

“shapes our institutional ideals as well as our individual ambitions.” Knowing history “diminishes the grip of the myopic present.” Amen. Unfortunately, Drew’s fine speech, coming at the conclusion of Harvard’s 375<sup>th</sup> year, attracted almost no attention in the press for reasons that might help explain why history appeals to fewer undergraduates these days. Nonetheless, the wisdom of President Faust’s words is irrefutable.

Our graduate program continues to flourish, with ever larger numbers of applicants meaning we have an ever shrinking rate of acceptance, a rate that continues to hover around the same very low percentage as that of acceptances to Harvard College. Our yield of accepted students is just as impressive. Many of our students enter our graduate program after having worked or done further study following the completion of their undergraduate degrees, which means that the age of entering students creeps up along with the astonishing level of their achievement and preparation. This year we completed a thorough review of the graduate program, conducted by a committee including David Armitage, the current Director of Graduate Studies, Erez Manela, the incoming Director of Graduate Studies, and Rachel St. John, who co-taught with David Armitage the required seminar taken by all first-year graduate students. Although the committee found the program to be in excellent health, it recommended various reforms designed to address the few minor glitches identified by their survey of graduate students, and those improvements will begin to be implemented in 2012-13. Our

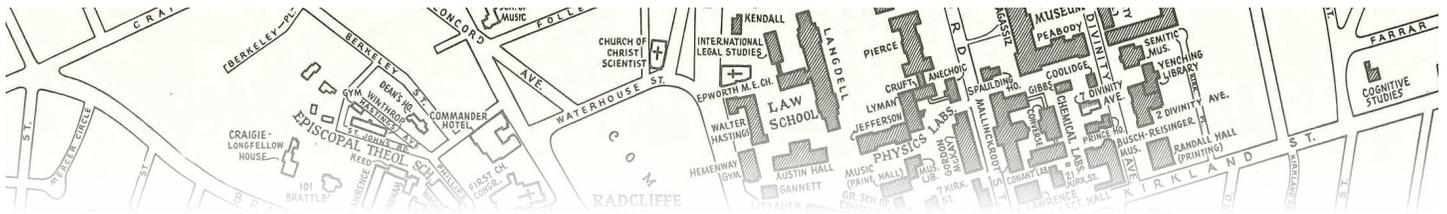
graduate students continued to win fellowships internal to Harvard and in national and international competitions, and they continued to land prestigious teaching positions and post-doctoral fellowships, all of which are detailed elsewhere in the newsletter. It is heartening to know that our graduate students seem to manage somehow to surpass even the splendid levels of achievement that bring them into our program in the first place.



The department sponsored a range of activities for graduate and undergraduate students throughout the year, and one of the highlights was a genuine magic show by former history concentrator David Kwong. David’s performance, a version of which is available on YouTube and on the History Department website, was a breathtaking display of intelligence,

wit, and showmanship, pretty much what we have grown to expect from all of our alumni. We have a new mantra for attracting undergraduates to the department: Study history. Make magic. And not to let the science of magic outshine the arts, I should note that another recent graduate of the department, Tom Wolf, just published his first novel, *Sound*, with Faber and Faber. We expect a similarly dazzling output from this year’s graduates, whose honors, exploits, and trajectories are detailed elsewhere in the newsletter.

In the fall, as some of you might have read, Occupy Harvard took up residency in the Old Quad next to the statue of John Harvard. The administration responded by locking the gates of Harvard Yard and requiring all members of the Harvard community to display identification in order to gain entry. Some members of the History Department--faculty and staff, graduate and undergraduate students--were among many people in the Harvard community who opposed this step. The letter to President Faust in which we expressed the reasons for our opposition (as individuals, not speaking as members of the department) inspired other members of the department with different points of view to engage us in a series of exchanges that many of us thought showed the university at its best. The issues involved were complicated and the stakes for Harvard were understood to be high. The administration decided to allow the occupiers with Harvard affiliations to remain in their encampment throughout the fall. Because of concerns with the



safety of the freshmen who live in the Old Quad, however, those lacking Harvard affiliation were prevented from joining the occupation. By the time students returned to campus in January, the occupiers and their tents were gone.

On a happier note, we began this year to acknowledge, at the beginning of department meetings, the honors awarded to our faculty members since the last meeting. Hardly a month goes by without several members of the department being singled out for acclaim. Allow me to mention a few of the many honors earned by members of the faculty this year.



First, President Obama awarded the National Humanities Medal to Robert Darnton, one of the highest honors given by the government of the United States. David Armitage was elected an Honorary Fellow of the Australian Academy of the Humanities. David Blackburn was elected a Corresponding Fellow of the British Academy. Lizabeth Cohen was named Dean of the Radcliffe Institute of Advanced Study, and Liz and Michael McCormick were both elected to the American Academy of

Arts and Sciences. James Hankins was awarded the Paul Oskar Kristeller Lifetime Achievement Award from the Renaissance Society of America. Maya Jasanoff won the George Washington Book Prize, the National Book Critics Circle Award, and the Fraunces Tavern Museum Book Prize. Peter Gordon was awarded the Jacques Barzun Prize of the American Philosophical Society. Jill Lepore was selected as the Sarah Josepha Hale Medalist for 2012. Charles Maier was honored with the Helmut Schmidt Prize for lifetime achievement in the field of German-American economic history. Roger Owen was awarded the Giorgio Levi Della Vida Medal for Excellence in Islamic Studies. Emma Rothschild was honored with the Phi Beta Kappa teaching award and with the Saltire Society Scottish History of the Year Award.

Other good news includes the imminent return of Vince Brown to Harvard from Duke and the return to full-time status in the History Department of Niall Ferguson, who has been splitting his time between the Faculty of Arts and Sciences and Harvard Business School. More cause for celebration is Alison Frank's promotion to Professor of History and the promotion of Andy Jewett and Kelly O'Neill to the rank of Associate Professor. Welcome back, Vince and Niall, and congratulations, Alison, Andy, and Kelly.

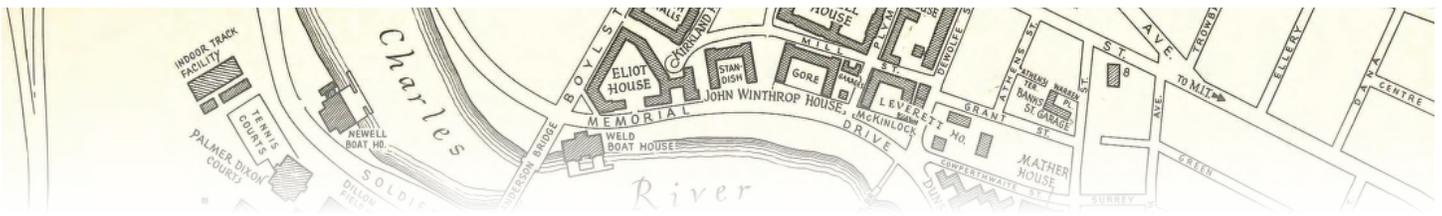
Of course, as always, not all the news is so happy. Oscar Handlin, an imposing presence at Harvard from the beginning of his graduate studies in 1934 until his death on September 20, 2011, was remembered by his

many former students and colleagues at a service held in his honor in Memorial Church. We also bid farewell this spring to several current colleagues who will be missed. David Blackburn leaves us for Vanderbilt University, Henrietta Harrison for Oxford, Rachel St. John for NYU, and Tryg Throntveit, after three extremely successful years as Assistant Director of Undergraduate Studies, for a post-doctoral fellowship at Dartmouth.

Among the recent innovations in the department are the positions of History Prize Instructor, College Fellow, Department Teaching Fellow, and Undergraduate Writing Fellow.



This year the History Prize Instructors and their courses were Julia Stephens, who taught *Islam, Law, and the State: Historical and Global Comparisons*; Heidi Tworek, who taught *Breaking Headlines: The History of News*; and Michael Tworek, who taught *The University and Society*. The College Fellows were Sergio Silva-Castañeda in Latin American history and Jeffrey Webb in Medieval history. Heidi Tworek, after a spectacularly successful term as Department Teaching Fellow this year, will be



rewarded with a term as Associate Director of Undergraduate Studies, and Stephen Walsh will succeed her as the new Department Teaching Fellow. This year's Undergraduate Writing Fellow was Ryan Wilkinson and he will continue in that role for the 2012-13 academic year. Our new History Prize Instructors are Philippa Hetherington, who will teach *The Oldest Profession? A Global History of Sex Work 1750 to the Present* in the spring; Rena Lauer, who will teach *Jewish History and the Question of Diaspora* in the fall; and Sarah Shortall, who will teach *Religion and Modernity in Transatlantic Perspective* in the spring. This year's College Fellows are Arbella Bet-Shlimon in Middle Eastern history, who comes to us from the History and Middle Eastern Studies graduate program, and Julia Timpe in modern European history, who comes to us from Brown University.

Given how much work was involved in conducting all the searches and reviews this year, the staff of the department have earned special recognition for doing their typically outstanding work under challenging circumstances. Janet Hatch continues to set the standard for departmental administrators, every year managing to forget nothing except what deserves to be forgotten and to remember everything that anybody (especially the department chair) needs to know. Elena Palladino not only managed somehow to avoid being buried under the avalanche of paper generated by all the searches and reviews, she also managed the chair's life with uncanny efficiency and limitless patience. Mary McConnell remains

the paragon of order she has always been, maintaining her good cheer, producing in the blink of an eye any information about the curriculum that anyone needs, and patiently herding a few wayward faculty members toward the fulfillment of their pedagogical duties. Liana De Marco ably handles the diverse duties of the front desk, assists faculty members with their research, and manages the department website, a task that becomes more challenging with every year as the

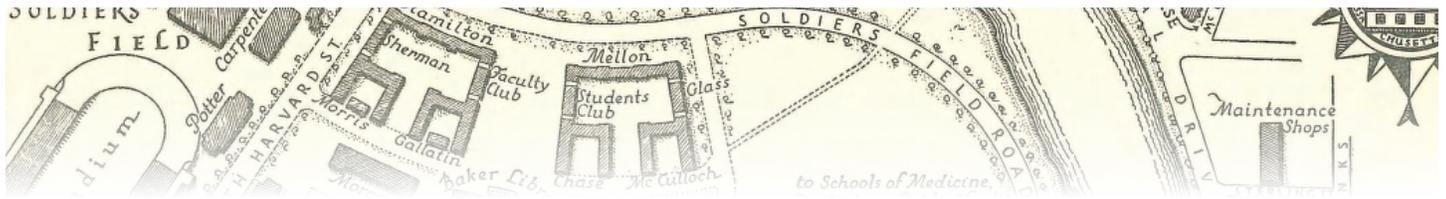


activities and resources available continue to expand. Matthew Corcoran had a busy year as graduate coordinator, not only managing the normal frenzy around admissions and exams but also coordinating the review of the graduate program and generating the impressive array of data that made possible a systematic assessment of the program's strengths and weaknesses. Next year will be Laura Johnson's turn, as her already

considerable duties as staff assistant of the undergraduate program will grow as that program too undergoes a systematic review. Cory Paulsen and Sylvie Papazian continue to manage the department's finances, a job requiring precision every year. The Summer Road faculty support staff, Jessica Gauchel, Lori Kelley, Meredith Bircher, and Michael Kelley, provide indispensable assistance of various sorts to our far-flung faculty, no easy feat given how disparate are our needs and how apparently limitless are our various forms of technological incompetence.

This is the last message I will write as chair, and I am happy to report that I am leaving the department in excellent hands. Ann Blair will return from her semester at the École Normale Supérieure in Paris to serve again as Director of Undergraduate Studies, taking the reins from Maya Jasanoff, who filled in for her too well this spring to be able to avoid another term as DUS sooner or later. Erez Manela, who did an excellent job filling in when David Armitage was on leave in 2010-11, returns as Director of Graduate Studies. Finally, after his splendidly successful term as DGS, David Armitage will begin his term as chair this summer. Renowned for his energy, his efficiency, and his brisk, British-Civil-Service-inspired commitment to short meetings, David seems ideally suited to the position. I have confidence both that David will thrive in the corner office and that, with the help of Janet and the rest of the staff, the department will continue to flourish under his stewardship.





## Faculty News



In the past three years **Emmanuel Akyeampong** has been involved in two major projects. The first, with Henry Louis Gates Jr., has been the *Dictionary of African Biography* (Oxford University Press, 2012).

This is a six-volume project with 2,100 entries on all of continental Africa from the early historical periods to the present. This is a significant collection that advances a long-standing interest to use biographies and life histories as an avenue into African history. The chief editors provide a useful introduction to the collection in “African Lives: An Introduction,” xxix-xliv.

The second project has been Akyeampong’s participation in a working group on “Understanding African Poverty over the Longue Durée” with funding from the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs. The group sponsored an international workshop on the theme in Ghana in July 2010 at which 27 commissioned papers by various disciplinary experts were presented. An edited volume based on a selection of revised papers from the conference is forthcoming. Akyeampong is co-author of the introduction, and has a separate chapter on Commerce, Credit and Social Mobility in late 19<sup>th</sup> Century Gold Coast. Pursuing his interest in political economy and trade, Akyeampong has two other recent publications: “Africa, the Arabian Gulf and Asia: Changing Dynamics in Contemporary West Africa’s Political Economy,” *Journal of African Development*, 13: 1 (Spring 2011), 73-105; and Emmanuel Akyeampong and Hippolyte Fofack, “The Contribution of African Women to Economic Growth and Development: Historical Perspectives and Policy Implications – Part I: The Pre-colonial and Colonial Periods.” World Bank, Policy Research Working Paper, WPS 6051, April 2012.



**David Armitage**, Lloyd C. Blankfein Professor of History and Director of Graduate Studies, was elected an Honorary Fellow of the Australian Academy of the Humanities. He delivered the Nicolai Rubinstein Lecture in the History

of Political Thought and Intellectual History at Queen Mary, University of London, and the Ervin Frederick Kalb Lecture at Rice University; gave keynote addresses in Baton Rouge, Buenos Aires, and Tel Aviv; and spoke at conferences in Chicago, Jerusalem, New York, Palo Alto, and São Paulo. Among his publications this year were Japanese, Portuguese, and Spanish translations of *The Declaration of Independence: A Global History*: the Brazilian edition was launched in Rio de Janeiro with a three-day international symposium devoted to his work. In July 2012, he will begin a three-year term as Chair of the History Department.



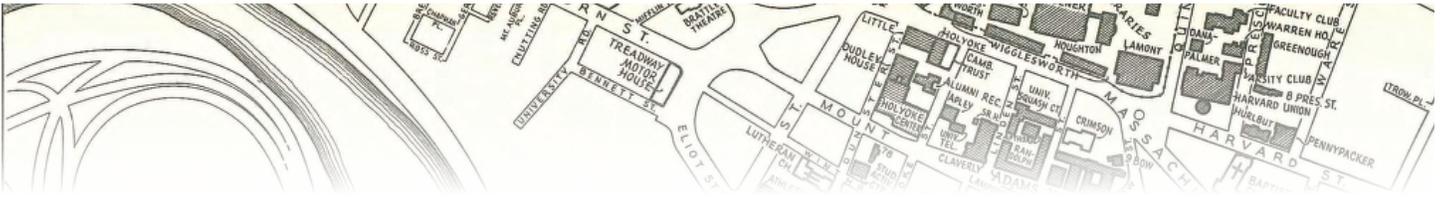
**Sven Beckert** organized the first ever faculty led study abroad program in Harvard’s history, taking twenty undergraduates to Europe from January to July of 2012 to participate in the Harvard College Europe Program. In the fall, he organized two conferences, one on Global History, Globally (held in Berlin) and one on The History of Capitalism,

held at Harvard. He also started, with Charles Maier, the Weatherhead Initiative on Global History, a major multi-year program that aims to make Harvard into one of the world’s centers for global history. The class of 2012 voted Beckert as one of their favorite professors.



This year **Ann Blair** has given lectures in Santa Barbara, Edinburgh, Leiden, Munich, Lyon, and Paris where she was a visiting professor at the École Normale Supérieure while on leave this spring. During this leave she has been studying how humanist scholars worked collaboratively with others--

with assistants and amanuenses as well as with other humanists-- in the 16th and 17th centuries. She and Leah Price of the Harvard English Department are developing an on-line exhibition of examples of note-taking preserved in the Harvard libraries and archives that matches the breadth of the Harvard collections. The exhibit will feature



ancient potsherds and papyri, annotations in medieval manuscripts, student notes and sermon notes from the early days of the College, and modern notes of many kinds, including annotations in books, field and laboratory notes, typescripts, and machine-recorded observations. The exhibit will be launched in fall 2012, in advance of a conference at the Radcliffe Institute on November 1-2, entitled “Take Note!” which will consider the past and future of note-taking and the impact of digital technologies.



**Sugata Bose**, Gardiner Professor of History, gave lectures on his book *His Majesty’s Opponent: Subhas Chandra Bose and India’s Struggle against Empire* (Cambridge, MA: the Belknap Press of Harvard University Press and New Delhi: Allen Lane, Penguin, 2011) at the Free University of Berlin, Cambridge

University, Tokyo University and Ryukoku University, and the Indian Embassy, Washington, DC, in May and June 2011. President S.R. Nathan formally launched the book in Singapore on July 5, 2011. Ceremonial book launches followed in Kolkata, Mumbai, Dhaka, Delhi and Chennai.

Bose’s book of translations of nearly a hundred Tagore songs *Tagore: the World Voyager* (Random House India and the Ministry of Culture India) along with five accompanying CDs was released in March 2012.

Bose addressed the Beijing Forum organized by the Peking University Foundation on the “The Idea of Asia in Modern History” in November 2011. He spoke at the Jaipur Literature Festival on biography in January 2012 and took part in the inaugural session of the literature festival at the Kolkata Book Fair later that month.

Bose is serving as Chair of the Presidency Mentor Group charged with the rejuvenation of the iconic Presidency University, Kolkata (established as Hindu College in 1817), as a world-class center of excellence. He is also a member of the Nalanda Governing Board seeking to revive the world’s oldest university.



**Lizabeth Cohen**, Howard Mumford Jones Professor of American Studies in the History Department, who served as Interim Dean of the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study during academic year 2011-12, has been named as permanent Dean by President Drew Faust.



Throughout last year **Robert Darnton** continued to give talks and to publish articles, mainly in *The New York Review of Books*, about the Digital Public Library of America. Working with John Palfrey of the Law School, he has been a leader of the DPLA’s Steering Committee, which is preparing to get the DPLA up and running by April 2013. On February 13, President Obama conferred a National Humanities Medal on Darnton at a ceremony in the White House.



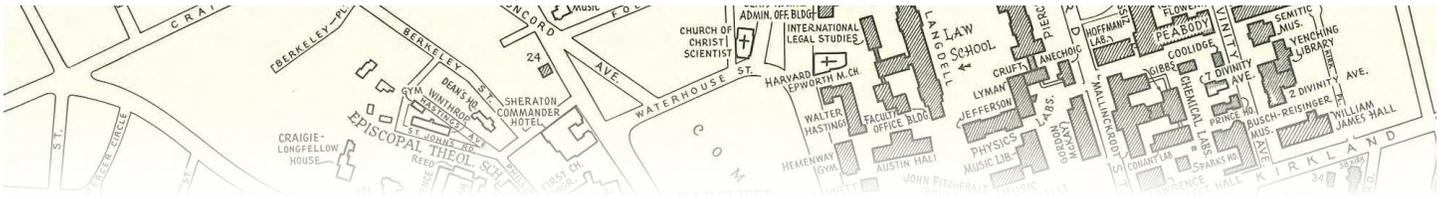
**Andrew Gordon** published *Fabricating Consumers: The Sewing Machine in Modern Japan* with University of California Press in fall 2011. This May he delivered the annual Marius Jansen Memorial Lecture in Japanese Studies at Princeton, speaking on “The Many Lives of the Japanese Employment

System.” Over the past year he has been leading a project to build a digital archive of Japan’s March 11 disasters. This initiative was recently featured in *Harvard Magazine*’s May-June 2012 cover story, “[Digitizing the Humanities](#)”.



**Peter E. Gordon** was the recipient of the Jacques Barzun Prize from the American Philosophical Society for his book, *Continental Divide: Heidegger, Cassirer, Davos* (Harvard University Press, 2010; paperback 2012); a Japanese translation is forthcoming. He was also appointed to a new chair in the

department with the title of Amabel B. James Professor of History. He will be on leave for the length of next

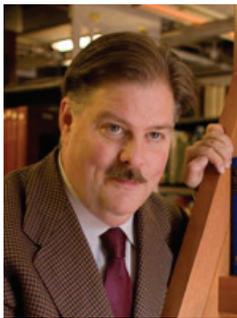


academic year (2012-13) and will be in residence at Princeton University as a faculty fellow at the Shelby Cullom Davis Center for Historical Studies, where he is working on a new book on secularization and social thought in the 20th century.



**Patrice Higonnet's** review essay on Robespierre will be published in the June 26 issue of *Foreign Affairs*.

America” and “Philosophy, the Social Sciences, and the Cultural Turn in the 1930s USA.” During the past academic year, he co-led a fellowship program on “The Politics of Knowledge in Universities and the State” at the Charles Warren Center for Studies in American History and spoke at Columbia University, the École Normale Supérieure de Cachan, and the University of Porto, among others.



**James Hankins** received The Kristeller Lifetime Achievement Award from The Renaissance Society of America. He is youngest

recipient of the award, which has previously gone to two other Harvard professors James S. Ackerman in 1998 and Lewis Lockwood in 2008. Harvard PhDs who have won the award are F. Edward Cranz and John W. O'Malley.



**Maya Jasanoff's** book *Liberty's Exiles* won the National Book Critics Circle award for General

Nonfiction, the George Washington Book Prize, the Fraunces Tavern Museum Book Prize, a Recognition of Excellence from the Cundill Prize in History, and was shortlisted for the BBC Samuel Johnson Prize. She delivered the spring Distinguished Lecture in History and Literature at Harvard on “The Worlds of Joseph Conrad,” the subject of her new research.



**Charles Maier** was awarded the Helmut Schmidt prize at the German Historical Institute in Washington on December 8, 2011, where

he delivered a lecture on the topic: “Lessons from history? German economic experiences and the crisis of the Euro.” The Helmut Schmidt Prize pays tribute to the former German chancellor for his part in transforming the framework of transatlantic economic cooperation and is given by the Zeit/Bucerius Foundation for German-American economic history. The Prize is awarded every second year.



On May 2<sup>nd</sup> **Evelyn Brooks Higginbotham** received the Star Family Prize for Excellence in Advising Award for exemplary intellectual

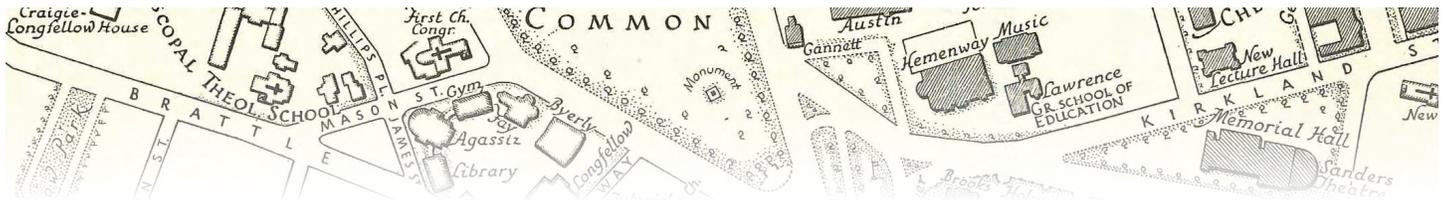
and personal guidance of Harvard undergraduate students in this inaugural year of the award by the Advising Programs Office of the College. She was also the recipient of the competitive Hauser Fund Grant, given to her by the Harvard Initiative for Learning and Teaching (HILT) for the project “Portraits in Multimedia: A Social Engagement Project in African and African American Studies.”



**Andrew Jewett** has been promoted to Associate Professor, and his book *Science, Democracy, and the American*

*University: From the Civil War to the Cold War* will be published by Cambridge University Press this fall. He has begun working on a new project tentatively titled *Rethinking Science and Religion: Toward a Political History of Postwar American Thought*. Other forthcoming publications include articles on “The Politics of Knowledge in 1960s

Maier also contributed to Volume 4 of “A History of the World,” edited by Akira Iriye and Jürgen Osterhammel. The piece is entitled *Leviathan 2.0: Inventing Modern Statehood*, and will be published separately and as part of the overall volume this coming fall in English (Harvard University Press) and German (Beck Verlag).



**Ian Miller** won a Social Science Research Council Abe Fellowship for 2012-2013. Co-sponsored by the American Council of

Learned Societies and the Center for Global Partnership, the award will take him to Harbin, London, Paris, and Tokyo as he traces the evolution of urban environmental thinking in postwar Japan and around the world. His examination of ecological modernity in Japan, *The Nature of the Beasts: Empire and Exhibition at the Tokyo Imperial Zoo*, will be published by the University of California Press in 2012 and his co-edited volume (with Julia Adeney Thomas and Brett L. Walker), *Japan at Nature's Edge: The Environmental Context of a Global Power*, will be published by University of Hawai'i Press at around the same time. He was also awarded a fellowship from the American Philosophical Society and gave numerous lectures and presentations.



On April 12, 2012, CMES held a celebration in honor of **Roy P. Mottahedeh**, Gurney Professor of History and director of

the Center from 1987 to 1990. The celebration began with a public lecture by Fred Donner, professor of Near Eastern history, University of Chicago, titled "How Ecumenical Was Early Islam?" followed by a

public reception and a dinner for Professor Mottahedeh's current and former colleagues and students. On April 13, 2012 his students gathered for a private lunch with him at CMES. In lieu of a formal *Festschrift*, Professor Mottahedeh's former students Sarah Savant (Aga Khan University) and Kristen Stilt (Northwestern University) organized a *tabula gratulatoria* of reflections and remembrances written by his colleagues and former students, which can be viewed [here](#).



**Afsaneh Najmabadi** received a second NEH grant in support of the Women's Worlds in Qajar Iran digital archive project.



**Daniel Smail**, in collaboration with a group of authors, published *Deep History: The Architecture of Past and Present*. He spent the

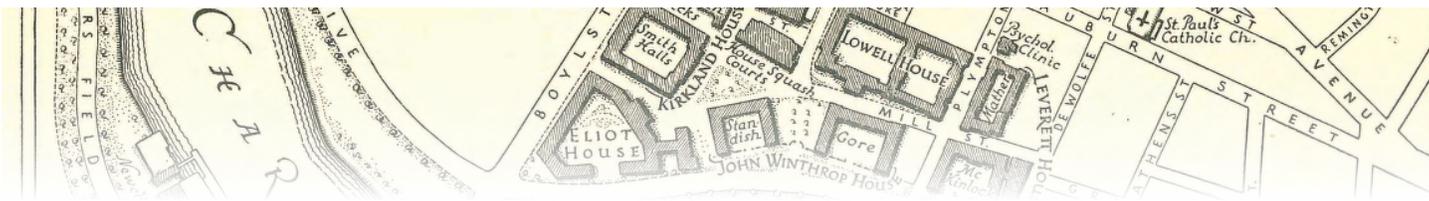
2011-12 sabbatical year as a Fellow at the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Studies working on material culture and debt recovery in fourteenth-century Marseille and Lucca.



**Hue-Tam Ho Tai**, Kenneth T. Young Professor of Sino-Vietnamese History, spent her spring semester sabbatical

leave editing a conference volume on *State, Society and the Market in Contemporary Vietnam: Property, Power and Values* which is due to be published by Routledge at the end of 2012; she also organized two just concluded international conferences: "Nguyen Vietnam, 1558-1885: Foreign Interactions," May 11-12, 2012, at the Institute for Social Sciences and Humanities of the University of Hong Kong and "Cultural Exchanges between Vietnam and East Asia," May 15-17, 2012, at the University of Social Sciences and Humanities of Vietnam National University. The two conferences featured participants from the PRC, Hong Kong, Japan, Korea, Vietnam and North America.

In addition, she advised her research coordinate, Dr. Ngo thi Thanh Tam of the Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity (Gottingen, Germany) in the revision of her dissertation on the conversion to Protestantism of the Hmong of Vietnam.



## Meet Kirsten Weld: New Faculty Appointment in Latin American History

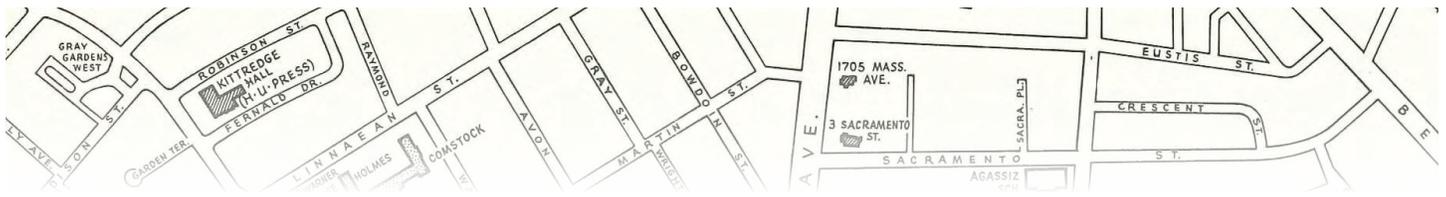


Meet the Department's newest faculty member: Kirsten Weld, assistant professor of Latin American history. A native of Ottawa, Canada, she comes to us from the History Department at Brandeis University, where she served as the 2010-2012 Florence Levy Kay Fellow in Latin American History.

Weld's appointment is the result of the most recent faculty search in Latin American history, which began last spring. Since the departures of John Coatsworth, Jack Womack, and Ken Maxwell, the Department has "lacked Latin American professors," as the *Crimson* wrote in 2010. This no longer being the case, Weld and her future Latin Americanist colleagues will take up the formidable task of rebuilding the once robust Latin American program here in the History Department.

Weld says this challenge, along with the vibrant community of the David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies (DRCLAS) and the dynamism of the History faculty, was an important factor in her decision to accept Harvard's offer. She says that the obvious first step in that rebuilding process will be recruiting top graduate students in the field in order to develop a strong cohort. Beyond that, she hopes to strengthen the program by renewing the History Department's links to DRCLAS and with initiatives like the resuscitation of an annual three-way conference in Latin American history among students at Harvard, Yale, and Columbia.

Weld participated in the conference herself before receiving her PhD from Yale in 2010, which was preceded by her BA in 20<sup>th</sup> century world history from McGill in 2004. Her dissertation, "Reading the Politics of History in Guatemala's National Police Archives," won the prestigious Council of Graduate Schools/UMI Distinguished Dissertation Award, Yale's university-wide John Addison Porter Prize for the best work of scholarship in any field, and Yale's Stephen Vella Prize for combining extraordinary scholarship with a commitment to social justice. Weld's work took as its point of departure the 2005 rediscovery of postwar Guatemala's enormous, long-hidden National Police archives; in the dissertation, she used the case of Guatemala, and of how it grappled with the archives, to probe larger questions about Latin American state terror, the production of historical and archival knowledge, social movements, the Cold War, memory, and post-conflict transition. She is currently completing a book manuscript based on this research, to be published by Duke University Press in 2013 under the title *Paper Cadavers: The Archives of Dictatorship in Guatemala*.



For her study, Weld was for several years the only foreigner to work daily alongside the Guatemalan volunteers and activists laboring to rescue the estimated 75 million records, which were found by accident in a dilapidated warehouse. After signing a confidentiality agreement, she began the work of helping to sort through millions of pages, many of them moldy, rotting, and infested with insects and rodents, in order to uncover new evidence of state-sponsored crimes against humanity from Guatemala's 36-year-long civil war. However, Weld says that she does not use the archive the way traditional historians would – by diving directly into the content of the documents, which was initially impossible given their condition and size – but rather considers the archive as a site of shifting political control that sheds light on the dynamics of wars, state security forces, and post-conflict change. She employs an interdisciplinary methodology to explore how these documents acquired their power during the war, and how a document once used in the service of political repression can come to be deployed for the purposes of postwar social reconstruction. In so doing, she analyzes how the stakes of how history is made, written, contested, and used outside the academy.

In this way, social justice and politics are closely linked to history for Weld, particularly in her belief that the fruits of historical analysis should be useful in the present day. She says that the “So what?” question asked of academic work is immensely important to her, as is engaging in conversation that is accessible to a larger community. In fact, Weld's second manuscript, *Strike of Sorrows: Guatemala's Long Twentieth Century* (under contract with Hill & Wang), will be a “crossover” history of Guatemala, intended for the broader public as well as academics.

Though Weld was initially attracted to the research and writing aspects of academic work, as evidenced by her manuscripts in progress, she has found teaching to be an

“unexpected joy.” She has four courses slated for next year, revitalizing the field of Latin American history in the Department. In the fall she will teach a course on the History of the Maya, in which the alleged Mayan prediction of the apocalypse – which is set to occur at the end of the semester – will be addressed and representations of the Maya throughout history will be critically examined. She will also teach a course on the “complex, mutually constitutive, and often thorny” relationship between Latin America and the United States. In the spring, in addition to a history of modern Latin America, Weld will teach a conference course that will consider the dirty wars and peace processes of Chile, Argentina, El Salvador, and Guatemala in comparative historical and political contexts. She looks forward to teaching this course in particular, as current events unfolding in real time offer opportunities to consider how those countries continue to grapple with their conflictive histories in the present day.

Weld's office will be in CGIS. We look forward to Kirsten's arrival this summer and hope you will join us in welcoming her to the History Department and to Harvard.

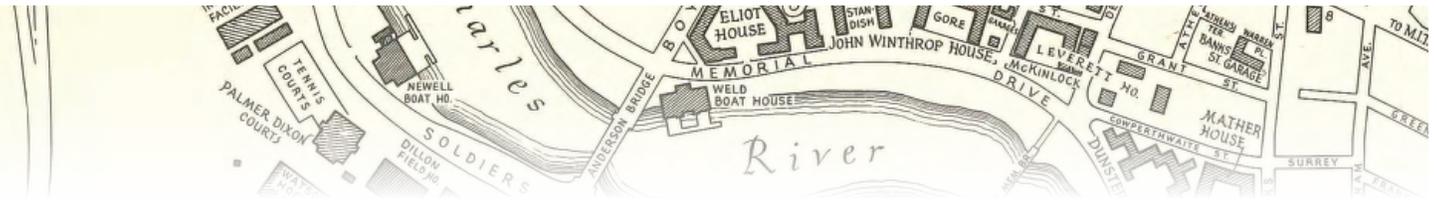
### Tempus

The History Department's undergraduate research journal, *Tempus*, continues to publish excellent undergraduate research in history and its related disciplines.

Under the direction of Editors Brendan Maione-Downing '13 and Anne Marie Creighton '14, and with the help of departmental writing fellow Ryan Wilkinson, the 10-member board reviews submissions of undergraduate work and guides selected papers through a full peer-review process. The board of *Tempus* also fulfills its mission to bring together the undergraduate history community at Harvard by hosting a biannual reception open to all Harvard affiliates interested in the study of the human past.

*Tempus* publishes online twice a year - the most recent issue can be read at <http://www.hcs.harvard.edu/tempus>.





## Undergraduate News



*From Ann Blair and Maya Jasanoff, Directors of Undergraduate Studies in Fall 2011 and Spring 2012 respectively*

In the Undergraduate Office the academic year began in late August with a teaching retreat at which we welcomed new instructors and visitors, and a Concentrations Fair at which students could learn about our Department from concentrators, tutors and faculty. A few weeks later we launched our curricular planning for next year, using an on-line survey devised by the outgoing Director of Undergraduate Studies Daniel Lord Smail and by our tech-savvy graduate coordinator Matthew Corcoran. As a browse through the Harvard course catalogue will show, our Department is offering about 90 courses for 2012-13 across a broad array of times, places, and themes.

In late October and early November, we organized lunches in the Undergraduate Houses during which faculty interacted informally with interested students; we aimed especially to reach sophomores before they settled on a concentration by mid-November. We are grateful for the participation of Professors David Armitage, Andrew Gordon, Andrew Jewett, Cemal Kafadar, James Kloppenberg, Serhii Plokhii, and Emma Rothschild in this program. Shortly after we welcomed the new sophomore concentrators, the 42 thesis-writing seniors offered presentations of their theses in progress during our annual two-day senior thesis conference. Special thanks to our colleagues David Armitage, Felix Boecking, Joyce Chaplin, Brett Flehinger, Peter Gordon, James Kloppenberg, Charles Maier, Erez Manela, Lisa McGirr, Emma Rothschild, and Sergio Silva-Castañeda for moderating one of the 11 panels of 3-4 students each. Four months later, every student in History 99 successfully submitted a thesis of 60-80 pages on the due date. Warm congratulations to the thesis writers and their advisers!

This year the History concentration introduced a new joint concentration with Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, enabling students to combine the study of the language and history of one or more of the many Near Eastern cultures in which Harvard offers instruction. The program was modeled on the small but highly regarded

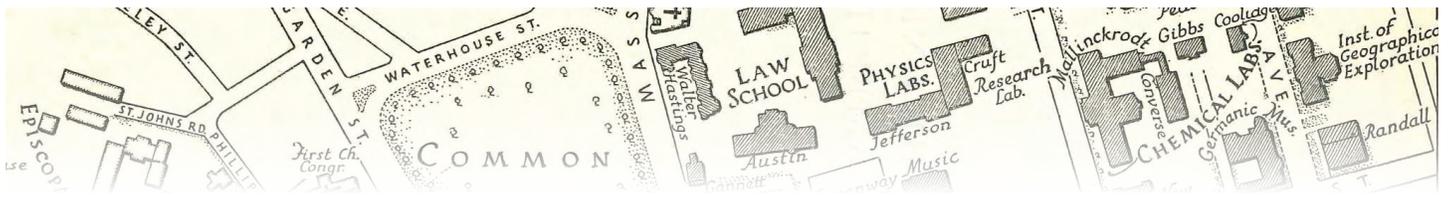
joint concentration in History and East Asian Languages and Civilizations.

As the accumulated changes to the undergraduate curriculum take hold—with General Education replacing the Core, reading and research seminars in place of the junior tutorial, and more—we enter 2012-13 especially interested in understanding how these modifications have affected our concentrators and would-be concentrators. We continue to think about ways to address student demand for “gateway” courses that can serve as effective entry-points into the curriculum. This year, for the first time, we distributed an exit survey to our seniors to find out more about their experience.

The Undergraduate Office has partnered with Marlon Kuzmick at the Bok Center to produce videos that address the question so many potential concentrators wonder: “Why history?” We are very grateful to Ann Blair, Caroline Elkins, Maya Jasanoff, James Kloppenberg, Michael McCormick, and Trygve Throntveit for participating in this project. Edited versions of their interviews will soon be uploaded onto the website, and we plan to augment this content in the year ahead with footage from concentration activities, such as the dynamic introductory event organized by Professor Jill Lepore for History 97. We’re also looking forward to launching a headline concentration event in the fall, featuring ten-minute lectures by faculty that discuss the meaning and pursuit of history today.

“What can you do with a history degree?” must be the question we hear most often from prospective students. If you have an answer you’d like to share with us, please get in touch! We would love to include interviews with



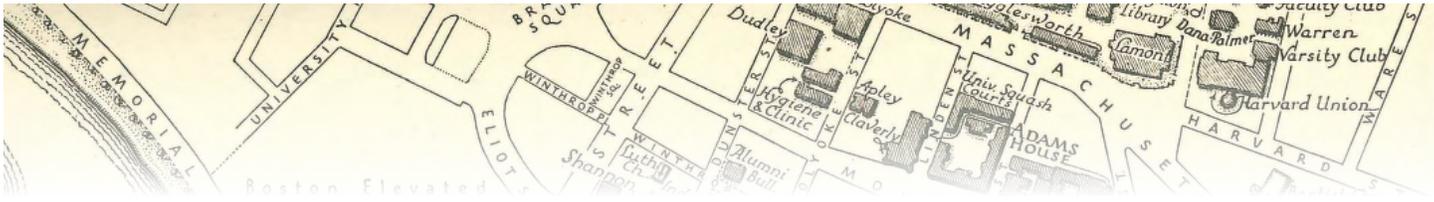


concentrators and alumni/ae on our website. During the College's Advising Fortnight this year in early April, we again sponsored a panel of alumni to discuss the impact on their lives of having concentrated in history. Prospective and current concentrators asked questions of and shared a meal with our panelists. Special thanks to recent alums Victor Ban '05, Noah McCormack '04, John Riley '10, and Hummy Song '08. We would be delighted to hear from alumni who could volunteer to participate in such a panel in spring '13!

As the year closes we say goodbye and a warmest thank you to Dr. Trygve Throntveit, who has served for three years as an outstanding Assistant Director of Undergraduate Studies. We look forward to welcoming Dr. Heidi Tworek to this position in the fall. As always, Laura Johnson ensures that the wheels move smoothly, and we owe her special thanks for all her efforts during this transition year. Thanks, finally and as always, to the terrific faculty, teaching fellows, and students who make History every day.

### AB Recipients 2012

Nadem Elias Abou-Arraj	Raymond William Duer	Learah Tahra Lockhart	Isabel Middendorf Salovaara
Elizabeth Conlon Ahern	Matthew Lyndon Edstein	Miranda Keren Margowsky	Madeleine Marthe Schwartz
Panagiotis Angelopoulos	Raymond John Fadel	Laurel Anne McCarthy	Sofia Margaret Selowsky
Christopher Augustine Ballesteros	Elizabeth Marshall Fryman	Alex Martin McLeese	Taylor Emerson Simmons
John M. Bassett	Ammanuel Gashaw Gebeyehu	Shannon Marie Morrow	John Sohn
Lili Clare Behm	Bryce Joseph Gilfillian	Christopher Prescott Olsen	Oluwadurotimi Ayomakinwa Soleye
Stefan Franco Botarelli	Kevin James Harrington	Kevin Ryan Palmer	Salena Marie Sullivan
Omar Andre Cancio	Max Reuben Harris	Maya Esther Peña	Meghan Gay Thomsen
Emma Rose Carron	Winston Sinclair Hill	Alexandre Nicolas Popp	Sara Blythe Towne
Jacob Jesse Cedarbaum	Alexandra Christine Jumper	Alexandra Anwara Rahman	Andres Davies Uribe
Jane Xi Chen	Kwang Yul Kim	Jessica Roman-Salazar	Daniel Villafana
Ann Miriam Cheng	Cyrus Benjamin Kornfeld	Elliott Jacob Rosenbaum	Maryana Vrubel
Christopher Warren Danello	Zhanrui Kuang	Brett Alyson Rosenberg	Alexander Harold Watler
Matthew Joseph DaSilva	Ian Neal Kumekawa	Michaela Bethany Ross	Ethan Nathaniel Waxman
Caroline Patricia Davis	Adrienne Yin-Yin Lee	Jacqueline Joan Rossi	Matthew Edward Whitaker
Nicholas Anthony Dube	Morgan Ann Lehmann	Robert Louis Ruffins	Christian Davis Wood
		Inna Ryzhik	



## Undergraduate Awards and Prizes

### DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY PRIZE

*for the best total record as history concentrator by the end of the senior year*

awarded to **Brett Alyson Rosenberg**.

### PHILIP WASHBURN PRIZE

*for best thesis on historical subject*

awarded to **Christopher Augustine Ballesteros** for his thesis: "Hanapepe: Massacre, Migration, and the Transnational Origins of Philippine Independence, 1924-1934."

### DAVID HERBERT DONALD PRIZE

*for excellence in American history*

awarded to **Isabel Middendorf Salovaara**.

### COLTON AWARD

*for excellence in the preparation of a senior thesis in the Department of History*

awarded to **Ian Neal Kumekawa** for his thesis: "To Strive Bravely Towards a Surer Goal: A.C. Pigou and the Origins of Welfare Economics."

### FERGUSON PRIZE

*for best History 97 essay, 2010-11*

awarded to **Brendan Maione-Downing** for his paper: "For the Honour of the World: Giovanni Giustiniani and Constantinople's Last Stand."

### LILLIAN BELL PRIZE

*for student with the best paper on the Holocaust or other major 20<sup>th</sup>-century event involving human tragedy*

awarded to **James K. McAuley, Jr.**, History & Literature student, for his thesis: "Decision in Bourdeaux: Eduardo Propper de Callejon, the Problem of the Jewish Refugees, and Actor-Network Theory in Vichy France, 1940-1941."

### UNDERGRADUATE ESSAY PRIZE

*for the best work of original historical scholarship produced before the senior year in a history department course, 2010-11*

awarded to **Elizabeth Conlon Ahern** for her paper: "The Benefits of Pink Think: A History of the Mary Kay Cosmetics Company in Domestic and Global Contexts."

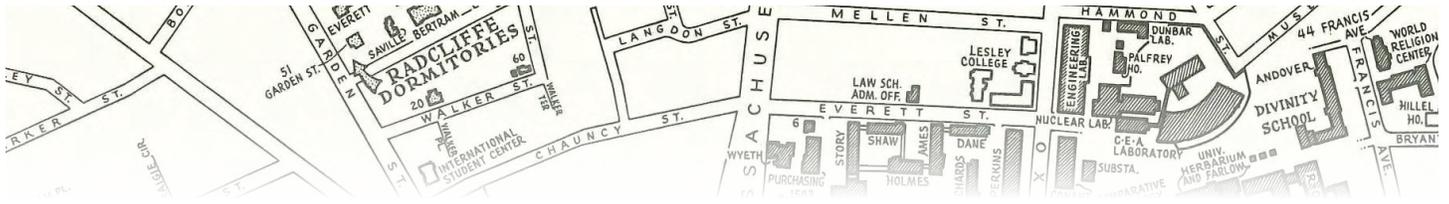
### Phi Beta Kappa:

*Seniors, Class of 2012:*

Nicholas Anthony Dube  
Max Reuben Harris  
Alexandra Christine Jumper  
Alexandra Anwara Rahman  
Brett Alyson Rosenberg  
Isabel Middendorf Salovaara  
Ethan Nathaniel Waxman

*Juniors, Class of 2013:*

Julian Baird Gewirtz  
Benjamin B. H. Wilcox



## Thomas Temple Hoopes Prize

This year six of our forty-two senior thesis writers in History won the Thomas Temple Hoopes Prize for the Social Sciences, awarded every year by the College to the top social science theses. We commend the writers for their achievement and for bringing this disproportionate share of Hoopes Prizes to the Department. It is evidence of the strength of our faculty and graduate-student thesis advising as well as the soundness of the Department's unique senior thesis workshop program, which has been helping History students garner these awards in surprising numbers for several years now. This year's Hoopes Prize winners were:

**Max Reuben Harris**, for his submission entitled "When a Dollar Wasn't Worth a Buck: The Greenback Reserve, the Treasury, and the Interconnection Between Fiscal and Monetary Policy, 1869-1874," nominated by Professor Niall Ferguson.

**Winston Sinclair Hill**, for his submission entitled "God Brought It To That Issue At Last," nominated by Mr. Noah McCormack.

**Ian Neal Kumekawa**, for his submission entitled "To 'Strive Bravely Towards a Surer Goal': A.C. Pigou and the Origins of Welfare Economics," nominated by Professor Emma Rothschild.

**Maya Esther Pena**, for her submission entitled "A Cup and A Half of Health: This History of Flour Enrichment in the United States 1910-1955," nominated by Mr. Alexander More.

**Alexandra Anwara Rahman**, for her submission entitled "Plantation University: Harvard Scientists at Soledad Plantation and Cuba's Transition from Slavery to Free Labor, 1880-1920," nominated by Professor Sven Beckert.

**Brett Alyson Rosenberg**, for her submission entitled "Prospect for America: Nelson Rockefeller, the Special Studies Project, and the Search for America's Best and Brightest," nominated by Professor Niall Ferguson.

## Fellowships and Scholarships

### Artist Development Fellowship

John Randolph Bradham Thornton

### Alex G. Booth '30 Fund Fellowship

Inna Ryzhik

### Harvard-Cambridge Scholarship

Lauren Elizabeth Tiedemann

### Henry Fellowship

Madeleine Marthe Schwartz

### Frank Knox Memorial Fellowship

Ian Neal Kumekawa

### Newbold Rhinelander Landon Memorial Scholarship

Nicholas Anthony Dube

### Carl And Lily Pforzheimer Foundation Public Service Fellowship

Isabel Middendorf Salovaara

### Rhodes Scholarship (U.S.)

Brett Alyson Rosenberg

### Henry Russell Shaw Fellowship

Learah Tahra Lockhart





## Graduate News

### Ph.D. Recipients 2012

#### Faisal I. Chaudhry

(BA, Columbia; JD, Harvard; AM, Harvard)

“Legalizing the Normative: The Historical Ontology of Law’s Rule in British India and the Globalization of Classical Legal Thought, 1757 – c. 1920”

#### Emily Louise Conroy-Krutz

(BA, Columbia; AM, Harvard)

“The Conversion of the World in the Early Republic: Race, Gender, and Imperialism in the Early American Foreign Mission Movement”

#### Heidi Tworek

(BA, University of Cambridge; AM, Harvard)

“Magic Connections: German News Agencies and Global News Networks, 1905-1945”

#### Joshua Benjamin Hill

(BA, Yale; AM, Harvard)

“Voting as a Rite: Changing Ideas of Elections in Twentieth Century China”

#### Nikhil Kapur

(BA, Stanford; AM, Harvard)

“The 1960 US-Japan Security Treaty Crisis and the Origins of Contemporary Japan”

#### Stefan Link

(BA, Humboldt University; MA, University College London; AM, Harvard)

“Transnational Fordism, Ford Motor Company, Nazi Germany, and the Soviet Union in the Interwar Years”

#### Di Yin Lu

(BA, Stanford; MA, Yale)

“Seizing Civilization: Antiquities in Shanghai’s Custody, 1949 – 1996”

#### Maya Peterson

(BA, Swarthmore)

“Technologies of Rule: Empire, Water, and the Modernization of Central Asia, 1867-1941”

#### Tristan Stein

(BA, University of Southern California; AM, Harvard)

“The Mediterranean in the English Empire of Trade, 1660-1780”

#### John D. Wong

(BA, Chicago; MBA, Stanford)

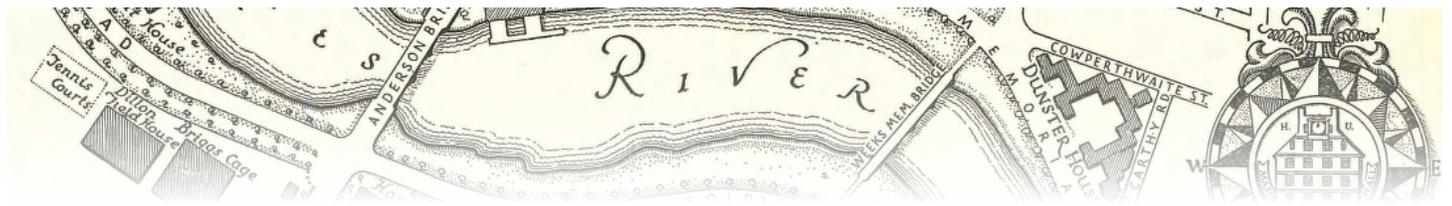
“Global Positioning: Houqua and his China Trade Partners in the Nineteenth Century”

#### Hsiao-pei Yen

(BS, National Taiwan University; MFA, Pratt Institute; MA, SUNY Albany)

“Constructing the Chinese: Paleoanthropology and Anthropology in the Chinese Frontier, 1920-1950”





## Graduate Placement 2012

### *Tenure-track positions:*

<b>Raja Adal</b>	University of Cincinnati
<b>Tariq Ali</b>	University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
<b>Joshua Hill</b>	Ohio University
<b>Johan Mathew</b>	UMass, Amherst
<b>Maya Peterson</b>	UC Santa Cruz
<b>Julia Stephens</b>	Yale University
<b>Eren Tasar</b>	Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis
<b>Shirley Ye</b>	University of Birmingham

### *Other:*

<b>Faisal Chaudhry</b>	ACLS New Faculty Fellowship, U. Penn
<b>Emily Conroy-Krutz</b>	VAP, Michigan State University
<b>Kristin Poling</b>	VAP, University of Rochester

### *Harvard positions:*

<b>Elizabeth More</b>	Lecturer, History and Literature
<b>Heidi Tworek</b>	Assistant DUS, History Department

### *Post-doctoral fellowships:*

<b>Raja Adal</b>	Japan Society for the Promotion of Science
<b>Joshua Hill</b>	Center for Chinese Studies, UC Berkeley
<b>Konrad Lawson</b>	European University Institute
<b>Stefan Link</b>	European University Institute
<b>Erik Linstrum</b>	Michigan Society of Fellows
<b>Di Yin Lu</b>	Yale University
<b>Tryg Throntveit</b>	Dartmouth College

## Henry Adams Club

The Henry Adams club continues to be a Friday-night bastion of reprieve for otherwise book-weary graduate students. Turnout at meetings this year has been excellent, and was especially high at a special meeting we put on for our 2012-2013 prospective students featuring Indian food from Tamarind Bay Restaurant in Harvard Square. This meeting gave us all a chance to answer questions from new students considering Harvard, as well as show them that graduate life at Harvard does not end outside the Widener carrel. We are all very excited about our new batch of History graduate students!

Club president Gregory Afinogenov and Vice President Shaun Nichols also put on a number of special events throughout the year. In November, a special ceremony was held to bestow upon the late Professor Oscar Handlin a posthumous position as club officer. Handlin was originally denied a place in the club during his graduate student days in the 1930s based on his Jewish heritage. Handlin's family, Professor Emeritus Bernard Bailyn, and many of our current graduate students, joined us in paying tribute to a great American historian while celebrating the changes he himself inaugurated in American life and culture. We have since received many positive letters from alumni thanking us for our efforts. Thanks to everyone who helped!

In the spring, we also put on our annual weeklong book sale to raise money for the club. Many faculty generously donated books, and many graduate students graciously gave their time to help – we thank all of them.

We are looking forward to another great year, and are planning to add a variety of panels on graduate student life to our normal lineup of meetings, as well as continuing in our tradition of serving up beer and camaraderie every Friday night.



## Dissertation Prospectus Conference

In January, graduate students from the History Department and affiliated programs took an important step toward completing their dissertations by introducing their research topics at the Dissertation Prospectus Conference. The yearly conference is an opportunity for students who have recently completed their General Examination to formally present their research plans to members of the faculty and to their peers. This year's program included:

*Session moderated by Professor Ann Blair*

**Meredith Quinn**, Books and Their Readers in 17th-Century Istanbul

**Aslihan Gurbuzel**, Social Imagination in the Mystical Works of Ismail Ankaravi

**Kathryn Schwartz**, The Industry of Arabic Print in 19th Century Ottoman Alexandria, Cairo, and Beirut

**Asher Orkaby**, The International History of the Yemeni Civil War, 1962-1968

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*Session moderated by Professor Emmanuel Akeampong*

**Nicholas Crawford**, Feeding Slavery: the Problem of Food Supply in the British Caribbean, 1770-1820

**Rhae Lynn Barnes**, Darkology: Amateur Blackface Minstrelsy and the Making of American Society, 1860-1965

**Matthew Kustenbauder**, Utopian Visions: South African Cosmopolitans in an Imperial World, 1880-1945

**Erin Mosely**, Memory, Power, and the Production of History in Post-Genocide Rwanda, 1994-Present

*Session moderated by Professor David Blackburn*

**Shane Bobrycki**, The Crowd in the Early Middle Ages

**Carla Heelan**, Medievalism and the Making of Modern Germany

**Dzavid Dzanic**, Ideology and the Origins of the French Empire, 1792-1848

**Kristen Loveland**, Thinking the Future Human: Debates on the Ethics of Diagnostic Reproductive Technologies in Germany, 1946-2001

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*Session moderated by Professor Andrew Gordon*

**Hansun Hsiung**, From Barbarian Books to the Humanities

**Sean O'Reilly**, Japan's Appropriated Myths: Afterlives of Bakumatsu Heroes and Villains in Text and Image

**Danny Orbach**, Culture of Disobedience: Rebellions in the Imperial Japanese Army, 1868-1937

**Sakura Christmas**, Earth to Empire: Mongol Lands under Japanese Rule, 1905-1945

*Session moderated by Professor James Kloppenberg*

**John Lee**, Protect the Pines, Punish the People: The Social Implications of Forest Conservation in Early Modern Korea, 1600-1876

**Tyler Beck Goodspeed**, The Collapse of the Air Bank: Smith, Free Banking, and the Financial Crisis of 1772

**Nikolas Bowie**, Company States: A History of Corporate Statehood in America, 1629-2000

**Mircea Raianu**, Capitalists in a Colonial World: The Tata Family and the Making of Modern India, 1870-1950

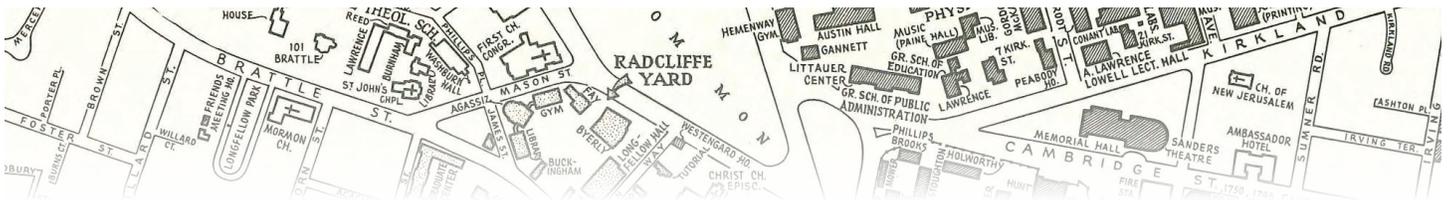
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*Session moderated by Professor Alison Frank*

**Greg Afinogenov**, The Noblest Commerce: Intelligence and Sinology on the "Russian Route," 1660-1825

**Carolyn Roeder**, Horizontal Networks and Vertical Pursuits: A Transnational History of Mountaineering

**Thomas Hooker**, "A Friend in Need is a Friend Indeed." Friendship and Communism in Soviet Russia, 1921-1985



## Alumni News

**Richard Bell** ('06), Assistant Professor of History at the University of Maryland, published *We Shall Be No More: Suicide and Self-Government in the Newly United States* (Harvard University Press, 2012) in March. His co-edited volume, *Buried Lives: Incarcerated in Early America* (University of Georgia, 2012) was published in the same month. For more information, see <http://www.hup.harvard.edu/catalog.php?isbn=9780674063723> and [http://www.ugapress.org/index.php/books/index/buried\\_lives](http://www.ugapress.org/index.php/books/index/buried_lives), respectively.

**John Bohstedt** ('72) published his second book, *The Politics of Provisions: Food Riots, Moral Economy, and Market Transition in England, c. 1550–1850* (Ashgate, 2010) and delivered a paper on his findings on “The Politics of Provisions in World History” at the Conference on the History of Food and Drink, at the University of Central Lancashire, Preston (UK) in June 2011. More details may be found at [http://www.ashgate.com/default.aspx?page=637&calcTitle=1&title\\_id=8824&edition\\_id=11489](http://www.ashgate.com/default.aspx?page=637&calcTitle=1&title_id=8824&edition_id=11489).

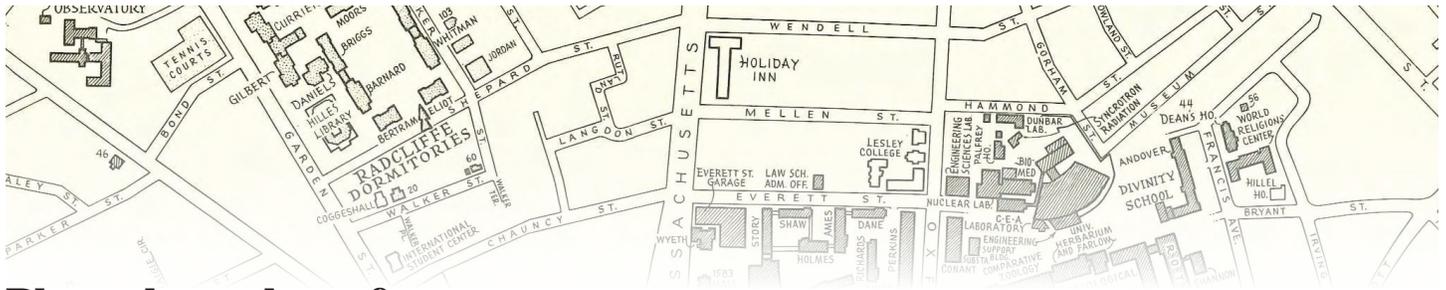
**Halbert Jones** (AB '99, PhD '06) has been appointed to a senior research fellowship at St Antony's College, Oxford, where he is developing a new program in North American Studies.



**Eric Kurlander** ('01), Associate Professor and Chair of History at Stetson University, has received a Fulbright Scholarship for research and teaching in Freiburg, Germany during the Spring Semester 2012. From January through April, Kurlander will conduct research on his next book project, ‘A Supernatural History of the Third Reich,’ at the Johannes-Künzig-Institut für ostdeutsche Volkskunde (Institute for East German Folklore), University of Freiburg Institut für Volkskunde (Folklore Institute), and the Freiburg Bundesarchiv (Federal Military Archives). Beginning in April, he will offer courses in the History Department at the Freiburg Pädagogische Hochschule.

Dr. Kurlander has also recently published two articles: “Between Detroit and Moscow: A Left Liberal Third Way in the Third Reich,” *Central European History*, v. 44 (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2011) pp. 279-307 (<http://journals.cambridge.org/action/displayAbstract?fromPage=online&aid=8277660>) and “Violence, Volksgemeinschaft, and Empire: Interpreting the Third Reich in the Twenty-First Century,” which appears in the October 2011 edition of the ‘Journal of Contemporary History’ (<http://jch.sagepub.com/content/current>).

**George H. Nash** ('73) edited *Freedom Betrayed: Herbert Hoover's Secret History of the Second World War and Its Aftermath* (Hoover Institution, 2011). It is a massive memoir and history of WW II that former President Hoover wrote in his later years. Although he completed work on his manuscript nearly fifty years ago, it has never before been published or made available for research until now. More details may be found at [http://www.amazon.com/Freedom-Betrayed-Herbert-Aftermath-Publication/dp/0817912347/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1319460966&sr=1-1](http://www.amazon.com/Freedom-Betrayed-Herbert-Aftermath-Publication/dp/0817912347/ref=sr_1_1?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1319460966&sr=1-1).



## Please 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. You may give to the Department directly, or you may also designate the History Department when giving to the Harvard Campaign or the Graduate School's Annual Fund.

Please make checks payable to Harvard University. All contributions are tax-deductible.

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  \$200     
  Other

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 Robinson Hall 201  
 35 Quincy Street  
 Cambridge, Mass. 02138

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Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_ Degree and year \_\_\_\_\_

News for future newsletter

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You may also email your updates to [history@fas.harvard.edu](mailto:history@fas.harvard.edu).

Campus maps featured in this newsletter are from Course Catalogs found in Robinson Hall. For the approximate dates of origin, please see the notes at the bottom of each page.

