I write to you in the calm of the summer, after what was surely a year of unprecedented storms for Harvard and the History Department. The academic year 2008-9 began with some belt-tightening to cope with a FAS structural deficit resulting from a rash of new buildings, faculty expansion, and a more generous financial aid program, but that burden was soon dwarfed by the local ramifications of the global financial crisis. As you surely know already, Harvard’s endowment suffered major losses (estimated as down 25% to 30%) and suddenly our great wealth—that had allowed FAS to depend on its endowment for over half its income—became a great liability. My first year as Chair, in the six-year ar-

Rangement I am sharing with Jim Kloppenberg,
was soon dominated by efforts to cope with a major constriction in funding while doing every-
thing possible to nurture, and even improve,
our History Department program. As I look
back on the past year and anticipate the next
one, when I will continue as Chair, I think we
have managed fairly well, thanks to the ex-
traordinary flexibility and support of our fac-
ulty, students, and in particular, staff. Our de-
partment administrator Janet Hatch and her
team have faced enormous pressures and yet
have kept life in the department running as
close to normal as possible. I have personally
benefited in innumerable ways from the help
and wise counsel of my own administrative
group: David Armitage as Director of Graduate
Studies, Dan Smail as Director of Undergradu-
ate Studies (ably assisted by Adam Beaver last
year and Trygve Throntveit this year) and Jim
Kloppenberg as my chairing partner, along
with the many colleagues who have served on
the committees that keep the History Depart-
ment a lively and democratic community.

Although we may now have food-less
faculty meetings and reduced research and
travel funding, the Harvard History Depart-
ment is still an exciting place to be. Despite
the difficulties of the last year, we have many
successes to report. We began the Fall of 2008
with a new History Department website that I

Continued on page 5
In Remembrance

Professor David Herbert Donald

At 88, Professor David Herbert Donald passed away in May, 2009. Professor Donald was the Charles Warren Professor of History Emeritus at Harvard and a two-time winner of the Pulitzer Prize. His many works focused on the Civil War and Reconstruction, but perhaps he is best known for his biography *Lincoln* (1995). He is survived by his wife, Aida Donald, who was the Editor-in-chief at Harvard University Press, and their son Bruce.

Professor John Hope Franklin

Professor John Hope Franklin (Ph.D., 1941) passed away in March 2009. Professor Franklin was a distinguished scholar of African-American history and he worked with Dr. Martin Luther King, W.E.B. DuBois, Thurgood Marshall and other major twentieth-century Civil Rights figures. He was the James B. Duke Professor Emeritus of History at Duke University, where for 7 years he also held the title of Professor of Legal History in the Law School. Professor Franklin is survived by his son, John Whittington Franklin. For more information, you may visit the John Hope Franklin memorial website: http://jhfc.duke.edu/johnhopefranklin/

Professor Angeliki Laiou

Angeliki E. Laiou, Dumbarton Oaks Professor of Byzantine History at Harvard, died on Thursday, December 11, 2008 in Boston, Mass. Professor Laiou was one of the world’s leading historians of the Byzantine empire—the successor of the Roman empire in the Middle East—and of the Crusades, as well as a former Deputy Secretary of Foreign Affairs of the Hellenic Republic and former Member of Parliament of Greece. Born in Athens, her career as a historian, diplomat and educator spanned the continents. Professor Laiou is survived by her son, Vassili Thomadakis. You may listen to an audio recording of her memorial service at this website: http://isites.harvard.edu/fs/docs/icb.topic561044.files/01%20Track%2001.m4a

Professor Ernest May

Professor Ernest May, Charles Warren Professor of American History, passed away June 1, 2009. A memorial service for Professor May will be held on Wednesday, September 23, 2009, at 3:00 p.m. in Memorial Church, Harvard Yard. There will be a reception after the service at Loeb House, 17 Quincy St., Cambridge, MA. The following day, Thursday, September 24, 2009, at 4:00 p.m. in the basement conference room of the Center for European Studies, 27 Kirkland Street, the History Department’s International History Seminar, organized by Erez Manela and David Armitage, will host a roundtable devoted to the scholarship of Professor May. Faculty from the History Department, the Kennedy School, and elsewhere will participate in this fitting tribute to Professor May’s many contributions to the worlds of history and policy. All are invited to attend both the memorial service and the Seminar.
David Armitage, Lloyd C. Blankfein Professor of History and Director of Graduate Studies, was awarded Harvard’s Walter Channing Cabot Fellowship, elected a Fellow of the Massachusetts Historical Society, and appointed an Honorary Professor of History at the University of Sydney. Professor Armitage lectured at universities from Adelaide to Uppsala and was a Distinguished Research Visitor at the University of York. Among his publications this year was an expanded edition of *The British Atlantic World, 1500-1800*, co-edited with Michael J. Braddick.

David Blackbourn, Coolidge Professor of History and Director of the Center for European Studies, was elected to the Academic Advisory Board of the German Historical Institute Washington. Professor Blackbourn also served on the jury for the Charles Weyerhaeuser Prize for the best book in forest and conservation history, and he gave lectures last May at the European College of Liberal Arts Berlin (as part of State of the World Week) and at the 16th Annual Whitsunside Symposium on the Environment at Benediktbeuren, Bavaria. In September Professor Blackbourn gave the keynote address at a conference on Literary Constructions of Historical Worlds in Britain and Germany, held at the German Historical Institute London, and on November 5 he gave a guest lecture on landscape and identity in modern Germany at the Center for Great Plains Studies, University of Nebraska, Lincoln.


Erez Manela, Professor of History, recently, won the Stuart L. Bernath Book Prize for best first book in American foreign relations and the Akira Iriye International History Book Award for his book, *The Wilsonian Moment*, which was published in 2007. The book was also a finalist for the Lionel Gelber Prize for best book in international affairs. In summer 2008, Professor Manela was a Visiting Scholar at the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies in Geneva, Switzerland. Professor Manela then began a sabbatical year as a Visiting Scholar at the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. Professor Manela’s essay, “Reconceiving International History,” was published in *Reviews in American History* in March. His current projects include: an ex-
tended review essay on the "new international history" for the American Historical Review, a collaborative volume on the international history of the 1970s, for which he is a co-editor and contributor; and a history of the global campaign to eradicate smallpox.

In the past year, Michael McCormick, Francis Goelet Professor of Medieval History, was elected a Corresponding Member of the Royal Academy of Belgium, Classe des lettres (Brussels) and to the Society of Antiquaries of London. Professor McCormick gave a lecture tour “Karl der Grosse und die Vulkane: Naturwissenschaften, Klimageschichte und Mittelalterforschung” in four German universities on the theme of natural scientific and historical approaches to climate history, and delivered papers on subjects ranging from shipwrecks and markets to environmental history at various scholarly conferences and universities here and abroad. With Prof. Jennifer R. Davis (B.A. History '97; Ph.D. '07) of Catholic University of America, he edited The Long Morning of Medieval Europe: New Directions in Early Medieval Studies (Aldershot, Ashgate, 2008), for which he also wrote several essays. An abridged Polish translation of Professor McCormick's book, Origins of the European Economy, appeared and was reprinted. In Dec. 2008 with the support of the Provost of Harvard University and the Broad Institute of MIT-Harvard he organized “The Science of the Human Past,” an international conference featuring historical discoveries by leading scientists. With the support of his Mellon Distinguished Achievement Award, Professor McCormick began the first year of a three-year programmed excavation, co-directed with Joachim Henning of the Institut für Archäologische Wissenschaften, University of Frankfurt/Main, of a late Roman small town in eastern France. The excavation will explore the environmental and economic conditions that marked the fall of the Roman empire in this area.

Francis Lee Higginson

Professor Najmabadi has also received a grant from The National Endowment for the Humanities to support a comprehensive digital archive and website to preserve, link, and render accessible primary source materials related to the social and cultural history of women’s worlds during Iran’s Qajar dynasty.
urge you to visit:
http://history.fas.harvard.edu
It is very much an active site; we post department news on a regular basis and over the summer revamped our faculty listing to make it more useful to students and other visitors. We can now be found alphabetically, by time period, by region, and by thematic interests. In another realm that we are proud of, our graduate and undergraduate students have continued to win prizes galore; see the listings in this Newsletter. Under the capable and imaginative watch of the Undergraduate Studies Office, our new concentration curriculum is developing in exciting ways. Concentrators continue to take the sophomore tutorial, History 97, that introduces them to the historian’s craft of developing original interpretations from primary evidence, and then they must enroll in at least one readings seminar and one research seminar, all led by faculty. These new seminars teach students the critical skills of analyzing historiography and researching and writing essays, much as the former advanced tutorials did, but they are built around a wider range of topics and most importantly, bring students into close contact with professors. Graduate student teaching assistants help out in some of the research seminars. One of the most encouraging results of this new concentration structure has been an increase in the proportion of our students writing a senior thesis and doing so with a faculty member as adviser.

In addition to offering History 97 and these new seminars, History Department faculty teach freshmen seminars to attract new Harvard students to the concentration, introductory and advanced lecture courses, and courses in the newly revamped General Education Program. Although the new Gen Ed curriculum will have its official launch this fall, David Blackbourn and Charles Maier pioneered two courses last year. The new structure has no specific historical category, but rather several categories—such as Societies of the World, the United States in the World, and Ethical Reasoning—that accommodate history courses well. We have five courses already accepted (to be taught by Mary Lewis, Niall Ferguson, and Joyce Chaplin, in addition to David Blackbourn and Charlie Maier) and many more in different stages of the planning and the approval process. Despite losses in faculty that I will detail below, and thanks to a surprisingly large number of visitors who will be joining us this year, our department will offer forty-three new courses in 2009-10, surely a record. We are pleased that even in these difficult times the History Department remains a dynamic, exciting intellectual world.

Our graduate program also thrives. Entrance remains incredibly competitive, and became even more so this year as the Graduate School scaled back the number of offers we could make. With more pressure than ever to get a high yield in order to have an appropriately sized class, our DGS David Armitage planned a wonderful recruitment day, faculty contributed money from their own research funds to help pay for prospective students’ travel to Harvard, and current graduate stu-
Chair’s Address Continued

Continued from page 5

Continued from page 5

Students offered their floors and sofas for sleeping. As a result of this collaborative effort, very few students turned down our offer and we look forward to welcoming a spectacular group of sixteen new graduate students this fall. Three other developments in the graduate program deserve mention. For the second year, the History Department will offer a Teaching Practicum for third-year graduate students entering the classroom for the first time. With the encouragement and support of the Bok Center for Teaching and Learning, the Department is taking more responsibility for preparing its graduate students for their teaching careers, not just their lives as scholars. I will be teaching the course this year with the help of an advanced graduate student, Abigail Krasner Balbale, who has been appointed as a Departmental Teaching Fellow to assist us in all our pedagogical training efforts. We also take pride in the successes of our history candidates on the academic job market this past year, despite the economic downturn. (See placement listing on page 11 in the Newsletter.) That record is surely testimony to our students’ enormous talents, their impressive records of grant getting, publications, and conference presentations, and the department’s efforts in supporting students’ job searches with advice and mock interviews and job talks. The History Department was singled out in GSAS Dean Allan Brandt’s column in its Summer 2009 issue of the Colloquy alumni magazine for our placement success and the showcasing of our job candidates on the department’s website.

Thirdly, a new center affiliated with the department—the Center for History and Economics, under the inspiring leadership of Emma Rothschild—has involved our graduate students in a number of ongoing seminars and special events on popular topics such as legal, environmental, and public health history.

All that we have accomplished this past year and anticipate doing next year depends on our faculty and staff, hardworking and generous with their time and

“...Department was singled out in GSAS Dean Allan Brandt’s column in its Summer 2009 issue of the Colloquy alumni magazine”

Recent Appointments & Promotions

Ann Blair named Harvard College Professor

Vincent Brown awarded tenure

Caroline Elkins awarded tenure

Erez Manela awarded tenure

Rachel St. John promoted to Associate Professor

Continued on page 7
Chair’s Address Continued

Continued from page 6

talents. Our History Department is only as
good as the people who make it up. We are
delighted that over the past year, Rachel St.
John was promoted from Assistant to Associ-
ate Professor and that Vince Brown, Caroline
Elkins, and Erez Manela were awarded tenure
by President Drew Faust. Last year we were
pleased to have a number of visiting profes-
sors join our ranks, and this coming year,
thanks to the generosity of a number of
other departments, programs, and individual
donors, we will welcome visitors in areas
where our offerings
are thin or the op-
portunity arose to
bring new courses
to our students.
Other faculty to
celebrate are Ann
Blair, recently
named a Harvard
College Professor,
and Laurel Ulrich,
who will be finish-
ing her term as
President of the
American Historical
Association. The
department will join with Laurel Ulrich’s for-
der department at the University of New
Hampshire and her publisher, Alfred A.
Knopf, to honor her at a reception at the
AHA in San Diego on Saturday evening, Janu-
ary 9th, 7-8:30 pm. to which you are all in-
vited.

Unfortunately, we have had to say
farewell to dear colleagues and friends this
past year, losses which will have a profound
impact on our community. Three of our
number—Christopher Jones, Stephan Thern-
strom, and Jack Womack—are retiring. Oth-
ers have passed away. You will find remem-
brances of current and former faculty mem-
bers David Herbert Donald, Angeliki Laiou,
and Ernest May and graduate alumnus John
Hope Franklin in this Newsletter. We are also
very sorry that Professors Malinda Lowery
and Susan O’Donovan will be leaving the de-
partment. The financial crisis forced the de-
partures of staff members Wendy Lurie, Mi-
chelle Weitzel, and Caron Yee, which we re-
gret deeply. We also lost staff members Paul
Rogers, who took arly retirement, and Meg
LeMay, who left to pursue graduate studies.
We wish all of them the very best of luck in
the future.

As we enter a new academic year, we
face more uncer-
tainty but with the
experience of the
past year under
our belts and
greater awareness
of our own resil-
ience and re-
sourceful
ess. While we have lost
staff, we are fortu-
nate that we still
have Matthew Cor-
coran, Jesse
Halvorsen, Janet
Hatch, Laura John-


G-3 Conference
In January, students from the Department of History and affiliated programs took an important step toward completing their dissertations, by introducing their research topics at the History Dissertation Prospectus Conference. The yearly Conference is an opportunity for those students who have recently completed the General Examination to formally present their research plans to members of the faculty and to their peers. This year’s participants are listed below with the titles of their presentations.

Mikhail Akulov
“War Without Fronts: Atamas, Reds, Whites and other Belligerents in Ukraine, 1917-1922”

Tariq Ali
“Jute, Moffussil towns, and the making of Bangladesh, 1850s to the 1970s”

Arbella Bet-Shlomon
“Kirkuk, 1918-1968: Oil and the Politics of Identity in an Iraqi City”

Emily Conroy-Krutz
“The Conversion of the World in the Early Republic: Race, Gender, and Empire in the American Foreign Missions, 1790-1850”

Johanna Conterio

Bryant Etheridge
“Capitalist Workplace Relations and the Fate of Civil Society, Houston, Texas, 1925-75”

Heidi Evans
“The Production of News: Germany, Modernity and The Global News Cartel, 1900-1931”

Philip Fileri
“French Political Thought and European Integrations, 1975-1992”

Burcu Gurgan
“Hezafen Huseyin’s Traveling Gaze: The Life and Times of a 17th century Ottoman Encyclopedist”

Jane Hong
“Redefining America in the World: The End of Asian Exclusion & the Search for Allies in Asia, 1943-1965”

John Huffman
“Documents of Identity in the Early Republic”

Jakub Kabala
“The Space of the Eastern Frontier of Europe, c.800—c.1000”

Abby Krasner Balbale
“Culture and Authority in an Andalusian Hinterland: The Case of Islamic Murcia”

Benjamin Levey
“Writing the Oirats Back into History: Qing Chinas Colonization of the Zunghar Frontier, 1755-1830”

Di Yin Lu
“Selling Civilization in Shanghai, 1942-1976”

Hassan Malik
“A Case Study in Emerging Market Investing: Russia, 1880-1930”

Johan Mathew
“Crossing Seas, Connecting Histories: Connective Histories from Muscat to Bombay and Back, 1869-1929”

Sreemati Mitter
“A History of Money in Palestine”

Josie Rodberg
“Subversives, Deviants, and Sinners: Anti-gay Politics from 1945-2000”

Ricardo Salazar
“Running Chanzas: Slave-State Interactions in Caragena de Indias”
Maryann Shenoda
“Representing Medieval Copts: A Social History of Coptic Christians in Fatimid Egypt”

Gitanjali Surendran
“Drumming the Dhamma: Buddhist Revival in Colonial Calcutta, c. 1891-1956”

Ekin Tusalp
“Poetry, Diplomacy and the Languages of Political Conduct in the Late Seventeenth Century
Ottoman Society: The Story of Rami Mehem Efendi (1654-1708)”

Michael Tworek
“Study Abroad: The Intellectual Foundations of the Polish
Nation, 1409-1795”

Jeremy Yellen
“Imagining the Greater East Asia Co-prosperity Sphere”

Hsiao-pei Yen
“Discovering China: Science, Imperialism, and Nationalism in the Chinese Frontier”

---

**Graduate Grants & Fellowships**

**Asian Studies Centers Grants**
Jane Hong  
Johan Mathew  
Benjamin Siegel  
John Wong  
Jeremy Yellen  
Hsiao-pei Yen  
Stepphen Walsh  
Sana Aiyar  
Tariq Ali  
Antara Datta  
Dinyar Patel  
Gitanjali Surendran  
Sana Aiyar

**Davis Center student grants for study, research & travel internships**
Oksana Mykhed  
Stephpen Walsh  
Johanna Conterio  
Sofiya Grachova  
Brendan Karch  
Michael Tworek

**Ward Penfold**  
Andrew Spadafora  
Kristin Poling  
Brendan Karch

**Gross Dissertation Prize**
Fabian Drixler

**Center for European Studies Grants**
Philipp Lehmann  
Erik Linstrum  
Stephen Walsh  
Heidi Evans  
Philip Fileri

**Weatherhead Center Research & Foreign Language Grants**
Stephan Link  
Hassan Malik  
Philippa Hetherington  
Sarah Shortall
## PhD Recipients

### Dissertations Filed

Sixteen of our students successfully filed their dissertations this year. We congratulate them all on their achievement. Their names and dissertation titles are listed below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Degrees Obtained</th>
<th>Title of Dissertation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Patrick L. Baker</td>
<td>BA, Michigan; MA, Harvard</td>
<td>&quot;Illustrious Men: Italian Renaissance Humanists on Humanism&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lauren E. Brown</td>
<td>AB, Smith; AM, Harvard</td>
<td>&quot;'Cultural Czars': American Nationalism, Dance, and Cold War Arts Funding, 1945-1989&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John E. Gagné</td>
<td>BA, Toronto; MA, Toronto; AM, Harvard</td>
<td>&quot;French Milan: Citizens, Occupiers, and the Italian Wars, 1499-1529&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eric Heinrichs</td>
<td>BA, Marquette; MA, Harvard</td>
<td>&quot;The Plague Cure: Physicians, Clerics and the Reform of Healing in Germany, 1473-1650&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harmony S. O'Rourke</td>
<td>BA, Macalester; MA, Harvard</td>
<td>&quot;Diaspora, Gender, and Identity: Remaining Hausa in the Cameroon Grassfields, c. 1890 to Recent Times&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ada Louise Palmer</td>
<td>BA, Bryn Mawr; AM Harvard</td>
<td>&quot;Reception of Lucretius, Epicureanism and Atomism in the Renaissance&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emily Katherine Wood</td>
<td>BA, Carlton; AM, Harvard</td>
<td>&quot;The Execution of Papal Justice in Northern France, 1145-1198&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adina M. Yoffie</td>
<td>BA, Princeton; AM, Harvard</td>
<td>&quot;Biblical Literalism and Scholarship in Protestant Northern Europe, 1630-1700&quot;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Graduate Student Placement

Placement
The job-market for PhDs in History had begun to contract considerably, even before the effects of the economic downturn were felt in universities and history departments across the United States (and beyond). However, graduates of our Department were exceptionally successful at securing teaching positions, post-doctoral fellowships, and lectureships. Our congratulations go to the following.

Raja Adal
November 2009 (expected)
Post-doctoral fellowship, Reischauer Institute

Sana Aiyar
November 2009 (expected)
Post-doctoral fellowship, Johns Hopkins University

Patrick Baker
June 2009
Post-doctoral fellowship, Humboldt Universität

Edward Baring
June 2009
Post-doctoral fellowship, Princeton University

Adam Beaver
June 2008
Assistant Professor, Princeton University

Laura Beers
June 2007
Assistant Professor, American University

Lauren Brown
November 2008
Assistant Professor, High Point College

Angus Burgin
November 2009 (expected)
Post-doctoral fellowship, American Academy of Arts and Sciences

John Gagné,
November 2008
Lecturer, University of Sydney

Kate Grandjean
June 2008
Assistant Professor, Wellesley College

Denise Ho
November 2009 (expected)
Assistant Professor, University of Kentucky

Eleanor Hubbard
November 2009 (expected)
Assistant Professor, Princeton University

Robert Karl
November 2009 (expected)
Assistant Professor, Princeton University

Loretta E. Kim
March 2009
Assistant Professor, SUNY Albany

Diana Kudayarova
November 2009 (expected)
Assistant Professor, Moscow School of Management

Sonia Lee
November 2007
Assistant Professor, Washington University

Harmony O’Rourke
June 2009
Assistant Professor, Pitzer College
This past year the department received 364 applications for the PhD program; 24 students were offered admission, and 16 students will begin the program in September 2009. As of September 2009, 120 students are enrolled in the graduate program.
Undergraduate Program News

Last year’s events and happenings, in keeping with the times, were at best a mixed bag for the Undergraduate Program. In the fall, we said good-bye to Sven Beckert, after three years of sterling service as Director of Undergraduate Studies, years that included the design and implementation of our new undergraduate curriculum. His departure was followed by an instantaneous drop of 42 percent in the number of new concentrators that fall. (We need you back, Sven!) In the spring, in turn, we lost the services of both Caron Yee, the Undergraduate Coordinate, and Adam Beaver, the Assistant DUS. Caron will be working her administrative wonders for the Graduate School of Education. Adam, in turn, has moved on for the best of reasons: he has joined the Department of History at Princeton, which is now graced both by his presence and by his typewriter. We wish both Caron and Adam the very best in their future endeavors. On the other side of the ledger of loss and gain, we are delighted to announce that Trygve Throntveit has joined the office as Adam’s successor in the ADUS position. Tryg recently completed his thesis on philosophical pragmatism and its influence—and often regrettable lack of influence—on American foreign policy. As a former Harvard undergraduate and graduate, Tryg brings with him a deep knowledge of the university, and as ADUS he will carry on a tradition of dynamic and committed service that has done so much to make the office one of the best on campus.

The drop in our new class of concentrators in the fall of 2008 caused no little soul-searching. One might have imagined Hoopes Prize Recipients

Pierpaolo Barbieri, "For Glory, For Money: Determinants of Fascist Intervention in the Spanish Civil War, 1936-1939" (Prof. Niall Ferguson)

Audrey Kim, "Crediting Empire: Politics, Policies, and Perceptions of Japan in the London Bond Market, 1900-1914" (Prof. Niall Ferguson)


Evan Kornbluh, "On the Margins of Nations: Chinese Factional Conflict and the Mexican State, 1911-1931" (Mr. Robert Karl)

Shi Lin Loh, "Commemorating Cities: The Divergent Legacies of Nagasaki and Hiroshima in Postwar Japan, 1945 to the 1990s" (Prof. Andrew Gordon & Mr. Jeremy Yellen)


Christopher Miller, "The Bank of England's Response to Financial Panic in the 19th Century: The English State, the Money Market, and the Emergence of the Lender of Last Resort" (Ms. Kathryn Boodry)

P. Justin Rossi, "Piracy and Diplomacy in the Mediterranean, 1600-1620" (Mr. Alex More)

Continued on page 15
2008-2009 A.B. Recipients

Sadia Ahsanuddin
Pierpaolo Barbieri
Stephen Barchick
McDonald Bartels
Nicholas Batter
Benjamin Belser
Katherine Bringjord
Emily Bruemmer
Flavio Campos
Danielle Charlap
Benjamin Clark
Margaret Clark
John Connolly
Amanda Dagg
Alexander de Carvalho
Peter de Busto
Christian Denman
Diego Depetris
Verdi DiSesa
Charles Drummond
Margot Edelman
Petros Egziabher
Julia Erickson
William Ferguson
Charles Fisher-Post
YingYing Fok
Jonathan Garrity
Jacqueline Gensler
Malcom Glenn
Wei-yi Guo
Kyle Haddad-Fonda
Marguerite Hines
Mark Hoadley
Samuel Jacobs
Audrey Kim
Diana Kimball
Roy Kimmy
Theodore Kirby
Evon Kornbluh
Spenta Kutar
Christopher Lacaira
Joshua Lachter
Emily Lamon
Hunter Landerholm
Shi Lin Loh
Salvador
Maldonado
Ellen McDonough
James Meekan
Ana Mendy
Christopher Miller
Shifra Mincer
Hannah Motley
Robert Muciano-Goroff
Elizabeth Nicholas
Evon O'Brien
Matthew O'Brien
Michael O'Donnell
Domenico Pellegrini
Marcel Perl
Indira Phukan
Rachel Pollack
Daniel Potts
Sergio Prado
Rory Priday
Michael Ragalie
Peter Rossi
Charles Rylant
Burton Shen
Sarah Sherman
Mackenzie Smith
Anthony Tijero
Mihiri Tilakaratne
Giuliana Vetranio
Vivek Viswanathan
Julie Vodhanel
Charles Wetherell
Anna Whittington
Netasha Williams

Awards

Department of History Prize – for best total record as a history concentrator
Kyle Haddad-Fonda (Pforzheimer House)

Philip Washburn Prize – for best thesis on historical subject
Ana Mendy (Eliot House)

David Donald Prize – for excellence in United States history
Diana Kimball (Quincy House)
Thesis: “Global Ambitions: Atlanta’s 1895 Cotton States and International Exposition”

Colton Prize – for excellence in preparation of senior thesis in History
Christopher Miller (Lowell House)

Lillian Bell Prize – for best paper on the Holocaust or similar human tragedy
Lauren Yapp (Winthrop House)

Ferguson Prize – for best sophomore essay
Matthew Ross Bloom (Mather House)
Paper: “The Azaria Chamberlain Case as a Conflict Between New and Native Australia”

Undergraduate Essay Prize – for best junior tutorial paper
Laura James (Cabot House)
Paper: “Who Are We to Judge? The Importance of Domestic Affairs in Russo-American Relations, 1887-1894”

Set up your Harvard alumni email account today by visiting: http://post.harvard.edu
ined that the historic events of 2008 would have invited more reflections on history. But we are delighted to welcome the fifty-nine new concentrators who joined us in the fall, as well as the steady stream of concentration transfers who have seen the light and joined us afterward. One thing we do know: History concentrators remain among the very best. It has become something of a tradition, for example, for History thesis-writers to receive a disproportionate number of Hoopes Prizes (this year, eight out of the eighty-five awarded). A very high percentage of our undergraduate theses (86 percent) were advised by faculty, maintaining a custom that has become a signal feature of our thesis-writing program. Six of our seniors were inducted into Phi Beta Kappa. And although it is customary to laud our noteworthy successes, I should also add, on a personal note, that some of my happiest moments of teaching and advising are those I spend with students who don’t write theses, don’t win Hoopes Prizes, and don’t get inducted into Phi Beta Kappa. I expect I am not alone in my respect and admiration for students who define their achievements in their own ways.

The roll-out of the new undergraduate History curriculum, now approaching its third year, has experienced the usual snags and bumps. On the plus side, the faculty who teach the reading and research seminars (former History 90 and History 98) are involved in the undergraduate curriculum as never before, and bring their varied and autonomous interests directly to students in courses that have enormous verve and creative energy. The only complaint we routinely receive from students, in fact, concerns what to do in cases where sixty students are shopping a class capped at twelve. Finding the right balance of lecture courses and seminars has been a challenge, but thanks to the efforts of Andy Gordon and all the members of last year’s curriculum committee, we are giving our course offerings a much more deliberate shape than I believe was hitherto the case.

The Department has responded to our concentrators’ changing needs in other ways as well. Colleagues enthusiastically embraced our efforts last fall to get faculty into the Houses to talk with our concentrators over lunch. Countless historical examples illustrate a point that has been latterly confirmed by cognitive science: relations of care, trust, and concern develop over the breaking of bread. Pasta works fine too. But advising is something we can still do better, and remains a high priority for the coming year. We also plan to keep building up the resources available on the Undergraduate Resources iSite: http://isites.harvard.edu/historyba , where students can find advance copies of course syllabuses; information about research opportunities, research assistantships, and fellowships; online issues of the undergraduate journal, Tempus; and other news and tools.

Suffice it to say, then, that we enter the new academic year with energy and enthusiasm, and hope to do our best to maintain the high standards that are the norm in this department.

Daniel Lord Smail
Professor
Director of Undergraduate Studies

In November 2008, Kyle Haddad-Fonda ’09, a joint concentrator in History and Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, was awarded a Rhodes Scholarship.
Alumni News and Updates

Maricruz Aguayo-Tabor  
A.M. 2001  
Aguayo-Tabor is currently the S.S. Department Chair, Liberal Arts & Science Academy of Austin.

Paul S. Boyer  
Ph.D. 1966  
Boyer is co-editor with Charles L. Cohen of *Religion and the Culture of Print in Modern America* (University of Wisconsin Press, 2008)

Par Cassel  
Ph.D. 2006  
Cassel is currently an Assistant Professor in the History Department at the University of Michigan.

Amilcar Challu  
Ph.D. 2007  
Challu was awarded the Gerschenkron Prize for best Economic History Dissertation outside the US and Canada in the year 2007-2008 for his dissertation entitled “Grain Markets, Food Supply Policies, and Living Standards in late Colonial Mexico.” The award was presented on September 13, 2008 in the 68th Economic History Association Annual Meeting in New Haven, CT. The Alexander Gerschenkron Prize in Economic History is awarded annually by the Economic History Association for the best dissertation in the economic history of an area outside of the United States or Canada completed during the previous year.

Libra Hilde  
Ph.D. 2003  
Assistant Professor, San Jose State University.

Joyce Chapman Lebra  
Ph.D. 1958  
*The Scent of Sake: a novel.* HarperCollins-Avon 02/09  

Marvin D. Levy  
A.M. 1951  
Levy retired in January 2008 from his position as General Manager of the Buffalo Bills. Levy served as Bills’ Head Coach (1986-1997) when the team participated in 4 consecutive Super Bowl games. He was inducted into Pro Football Hall of Fame in 2001 and recently his book (a memoir) titled “Where Else Would You Rather Be” made the New York Times Best Seller List.

George H. Nash  
Ph.D. 1973  
On October 24, 2008 Nash received the Richard M. Weaver Prize for Scholarly Letters for 2008. The prize consists of a citation and an award of $25,000. The Weaver Prize is funded by the Ingersoll Foundation of Rockford, Illinois.

James Eldin Reed  
Ph.D. 1976  
Reed is currently a Fellow of the Harvard Divinity School and President of the Massachusetts Fulbright Association. In September 2007, he gave the Fulbright Lectures on American Civilization at the University of Tirana in Albania.

Eiko Maruko Siniawer  
Ph.D. 2003  
Siniawer is currently an Assistant Professor of History at Williams College. Her book *Ruffians, Yakuza, Nationalists: The Violent Politics of Modern Japan, 1860-1960* is forthcoming from Cornell University Press.

Benjamin Kimbrough Tromly  
Ph.D. 2007  
Tromly is a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Davis Center for Russian and Eurasian Studies at Harvard University. His dissertation, “Re-Imagining the Soviet Intelligentsia: Student Politics and University Life, 1948-1964,” received the Robert C. Trucker/Stephen F. Cohen Dissertation prize for outstanding doctoral dissertation in historical political science and political history of the Soviet Union from the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies, sponsored by the JKW Foundation.
Let us hear from you!

Thank you to all the alumni who have contributed to our newsletter and supported the History Department with gifts.

Please use this form to keep in touch with us. We welcome your recent news for inclusion in our next newsletter, as well as contributions to the History Department for graduate student support and other uses. Please make checks payable to Harvard University. All contributions are tax-deductible.

☐ $50  ☐ $100  ☐ $250  ☐ Other $________

Please mail to: Department of History, Alumni Newsletter
Harvard University
Robinson Hall 201
35 Quincy St.
Cambridge, MA 02138

Name ________________________________________________________________
Address ______________________________________________________________________
Phone __________________________ Email _____________________________________________
Degree & Year __________________________________________ News for future newsletter:
_____________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________

Alumni Updates Continued

Art Wardle
1947
Wardle is celebrating his 94th year!

Guoqi Xu
Ph.D. 1999
Xu has recently published the following books: Olympic Dreams: China and Sports, 1895-2008 (Harvard University Press, 2008); and Convergence de deux civilisations: Rechereche sur les travailleurs chinois en France pendant la Première guerre mondiale (Inter-Continental Press, 2007). For 2008-09, Professor Xu will be a fellow at the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, working on two books: “Fusions of civilization: Chinese laborers in Europe during the Great War and their role in China’s internationalization” and “Chinese and Americans: An International and Cultural History.”