was forced to live on a reservation and to provide food for his family through farming.



The hairstyle of these Hopi girls meant that they were unmarried. This photo was made by Edward S. Curtis (1868-1952), the most famous photographer of Native Americans, who made over 40,000 pictures of them over the course of thirty years in an effort to preserve images of their vanishing culture.



The annual Gallup, New Mexico celebration, circa 1940. The first celebration took place in 1922. Members of the Zuni and Navajo tribes continue to assemble there each year to dance and to sell their art and crafts.

Information

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For free copies and information on the Center's activities, please contact the Roosevelt Study Center, Abdij 9, P.O. Box 6001, 4330 LA Middelburg, the Netherlands, tel. +31 (0)118-631590, fax +31 (0)118-631593, rsc@zeeland.nl or visit our website on the Internet: www.roosevelt.nl

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Wilma Wijers
Komozi Woodward
Collection

A Look Ahead

Upcoming events at the RSC in 2003



The Roosevelt Study Center is located in the medieval Abbey of Middelburg in the Province of Zeeland in the Netherlands.

Conference on Amsterdam and New York, January 31-February 1

Organized by the RSC and hosted by the Amsterdam Municipal Archives, the conference "Parallel Cities: Amsterdam-New York, 1653-2003" will focus on the political, economic, religious, and cultural ties between Amsterdam and New Amsterdam/New York from the seventeenth century to the present.

Conference on U.S. Cultural History, January 16-17

Organized in cooperation with the Huizinga Instituut, the RSC will be the venue for a 2-day conference for Ph.D. candidates and senior researchers on aspects of U.S. cultural history and the field of American Studies from a European perspective.

Theodore Roosevelt American History Awards, April 4

Selected by a distinguished jury, the RSC presents an annual prize for the three best M.A. theses on an American history topic written by Dutch university students in the preceding academic year. Replicas of Theodore Roosevelt's 1905 Inaugural Medal and prize money will be awarded to the winners, as well as a trip to "Roosevelt sites" in the U.S. for the first prize winner.

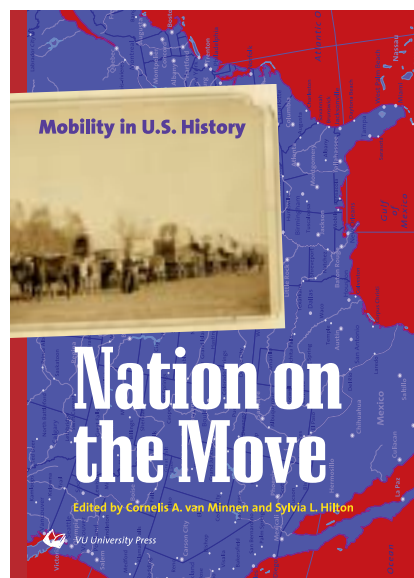
European Historians Conference on Frontiers and Boundaries in U.S. History, April 23-25

For the sixth time in a row the RSC will host the European Historians of the U.S. Conference. This time the aim is to address issues connected with all kinds of historically and geographically discernable and significant boundaries and zones of separation, differentiation, contact and conflict, from colonial times to the present.

NASA Conference on Post-Cold War Europe and America, June 4-6

The 2003 conference of the Netherlands American Studies Association to be held at the RSC will examine the changes in the relationship between Europe and the United States that have occurred since the end of the Cold War. The signs of separation and disengagement, both in Europe and the U.S., have political, cultural, economic, military and intellectual implications and these will be discussed at this conference.

Just Published



Nation on the Move: Mobility in U.S. History (Amsterdam: VU University Press, 2002).

Originating at the Fifth Middelburg Conference of European Historians of the U.S. held at the RSC in April 2001, the ten essays in this volume have been edited by Cornelis A. van Minnen and Sylvia L. Hilton. They address a major issue of modern American historiography and a fascinating aspect of U.S. society: geographical and social mobility within the United States. The essays approach this theme from various angles, from colonial times to the present.

The Franklin D. Roosevelt Four Freedoms Awards 2002 (Middelburg: Roosevelt Study Center Publications, 2002). This twentieth volume in the RSC Publications series contains the speeches delivered at the Four Freedoms Awards ceremony on June 8, 2002 by the representatives of the Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute and the laureates themselves (see this issue of *The Roosevelt Review*, pages 6 and 7).