Faculty Lectures

REUNION II
May 21 to 24, 2015

Saturday, May 23
2 – 3 p.m.

A Brief Architectural Tour of Smith Campus
John Davis, Alice Pratt Brown Professor of Art, Director, Smithsonian Internship Program

John Davis will lead an architectural tour of Smith, discussing some of the influential buildings on campus.

About John Davis
John Davis earned his A.B. from Cornell University and M.A., M.Phil. and Ph.D. degrees from Columbia University. John Davis offers courses covering the history of art and architecture in the United States, from the seventeenth through the mid-twentieth centuries, and he also directs Smith College’s Smithsonian Internship Program through the Program in American Studies. He is the author or co-author of four books and museum catalogues, as well as several dozen articles and essays. His most recent book (co-authored with Sarah Burns) is American Art to 1900: A Documentary History (2009), and his co-edited Blackwell Companion to American Art is due out in 2015. Current research interests include American exceptionalism, American artistic connections to Les Vingt, the National Academy of Design’s architectural aspirations, William Merritt Chase’s exhibition strategies, and the landscapes of Kenyon Cox.

Talking about sleep: understanding your need for sleep
Mary Harrington, Tippit Professor in Life Sciences

Mary Harrington will discuss the history of sleep research and will give a summary of current scientific understanding of your need for sleep. New research will be described that highlights how sleep plays an important role in memory, as well in clearing the brain of toxins. Surprisingly, parts of your brain can fall asleep even while you are awake! This talk will wrap up with hints for getting more sleep, more restorative sleep, and coping better with insomnia.

About Mary Harrington
Mary Harrington is the Tippit Professor in Life Sciences. She is the Director of the Neuroscience Program and teaches in the Psychology Department. Mary received her PhD from Dalhousie University in 1986 and has been teaching at Smith College since 1987. She teaches undergraduate courses in Alzheimer’s Disease, experimental methods in neuroscience, and a seminar “Neuroscience in the Public Eye”. Her research specialty is in the brain regulation of circadian rhythms and sleep. She is researching negative health impacts associated with disruption of circadian rhythms, and the neurobiology of chronic fatigue. Her research is supported by grants from the National Institutes of Health and the National Science Foundation.
About Floyd Cheung
Floyd Cheung earned his B.A. at Whittier College, and his M.A. and Ph.D. in English at Tulane University. Floyd Cheung is associate professor of English language and literature and of American studies. He is also a member of the Five College Asian/Pacific/American Studies Certificate Program, for which he served as the founding chair. In 2012, he was awarded with the Kathleen Compton Sherrerd, '54, and John J. F. Sherrerd Prize for Distinguished Teaching.