

## **'Reinventing Eden' is this year's Russell Lecture**

3/30/06

Carolyn Merchant, a key scholar in the development of the field of environmental history, will deliver this year's Russell Lecture, sponsored by the Division of Human Studies at Alfred University. Her talk, "Reinventing Eden: The Role of Nature in Western Culture," is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. Tuesday in Nevins Theater, Powell Campus Center on the AU campus. It is open to the public, free of charge. In addition to her work in environmental history, Merchant is considered to be a major voice for the inclusion of gender as a category in all areas of history. Merchant is the Chancellor's Professor of Environmental History, Philosophy, and Ethics in the Department of Environmental Science, Policy, and Management at the University of California, Berkeley. She is the author of *The Death of Nature: Women, Ecology, and the Scientific Revolution* (1980); *Ecological Revolutions: Nature, Gender, and Science in New England* (1989); *Radical Ecology: The Search for a Livable World* (1992; 2nd ed., 2005); *Earthcare: Women and the Environment* (1996); *The Columbia Guide to American Environmental History* (2002); and *Reinventing Eden: The Fate of Nature in Western Culture* (2003), as well as numerous articles on the history of science, environmental history, and women and the environment. She is the editor of *Major Problems in American Environmental History* (1993; 2nd ed. 2005); *Key Concepts in Critical Theory: Ecology* (1994); *Green Versus Gold: Sources in California's Environmental History* (1998); and co-editor, with John McNeill and Shepard Krech, III, of *The Encyclopedia of World Environmental History*, 3 vols. (2003). Merchant has been a fellow at the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences, Stanford; the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Fellow in the Ecological Humanities at the National Humanities Center; a fellow of the American Council of Learned Societies; a Guggenheim fellow; a Fulbright senior scholar in Sweden; and the 1991 ecofeminist scholar at Murdoch University in Western Australia. She is the immediate past-president of the American Society for Environmental History and has served on the executive and advisory boards of the History of Science Society, Environmental History, Environmental Ethics, Ethics and the Environment, the *International Journal of Ecoforestry, Organization and Environment*, and the Association for the Study of Literature and the Environment.