issues in collection & representation

Because language shapes how we experience, understand, and order reality, the ways that people have written about and represented ‘culture’ give us insights into the values, assumptions, and social identities of the documenters. Students in ENGL 2367.05H have explored fieldnotes, photo logs, essays, and exhibits archived at the American Folklife Center of the Library of Congress; their presentations investigate social hierarchies and point to relationships of power that fracture along lines of race, gender, age, region, class, credentials, and other factors.

ENGL 2367.05H • The U.S. Folk Experience • Student Poster Exhibition

“Why do people collect and display vernacular expressive culture?”
• Libbey Brigner (Forestry, Fisheries, and Wildlife) & Melissa French (Anthropology)

“How do they do so?”
• Sophie Shiloh (International Studies)

“What are the consequences?”
• Rachel Armstrong (History, Int’l Studies) & Tyler Eldridge (Aeronautical Engineering)

“What are the consequences?”
• Chris Kozlowski (Pre-veterinary) & Mitch Richert (Neuroscience)

“Commemorating a Cultural Landscape: The Cardboard Cemetery as Activist Art in Big Coal River Valley”
• Sarah Beall (Marketing) & Claire Staveski (Health Sciences)

April 18, 2013 • 2:30 to 3:30 pm
143 University Hall