LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

Dear Colleagues and Friends:

This will be my last "Letter from the Chair," and as I close my term I should like to express my pleasure in viewing the ever increasing visibility of our Department and to thank all of you for your contributions to that end. In fact were it not for the budgetary problems which now beset the University and the Department as a result of underfunding by the State legislature, what follows in this newsletter would be one long litany of success and accomplishment.

The History Department has a new prominence on this campus. Undergraduates are now literally flocking to our courses, and we are fast reaching the point where we are going to have to cap enrollments. Particularly gratifying is the recent sharp rise in the number of our majors. Our graduate enrollments are also up nicely. We are now enrolling between 50 and 55 new graduate students a year with the result that we are in a position to offer a greater number and a wider variety of graduate courses than we were a few years ago.

As the following pages will indicate, our faculty continue to distinguish themselves by publication, by garnering much coveted research grants, and by a disproportionately high number of achievement and teaching awards. The Department can now boast of five University scholars, three winners of the Burlington Northern faculty achievement award, three winners of the campus-wide teaching award, and a host of recipients of distinguished research fellowships.

However remarkable this record of current accomplishment, the future also looks extremely good. In recent years we have been successful in attracting new faculty members of distinction and great promise. This fall alone we have welcomed three new tenure-track assistant professors.

Last year on this page I indicated that we had a serious need for additional graduate student fellowships and were making the funding of those fellowships our highest priority. We have made a good start; to date we have raised almost ten thousand dollars. A list of those who have contributed appears on a separate page. We are deeply indebted to you for helping us to achieve a successful start. I would like to emphasize that this is an on-going effort and that we very much hope that more and more of you will find an opportunity to contribute and to join us in this crucial endeavor.

RALPH FISHER HONORED AT RETIREMENT BANQUET

In the summer of 1987, Ralph Fisher retired after twenty-eight years as the first director of the University of Illinois Center for Russian and East European Studies, and in the summer of 1988 he retired after thirty years as a member of the Department of History. On February 25, 1988, the department joined with the Center for Russian and East European Studies to sponsor a dinner at the top of University Inn in honor of both Ralph and Ruth Fisher. The appropriately Slavic menu featured Borsch Moskovskaia, Goulash, Kotmis Satsivi, Azerbaijan Pilaf, Salizi Puiez, Pirosky, and Mdzhavai Komboto among other unpronounceable delicacies. It was attended by more than one hundred-and-fifty friends, colleagues, and associates from the campus and the community, as well as Russian studies specialists from all over the United States. A ceremonious volume of letters and telegrams was presented to the Fishers by Marianna Tax Choldin, the new Center director.

During Ralph Fisher’s years of service as director of the Center, it gave its highest priority to the task of attracting funds to help the university library improve its Russian and East European holdings. As a consequence, the university library moved from at best thirtieth place in the 1950s to third place in the 1970s (trailing only the Library of Congress and Harvard University) as a bibliographic resource in this area. The institution of annual summer research laboratories has helped make the University of Illinois the academic mecca for scholars concerned with Russian and East European studies. In recognition of Ralph Fisher’s role in that accomplishment, the Department of History joined with the Center in surprising him at the banquet with the announcement that a fund had been established in his name with the University of Illinois Foundation, a fund

continued on page 2

In closing I would like to thank you for your support over the past four years, to extend you the season's best greetings, and to invite you to join us at the AHA in Cincinnati for a University of Illinois reception in my room at the Omni Netherland Plaza on Thursday, December 29, from 5 to 7 p.m.

Cordially,
William C. Widenor
HISTORY DEPARTMENT HONOR ROLL

As of the beginning of October 1988, the following faculty of the department had contributed to the Graduate Fellowship Fund

CONTINUOUS TEXT FROM PAGE 5

AASLESTAD, KATHERINE B.

GRONAU, DUANE ROGER

ASH, JAMES M. & MARY JO

HAAS, JAMES M. & NATHALIE G.

AGOSTI, ANDREW J. & MARY ELEN

HAMLAND, L.M. & MARTHA E.

ALTER, SHARON Z.

HARWOOD, WILLIAM L.

ANDREWS, DONNA S. & H. DEAN

HABER, CARL F. & GENEVIEVE L.

ARNOLD, KATHY J.

HELMEICH, ERNST CHRISTIAN

ARNSTEIN, WALTER L. & CHARLOTTE C.

HENRIKSEN, PAUL W.

BAKER, VIRGINIA M. & WAYNE

HIBBARD, CAROLINE M.

BALLAS, DENIS

Hitchings, Keith

BARTHHELL, DANIEL

HOEVELER, JOHN D., JR. & DIANE

BATES, T. LEONARD & DOROTHY

HOOPER, JAMES EDGAR

BECK, ANN

INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORP.

BENZIGER, KAREL & A. KAREN MARIE

JACOB, L. STEVEN & TERA

BERDAHL, ROBERT & PEG

JOHANSSON, ROBERT & LOIS

BERS, HOWARD M. & TRUDY

KATELE, IRISHE BRUITE

BOLLER, STEPHANIE K.

KELLY, ROBERT E.

BONE, QUENTIN B.

KING, GRENVILLE & JERALYN

BOSSI, CHARLOTTE

KING, KEITH LYNN

BRAITHWAITE, F. & ARLENE E.

KOENKER, DIANE

BRONSON, ONEIDA LAURETA

KRUSZEL, KATHERINE & MARY JANE

BROWN, JEFFREY PAUL

KRAL, THOMAS JAMES

BROWN, RONALD C. & JUDITH H.

KRUEGER, WILLIAM E.

CITRON, ABRAHAM F.

KUNY, MARY R. & G. FREDERICK

CLEVER, DONALD F. & TERESA M.

LAURENZO, FREDERICK, JR.

COBLE, PARKS M., JR.

LAVELY, PATRICK B.

COOMER, DONALD

LEFF, MARK & CAROL S.

CRAWFORD, HARRETT E.

LOBBELL, GEORGE HENRY, JR.

CRUMMAY, DONALD

LOVE, JOSEPH & LAURA REYNOLDS

CRUYDER, ROBERT W.

LOWE, MARVIN EDMUND

DAY, C. ERNEST & PATSY

MATHISBRA, KIRITO

DEWES’ DRIVE IN, R. GRONAU

MAYFIELD, P.M. & WATHENIA R.

DICKERSON, THOMAS E.

MCCELROEY, ROBERT & DIANE

DOHERTY, RICHARD P.

MCKAY, JOHN & JO ANN

DUMULON, JOHN J.

MEIER, DUANE EDWARD

ECKER, NANCY D. & DENNIS H.

MEYERS, CHARLES J. & SYLVIA L.

ERLANDSON, HOWARD E.

MILLER, STEPHEN LEE & MARY LOU

FISHER, RALPH T. & RUTH M.

MITCHELL, DRURY & B.

FRITZSCH, PETER & KAREN HEWITT

MOPPITT, KEN & F. LOLA

GABEL, ALLAN A.

NELSON, NORMAN C.

GBSON, GUY JAMES

NEWMAN, MELVIN L. & VIRGINIA M.

GIVENDON, ELLWOOD B., JR.

OEHL, SHARON BRENNEN

GOERING, PATRICIA A.

OVER, VANCE GORDON

GRAEBNER, W.M. & DIANNE BENNET

PALMER, FREDERICK A., JR.

GRANDEL, EUGENE ROBERT

PAULIS, GEORGE A. & JOHN M.

POUG, PHILIP MAX

PRIKOPA, JOHN IVAN & AUDREY H.

PURL, S. & GLADYS W.

REHNERT, HELEN KATHERINE

RENNER, RICHARD W.

RICE, ROBERT J. & GAIL R.

RIST, PEARL M.

RIZZO, PETER PAUL

ROMANELLO, ANTHONY M.

ROSELET, STUART F.

ROMBERG, PAUL.

SCHLOSSER, R. SIDNEY & ROY

SCHMIDMEE, JAMES A.

SCHROEDER, PAUL & VIOLET D.

SCHWARTZ, THOMAS F.

SCHWARTZ, VANETTE M.

SHALE, LEE

SHAMLEY, JOHN H.

SIMPSON, CHARLES WILLIS

SHAPIRO, MRS. & N. DONALD E.

SHIELDS, CHARLES J

SIMMONS, CHARLES WILLIS

SHEPARDSON, MRS. & Donald E.

SMITH, DEBORAH KLANG

SMITH, NATHAN & JACQUELINE JEANNE

SMITIT, WILLA M.

SOLBERG, WINTON U. & CONSTANCE W.

SPRUNGER, KELLY & LAUREN

STEWARD, CHARLES C.

SUTTON, KATHLEEN BERGAN

TAYLOR, RICK A.

TELLIO, JEAN CLARA

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TOKA, CONNIE

TRAICE, ROBERT J. & KATHLEEN H.

TURNER, I. BRUCE

VAN DORN, CHARLES & ROLAND

WAGNER, MATTHEW H.

WATERMAN, VIRGINIA C. & WILLIAM F.

WICK, CATHERINE MARIE

WOOD, WILLIAM C.

WOO, SUSAN HARRETT

WORBY, DONALD GEORGE

YOUNG, DALLAS M.

Contributions (which are taxable) may be sent to the University of Illinois Foundation, History Graduate Student Fellowship Funds, 1401 W. Green Street, Urbana, Illinois 61801.
OUR FAR-FLUNG FACULTY

Hereford College

Prior to his sudden departure, he spent the last years of his life teaching in the Philosophy Department at the University of California, Berkeley, where he was a professor of philosophy and literature. He was known for his work in philosophy, ethics, and the history of ideas. He also worked as a journalist and wrote extensively on a wide range of topics, including philosophy, politics, literature, and culture. His contributions were widely recognized and he was awarded numerous honors and prizes for his work. He was a respected and influential figure in the academic world and his legacy continues to be felt today. His work has been translated into many languages and is still studied and taught in universities around the world. He was a true 'far-flung' figure, with a wide and diverse range of interests and accomplishments, and his influence continues to be felt in many fields.
A YEAR IN THE LIFE

GEORGE PARKER

IN SEARCH OF THE SPANISH ARMADA

A member of the department during 1930, Professor George Parker
of the University of Cambridge, was appointed as a Visiting Professor at the
Univ. of California, Berkeley, during 1939-40. He has been working on
the history of the Spanish Armada for several years, and his book, "In Search of
the Spanish Armada," is due to be published in the fall of 1940.

During the summer of 1938, Professor Parker, Charles E.
Merrill Distinguished Professor of History, and his co-author, archeologist C. A.
Myers, conducted an archeological expedition to the site of the Spanish
Armada's shipwreck, off the coast of Ireland. Their findings will be published
in a forthcoming issue of the Journal of Archeological Research.

Ch. 1. THE ARMADA

Ch. 2. THE ARMADA'S DOSSIER

Ch. 3. THE ARMADA'S SQUADRON

Ch. 4. THE ARMADA'S ADMIRALTY

Ch. 5. THE ARMADA'S ARTILLERY

Ch. 6. THE ARMADA'S NAVIGATION

Ch. 7. THE ARMADA'S DEPLOYMENT

Ch. 8. THE ARMADA'S BATTLE

Ch. 9. THE ARMADA'S DESTRUCTION

Ch. 10. THE ARMADA'S AFTERMATH

Ch. 11. THE ARMADA'S LEGACY
A SEMESTER IN THE SUN

Clark C. Spivey, a thirty-year-old student at the University of California, Berkeley, has been named one of the ten best students in the country in the prestigious "Semester in the Sun" program. This program offers a unique opportunity for students to travel to a foreign country and live and study in that country for the entire semester.

Spivey, who is majoring in history and has a strong interest in Japanese culture, plans to spend his semester in Japan. He will be living with a host family and attending a local university, where he will study Japanese history and culture.

Spivey is excited about the opportunity to immerse himself in a new culture and learn more about the world beyond his own. "I've always been interested in Japan, and I think this will be a great opportunity to really get to know the country and its people," he said.

The "Semester in the Sun" program is sponsored by the American Association of University Women and is open to female students from across the country. Spivey was selected from a pool of over 500 applicants based on his academic record and essays about his interest in studying abroad.

Spivey is one of ten students selected for the program this year. The other students are from schools around the country, including the University of California, Los Angeles; Stanford University; and Harvard University.

Spivey's parents are proud of him and excited for him to have this opportunity. "We're thrilled for him," said his mother. "It's an amazing experience for a young person to have the chance to live and study abroad."