

# An American Professor in London

By Tom Glazewski

Dr. Garry Hagberg spent his summer vacation in Europe doing what he enjoys best.

Hagberg, assistant professor of humanities & philosophy, was able to study in Europe this summer because he was granted a fellowship from the National Endowment for the Humanities, (NEH).

NEH has seminars for college teachers during the summer. This year's seminars were held in London and Rome.

Hagberg was one of 12 people from the United States who were brought to London to work on problems in 18th century philosophy of rhetoric and the philosophy of language.

Hagberg specializes in the philosophy of art. He works primarily on the connection between theories of language and theories of art.

While in London for the summer, Hagberg studied this relationship of language and art in the 18th century.

His studies were focused mostly on the works of the philosopher David Hume.

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"I studied the idea of art as a visual language," Hagberg said.

"People were brought together from many different disciplines," he said.

The group represented many different countries, as well as disciplines.

They worked together three mornings a week, meeting in the British Library in London.

They also worked in the University of London and the Warburg Institute, a research center for interdisciplinary studies of the arts.

Hagberg was reluctant to generalize about the different characteristics of the British culture in comparison to ours.

He did say that the British tend to be a bit more sensitive to linguistic subtleties.

"That was in academic London though, and it surely isn't true for all of London," he said.

Hagberg lived in Bloomsbury, the academic and cultural center of London.

"Academics in London seem to work extremely hard. It's amazing; they work ceaselessly and are extremely dedicated to their research," he said. "They also seem proficient in pub-crawling."

In his free time from work, Hagberg enjoyed going to the London theater, art galleries, concerts and to jazz clubs.

Being a jazz musician is Hagberg's second love.

"I've been involved with it for decades," he said.

On his way back from London, Hagberg stopped in Austria and Germany to see some of his old jazz buddies.

Hagberg and a colleague had their own jazz duo which, in the early 1980s,

toured twice through Germany playing at various jazz clubs and concerts.

"I don't make much of a distinction between teaching and my outside interests," he said.

Hagberg teaches in the Western

Traditions sequence which covers philosophy, art, literature, history, architecture and music.

Most of his personal interests intertwine directly with what he teaches.

Hagberg graduated from the

University of Oregon with a doctorate in philosophy in 1982.

He has taught at the University of Oregon, Alfred University in upstate New York, and Lafayette College in Eastern Pennsylvania.



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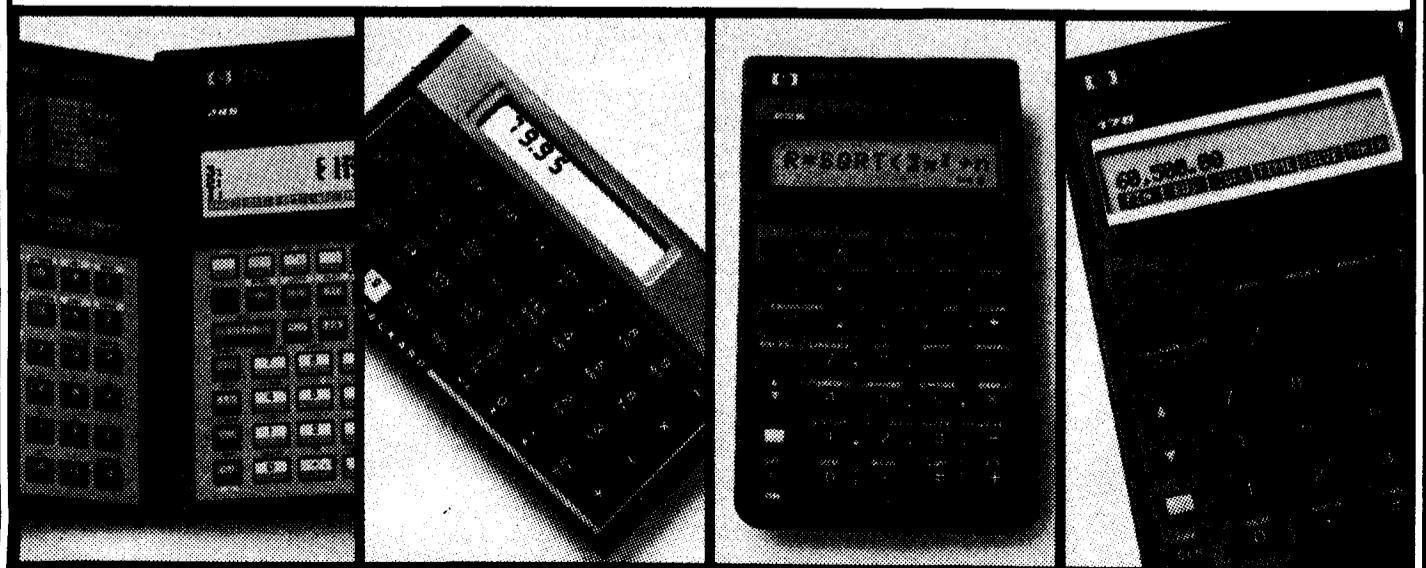
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