

SUNY HONORS DELHI FACULTY FOR HUMANITIES RESEARCH

DELHI, NY ... Dr. Lynn Domina and Dr. Kirby Olson, faculty members at SUNY Delhi, were honored December 16 at the State University of New York Chancellor's Recognition Dinner in Albany. This event featured 42 of New York's researchers of the Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences.

"This is a tremendous honor to have our faculty among the leading researchers in the SUNY system. It highlights the scholarly achievement of our faculty," said Dr. Candace S. Vancko, SUNY Delhi president. Dr. Domina and Dr. Olson were the only honorees selected from SUNY's Colleges of Technology.

Sponsored by SUNY's Research Foundation, this event is designed to recognize the outstanding achievements of the State University of New York researchers, scholars, and inventors who are at the heart of its research enterprise.

Dr. Domina, associate professor, was recognized for her exceptional work in the autobiography genre. She is examining a range of autobiographical texts written by women of the 19th century. These include white women's diaries during the Civil War (a related article will be appearing in the forthcoming *Oxford Encyclopedia of American Literature*); slave narratives; the memoirs of soldiers' wives during the "Indian Wars," especially the Battle of Little Bighorn; and narratives, primarily oral, of Native American women.

Dr. Olson, assistant professor, has also caught SUNY's attention with his work concerning the role of humor in 20th century literature. His first book, *Comedy after Postmodernism: Rereading Comedy from Edward Lear to Charles Willeford* (Texas Tech U. Press, 2001) discussed the role of humor in contemporary philosophy, and how certain overlooked comic writers can help expand and amplify that conversation. His second book, *Gregory Corso: Doubting Thomist* (Southern Illinois University Press, 2002), deals with the clownish side of a Beat writer and shows how his humor is linked to an old tradition of humor within Catholicism dating back to St. Francis and St. Thomas. He is

currently working on a book about the Romanian-American humorist and poet Andrei Codrescu.

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