History Department News

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Emma Rothschild wins Saltire Society Scottish History Book of the Year Award

Emma Rothschild, Jeremy and Jane Knowles Professor of History and Director of the Harvard Center for History and Economics, has been awarded the Saltire Society Scottish History Book of the Year Award for her book *The Inner Life of Empires: An Eighteenth-Century History*.

The Saltire Society was founded in 1936 to encourage everything that might improve the quality of life in Scotland and restore the country to its proper place as a creative force in Europe. It seeks to preserve all that is best in Scottish tradition and to encourage new developments which can strengthen and enrich the country’s cultural life. It has wide ranging interests including architecture, arts and crafts, civil engineering, history, literature, music and science - and promotes excellence in many fields through a series of national awards.

For more on the Society, visit their website.

*Organization and award information retrieved from the Saltire Society on 5 December, 2011. www.saltiresociety.org.uk*

History concentrator Brett Rosenberg named Rhodes Scholar
Brett Rosenberg

“The opportunity study at Oxford is just incredible, and really overwhelming right now,” said Rosenberg. “One reason I came to Harvard is because there are unparalleled opportunities here, not only in academics, but in everything you do here.

“I spend a lot of my time now singing with a choir dedicated to black creativity and spirituality,” she continued. “We’ve sang for Ted Kennedy. We sang with Bobby McFerrin. There are things that happen at Harvard that just wouldn’t happen anywhere else.”

In her time at Harvard, Rosenberg has served as a research assistant to noted Professor Niall Ferguson at the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, written for Harvard Magazine and the New York Times, and launched her own satirical blog, “Notes from a Mockracker.”

The Cabot House resident and history concentrator is hoping to pursue international relations while at Oxford, a continuation of her current work examining the Cold War. As part of her thesis, Rosenberg is examining a 1956 study commissioned by political leader and philanthropist Nelson Rockefeller that gathered 108 intellectual luminaries in an effort to diagnose the big problems facing the country over the following 10 to 15 years, and the broad national goals that should be adopted to remedy them.
Rosenberg also offered thanks to the staff of Cabot House, who supported her throughout the months-long Rhodes process.

“Cabot House has been incredible,” she said. “They assigned me a fellowships tutor, Tarun, who is my new hero. They have been behind me every step of the way, helping read over drafts of my proposal, calming me down when I got really anxious about it. They even organized a mock interview for me. I can’t say enough nice things about Cabot and the people there.”

Read the about the other three winners in the Harvard Gazette.

*Photos by Jon Chase, Rose Lincoln, Kris Snibbe/Harvard Staff Photographers

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