

# Department of History

## ALUMNI NEWSLETTER



ANDREW GORDON

### *From the Chair*

Greetings from Cambridge on a warm and sunny first day of November. I believe the outlook for the Department and the study of history at Harvard is also bright, although (at the risk of striking an uncharacteristic tone in an official missive that is expected to be relentlessly upbeat), I have some concerns to note as well.

On the unambiguously positive side, we granted no less than 21 PhD degrees in history over the past academic year, the largest number in five years. The dramatic expansion in availability of completion-year grants, as reported in last year's newsletter, is certainly in large measure responsible for this welcome development. On the intake side, although the reasons are hard to assess, we were pleasantly surprised at the largest yield in some time (nearly 80%) on our offers of admission to the graduate program, and we now have 24 first-year degree candidates hard at work both in their common course on historical methods and in their particular fields of interest. I know I speak for my colleagues in noting what a pleasure and privilege it is to work with such talented students.

The undergraduate program welcomed the largest sophomore class in several years, and they are fully engaged in the "history boot camp" of our sophomore tutorial. Mark Kishlansky, Laurel Ulrich, Lisa McGirr, and Trygve Throntveit devoted much time over the summer to creating three new units for this course, which has been the cornerstone of the undergraduate concentration for well over a decade. At the same time, independent of the revamping expected to take place in the general education curriculum, the Department last year decided to make some important changes in the undergraduate history concentration. More details about these changes can be found in the "Undergraduate Program News" section of this newsletter.

Individual faculty have listed some of their many accomplishments in the following pages, but let me note here the unusual recognition given by the Pulitzer Prize committee to two colleagues in one award season, and proudly congratulate both. Caroline Elkins received the prize in the general nonfiction category for her book, *Imperial Reckoning: The Untold Story of Britain's Gulag in Kenya* (Henry Holt, 2005); and Jill Lepore was one of three finalists in United States history for her book, *New York Burning: Liberty, Slavery, and Conspiracy in 18<sup>th</sup> Century New York* (Knopf, 2005). It is also a huge pleasure to note that Terry Martin was promoted to the rank of tenured professor, and that we are this year welcoming three distinguished tenured faculty politely poached from our peers: Emma Dench (ancient history, joint with the Department of Classics), Henrietta Harrison (modern China), and Walter Johnson (19<sup>th</sup> century United States).

As we are implementing changes in our history concentration, we are also actively engaged in discussion with colleagues across the faculty about the future shape of general education at Harvard. A task force labored long and hard over the summer to produce a new set of recommendations for a program in general education to replace the current Core curriculum. While we recognized that the seven "areas of inquiry" put forward in this report as the organizing framework for general education include several where historical studies could find a home, faculty in the Department were virtually unanimous in their concern that the home might not be easy to live in. The rationale offered for the importance of studying the past seemed almost exclusively, and excessively, focused on the relevance of historical study to understanding of present-day American or global problems. (*continued, 6*)

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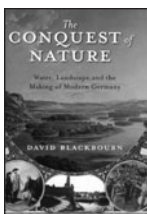
Janet Hatch

#### NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Andrew Miller

## Faculty News

**David Armitage**, Professor of History, received the 2006 Caird Medal from the National Maritime Museum in London. The medal is awarded annually to “an individual who, in the opinion of the Trustees, has done conspicuously important work in the field of the Museum’s interests and is of a nature that involves communicating with the public.” In May 2006, Prof. Armitage gave the inaugural lecture for the Museum’s new Centre for Imperial and Maritime Studies, and in July was a plenary speaker at the Biennial Conference of the Australian Historical Association in Canberra. He also held a visiting fellowship at the Humanities Research Centre of the Australian National University, and for the academic year 2006–07 is a Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow at the Henry E. Huntington Library. Among his publications this year was an edited collection of essays, *British Political Thought in History, Literature and Theory, 1500–1800* (Cambridge University Press, 2006).



**David Blackbourn**, Coolidge Professor of History, published *The Conquest of Nature: Water, Landscape, and the Making of Modern Germany* (W.W. Norton, 2006). *Harvard Magazine* profiled both the book and Prof. Blackbourn in its July–August issue. In May, Prof. Blackbourn gave the keynote lecture at an Oxford University conference on “Cultural Contacts and Transfers between Wilhelmine Germany and Edwardian Britain.” In the fall of 2006 he gave several talks related to the new book, including the George C. Windell lecture at New Orleans University. Prof. Blackbourn, who served in 2006 on President Derek Bok’s Faculty of Arts and Sciences Dean search committee, becomes Director of the Center for European Studies in January 2007.



**Joyce Chaplin**, James Duncan Phillips Professor of Early American History, published *The First Scientific American: Benjamin Franklin and the Pursuit of Genius* (Basic Books, 2006), and co-curated an exhibit, “Benjamin Franklin, a How-to Guide,” at Harvard’s Houghton Library and Collection of Historical Scientific Instruments. She is now editing an issue of the *Harvard Library Bulletin* that will be devoted to the exhibit.

**Lizabeth Cohen**, Howard Mumford Jones Professor of American Studies, spent her 2005–06 leave researching a new book project on the urban built environment after World War II. She is investigating the enormous undertaking to rebuild American cities by examining the life and career of Edward J. Logue, a pivotal figure in the urban renewal of the “model city” of New Haven in the 1950s, the “new Boston” in the 1960s, and New York State and New York City during the 1970s and 1980s, first as head of the powerful statewide Urban Development Corporation (which developed Roosevelt Island, among other projects) and then as President of the South Bronx Development Office. This research has been supported by grants from the Taubman and Rappaport Centers at the Harvard Kennedy School of Government, and the Real Estate Academic Initiative housed at Harvard’s Graduate School of Design. During the academic year 2007–08, Prof. Cohen will be making presentations on this research at a number of venues, including the University of Wisconsin Eau Claire; the Davis Center at Princeton University; the annual meeting of the Society of Architectural Historians; and the “Politics of Consumption/Consumption of Politics” conference at the University of Wisconsin Madison. She will also give the W. Bruce

Lincoln Lecture at Northern Illinois University and the Charles Phelps Taft Lecture at the University of Cincinnati. Related to these research interests, she taught a freshman seminar, “Public Power, Private Lives: Writing Twentieth-Century U.S. History as Biography,” in fall 2006.



**Caroline Elkins**, Foster Associate Professor of African Studies, won the Pulitzer Prize for General Nonfiction in 2006 for her book *Imperial Reckoning: The Untold Story of Britain’s Gulag in Kenya* (Henry Holt, 2005). The book was also selected as one of the *Economist’s* best history books for 2005 and was a finalist for the Lionel Gelber Prize for Nonfiction. Prof. Elkins was named a Walter Channing Cabot Fellow for the 2005–06 academic year at Harvard, which recognizes distinction among the faculty at the University, and was elected an honorary member of Harvard’s Phi Beta Kappa chapter.



**Niall Ferguson**, Tisch Professor of History and Ziegler Professor of Business Administration, published a book and two journal articles in 2006. The book was *The War of the World: Twentieth-Century Conflict and the Descent of the West* (Penguin Press). The articles were “Political risk and the international bond market between the 1848 Revolution and the outbreak of the First World War,” in *Economic History Review* (February 2006), and “The Empire effect: The determinants of country risk in the first age of globalization, 1880–1913,” jointly authored with Moritz Schularick, in the *Journal of Economic History* (June 2006). His six-part television series based on *The War of the World* was also screened in the United Kingdom.



**Alison Fleig Frank**, Assistant Professor of History, won the 2006 Austrian Cultural Forum Book Prize for her *Oil Empire: Visions of Prosperity in Austrian Galicia* (Harvard University Press, 2005). Prof. Frank's book traces the interaction of technology, social tensions, politics, and other factors in the shaping of the Galician oil industry. In its award statement, the Cultural Forum noted that Prof. Frank's "technique is to grab the reader's attention with a little-known fact, elaborating on its context, and in the process twisting or shattering previous presumptions. She excels in placing her subject within the broader contexts of the last years of Austria-Hungary, the exploitation of mineral resources in general, and the nascent oil industry in particular."

**Andrew Gordon**, Folger Fund Professor of History and Chair of History, published "From Sewing Machines to Credit Cards: Consumer Credit in 20<sup>th</sup> Century Japan," in Sheldon Garon's and Patricia MacClachan's *The Ambivalent Consumer: Questioning Consumption in East Asia and the West* (Cornell University Press, 2006). He also published "Shÿhi, seikatsu, goraku no 'kansen shi'" [A "transwar" history of consumption, daily life, and leisure] in *Nichiji seikatsu no naka no sjryoku sen* [Total war in the midst of daily life]. Japanese and Chinese translations of his book, *A Modern History of Japan*, appeared in 2006.

Photo courtesy of Harvard Gazette



**James Hankins**, Professor of History, received a \$1.2 million grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation to support the I Tatti Renaissance Library, the dual-language text series he edits. Modeled on the Loeb Classical Library, the I Tatti Renaissance Library aims to make available to a broad readership the most significant literary, historical, and philosophical works of the Italian Renaissance written in Latin. The series is sponsored by the Harvard Center for Italian Renaissance Studies at Villa I Tatti near Florence, Italy, and is published by Harvard University Press. With the help of the Mellon grant, the Library plans to produce approximately 150 volumes by 2026.

**Malinda Maynor Lowery**, Assistant Professor of History, received a Course Innovation Funds grant from the Harvard University Faculty of Arts and Sciences for 2006-07. With these funds she and Lisa Brooks (Assistant Professor of History and Literature and of Folklore and Mythology) will create a three-dimensional Primary Source Packet for their Native American studies courses. The courses utilize websites, lectures, panel discussions, performances, field trips, and research opportunities for undergraduates. The Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study has also funded Prof. Lowery and Prof. Rachel St. John (Assistant Professor of History) for a spring 2007 Exploratory Seminar on "The Place of Native Americans in U.S. History." Prof. Lowery is completing her book manuscript, "Native American Identity in the Segregated South," and an article, "Creating the Color Line: Murder in Montgomery County Georgia, 1893."

Photo courtesy of Harvard Gazette



**Kenneth Maxwell**, Visiting Professor of History, was appointed Director of Harvard's Brazil Studies Program in the David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies. The program, launched in May 2006, works with the Rockefeller Center's office in Sao Paulo, Brazil to promote collaborative research between Harvard scholars and their Brazilian counterparts, and to encourage student research and internships in Brazil.

**Michael McCormick**, Goelet Professor of Medieval History, was awarded the Medieval Academy of America's Charles Homer Haskins Prize for 2005. The award recognized Prof. McCormick's contributions to the study of the Middle Ages, particularly his book, *Origins of the European Economy* (Cambridge University Press, 2001), which the *Times Literary Supplement* described as "a *Decline and Fall* for the twenty-first century." In 2005, Prof. McCormick launched the initial season of the ongoing Harvard lecture series, "Medieval Archaeology in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century." The series highlights scholars who apply advanced methods from the natural sciences to archaeology, and has featured lecturers from Paris, Oxford, and Nottingham. With the help of Joachim Henning, the History Department's Visiting Professor of Medieval History in 2005, Prof. McCormick also organized three interdisciplinary, interdepartmental workshops at Harvard. The workshops—focused, respectively, on climate change in the first millennium A.D., the writing of economic history from biological evidence, and the application of artificial language and intelligence to medieval Latin texts—were made possible by Prof. McCormick's 2002 Distinguished Achievement Award from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.



**Roy Mottahedeh**, Gurney Professor of Islamic History, received an honorary doctorate in the Cathedral of Lund, Sweden in June 2006. The ceremony was a reminder of a scene in one of Prof. Mottahedeh's favorite films, *Wild Strawberries*, in which an elderly professor receives a doctorate in the same cathedral. In October 2005, Prof. Mottahedeh's recent book, *Lessons in Islamic Jurisprudence*, was published in paperback by Oneworld Publications. In November 2006, he was appointed director of Harvard's new Prince Alwaleed Bin Talal Islamic Studies Program.

**Afsaneh Najmabadi**, Professor of History and of Studies of Women, Gender, and Sexuality, spent her Fall 2006 leave researching issues of gender and sexuality in twentieth century Iran. Her book, *Women with Mustaches and Men Without Beards: Gender and Sexual Anxieties of Iranian Modernity* (University of California Press, 2005) received the American Historical Association's 2005 Joan Kelly Memorial Prize. Prof. Najmabadi also served as Associate Editor of Volume III of the *Encyclopedia of Women and Islamic Cultures* (Brill, 2006). Her recent publications include "Beyond the Americas: Are Gender and Sexuality Useful Categories of Historical Analysis?" in the *Journal of Women's History* (Spring 2006); "Mapping Transformations of Sex, Gender, and Sexuality in Modern Iran", in *Social Analysis* (Summer 2005), to be published January 2006; and *Women of the East: Documents from and about the second Women of the East Congress* (Shirazeh, 2005), which she edited with Gholamreza Salami.



**Steven Ozment**, McLean Professor of Ancient and Modern History, taught "Germans and Their History: From Arminius to Angela Merkel" in the inaugural Harvard-Ca'Foscari summer school program in Venice, Italy (June-August, 2006). The German translation of his *A Mighty Fortress: A New History of the German People* was published by Verlag Manuscriptum in July 2006. This past spring, Prof. Ozment served as the Jones Visiting Professor at Wofford College in Spartanburg, South Carolina.

**Daniel Smail**, Professor of History, published "Witness Programs in Medieval Marseille," in *Voices from the Bench: The Narratives of Lesser Folk in Medieval Trials*, edited by Michael Goodich (Palgrave Macmillan, 2006), and "In the Grip of Sacred History," in the *American Historical Review* (December 2005 supplement). He was awarded a fellowship by the Guggenheim Foundation for his upcoming sabbatical, and accepted an invitation to join the board of editors of *The American Historical Review*. In conjunction with a PITF grant, Prof. Smail has been working with the Instructional Computing Group and two graduate student fellows, Emily Wilson and Clare Gillis, on a software platform for a spring 2007 undergraduate class.



**Judith Surkis**, Associate Professor of History and of History and Literature, published *Sexing the Citizen: Morality and Masculinity in France, 1870-1920* (Cornell University Press, 2006). The book shows how masculine sexuality became central to the making of a republican social order in late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century France. Marriage, Prof. Surkis argues, affirmed the citizen's masculinity, while also containing and controlling his desires. This ideal offered a specific response to the problems—individualism, democratization, and rapid technological and social change—associated with France's modernity. Prof. Surkis provides new insights into how concerns about sexuality shaped the Third Republic's pedagogical projects, and her analyses of republican moral philosophy and Emile Durkheim's sociology illustrate the cultural weight of these concerns and provide an original account of modern French thinking about society. More broadly, *Sexing the Citizen* illuminates how sexual norms continue to shape the meaning of citizenship.



## Recent Appointments



**Emma Dench**, Professor of the Classics and of History, will return to Harvard in January 2007, having spent the 2005-06 academic year as Visiting Professor of the Classics and of History. She received her DPhil from Oxford University in 1993, and has taught for fourteen years at Birkbeck College, University of London. She is an ancient historian and most of her research to date has concentrated on ancient Italy and questions of identity in the Hellenistic and Roman worlds. Her publications include *From Barbarians to New Men: Greek, Roman and Modern Perceptions of Peoples from the Central Apennines* (Oxford University Press, 1995), a study of the inter-relationship between perceptions and self-perceptions of Samnites, notorious enemies of Rome, and *Romulus' Asylum: Roman Identities from the Age of Alexander to the Age of Hadrian* (Oxford University Press, 2005), a study of ancient ideas of what it was to be Roman. Prof. Dench has taught a range of undergraduate and graduate courses, including "Ethnic Identities in Classical Antiquity" and "Major Themes in Ancient History" at Harvard. She has been a Rome Scholar and Hugh Last Fellow at the British School at Rome, and in 2002-03 was a Member of the School of Historical Studies at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, New Jersey. Her current projects include *Imperialism and Culture in the Roman World* for Cambridge University Press' "Key Themes in Ancient History" series, and a study of the writing of the Roman Republic in antiquity and in more recent centuries.



**Henrietta Harrison**, Professor of History, came to the Department in fall 2006 from the Department of East Asian Studies at the University of Leeds. Her research concentrates on the social and cultural history of modern China. She received her PhD in 1996 from Oxford University, where her dissertation, later published as *The Making of the Republican Citizen* (Oxford University Press, 2000), looked at the spread of modern social and ritual practices among the Chinese modernizing elite in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. But for the past ten years she has worked mainly on the history of the poor, inland province of Shanxi, looking at it first through the eyes of a traditional Confucian scholar living out his life in a rapidly modernizing world (*The Man Awakened from Dreams* [Stanford University Press, 2005]), and now through the history of a small group of villages that were founded by Chinese Catholics in the late 17<sup>th</sup> century and are still Catholic today. She has also published on the modern history of Taiwan's indigenous people. Prof. Harrison's teaching at Leeds included a wide range of topics related to modern and contemporary China, including surveys of Chinese history and contemporary society and politics, as well as classes on ideas of nationalism and ethnicity, and on experiences of religion in China. In the spring semester, she is looking forward to teaching classes on the history of Christianity in China and on the Communist revolution of 1949. The latter course is connected to her future projects, which include a large-scale study of the revolution and the early years of Communist rule in China.



**Walter Johnson**, Professor of History, was appointed to the faculty on July 1, 2006, after twelve years at New York University. Beginning with his doctoral work at Princeton University, where he received his PhD in 1995, and continuing in his prize-winning first book, *Soul by Soul: Life Inside the Antebellum Slave Market* (Harvard University Press, 1999), Professor Johnson has studied slavery from an interdisciplinary perspective, examining cultural, economic, and political factors in order to show how America's "peculiar institution" was essential to the country's emerging capitalist economy. His next major book, *River of Dark Dreams: Slavery, Capitalism, and Imperialism in the Mississippi Valley* (forthcoming from Harvard University Press), will expand the scope of *Soul by Soul* by examining the history of imperialism and the political economy of pre-Civil War America. Prof. Johnson has taught courses on a variety of subjects, including slavery, race, capitalism, the Mexican-American War, and law. He has been a member of the Society of Fellows at New York University, a Goddard Fellow at NYU, a Mellon Fellow in Cultural Studies at Wesleyan University, a fellow at the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences at Stanford University, and an ACLS-Burkhardt Fellow.

## Alumni News

**Robert V. Daniels**, PhD '51, published *The Fourth Revolution: Transformation in American Society from the Sixties to the Present* (Routledge, 2005).

**Jon A. Peterson**, PhD '67, was awarded the Society of Architectural Historians' 2005 Spiro Kostof Award for his book, *The Birth of City Planning in the United States, 1840-1917* (Johns Hopkins University Press, 2003). The award recognizes outstanding works on urbanism and its relationship to architecture. Prof. Peterson retired in December 2005 from the Department of History at Queens College, in the City University of New York, where he had taught since 1966.

**Robin Higham**, AB '50, PhD '57, published *Why Air Forces Fail: The Anatomy of Defeat* (University of Kentucky Press, 2006), which he edited with Stephen J. Harris. The book was a 2006 Military Book Club selection.

**Eric J. Carlson**, PhD '87, was appointed Chair of History at Gustavus Adolphus College in Saint Peter, Minnesota. Prof. Carlson was also named Associate Editor of the *Journal of British Studies*, and a Board Member of the American Friends of the Institute of Historical Research (London).

**M. Elizabeth Kent**, PhD '74, currently practices law in Washington, DC, focusing on appellate litigation. This work enables her to combine her background in intellectual history with the legal training she acquired at Georgetown University Law Center (J.D. '78).

**Mary Beth Norton**, PhD '69, served as the 2005-06 Pitt Professor of American History Institutions at the University of Cambridge. A Pulitzer Prize finalist, Prof. Norton is a specialist in early American history and American women's and gender history. She is currently the Alger Professor of American History at Cornell University.

**Jonathan Petropoulos**, PhD '90, published *Royals and the Reich: the Princes von Hessen in Nazi Germany* (Oxford University Press, 2006). He also edited, with John Roth, *Gray Zones: Ambiguity and Compromise during the Holocaust and its Aftermath* (Berghahn, 2005).

**Londa Schiebinger**, PhD '84, won the 2005 Prize in Atlantic History from the American Historical Society and the 2005 Alf Andrew Heggoy Book Prize from the French Colonial Historical Society, for her *Plants and Empire: Colonial Bioprospecting in the Atlantic World* (Harvard University Press, 2004). She was also awarded the 2005 J. Worth Estes Article Prize for the History of Pharmacology from the American Association for the History of Medicine. At Stanford University, Prof. Schiebinger is the Hinds Professor of History of Science and the Finberg Director of the Institute for Research on Women and Gender.

**Richard N. Frye**, PhD '46, received the Khwarimi International Award for Achievements in Oriental History on February 7, 2005 in Tehran, Iran.

## American History Association Annual Meeting

January 4-7, 2007

If you will be attending the AHA Annual Meeting in Atlanta in January, we would like to invite you to attend our reception for all alumni on Saturday, January 6, 2007, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. in the Westin Peachtree Atlanta, Ballroom H.

*(Chair, continued)*

Faculty members have not been shy about voicing these concerns, and they have produced a number of thoughtful responses to the committee report. As I write, the task force report is available on the Faculty of Arts and Sciences website. I am optimistic that by the time you read this, a revised proposal will have been posted presenting a more diverse and compelling set of reasons

for the importance of historical study. Even so, we face an important challenge going forward, because in contrast to the Core curriculum, there is unlikely to be any one category in the new program of general education that will require historical study. It will be up to us to devise exciting courses that make clear to students the challenges and pleasures of attempting to understand

pasts—whether long ago, far away, or in living memory.

This coming June will conclude my term as Department Chair. I will be happy enough to turn over newsletter writing and other duties to one of my talented colleagues, but it has certainly been a privilege to have held this position.



## Graduate Program News

More than two dozen students from the Department of History and allied programs will take the first step toward completing their PhD dissertations by introducing their research topics at the History Dissertation Prospectus Conference on January 29, 2007. The Conference is an opportunity for those students who have recently completed the General Examination to formally present their research plans to faculty advisors and other invitees. This year's participants are listed below along with the tentative titles of their presentations.

### Sana Aiyar

*National and Religious Identity amongst the South Asian Diaspora in Colonial Kenya and Post-colonial Britain: Multiculturalism in Two Milieus*

### Aslihan Akisik

(History and Middle Eastern Studies)  
*Self and Other in the Fifteenth Century: Laonikos Chalcocondyles and Late Byzantine Intellectuals*

### Courtney Bucher

*Envisioning America: Representations of the Founding on Television and Film*

### Antara Datta

*War, Displacement and Violence during the 1971 Liberation War of Bangladesh*

### Adam Ewing

*Black Star: Garveyism In The African Diaspora, 1916-1927*

### Nathan Fonder

(History and Middle Eastern Studies)  
*Building Cities of Man: Pleasure, Leisure, and Vice in Imperial Cairo and Damascus, 1861-1952*

### Kelly Gibson

*Rewriting Royal History: Merovingian Kings and Carolingian Kingship in Hagiography*

### Huseyin Sukru Ilicak

(History and Middle Eastern Studies)  
*Ottoman Reaction to the Greek War of Independence*

### Nikhil Kapur

*Toward a More Equal Partnership: U.S./Japan Relations in the 1960s*

### Brendan Karch

*Silesia's Many Pasts: Modes of Local Memory, 1740-1960*

### Leyla Kayhan

(History and Middle Eastern Studies)  
*The Urban Family in Eighteenth-Century Ottoman Istanbul*

### Mana Kia

(History and Middle Eastern Studies)  
*Contours of Community: Migrants from Iran in the Indian Ocean, 1688-1950*

### Konrad Lawson

*Treason and the Reconstruction of Nation in East Asia, 1937-1951*

### Dimitris Loupis

*Applying Ottoman rule in the Central Balkans: Evrenos Beg and his sons (late 14<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> centuries)*

### Noah McCormack

*This Glorious Cause, This Insolent Faction: The Whig Party in English Politics and Society, c. 1675-c. 1727*

### Uchechukwu Nwamara

*The Transformation of Marriage and Divorce Law in the Post-Constantinian Roman Empire*

### Martin Nguyen

(History and Middle Eastern Studies)  
*Interpreting the Word of God: The Boundaries of "Orthodoxy" and "Tradition" in the Works of al-Qushayri*

### Ward Penfold

*Law's Modernity: le Code Napoléon, The Historical School, and the Vocation for Legislation and Jurisprudence in France and Germany, 1797-1815*

### Monica Piotter

*New Treasons from Old Testaments: Hebraic Explanations for the Trial of Charles I*

### Sandhya Polu

*Layered Sovereignities: Public Health Policy Formation in British India (1892-1935)*

### Nico Slate

*Behold Their Shackles Broken: African-Americans, South-Asians, and the Struggle for Freedom, 1914-1965*

### Eren Tasar

*Muslim Life in Central Asia, 1943-85*

### Ece Turnator

*Centers of Authority and the Economy in Mainland Greece and Western Asia Minor (12<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> Centuries)*

### Ann Wilson

*Taking Liberties Abroad: Americans and International Humanitarianism, 1880-1920*

### Leonard Wood

(History and Middle Eastern Studies)  
*The Reception of European Law, the Origins of Islamic Legal Revivalism, and Transformations in Islamic Jurisprudence in Egypt, 1876-1960: A Study of Developments in Modern Islamic Juridical Science*

## Undergraduate Program News

### Program Changes

In spring 2006, the History Department gained approval for a new undergraduate program that will launch in September 2007. The fundamental principles of the program will remain the same, but there will be new opportunities for concentrators to work in small seminars with faculty.

Currently, the Department boasts more than twenty conference courses per year. These courses are faculty-led seminars that meet once a week for two hours. Faculty and students alike enjoy these courses, which offer intense discussion of historical subjects of deep interest to all participants. The new undergraduate program extends

this model to tutorials that emphasize the fundamental skills of historiographical analysis and primary research. These new tutorials will be called reading seminars and research seminars. The former will sharpen critical thinking skills among students who are considering History as a concentration or who have already joined the Department. The latter will guide more advanced students through the stages of a major research project, with an emphasis on archival work whenever possible. Thanks to the expansion of Department faculty in recent years (by about 20 percent since the mid-1990s), it is now possible to offer enough courses to

sustain this expanded requirement and still offer slots to students in allied fields such as History and Literature or Social Studies.

Also, to give students the opportunity to explore different historical subjects, the Department will move to a flexible course distribution requirement. Students will be required to take at least one course in each of the following areas: pre-modern history, western history, and non-western history. This change will ensure that students are exposed to disparate eras and places while giving them the choice of a broad survey or a more focused course.

### Hoopes Prize Winners

Five History concentrators won the prestigious Hoopes Prize in 2006. The Prize is awarded to undergraduates for outstanding scholarly work or research, and recognizes their advisors' commitment to promoting excellence in teaching. Each winner is awarded \$2,500.



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: ANDREW GORDON, DEPARTMENT CHAIR; WILLIAM DERINGER; ERIC SORENSEN SHROYER; JAMES HONAN-HALLOCK; AND SVEN BECKERT, DIRECTOR OF UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES (NOT PICTURED: JONHHENRY GONZALEZ AND PABLO ROS)

**William Deringer**, "Beyond The Idle Philosopher: William Petty, The Down Survey, and the Empowerment of Knowledge, 1652-1662." Prof. David Armitage, advisor.

**Jonhhenry Gonzalez**, "The Ashes of Empire and the Caribbean Origins of Neo-Colonialism: The Effects of the Haitian Revolution on European Ideas about Slavery and on French Imperial Policy." Miles Rodriguez, advisor.

**James Honan-Hallock**, "For Creator, Sovereign, Academy, and Science: Johann Anton Guldenstädt and the 1768-1775 Russian Expedition to the Caucasus." Sean Pollock, advisor.

**Pablo Ros**, "Yankee Yes: The Effect of American Financial Colonialism on the Development of Cuban Capital Markets." Prof. John H. Coatsworth, advisor.

**Eric Sorensen Shroyer**, "To Give It the Command of Its Own Fortunes': George Washington's Continental Strategy, 1783-1796." Daniel Johnathan Sargent, advisor.





### History on the Road

Eight undergraduate students from History 1617, "The French in North America," traveled to Québec City on April 27, 2006. The four-day trip was organized by Laurier Turgeon, Lyon Mackenzie King Visiting Professor in Canadian Studies, to give students a firsthand glimpse of their subject. Appropriately, all lectures, tours, and discussions were conducted in French.

The students began their stay with a two-hour walking tour of the colonial and fortified section of the city conducted by David Mendel, one of Canada's best specialists of the history of Québec City. Next, they toured the Ursuline Monastery and Museum, the first monastery and school founded in Canada to educate Native American and French girls, and the Parliament Building, the seat of the Québec Legislative Assembly. The group also took time to explore the many cafés, restaurants, discotheques, art galleries, shops, museums, and churches in the historic part of the city.

On the last day of the trip, students went to the Island of Orleans, located in the middle of the Saint Lawrence River, about ten miles downstream from Québec City. Here they visited a traditional maple sugar farm, where they learned about the traditional methods of production and sat down to a traditional French-Canadian meal.

The fieldtrip was sponsored by the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, the Québec Delegation in Boston, and the Institute for Cultural Heritage of Laval University.

FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: DARRYL JINGWEN WEE, JOHN KAPUSTA, SAMANTHA PAPADAKIS, DAVID CROMWELL, JESS BURKLE, PROF. LAURIER TURGEON, LEROY TERRELONGE III, AND MEREDITH MOORE.  
(NOT PICTURED: CHERYL-LYN DEON BENTLEY.)

### History across the Sea



Maureen "Molly" Boyle '08, a history concentrator, spent the summer of 2006 studying medieval archaeology at Oxford University, where she was the first Harvard student to take part in an experimental internship funded by the Office of International Programs and a portion of a Mellon Foundation grant awarded to Prof. Michael McCormick in 2002.

Boyle worked closely with Dr. Helena Hamerow in the Institute for Archaeology at Oxford, poring over back issues of scholarly journals and unpublished archaeological reports in order to produce, with Dr. Hamerow, a summary of excavations of Anglo-Saxon settlement sites made over the past thirty years.

"In history, it's easy to think that everything has been done before," Boyle wrote in a report on her experiences. "[But] astonishingly, information and artifacts which have the power to change the historical record remain buried, no longer in the ground, but in equally inaccessible file cabinets and county museums."

Boyle also devoted much of her leisure time to studying the past. During trips to the British Museum in London and the Louvre Museum in Paris, she saw firsthand many of the artifacts she had studied in class at Harvard, including the Susanna Crystal and relics from Sutton Hoo. In Birmingham, she attended a conference on disease and disability in medieval Northern Europe and met leading researchers and students in the field.

"Having been through this program," Boyle wrote, "I believe that continued support for the program is *essential* in distinguishing Harvard from its American peers in the field of history. The historians of the future must be masters of more than the written; they must be biologists, linguists, philosophers, paleographers, and economists. As the first program of its kind to emphasize inter-disciplinary learning within a single discipline, the program is an important precedent, as well as a prime example of the kind of scholarship Harvard advocates."



## Recent PhD Graduates, November 2005 through June 2006

### Alison Adams

*The Caixa Econômica: A Social and Economic History of Popular Banking in Rio de Janeiro, 1821-1929*

Political Analyst, Fidelity Investments

### Alexis Albion

*The Spy in All of Us: The Public Image of Intelligence in the 1960s*

Foreign Service Officer,  
US Department of State

### Sara Byala

*Thinking in Three Dimensions: John Gubbins, Museum Africa, and the Making of Modern Johannesburg, 1902-2004*

### Isaac Campos-Costero

*Marijuana, Madness, and Modernity in Mexico, 1521-1920*

Assistant Professor, University of Cincinnati (tenure-track)

### Pär Cassel

*Rule of Law or Rule of Laws: Legal Pluralism and Extraterritoriality in Nineteenth Century East Asia*

Assistant Professor, University of Michigan (tenure-track)

### Evan Dawley

*Constructing Taiwanese Ethnicity: Identities in a City on the Border of China and Japan*

Historian, US Department of State

### Thomas DeGeorges

*A Bitter Homecoming: Tunisian Veterans of the First and Second World Wars*

Postdoctoral Fellow, Algeria

### Carrie Endries

*Exiled in the Tropics: Nazi Protestors and the Getúlio Vargas Regime in Brazil, 1933-1945*

Lecturer, Harvard University

### Isadora Helfgott

*Art and the Struggle for the American Soul: The Pursuit of a Popular Audience for Art in America from the Depression to World War II*

Sessional Instructor, University of Toronto

### Halbert Jones III

*The War Has Brought Peace to Mexico: The Political Impact of Mexican Participation in World War II*

Historian, US Department of State

### Daniel Stein Kokin

*The Hebrew Question in the Italian Renaissance: Linguistic, Cultural, and Mystical Perspectives*

Postdoctoral Fellow, Yale University

### Laura Lisy-Wagner

*Between the Eagle and the Crescent: Czech Images of the Holy Roman and Ottoman Empires in Texts About the Turk, 1450-1650*

Lecturer, Harvard University

### Matthew Lundin

*The Mental World of a Middling Burgher: The Family Archive of Cologne Lawyer Hermann Weinsberg, 1518-1597*

### M. Michelle J. Morris

*Under Household Government: Sex and Family in Massachusetts, 1660-1700*

Affiliate, Charles Warren Center for Studies in American History, Harvard University

### Micah Muscolino

*Fishing for Profits: Environment and Society off the China Coast, 1840-1958*

Assistant Professor, Saint Mary's College of California (tenure-track)

### Kevin Ostoyich

*The Transatlantic Soul: German Catholic Emigration during the Nineteenth Century*

Assistant Professor, Valparaiso University

### Sean Pollock

*Empire by Invitation?: Russian Empire-Building in the Caucasus in the Reign of Catherine II*

Lecturer, Harvard University

### Kimberly Sims

*Blacks, Italians, and the Progressive Interest in New York City Crime, 1900-1930*

Assistant Professor, American University (tenure-track)

### Gregory Smith

*Very Thin Things: Towards A Cultural History of the Soul in Roman Antiquity*

Visiting Lecturer, Case Western Reserve University

### Scott Sowerby

*James II's Revolution: The Politics of Religious Toleration in England, 1685-1689*

Lecturer, Harvard University

### William Suarez-Potts

*The Making of Labor Law in Mexico, 1875-1931*

Lecturer, Harvard University



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## In Memoriam

Photo courtesy of the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute



Omeljan Pritsak, Hrushevsky Professor of Ukrainian History, Emeritus, and co-founder and long-time director of the Ukrainian Research Institute, died on May 29, 2006.

Prof. Pritsak joined the Harvard faculty in 1964 as Professor of Linguistics and Turkology. Early in his career he had become an internationally-recognized authority on Turkic and Altaic linguistics, but once at Harvard he increasingly studied the history of Ukraine, his native

country. In 1967, Prof. Pritsak proposed endowing three chairs in Ukrainian studies (covering the fields of history, literature, and philology) and creating a Ukrainian research institute at Harvard University, all in the hope of setting a firm foundation for the development of Ukrainian studies in the West.

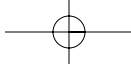
In the span of eleven years, with help from the Ukrainian Studies Fund, which raised money from the Ukrainian Diaspora community, Prof. Pritsak's hopes were realized. The Ukrainian Research Institute was established in 1973, with Prof. Pritsak as its first director. In 1975 he was awarded the newly-created Hrushevsky Chair in Ukrainian history, and in 1977 he helped launch the *Harvard Ukrainian Studies* journal.

Additionally, Prof. Pritsak was instrumental at Harvard in organizing a weekly seminar series on Ukrainian issues,

strengthening the University's Ukrainian library collections, and developing a new series of publications that made primary texts, facsimile editions, and translations of important works of the Ukrainian past available to scholars worldwide.

Omeljan Pritsak was born on April 7, 1919 in Luka, Sambir region, Ukraine. He completed his secondary education in Ternopil, and his higher education at the University of Lviv, the Academy of Sciences of Ukraine in Kyiv, and the Universities of Berlin and Göttingen, from which he received his doctorate in 1948. He is survived by his wife Larysa Hvozdk Pritsak, his daughter Irene Pritsak by his late first wife Nina Moldenhauer Pritsak, and two grandchildren, Lailina Eberhard and Michael Wissoff.





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