



SUMMER 2020 NEWSLETTER

From the 2019-20 Department Chair, Evelyn Brooks Higginbotham

With the beginning of the academic year 2020-2021, my term as chair ended. We, as a faculty, are honored to have [Professor Ann Blair](#) as the new chair of the History Department. However, as customary in the department’s summer newsletter, the chair of the previous year reflects upon noteworthy events under his/her leadership. For me, it was a distinct privilege to work with my colleagues in the department and to close out my chairship as the first African American to hold this position. Throughout my time as chair, I found great pleasure in telling people that the History Department was the first department at Harvard to confer the PhD on African Americans—W.E.B. Du Bois in 1895 and Carter G. Woodson in 1912. (Only Edward Alexander Bouchet preceded them, earning his doctorate in Physics at Yale in 1876.) We know how Du Bois and Woodson turned out. Du Bois became a great scholar and crusader for racial justice, while Woodson became known as the “Father of Black History.” Their fact-based, anti-racist scholarship continues to influence the work of the History Department.

In noting the events of the past academic year, I cannot help but recognize what a historic time this was. In December, the graduate students’ union went on a nearly monthlong strike—a definite “first” for Harvard. Several of our own graduate students led in the call for more equitable treatment of student and research workers throughout the university. In March, Harvard responded to the COVID-19 pandemic by sending the great majority of its undergraduates back to their homes. The History

Department faculty, like all other Harvard faculty, continued to teach their courses without interruption for the rest of the spring semester in virtual classrooms. And our History Department seniors and doctoral students completed their work and graduated in a university-wide virtual commencement and special GSAS virtual ceremony for all to see—another “first” for Harvard. Well before the spring semester ended, we found ourselves in meetings about wholly new pedagogical practices and other policies that took us significantly beyond our traditional and familiar modes of teaching, learning, and even grading. The spring semester 2020 will be forever heralded as the harbinger of the novel changes to come in the new academic year.

Throughout the fall and spring, however, the History Department put innovative ideas into action under the leadership of [Professor Lisa McGirr](#), who continues as the Director of Undergraduate Studies in 2020-2021 and co-chairs the Curriculum Committee with [Professor Ian Miller](#). Along with [Carla Heelan](#), who also continues as Assistant Director of Undergraduate Studies in 2020-2021, and the members of the Curriculum Committee, the department set in motion in fall 2019 curricular changes to address the declining course enrollments after the economic downturn of 2008. Our problem reflected national trends for the humanities and humanistic social sciences due to a pessimism attributed to the recession’s long-term implications for the job market. In the fall 2019, the department responded by

**Evelyn Brooks
Higginbotham**
*Outgoing Department
Chair*

Ann Blair
*Incoming Department
Chair*

Sidney Chalhoub
*Director of Graduate
Studies*

Lisa McGirr
*Director of
Undergraduate Studies*

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introducing [“foundations” courses called 101s](#) for the purpose of attracting greater numbers of freshmen and non-concentrators. The *Crimson* on September 20, 2019 featured a story about the new curricular strategy in the article titled [“Responding to a ‘Crisis in the Humanities,’ Harvard History Dept. Rebrands.”](#) The 101 courses, which have no prerequisites, and other efforts to bring wider attention to the department have proved effective. Our enrollments in 2019-2020 grew to levels larger than those in the pre-recession years of 2005 through 2008.

At the very end of the academic year, the Department’s innovative programming could be seen in the History Consulting Project, an idea brought to [Professor McGirr](#) in May by [College Fellow Zachary Nowak](#). He will be a Lecturer in the Department in the upcoming academic year. The History Consulting Project included several first-year students and three History concentrators, who were graduating seniors and who functioned as the case managers for the four working groups. For much of the month of June, the students began to explore ideas and best practices, and to gather and analyze data. They used the analytical and methodological skills learned in History Department classes as they wrote white papers, from which they gave formal presentations on Zoom on June 26, 2020. Their professionally-delivered findings proved very helpful in offering ideas and guidance in the way of tips for enhancing the department’s enrollments, number of concentrators, and effective digital and virtual teaching and

learning practices from a student’s viewpoint.

Turning to the Graduate Program, [Professor Sidney Chalhoub](#), who will continue as Director of Graduate Studies in 2020-2021, is to be commended for his excellent work with our doctoral students during the past year. He, along with [Dan Bertwell](#), the Graduate Program Coordinator, provided a variety of virtual activities for the department’s graduate recruitment this past spring. We are happy to say that the department met its targeted admissions for 2020.

We also celebrate the thirteen students who earned the PhD degree in the past academic year: Megan Duncan Smith, Elizabeth Katz, Paul Schmelzing, Safia Aidid, David Kreuger, Ella Antell, Alicia DeMaio, George Gallwey, Cary Garcia Yero, Erin Hutchinson, Tommy Jamison, Samuel Klug, and Peter Pellizzari. Special congratulations go to the two recipients of the [Harold K. Gross Dissertation Prize](#): Sonia Tycko, for her dissertation “Captured Consent: Bound Service and Freedom of Contract in Early Modern England and English America”; and Mateo Jarquín for his dissertation “A Latin American Revolution: The Sandinistas, the Cold War, and Political Change in the Region, 1977-1990.” In addition the Department is pleased to announce the names of the graduate students selected for the following positions for 2020-2021: History Prize Instructors—[Hardeep Dhillon](#), [Henry Gruber](#), and [Caroline Kahlenberg](#); Pedagogy Fellow at the Derek Bok Center for Teaching and Learning—[Belle Cheves](#).

Another noteworthy feature of the past school year was the History Department’s faculty seminar series “The Public Face of History,” co-chaired by Professors [Liz Cohen](#) and [Cemal Kafadar](#). On October 16, 2019, the series took on a conversational format under the title “Giving Our Own Times a History.” The fascinating discussion between [Liz Cohen](#) and [Margaret O’Mara](#), the Howard and Frances Keller Endowed Professor at the University of Washington, focused on O’Mara’s new book [The Code: Silicon Valley and the Remaking of America](#). Equally provocative was the second faculty seminar “The Historian Confronting Political Controversies.” This seminar featured a conversation between Professors [Mark Elliott](#) and [Kirsten Weld](#) on February 19, 2020 and, like the former seminar, was attended by department members as well as faculty and students across the university. On April 21, 2020 Professors [Cohen](#) and [Kafadar](#) took the “Public Face of History” series to new levels with a Zoom webinar, “What History Teaches about Pandemics.” The speakers included Professors [Sidney Chalhoub](#), [Joyce Chaplin](#), [Erez Manela](#), and [Michael McCormick](#). In this case, the audience included Harvard faculty and several hundred people across the globe. [Professor Kafadar](#) expressed that he had personally received thank you messages from places as far away as Russia, Tunisia, and Turkey.

The History Department has much to highlight. A number of faculty members published books over the past school year. To date, the released publications include:

Alejandro de la Fuente, *Becoming Free, Becoming Black: Race, Freedom, and Law in Cuba, Virginia, and Louisiana*; Arunabh Ghosh, *Making it Count: Statistics and Statecraft in the Early People's Republic of China*; David Armitage, *A Cultural History of Peace in the Age of Enlightenment* (ed. Stella Ghervas and David Armitage); Derek Penslar, *Theodor Herzl: The Charismatic Leader*; Liz Cohen, *Saving America's Cities: Ed Logue and the Struggle to Renew Urban America in the Suburban Age*, which also won the prestigious *Bancroft Prize* in 2020; Peter Gordon, *A Companion to Adorno* (ed. Peter Gordon, Espen Hammer, and Max Pensky); Vincent Brown, *Tacky's Revolt: The Story of an Atlantic Slave War*; James Hankins, *Virtue Politics: Soulcraft and Statecraft in Renaissance Italy*; Evelyn Brooks Higginbotham, *From Slavery to Freedom, 10th edition*; and Walter Johnson, *The Broken Heart of America: St. Louis and the Violent History of the United States*.

Some faculty took on new leadership roles in 2019-2020, while remaining active members of the History Department. Such was the case for *Professor Alison Frank Johnson*, who chaired the German Department, and *Professor Philip Deloria*, who chaired History & Literature. Both will continue in those roles in 2020-2021. *Professor Tiya Miles* took the helm of the Charles Warren Center as its new director on July 1, 2020, following the former

director *Professor Walter Johnson*. Professor Sunil Amrith headed the Mahindra Humanities Center in 2019-2020, but unfortunately departed from Harvard at the end of the spring semester to join the faculty of Yale University. Yet another lamentable loss in 2019-2020 was that of our colleague Professor Elizabeth Hinton, who accepted a faculty position at Yale. We must also pause to recognize the passing on December 12, 2019 of our retired colleague *Steven Edgar Ozment*, the McLean Professor of Ancient and Modern History, Emeritus. Professor Ozment joined the department in 1979 and was a beloved colleague, advisor, and teacher. More recently, *Professor Bernard Bailyn*, Adams University Professor, Emeritus, and James Duncan Phillips Professor of Early American History, Emeritus died on August 7, 2020. The History Department mourns the loss of this great scholar, teacher, and award-winning author, who served for nearly forty years on our faculty—from 1954 to 1993, when he retired. Professor Bailyn chaired the department from 1970-1972.

The History Department made important, long-awaited progress over the past year, despite the difficulties. In this regard, we successfully completed a tenure-track search in the field of Modern German History with the hiring of *Assistant Professor David Spreen*. We are thrilled to welcome our new colleague. David will be a postdoctoral fellow for two years before beginning his assistant professorship in July 2022. The department also proudly celebrates staff achievements. During the past academic year *Kimberly O'Hagan* was promoted to Director of Admin-

istration and Operations, following her very able role as the interim holder of this position. *Joshua Mejia*, the department's Staff Assistant and Web/Media Coordinator, received the *2020 Dean's Distinction Award* and thus stood among the 38 honorees in the ceremony that recognized their valued skills and contribution to FAS departments in 2019.

I close my reflections on the past year by mentioning one of the graduating seniors, who served as the case manager for the Recruiting Concentrators team of the History Consulting Project. She stated in her email message to me a few hours after the presentations on June 26th that she was “a proud History concentrator” and that she would be working with a consulting firm in the fall. The words of this once pre-med concentrator have stuck in my mind because they speak both to what we do well and to what we can do better as a department. She stated: “I chose to concentrate in History in the last two weeks of my Junior Spring.... I made the switch to History - committing myself to complete the concentration in my final year because I loved it so much. I see so much potential for the History concentration, and had I freed myself of the idea that a History degree may constrain my career options earlier in my time at Harvard, I would have always been a History concentrator.”

For me, I could ask for nothing more inspiring, as I ended the academic year! While no longer chair, I look forward to seeing you soon.

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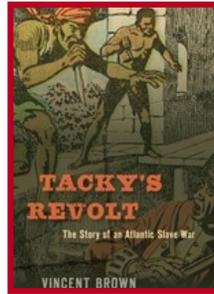
David Armitage was elected a Foreign Member of the Academia Europaea and spent the summer and winter vacations as the Sons of the American Revolution Visiting Professor at King's College London. Among his publications this year were *A Cultural History of Peace in the Age of Enlightenment* (Bloomsbury), co-edited with History Department Associate Stella Ghervas, and translations of his works into German, Greek and Japanese. He delivered the Sir Michael Howard Lecture at King's College London and the Arthur Berriedale Keith Lecture at the University of Edinburgh, as well as other talks and seminars in Edinburgh, Kyoto, Macau, Tokyo and across the United States.

During the past academic year, **Sven Beckert** continued co-directing the Harvard Initiative on Global History, welcoming a group of global historians from throughout the world and running a seminar with Sophus Reinert of HBS on Global Capitalism. President Bacow named him a member of the Presidential Initiative on Harvard and the Legacy of Slavery, an initiative that builds upon Beckert's work on the subject during the past 13 years. Also, his book *Empire of Cotton* was published in Russian, Bengali and Farsi, and Beckert lectured in Japan, Israel, and India, where he gave the Godrej Archives Annual Lecture. He was also last year's Dale Benson Lecturer in Tacoma, Washington and spoke at the Jaipur Literary Festival. On July 4, the Carnegie Corporation named Beckert a "Great Immigrant, Great American."



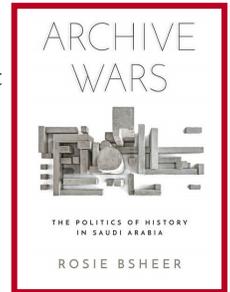
In December **Ann Blair** delivered the Panizzi lectures at the British Library, which are devoted every year to scholarship on books and libraries. Her topic was paratexts in learned books of the early 16th century, that is, the front and back matter that became standard in printed books during this period. Podcasts are available on the British Library [SoundCloud](#). In January she gave lectures at the National Central Library of Taiwan and the Academia Sinica in Taipei, and at a conference on "Books as Texts and Objects" co-sponsored by the Harvard-Yenching Institute and the Toyo Bunko in Tokyo. In March 2020 *Tant de choses à savoir* appeared with the Editions du Seuil in Paris; it is the French translation (with updates) of her 2010 *Too Much To Know: managing scholarly information before the modern age*. She and Leah Whittington, Professor of English, taught a new General Education course on "Texts in Transition" in Fall 2019 which examines what factors have aided or hindered the transmission

of texts and ponders what digital preservation will look like in the future; they will teach it together again in Fall 2020.

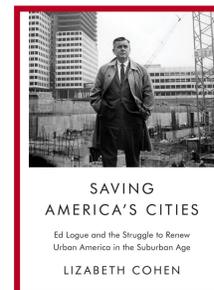


Vincent Brown, Charles Warren Professor of American History and Professor of African and African American Studies, published *Tacky's Revolt: The Story of an Atlantic Slave War* (The Belknap Press, 2020), which has received the Phillis Wheatley Book Award in the Nonfiction Research—Event Category from the Sons and Daughters of the United States Middle Passage Hereditary Society.

In 2019, **Rosie Bsheer** completed her first manuscript, *Archive Wars: The Politics of History in Saudi Arabia*, which will come out with Stanford University Press on October 20, 2020. The book explores the various forms of historical erasure that are central to modern state formation, from the elision of archival documents to the demolition of sacred and secular spaces. Tracking the late-twentieth-century top-down project for refashioning state, nation, and economy—which largely manifested in Riyadh and Mecca—the book rethinks the significance of archives, historicism, capital accumulation, and the remaking of the built environment.



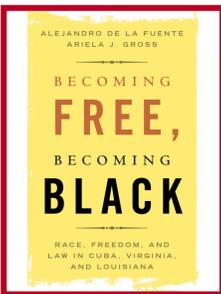
During the academic year, Rosie ran a yearlong speaker series that featured a dozen first-time book authors in Middle East studies. She gave several talks on Saudi Arabia (across the country), the ongoing war in Yemen (Brown University), and conducting archival and ethnographic research in the Arabian Peninsula (NYU). She was a discussant on two book panels: Rashid Khalidi, *The Hundred Years' War on Palestine: A History of Settler Colonial Conquest and Resistance, 1917-2017*, with Manan Ahmed, Gil Hochberg, and Nadia Abu El-Haj at Columbia University; and *The New Arab Urban: Gulf Cities of Wealth, Ambition, and Distress* (Harvey Molotch and Davide Ponzini, eds), with Neil Brenner and Bish Sanya at MIT. Rosie gave a keynote lecture titled, "Mecca: From Revolution to Redevelopment" at *Mecca: The Lived City* colloquium, which was held at Harvard University in April 2019.



Lizabeth Cohen published her new book, *Saving America's Cities: Ed Logue and the Struggle to Renew Urban America in the Suburban Age*, with Farrar, Straus and Giroux in October 2019. From then until the pandemic hit hard in mid-March she gave many public talks about the book in Boston, New Haven, New York, and Washington, DC to a wide range of audiences. In March, it was announced that

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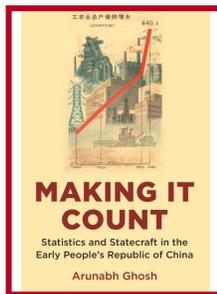
the book had won the Bancroft Prize in American History, Cohen's second Bancroft. (The other was for her first book, [Making A New Deal: Industrial Workers in Chicago, 1919-1939](#)). A paperback will be published by Picador in October 2020. In the spring of 2020, Cohen was frequently asked to bring her knowledge of the New Deal to bear on our understanding of the economic crisis COVID has created and strategies for addressing it. That led to a *New York Times* op-ed, a long piece in the *Atlantic*, a discussion on the WBUR's radio program "On Point," and much else. Cohen has also become a co-director of the Harvard Mellon Urban Initiative, which aims to increase courses and conversation about urban issues at Harvard and will hopefully culminate in a secondary field in urban studies for undergraduates.



Alejandro de la Fuente presented the art exhibition [Diago: The Pasts of this Afro-Cuban Present](#), a retrospective of Afro-Cuban visual artist Juan Roberto Diago (b. 1971), at the Lowe Art Museum, University of Miami (October 2019-January 2020). His book [Becoming Free, Becoming Black: Race, Freedom, and Law in Cuba, Virginia, and Louisiana](#) (coauthored with Ariela J. Gross), was published by Cambridge

University Press. He organized and hosted the First ALARI (Afro-Latin American Research Institute) [Continental Conference](#) on Afro-Latin American Studies (December 11-13, 2019) at Harvard. With support from the Getty Foundation, de la Fuente and Thomas Cummins (History of Art and Architecture) have organized a [Traveling Research Seminar on Afro-Latin American Art](#), that seeks to expand and consolidate this field. With a transnational group of collaborators from Latin America and Europe, de la Fuente organized and launched the [Certificate on Afro-Latin American Studies](#), a series of online courses in Spanish and Portuguese, open to the general public. The first cohort of the Certificate enrolled 151 students from 20 countries.

Arunabh Ghosh's first book, [Making it Count: Statistics and Statecraft in the Early People's Republic of China](#) (Princeton University press), appeared in March 2020. Anchored in global debates about statistics and its relationship to state building, *Making It Count* offers fresh perspectives on China's transition to socialism after 1949 and on Cold-War science. A [book launch page](#) hosted by the Joint Center for History and Economics offers additional information, including an on-going discussion with colleagues.



Ghosh was on sabbatical during 2019-2020, during which time he was a Weatherhead Center Distinguished Research Faculty Associate. He spent most of the fall as a scholar-in-residence at NYU Shanghai's Center for Global Asia, where he collected materials for two new projects on the history of (small-scale)

dam-building in modern China and on the history of China-India scientific connections. In November, he was a Visiting Scholar at the Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore. His research also took him to Beijing and Hangzhou in China and to Bremen in Germany, and he delivered invited talks at NYU-Shanghai, Tsinghua University (Beijing), Asia Research Institute (Singapore), and Christ University (Bangalore). Unable to travel back to China because of Covid-19, Ghosh spent most of the spring in New Delhi, working through materials he collected in the fall.

In addition to *Making it Count*, Ghosh's publications during the year include an academic commentary in *East Asian Science Technology and Medicine* and an entry on forecasting in *Critical Terms in Future Studies*. His public writing covering topics such as data transparency, the state of China studies in India, and China-India relations, appeared in *The Wire*, *Himal Southasian*, and *The Quint*. An essay based on *Making it Count* is forthcoming in *Aeon* (August).



Andrew Gordon experienced the first months of the pandemic in Japan, and remains puzzled as to why people there, where the government seemed to be doing many things wrong, suffered far less than those in North America or much of the world. He took a partial detour from his sabbatical project studying the curation of public history of Japan's industrialization, to write short pieces on the topic for his hosts at Tokyo University. One looks at the [history of mask wearing globally](#), with particular focus on Japan. Another places government [policy in Japan in a historical context](#). He also ran two outreach workshops for secondary school and college teachers in Japan and the United States interested in using the Japan Disasters Digital Archive in the classroom.

Peter E. Gordon wrote a new Introduction for a new unabridged edition of the landmark 1950 study, *The Authoritarian Personality* (Verso Press, 2019). He also co-edited *A Companion to Adorno* (Blackwell, 2020), with Espen Hammer and Max Pensky. He continues to publish reviews and criticism in a wide range of periodicals, including *The Nation*, *The New Republic*, and *The New York Review of Books*. His essay, "Why Historical Analogy Matters" was published in the NYReview's daily website (7 January, 2020), and "Max the Fatalist," his review of the new edition of Max Weber's vocation lectures, appeared in the June 11, 2020 edition of *The New York Review of Books*. His new book, [Migrants in the Profane: Critical Theory and the Question of Secularization](#) is forthcoming from Yale University Press (November, 2020). It has been hailed by the philosopher Jürgen Habermas as "an extraordinary achievement."

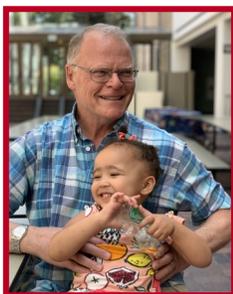




Evelyn Brooks Higginbotham concluded her term as the History Department's first African American Chair on June 30, 2020. Her classic survey of African American history, *From Slavery to Freedom, Tenth Edition*, coauthored with John Hope Franklin, was published in Summer 2020. She was a keynote speaker on the history of African Americans and the pursuit of

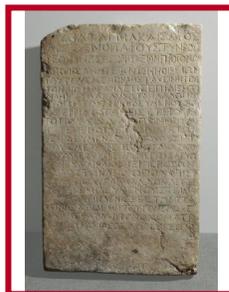
women's suffrage for the League of Women Voters for the state of Massachusetts and also for the Philadelphia Bar Association. Her article "History in the Face of Slavery: A Family Portrait" in *To Make Their Own Way in the World: The Enduring Legacy of the Zealy Daguerreotypes* (edited by Ilisa Barbash, Molly Rogers, and Deborah Willis) is to be published by Peabody Museum Press and Aperture in 2020.

James T. Kloppenberg was happy to see the publication of his prize-winning *Toward Democracy: The Struggle for Self-Rule in European and American Thought* in a paperbound edition. Last year he also published "To Promote the General Welfare: Why Madison Matters," *Supreme Court Review*; "American Ideas in the European Imagination," an article co-written with Sam Klug for Peter Gordon's co-edited volume *The Cambridge History of Modern European Thought*; "Barack Obama's Use of American History" in the collection *Historian in Chief*, co-edited by Seth Cotlar and Richard J. Ellis; and "The Radical Democracy of William James," co-written with Trygve Throntveit and published in *The Oxford Companion to William James*. Kloppenberg also published several articles on contemporary politics and culture, including, in the *Washington Post*, "When Political Conflict Led to Compromise, Not Enmity" and "Overcoming Despair to Discover the Meaning of Life"; and in *Commonweal*, "Civil Conflict in the Age of Trump" and "Reading Buttigieg," which was the magazine's most widely read article in the first half of 2020. Two articles are forthcoming later this year, "Social and Economic Democracy," co-written with John Gee for *A Cultural History of Democracy in the Modern Age*, ed. Eugenio Biagini and Gary Gerstle; and "Rorty's Insouciant Social Thought," in *The Cambridge Companion to Richard Rorty*, ed. David Rondel. Kloppenberg's current projects include a study of European and American social democracy, to be co-written with E. J. Dionne, and two books under contract with Princeton University Press, "The Long Shadow of William James: Pragmatism in American Thought," and "The American Democratic Tradition,



1500-present." The photographs show Kloppenberg with his granddaughter Thandolwethu and his grandson Themba James (aka TJ), who was already a budding athlete before his first birthday.

Mary Lewis published "[Repairing Damage: The Slave Ship Marcellin and the Haiti Trade in the Age of Abolition](#)" in the June 2020 issue of the [American Historical Review](#). The article uses the case of a French ship to show how legitimate commodity trading with Haiti served as a cover for illicit French slaving in the era of slave-trade abolition. Lewis reconstructs the illegal slave voyage from fragmentary archival evidence, while arguing that, ultimately, the archive itself does violence to the history of the nineteenth-century slave trade.



In late 2019, **Michael McCormick** held an interdisciplinary Pathogen Workshop at Harvard to discuss ancient DNA and the most recent research on ancient pandemics. He organized the conference "From Homer to History with MHAAM: Recent Results from Bronze Age Investigations" and a talk on "Marriage, mobility and households in Bronze Age Germany: integrating ancient DNA, isotopes and archaeology." McCormick gave the Katritzky Lecture at Oxford University on "Climate, History and Change: Reflections on a 21st-century challenge" and the Banchich Lecture at Canisius College on "Ancient DNA, Ice Cores, & Data Science: Studying the Fall of the Roman Empire in the 21st Century." At the AHA panel, "Reflections on the Enterprise of Interdisciplinary History" he described how the Science of the Human Past has revolutionized the study of ancient and medieval societies over the last 15 years, summarizing the latest aDNA results from bubonic plague of the Justinianic Pandemic, and ice core data on early medieval metal production.

He co-authored [A 2000 year Saharan dust event proxy record from an ice core in the European Alps; Alpine ice reveals the yearly political economy of the Angevin Empire, from the death of Thomas Becket to Magna Carta, c. CE 1170-1216](#); and [Establishing the provenance of the Nazareth Inscription: Using stable isotopes to resolve a historic controversy and trace ancient marble production](#). SoHP's Historical Ice Core Project was featured in the *Analytical Scientist*, while McCormick's timely plague research for MHAAM was highlighted on [Channel 4 \(UK\)](#). Michael was elected as a Corresponding Member of the Deutsches Archäologisches Institut.

Legend: Roman Emperor's decree forbidding removing bodies from tombs supposedly from Nazareth. SoHP proved the stone came from a Greek quarry and reflects local circumstances, not Jesus' resurrection. Applied to thousands of dated inscriptions, the new method will allow quantification of yearly Roman economic activity.



In July 2020, **Tiya Miles** accepted the reins of the Charles Warren Center for Studies in American History from Walter Johnson. She is eager to work with colleagues to maintain existing Warren Center projects while building an enhanced environment for collaborative, community-oriented, and public facing

scholarship and pedagogy. She looks forward, as well, to offering a new undergraduate course titled Abolitionist Women and Their Worlds with the support of the Schlesinger Library/ Mellon Foundation Long 19th Amendment Project and the Mindich Engaged Scholarship Program.

Ian Miller and his wife Crate Herbert, Executive Director of Development for Harvard's Paulson School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, were appointed Faculty Deans of Cabot House, one of Harvard's twelve undergraduate residential Houses. His research continues to focus on Japan's energy and environmental history. A co-edited volume on Japan's oceanic history is forthcoming from University of Hawai'i Press.



He taught two new courses: a graduate seminar on the history of emotion and a General Education course titled "Is War Inevitable?"

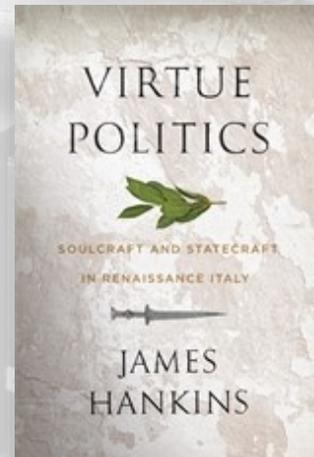
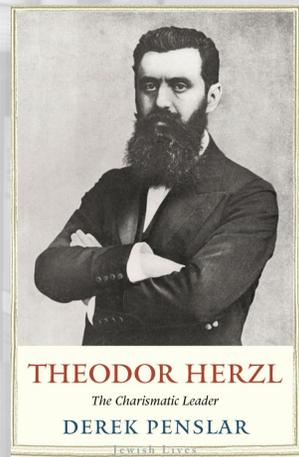
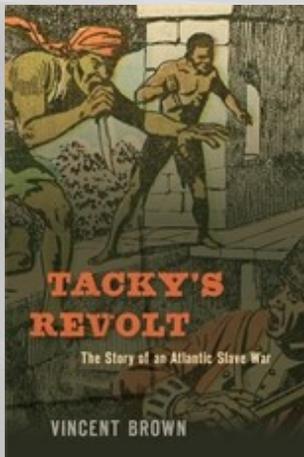
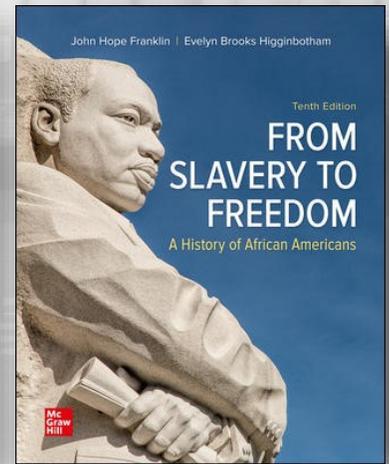
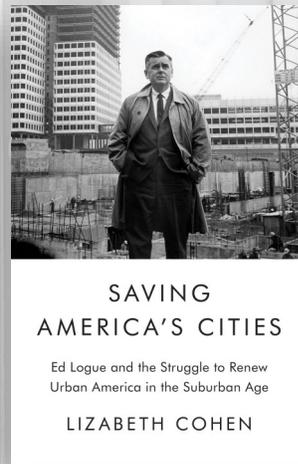
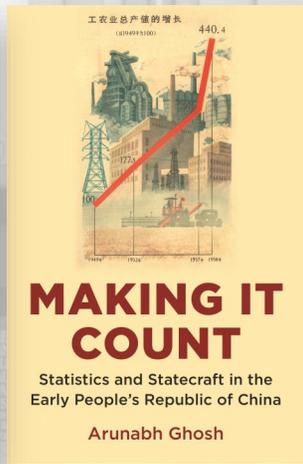
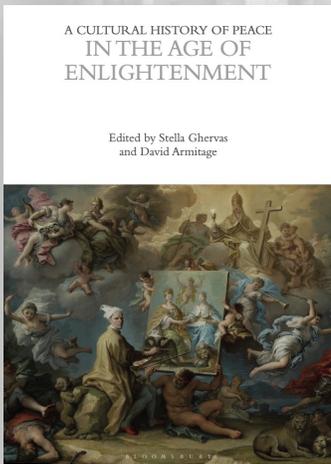
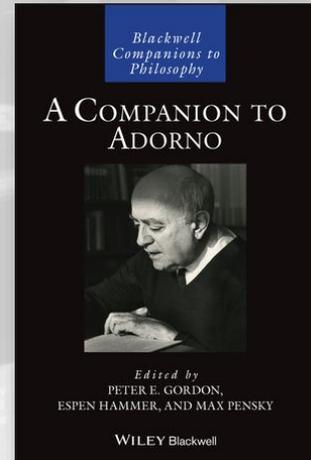
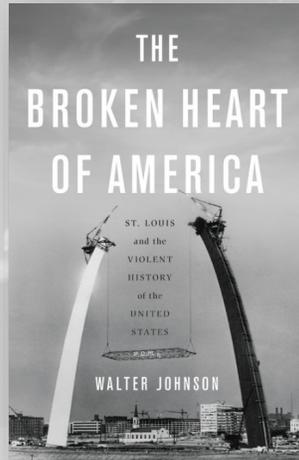
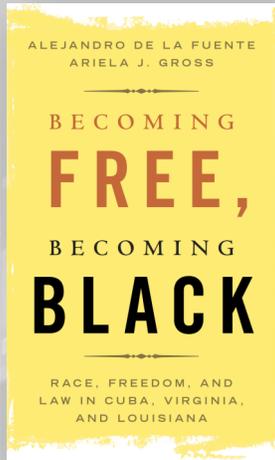
For his 2019-20 sabbatical, **Dan Smail** spent the fall as the Donald Bullough Fellow at the University of St Andrews and also enjoyed visiting professorships at the Università degli Studi di Bergamo and the Université de Paris I in the spring of 2020. He was named a Fellow of the Medieval Academy of America. In July of 2020, he and his co-PIs, Gabriel Pizzorno and Laura Morreale, published the [Documentary Archaeology of Late Medieval Europe](#) after many years in the making.



Derek Penslar published *Theodor Herzl: The Charismatic Leader* (Yale University Press); "Between Honor and Authenticity: Zionism as Theodor Herzl's Life Project," in *On the Word of a Jew: Religion, Reliability, and the Dynamics of Trust*, edited by Nina Caputo and Mitchell Hart (Indiana University

Press); "German Jewry and World War I: Beyond Apologetics and Polemics," in *Beyond Inclusion and Exclusion: Jewish Experiences of the First World War in Central Europe*, edited by Jason Crouthamel, Tim Grady, Mike Geheran, and Julia Köhne (Berghahn); "Comparing the Incomparable: Analytical Tool or Moral Stimulus?" in *The Journal of Genocide Research* 22, No. 1 (2020); and "What's Love Got To Do With It? The Emotional Language of Early Zionism," *The Journal of Israeli History* (April 2020). Forthcoming articles include "Towards a Unified Field of Israel/Palestine Studies" in *Between the "Jewish Question" and the "Arab Question": Contemporary Entanglements and Juxtapositions*, edited by Bashir Bashir and Leila Farsekh. (Columbia University Press). Derek continued work on his current project, a history of Zionism through the lens of emotion, and began a new project, a global history of the 1948 Palestine War.

FACULTY NEWS: PUBLICATIONS



NEW INITIATIVES IN THE UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM

2019–2020 was a dynamic and exciting year for the Undergraduate Office despite the early end to our on-campus events in March. We recruited an enthusiastic new group of concentrators in the fall (51 sophomores) and in the spring we welcomed into our classrooms the largest number of undergraduates since Fall 2013. In the paragraphs below, we describe just a few of the initiatives that help make History such a vibrant concentration.

A robust community is the surest path to growth, and in 2019–20 the Undergraduate Office introduced new initiatives focused on community building. We established the [History Department Student Advisory Board](#), composed of select concentrators, which provides crucial feedback to the DUS and ADUS, and also vital support for our recruitment programs. In order to introduce students to our wonderful faculty, the Undergraduate Office established a new speaker series, “History and Public Debate,” which invites faculty members to speak to undergraduates about their public-facing research and publications. In the fall, Professor Tiya Miles and Professor Sven Beckert hosted two separate events over dinner in the undergraduate houses, entitled, “History and Public Debate: The 1619 Project and the Legacies of Slavery in the United States.” In the spring, Professor Rosie Bsheer continued the speaker series with, “History and Public Debate: Archives, Audiences, and Arguments.” We look forward to the resumption of this program with Professor Fredrik Logevall in October.

Undergraduate enrollment and concentrator recruitment remain central to the mission of the Undergraduate Office, which in 2019–20 created new initiatives to bring students into the Department. The most important component of our outreach last year was the establishment of the [foundational courses](#), nicknamed the “101s.” The 101s are a subset of our lecture courses, which are explicitly welcoming for non- or pre-concentrators. They remain just as rigorous as our other offerings, but 101 faculty members commit to making these courses as accessible as possible for all students. We hope that the 101s will become an important means to welcome new students into the Department. In Fall 2019 the Undergraduate Office also inaugurated a new event for sophomore recruitment. [House advisers](#) and members of the [HDSAB](#) were encouraged to take prospective concentrators to lunch in the Square to discuss their interest in joining the History Department. The program was very successful overall, and we hope that it also provided concentrators with the opportunity to get to know other students in their house.

Undergraduate outreach is one of the many reasons history concentrators report high rates of satisfaction with the Department, and the Undergraduate Office is always seeking new ways to connect with students and to respond to their needs. In June, the 2019–20 College Fellow [Dr. Zachary Nowak](#) organized the History Consulting Group, a cohort of pre-concentrators who researched how the Department might adjust its programs and mission to better match undergraduate interests and concerns. Many undergraduates are eager to hear about opportunities after the B.A., and the Undergraduate Office launched a new series called “Career Pathways,” which invites representatives from various companies and organizations to discuss how their training as historians has helped them professionally. In the fall we heard from Katherine Aoki, '15, at the Tobin Project, and in the spring we learned much from Jacqueline Carey, a recruiter at McKinsey & Company.

Warm thanks to the undergraduates, graduate students, and faculty members who contributed to the success of these new initiatives and the continuation of our regular programming! All of us in the Undergraduate Office are energized to adapt these projects for the virtual space and to ensure that our program and concentration remain as robust as ever.

The editor-in-chief of *Tempus*, Diana Myers '21, and the magazine's deputy editor, Zelin Liu '22, welcome new submissions and new applications to join the editorial staff. They can be reached at tempus.harvard@gmail.com, and back issues of *Tempus* can be found on its [website](#). Diana and Zelin are looking forward to reinvigorating *Tempus* during this remote year!

Tempus Fall
2019 Issue

TEMPUS
The Harvard College Historical
Review



21.1
Fall 2019

UNDERGRADUATE NEWS

2020 AB Recipients

| | | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Perry Arrasmith | Jackson Grigsby | Sierra Moore | Michael Scherr |
| Kevin Blacutt | Lawrence Gu | Victoria Márquez | Tim Schmoll |
| Watson Cheek | Audrey Hansen | Julie Ngauv | Julia Schroeder |
| Jason Chukwuma | John Hart | Kiera O'Brien | Easton Schultz |
| Juan Crestanello | Aristides Hatzimemos | Justus Otto | Gabriela Siegal |
| Justin Curtis | Matthew Holloway | Walter Paiva | Tomas Spiers |
| Nick Danby | Esther Iya | Nataliya Palinchak | Lauren Spohn |
| Sophia DiCara | Madi Johnson | Maria Victoria Paredes | Jake Suddleson |
| Catarina Do | Ariella Kahan | Alison Peikin | Oliver Sughrue |
| Nick Durham | Kathryn Kuhar | Stefan Petrovic | Chris Vassallo |
| Murat Eczacıbaşı | Isabella Kwasnik | Lily Piao | Jaelithe Virgin-Downey |
| Caroline Engelmayer | Brianni Lee | Kai Potter | Jordan Virtue |
| Juan Carlos Fernandez del Castillo | Tyler Lott | Emma Potvin | Charlotte Watts |
| Hart Fogel | Robert Lowe | Alex Raines | Carter Wilcox |
| Diego Garcia | Robert Macdonald | John Richards | Allison Zhang |
| Desmond Goodwin | Drake Marshall | Eli Russell | Andrew Zucker |
| | Chad Minato | Max Schaffer | |

Sophomores entering the History concentration, 2012-2019

2019: 46
2018: 41
2017: 51
2016: 58
2015: 45
2014: 57
2013: 70
2012: 45

Phi Beta Kappa

Class of 2020
Justin Curtis
Sophia DiCara
Murat Eczacıbasi
Ariella Kahan



UNDERGRADUATE NEWS

Fellowships & Scholarships

ALEX G. BOOTH FELLOWSHIP

Awarded to **Kevin Blacutt** for study on the impact of the Rebellion of Tupac Amaru on processes of racialization in Late-colonial Lima

HENRY RUSSELL SHAW TRAVELING FELLOWSHIP

Awarded to **Victoria Marquez** for her work with the Franciscan convent in the Faroe Islands town of Trshavn

SCHWARZMAN SCHOLARS

Awarded to **Christopher Vassallo** for his work exploring Chinese perspectives on US foreign policy to help navigate the rise of China

History Department Undergraduate Prizes & Awards

COLTON AWARD (for excellence in the preparation of a senior thesis in the Department of History) awarded to **Ariella Kahan** for her thesis: "Friends or Foes? Palestinian Arabs in the Eyes of American Women Zionists, 1929-1948."

CYNTHIA WIGHT ROSSANO PRIZE IN HARVARD HISTORY* (for the best essay or multimedia presentation on any aspect of Harvard history) awarded to **Joseph Minatel** for his History 97I paper: "William Clarence Matthews and Harvard Baseball's Southern Visits, 1902-1905."

DAVID HERBERT DONALD PRIZE (for excellence in American history) awarded to **Charlotte Watts**.

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY PRIZE (for the best total record as history concentrator by the end of the senior year) awarded to **Sophia DiCara** and **Julia Schroeder**.

FERGUSON PRIZE* (for best History 97 essay) awarded to **Elizabeth McCord** for her History 97H paper: "The Failures of Urban Redevelopment: Comparing Government and Community Approaches to Urban Renewal in Manhattan Valley, 1952-1980."

LILLIAN BELL PRIZE (for student with the best paper on the Holocaust or other major 20th-century event involving human tragedy) awarded to **Jackson Grigsby** for his thesis: "Re-Examining Resistance And Revolt At Sobibór" and to **Julie Ngauv** for her thesis: "Roots Of Resistance: How The People Of Cambodia Survived Genocide Through Hidden Acts Of Rebellion, 1975-1979."

PHILIP WASHBURN PRIZE (for best thesis on historical subject) awarded to **Carter Wilcox** for his thesis: "Big Data, Brooches, And Boudica: Using Computational Methods To Reveal New Historical Puzzles 600 BC - 410 AD."

UNDERGRADUATE ESSAY PRIZE* (for the best work of original historical scholarship produced before the senior year in a history department course) awarded to **Robert Lowe** for his History 83C paper: "Socrates In This Way Became Perfect: The Power of Example in the Ethics of Mencius and Epictetus."

*The Ferguson Prize, the Undergraduate Essay Prize, and the Cynthia Wight Rossano Prize in Harvard History will be awarded in the fall term for papers from the previous academic year. Thus, papers from the 2019-2020 academic year will be considered in the fall of 2020.

UNDERGRADUATE NEWS

College-Wide Prizes & Awards

SOPHIA FREUND PRIZE awarded to **Justin Curtis** for his thesis: "Three-Fifths of All Other Persons: Apportionment, Slave Representation, and Black Political Status, 1776-1876."

SEYMOUR E. AND RUTH B. HARRIS PRIZE FOR HONORS THESIS IN THE SOCIAL SCIENCES awarded to **Jackson Grigsby** for his thesis: "Re-Examining Resistance And Revolt At Sobibór."

ALWALEED BIN TALAL PRIZE FOR BEST UNDERGRADUATE THESIS IN ISLAMIC STUDIES awarded to **Murat Eczacıbaşı** for their thesis: "Reflections on the Imperial Past: The Evolution of Early High School History Textbooks in the Republic of Turkey."

CLASS OF 1955/ROBERT T. COOLIDGE THESIS PRIZE awarded to **Julia Schroeder** for her thesis: "Courting Chancery: The Politics of Petitioning in Fifteenth-Century England."

HARRY AND CECILE STARR PRIZES IN JEWISH STUDIES awarded to **Ariella Kahan** for her thesis: "Friends or Foes? Palestinian Arabs in the Eyes of American Women Zionists, 1929-1948."

Thomas Temple Hoopes Prize

From the estate of Thomas T. Hoopes, Class of 1919, Harvard has received a fund from which to grant annual awards to undergraduates on the basis of outstanding scholarly work or research. Mr. Hoopes was Curator of the City Art Museum in St. Louis for over twenty-five years. He was an expert on firearms, from the crossbow of the sixteenth century to modern handguns, and wrote widely in the field. The fund provides undergraduate prizes to be given for the purpose of "promoting, improving, and enhancing the quality of education . . . in literary, artistic, musical, scientific, historical, or other academic subjects made part of the College curriculum under Faculty supervision and instruction, particularly by recognizing, promoting, honoring, and rewarding excellence in the work of undergraduates and their capabilities and skills in any subject, projects of research in science or the humanities, or in specific written work of the students under the instruction or supervision of the Faculty." "An incidental objective or purpose" of the fund, as stated by Mr. Hoopes, is to "promote excellence in the art of teaching." Awards are therefore also given to those members of the Faculty or teaching staff who have supervised and nominated the prize-winning works.

This year four of our twenty one senior thesis writers in History won a Thomas Temple Hoopes Prize. Eighty Hoopes Prizes were awarded this year by the College to recognize outstanding senior theses in all fields of the arts and sciences. This year's Hoopes Prize winners in History were:

Sophia Concetta DiCara for her project entitled "Locked in Bridgewater: Ethnic Tensions, Labor, and the Emergence of the Carceral State in Massachusetts, 1853–1933"—nominated by Mr. Aaron Bekemeyer

Jackson Mercer Grigsby for his project entitled "Re-Examining Resistance and Revolt at Sobibór"—nominated by Dr. Brandon Bloch

Ariella F. Kahan for her project entitled "Friends or Foes? Palestinian Arabs in the Eyes of American Women Zionists, 1929–1948"—nominated by Professor Derek Penslar

Julia Coburn Schroeder for her project entitled "Courting Chancery: The Politics of Petitioning in Fifteenth-Century England"—nominated by Mr. Eric Nemarich

Carter Jarrod Wilcox for his project entitled "Big Data, Brooches, and Boudica: Using Computational Methods to Reveal New Historical Puzzles"—nominated by Professor Michael McCormick

PhD Recipients 2019-20

Safia Aidid

Pan-Somali Dreams: Ethiopia, Greater Somalia, and the Somali Nationalist Imagination

Ella Antell

Crimes of Youth: Juvenile Delinquency and the Carceral State in New York City, 1920-1978

Alicia DeMaio

Planting the Seeds of Empire: Botanical Gardens in the United States, 1800-1860

Megan Duncan Smith

Taming the Dnipro Rapids: Nature, National Geography, and Hydro-Engineering in Soviet Ukraine, 1946-1968

George Gallwey

Public Credit and the Politics of Money from the British Empire to the Early American Republic

Cary Garcia Yero

Sights and Sounds of Cubanidad: Race, Nation, and the Arts in Cuba, 1938-1958

Erin Hutchinson

The Cultural Politics of the Nation in the Soviet Union after Stalin, 1953-1991

Tommy Jamison

Pacific Wars: Peripheral Conflict and the Making of the U.S. "New Navy," 1865-1897

Elizabeth Katz

Courting American Families: The Enforcement of Marital Financial Duties and the Creation of Courts of Domestic Relations, 1880-1930

Sam Klug

Making the Internal Colony: Black Internationalism, Development, and the Politics of Colonial Comparison in the United States, 1940-1975

David Kreuger

"To Hold What the U.S. Has Taken in Conquest:" The United States Army and Colonial Ethnic Forces, 1866-1914

Peter Pellizzari

A Struggle for Empire: Resistance and Reform in the British Atlantic World, 1760-1778

Paul Schmelzing

Essays on long-term real rate and safe asset trends, 1311-2018

Graduate Prizes

HAROLD K. GROSS DISSERTATION PRIZE

awarded each year to the Ph.D. recipient whose dissertation, in the opinion of a committee of Department of History members, gave greatest promise of a distinguished career of historical research

Mateo Jarquín

A Latin American Revolution: The Sandinistas, the Cold War, and Political Change in the Region, 1977-1990

Sonia Tycko

Captured Consent: Bound Service and Freedom of Contract in Early Modern England and English America



Graduate Placement

Safia Aidid

Assistant Professor
McGill University

Alicia DeMaio

Horace Mann School
Upper Division History Teacher

Megan Duncan Smith

HURI Programs Coordinator
Harvard University

George Gallwey

Postdoctoral Fellow
Max Planck Institute for
International Law

Cary Garcia Yero

Postdoctoral Fellow
Weatherhead Center for
International Affairs
Harvard University

Erin Hutchinson

Assistant Professor
University of Colorado, Boulder

Tommy Jamison

Assistant Professor of
Strategic Studies
Naval Postgraduate School

Elizabeth Katz

Associate Professor of Law
Washington University, St. Louis
Law School

Sam Klug

Visiting Fellow
Harvard University

David Kreuger

Assistant Professor of History
U.S. Military Academy

Peter Pellizzari

Visiting Fellow
Harvard University

Paul Schmelzing

Postdoctoral Fellow
Yale School of Management

History Graduate Student Association Annual Report

Kenneth Alyass (G-1), Clare Anderson (G-2), Natalie Behrends (G-1), Belle Cheves (G-5, Faculty Representative), DeAnza Cook (G-3), Alicia DeMaio (G-6, Co-President), Camden Elliott (G-2, Co-President), Nathan Grau (G-3), Sophia Horowitz (G-1), Erin Hutchinson (G-7, Faculty Representative), Abdelrahman Mahmoud (G-3)

Over the course of the past year, the History Graduate Student Association has attempted to continue its proud tradition of graduate support and programming while adapting to life in the time of COVID-19. Until large gatherings went the way of the dinosaurs, we hosted our ever-popular weekly happy hours, as well as a graduate student holiday party. To foster community, the HGSA still maintains the grad lounge and provided coffee and tea. The HGSA also continued to host a bevy of panels, where older scholars were able to impart institutional wisdom to their more junior colleagues. As in previous years, these included discussions about applying for grants, writing a prospectus, teaching for the first time, general exams, and a first-of-its-kind informal and frank discussion about applying for jobs inside and outside the academy, the final one having been held online via Zoom. Though we were unable to host a few of our long-standing events, like our recruitment dinner and the annual book sale, we hope to stage these events once it is safe to do so.

Beyond our core programming, HGSA also remained an active part of the department, communicating and engaging with departmental leadership. On the back of the successful town halls about reworking 3900, this year HGSA sponsored the same events for 3920, offering concrete suggestions for adjustments to the curriculum. HGSA also secured the return of a printing credit for enrolled students. To continue serving as an effective organization, a delegation of HGSA members also attended the American Historical Association's annual conference, this year in New York City, and attended a History Graduate Student Association Professional Development Session. In the next year, HGSA hopes to implement some of the strategies offered therein, with a focus on better serving the graduate student population and maintaining institutional knowledge/continuity. In part, this will include a reorganization of HGSA's structure.

We remain thankful for the department's support and its willingness to listen to graduate students. We would like to extend a special thanks to the Chair Evelyn Brooks Higginbotham, Director of Graduate Studies Sidney Chalhoub, and Graduate Student Coordinator Dan Bertwell. We couldn't do it without them. The HGSA is also indebted to the work of Kimberly O'Hagan, Joshua Meija, and the rest of the department staff. We welcome incoming Chair Ann Blair and are enthusiastic about the continued productivity between graduate students and the department in the years to come, even amidst so much uncertainty in the world.

Dissertation Prospectus Conference

On January 31, 2020, graduate students from the Department of History and affiliated programs took an important step toward completing their dissertations by introducing their research topics at the annual dissertation prospectus conference. The conference is an opportunity for students who have recently completed their general exams to formally present research plans to members of the faculty and to their peers. This year's program included:

Moderator: Professor Michael Szonyi

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|---------------|--|
| Sangjae Lee | From Text to Context: Translation, Circulation, and Authorization of Western Learning in the Late Nineteenth Century Korea |
| Yuan-Heng Mao | Literati Networks in the Jiangxi Province from the Thirteenth to Seventeenth Centuries |
| Juhee Kang | Translating the universal science: mental testing in modern Japan |
| Joo-Hyeon Oh | Investigating Things |

Moderator: Professor Walter Johnson

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| Nina Halty | Fugitive Diplomacies |
| Jelani Hayes | Reimagining American Families: Foster Care, State Surveillance, and the Struggle for Parental Dignity, 1962 to 1997 |
| DeAnza Cook | Chronic Crime Warfare: Operation Ceasefire and The Dissemination of Problem-Oriented Police Science in Twenty-First Century Cities, 1968-2018 |
| Ryan Fontanilla | Water Wars: Drought and Political Conflict in Post-Abolition Jamaica, ca. 1830s-1900 |

Moderator: Professor Mary Lewis

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|----------------|--|
| Hannah Pinkham | Imperial Brothers: Fraternity in the French Colonial Empire, 1763-1848 |
| Nate Grau | France's Forgotten Soldiers: Local Paramilitaries on the Frontlines of Decolonization, 1945-1962 |
| Kirin Gupta | Femme Fatale: Women Terrorists in Twentieth Century British Empire |
| Ashley Gonik | The Structure of Information: Printed Tables in Early Modern Europe |

Moderator: Professor Cemal Kafadar

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|------------------|--|
| Brandon Mancilla | Orishas and Communism: The Subaltern Politics of Religion and Race in Revolutionary Cuba |
| Marissa Smit | Frontiers Made Flesh: Byzantines, Ottomans, and their Animals, 1205-1512 |
| Jan Burzlaff | "Why Don't You Run?": Surviving The Holocaust (1941--1945) |
| Mitch Bacci | Smugglers and State-Builders: Opiates and the Making of the Modern Eastern Mediterranean |

Moderator: Professor Ian Miller

| | |
|-------------|---|
| Jesus Solís | Shadow Networks: Illicit Goods, Smuggling, and Violence in Japan's Postwar Black Markets |
| Bohao Wu | Uneasy Friends and Convenient Enemies: Sino-Japanese Rapprochement and Competition over Southeast Asia, 1955-1974 |
| Sungik Yang | The Highest Stage of Nationalism: Popular Discourses and the Rise of Fascist Ideology in Postliberation Korea |
| Reed Knappe | Wartime Japan's Metabolic Crisis and the Eclipse of Fossil Fuel Civilization |

ALUMNI NEWS

Richard Bell (PhD '06) published *Stolen* (Simon & Schuster) in October 2019. The book has been reviewed by the [Wall Street Journal](#) and [NPR](#), among [others](#).

Guenter Bischof (PhD '89) published with Hannes Richter *Towards the American Century: Austrians in the United States* (University of New Orleans Press 2019), a volume accompanying the [exhibit](#) of the same title at the Austrian Embassy in Washington, D.C.

Michael David Cohen (PhD '08) joined the American University faculty as a research professor of government after 10 years at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, where he concluded the [James K. Polk Project](#). He is also affiliated with American University's Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies, where he is spearheading a new project: the correspondence of Zachary Taylor and Millard Fillmore.

William Wayne Farris (MA '76, PhD '81) published a path-finding book on tea in Japan entitled *A Bowl for a Coin*. He is currently Professor Emeritus, Senior Distinguished Professor at University of Hawaii at Manoa.

Barbara Keys (PhD '01), Professor of History at the University of Melbourne, was elected President of the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations and published an edited volume: *The Ideals of Global Sport: From Peace to Human Rights* (Penn Press, 2019). She will be taking up a Chair in U.S. History at Durham University in 2020.

Fred Leventhal (BA '60, PhD '68) and **Peter Stansky (PhD '61)** are co-authors of *Leonard Woolf: Bloomsbury Socialist*, published by Oxford University Press (2019).

Jeremy A. Yellen (PhD '12) published his first book *The Greater East Asia Co-Prosperty Sphere: When Total Empire Met Total War* (Cornell University Press, 2019).

We welcome your recent news for inclusion in our next newsletter. Please email your updates to history@fas.harvard.edu



Harvard University
Department of History