

History Illinois



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Courtney Cain, Ph.D. 2017

Letter from the Chair



Clare Crowston

“Events also strengthened our conviction that historians and lovers of history must vigorously engage public discourse.”

On the cover: After earning bachelor's and master's degrees in history at Illinois, Courtney Cain added a doctoral degree. Her dissertation, co-advised by James Barrett and Erik McDuffie, examines links between Haiti and Chicago from the 1930s to the twenty-first century. She is now an assistant professor of history and African American studies at Lake Forest College.

During the past year, from Charlottesville to the 500th anniversary of Martin Luther's launching of the Protestant Reformation to the centennial of the Russian Revolution and the sesquicentennial of our beloved University of Illinois, we were continuously reminded of the ways in which history impacts our present. Events also strengthened our conviction that historians and lovers of history must vigorously engage public discourse. Our job is not merely to set the record straight but also to add complexity and multiple perspectives to what might seem to be simple issues.

Commitment to history as a form of civic engagement is what led many of our own faculty and graduate students to our discipline and it continues to drive our teaching and research. Over the past year, it has been thrilling to see our undergraduate students adopt this passion and reach out to share it with new audiences. This could take the form of Hidden History tours of campus conducted by public history students based on their own research projects. Or it could transform the airwaves via the *People's History Hour* radio show, created by two of our majors. One of them, Nick Goodell, spoke for all of us when he declared, “History seems to me to be the best way to understand our world.”

The pages of this newsletter reflect our colleagues' close engagement with a number of important anniversaries and historical events. Perhaps closest to our hearts is the 150th anniversary of the founding of our own university. The department has devoted this year's Center for Historical Interpretation programming to an exploration of the history of the U of I, exploring the accomplishments and challenges of our campus and reflecting more broadly on the critical contribution public universities like ours have made to the nation and the world. In the midst of declining state support for the public higher education mission, this is a crucial moment to recall the intentions of the 1862 Morrill Act and to press for recognition of the role public universities have played and must continue to play in transformational research and education, and in the inculcation of democratic values. I encourage all of you to peruse the magnificent collection of essays edited by Emeritus Swanlund Professor Frederick Hoxie. *The University of Illinois: Engine of Innovation* contains almost thirty chapters—many written by History faculty—recounting the remarkable individuals, world-changing inventions and unique campus places that constitute our history.

As we looked back to 1867 and other milestones in world history, the department continued to take great strides into the future. This year we welcomed Assistant Professor Marsha Barrett, who completed a Ph.D. at Rutgers University in 2014 and was previously on the faculty at Mississippi State University. A specialist in twentieth-century U.S. political history, Professor Barrett's popular classes and research interests in electoral politics and African-American history are helping us build on the legacy of the late, great Mark Leff. The department continued its tradition of innovation in research and teaching with the SourceLab project, the Public History initiative, and a suite of role-playing historical games known as Reacting to the Past. Our faculty continued to push the envelope of historical research with new publications. Noteworthy among them were two first books: Ikuko Asaka's *Tropical Freedom: Climate, Settler Colonialism, and Black Exclusion in the Age of Emancipation* and Rana Hogarth's *Medicalizing Blackness: Making Racial Difference in the Atlantic World, 1780–1840*.

This year also brought a host of honors and awards for History faculty and graduate students. Too numerous to be fully recognized in this short note, they included a Rhodes Scholarship for undergraduate major Thomas Dowling, a prestigious Chancellor's Medalion for emeritus professor and former Chair Winton Solberg, the appointments of Harry

Liebersohn and Antoinette Burton as permanent faculty of the Center for Advanced Study and a Swanlund professorship—one of the highest honors on our campus—for Antoinette Burton. Most recently, a team of faculty members from three Midwestern campuses, including our own John Randolph and Kathryn Oberdeck, received a multi-year grant from the Humanities Without Walls Consortium, funded by the Mellon Foundation, for a project on new technologies and practices for creating the historical record. Please read on for more details of these and other recognitions.

This year also represented a significant milestone in bringing the retirement of two esteemed faculty members, former chair Diane Koenker and Nils Jacobsen, each of whom taught for more than three decades in our department. Stalwarts of the “Social History Workshop” (now known simply as the “History Workshop”), both Nils and Diane played instrumental roles in the transformation of the department toward “history from below” and trained generations of graduate students who have gone on to distinguished careers of their own. Having arrived at the U of I as a freshly minted Ph.D., I myself learned much over the years from their model of professional integrity and generosity.

In my third year as chair, I continue to be amazed at the enthusiasm and generosity of our wider History family, which includes fantastic parents, alumni, and emeriti. Gifts from all of you make possible the path-breaking research and teaching you will read about in the following pages. In a time of ever-shrinking funding, your support makes a tremendous difference and is immensely appreciated. I want to recognize in particular Steve Schulwolf (Chair) and the entire Friends of History Board for their efforts on our behalf. A hearty thank you as well to our incredibly hard-working, dedicated and effective staff: established team members Tom Bedwell, Shannon Croft, Robin Price, and Wendy Mathewson and our newcomers Gigi Macintosh and Bonnie Crawford, who have shown incredible grace under the fire of a very demanding first year.

And if you thought 2017 was a big year, wait for the 50th year retrospective of 1968 and the bicentennial of the founding of the state of Illinois, coming next year!!

Warmly,
Clare

History @ Illinois

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The Center for Historical Interpretation

by BOB MORRISSEY

As I write this, the Illinois community is in the midst of two historic milestones: the 150th anniversary of the founding of the University of Illinois in 1817, followed by the 2018 bicentennial of Illinois's statehood. These anniversaries call for celebration of the great heritage of our state and the unique contribution to its public life and scientific and cultural innovation made by this land grant university. These landmarks also represent opportunities to reflect on the complex and sometimes conflict-ridden processes that brought the state and the university to the present day. As citizens of Illinois ponder what the twenty-first century will bring to the twenty-first state, it is crucial to place current challenges and aspirations in their long-term historical context.

In this spirit, the Center for Historical Interpretation (CHI) is leading a two-year programming initiative entitled "Placing Illinois in History," which is devoted to the sesquicentennial and bicentennial anniversaries. Our programming logically unfolds in two phases. In 2017–18, we focus on the sesquicentennial, with programming oriented towards the history and impact of this great public university. Beginning in the spring of 2018, we transition to the second phase, focusing on the bicentennial of the State of Illinois and its fascinating but often overlooked history. As always, the CHI aims to create a shared conversation and an intellectual focus for the history department, sponsoring lectures, course-development initiatives, public history projects, teacher-training workshops for local educators, and other activities. Here is a sampling of what we have done this year:

- In April of 2017, we held the kickoff event for the "Placing Illinois" initiative, a panel discussion and launch party for the book, *Engine of Innovation*, a new history of the University of Illinois edited by Frederick E. Hoxie. Among speakers at the event were chapter authors and U of I historians including Leslie Reagan, Poshek Fu, and Bob Morrissey.
- Our annual "A Book in Common" event in September brought faculty, students, and university community members together for a discussion of Amitav Ghosh's, *The Great Derangement*, a book on climate change that made a fitting conclusion to last year's CHI programming on the theme of environmental history.
- Also related to last year's programming theme, our Fall CHI lecture brought Chris Wells, Professor of History at Macalester College to campus to discuss his book, *Car Country*.
- Collaborating with colleagues at the University Archives, we co-sponsored a robust Sesquicentennial Speaker Series, featuring talks about University of Illinois and higher education history. Among many lecture topics were the history of student life, the African American student experience, university campus planning, and LGBTQ history at Illinois. One special highlight was Joy Williamson-Lott, Ph.D. alumna, who spoke on the subject of "Black Power on Campus."
- In place of our traditional "reading group," CHI sponsored an "incubator" for faculty and campus partners to devise innovative teaching ideas based around the history of the university.
- The CHI also co-sponsored public history and student research initiatives on University of Illinois history, including through the Public History Working Group and SourceLab.
- Erik McDuffie will deliver the annual Associate Professor lecture in spring 2018.
- Faranak Miraftab will join us for the "Historians Among Us" lecture in spring as well.
- Finally, the CHI will continue its annual professional development workshop for K–12 educators, based this spring around the theme of the Bicentennial.

For more information about our "Placing Illinois in History" initiative, see <https://history.illinois.edu/placingillinois>.

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Researching and Writing the History of Guilds, between Paris and Urbana-Champaign

In September the History Department welcomed back Claire Lemerrier, research professor at the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique and lecturer at Sciences Po in Paris. Lemerrier studies legal history and economic institutions in nineteenth-century France. She has published a monograph on the Parisian Chamber of Commerce, and articles on traveling salesmen, the firm, electoral participation, capitalism and credit. She has also co-written, with Claire Zalc, a handbook on quantitative methods for historians, soon to appear in English. She advocates a return to quantitative approaches that combines the cultural turn's emphasis on meaning and conceptualization with traditional questions of social history.

Lemerrier is collaborating with Clare Crowston and Steven Kaplan, emeritus professor at Cornell University, on a book entitled *Learning How: Apprenticeship in France, 1660-1880*. The project aims to reconstitute the crucial role of apprenticeship as an economic, legal, social and cultural institution across the *longue durée*, spanning the French Revolution and the abolition of the guild system. While here, Lemerrier worked with Crowston on databases drawn from legal cases involving apprentices, using quantitative analysis to understand how families and masters/mistresses conceived of their mutual obligations in apprenticeship and how legal authorities responded. The results will appear in 2018 in a co-authored article in *Annales: Histoire, Sciences Sociales* and in the book, anticipated for 2019.



Claire Lemerrier and Clare Crowston

Researching the Caliphate of Hamdullahi, between Mali and Urbana-Champaign

Ali Hienin Diakite has been a visiting scholar in the Department of History, with the support of the Gerda Henkel Foundation, since August 2016. Diakite completed his Ph.D. in the Arabic Studies Department at the Ecole Normale Supérieure de Lyon in 2015, and is still affiliated with that institution. His dissertation is an edition, French translation, and commentary on a seminal nineteenth-century West African work, the *Tabkiyat al-Bakkay* ("What will Make al-Bakkay Cry"), by Ibn Yirkoï Talfi.

At the U of I, Diakite has been an invaluable asset to Mauro Nobili, for Nobili's research on the nineteenth-century West African Caliphate of Hamdallahi. He wrote an article, "The intellectual life in Dalla in the nineteenth century from a corpus of manuscripts photographed in 1985 by Bernard Salvaing," that he aims to publish soon, and is preparing a second article on nineteenth-century chronicles from the region of Timbuktu. Diakite has also been involved in the planning of an international conference to be held jointly by the Department of History and the Center for African Studies in April, on the bicentenary of the Caliphate of Hamdallahi.

At Illinois, Ali has used the library's microfilm and digital copies of Arabic manuscripts from Mauritania and Mali. "This collection," he says, "is extremely important," due to insecurity in the Sahel and the difficulty of accessing the manuscripts on the spot. He defines his post-doctoral stay at Illinois as "a great scientific and cultural experience."



Mauro Nobili and Ali Diakite



Nils Jacobsen

Nils Jacobsen

This year saw the retirement of our friend and colleague Nils Jacobsen, who joined the faculty in 1985. A renowned historian of the Andes, Nils trained generations of historians now working in the U.S. and Latin America, including Nicanor Domínguez (Ph.D. 2006), who wrote the reflection below for the Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies, which Nils directed.

Like any Latin Americanist trained in the U.S. since the 1990s, I learned of Nils' influ-

ential interpretations of nineteenth-century Andean history as a graduate student. But it was only after joining the faculty at Illinois that I came to know Nils personally. I have admired the care and caution Nils brings to his work as a historian, as a colleague in History, and above all, in his work with students.

Nils retires as his many efforts at Illinois continue to flourish: for a number of years, he sustained the vibrant program in Latin American history as its sole

faculty member, but has become professor emeritus in a department that now counts three full-time faculty in the field, including specialist in Brazilian history Marc Hertzman, and specialist in Andean ethnohistory Claudia Brosseder. The Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies is the area studies center with the largest Department of Education funding profile of any center, not just at Illinois but in the U.S. And thanks to Nils, the Center has just launched a new graduate fellowship for students from Spanish America, named in memory of Afro-Peruvian activist Maria Elena Moyano.

The History Department held a retirement reception for Nils in February which included tributes from colleagues and former students, including Eileen Ford, Ellen Tillman, Nancy Van Deusen, Thais Sant'Ana and Silvia Escanilla-Huerta. Our colleague John Randolph reflected: "One of the professional hazards of being a historian is having the vague sense that you don't really know what you're talking about—unless you're Nils Jacobsen. Then you do know what you're talking about. And chances are you also know what other people should know in order to be talking about what they're talking about. Like the Andes, the range of his knowledge is vast and inspiring, legendary and unknown to less intrepid explorers. But unlike the Andes, Nils is very human."

—Jerry Dávila

An Appreciation for Professor Nils Jacobsen

Professor Nils Jacobsen retired from his position at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign after three decades as one of the most important specialists in the United States on the "long nineteenth century" in Peruvian and Latin American History. As an advisee of Nils during the 1990s, I happen to know first-hand of his remarkable personal and professional qualities. It is a real honor and pleasure for me to be able to share this brief academic appreciation.

Nils studied at the University of California, Berkeley, in the early 1970s, where his interest for topics related to Latin America and its rich past found a proper channel through the mentorship of Tulio Halperín Donghi (1926–2014). A remarkable Argentinean historian of his nation's nineteenth- and twentieth-centuries political and socioeconomic vicissitudes, he had recently arrived in Berkeley

(1971). With Halperín as dissertation advisor, Nils focused on the agrarian history of a Latin American country that was then experiencing a radical process of agrarian reform, which had just started in 1969, Peru.

He arrived in Lima in January 1975 to study the newly accessible documentation about Peruvian private-land estates ('haciendas'), confiscated by the military government of General Velasco Alvarado (1968–1975), a byproduct of the application of the country's agrarian reform law. Looking for a relevant case study, he found the 1833 *Ensayo de estadística... de Azángaro* published 143 years earlier by local politician José Domingo Choquehuanca (1789–1854). The remarkable information found in this 72-page pamphlet took him to Puno, in Southern Peru, and to Azángaro, the

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Diane Koenker

In November, members of the Department of History met to celebrate Diane Koenker's retirement, and to wish her well as she takes up a new position as Professor of Russian and Soviet History and Director of the School of Slavonic and East European Studies (SSEES) of University College London, beginning in 2018. Diane earned her doctorate in history at the University of Michigan in 1976, and taught at Temple University for seven years before coming to the U of I in 1983. Temple promoted her to associate professor with tenure, but at Illinois she had to earn tenure over again. Diane made innumerable contributions to our department and the profession during her career as a specialist in Modern Russian and Soviet History that we will appreciate for years to come. As a colleague and mentor who did not shy away from challenges, she assumed several leadership roles, including Chair (2011–15), Director of Graduate Studies (2008–10), editor of *Slavic Review* (1996–2006), and Director of the Russian and East European Center (1990–96). She supervised more than sixteen dissertations as the primary advisor. She has authored or co-authored four books, the most recent of which is *Club Red: Vacation Travel and the Soviet Dream* (Cornell, 2013), and she edited or co-edited an additional six volumes, while producing a very long list of articles and book chapters. At our celebration, Diane was the subject of encomia by Antoinette Burton, Clare Crowston, and Jim Barrett, excerpted below.

Antoinette: When Diane asked me to be a reference for her London job, I agreed, knowing that her departure represented the end of an era for our department but happy at the prospect that she would be able to do the kind of work she has long loved in a city she has long loved as well. Looking back on the letter I wrote, there are two words that recur: strong and tough. Diane was only our second woman chair in over one hundred years. She did not seek to make popular decisions, which is rare in a leader of any gender and can prove a real asset when hard choices are required. She is methodical, careful and deliberative; she takes faculty governance seriously but is not afraid to make difficult and even unpopular decisions. She seeks advice and can act collaboratively but takes ultimate responsibility for decisions and

outcomes. In short, I told them: London's gain is our loss. Strong and tough—and look, she got the job!

Diane has always put the current and future excellence of the department first, working within constraints and limits imposed from without with determination and professionalism and unflinchingly high standards.

Diane was my mentor when I arrived here almost 20 years ago and I remember our first lunch vividly. She inquired about my family, and how we were settling down, but was keen to map the road toward tenure for me and to guide me along that pathway. She was solicitous and authoritative all at once—strong and tough.

Clare: It is truly a bittersweet moment to thank Diane for everything she has done for the department and wish her well in the next chapter of her career. Diane and her cohort, including Mark Leff and Jim Barrett, played a leading role in creating the U of I Department of History as we know it today. During their tenure, the department embraced social history from the bottom up, cultural history, and more recently post-post-structuralist histories of global and transnational history. Diane's own research trajectory followed these paths, from labor history through the history of tourism, due to her insistent intellectual curiosity and a constant process of self-questioning and self-transformation.

Diane's commitment to research excellence and selfless dedication to academic community epitomizes the best of our department. We owe the strengths we have inherited—collegiality, shared governance, innovation—to Diane and others in her generation. These strengths allowed us to weather years of challenges and maintain excellence in research and teaching while recruiting an exciting new generation of scholars. As her successor as chair, I am very aware of the need to steward these values and to pass them on to the next generation.

Somehow, the years have gone by, and I'm now one of the old salts. But I owe no one a greater debt than Diane for my career at Illinois. She became my faculty mentor and stuck with me not only through



Diane Koenker

“She seeks advice and can act collaboratively but takes ultimate responsibility for decisions and outcomes.”

—Antoinette

“Diane’s commitment to research excellence and selfless dedication to academic community epitomizes the best of our department.”

—Clare

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province that would become the focus of his two-volume 1982 dissertation, “Land Tenure and Society in the Peruvian Altiplano: Azangaro Province, 1770–1920.”

His innovative and impressive research on the evolution of the agrarian and livestock-raising systems in a region in the Peruvian highlands during one-and-a-half centuries eventually became a book, *Mirages of Transition: The Peruvian Altiplano, 1780–1930* (University of California Press, 1993), recently translated as *Ilusiones de la transición: El Altiplano peruano, 1780–1930* (Instituto de Estudios Peruanos, 2013). His work in the archives of Puno, Azángaro, and other regions of Peru allowed him properly to understand the relevance of comparing economic and social interactions, from the local to the national and international spheres. When he started his studies, dependency theory was in vogue, proposing to connect mechanically “from the top-down” a world-wide system, understood as an industrialized, all-dominant center, and various all-dependent peripheries. As a good historian, Nils questioned such determinism and recovered the fascinating specificities of local actors, who constantly negotiated with impersonal economic forces and their agents “from the bottom-up.”

During his first teaching appointment, at the University of Bielefeld in West Germany, Nils started working with colleagues in conferences organized to compare, discuss, and thus, advance the knowledge of crucial themes of comparative Latin American history. With German historian Hans-Jürgen Puhle, he coedited *The Economies of Mexico and Peru during the Late Colonial Period, 1760–1810* (Biblioteca Iberoamericana, Colloquium Verlag, 1986), in which he contributed a chapter comparing the livestock systems in the Viceroyalties of Peru and Mexico.

This effort to sit together, to discuss and brainstorm about cutting edge research, continued after 1985 at the University of Illinois. This time, it was applied to the second line of historical inquiry developed by Nils, that of politics, policies and their social impact during the nineteenth century in Peru and, comparatively, in other Latin American

countries. For this long-term goal, Nils found the guidance and collaboration of Brazilianist historian Joseph L. Love, his senior colleague in Illinois. Together they edited the book *Guiding the Invisible Hand: Economic Liberalism and the State in Latin America* (Praeger, 1988). Later, with Peruvian historian Cristóbal Aljovín, a new co-edited volume emerged, fruit of a March 2000 international conference that took place at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and was published as *Political Cultures in the Andes, 1750–1950* (Duke University Press, 2005). An enlarged Spanish translation was also published in Peru as *Cultura política en los Andes (1750–1950)* (Institut Français d’Etudes Andines, 2007).

This line of research, exploring the relationships between politics and society, has taken Nils to the creative study of the ideas and practices of nineteenth-century Peruvians. I had the pleasure to translate into Spanish two of his articles about a unique Puno-born liberal politician, Juan Bustamante (1808–68), who had literally traveled around the world in the 1840s, and published a narrative with his experiences. His articles, followed by a selection of documents, were published in Puno as *Juan Bustamante y los límites del liberalismo en el Altiplano* (SER: Servicios Educativos Rurales, 2011).

Currently, Nils is engaged in the study of the last wide civil war of the nineteenth century in Peru, the 1894–1895 “Revolution” of Nicolás de Piérola (1839–1913). He has already published several articles on events that took place in various provinces. Nils considers this period as representing the key political event that gave rise to modern twentieth-century Peru. His new book will no doubt be as illuminating for Peruvian history in particular, as for Latin American history in general, as it will surely be infused by an analytical contrast between the national and the regional. As a noteworthy scholar, Professor Nils Jacobsen has still much wisdom to share with us all. Let us all rejoice for that.

— Nicanor Domínguez, *History Department,*
Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú

tenure but through my promotion to full, and then in a third chapter of our mentoring story she, perhaps unwittingly and to a much greater extent than she expected, transitioned to being my mentor and model as department chair. During those twenty years, Diane has been incredibly generous with her time and effort. With Diane in my corner, I knew everything was going to be all right.

Jim: Every retirement represents a transition of sorts, for the individual and for the department. We're lucky to have wonderful new people joining us; they are the life's blood of the department and they should make us confident about the future. But a department is a complex organism, and if you take out a particularly important piece, it may take you a while—not to replace it; you won't be able to do that in Diane's case—but to get things back into equilibrium. Diane has been an unusually important part of our organism, as anyone who has been around for a while understands. There is no one in the department for whom I have greater respect, and that is saying a lot.

I should explain that I am ignoring two aspects of Diane's career that I know rather well: her teaching (we team-taught a graduate seminar over almost thirty years) and her scholarship (much of which I have read in manuscript or in published form). She is a wonderful teacher, especially of graduate students, and a brilliant, creative scholar, but there are colleagues who can comment more intelligently on those aspects of her work. I wanted to say a few words about her work on behalf of our department. Our department was not built by one person; it is the creation of dozens of people over many years. But no one has been more responsible for our success than Diane, and I am not only talking about her years as chair. Every time we took stock of where we were and where we wanted to go, Diane was instrumental in the

process. I don't think anyone served more time on the Executive Committee, in many ways the key to the democratic characteristics of our department. We all worked to strengthen our graduate program, but no person accomplished more in that regard than Diane. We chose her for these tasks because she has always had remarkably good judgement, and frankly, because she was more able than some of us to make difficult decisions when necessary.

Diane served on many searches, and was always drawn to the ideal candidate even when others might have reservations. It is difficult to explain to someone outside the academy the importance of faculty searches; everything depends on the people you hire, develop, and advance. Diane has a reputation for being serious, something that led one colleague to name her "Diane the Just." But, in fact, this was serious business and we benefitted time and again from Diane's values, hard work, and uncanny judgement. I value all of my colleagues, but I always said that if my life depended upon on one colleague's judgement, I would choose Diane.

Retirements are rituals, but they are also an occasion for us to thank the retiree, especially one who has sacrificed as much and worked as hard on behalf of the whole as Diane has for thirty-five years. As productive as she has been, she might have published even more if she had not devoted—perhaps I should say invested—her valuable time in various joint endeavors and indeed in the careers of individual colleagues. A department like ours will thrive to the extent that its smartest and best colleagues are willing to devote themselves to the greater good. Diane has acted in this manner to our enormous collective benefit. She deserves not only good luck wishes in her next adventure; UCL gains an ideal leader. She also deserves our sincere thanks for what she has accomplished here.

"There is no one in the department for whom I have greater respect, and that is saying a lot."

—Jim



“Hidden Histories” at the U of I

Beginning in the spring of 2016, Kathryn Oberdeck and Daniel Gilbert (School of Labor and Employment Relations) initiated the Research Cluster on Public History and Student Research, which brought together a network of historians, history graduate and undergraduate students, historical scholars from other disciplines, university archivists, and community-based archivists and museum curators to explore common projects that can engage students in public history. The undergraduates were enrolled in an independent study course in

history. The research cluster’s activities over the past year centered on building a sustainable network of collaborators, developing curriculum and nurturing current interns in the History department, training public school teachers, and convening a symposium to set an agenda for future initiatives. Monthly meetings fostered widening connections with local museums and campus public history projects.

In March, they collaborated with the Illinois Labor History Society in a K–12 teacher training workshop on women’s labor history. In early April, they hosted a symposium on “Public History at Public Universities: Linking Communities to Student Research,” with keynote speakers by Jennifer Brier (University of Illinois at Chicago) and Denise Meringolo (University of Maryland, Baltimore County). Research cluster interns continued to present and publicize their work over the last two years on “Hidden Histories” of underrepresented student activism on campus. In the 2017–18 academic year, the research cluster is moving forward with several initiatives that build on these connections. Interns presented their Hidden History research at the Conference on Illinois History in October and are working toward an exhibit of their work. Members of the cluster are facilitators of a working group on cross-institutional public history collaboration to convene at the National Council on Public History meetings in April 2018. An undergraduate Public History class will draw on the resources of many of our participating partners in spring 2018. Going forward, the research cluster will be working collaboratively with the History Department’s SourceLab project to develop ways in which the gathering, editing, publishing, and public access to historical documentary records can be facilitated in History classrooms. Check out Public History @ UIUC publichistoryuiuc.com/.



Gabriela Garay, Hannah Gutierrez, Arianna Adkins, Maria de la luz Valenzuela, and Gabriel Perez present research and reflections at the Research Cluster on Public History and Student Research symposium.

Crime and Civil Disobedience at the U of I

In celebration of the sesquicentennial of the U of I Dana Rabin and graduate student Nathan Tye developed and taught the course Crime and Civil Disobedience at the University of Illinois, 1867–Present: Gender and Crime on Campus, in the fall of 2017. As part of the Ethnography of the University Initiative (EUI), a course-based research and teaching project (www.eui.illinois.edu), the class contributed to the campus-wide research project about the university as an institution.

From violent class fights to changing policies on student sexuality, and anti-war and anti-racism protests, issues related to crime and civil disobedience have always energized students and dominated

campus life. Through an examination of primary sources students discussed a range of topics including hazing, drinking, fraternities, the sexual revolution, the Vietnam War, Black Power on campus, and the Chief. Tacking back and forth between the larger narrative of U.S. history, the history of higher education, and local events on campus, the course allowed students the opportunity to see how national political, social, and economic developments shaped campus culture.

Taught under the rubric of History 200, Introduction to Historical Interpretation, a “gateway” to the history major, the course was designed to allow students the opportunity to engage in research with

primary sources. Each student conducted research at the Student Life and Culture Archives on a subject of their choice. The projects included the KKK on campus, Prohibition, the regulation of campus space, Dean Thomas Arkle Clark (the first dean of men at the U of I and in the United States), Project 500, and drug policy.

In addition to a campus tour, students attended lectures featured in the Sesquicentennial Speakers Series (archives.library.illinois.edu/150/university-of-illinois-archives-sesquicentennial-resources/projects/speakers-series/). The talks, organized by the University Archives and co-sponsored by the Department of History's Center for Historical Interpretation, featured research that had been conducted in the university's vast archival holdings. Students met the authors of several of the readings on the syllabus.

The semester ended with a spectacular set of posters documenting each of the projects. As part of EUI, students have the option to archive their papers in IDEALS, the Illinois Digital Environment for Access to Learning and Scholarship where you can check out their amazing research (ideals.illinois.edu/)!



Dana Rabin and Ashley Taliferro discuss archive materials after a class at the Student Life and Culture Archives.

Disabilities and Accessibility at the U of I

In 1948, the U of I offered the first program dedicated to the higher education of students with disabilities—in Galesburg. When that branch campus closed in 1949, the Urbana campus reluctantly admitted the “wheelchair students,” as they were then called. Today Illinois is known as one of the most accessible campuses in the world and it proudly advertises the success of its Paralympic student athletes. Students in Leslie Reagan’s undergraduate research seminar on “Disabilities and the University of Illinois” were invited to learn about the history of disabilities and to uncover this history of

the university in greater depth. The course grew out of Reagan’s research for the chapter she wrote about the original director of the program, Tim Nugent, for the volume celebrating the 150th anniversary of the university, *Engine of Innovation* (see separate article).

For their research, students looked at scrapbooks, minutes of trustees, letters from students, oral histories, old film, and more held by the University Archives. They investigated the Galesburg campus and discovered the importance of national veterans’ organizations for creating the original program. Others researched students’ daily life in the program’s early years in Urbana. They found that “wheelchair students” were grateful to be able to attend college, but that the smiling photos masked problems. For instance, students helped each other—those who had cars gave everyone else rides around campus—but sharing cars meant a few carried the burden of the expense. In the early years, some women fell off the toilet seats because of poor design; and when the wheelchair-accessible coffee house closed on campus, there was nowhere to eat at all for months. Despite these issues and more, today’s students also saw that the students with disabilities themselves acted collectively to improve conditions on campus, in the local community, and in the state of Illinois for people with disabilities. And, as they learned, this history is not over; there is more to do to reach complete accessibility and equality.



Kyle Kent, Hanna Jin, Monica Milkint, and Nick Shapland (l.-r.) at the Ethnography of the University of Illinois conference where they presented their research.

Exploring a Century of Revolutions . . . Backwards

As part of the campus-wide project exploring a century of revolutions around the world since the 1917 Russian Revolution, Mark Steinberg and Jessica Greenberg (Anthropology) designed a new course for the “History 101: History Now” rubric. They literally started with the “now:” discussing the toppling of statues of confederate leaders that was happening as the class began in August. From there they read a history of revolution, mostly through primary source documents, in reverse (inspired in part by the French historian Marc Bloch’s argument that we read history best when we proceed “backwards” from the known to the unknown). Stops along the way toward 1917 included Black Lives Matter, Occupy Wall Street, the Arab Spring, the East European Color Revolutions, the fall of Communism, overcoming Apartheid, anti-colonial movements, the Iranian revolution, Black liberation movements of the 1960s and 1970s, radical feminism, Stonewall, and revolutions in Cuba, China, and Mexico.

An unexpected but welcome effect of studying history in reverse and around the world was that instead of focusing class discussions on causes and contexts particular to each case, Steinberg and Greenberg found themselves talking about themes and ideas: justice and injustice, freedom and oppression, humiliation and dignity, pessimism and hope, success and disappointment. The very definition of “revolution” became a question, as did the problem of how one explains human actions and measures progress. Big questions about history, ethics, human agency, and emotion wove through this course. Greenberg and Steinberg found this course as much of an adventure as any they have taught, and they hope the students did as well.



Charles Bollmann (l.) and Arun Madhavan play chess in a reconstruction of a 1925 avant-garde Soviet workers' club, on a field trip to the Art Institute.

Sexing History | A Podcast on the History of Sexuality



Saniya Lee Ghanoui

by SANIYA LEE GHANOUI

Sexing History is the first podcast to examine the history of sexuality, exploring it from angles that are not necessarily in history books, but nonetheless have a critical impact on our current understanding of sexuality. It was started by Professors Gillian Frank (Princeton University), and Lauren Gutterman (University of Texas at Austin), whom I first met when I was hired as an assistant editor at *Notches: (re)marks on the history of sexuality*, an international history of sexuality blog. They invited me to join *Sexing History* as a producer in the early stages of the project, and I signed on without hesitation.

Sexing History emphasizes how the history of sexuality shapes contemporary conversations and debates. An example is the story of Dr. Kenneth Edelin, an African American doctor in Boston who, after *Roe v. Wade*, was convicted of manslaughter for performing a legal abortion. We produced this episode while the House of Representatives was passing H.R. 36, which makes abortions after 20 weeks of pregnancy a criminal offense. We were able to excavate

contemporary discourses, particularly anti-choice rhetoric, and trace it to Edelin's case.

Unlike in academic writing, our process is collaborative, our production time is fast, and we use accessible language to connect with both academic and non-academic audiences. We aim for a variety of topics that showcase the richness of the history of sexuality. Along with weighty subjects, we are also playful and showcase the pleasures and bawdiness of the past. Our forthcoming episode on Ruth Wallis, a cabaret singer notorious for her risqué songs and performances, is an example.

We recently partnered with the *Journal of the History of Sexuality* to publish an article from the *JHS* archives each month that will be connected thematically to one of our podcast episodes. You can listen to our episodes at www.sexinghistory.com. We always welcome ideas for stories that people would like to hear!

Saniya Lee Ghanoui's dissertation in progress, "*Hot-Blooded Teens and Silver Screens: Sex Education and its Films in the United States and Sweden, 1910–1960*," is a transnational cultural history of the movements for sex education in the United States and Sweden.



Students Host *People's History Hour* Radio Program

Eugene M. Avrutin interviewed undergraduate juniors Nick Goodell and Grant Neal, hosts of the *People's History Hour* on 104.5 WRFU-Radio Free Urbana. Nick is a History and Philosophy major from Washington, IL, who plays alto saxophone in the Marching Illini and university basketball bands, and is active in Food Not Bombs, the Undergraduate-Graduate Alliance, and the local labor unions. Grant is a History and Economics major from the same town, also involved in the Undergraduate-Graduate Alliance, and with Students for Justice in Palestine.



Why did you decide to major in history?

Nick: My father, a Methodist minister, was a history major in college. At home and in his sermons, I constantly witnessed him talking, reading, and engaging in history. As I grew older and began to read more, my interest snowballed. History seems to me to be the best way to understand our world.

Grant: I grew up with an interest in history in all its forms, and in my own family's history. My father had his own fascination with history—I remember him taking me to the Sixth Floor Museum at the Dealey Plaza in Dallas, Texas, when I was just six, to learn about the death of President Kennedy. In college, I switched from Physics to History. I love the History program and the amazingly talented History faculty as well.

How did you come up with the idea for a radio program?

Nick: Grant originally had the idea. His brother knew of the local community radio station, WRFU 104.5. One day, Grant messaged me that he had emailed Bill Ayers to do an interview with us! We were shown the ropes of the studio by DJ B.J. Clark, and had our show scheduled. I remember how ridiculously excited I was.

Grant: After meeting with the other artists and members of the community that ran WRFU, we were given the green light for *People's History Hour*, and were taught by other veterans of local radio to use the equipment (which is still often confusing). Our first episode was the airing of our interview with Bill Ayers of the Weather Underground. We've now been on the air for about 15 months.

How do you choose to do a radio program, and why?

Nick: When a certain place is in the news, we will do a show on its history. Another type of show is a series.

We also do one-off shows on whatever suits our fancy that week. In all of our shows, we try to interpret history through a radical lens. We talk a lot about socialist movements and leftist movements throughout the world to show people that this is not the “end of history.”

Grant: Nick and I constantly discuss how to examine and present history. Many programs are overwhelmingly empirical, in which we lay down a factual timeline of events on a certain nation or actor's history. We also do analyses. We generally feel that we have to plot a course between these two poles.

What do you think is the value of radio as a medium for communicating about history?

Nick: Our goal is to contribute to the independent media movement. History isn't about entertainment or trivial knowledge. It is about real processes, people, movements, and systems of control that shape how we live our lives. There is also something powerful, I think, about the spoken voice as opposed to the written word.

Grant: History has the ability to thrive like never before with podcasts and other digital media, and their utility should not be underestimated by academics. To me, history must be a socially-focused pursuit, and we must normalize historical dialogue and make it approachable to the masses, not just professional historians.

What are your plans for after graduation? Do you plan to keep doing radio programs?

Nick: I hope to end up in either Chicago or NYC, at law school, graduate school in history, or both. I hope Grant and I will find a way to keep it going.

Grant: I hope to attend law and/or graduate school, in New York, Chicago, or Boston. I have also considered studying abroad. I don't know how long PHH will last, but I have learned a lot since we started. It has been an amazing experience.



**Nick Goodell
and Grant Neal**

Diane Koenker Looks Back | “This is a really remarkable department that we’ve made largely with our own efforts”

In light of the many changes undergone by the Department of History and the profession during her thirty-five years at Illinois, Diane Koenker graciously agreed to be interviewed by Marsha Barrett.

How would you describe the department you joined in 1983? What was your experience like as a female professor?

It was a very traditional, conservative department. Where other departments around the country had moved much more actively to social history, this one was specializing in political, economic, and diplomatic history. It was not a particularly welcoming department to women or people of color. It was kind

“Intellectually, I think the field has become much more adventurous and creative in terms of approaching historical problems.”

of a men’s club at that time. That said, the fact that they hired me and other people following me such as Jim Barrett meant that there was a group within the department that was pushing back against that culture. So, the department was already in a process of transition, but it was a bit of a surprise when I came here.

There were around five women in the department in various statuses, including two associate professors. I came under a particular cloud, as a spousal appointment. My husband was hired by the economics department and the condition of him coming—we both had jobs in the East—was a job for me, too, and that was relatively new back then. I always heard that not everyone in the department was very happy about having somebody arrive without a national search. However, the Russian historians, whom I knew best, were my big supporters and they had known me and my work so I never felt that I didn’t belong among the people who mattered most to me.

What was it like to study Soviet history when you entered graduate school? How have the changes in Russian, once Soviet, society since the end of the Cold War affected your field?

When I started graduate school, there wasn’t really a field of Soviet history, in part, because some of the

people who were at the leading institutions were from the émigré school, and they thought Russian history ended in 1917. So the people who were studying the Soviet period tended to be sociologists and political scientists. There wasn’t a lot of history training in the Soviet period, but the field was also limited because the Soviets wouldn’t let people in to do that kind of study either. They were sensitive about state secrets, so the most recent period you could do research on was 1917.

Since 1991, there have been changes that affect the way we can do research. Russians have joined the professional world of archive management and access, so things are much more predictable, regular and accessible. This has made it possible for people to do all kinds of different projects that they couldn’t do before. There are still archives that are closed or restricted: foreign policy archives, Communist Party archives, KGB archives that aren’t completely open, but the end of the USSR has really allowed for a much broader range of research topics. Under the Soviet system, it was very difficult to go do research unless you were officially approved by an exchange agreement. Your research topic was actually vetted and if they didn’t like it, you wouldn’t even get a visa, let alone get into the archives. That’s changed. The visa regime is somewhat restricted, but it’s certainly much better.

What were some of the highlights of serving as the editor of *Slavic Review*?

That was an important period in my life. I had always been interested in journal editing. I like critiquing people’s papers and helping make them better and so I thought I could do this as an editor. I did that a lot, but editing also provided a different kind of window on the profession and the field. We hired three quarter-time grad students each year and that turned out to be a really terrific experience: working with each year’s different groups of students and teaching them how the profession worked, inculcating them into the how’s and why’s of book reviews (who should review, who shouldn’t review), and dealing with unexpected happenings in the profession. Over those ten years, I got to know a whole group of students. Some of them went into publishing as careers as well as academic positions. That was really rewarding.

How has the profession changed since you entered the academy?

I think the profession has gotten more precarious, although it was already precarious back then. Our generation in graduate school in the late '60s, early '70s already began to feel the effects of the slowdown of the expansion of higher education. In terms of diversity, I think women have made great inroads and people of color less so, but there is much more commitment to building a more diverse academy. We acted on that at the graduate student level by insisting, and trying as hard as possible, to have equal numbers of men and women admitted to the graduate program. Intellectually, I think the field has become much more adventurous and creative in terms of approaching historical problems. Now people can go back to military history, or diplomatic history the way that Kristin Hoganson does, and bring in a whole new set of questions coming from perspectives like gender or transnationalism. I think the profession is really exciting in different ways than back when I was first being trained.

To conclude, do you have any additional words you would like to share?

This is a really remarkable department that we've made largely with our own efforts. We've collectively carved out—sometimes against the wishes of the higher administration, and sometimes with their support—a vibrant residential intellectual community that has benefited our alumni, whether they came for a B.A. or Ph.D. I think all the pieces are in place to continue that excellence. Given the people we have hired and their commitment to the shared mission of the university and the department, the department can continue to lead the profession if the university administration would recognize what we have to offer. I know there are hard choices to be made about where to spend money, but I think that what we've built by ourselves should merit recognition and support. We should be proud of that. I hope that our alumni will continue to support that mission.

“Given the people we have hired and their commitment to the shared mission of the university and the department, the department can continue to lead the profession.”

Lynn Receives Prize and Award

Emeritus Professor John Lynn has earned the Samuel Eliot Morison Prize and the National Endowment for the Humanities Public Scholar Award. The former prize is bestowed annually by the Society for Military History to a scholar for outstanding career contributions to the field, and is the most honored award a military historian can receive. Lynn is also the first at the U of I to receive the NEH Public Scholar Award, which will support his book project *The Other Side of Victory: A History of Surrender from Medieval Combat to Modern Terrorism*.

Lynn has taught military history, international security, terrorism, war-fighting strategy, and other courses at Illinois and at Northwestern University, the U.S. Marine Corps University, the University of Maine, and Indiana University, and has lectured at several advanced military schools. He won the Campus Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching, the Delta Sigma Omicron Distinguished Teaching Award, and the Department of History's

Queen Prize for Excellence in Teaching, and he regularly appeared on the List of Teachers Ranked as Excellent by their Students.

Lynn's several books on French military topics, *The Bayonets of the Republic: Motivation and Tactics of the Army of Revolutionary France, 1791–94* (1984), *Giant of the Grand Siècle: The French Army, 1610–1715* (1997), *The Wars of Louis XIV, 1667–1714* (1999), and *The French Wars, 1667–1714* (2002) earned him the Palmes Académiques at the rank of chevalier from the French government. He also authored books on the role of culture in combat and on women in warfare. He responded to the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001 by creating a course on the history of terrorism. Lynn's latest book, *Another Kind of War: An Introduction to the History of Terrorism*, will be published in 2018.

—Craig Chamberlain, *U of I News Bureau*



John Lynn

Annual Awards Celebration, Spring 2017

Undergraduate Honors and Awards

*John & Judith Steinberg
Alfonsi Scholarship*
Jaime Nolasco

*Martha Belle Barrett
Scholarship for Undergraduate
Academic Excellence*
Ignazina Altamore
Suzanne Ayers
DeAnna DeHoff
Lisa McGovern
Miguel Suárez Medina

*Robert H. Bierma Scholarship
for Superior Academic
Merit in History*
Joshua Altshuler
Ljubica Basica
Thomas Dowling
Sara Temple

Walter N. Breymann Scholarship
Caitlin Lopez-Battung
Raul Salazar, Jr.
Taylor Ann Mazique

*Christina A. Brodbeck
Scholarship*
Mallory Untch

*Jayne and Richard
Burkhardt Scholarship*
Makayla Dorsey
Austin Justice
Jackson Turner
Maria de la luz Valenzuela

*Centenary Prize for the
Outstanding Senior in the
Teaching of Social Studies*
Amanda Fagenson
Lisa McGovern
Arpan Patel

*C. Ernest Dawn Research
Travel Award*
Juliana Reschke

*Friends of History
Research Grant*
Spencer Bailey
Keilyn Kuramitsu
Mary McDonald
Mallory Untch

Friends of History Scholarship
Jillian Davis

*Friends of History Recognition
of Career Excellence Award*
Alex Villanueva

*Robert W. Johannsen
Undergraduate History
Scholarship*
Bennett Stewart

*Mark H. Leff Prize for
Outstanding Senior Honors Thesis*
Mindi Zhang, "The Patriots Far Away:
A History of Chinese Students in
the United States During the Early
Twentieth Century"

Honorable Mention: **Miguel Suárez
Medina**, "The Institution of the
Palenque in Colonial Colombia:
Military, Economic, and Political
Mobilizations"

*Michael Sher Award
for Outstanding
Undergraduate Paper*

Mindi Zhang, "Empire Building in
the Land of Lamas: Mongol Rule of
Central Tibet from 1240 to 1291"

Other Honors Received by History Majors

Truman Scholar
Thomas Dowling

Senior 100 Honorary
Lisa McGovern
Alex Villanueva

Phi Beta Kappa
Cassidy Burke
DeAnna DeHoff
Rebecca Martinez
Lisa McGovern

Graduate Honors and Awards

*Frederick S. Rodkey Memorial
Prize in Russian History*
Eva Rogaar

*Chester G. Starr Dissertation
Research Travel Award*
Saniya Ghanoui

*Joseph Ward Swain Prize for
Outstanding Seminar Paper*
Eva Rogaar, "Support, a Chat, and
a Cup of Tea: Soviet Strategies
for Women's Emancipation in
Uzbekistan, 1924–1935"

*Joseph Ward Swain Prize for
Outstanding Published Paper*
Zachary Sell, "Reconstructing
Plantation Dominance in British
Honduras: Race and Subjection in
the Age of Emancipation"

*William C. Widenor
Teaching Appointments*
David Lehman, HISTORY 314—
Material Culture
Ian Toller-Clark, HISTORY 400—
War, Society, Politics, and Culture

Departmental Teaching Awards

*John G. & Evelyn Hartman
Heiligenstein Award for
Excellence in Undergraduate
Teaching (by a graduate student)*
Leanna Duncan
Peter Thompson

*George S. & Gladys W.
Queen Award for Excellence
in Teaching (by faculty)*
Professor Roderick Wilson

Marsha Barrett

The history department was thrilled to welcome Professor **Marsha E. Barrett** as a new member of our faculty starting in fall 2017.

Barrett earned her B.A. in History at Yale University and a Ph.D. in History from Rutgers University. She held a position as assistant professor in the Department of History and the African American Studies Program at Mississippi State University for three years before joining our department.

A historian of twentieth-century U.S. political history and electoral politics, African American history and the history of public policy, Barrett is completing a manuscript entitled *The Trouble with Labels: Racial Liberalism and Rockefeller Republicanism in the Civil Rights Era*. Under contract with Cornell University Press, the book will expand her groundbreaking dissertation, which won the Dixon Ryan Fox Manuscript Prize from the New York State Historical Association. The dissertation and manuscript focus on how Governor Nelson Rockefeller's political trajectory demonstrates the decline of his early, moderate Republicanism in the context of changing politics revolving around civil rights, race, welfare, and crime. A staunch anti-Jim Crow racial liberal, Rockefeller navigated the shifting politics of race in the 1960s and 1970s by turning toward punitive drug laws and a welfare policy that increasingly placed blame for rising welfare costs on derogatory images of poor people of color. Rockefeller's career illustrates the significance of race to transformations in what Barrett identifies as the problematic labels of "liberal" and "conservative" that were mutating into the seemingly endemic divides of the late twentieth and early twenty-first centuries. By tracing the origins of these divides to the state as well as the national political scene, in which a moderate Republican like Rockefeller re-oriented his positions, Barrett directs our attention away from the well-studied right wing of the Republican party to understand how these

Rockefeller's career illustrates the significance of race to transformations in what Barrett identifies as the problematic labels of "liberal" and "conservative" that were mutating into the seemingly endemic divides of the late twentieth and early twenty-first centuries.

transformations derived from other positions situated on an older, and distinctive, political spectrum. In the process, she deftly combines electoral politics with histories of public policy and the social histories of African American communities whose struggles participated in the processes that reshaped U.S. political alliances and positions. Barrett has presented

material from her work at conferences of the American Historical Association and the Association for the Study of African American Life and Culture. She has several journal publications in the works and has already shared her insights online in sites such as *Politico* and *Process*.

Barrett will contribute to teaching fields vital to our curriculum, including U.S. political history, African American History, U.S. Women's History, and other courses introducing the vital interconnections between these fields. She has already developed three exciting new courses that will be on offer in the next couple

of years: "The President and the People," "Hidden Political Figures in U.S. History" and "The American Political Divide." We are delighted that Barrett has joined us and will be adding her insightful combinations of research and teaching to the History community at the U of I and the wider public.



Faculty Promotion

Behrooz Ghamari-Tabrizi, Professor of History and Sociology

Conceptual, political, and historical significance of the Iranian revolution of 1979; questions regarding the condition of postcolonial modernity in relation to the concepts of religion, public sphere, democracy and governmentality.

Engine of Innovation Celebrates U of I Sesquicentennial

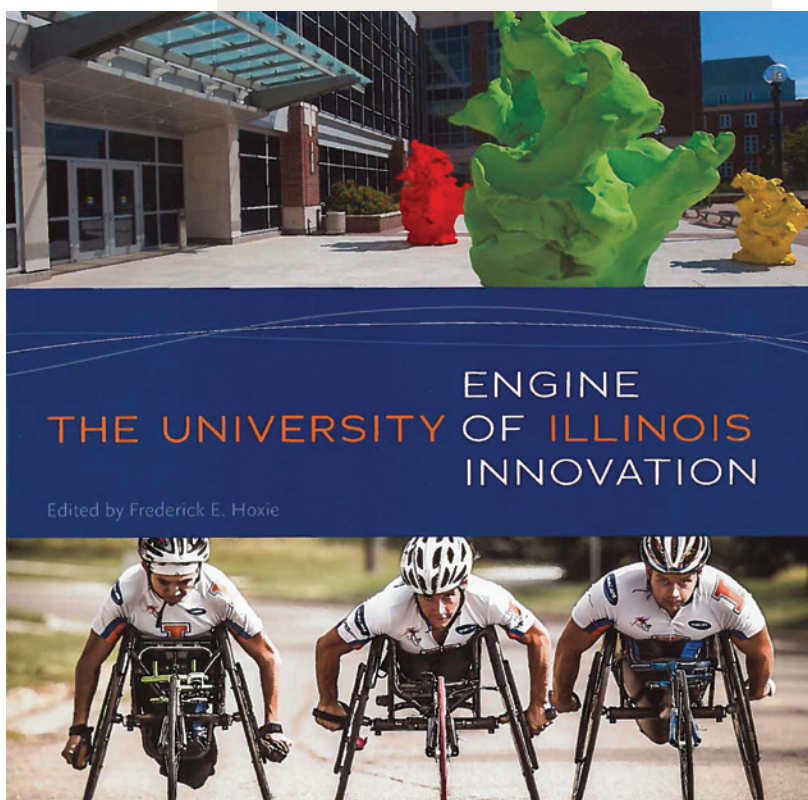
In February 2017, Professor Emeritus Frederick Hoxie presented *Engine of Innovation* (University of Illinois Press) in celebration of the university's sesquicentennial. In December, the University Library announced that the book would be honored as the 14-millionth volume in its collection. The Library will celebrate installation of a permanent display recognizing each millionth volume, including *Engine of Innovation*, with a special event next fall. The following is a condensed version of Prof. Hoxie's remarks.

Engine of Innovation is the History Department's gift to the campus community, alumni and friends on the occasion of the U of I's sesquicentennial celebration. Because we are historians and teachers, we also saw this as an opportunity to impart some lessons about the university's contributions to the world and about the nature of innovation itself.

Three years ago, our department Chair Diane Koenker suggested that the 150th anniversary of the university's founding would provide an opportunity to reflect as well as to celebrate. With support for public higher education on the wane nationally, and voices in many quarters questioning the practical value of institutions like ours, Diane and others argued that it was time for a book that would be "interpretively rich, celebratory, and thoughtful." Happily, the university leadership accepted our offer.

It takes a publisher a full year to transform a written manuscript into a finished book, so we had less than two years to prepare our text. A single-author history was out of the question, so we proposed initially to organize the book around the historical markers that dot our campus, commemorating achievements such as computer-based education, the Illinois State Water Survey, and the development of lifesaving antibiotics. But there were too many markers to fit into a book for general readers, and, unfortunately, some important events and achievements have no marker. (For example, the founding of the first Hillel chapter in the United States, the creation of the discipline of linguistics, the widely-celebrated theatre pieces that began with "Kabuki McBeth," and the university's daring 1968 initiative, Project 500, are all "unmarked.") We decided to expand our coverage by using "innovation" as an organizing theme.

As I began work on the book, I immersed myself in the university's history and spoke with local experts, especially my colleague Winton Solberg, an emeritus professor who has published on the university's history for a half century, and Bill Maher, our tireless and imaginative University Archivist. I learned that the U of I began in a political showdown, rather than an educational vision, with several towns vying for the right to spend hundreds of thousands of federal dollars on a new university that would educate the state's citizens in "agriculture and the mechanic arts." Clark Robinson Griggs's successful campaign on behalf of Champaign County turned on



horse-trading rather than schooling. He offered 900 acres of farmland, an abandoned five-story building, and a giant pile of political IOU's in exchange for the privilege of hosting the new institution. But I also learned that those early years were not all devoted to cynical wheeling and dealing. Our first president, John Milton Gregory, who was hired without an interview, struggled mightily to balance the political forces swirling around him so that the state would have a major new asset: a practical and ambitious public research university.

It is marvelous to consider the remarkable and sometimes unconventional scholars Gregory recruited to form the core of his new faculty. They included Austrian émigré and Civil War veteran Edward Snyder, a language teacher; Congregational minister Don Carlos Taft, a geologist (and father of artist Lorado); Frederick Prentice, a pioneer in veterinary medicine; Manly Miles, who researched in both plant and animal breeding; Thomas Burrill, a plant specialist freshly returned from exploring the Rocky Mountains; and Nathan Ricker, recipient of the nation's first university degree in architecture in 1873, and chair of our Architecture Department. This new academic community developed a strong group identity that was marked by curiosity, practical ambition, and a general disdain for conventional wisdom.

Despite the financial uncertainty of the university's early years and attacks from critics who wanted purely vocational training at the school, these new teachers, their students, and campus leaders like Gregory rallied to the institution's ambitious ideals. And somewhere during that time, a spark was struck among them that ricocheted across the new campus, from the Morrow Plots to the chemistry laboratories and workshops to the new university museum filled with plaster casts of European masterpieces. That spark was "the spirit of innovation," a spirit devoted to the introduction of new things (ideas, techniques, topics, and tools) as well as the alteration of established ways of thinking and learning. Innovation worked beautifully as the theme for our book, because it united stories of achievement across time and space and linked our founding to our most recent achievements. It is a theme that wraps disparate people and inventions into a coherent package, and which we hope will inspire everyone in the university community to preserve this legacy in the future.

Engine of Innovation's forty-six essays tell the story of the world changing innovations that emerged on the Urbana-Champaign campus, and of the community that nurtured and sustained them over fifteen decades. The book contains twenty-two extended essays and twenty-four shorter sketches. The essays were written largely by Illinois history faculty and history alumni, but authors were also recruited from other parts of campus—English, Anthropology, Engineering, ACES, Music, and Plant Biology. Undergraduates wrote most of the sketches under my guidance from materials gathered in the university archives.

The book begins with several essays and sketches on "Singular People," such as Isabel Bevier, a pioneer in the science of food safety and a founder of home economics; Tim Nugent, instigator and champion of the movement to make, first, college campuses, and, later, all public spaces accessible to everyone; Ven Te Chow, the brilliant hydrologist who pioneered sophisticated approaches to flood control and promoted the efficient management of water around the globe; and Clarence Shelley, who steered the university toward racial diversity, beginning with Project 500 in 1968. Others featured in this section include John Bardeen, winner of two Nobel Prizes, Alta Gwinn Saunders, one of the first women to teach in our (or any) College of Business, Victor Shelford, founder of the Nature Conservancy, and Ruth and Oscar Lewis, who gave the world's poor a voice in the public arena. Shorter sketches focus on an array of innovators, from Austin Harding, the inventor of the school band, to Thomas Cureton, the scientist who launched the modern physical fitness movement.

Essays in the second section, "World Changing Inventions," highlight specific innovations that were "created and nurtured" on our campus and then spread to the world. These include "Affordable Higher Education," the idea that university classrooms should be available to everyone regardless of income; "Early Childhood Education," defined and pioneered by Education professor Joseph Hunt, one of the fathers of Head Start; the MRI, the work



Frederick Hoxie

"I learned that the U of I began in a political showdown, rather than an educational vision."

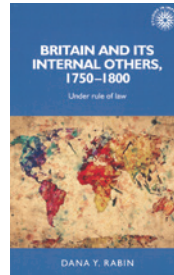
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New Books by Faculty

by ADRIAN VAN DER VELDE

The new books in 2017 include Dana Rabin's ***Britain and Its Internal Others, 1750–1800: Under Rule of Law*** (Manchester University Press), which examines eighteenth century discourse on the ideal of “equality before the law.” The empire’s legal system supposedly granted Englishmen greater freedom than ever before, but many British subjects—“internal others” such as women and individuals judged racially different—experienced oppression. Rabin examines legislation such as the “Jewish Naturalization Bill” of 1753, which resulted in public protest, harassment, and murder of Jews, showing that people lived in a system characterized by class and racial bias rather than equality. Framing her investigation around six infamous court cases, Rabin places the historical debate within the milieu of the British public sphere. Her use of legal and cultural sources, such as cartoons, visually engages the reader and provides context for her discussion of law, gender, and race. This book serves as a reminder that popular ideology and seemingly impartial laws often conceal violence and prejudice.

Rana Hogarth's ***Medicalizing Blackness: Making Racial Difference in the Atlantic World, 1780–1840*** (University of North Carolina Press) explores how physicians in the eighteenth and nineteenth century Caribbean and Antebellum South created and reified the concept of “blackness,” as an ideological tool to perpetuate the system of slavery as well as to justify their intellectual and scientific curiosity. They believed African bodies to be fundamentally different from white ones, and tested their theories on unwilling human subjects. Using studies of diseases like yellow fever or Cachexia Africana (commonly known as “dirt eating”), Hogarth illustrates the disturbing ways in which physicians often ignored scientific evidence or propagated racial



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Hogarth illustrates the disturbing ways in which physicians often ignored scientific evidence or propagated racial stereotypes.



In the midst of tumultuous change, the public in Russia discussed notions of freedom, inequality, justice, and power, both amongst themselves and in popular publications like newspapers.

stereotypes. She also tracks the flow of racialized medical ideology between the Caribbean and the Antebellum South, primarily in Jamaica and South Carolina. ***Medicalizing Blackness*** demonstrates how medicine, race, and slavery were interwoven in the early Atlantic World.

On the centennial of the Russian Revolution, Mark Steinberg pushes past questions of causation to focus on the emotions and experiences of the

people in *The Russian Revolution, 1905–1921* (Oxford University Press). Amid tumultuous change, Russians discussed notions of freedom, inequality, justice, and power. Rather than a specific event, moment, or individual, Steinberg frames his narrative around the entire era of revolution, beginning with Bloody Sunday, and uses a journalistic voice to unveil the participation of everyday people. He asks, and attempts to answer, rhetorical “what if” questions both from his vantage point as an historian and from the view of a contemporary of the revolution. He examines the revolution in the countryside as well as the urban street, and also includes the underrepresented perspectives of women.

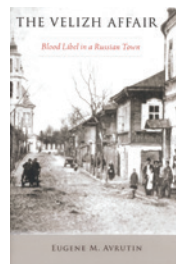
In *Tropical Freedom: Climate, Settler Colonialism, and Black Exclusion in the Age of Emancipation* (Duke University Press), Ikuko Asaka examines the idea of “black freedom” on both sides of the Atlantic, from Africa to the Caribbean, the British Isles to Canada. She focuses on contrasting white and black visions of black freedom, from the American Revolution through the late nineteenth century, placing them in dialogue with concepts such as race and colonialism. Whites “regionalized” freedom for blacks by visualizing its existence elsewhere, in a tropical or warm place, while blacks developed different understandings of freedom and belonging. She also investigates how African Americans, Canadians, and North Americans became active in politics during the 1850s, when they campaigned for emancipation and responded to the claims of white imperialists.

Eugene Avrutin’s *The Velizh Affair: Blood Libel in a Russian Town* (Oxford University Press) is a study of the court case occasioned by the murder of a three-year-old boy in the small town of Velizh, in western Russia, in 1823. The discovery of the boy’s corpse, with multiple stab wounds, triggered a series of events that exposed the community’s latent

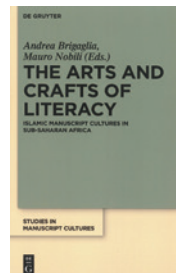
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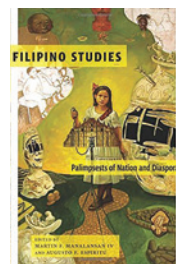
[Asaka’s] study focuses on contrasting white and black visions of black freedom, from the American Revolution through the late nineteenth century.



In 1823, the killing of a three-year-old boy threw the small town of Velizh, located in western Russia, into disarray.



The Arts and Crafts of Literacy showcases the ways that new types of engagement with the [new] archives can transform the historical understanding of an entire literary tradition.



Filipino Studies delineates the quickly expanding boundaries of this sphere of study and provides scholars with an excellent resource.



Engine of Innovation, continued

of many hands but most prominently Nobel Laureate Paul Lauterbur; and Supersweet Corn, brought to commercial production by John Laughnan. Other essays discuss the local origins of professional architecture; the transformative impact of the Illinois Historical Survey on the writing of history; the invention of experimental (often computer-assisted) music; the story of MOSAIC, the first point and click internet browser; and our longstanding leadership in the investigation of photosynthesis. Short sketches describe the invention of sound on film, the founding of Hillel, Women's Studies, and public broadcasting, and two remarkable animals "invented" here: the champion milk producer, Illini Nellie, and Big Al, the transgenic pig.

The final section, "Places of Innovation," focuses on campus sites where ideas and people come together to produce new things. These include the University Library, the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts, and the Beckman Institute. An essay on the university's long connection to China signals that our innovations have also occurred around the world: Chinese students have been coming here for more than a century, and the university's alumni and faculty have had an impact on that country. A famous photograph of the Chinese ambassador to the United States at the 1909 commencement serves as a reminder of this tie. Other places featured are "Stadium Terrace Housing," the legendary home of married students in the 1940s, the popular Farmer's Institutes that drew thousands to campus, the ILLIAC computers, Ebertfest, the Institute of Genomic Biology, the Business Instructional Facility, and the array of centers for the study of race and ethnicity that occupy a single block of Nevada Street.

As I completed my work, I could not help but reflect on the contemporary meaning of innovation and what lessons—if any—the story of innovation at Illinois has for us as we look into the future. My reflections led me to three conclusions. First, innovation rests on a long-term commitment to the search for new knowledge. Second, innovation requires the synergy of interdisciplinary collaboration. Innovation is unsettling and unending. And finally, innovation reflects the best of who we are. It demands that we be open, curious, and brave. It carries us from the past into a better future. I hope readers—and the campus community—will agree with those concluding thoughts and sustain the tradition of innovation for the next 150 years!

New Books by Faculty, continued

prejudice against their Jewish neighbors. The case lasted for over twelve years, during which it even gained the attention of Tsar Alexander I. Avrutin places this story within the centuries-old tradition of "blood libel," the belief that Jews murdered Christian children in order to use their blood in religious rites. Using approximately fifty thousand pages of archival material, including the testimony of witnesses, Avrutin meticulously describes the characters and events. ***The Velizh Affair*** illustrates how multi-ethnic communities could thrive despite religious conflict and deep-seated mistrust.

The contributors to ***The Arts and Crafts of Literacy: Islamic Manuscript Cultures in Sub-Saharan Africa*** (Walter de Gruyter GmbH), co-edited by Mauro Nobili and Andrea Brigaglia, engage with Islamic literacy and the manuscript tradition in Muslim Africa. This volume aims to correct both the Euro-centric dismissal of pre-colonial African history as lacking written sources, and the response to it, which relied upon orality. It reframes African historiography by highlighting the large collection of written materials in African libraries, which became accessible in the 1990s. Reflecting Nobili's own work, the new scholarship emphasizes the materiality of these manuscripts, understanding them to be archeological objects as well as sources of ideology, literature, and scholarship. By engaging with these new archives, the authors of ***The Arts and Crafts of Literacy*** demonstrate the importance of the literary tradition to an understanding of African history.

Filipino Studies: Palimpsests of Nation and Diaspora (New York University Press), edited by Augusto Espiritu and Martin Manalansan, uncovers the many layers of the identity "Filipino-American" in a postcolonial context. The contributors, from several fields in the humanities and social sciences, address the state of Filipino studies, including such topics as the Philippines as a colony of the United States, the migration of men and women and the labor they provided, interconnections between art and race, postcolonial Asian-American sexuality, and identity in relation to concepts of "home." ***Filipino Studies*** delineates the quickly expanding boundaries of this sphere of study and provides scholars with an excellent resource that contains the newest conversations and historical research on the topic.



Courtney Becks | New African-American History Librarian

Courtney Becks joined our community as the librarian for African American Studies and the Jewish Studies selector at the History, Philosophy, and Newspaper Library in August. The Parsons, Kansas native began her tenure-track faculty appointment after serving as the American Indian Studies librarian at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Courtney earned her master's degrees in library science and journalism from UW-Madison, in addition to a master's degree in American Studies from the University of Iowa and her bachelor's degree in history from the University of Kansas. Courtney was kind enough to grant an interview to Marsha Barrett; her answers have been edited for length.

What are the most rewarding aspects of your role at the History, Philosophy, and Newspaper Library, so far?

I consult with faculty doing research on African American Studies-related topics to facilitate their access to information resources. It is important for me to build relationships not only in departments like History—but also across campus, in the larger community locally, and at other institutions. Helping people find the information they need is powerful. I'm also really excited to be working on building the collection. Recently, we got in *The Awkward Thoughts of W. Kamau Bell* (2017) and the DVD of the first season of Issa Rae's *Insecure*. I want to know what African American Studies resources students, alumni, faculty, and staff need and want!

What are your research interests and is there an aspect of your research that you are most excited about right now?

My research interests include Black American art and aesthetics, modern Jewish history, style/fashion, decorative arts, media and material culture. I did my

required library school practicum at Stony Island Arts Bank in 2016. That experience gave me so much food for thought in terms of Black art and aesthetics, archiving practices, and those practices' relationship to the artistic process.

Can you tell us about your path from deciding to major in history to becoming a librarian?

I think history feeds everything—it's everywhere. I guess I was interested in "finding out about stuff," really. Studying history was a means of learning about the world. I had thought about becoming a librarian as far back as 2012. I liked the work I've seen librarians doing since I learned to read. I finally applied in 2015. In my last months of library school, I realized I've always been a person who seeks out, retains, and shares information. The "finding out about stuff" impulse is very well suited to librarianship.

Can you share some information about the Mellon-funded AFRO "Publishing Without Walls" project?

I am just getting started with AFRO PWW. I think the focus on African American Studies and the ability to share work are remarkable. For example, there is unbelievable archival material at Historically Black Colleges and Universities that can now see the light of day because folks there learned about AFRO PWW. Please see afro.illinois.edu/AFRO_PWW-home.html for more information.

What do you like to do in your free time?

Honestly, I'm probably reading *The Root*.



Recent Faculty Awards and Honors

The U of I's Center for Advanced Study appointed **Antoinette Burton** and **Harry Liebersohn** to its permanent faculty in 2017. Only seven persons received this, one of the highest forms of recognition by the campus for outstanding scholarship. Burton, Director of the Illinois Program for Research in the Humanities, is a historian of modern Britain and its empire, author of six books, and editor or co-editor of 14 collected volumes and many special issues of journals. Liebersohn, author of four books, currently is studying globalization and music since the late nineteenth century. They join **Maria Todorova**, already a CAS professor, who this year received the title of Doctor Honoris Causa of Panteion University in Athens.

The university also named **Antoinette Burton** a Swanlund Endowed Chair—one of the highest honors the campus bestows—for a renewable five-year term. **Kevin Mumford** and **Dana Rabin** were among six faculty appointed Professorial Scholars for three years by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Mumford was named a Richard and Margaret Romano Professorial Scholar, and Rabin, a Lynn M. Martin Professorial Scholar. LAS also named **Marc Hertzman** a Conrad Humanities Scholar. This award recognizes outstanding mid-career scholars in humanities.

Kevin Mumford's book, *Not Straight, Not White: Black Gay Men from the March on Washington to the AIDS Crisis* (2016), received the Israel Fishman Award for Non-Fiction from the LGBT Roundtable of the American Library Association, and the Bullough Prize for Best Book

from the Society for the Scientific Study of Sexuality. It also was a finalist for the Randy Shilts Prize in Gay Non-Fiction from the Publishing Triangle, and the Lambda Literary Awards for LGBT Studies.

Erik McDuffie was one of 71 scholars to receive an American Council of Learned Societies fellowship, for his project *Garveyism in the Diasporic Midwest: The American Heartland and Global Black Freedom, 1920–1980*. The Center for Advanced Study named **Mauro Nobili** a fellow for 2018-19, for his project “Making Authority by Rewriting the Past in Islamic West Africa: The Seventeenth-Century Tarikh Ibn al-Mukhtar and the Nineteenth-Century Tarikh al-Fattash.” A four-person team including **Kathryn Oberdeck** and **John Randolph**, part of a multi-institutional project researching how documentary sources are created, shared, and preserved in the digital environment, received a three-year grant from the Humanities Without Walls Consortium, funded by the Mellon Foundation.

Roderick Wilson received the department's George S. & Gladys W. Queen Award for Excellence in Teaching.

Augusto Espiritu received the Excellence in Mentorship Award from the Association for Asian American Studies.

Kristin Hoganson began a two-year term as President of the Society for Historians of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era.

Congratulations, everyone!

Solberg Honored

Emeritus Professor Winton Solberg received the Chancellor's Medallion, the highest campus honor, for his dedication in preserving and making available the history of the university. Solberg wrote about and supervised graduate student research on university history throughout his career. He is currently working on the U of I during the presidency of Edmund J. James (1904–20). Ellen Swain, the Stewart S. Howe Student Life and Culture Archivist, called him “the authority” on the university. “Archives staff, scholars, students, administrators and the general public consult his histories on a daily basis.”

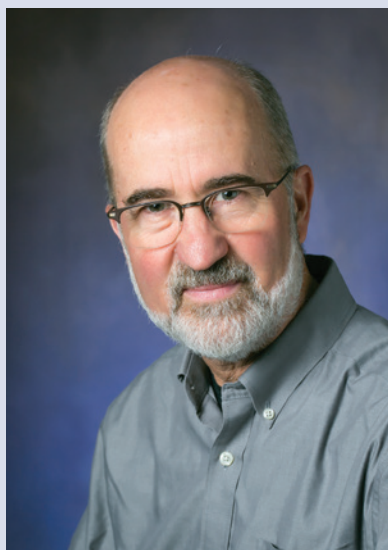
Solberg, who joined the history department in 1961 and retired in 1992, said, “I'm interested in my work. I enjoy my work. I serve a useful purpose to point out some of the triumphs and failures of what the University of Illinois has done.”

—Jodi Heckel, *U of I News Bureau*



Chancellor's Medallion recipients (l.-r.) Winton Solberg and past and present University Archivists Maynard Brichford and William Maher.

Preparing our Students for Employment



Mark Steinberg

MARK D. STEINBERG,
Director of Graduate Studies

One of the many initiatives underway in our doctoral program has been an extensive discussion of “career diversity.” This, in fact, is about more than the diverse careers for which a Ph.D. in history prepares you, but recognition that graduate study develops a great many skills—including sifting and analyzing large quantities of information of uneven value, writing and presenting findings and arguments, collaborating with others, public engagement, orga-

nizational skills, and much more—that are essential to the work of a faculty member and in a great many other professions. We are working to be more explicit about this side of a graduate education and to improve how we prepare students for employment.

At the same time, the alleged “crisis” in academic employment is not as dire as sometimes portrayed. Approximately 72 percent of our Ph.D.s who graduated between 2004 and 2013 are working in faculty positions in four-year universities, according to a recent national survey by the American Historical Association of the departments participating in a special AHA program on career diversity (the average is 60%). Most of them are tenured or in tenure-track positions. Our department web site lists the current postdoctoral employment and fellowships of our recent graduates. Those working in non-professorial positions have found positions in museums, publishing, archives, foundations, and university

administration. Postdoctoral fellowships over the last two years include resident fellowships at the European University Institute in Florence, the Center for the Study of Slavery and Justice at Brown, and the Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity in Gottingen.

Additionally, I want to highlight some of the accomplishments of our current students, who have won competitive fellowships from a wide range of programs on-campus and nationally during the last year, including Fulbright, DAAD, American Councils, the Illinois Program for Research in the Humanities, and the Graduate College. One public expression of the amazing work of our graduate students is the Fifth Annual Graduate Research Symposium, where some of the students who have been honored for their scholarship by campus or external fellowships and awards present their work. Presenters and topics this year include David Lehman (“Mapping the Overlap: Potawatomi Land Use and Settler Land Seizure,

1795–1838”), Ian Toller-Clark (“From Breweries to Penitentiaries: Wisconsin’s Deindustrialized Majority and Mass Incarceration, 1970–1986”), Lydia Crafts (“‘Pure Science’: U.S. experimentation and Ethics in Revolutionary Guatemala”), Carolina Ortega (“In the Shadow of the Bracero Program: The Non-Braceros of Guanajuato, Mexico”), and Marilia Correa-Kuyumjian (“Unusual Suspects: Persecuted Servicemen Under Military Rule in Brazil, 1964–1988”).

Finally, I encourage you to look over the new graduate program sections of the history department’s revamped website history.illinois.edu/academics/graduate-studies-illinois. Not least, if you would like to contribute to our fellowship fund, which helps us support graduate student study and research in times of reduced university funding, just click on the “give now” button at the top right of the website.

Graduate study develops a great many skills—including sifting and analyzing large quantities of information of uneven value, writing and presenting findings and arguments, collaborating with others, public engagement, organizational skills, and much more—that are essential to the work of a faculty member and in a great many other professions.

Field Notes from Graduate Students

MARILIA CORREA: *Studying Military Dictatorship during the Current Crisis of Democracy in Brazil*

I spent the academic year 2016–17 conducting archival research and collecting oral histories to write my dissertation in several cities in Brazil—São Paulo,



Marilia Correa at Pelourinho during São João festivities, Salvador-BA

Rio de Janeiro, Recife, Belo Horizonte and Salvador—and Washington D.C. and Mexico City. In Washington I visited the National Archives at College Park, and read State Department reports on Brazil during the era of the military dictatorship. In Mexico City, I examined documents of Brazilian political exiles at the Archivo General de La Nación and the Archivo Histórico Genaro Estrada.

In Brazil, I examined thousands of documents in federal and state archives. Since the goal of my dissertation is to understand how the servicemen who were expelled from the military experienced the era of the dictatorship, I also interviewed more than thirty men. These interviews are shaping my dissertation as they allow me to identify how diverse the group of expelled servicemen was. While some were expelled because they had ties with the Communist Party or were openly against military rule, many expellees did not openly challenge military rule. The officers in power accused all of them of communist tendencies, but my interviews show that these men had diverse political views—then and now.

Since I started this research, Brazil has faced a severe political crisis, which was intensified when president Dilma Rousseff was impeached and removed from office in 2015. As Brazilians became divided between supporters and opponents of Rousseff's Workers Party, so did my interviewees. Rousseff, who fought against military rule during the dictatorship, received praise from some, while others criticized her presidency and her party. Conducting oral histories in this polarized political environment was challenging, because many of my interviewees conflated past and present political opinions. In the end, it helped me to understand the connections between military rule and the recent political crisis.

DAVID HORST LEHMAN: *Research Notes from Urbana, Illinois and Gun Lake, Michigan*

The Scholarly Commons is an area on the third floor of the main library where capable computers, important software, and special equipment are all available. I have spent hours working on GIS projects in that room, but I would have spent ten times as many if not for James Whitacre, the Geographic Information Systems Specialist there. Like a good archivist, James has been indispensable to my research.

I am studying how Potawatomi groups made spaces for their own survival in the face of settler invasion. Mapping out patterns using computers in a university library is useful for this research. It is also a dangerously abstract way to approach the subject. So, while I was attending Midwestern History and Agricultural History conferences in Grand Rapids, Michigan this past June, I camped outside of town instead of staying in a conference hotel. I was on my own most of the time, but also had visits from Rachel & Levi (pictured) and a friend who works at Michigan State's nearby Kellogg Biological Station.



David Horst Lehman and son Levi at their campsite

The campsite was near an important portage between the Kalamazoo and Grand rivers. This area is the homeland of the Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Band of Potawatomi Indians (sometimes known as the Gun Lake Tribe). Private houses and state park areas surround much of Gun Lake now, but the Gun Lake government headquarters is also nearby. Because of

my location, I could stop there to talk to people in their cultural heritage department. I study how Native people resisted settler invasions, subtle invasion in the form of privatizing and commodifying land. These were abstract processes of invasion and getting away from my abstract work in the library, useful though it may be, is also indispensable to my research.

CAROLINA ORTEGA: *Understanding Migration*

I spent the majority of my research year in Mexico, primarily at *El Archivo Nacional del Estado de Guanajuato* and *El Archivo Histórico de la Universidad de Guanajuato*, both located in the city of Guanajuato, and at the *Secretaría de Relaciones Exteriores* in Mexico City. My research seeks to understand the migration of people from the state of Guanajuato to the United States throughout the twentieth century. I was born in Guanajuato but my family migrated to the United States when I was four years old. My research provided me with the opportunity to live in Mexico for an extended period of time for the first time in over twenty years. Being a native *guanajuatense* researching a topic so close to my own personal experience turned out to be an interesting task.

Almost every person that I met or had a conversation with, whether an archivist or a taxi driver, shared stories of friends, family, and loved ones who migrated to the U.S. Moreover, they all had opinions on why so many have migrated. Many believe it was solely for economic reasons. Yes, economic opportunity plays a role in migration, but it's not the whole story. Some migrate to reunite with family members, to escape war, or to further their education. Therefore, I found it interesting that so many people held the view of economic motivations. It made me reflect on the current rhetoric in the United States about immigration and the reasons for it. In the end, my everyday conversations with individuals had a lasting impact on my work, maybe even more than what I found in the archive. Conversations on immigration, in Mexico and the U.S., indicate that research on this topic is still sorely needed.



Carolina Ortega at Teotihuacan, an ancient city northeast of Mexico City

Recent Ph.D.s Awarded

Ryan Bean, “Native Andeans in the Frontier City: A New Conquest History of Urban Peru, 1535–1700.”

Courtney Cain, “Ou Ayisyen? The Making of a Haitian Diasporic Community in Chicago, 1933–2010.”

Zachary Sell, “Slavery beyond Slavery: The American South, British Imperialism, and the Circuits of Capital, 1833–1873.”

Devin Smart, “Consuming Capitalism: Food, Migration, and Urban Life in Twentieth-Century Kenya.”

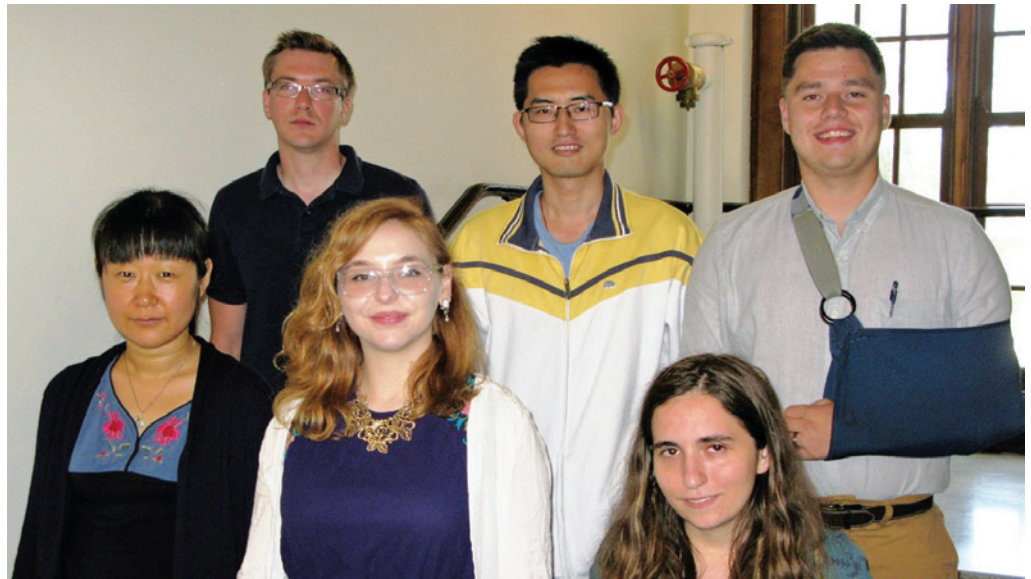
Irina Spector-Marks, “Circuits of Imperial Citizenship: Indian Print Culture and Politics of Race, 1890–1914.”

Alonzo Ward, “The Spector of Black Labor: African American Workers in Illinois before the Great Migration, 1847–1910.”

Fall '17 Incoming Grads

First Row (left to right):
Lingyan Liu, Elizabeth Abosch,
and Elizabeth Dean

Second Row (left to right):
Christopher Goodwin, Hanping
Li, and Stetson Kastengren



Recent Ph.D. Employment and Postdocs

Rosemary Admiral, Assistant Professor, History, School of Arts and Humanities, University of Texas at Dallas

Ryan Bean, Postdoctoral Scholar and Assistant Professor, History, DePauw University, Greencastle, IN

Long Bao Bui, Lecturer, Stephen F. Austin State University, Nacogdoches, TX

Katharine Bullard, Research Program Development Officer, Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA

Courtney Cain, Assistant Professor, History and African American Studies, Lake Forest College, Lake Forest, IL

Ruth Fairbanks, Fulbright Roving Scholar, US History and American Studies, Norwegian Centre for Foreign Languages in Education, Oslo, Norway

Maria Galmarini-Kabala, Assistant Professor, History and Global Studies, College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, VA

David Greenstein, Lecturer, Curriculum Dept., University Library, University of Illinois–Chicago, Chicago, IL

Karlos Hill, Interim Director of African and African American Studies, University of Oklahoma, Norman, OK

Michael Hughes, Teaching Fellowship, Augustana College, Rock Island, IL

Veneta Ivanova, Max Weber Postdoctoral Fellowship, History, European University Institute, Florence, Italy

Jason Jordan, Assistant Professor, History, University of New Haven, West Haven, CT

Rachel Koroloff, Early Career Fellowship, Lichtenberg-Kolleg, the Gottingen Institute for Advanced Study, Göttingen, Germany

Anna Kurhajec, Lecturer, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN

Gregory Kveberg, Student Services Specialist, Office of the Registrar, Edgewood College, Madison, WI

Julianne Laut, Outreach & Development Coordinator and Acquisitions Assistant, University of Illinois Press, Urbana, IL

Zsuzsanna Magdo, Assistant Director, Center for Russian and East European Studies, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA

Kyle Mays, Assistant Professor, History, African American Studies and American Indian Studies, UCLA, Los Angeles, CA

Eric McKinley, Mellon/ACLS Public Fellows Program, Senior Research Analyst, Engagement and Inclusion, American Public Media Group

Rebecca McNulty, Archivist at North Central College, Naperville, IL

Emily Pope-Obeda, Assistant Professor, History, Wilmington College, Wilmington, OH

Zachary Sell, Postdoctoral Research Fellowship, Center for the Study of Slavery and Justice, Brown University, Providence, RI

Devin Smart, Postdoctoral Fellowship, History, West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV

Habtamu Tegegne, Assistant Professor, History, Rutgers University–Newark, Newark, NJ

Alonzo Ward, Assistant Professor, History, Illinois College, Jacksonville, IL

Excellence and Innovation



Marc Hertzman

by MARC HERTZMAN, *Director of Undergraduate Studies*

Last year, I described all the wonderful accomplishments and initiatives in the undergraduate program, and this year there is no shortage of similar news. This fall we welcomed three remarkable awardees of the Walter N. Breymann Scholarship, which recognizes exceptionally promising young majors: Caitlin Lopez-Battung, Taylor Mazique, and Raul Salazar Jr. We are thrilled to have them in the department. We were also fortunate to have three extraordinary students from Brazil

take classes in the department. Gianne Neves (graduate student), Marina de Oliveira Reis, and Aline Ferreira de Souza were here as Abdias do Nascimento scholars, a new program coordinated through the Lemann Institute for Brazilian Studies that brings talented underrepresented students from Brazil to campus for a semester. Our undergraduates continue to win other prestigious awards and distinguish themselves.

They are supported by faculty dedicated to excellence and innovation. Even before joining us this fall, Marsha Barrett submitted proposals for three new courses, “The President and the People,” “Hidden Political Figures” in US history, and an upper-level seminar on “The American Political Divide.” Dana Rabin developed a new class on crime and civil disobedience at the U of I, and Leslie Reagan taught a new course on disabilities and accessibility at the university, both of which took students into the university archives. Mark Steinberg and anthropologist Jessica Greenberg taught a course on revolution, while Kathy Oberdeck’s public history initiative and John Randolph’s SourceLab continued to expose students to the ways that history is made and received.

As this is my last year as DUS, I want to also recount on a more personal level some of the amazing

things that I have seen our students do as they learn about and wrestle with history and all of its complexities. Without doubt, one of the greatest things about being DUS is that it means I get to work with our senior honors students for an entire year in the thesis workshop. This is my fifth year on campus, and I have a special connection to this year’s seniors, many of whom I have known since they arrived.

I find it easy at times to lose sight of the many, dynamic aspects that primary source research can entail. Our honors students use a great variety of sources to study histories from thirteenth-century Iceland to twentieth-century Chicago, and we spend a great deal of time talking about how to find sources, how to read them, and how to turn observation into convincing analysis. One day in class, I asked students to share one particularly difficult source with the seminar. The documents that they shared are remarkable, indeed.

The documents that the students shared brought them face to face not only with the “what” of history, but also gut-wrenching events that force them to ask “how” and “why.”

One student is writing about sexual violence in the British Navy, and another shared a portion the graphic novel *Maus*, which conveys in heart-rending terms the psychic trauma of suicide, mental health disease, and the legacy of the Holocaust. A third student works on the deportation of Mexican migrants from the US, and a fourth is exploring Inquisition cases leveled against Afro-Mexicans during the eighteenth

century. In each case, the documents that the students shared brought them face to face not only with the “what” of history, but also gut-wrenching events that force them to ask “how” and “why,” and to try to inhabit, however painful it may be to do so, the lives and experiences of the individuals they are studying.

Our students are not only sifting through archives, staying up all night honing their prose, and engaging in vigorous intellectual debate; they are also challenging themselves to understand the human condition, in all of its varieties and permutations—heroic and ugly—across time and space. Seeing them jump into these tasks and shoulder the immense weight of the stories they are bringing to light has been one of the most satisfying experiences of my career. Of all the things I will miss about being DUS this is probably the one I will miss the most.

History Major Named Rhodes Scholar



Thomas Dowling

Thomas Dowling, a double major in political science and history, is one of 32 students from the United States selected as Rhodes Scholars for postgraduate study at the University of Oxford. The first Rhodes Scholar from the Urbana campus since 1998, Dowling, of Chicago, will also be the first in his family to graduate from college. A James Scholar, he

interns at the Institute of Government and Public Affairs, investigating the state pension system's structural deficits.

Dowling co-founded the campus speech and debate team; educated Illinois students about fiscal policy as a campaign manager for Up to Us; founded an Illinois chapter of the American Enterprise Institute Executive Council; and created a nonprofit organization, YOUTHink Politics, to educate and engage high school students in the political process.

He campaigned for and then served as state Rep. Carol Ammons' deputy chief of staff, and served on the Champaign Zoning Board of Appeals. He was a media consultant and organizing fellow for the Bernie Sanders presidential campaign and also interned at the Center for American Progress in Washington, D.C., where he worked on rapid-response research and communications projects. Dowling also spent a semester as a Center for Strategic Research intern at the AFL-CIO, constructing strategies to help workers unionize and get more involved in the political process.

At Oxford, he will pursue a master's of public policy. He previously was named a Truman Scholar for his dedication to public service, academic excellence, and leadership, as well as a Lincoln Academy Student Laureate for excellence in curricular and extracurricular activities. Long-term, Dowling aspires to represent residents of his home district on the South Side of Chicago, and to get them and others more involved in the political process.

—*U of I News Bureau*

Senior Honors Theses

Thomas Hendrickson, "The Column of Arcadius: A Fallen Conduit of a Triumphal Legacy"

Alexandra Jaeckel, "Queenship During Crisis: Four Influential Women in England During the 11th–12th Century"

Brian Kite, "Masters of Their Own Fate: The Kurdish Rebellion in 1974"

Peter Miles, "Continuities and Change in Women's Political Action: The October Days and the French Revolution"

Connor Monson, "Patronage and Party: The Spoils System and Reconstruction Era South Carolina"

Stephen Nye, "The Graduate Level of Warfare: Compromise and Continuity in the Counterinsurgency Field Manual"

William Ringhofer, "Red and Black in Bronzeville: The Civil Rights Congress in Chicago, 1946–1956"

Miguel Suárez Medina, "The Institution of the Palenque in Colonial Colombia: Military, Economic, and Political Mobilizations"

Lisa Van, "The Making of Kett's Rebellion During the English Reformation"

Mindi Zhang, "The Patriots Far Away: A History of Chinese Students in the United States During the Early Twentieth Century"

Phi Alpha Theta | Building Up and Moving Forward

by GABRIELLE MARBACK-PEHLER

Phi Alpha Theta (PAT), the History Honors Society, promotes academic and personal growth for those who share a passion for historical learning. Current president Andrew Dawkins says that when he transferred to the U of I as a sophomore, PAT and the History department played an important role in his transition, providing both a social and educational environment in which he and his peers could build relationships with professors, advisors, and fellow students.

Andrew became president to continue building the organization, so that it would benefit others the way it had benefitted him. Since he joined PAT, it quadrupled in size, and the variety of interests and skills sets of the members multiplied. The expanding membership reflects an enthusiasm for history, boosted by a number of events. One was a panel on the occasion of the centennial of the Russian Revolution, featuring Professor Diane Koenker and graduate students Deirdre Ruscitti Harshman and Felix Cowan. In another event, Professor Emeritus and military historian John Lynn spoke on the historical accuracy of the movie “Dunkirk,” and the importance of the battle and the rescue itself. Both events enabled PAT members to interact with experts and gain a deeper understanding of material they may not have the chance to otherwise study.

Other events aim to assist students in their studies and to familiarize them with all the university has to offer. Each fall and spring, history advisor Wendy Mathewson holds a Registration Forum to go over the course offerings for the upcoming semester. Students can ask questions about future classes, and advanced students can recommend professors who share an interest with a member, while specialty class instructors can present and explain their courses.

This fall, the presenters were graduate instructors Chris Anderson, who represented *Reacting to the Past*, and Nathan Tye, for *Source Lab*. *Reacting to the Past* engages students to become historical figures and participate in historical events with the ability to rewrite history while developing a deep understanding of the stakes and concerns of a particular period. *Source Lab* enables students to “Publish the Past” and cultivate an understanding of the role of media in sharing history. PAT members who had taken these classes recommended them highly.



From left to right: Andrew Dawkins (President), Sam Wiebe, Kyle Ihm, Gabrielle Marback-Pehler, Taylor Mazique, Thomas Weller, and Kyle Kavanaugh (Historian).

The PAT executive board prioritizes building friendships and having fun with their member’s interests beyond a classroom setting. PAT hosts social occasions including the annual Stump the Professors party, in which students test their professors’ knowledge of arcana, historical trivia night, ice skating as a means for group bonding, and peer ice-breakers. One stand-out event is the annual Halloween game night, in which members are invited to dress-up as historical figures while enjoying some historical games and, of course, candy. The costumes seen included a 1908 World Series Cubs player and an archeologist. PAT also continued the bi-semester sale of books donated by professors to raise funds in support of events such as group field trips to conferences.

Andrew would like to develop more opportunities for members to present their research findings or paper proposals in a professional, real-world setting, possibly by hosting a conference at the university. Other proposals include tutoring, so that members can help fellow members or non-members in their history studies; a peer-review day, in which members could have their research or assignments examined during midterms or finals; and a Diversity of Interests Day, in which members can discuss their special areas of interest in history.

PAT has come a long way in the past few years, and the executive board and current members only hope to continue moving forward from there. President Andrew Dawkins believes that for any student, be they a history major, minor, or enthusiast, PAT is where they belong. It is a community of people that help each other progress academically and socially, while expanding members’ opportunities.



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Once again, the Department has benefited from the generous Friends of History. We would like to thank all of our donors for this support and especially our wonderful FOH board members who, as always, have been generous with their time and talents.

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New Gift Supports Research in Medieval and Early Modern European History

The family of Irene B. Katele (A.M., 1981; Ph.D. 1986), who passed away in December 2016, after a long battle with ovarian cancer, have honored her by establishing a memorial travel grant in support of graduate research, with preference for specialists in Medieval or early modern European history, especially Venetian history. Irene's dissertation, "Captains and Corsairs, Venice and Piracy, 1261-1381," was supervised by Donald Quellar. She received the Swain Prize for the best article published by a graduate student, and as a TA, she was on the List of Teachers Rated Excellent by their Students. She published "Piracy and the Venetian State: The Dilemma of Maritime Defense in the Fourteenth Century," in *Speculum* (1988), and other articles in *The International History Review* and *Studi Veneziani*.

After teaching at The Ohio State University and the University of South Carolina, Irene shifted her professional focus to law, earning a J.D. from the University of Wisconsin Law School in 1999, and editing the *Wisconsin Law Review*. She was an adjunct professor at the University of Wisconsin Law School and Associate Director of the Legal Studies Program, where she was repeatedly recognized for excellence in teaching. Yet she always cherished her doctoral work on Venetian piracy, and especially the opportunity to research in the Venetian archives. The year she spent living on the Lido in Venice, commuting daily across the Grand Canal, and immersing herself fully in Italian life, created an imprint on her professional and personal life that would last far beyond the

completion of her dissertation. During the years that Irene was in treatment for her cancer, she created a publically accessible blog, Amber Reunion (www.amberreunion.blogspot.com) that illustrated her family's story from pre-WWII Russia and Lithuania through to her childhood, education, and married life. Irene's experiences during her year in Venice are well documented in the blog. "Our family thought that a most fitting tribute to Irene's love of learning, research, and travel would be a memorial fund that enabled a history graduate student who shared Irene's intellectual interests to experience a potentially life-changing opportunity," said Irene's husband, Ray Bandziulis.

A student, Daniel Rothberg, wrote that he considered Irene a great mentor, professor, and friend. "Her students and advisees adored her. It was customary at UW-Madison for students to applaud after a professor's final lecture of the semester, but Katele drew a standing ovation with roaring applause and cheers that blew everyone else out of the water." Jim Jenkins, wrote, "Her students adored her because she cared about and respected each of them. Her lectures were spirited, funny, and always right on-point."

Irene was pre-deceased by her father, Kazimieras V. Katele and her father-in-law, Vytautas Bandziulis. She is survived by her mother, Dr. Elvyra Katele, husband Dr. Ray Bandziulis, mother-in-law Jean Bandziulis, cousin Raminta Nakrosius and her husband Algimantas Nakrosius, and her devoted poodles, Baci, Rex, and Poppy.



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Faculty Profiles

Tariq Ali's book *A Local History of Global Capital: Jute and Peasant Life in the Bengal Delta* will be published by Princeton University Press in May 2018.

In November 2016, **Ikuko Asaka** was named an inaugural Lincoln Excellence for Assistant Professors Scholar. In November 2017, her first book, *Tropical Freedom: Climate, Settler Colonialism, and Black Exclusion in the Age of Emancipation*, was published by Duke University Press. In the same month, she presented at the inaugural conference of the new Lapidus Center for the Historical Analysis of Transatlantic Slavery at the Shomburg Center in New York City. Ikuko's paper drew on her new project on U.S. engagements across the Atlantic and Pacific oceans in the mid-nineteenth century. Her paper was titled "From Japan to Luanda: An Unexpected Archive of the Nineteenth-Century African Diaspora."

Eugene M. Avrutin presented "A Tale of Two Murders: The Velizh and Beilis Blood Libel Cases" at Miami University of Ohio and participated in the American Academy for Jewish Research Associate Professor Seminar at Brown University. His book, *The Velizh Affair: Blood Libel in a Russian Town*, was published in November by Oxford University Press. Together with Elissa Bemporad (Professor of History at CUNY), he is editing the collection, *Pogroms: A Documentary History of Anti-Jewish Violence*, for which they received a major grant from the Blavatnik Foundation. He is also at work on a short book called *Russia, Backward! How the Mortality Crisis Fomented Racial Divisions in the New Russia*.

Marsha Barrett joined the department in August 2017. During her first semester she proposed three new political history courses (The President and the People, Hidden Political Figures, and The American Political Divide) that she looks forward to begin teaching in 2018. She also completed the first draft of her book manuscript, which explores moderate Republicanism and racial politics in the twentieth century by examining the career and political impact of New York Governor Nelson Rockefeller. In November, she traveled to the University of Houston to present new research for an article at The National Women's Conference: Taking 1977 into the 21st Century, which commemorated The First National Women's Conference.

Claudia Brosseder researched in Peruvian archives for her new research project *Re-defining Andean Religion: Andean Self-Christianization in the Colonial Norte Chico Region of Peru* and collaborated with several Andeanists from Peru. She produced an article about the history of "the" conquest of the Andes from Andean perspectives for the companion *The Andean World*, edited by Linda Seligman and Kathleen Fine-Dare (Routledge, 2017). She was honored to work on a presentation for the Getty Research Institute's conference Indigenous Knowledge in the Making of Colonial Latin American, in which she explored how colonial Andean people encoded knowledge in Amazonian feathers. At Illinois, she participated as discussant in another conference on Indigenous Knowledge organized by the Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies. Last but not least, she prepared her papers for her promotion process.

A few years ago, says **Antoinette Burton**, she satisfied a longstanding curiosity: "I made contact with an editor at Bloomsbury Press and met up with her at the publisher's very nicely appointed offices in Bedford Square, London. I had walked past their door for years and had always wanted to go in—I was not disappointed. Traces of Regency history could be seen and felt, though the atmosphere was more business-brisk than aristocratic-posh." That visit has resulted in several books, two of which were published last year: *An ABC of Queen Victoria's Empire* (Bloomsbury, 2017) and with Tony Ballantyne, *World Histories from Below* (Bloomsbury, 2017). The former is an anti-imperial primer; the latter, a textbook that grew in part out of thinking about the global from the bottom up through a three-year Center for Historical Interpretation initiative at Illinois. Beyond giving some talks in the US and the UK on her work, Antoinette continued as director of the Illinois Program for Research in the Humanities, where faculty and students prove every day why the study of the humanities—history among them—is indispensable to the present and the future as well.

Jimena Canales' *The Physicist and The Philosopher: Einstein, Bergson and the Debate that Changed Our Understanding of Time* (Princeton, 2016) was voted one of Tablet Magazine's Books of the Year for 2016, after featuring previously in Best Science Books, Science Friday, NPR, Public Radio International, Brainpickings, and Top Reads of The Independent. She also published "Albert

Einstein's Sci-Fi Stories," in *The New Yorker*; and "The Secret PR Push that Shaped the Atomic Bomb's Origin Story," in *The Atlantic*. Additional selected publications include: "Einstein's Bergson Problem," in *Cosmological and Psychological Time*; "Recording Devices," in Lightman's *A Companion to the History of Science* (Wiley Blackwell, 2016); "Clock Time/Lived Time" in *Time: A Vocabulary of the Present*, edited by Amy Elias and Joel Burges (NYU Press, 2016); "Drones Like Us: Experiments in Decentered Subjectivity," in *Some Pigeons are More Equal Than Others*, edited by Julius von Bismarck, Julian Charrière and Eric Elingsen (Lars Müller: Zürich, 2016); "Bergson(-ism) Remembered: A Roundtable," in the *Journal of French and Francophone Philosophy*; "Maxwell's Demon," in *What Scientific Term or Concept Ought to be More Widely Known, The Edge 20th Anniversary Annual Question*, edited by John Brockman (February 2017); "Mosaic: The First Point-and-Click Internet Browser," in *The University of Illinois: Engine of Innovation*, ed. Frederick E. Hoxie (University of Illinois Press, 2017); "This Philosopher Helped Ensure There Was No Nobel for Relativity," in *Nautilus*; and "Art+Science: Gyorgy Kepes," in *Aperture*. Canales presented her work at the Serpentine Gallery in London, the Brooklyn Book Festival, the Chicago Humanities Festival, the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art (SFMOMA), as well as Princeton University, Cambridge University, Northwestern University, Université de Lausanne, SUNY Binghamton, Goethe Institute in NYC, McGill University, John Hopkins University, and the Haus der Kulturen der Welt (Berlin). Her "Theory Opera" on Einstein and Bergson debuted at the 11th Shanghai Biennale. She was interviewed at the KPFA Public Radio in Berkeley and The Philosopher's Zone at RN Australian Broadcasting Corporation, among others. She joined the Board of Directors of the American Council for Learned Societies and the Scientific Advisory Board of the Internationales Kolleg für Kulturtechnikforschung und Medienphilosophie in Germany. This year Canales left the Department to be with her family in Boston, while she continues to advise graduate students as faculty of the Graduate College.

Tamara Chaplin is thrilled to announce that her co-edited volume, *The Global Sixties: Convention, Contest, and Counterculture*, with Jadwiga E. Pieper-Mooney, was published in July of 2017 by Routledge. She is especially proud that this collection includes an article by U of I history Ph.D. Jing Jing Chang, now Assistant Professor of Film Studies at Wilfred Laurier University in Canada. Chaplin's article on French

lesbian activism and queer utopianism is forthcoming in a collection on French feminism from Liverpool Press. Serving on the governing boards for the Western Society for French History and the Société Pour l'Histoire des Médias, and attending their respective conferences has also been a pleasure, as has a return trip to Leeds, England, and a stopover in Oberlin, Ohio where Chaplin presented work in May and October, respectively. After a busy year in 2016–17 teaching courses on Modern France, the history of sexuality, World War I (with Peter Fritzsche) and Western Civ (with the brilliant assistance of TA's Ryan Allen, Dr. Sandra Henderson, and Stefan Peychev), Chaplin is now delighted to be squirreled away in her study on sabbatical, working on her next book.

Clare Crowston continued work on a book, *Learning How: Apprenticeship in France, 1660 to 1880*, with co-authors Claire Lemerrier and Steven Kaplan. She also published two shorter pieces, a book chapter on mercantilism and economic policy in the late reign of Louis XIV and a co-authored article on early exits from apprenticeship that resulted from a collaboration with scholars from a number of European institutions. In addition to research trips in France, she hosted Claire Lemerrier in September for a month-long visit to our campus, during which Lemerrier met with graduate students and conducted a quantitative methods workshop. The 12th edition of her co-authored textbook *A History of Western Society* and the 11th edition of *A History of World Societies* (co-authored with former U of I history colleague Pat Ebrey and Ph.D. alum Joe Perry, among others) appeared in 2017 (MacMillan). On campus, she served on the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Provost Search Committee and on the Campus Budget Reform Steering Committee.

Ken Cuno published "Claiming Heirship: A Litigant Strategy in the Sharia Courts of Nineteenth-Century Egypt" in the *Annals of Japan Association for Middle East Studies* (2017); "Marriage Practices: Egypt: Nineteenth to early Twentieth Century," in the *Encyclopedia of Women in Islamic Cultures*; "Contextualizing Muhammad Abduh's Views on the Family, Marriage, and Divorce," in *Arabic Humanities, Islamic Thought: Essays in Honor of Everett K. Rowson*, edited by Joseph E. Lowry and Shawkat M. Toorawa (Brill, 2017); and "Modernizing Marriage in Egypt," in *Marriage, Law and Modernity*, ed. Julia Moses (Bloomsbury Academic, 2018). In September, he presented "Reinventing Marriage in 19th and 20th Century Egypt" at the Fifth European Congress on World and Global History, in Budapest. During the

past year, he also gave guest lectures and participated in public events on Palestinian history, the Iranian revolution, U.S.-Arab relations, and the Six-Day War of 1967.

Jerry Dávila continues to direct the Lemann Institute for Brazilian Studies, which has had a year of big events on Brazil. The first was a symposium on regionalism in Brazilian History that coincided with the 50th anniversary of the arrival at Illinois of emeritus professor Joe Love, a renowned historian of regionalism in Brazil. The symposium brought back to campus alumni of the Department of History such as Marcus Carvalho and Zephyr Frank, along with recent President of the American Historical Association Barbara Weinstein, among other scholars. The event counted too the participation of Marc Hertzman, Glen Goodman, and visiting anthropologist Ruben Oliven. The Institute also hosted the Lemann Dialogue, in partnership with the Brazil centers at Columbia, Harvard and Stanford Universities. The Dialogue was a conference that explored themes in Brazilian current affairs amid the country's deep political and economic crises. A highlight was a session on public health that featured the president of Brazil's national public health institute, who is a historian of medicine who looked at universal healthcare through the lens of the history of combatting epidemic disease.

Augusto Espiritu received the Excellence in Mentorship Award, Association for Asian American Studies, 2017. He wrote the Foreword to the anthology, *A Time to Rise: Memoirs of the Katipunan ng mga Demokratikong Pilipino (KDP) (Union of Democratic Filipinos)*, (University of Washington Press, 2017). His essay, "Inter-Imperial Relations, the Pacific, and Asian American History," which had appeared in *Pacific Historical Review* in 2014, was republished in *Pacific America: Histories of Transoceanic Crossings*, edited by Lon Kurashige (University of Hawai'i Press, 2017). He gave a paper, "The Fiction Award Controversy of 1998 and the Diversity of Filipino American Voices," at the annual meeting of the Association of Asian American Studies, Portland OR, and lectured on the significance of Philippine Independence Day at the Asian American Studies Department. He remains co-editor for Brill's book series, *Global Southeast Asian Diasporas* and serves on the editorial board of *Amerasia Journal*.

Marc Hertzman is in his third and final year as Director of Undergraduate Studies, and greatly enjoying working with another stellar class of thesis writers. Last

spring, WILL's radio show "The Twenty First" did a spot about his new course on the history of black music and a public outreach component attached to it. In April, his article "Fatal Differences: Suicide, Race, and Forced Labor in the Americas," related to his current book project, appeared in *The American Historical Review*. This fall he co-authored "Entrepreneurship and competition in Brazil's music markets: A taxonomy of two eras," in *Brazil's Economy: An Institutional and Sectoral Approach*, co-edited by colleague Jerry Dávila (Routledge, 2018). He presented his work at the Inaugural Conference of the Lapidus Center for the Historical Analysis of Transatlantic Slavery and was named a Conrad Humanities Scholar for the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences.

Kristin Hoganson moved from the vice presidency to the presidency of the Society for Historians of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era, thankful for the work of her predecessor, U of I Ph.D. Lloyd Ambrosius (Professor Emeritus at the University of Nebraska). She began her two-year posting at a busy time for the organization, with the selection of a new editorial team, initiation of a graduate student essay contest, rollout of a new book prize and conference support for contingent faculty, and revamp of the website as some of the most exciting developments. Other highlights of her year included lecturing on flownover states (Indiana University), heartland histories (Bielefeld University, Germany), and global history with a local angle (at an Illinois Council for History Education gathering). With co-editor Jay Sexton, she signed up 33 all-star contributors, including recent Illinois Ph.D. Tessa Winkelmann, for *The Cambridge History of America and the World, 1812–1900*, which will be the second volume in a four-volume series that is already garnering quite the buzz in foreign relations history circles.

Rana Hogarth's first book, *Medicalizing Blackness: Making Racial Difference in the Atlantic World 1780–1840* was published by the University of North Carolina Press in October 2017.

Diane Koenker contributed to the centenary observation of the 1917 Russian Revolution with an article in *Slavic Review*, "The Russian Revolution as a Tourist Attraction" (2017). From her current project, "Consuming Communism in the Soviet Sixties: Dining Out, Eating In, Buying, and Selling," she gave conference presentations on "The Taste of Others: Tourism and the Internationalization of Soviet Cuisine" and "Training the Soviet Shop Girl: Trade Unions on the Road to Full Communism" at the annual meetings of

Association for Slavic, Eastern European, and Eurasian Studies (Washington, 2016, and Chicago, 2017). Having retired from the department, she takes on a new role as Professor of Russian and Soviet History and Director of the School of Slavonic and East European Studies, University College London, in January 2018.

Harry Liebersohn spent the spring of 2017 as a fellow at the American Academy in Berlin. During three weeks in July-August, he was a guest professor at the University of Konstanz, formally beginning his tenure as recipient of a Humboldt Research Prize. He used his time away to complete his book manuscript, tentatively entitled “Music and the New Global Culture: From the Great Exhibitions to the Jazz Age.” He gave talks at Cambridge University and several venues in Germany, such as the American Academy in Berlin, the Free University, Humboldt University, the Deutsches Literaturarchiv in Marbach, Herrenhausen Palace in Hanover, and the University of Konstanz. Two publications with special connections to the University of Illinois have also appeared: an interview in *Itinerario* (2017) with Bruno Nettl (Emeritus Professor of Music at the U of I) on cultural brokers; and an essay in *The University of Illinois: Engine of Innovation* (University of Illinois, 2017), edited by Fred Hoxie, on the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts.

Ralph Mathisen published *Sources in Ancient Mediterranean Civilizations: Documents, Maps, and Images* (Oxford, 2016), plus “Die *Tabula Peutingeriana*: Itinerare, Identitäten und Ideologien,” in *Handschriften und Papyri. Wege des Wissens* ed. Bernhard Palme and D.R. Shanzer (Phoibos, 2017); “The Letter Collection of Ruricius of Limoges,” in *Late Antique Letter Collections: A Critical Introduction and Reference Guide* ed. Edward Watts (University of California, 2016); and “The Settlement of the Goths in Aquitania: 418 or 419?” in *Revue des Études Tardo Antiques* (2017). He also reviewed Mischa Meier’s *Der Völker ins Auge blicken. Individuelle Handlungsspielräume im 5. Jahrhundert n. Chr.* (Verlag Antiquae, 2016), in *Sehepunkte*. He delivered several papers: “Barbarian Invasions or Civil Wars? Goths as Auxiliary Forces in the Roman Army,” at the “Empire in Crisis: Gothic Invasions and Roman Historiography Conference: in Vienna; “The End of the Western Roman Empire: Barbarian Invasions or Civil Wars?,” the Keynote Address at the “Twelfth Shifting Frontiers in Late Antiquity Conference” at Yale University; “We Have Met the Enemy and They are Us’: Barbarians and the End of the Western Roman Empire” at the “Continuity and Change in Late Antiquity

Symposium” at the University of Colorado in Boulder; and “*Vagi, praedatores, and laeti*: Barbarian Refugees in Late Antiquity,” at the International Medieval Congress in Leeds. In the summer of 2017, he was Senior Research Fellow at the Research Center for Anatolian Civilizations of Koç University in Istanbul, Turkey.

After a standard year of teaching, the highlight of **Mark Micale’s** past academic year was spending the summer months in Australia as a Visiting Professor at the Institute for the History of Violence at the University of Newcastle. He gave several presentations, including two public lectures, to various audiences in Sydney and Newcastle.

Over the last year, **Bob Morrissey** continued work on a book project about the human and environmental history of the tallgrass prairie region in the early modern period. He made presentations at various conferences, including the American Society for Environmental History and a workshop at the Huntington Library on Early American Environmental History, sponsored by the *William and Mary Quarterly*. He also delivered an invited lecture at the Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture on the subject of indigenous art from the contact-era Midwest. He is preparing to take the lead of a Mellon-funded initiative in Environmental Humanities at the Illinois Program for Research in the Humanities.

Kevin Mumford’s recent book, *Not Straight, Not White: Black Gay Men from the March on Washington to the AIDS Crisis* (University of North Carolina, 2016), received the Israel Fishman Award for Non-Fiction from the LGBT Roundtable of the American Library Association and the Bullough Prize for Best Book from the Society for the Scientific Study of Sexuality, and was a finalist for the Randy Shilts Prize in Gay Non-Fiction from the Publishing Triangle and a finalist in the Lambda Literary Awards for LGBT Studies. He is guest editing a special issue of the *Journal of African American History* on the intersection between queer and black culture and life in the United States. He continues to serve on the advisory board of Gerber/Hart Library and Archives in Chicago, the Midwest’s largest LGBT archives, and volunteers at the Broadway Youth Center, a drop-in shelter for homeless LGBT youth, and is working on a written account of this work. He advised the Legacy Walk Outdoor Museum on the installation of a new monument in Chicago to honor gays and lesbians in the Harlem Renaissance, and participated in a workshop convened by the National Park Service to designate the Stonewall Inn and

adjacent land as a national park. He has been named a Romano Professorial Scholar, and plans to utilize the generous award for a new research project on racialized transgender identities in the modern United States and abroad.

Mauro Nobili coedited with Andrea Brigaglia of the University of Cape Town, a collection of essays entitled *The Arts and Crafts of Literacy: Manuscript Cultures in Muslim sub-Saharan Africa* (de Gruyter, 2017). He also published, with Mohamed Digayete of the Ahmad Baba Institute of Timbuktu “The Manuscripts that Never Were: In Search of the Tārīkh al-Fattāsh in Côte d’Ivoire and Ghana” in *History in Africa* (2017). The article tells the story of an adventurous trip Nobili and Digayete had in West Africa looking for elusive manuscripts of a local chronicle. The trip was sponsored by the U of I Research Board and the article was written during Digayete’s stay at Illinois in Fall 2016 with the support of the of the West Africa Research Association. At the past Meeting of the European Conference for African Studies in Basel, Nobili was elected to the council of the International African Institute last summer, where he will be the youngest member. He gave presentations at the international conferences “Texts, Knowledge, and Practice: The Meaning of Scholarship in Muslim Africa” (Harvard) and “Global Timbuktu” (Rutgers), and co-organized the workshop “Working with Arabic-script manuscripts in Africa” at Northwestern University.

Dana Rabin’s book, *Britain and its Internal Others, 1750–1800: Under Rule of Law*, was published in October 2017 by Manchester University Press in its series Studies in Imperialism. In April, she won the LAS Dean’s Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching. She delivered papers at the University of Western Ontario and at the KU Leuven (Belgium). The highlight of the year was the dissertation jury in which she participated, also at the KU Leuven.

John Randolph became Director of the Russian, East European, and Eurasian Center in August of 2017. He is very happy to join an outstanding team at the Center. He has devoted a large amount of time, as well, to the Department’s SourceLab initiative, which is now a Research Cluster sponsored by IPRH. In November, his essay “Communication and Obligation: The Postal System of the Russian Empire, 1700–1850” appeared in *Information and Empire: Mechanisms of Communication in Russia, 1600–1850*, ed. Simon Franklin and Katherine Bowers (Open Book Publishers, 2017).

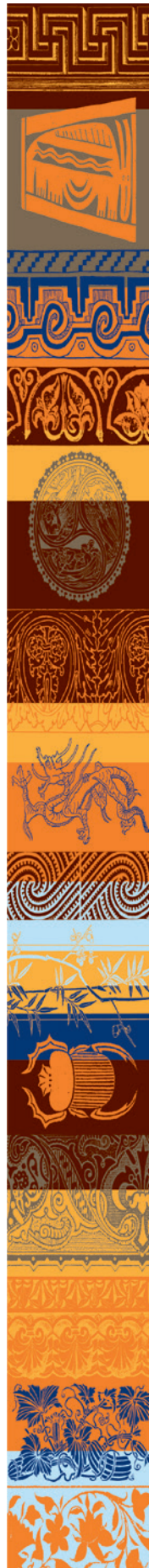
Leslie J. Reagan continues to bring her research to the larger public in a variety of ways. She, along with history graduate student Nathan Tye, spoke on the legacy of Agent Orange and the Vietnam War on “The 21st” on WILL Radio, the NPR affiliate. She was interviewed about the Zika virus and birth defects on “The State of Things” on WUNC, an NPR affiliate in June. She also spoke with the *Washington Post*; *Chicago Tribune*; *Mother Jones*, and other publications. In the past year, Reagan gave several invited presentations, including the opening plenary session, “Zika in Historical, Political, and Global Contexts,” at the American Association for the History of Medicine annual meeting. She also presented, “Epidemics and Birth Defects: Gender, Sex, and Disabilities During German Measles and Zika,” at the Measey Colloquium held by the Barbara Bates Center for the Study of the History of Nursing at the University of Pennsylvania. This is a special event to bring history to students, faculty, and practitioners in public health, medicine, and nursing. For the Department of the History of Science and Medicine at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, she presented a lecture on her new research, “Seeing Agent Orange: Disease and Disabilities, Museums and Memorials in the U.S. and Vietnam” and held a lunch-time seminar on “Research and Secrets.” Finally, she visited Westfälische Wilhelms Universität in Münster, Germany for a Workshop on “Reproductive Decision Making in Comparative Perspective.” Reagan began the year by commenting at the American Historical Association on a controversial *New York Times* op-ed about the historical profession and political history. The best thing about that event was that **Dr. Marsha Barrett** was on the panel too, and we recruited her to become our new colleague.

Carol Symes published the first article related to her current book project, “Popular Literacies and the First Historians of the First Crusade,” in *Past & Present* (2017). She was also awarded a fellowship from the National Endowment for the Humanities to support the completion of that book, “Mediated Texts and Their Makers in Medieval Europe.” Meanwhile, her advocacy for a globalized praxis of medieval studies took her to the University of California, Berkeley, where she was the keynote speaker for a conference on *The Middle Ages in the Modern World*. She was also keynote speaker at the *Gothic Arts* conference sponsored by the University of Pennsylvania. Recent issues of *The Medieval Globe* include two special thematic volumes: *Legal Encounters on the Medieval Globe* (edited with Elizabeth Lambourn) and *A World within Worlds? Re-Assessing the Global Turn in Medieval Art*

History (co-edited with Christina Normore). In January, she organized three sessions on “The Modern Legacy of Premodern Racial and Ethnic Concepts” at the annual meeting of the AHA in Washington, D.C.

Mark Steinberg has been on the road frequently this year, giving talks on the 1917 Russian revolution at universities and colleges in Vermont, Michigan, Pennsylvania, Illinois, and Russia, including a talk in early November at the Chicago Humanities Festival, and many media interviews and a couple of academic blogposts. Books published in 2017 include *The Russian Revolution, 1905–1917* (Oxford University Press) and the ninth edition of *A History of Russia*, written with the late Nicholas Riasanovsky (Oxford University Press). A series of articles on the revolution was published by a Russian journal at St. Petersburg University, and an article on “Feeling Modern on the Russian Street: From Desire to Despair” appeared in *The Routledge History Handbook of Gender and the Urban Experience* (Routledge, 2017). He is also Director of Graduate Studies in History, Chair of the Senate’s Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee, was recently elected to the presidency of the Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasia Studies (becoming President-Elect and Vice-President in January 2018), and will be teaching a new course (on modern cities) at the Danville Correctional Center as part of the university’s Education Justice Project.

Maria Todorova was conferred the title of Doctor Honoris Causa of Panteion University in Athens, Greece, in June 2017, where she gave a series of lectures. She was also invited for a month by the Beijing University of Foreign Studies and the Shanghai East China Normal University, and gave lectures and seminars, including the prestigious Daxia Forum. In November 2017, she was invited to give the William A. Douglass Distinguished Lecture of the Society for Anthropology of Europe at the convention of the American Anthropology Association in DC. Earlier in May 2016, she also gave the Johann Gustav Droysen Annual Distinguished Lecture, Humboldt University, Berlin.



Emeriti Updates

Jim Barrett published a book of essays, *History from the Bottom Up and the Inside Out: Ethnicity, Race, and Identity in Working-Class History* (Duke University Press, 2017) and an article: “The Communist Party USA, 1919–1957” in *The Oxford Research Encyclopedia of American History*. He also gave talks at the Newberry Library and the Rosa Luxemburg Institute.

Chip Burkhardt gave the keynote lecture at a conference entitled Working Across Species in January 2016 at King’s College London. He also published a chapter on misconceptions of Lamarckian evolutionary theory in *Newton’s Apple and Other Myths About Science* edited by Ronald L. Numbers and Kostas Kampourakis (Harvard University Press, 2015); and “Le concert à l’orang-outan,” in the journal *Les Amis du Muséum National d’Histoire Naturelle*.

In the past year, **Vernon Burton** received the Governor’s Award for Lifetime Achievement in the Humanities from the South Carolina Humanities Council and was named the inaugural Judge Matthew J. Perry, Jr. Distinguished Chair of History at Clemson University. He is also Professor of Sociology and Anthropology, Pan-African Studies, and Computer Science, and he continues to direct the Clemson CyberInstitute. In September, he moderated a question and answer session for Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor at Clemson University. He published a number of articles ranging from the Civil War, Confederate Nationalism, and Lincoln, to Reconstruction, Southern Identity, Religious Practices, the Civil Rights Movement, and the Voting Rights Act. He presented papers at the annual meetings of the American Historical Association (“On Historians as Expert Witnesses”) and with U of I Ph.D. Simon Appleford of Creighton University at the Social Science History Association (“Using the Social Web to Explore Online Discourse and Southern Identity and Memory of the Civil War” in a session on “Collective Memory and Public Discourse”). Among many invited talks and keynotes, he spoke in October in Great Britain at the University of Edinburgh, the Rothmire American Institute of the University of Oxford, the American History Seminar at the Institute of Historical Research, University London, and Cambridge University. He also keynoted “Reconstructing Reconstruction” for the British American Nineteenth Century History (BRANCH) 23rd annual meeting. Burton was featured in a number of radio and TV broadcasts. C-Span interviewed him

on “Historians as expert witnesses on Civil Rights” c-span.org/video/?421111-6/historians-expert-witnesses-civil-rights; he was in “The Inevitable Evolution of Fort Frederick” on SC ETV, a documentary fed to PBS affiliates by the National Educational Television Association koelkerassociates.com/the-inevitable-evolution; he was interviewed by NPR on the removal of Confederate monuments wbur.org/hereandnow/2017/05/11/jefferson-davis-statue-new-orleans; and he was featured as Clemson University’s “Meet a Tiger” newsstand.clemson.edu/meet-a-tiger-vernon-burton/. Burton continues as a Senior Research Scientist at NCSA and chairs the Advisory Board for the Institute for Computing in Humanities, Arts, and Social Science (ICHASS) at Illinois. He is the Executive Director of the College of Charleston’s Carolina Lowcountry and Atlantic World (CLAW) program and continues to edit two book series at the University of Virginia Press, *A Nation Divided: Studies in the Civil War Era Series* and *The American South Series*.

Lillian Hoddeson has been working with great excitement over the last year with her husband and coauthor Peter Garrett, as well as with the editors of MIT Press, to complete their biography of the prolific inventor of alternative energy and information technologies Stanford Ovshinsky, now scheduled to appear in April 2018. She gave a short talk at Fermilab in honor of the physicist Maury Tigner in September 2017. Upcoming invited conference talks include one at CERN International Laboratory of High Energy Physics in Geneva at the end of January, and one at Los Alamos National Laboratory in Los Alamos in June.

Joseph Love published, with Werner Baer, “Brazil’s EMBRAER: Institutional Entrepreneurship,” in *Brazil’s Economy: An Institutional and Sectoral Approach* edited by Jerry Davila (Routledge, 2017).

Winton U. Solberg’s book, *Creating the Big Ten: Courage, Corruption, and Commercialization* is scheduled for publication by the University of Illinois Press early in 2018. Another book manuscript, *Murder and Research in the Arctic: The Crocker Land Expedition, 1913–1919* is at the University of Alaska Press and will probably be published in 2019. He is also well along in completing another manuscript on the history of the University of Illinois during the years 1904 to 1920. Wint was also was one of three persons to receive the Chancellor’s Medallion for their professional dedication in preserving and making available the history of the University of Illinois (see separate article).

Professionally, 2017 was a very busy and good year for **John Lynn**. In his pursuit of the ultimate retirement, he taught his general military history course in the spring semester, while developing an online course in the history of terrorism to be offered in the summer of 2018. This past fall he switched departments to teach a course in the nature and history of terrorism for the Political Science Department. The manuscript for his *Another Kind of War: An Introduction to the History of Terrorism* is now in press with Yale University Press and will appear in the spring of 2018. On February 14 he learned that he had been chosen as the 2017 winner of the Samuel Eliot Morison Prize, from the Society for Military History, the professional organization in his field. Quite a Valentine. The Morison is a career prize awarded for the entire body of a scholar’s work. Then in August, he was informed that he had won an NEH Public Scholar Grant for his next project, *The Other Side of Victory: A Military History of Surrender* to be published by Cambridge University Press. He is particularly happy about winning a prize for everything he has done, and another for what he plans to do, all in the same year (see the separate article on Lynn’s awards).

Robert McColley has nothing significant enough to report this year, but as his eighty-fifth birthday approaches, he still studying history with considerable interest and pleasure.

Elizabeth Pleck published the chapter “Joseph McVicker Hunt: The Invention of Early Childhood Education,” in *The University of Illinois: Engine of Innovation* edited by Frederick Hoxie (University of Illinois Press, 2017).

David Prochaska gave a conference paper “Jewelry in Mykonos” at “Bridge,” an international conference organized by the Ironbridge Institute for Cultural Heritage/University of Birmingham, Ironbridge, UK, and published pieces of political journalism, including one in Juan Cole’s blog *Informed Comment* titled “Is Trump Really a Fascist?”

Charles C. Stewart’s appointment as Director of Programming at Northwestern University’s Institute for the Study of Islamic Thought in Africa (ISITA) continued for the 2016–17 academic year during which time he co-curated and prepared an introduction, with Amir Syed, four papers from the ISITA April 2016 symposium on “Sacred word: Changing Meanings in Textual Cultures of Islamic Africa” to appear in early 2018 in *Islamic Africa*. He presented papers

on his two-volume compendium of Arabic writing in Mauritania (Brill, 2015) at DePaul University, The Institute for African Studies at the University of Ghana, the Tombouctou Manuscripts Project at Cape Town University and the Minneapolis Institute of Art. In August, he convened a week-long workshop in Evanston, co-sponsored by ISITA, the African Studies Center at UIUC and the Center for the Study of Manuscript Cultures, Hamburg University, on “Working with Arabic-script manuscripts in Africa” that attracted 15 US-based librarians and researchers and curators from seven African countries, and engaged the American Islamic College of Chicago, the Newberry Library, Field Museum and the University of Chicago’s Oriental Institute. At that meeting he announced that the Library of the University of California at Berkeley would be hosting his 25-year data base project, the open-access Arabic Manuscript Management System (AMMS), effective fall 2017, thanks to efforts by University of Illinois alumnus Bruce Hall, in a substantially updated and expanded relational database format. AMMS is a union catalogue of somewhat over 30,000 West African Arabic manuscript citations from over a dozen public and private collections in this country, Europe and mainly Africa.



Alumni News

Jeffrey Brown retired from New Mexico State University in July 2016 as an emeritus associate professor of History. He earned all of his degrees in the Department of History at Urbana-Champaign: his A.B. in 1971, A.M. in 1972, and Ph.D. in 1979 mentored by Robert McColley. He was a visiting assistant professor at the University of Northern Iowa (1980–82) and at Lake Forest College (1982–84). He moved to NMSU in August 1984 as an assistant professor and director of the Public History Program. During his career at NMSU, he was a faculty member in History (1984–91, 2005–10); served as Associate Dean for Academic Affairs in the College of Arts and Sciences (1991–2002 and 2003–04); as interim Dean of the College (2002–03); as interim Coordinator of the Geography Division of the Department of Earth Sciences (1991–92), as head of the Department of History (2005–09) and as interim head of the Department of Art (2010). He completed service at NMSU as Associate Dean for Research in the College of Arts and Sciences (2011–2016). He co-edited with Andrew R.L. Cayton *The Pursuit of Power: Political Culture in Ohio, 1787–1861* (Kent State University Press, 1994) and published three chapters, ten articles and eighty-eight reviews. He received the New Mexico Governor’s Award for Historic Preservation in 1986, and served as President of the National Council on Public History (1995–96).



Annette Trainor Burns (B.A. 1981), a family law attorney in Phoenix, became President of the Board of Directors of the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts (AFCC) on July 1, 2017. AFCC is an international, interdisciplinary

association of over 5000 attorneys, judges, mental health professionals, mediators, educators and other family court professionals dedicated to improving the lives of families and children in the family court system. She is also a Fellow of the American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers, a certified specialist in family law, and has been named a top lawyer by Super Lawyers.com from 2007 to the present.

Matt Eisenbrandt (Ph.D. 1997) published *Assassination of a Saint: The Plot to Murder Óscar Romero and the Quest to Bring His Killers to Justice* (University of California Press, 2017) (see separate article).

Ruth Fairbanks (Ph.D. 2015) was selected as a Fulbright Roving Scholar, teaching U.S. History and American Studies workshops to the upper secondary grades and their teachers all across Norway. She is affiliated with the Norwegian Centre for Foreign Languages in Education during 2017–18. Her specialty is maternity policy for U.S. working women, and she teaches gender studies and history at Indiana State University.

Allan C. Greenberg (M.A. 1964; Ph.D. 1967) is long retired from his last position as Registrar, Director of Institutional Research, and Professor of Politics and History at Curry College. Currently he volunteers with the Massachusetts Audubon society, is a member of the Education Committee of the Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissions; and formerly was a member and chair of the Scituate Conservation Commission. He is married to Lisa Foley, an actress. His son Sean is an Associate Professor of philosophy at UC Irvine, and his daughter in law Larisa Showalter is Chair of the History Department at Geffen Academy (UCLA).

Jerome Rodnitzky (Ph.D. 1967) has served for fifty years at the University of Texas at Arlington.

Emily Skidmore's (Ph.D. 2011) *True Sex: The Lives of Trans Men at the Turn of the 20th Century* was published by NYU Press (2017).

Jane Rosen Trunsky (B.A. 1968) is CEO of Crown Products LLC, a forward thinking company he started in 2001 that manufactures and distributes environmentally safe products.

Frank Valadez (M.A. 1991) became the Director of the Division for Public Education at the American Bar Association (ABA) in March. The Division provides resources, programs, and publications to promote understanding of and respect for the rule of law for students, teacher, and the general public. He is also a member of the Board of Directors of the Rogers Park West Ridge Historical Society and will serve as Co-Chair of the Local Arrangements Committee for the 2019 meeting of the American Historical Association in Chicago.

Philip VanderMeer (M.A. 1971, Ph.D. 1976), Professor Emeritus at Arizona State University, retired in May 2016, after thirty-one years at that institution. His latest book was *Burton Barr: Political Leadership and the Transformation of Arizona Politics* (2014), and he has written widely on the history of Phoenix and urbanization in the Southwest.

Alumnus Matt Eisenbrandt Advocates for Human Rights

by KEVIN MUMFORD

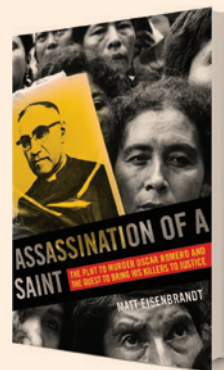
Matt Eisenbrandt put his 1997 degrees in history and Latin American Studies to an exciting use, after some unusual changes in focus and direction. Matt grew up in Overland Park, Kansas, a suburb of Kansas City, but chose the U of I because it offered a dual degree program in engineering and liberal arts. After a couple years, however, he turned to concentrate on history and continued studying Latin America. Before he had graduated from high school he spent a summer in rural Ecuador, which he says introduced him for the first time to the harsh realities of scarcity and inequality. During his time at Illinois, he enrolled in David Prochaska's course on history and post-colonial studies, Mark Steinberg's on the Soviet era, and Nils Jacobsen's on Andean history. "My education at Illinois, which included a semester studying abroad in Chile, gave me the background to more fully understand the complex realities of Latin America (and, to a lesser extent, the rest of the world)."

He also recalled that Prochaska's course introduced him to issues of colonial racism in ways that shaped his opinion of Chief Illiniwek, seeing parallels between negative attitudes toward indigenous communities in Latin American and in the United States. "I don't recall a very broad discussion on campus about 'The Chief' at that time; voices of opposition seemed to grow louder after I graduated."

Matt went on to earn a law degree, and then work on human rights issues with a non-profit organization in San Francisco. "I stumbled upon my dream job." He started working at the Center for Justice and Accountability, as a staff attorney to "work on legal cases against torturers and war criminals living in the United States." "Having spent my career in human rights, I look back at my history degree through that lens. I now accept as a certainty that governments and politicians will often fail to heed the lessons of history (or they are altogether ignorant of those lessons). An understanding of history is critical to the betterment of society, particularly in the area of human rights."



Matt Eisenbrandt



Matt recently authored a book published by the University of California Press, *Assassination of a Saint: The Plot to Murder Óscar Romero and the Quest to Bring His Killers to Justice*, and I asked him about that. “Early in my career as a human rights lawyer, I had the honor to be a member of the trial team in a lawsuit against a Salvadoran man for his role in the death-squad murder of beloved archbishop Óscar Romero.

“After we won the trial against one of the killers, I decided to write a book even though I had never been an author before. In the end, the project took ten years to complete. I hope that the book serves to analyze the evidence about the assassination but also to explain the context in which it happened so that those who are not familiar with Salvadoran history can understand how such a deplorable crime was possible.” Matt took his book on the road, giving book talks and signings. He says that he felt a burden in writing about someone as influential as Romero, but also feels that his work has been well received.

IN MEMORIAM

Donald Shepardson (M.A. 1964; Ph.D. 1970) died on March 2, 2017 in Cedar Falls, MN having taught history at the University of Northern Iowa for the last 47 years. He was born in Port Huron, MI in 1936. He grew up in Mattoon and served in the Air Force before graduating from Eastern Illinois University in 1961. He did all of his graduate work at Illinois, receiving his A.M. in 1964 and his Ph.D. in 1970. J. Alden Nichols directed his thesis on “The ‘Daily Telegraph’ Affair: a Case Study in the Politics of the Second German Empire.” As a professor at Northern Iowa, Don taught courses in European, military, and diplomatic history, remaining a popular teacher throughout his long career. He authored *Rosa Luxemburg and the Noble Dream* (1995) and *Conflict and Diplomacy from the Great War to the Cold War* (1999) both published by Peter Lang. UNI recognized his teaching and scholarship with several awards, and students long considered taking his courses part of the classic university experience. Don appreciated his training at Illinois and contributed to the department annually. He loved his work, inspired his students, and was a kind and generous colleague.

—Thomas Connors '97

Irene B. Katele (A.M., 1981; Ph.D. 1986), passed away in December 2016, after a long battle with ovarian cancer. Her family have honored her by establishing a memorial travel grant in support of graduate research. See the separate article in this newsletter.



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