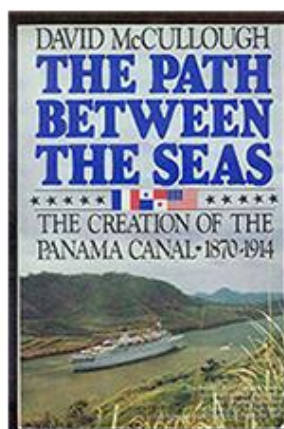




CANAL GATOR TALES

November 2018

Developing Courses at UF



We are exploring ways to encourage UF faculty to develop courses relating to the Panama Canal, so that we can use the remarkable resources in the PCMC to educate students about the history of the Canal and the Canal Zone. At the July 2018 meeting of the Executive Council of the Friends of the PCMC, members agreed to offer financial incentives to faculty interested in developing courses, which is a common practice in colleges and universities to foster curriculum development. We reached out to the UF Honors Program, which manages a very successful "Un(common) Reads" program. Faculty participating in the program develop one-credit courses that explore a single book in great depth. Books can be from any genre – literary classics, contemporary works, nonfiction, etc. We discussed our idea with several faculty members, and we are pleased to announce that three proposals have been accepted by the Honors Program for the Spring 2019 semester.

Prof. Maya Stanfield-Mazzi has proposed a course focusing on Diana Marks' *Molas: Dress, Identity, Culture* (University of Mexico Press, 2016). In addition to reading and discussing the book, the students in the class will engage with the substantial collection of molas preserved in the PCMC. The students will make two visits to the Smathers Library to investigate the molas and to learn about the PCMC and the history of the collection. Prof. Lillian Guerra's proposed course will examine U.S.-Panama relations in the 20th Century and will use John Lindsay-Poland's *Emperors in the Jungle: The Hidden History of the US in Panama* (Duke University Press, 2003). Students will gain hands-on experience interacting with documents, artifacts, and other materials in the PCMC. Prof. Benjamin E. Wise has proposed a course focusing on David McCullough's *The Path Between the Seas: The Creation of the Panama Canal, 1870-1914* (Simon & Schuster, 1978). The class will discuss the political, economic, cultural, and technological history of the conception and execution of the Panama Canal. Students will write essays based on analysis of primary source materials found in the PCMC that relate to the book. We are also encouraging the three faculty to incorporate discussions with local Zonians, such

as Prof. Frank Townsend, so that the students can interact with and learn from people with firsthand experience and knowledge.

All three courses have been accepted by the Honors Program and appear on the Spring 2019 course list, but student enrollment will determine if the courses proceed. We will offer a stipend to each faculty member who successfully teaches a course. If we learn that there is student demand for classes relating to the Panama Canal, we may extend our incentive program in future semesters.

Looking Ahead to the PCS Reunion

We are looking forward to the Panama Canal Society Reunion in Orlando, July 3-7, 2019. The exhibition this year will focus on Operation Just Cause and the experiences of Zonians before and during the military operation. If you have interesting stories to share, please contact Liz Bouton at dizliz@ufl.edu or (352) 273-2685.

We will hold our silent auction to raise funds to support the PCMC. These funds support a variety of activities including preservation, acquisitions, digitization, processing, and promotion of the historical materials in the collection. If you are interested in volunteering or donating items to the auction, please contact Kathy Egolf (pankee@aol.com) or Joan Ohman (johman1@tampabay.rr.com).

We hope to see everyone in Orlando!

Membership Reminder

If you haven't done so already, now is the time to renew your membership in the Friends of the Panama Canal Museum Collection at UF. If you are not a member already, please consider joining!

The funds collected are used to support education and research through the preservation, conservation, digitization, and processing of the collection. Funds also support the creation and development of local, traveling, and online exhibits that increase awareness about the collection, the Panama Canal, the Canal Zone, and its people.

We maintain these efforts through the support of friends like you when you join or renew your membership. Dues and donations qualify for tax deductions. Thank you for your continued support of the PCMC at UF.

To join or renew membership in the Friends of the Panama Canal Museum Collection visit <https://apps.uflib.ufl.edu/pcmmembership/> or call 352-273-2505 for more information.

FRIENDS OF THE
PANAMA CANAL
Museum Collection
AT THE UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA



Save These Dates

January 27 - February 3, 2019

7-Night Cuba and Eastern Caribbean Fundraising Cruise on Royal Caribbean's *Empress of the Seas* with Friends of the Panama Canal Museum Collection. For more information, see the [2019 Cruise Flyer](#).

March 16, 2019

Joint meeting of the Friends of the Panama Canal Museum Collection and Panama Canal Society at the University of Florida's Smathers Library in Gainesville, FL. Includes the grand opening of the 2019 exhibition in the Albert H. Nahmad Panama Canal Gallery. The exhibition, *An American Canal in Panama*, will examine the decades leading up to the transfer of the Canal to Panama in 1999, focusing on U.S.-Panama relations, opposition to the treaties, the end of the Canal Zone, and Operation Just Cause.

July 3-7, 2019

Exhibit, Auction and Cultural Seminar at the Panama Canal Society Reunion at the Orlando Marriott World Center. It's never too early to start identifying items that you would like to donate to the auction! Please contact Kathy Egolf (pankee@aol.com) if you have items to donate or wish to volunteer.
