

Alumni Newsletter

2008-2009



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-

range I am sharing with Jim Kloppenberg, was soon dominated by efforts to cope with a major constriction in funding while doing everything 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 extraordinary flexibility and support of our faculty, students, and in particular, staff. Our department 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 Undergraduate 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 Department a lively and democratic community.

Although we may now have food-less faculty meetings and reduced research and travel funding, the Harvard History Department 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

Department Chair
Lizbeth Cohen

Department Administrator
Janet Hatch

Newsletter Editor
Kristina Nies

Department of History
Harvard University
Robinson Hall
35 Quincy St.
Cambridge, MA 02138
<http://history.fas.harvard.edu>

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

| | |
|--------------------------------|-----|
| In Remembrance | 2 |
| Faculty News. | 3-4 |
| Graduate Program. | 8 |
| PhD Recipients. | 10 |
| Undergraduate Program. | 13 |
| A. B. Recipients. | 14 |
| Alumni Updates. | 16 |

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

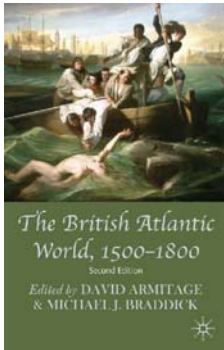
Republic and former Member of Parliament of Greece. Born in Athens, her career as a historian, diplomat and educator spanned the continents. Professor Laiou is survived by her son, Vassili Thomadakis. You may listen to an audio recording of her memorial service at this website: <http://isites.harvard.edu/fs/docs/icb.topic561044.files/01%20Track%2001.m4a>

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.

Faculty News



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 Blackburn, 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 Blackburn 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 Whitsuntide Symposium on the Environment at Benediktbeuren, Bavaria. In September Professor Blackburn 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.



Mary D. Lewis, the John L. Loeb Associate Professor of the Social Sciences, was named co-winner of the 2008 James Willard Hurst Prize for her book *The Boundaries of the Republic: Migrant Rights and the Limits of Universalism in France, 1918-1940* (Stanford University Press, 2007). The Hurst prize is awarded by the Law and Society Association annually for the best book in sociolegal history. Professor Lewis also published "Geographies of Power: The Tunisian Civic Order, Jurisdictional Politics, and Imperial Rivalry in the Mediterranean, 1881-1935," which draws on her new research, in the December 2008 edition of *The Journal of Modern History*. She and her husband Peter Dizikes celebrated the birth of their first child, Sebastian, in May 2008.



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-

Faculty News Continued

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 re-



printed. 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 Dis-

tinguished 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 of History and of Studies of Women, Gender, and Sexuality, **Afsaneh Najmabadi's** publications in 2008 included the *Islamicate Sexualities: Translations across Temporal Geographies of Desire*, Co-edited with Kathryn Babayan (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, Middle Eastern Monographs, 2008), which includes her article: "Types, Acts, or What? Regulation of Sexuality in Nineteenth-Century Iran," pp. 275-296. She also published "Transing and Transpassing Across Sex-Gender Walls in Iran," *Women's Studies Quarterly* 36: 3-4 (Fall/Winter 2008), pp. 23-42; "Teaching and Research in Unavailable Intersections," *Women's Studies on the Edge*, ed. Joan W. Scott (Durham: Duke University Press, 2008), pp. 69-80; and "(Un)Veiling Feminism," pp. 39-57 in *Secularisms*, ed. Janet J. Jakobsen and Ann Pellegrini (Durham: Duke University Press, 2008).

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.

Chair's Address Continued

Continued from page 1

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 histo-

rian'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 lec-



ture 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-

Continued on page 6

Chair's Address Continued

Continued from page 5

dents 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 Albale, 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

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

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, hard-working and generous with their time and

Continued on page 7

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



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 Associate 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 professors 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 opportunity 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 finishing her term as President of the American Historical Association. The

department will join with Laurel Ulrich's former 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, January 9th, 7-8:30 pm. to which you are all invited.

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 Thernstrom, and Jack Womack—are retiring. Others have passed away. You will find remembrances of current and former faculty members 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 department. The financial crisis forced the departures of staff members Wendy Lurie, Michelle Weitzel, and Caron Yee, which we regret deeply. We also lost staff members Paul Rogers, who took early 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 uncertainty but with the experience of the past year under our belts and greater awareness of our own resilience and resourcefulness. While we have lost staff, we are fortunate that we still have Matthew Corcoran, Jesse Halvorsen, Janet Hatch, Laura John-

son, Mary McConnell, Kristina Nies, and Cory Paulsen working tirelessly for the department. As we watch colleagues depart, and are deeply concerned about how their departures will affect the department in the future, we take heart in the impressive achievements and strong commitment of our faculty and students. FAS may be adjusting its programs to a leaner budget, but our department and the many scholarly centers with which our faculty engage remain vital, stimulating intellectual communities. Our responsibility to research, write and teach history has never been more important. I look forward to the difference that we can all make as we do our work, and work together.



Graduate Program News

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-Shlimon

"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

"Soviet Paradise: Sochi, Sanatoria, and Environmental Health in the Soviet Union, 1919-1991"

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"

G-3 Conference Continued

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 Mehmed 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
Steffan Rimner
Hiromu Nagahara
Sana Aiyar
Tariq Ali
Antara Datta
Dinyar Patel
Gitanjali Surendran
Sana Aiyar

Center for European Studies Grants

Philipp Lehmann
Erik Linstrum
Stephen Walsh
Heidi Evans
Philip Fileri

Ward Penfold
Andrew Spadafora
Kristin Poling
Brendan Karch

Davis Center student grants for study, research & travel internships

Oksana Mykhed
Stephen Walsh
Johanna Conterio
Sofiya Grachova
Brendan Karch
Michael Tworek

Gross Dissertation Prize
Fabian Drixler

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.

Patrick L. Baker

(BA, Michigan; AM, Harvard)
"Illustrious Men: Italian Renaissance Humanists on Humanism"

Edward G. Baring

(BA, Cambridge; AM, Harvard)
"The Young Derrida and French Philosophy, 1946-1967"

Lauren E. Brown

(AB, Smith; AM, Harvard)
"Cultural Czars': American Nationalism, Dance, and Cold War Arts Funding, 1945-1989"

John E. Gagné

(BA, Toronto; MA, Toronto; AM, Harvard)
"French Milan: Citizens, Occupiers, and the Italian Wars, 1499-1529"

Eric Heinrichs

(BA, Marquette; MA, Harvard)
"The Plague Cure: Physicians, Clerics and the Reform of Healing in Germany, 1473-1650"

Loretta E. Kim

(AB, Harvard; AM, Harvard)
"Marginal Constituencies: Qing Borderland Policies and Vernacular Histories of Five Tribes on the Sino-Russian Frontier"

Harmony S. O'Rourke

(BA, Macalester; MA, Har-

vard)
"Diaspora, Gender, and Identity: Remaining Hausa in the Cameroon Grassfields, c. 1890 to Recent Times"

Ada Louise Palmer

(BA, Bryn Mawr; AM Harvard)
"Reception of Lucretius, Epicureanism and Atomism in the Renaissance"

Julia S. Sarreal

(BA, Swarthmore; AM, Harvard)
"Globalization and the Guaraní: From Missions to Modernization in the Eighteenth Century"

Sergio Silva-Castaneda

(BA, CIDE; MA, Harvard)
"Forking Paths: Authoritarianism, Population Growth and Economic Performance in Mexico and Spain, 1934-2000"

Penelope J. Sinanoglou

(BA, Columbia; AM, Harvard)
"Playing Solomon: British Plans for the Partition of Palestine, 1920-1939"

Nico Slate

(BA, Stanford; BS, Stanford; M.Sc., Oxford; MA, Harvard)
"Reflections of Freedom: Race, Caste, and the Shared Struggle for Democracy in India and the United States, 1914-1965"



Heléna. Tóth

(BA, Harvard; MA, Harvard)
"Émigrés: The Experience of Political Exile for Germans and Hungarians, 1848-1871"

Benjamin Waterhouse

(AB, Princeton; MA, Harvard)
"A Lobby for Capital: Organized Business and the Pursuit of Pro-Market Politics, 1967-1986"

Emily Katherine Wood

(BA, Carleton; AM, Harvard)
"The Execution of Papal Justice in Northern France, 1145-1198"

Adina M. Yoffie

(BA, Princeton; AM, Harvard)
"Biblical Literalism and Scholarship in Protestant Northern Europe, 1630-1700"

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



Graduate Placement Continued

Ada Palmer

June 2009

Assistant Professor, Texas A&M

Monica Ricketts

June 2007

Assistant Professor, Temple University

Julia Sarreal

June 2009

Assistant Professor, Arizona State, West Campus

Sergio Silva Castaneda

June 2009

Lecturer, Harvard University

Penelope J. Sinanoglou

November 2008

Lecturer, Harvard University

Nico Slate

June 2009

Assistant Professor, Carnegie Mellon

Trygve Throntveit

June 2008

Lecturer, Harvard University

Heléna Tóth

June 2009

Postdoctoral fellowship at the Ludwig-Maximilians-University, Munich

Benjamin Tromly

June 2007

Assistant Professor, University of Puget Sound

Benjamin Waterhouse

June 2009

Assistant Professor, UNC-Chapel Hill

Dan Wewers

June 2008

Post-doctoral fellowship, Brown University



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 Depart-

ment 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 imag-

Continued on page 15

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)

Roy Kimmey, "Johnny Rotten Behind the Berlin Wall: Punk in East Germany, 1979-1989" (Profs. Jonathan Bolton [Slavic Languages and Literatures] & Alexander Rehding [Music])

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)

Ana Mendy, "The Origins of Dominican Anti-Haitianismo: The Effects of the Haitian Revolution on Dominican National Identity (1791-1801)" (Prof. Vincent Brown)

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)

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 Ericksen
William Ferguson
Charles Fisher-Post
YingYing Fok
Jonathan Garrity
Jacqueline Genser
Malcom Glenn
Weiyi Guo
Kyle Hadda-Fonda
Marguerite Hines
Mark Hoadley
Samuel Jacobs
Audrey Kim
Diana Kimball
Roy Kimmey
Theodore Kirby
Evan Kornbluh
Spenta Kutar
Christopher Lacaira
Joshua Lachter
Emily Lamont

Hunter Landerholm
Shi Lin Loh
Salvador
Maldonado
Ellen McDonough
James Meehan
Ana Mendy
Christopher Miller
Shifra Mincer
Hannah Motley
Robert Muciano-Goroff
Elizabeth Nicholas
Evan 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 Ryland
Burton Shen
Sarah Sherman
Mackenzie Smith
Anthony Tijero
Mihiri Tilakaratne
Giuliana Vetrano
Vivek Viswanathan
Julie Vodhanel
Charles Wetherell
Anna Whittington
Netasha Williams

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Awards

Department of History Prize – for best total record as a history concentrator
Kyle Haddad-Fonda (Pforzheimer House)
Thesis: “The Anti-Imperialist Tradition and the Development of Sino-Egyptian Relations, 1955-1956”

Philip Washburn Prize – for best thesis on historical subject
Ana Mendy (Eliot House)
Thesis: “The Origins of Dominican Anti-Haitianismo: The Effects of the Haitian Revolution on Dominican National Identity (1791-1801)”

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)

Thesis: “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”

Lillian Bell Prize – for best paper on the Holocaust or similar human tragedy
Lauren Yapp (Winthrop House)
Thesis: “Reconstructing Sophiatown: Personal Memory, Public Narrative, and the Production of History in South Africa, 1940-2009”

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”

Undergraduate Program News Continued

Continued from page 13

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
Women Against the Raj: the Rani of Jhasnsi Regiment: Singapore: Institute of Southeast Asia Studies, 2008. Reprint: *The Indian National Army-Singapore 2008 ISEAS Durga's Sword* (Japanese translation - Tokyo: Sairyusha 2008)

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.

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Alumni Updates Continued

Art Wardle

1947

Wardle is celebrating his 94th year!

Guoqi Xu

Ph.D. 1999

Xu has recently pulshed the following books: *Olympic Dreams: China and Sports, 1895-2008* (Harvard University Press, 2008); and *Convergence de deux civilisations: Recherche sur les travailleurs chinois en France pen-*

dant le Premiere 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."

