Summer 2017 Newsletter



Daniel L. SmailDepartment Chair

Alison Frank Johnson

Director of Graduate Studies

Ann Blair

Director of Undergraduate Studies

Inside

| Chair's Letter | 1 |
|--------------------|----|
| Faculty News | 4 |
| Undergraduate News | 7 |
| Graduate News | 11 |
| Alumni News | 14 |



From the 2016-17 Department Chair, Daniel L. Smail

The Great Space in Robinson Hall is quiet when vou enter on a summer's morning. During termtime students are draped all over the furniture working on their laptops, and quiet conversations are taking place in the many nooks and crannies. In April, passing through at certain times of the day, you may find knots of graduate students waiting with nervous and joyful anticipation for their peers to emerge from their graduate comprehensive exams. If all goes well in this annual rite-de-passage, the pop of champagne corks will echo through the space. In an afternoon in May, a few days before Commencement, the Great Space is animated by the annual celebration of our graduating seniors, joined by their parents. But when the students and their families depart and the bunting is taken down, the space often stands silent and empty, apart from the lions and the occasional summer school students. Faculty are off spending time with their research or with friends and families on several continents. Graduate students disperse to a variety of positions and postdocs, archives, libraries, summer language programs, and other sites. The graduating seniors, in a bizarre sort of alchemical transmutation, turn into alumni/ae, and the returning undergraduate concentrators, or at least those who are not gearing up to write senior theses, settle into jobs and internships or other summer activities. Everyone finds time to read a book for fun and to catch up on things that are neglected during the year.

This period of calm will be a distant memory next summer, in 2018, as Robinson Hall undergoes a long-overdue renovation. Barring any alterations that may take place in the plans, an elevator shaft will be rising from the corner of the Basement Seminar room where the kitchen used to be, up through the space outside the men's bathroom on the first floor, passing through the faculty and graduate student mailboxes on the second floor, before finally uniting with the east end of the mezzanine level up above. The renovations will entail a number of improvements to bring the building up to code standards, and several spaces and offices will be renovated to accommodate the new shaft. Stay tuned: the architectural plans are still being costed-out, and we will circulate more news as and when we have it. This phase of the construction, which may last from June to December 2018, will not include renovations to the garden level, but we are hopeful that those may be on the docket in a few years' time.

For a community as large as ours the memories of any given year are always bittersweet. Too many friends and colleagues have suffered pain and loss in the year just past, and others have had to cope with grave challenges of different kinds. But in the year just past there have been countless things to celebrate: the many awards and fellowships won, the dream jobs landed, the opportunities to share the love of history with students and colleagues and new acquaintances all over the world. Some of these triumphs are of the quiet kind, sensible only to those who experience them: a new Teaching Fellow who reads a course evaluation for the first time and discovers the joy that comes when you learn that you have made a difference in someone else's life; a senior thesis writer who nervously opens a thesis evaluation and reads the unfettered praise with mounting happiness: a member of the staff who receives a card expressing the sender's gratitude for a kindness done; a professor who finds in the inbox an unsolicited email from a distant colleague expressing admiration for a former advisee who is now making a splash in the world

Among the many good things to happen in the year just past, it was with great pleasure that we welcomed Derek Penslar, our new colleague in Modern Jewish History, who joined us from Toronto and Oxford in the fall. Khaled Fahmy (American University in Cairo) returned for a second year as a Visiting Professor in Modern Middle Eastern history, although he has now received the Sultan Qaboos Professorship of Modern Arabic Studies at the University of Cambridge and will be leaving us, taking with him our deep gratitude for his two years of service to the department and our students. We were honored to have a chance to host Penny Russell, the Gough Whitlam and Malcolm Fraser Visiting Professor of Australian Studies, who came to us for the year from the University of Sydney. Greg Afinogenov (PhD Harvard, 2016) joined the Undergraduate Office as the Assistant Director of Undergraduate Studies, bringing his customary energy and vision, and it is with a combination of regret and delight that we now have the opportunity to wish him the very best as he moves on to his new position on the faculty of the Department of History at Georgetown University. We welcomed into our ranks three graduate students, James McSpadden, Andrew Pope, and Jake Ransohoff, who were awarded History Prize Instructorships and taught

From the Chair

undergraduate seminars in the spring of 2017. One of the highlights of the year was a search we undertook in the Indigenous History of North America; the committee was chaired by Joyce Chaplin and included Tamar Herzog, Evelyn Higginbotham, and Dan Carpenter (Government). We are very hopeful to have good news to report on that soon. We were honored that Michael Puett (Harvard — EALC) and David Jones (Harvard — History of Science) accepted offers to join the department as Affiliate faculty.

For the coming year, we warmly welcome Carla Heelan (PhD Harvard, 2016) as our Assistant Director of Undergraduate Studies, and are very pleased that Shaun Nichols (PhD Harvard, 2016) will be able to return for a second year as a College Fellow in U.S. History. Rodrigo Adem (Ph.D. Chicago, 2015) will be the Dumbarton Oaks College Fellow in Medieval Mediterranean History, and Marcio Siwi (PhD NYU, 2017) will join us as the College Fellow in Latin American history. Please join me in welcoming our new colleagues and visitors this fall!

Our previous Director of Administration. Ann Kaufman, departed last summer for a new adventure in California, and her position has been very ably filled by Robert Chung, who joined us this fall from a similar position at Tufts University. Cory Paulsen, who just celebrated thirty years at Harvard, was honored by her colleagues as a Harvard Hero this year; Cory joined Laura Johnson (Harvard Hero 2016) as a recent recipient of this distinguished award. Kimberly O'Hagan received a Dean's Distinction Award for her many services to the department and to FAS, joining Mary McConnell, who received this award in 2016. Last summer, we welcomed Lisa Lubarr, our new Coordinator for the Initiative for the Science of the Human Past. Our exceptional staff, including those above as well as Dan Bertwell, Laura Christoffels, Jeremy Guillette, and Sylvie Papazian, continue to make us the envy of other departments.

For the coming year, Ann Blair and Alison Frank Johnson will be continuing in their respective positions of Director of Undergraduate Studies and Director of Graduate Studies. The space allotted to this column would not be sufficient to convey my thanks and gratitude to both of them for the countless hours they have dedicated to the common weal of the department and our

students over the past year. Both Ann and Alison will be heading off to well-deserved sabbaticals in 2018-19, which means that the three of us will be handing the department over to an entirely new leadership team a year from now. As always, the department benefits from the work of all the faculty who contribute in so many ways to committees that abound at this university, from the department to the college to the university as a whole. Though there is no space to thank them individually, we are grateful for the service provided by all our colleagues. It has been a great pleasure working with Rachel Steely and Maddie Williams, co-presidents of the History Graduate Student Association and all the HSGA officers. For the coming year, the department will be diminished by the retirement of Hue Tam Ho-Tai, Kenneth T. Young Professor of Sino-Vietnamese History, and the departure of Andy Jewett. Sam Moyn (Harvard Law School), one of our joint appointments, will also be departing to take up a position at Yale University. We wish all three of them the very best for the next stage of life.

In the fall of 2016, we celebrated the practice of history at our annual panel discussion, "History is Everything / Everything is History," which featured short talks by Sunil Amrith, Arunabh Ghosh, Jane Kamensky, Intisar Rabb, and Emma Rothschild, as well as a recent BA from our program, Eyck Freymann. In October, we hosted a conference honoring the memory and scholarship of our late colleague Mark Kishlansky, who is greatly missed, and we thank Scott Sowerby and others who undertook to organize this event.



Professor Kishlansky's former PhD students at the fall conference. Left to right: Eleanor Hubbard, David Smith, Max Straus, Jeffrey Collins, Catherine Patterson, Victor Stater, Martine van Ittersum, Noah McCormack, Scott Sowerby, Frederick Schnabel, Paul Halliday, and Sonia Tycko.

As chair of the Department Seminar last year, David Armitage introduced a new series of short lunch time talks, which this year featured interventions by Genevieve Clutario, Nancy Cott, Arunabh Ghosh, David Howell, Mary Lewis, Derek Penslar, Penny Russell, Dan Smail, Laurel Ulrich, Kirsten Weld, and Arne Westad. Following the presidential election in November, the seminar hosted a special gathering entitled "Paths from the Past, Ways Forward to the Future," with brief comments by Evelyn Higginbotham, Jim Kloppenberg, Jill Lepore, and Alison Frank Johnson, all of whose thoughts inspired an animated and much-needed community discussion. The special seminar held during the graduate recruitment day, "The Ethics of History," featured Mou Banerjee, Ann Blair, Annette Gordon-Reed, and Ian Miller; their remarks drew current members of the Department and prospective students into a lively dialogue. David deserves our thanks for the energy and vision he put into the seminar, and we look forward to an equally invigorating series of events under his direction in the coming year.

No fewer than seventeen of our graduate students received their doctoral degrees last year, and many have accepted satisfying positions of different types throughout academia and beyond. History is far too important to be bottled up solely in teaching jobs; we watch with growing satisfaction as our graduating students bring history's insights to many communities around the country and the world. At the other end, a very strong and diverse pool of graduate applicants vielded an exceptionally diverse G1 cohort, a welcome trend that builds on gains made the previous year and will continue with the incoming class in the fall of 2017. One of 2016-17's most welcome innovations came about with the creation of the position of Placement Officer, whose first incumbent, Kirsten Weld, worked with Alison Frank Johnson not only to define the very parameters of the position itself but also to counsel students seeking academic positions, fellowships, and other career pathways. We are very grateful to Kirsten for establishing this vital new departmental role. In the spring, the department voted to invite representatives of the History Graduate Student Association to attend regular departmental meetings, ensuring that graduate students have a voice in departmental deliberations, and we look forward to this important new relationship.

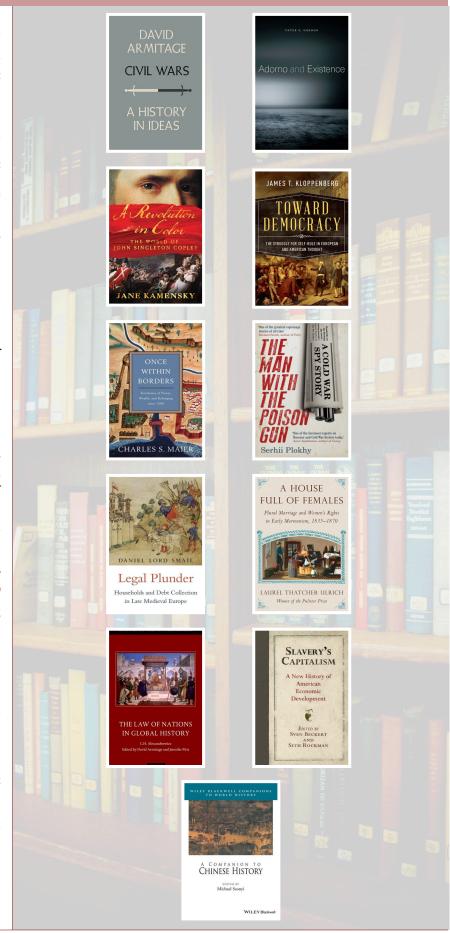
Where the undergraduate program is concerned, the news is good, since the number of newly declared concentrators rose in the fall; you can read more about

From the Chair

this in Ann's column. In a sense, no one should be surprised by this. Recent events, both nationally and internationally, have made the case for historical literacy transparently evident. President Drew Faust put it well while addressing the Class of 2020 last fall: "a concern for the future requires us all to commit to exploring the past." History is central to the work of justice, for as we all know, we have a duty to remember the rights and the wrongs that unite and divide us as a people. Alongside these lofty moral considerations, historians provide the context in which all sound policy and planning unfolds. In this day and age, the perils of short-term thinking are evident in every domain, ranging from the financial sectors and international diplomacy to the global environment and urban planning and policing. Never has the need for history been more acute than it is now.

Taking up the duty that is implied in these remarks, we can and ought to accept the need to disseminate historical literacy in the public sphere, using the array of platforms that are available. But we also disseminate history through conventional forms of publication. Since the appearance of last year's newsletter, members of the department have published a remarkable range of monographs and edited volumes. The monographs include David Armitage, Civil Wars: A History in Ideas (Feb. 2017); Peter Gordon, Adorno and Existence (Nov. 2016); Jane Kamensky, A Revolution in Color: The World of John Singleton Copley (Oct. 2016); Jim Kloppenberg, Toward Democracy: The Struggle for Self-Rule in European and American Thought (June 2016); Charlie Maier, Once Within Borders (Oct. 2016); Serhii Plokhii, *The Man with the Poison Gun:* A Cold War Spy Story (Dec. 2016); Daniel Lord Smail, Legal Plunder (June 2016); and Laurel Ulrich, A House Full of Females: Plural Marriage and Women's Rights in Early Mormonism, 1835-1870 (Jan. 2017). The edited volumes include David Armitage, co-editor, The Law of Nations in Global History (March 2017); Sven Beckert, co-editor, Slavery's Capitalism (Aug. 2016); and Michael Szonyi, A Companion to Chinese History (Feb. 2017). There may well be more we haven't heard about, and this is to say nothing about the many articles and chapters that faculty have published, not to mention publications, including books (!), generated by our amazing graduate students.

You can read more about these and other happenings elsewhere in the newsletter, and plan to check out our website from time to time during the coming year to keep up with all that is happening in the department. New research is now appearing increasingly often in the form of digital archives and repositories, and the best way to find these projects is through faculty webpages and other websites. Happy reading, and stay in touch!



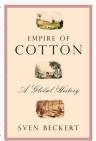
Faculty News



DAVID ARMITAGE published two books this year. *Civil Wars: A History in Ideas* appeared from Alfred A. Knopf in the US and Yale University Press in the UK, and was the subject of colloquia at Queen Mary University of London, the University of Sydney and Cambridge University. Later in the year, Oxford University Press published

The Law of Nations in Global History, a co-edited collection of writings by the pathbreaking early historian of international law, C. H. Alexandrowicz (1902-75). Among David's major lectures were the Annual Grotius Lecture to the American Society of International Law, the Allan Martin Lecture at the Australian National University, the Allabaugh Lecture at Dartmouth College and the opening address of the Nacht van de Geschiedenis at the Rijksmuseum in Amsterdam. He also keynoted conferences in London and Oxford and gave other talks in Belfast, Bozeman, Chicago, Delhi, Jaipur, Madrid, Oxford, Philadelphia, Seoul, Sydney and Toronto. He was elected an honorary fellow of St Catharine's College, Cambridge, and a corresponding member of the Real Academia de la Historia in Madrid, and in May 2017 he served as the Shinhan Distinguished Visiting Professor at Yonsei University in Seoul.

SVEN BECKERT won two more prizes for *Empire of Cotton: A Global History*: the Alfred D. Chandler Award for best book in business history published in the past three years, and the Cherasco Prize for the best history book published in Italian in 2016. He was also coorganizer of a major conference at Harvard on Slavery and the Universities, which garnered major media coverage. He authored a number



of articles, among them "Harvard and Slavery," which was published in *Transition: The Magazine of Africa and the Diaspora* 122 (2017), "The New History of Capitalism," which was included in Jürgen Kocka and Marcel van der Linden, eds. *Capitalism: The Reemergence of a Historical Concept*, and an article in a book he co-edited, "Cotton and the US South: A Short History," in *Plantation Kingdom: The American South and its Global Commodities*, eds. Sven Beckert, Peter Coclanis, Richard Follett, and Barbara Hahn. He spent his sabbatical year as a director's fellow at re:work, a research center at Humboldt University, Berlin.



ANN BLAIR continues her study of the role of printing in early modern Europe scholarship. This year she published a series of articles on Conrad Gessner (1516-65) showing how he used printing as the social media of his day, notably to announce his works in progress, to solicit contributions from readers for his

projects underway, and occasionally to pressure other scholars by name to complete work or share manuscripts. At a conference on the history of indexing at Oxford she gave a keynote lecture which examined how Erasmus created the indexes to his *Adages* with the help of assistants. Along with many colleagues, staff, and friends of the Library she participated in the celebration of the 75th anniversary of Houghton Library which is ongoing this year. Visit http://houhton75.org/ to view the special exhibits and events organized for the anniversary, including Ann's choice of a late sixteenth-century notebook and almanac (pictured here) for one of the Houghton75 exhibits and her George Parker Winship lecture "The Objects of Houghton Library: Past, Present, and Future" from April 20.



NANCY COTT began her year's term as president of the Organization of American Historians in April 2016 and completed it with her presidential address at the OAH annual meeting in April 2017 in New Orleans. As one of three American professors participating in a collaboration between the OAH and AHRAC, the Chinese

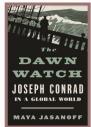
scholarly organization in the field of U.S. history, she taught a history seminar for graduate students on the subject of "Citizenship, Race, and Marriage in the U.S." in June 2017 at Northeast Normal University in Changchun, China. (The photo shows her and one of the students at a park outside Changchun.) Her essay, "Marriage Crisis and All That Jazz," was published in *Domestic Tensions, National Anxieties: Global Perspectives on Marriage, Crisis, and Nation*, ed. Kristin Celello and Hanan Kholoussy (NY: Oxford, 2016), and another essay, "How History Matters in Same-Sex Marriage Rights," will appear soon in *Marriage, Law and Modernity: Global Histories*, ed. Julia Moses (London: Bloomsbury, 2017). Professor Cott taught her last class for the History Department in the fall of 2016. After an upcoming sabbatical year, she will retire from the faculty in June 2018.

ANDREW GORDON served in 2016-17 as Acting Director of the Harvard Asia Center, working to promoting the Center's focus on topics past and present that cross borders within Asia or between Asia and the world. He published two articles growing out of his research into the history of Japan's so-called "lost decades": "New and Enduring Dual



Structures of Employment in Japan: The Rise of Non-Regular Labor, 1980s–2010s" in *Social Science of Japan Journal* and "Ideologies of State, Market and Gender from High Growth to "Lost Decades" (International Research Center for Japanese Studies). He continued to build and promote use of the Japan Disasters Digital Archive, which broadened its missions to include not only the March 2011 compound disasters, but other events in the past, and possibly future. He is currently studying the history and politics of historical heritage sites in Japan and more broadly, with particular focus on UNESCO's designation of the sites of Japan's industrial revolution as World Heritage Sites in 2015. In spring 2018 he will teach a graduate course focused on historical heritage sites in Japan.

Faculty News



MAYA JASANOFF finished her book *The Dawn Watch: Joseph Conrad in a Global World*, which will be published by Penguin Press in November. As part of her research for the book, she traveled to the Democratic Republic of Congo in December and retraced the river journey described in Conrad's novel *Heart of Darkness*. This spring she mounted a new

General Education course entitled "Ancestry: Where Do We Come From and Why Do We Care?," which traces concepts of descent over the last 200,000 years of human history, drawing on anthropology, genealogy, history, and genetics. In March, Maya was named a winner of the 2017 Windham-Campbell Literature Prize for her achievements in non-fiction writing.

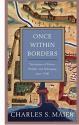
ALISON FRANK JOHNSON was awarded the Phi Beta Kappa annual teaching prize. The Harvard chapter, Alpha Iota, awards the prize to three Harvard faculty members each year.





JAMES T. KLOPPENBERG became a grandfather in May. The photo shows him meeting Thandolwethu Lillian Kloppenberg for the first time in her parents' home in Johannesberg, with Thando's mother, Nonhlahla Masina, as witness to the event. Kloppenberg continued his term as chair of

the undergraduate concentration in Social Studies, taught the program's year-long course on modern social theory, and also co-chaired the Standing Committee on Public Service. His recently published book *Toward Democracy: The Struggle for* Self-Rule in European and American Thought was the subject of featured reviews and forums in a number of popular and scholarly periodicals and journals from *The Wall Street Journal* and Commonweal to The American Historical Review and Modern Intellectual History. The book was discussed at sessions of the annual meetings of the Organization of American Historians, the Society for US Intellectual History, and the Society for the History of the Early American Republic. Kloppenberg has been giving lectures about the book to groups across the US wondering whether the history of democracy gives us reason to hope it will survive. His current book project, under contract with Princeton University Press, is entitled "The American Democratic Tradition."



CHARLES MAIER published Once Within Borders: Territories of Power, Wealth, and Belonging since 1500 with the Belknap Press of Harvard University Press in October 2016. He will be on sabbatical leave in spring 2018 and a short-term visitor at the Wissenschaftskolleg, Berlin.

Under the aegis of SoHP, MIKE MCCORMICK, Joyce Chaplin, Daniel Lord Smail and colleagues launched a virtual Research Center linking Harvard's scientific approaches to human history with the new Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History (Jena), led by Johannes



Krause. Mike directs in Cambridge the new Max Planck-Harvard Research Center for the Archaeoscience of the Ancient Mediterranean (MHAAM) and Johannes likewise in Jena; Lisa Ransom Lubarr is Coordinator. Initial projects focus on the the peopling of the ancient Mediterranean, and ancient pathogens. The new program's first graduate students start in September. The Inaugural Conference, with the President of the Max Planck Society, will take place on October 10th.

The SoHP "What's New in the Fall of the Roman Empire" lecture series featured talks by Kyle Harper (Univ. Oklahoma) on the global history of infectious disease; by Johannes Krause on the genetic history of plague; and by Mike on new approaches.

Historical Ice Core Project post-doc Alex More led a new study documenting the Black Death's dramatic impact on medieval lead production of Britain and atmospheric pollution.

Mike also coauthored studies reconstructing the genome of the bubonic plague bacillus from victims of the Justinianic Pandemic, on human skeletal development and oxygen isotopes and single-authored works on genetic patterns, archaeology and medieval shipping, and the first archaeological inventory of late antique mass graves; he was Little Resident Scholar at the American Academy in Rome.

The Harvard team continued its international collaboration in the geomagnetic mapping of the Visigothic capital in central Spain, and highlighted recent findings in a workshop "Reccopolis Revealed." [pictured]



Faculty News



DEREK PENSLAR published "What if a Christian State Had Been Established in Modern Palestine?" in *What Ifs? Of Jewish History from Abraham to Zionism*, ed. Gavriel Rosenfeld (Cambridge) and "What We Talk About When We Talk About Colonialism," in *Colonialism and the Jews*,

eds. Maud Mandel, Ethan Katz, and Lisa Leff (Indiana). His essay, "Beyond Honour and Authenticity: Zionism as Theodor Herzl's Life Project," will soon be published in On the Word of a Jew: Religion, Reliability, and the Dynamics of Trust, eds. Nina Caputo and Mitchell Hart (Indiana). Also in press is his chapter on the history of Israel in Volume VII of The Cambridge History of Judaism. Penslar is writing Theodor Herzl: The Charismatic Leader for Yale University Press' "Jewish Lives" series and has begun a new book project titled Zionism: An Emotional State. Penslar spoke on "Declarations of (In)dependence: The Dialectics of Zionist Diplomacy" at a conference at Princeton on the Balfour Declaration and on "Lourdes, Mecca, Sadigora: Theodor Herzl on Faith and Miracles," at a conference at Oxford on Jews and Liberalism. He delivered a keynote address, titled "Anti-Semitism and Zionism: Ideologies or Emotions?", at a conference on antisemitism and Zionism at Birkbeck College, University of London, and another keynote address, titled "The End of the Affair? The Rise and Fall of the Diaspora-Israel Romance," at a conference on Israelidiaspora relations at the University of Munich. He delivered invited lectures at the University of Vienna, the London School of Economics, and the University of Michigan. He convened an international conference on "Israel Studies as a Global Discipline" at St. Anne's College, Oxford.

On leave at the Radcliffe Institute in spring 2017, INTISAR RABB completed a new book manuscript: a co-edited volume together with Abigail Balbale—a History graduate who now teaches at the Bard Graduate Center—on "Courts and Judicial Procedure in Early Islamic Societies" in honor of Professor Roy



Mottahedeh. It takes cues from Roy Mottahedeh's scholarly interest in and methodological approach to medieval Islamic history and law, in central Islamic lands from the 8th century

through the 12th century. Among her teaching and other activities this year, she delivered the named lecture at the Detroit Mercy School of Law, joined the University Library Advisory Board, and worked with the team at the Islamic Legal Studies Program to oversee the successful beta launch of SHARIAsource—the online repository for access to sources and analysis of Islamic law.



DAN SMAIL had a busy time in Italy last summer, attending workshops in Rome and Venice before a two-week archival stint in Florence where he collected several hundred late medieval household inventories for **DALME**, the digital humanities project he codirects. DALME's dedicated team of research

associates currently includes Jules Calvarin, Hannah Feldman, Nathaniel Hay, Will Lobkowicz, Patrick Meehan, and Eric Nemarich, and our work is being supported by a grant from the Dean's Competitive Fund for Promising Scholarship. In September, Smail organized a conference on Australian deep history with Ann McGrath (ANU – History) and Matt Liebmann (Harvard – Anthropology) and delivered talks at the University of Rochester and Vanderbilt. One of October's highlights was a seminar he organized on historical contingency that featured the paleontologist Doug Erwin, who spoke to a packed house in the Robinson Lower Library. In late November, he had a chance to discuss his current research on patterns of recycling with the members of the medieval history seminar at Oxford University. In the spring, Smail delivered a talk in the MacKay Lecture Series at Dalhousie University in Halifax and addressed a Mellon-Sawyer seminar at the University of Iowa. In May, he commented on Miri Rubin's Wiles Lectures at Queen's University in Belfast. Smail published two book chapters on subjects related to his interest in the mathematics and epistemology of value, and his 2016 book, Legal Plunder, was featured in a book-review forum on H-France. After having supervised a number of brilliant undergraduate theses, he is proud to say that one of his advisees, Sama Mammadova, won a Hoopes Prize this spring for her study of art and usury in Renaissance Florence. Finally, Smail was honored to have been named a Walter Channing Cabot fellow.



Undergraduate News



Letter from Ann Blair 2016-17 Director of Undergraduate Studies

This year was a good one for our undergraduate program. We graduated a bumper class of 71 seniors and welcomed 58 new sophomores. We also welcomed new members to the undergraduate office with Dr. Greogry Afinogenov as Assistant Director of Undergraduate Studies, Michael Thornton as Department Writing Fellow, and Andrew Bellisari as Departmental Teaching Fellow, and a great group of House advisers. Our undergraduate Peer Concentration Counselors were especially active as well—you can find out about each of them on our website under the Advising tab. Thanks to their initiative we now have an Undergraduate History Club which sponsors a few events throughout the year including a reception in Robinson Hall at the start of each semester.

This year Greg Afinogenov initiated a new kind of activity designed to showcase the attractions of History as a discipline and a concentration. The Department ran a series of outings especially targeted at undergraduates, but also open to graduate students and faculty. Under the leadership of Jonathon Booth the first outing went to the Royall House and Slave Quarters in Medford, which is conveniently accessible by MBTA bus. In March Andrew Bellisari chartered a bus to take a group of students to Salem where they enjoyed guided tours of the Japanese export collection at the Peabody Essex Museum and of the Salem Customs House. In April Tina Groeger led a "people's history walking tour of Boston" highlighting local sites and events in immigrant, African-American, and women's history. In September 2017 we are planning an outing to Harvard's General Artemas Ward House in Shrewsbury and we look forward to exploring more of the outstanding historical sites in the area.

The concentration is especially proud of fostering student research. History 97 is now well established in its format of parallel thematic seminars which share two plenary meetings and a common set of writing assignments culminating in a final research paper. This year we ran seminars on imperial history (Dimiter Angelov), intellectual history (David Armitage), the history of history (Ann Blair), social history (Sidney Chalhoub), and environmental history (Ian Miller). As always the course was demanding but students rose to the challenge, producing papers on a tremendous array of topics. Concentrators must also take at least two History seminars focused on historical research and about half our seniors choose to write a thesis. They present their work in progress at a senior thesis conference in November. Special thanks to those who moderated one of the ten panels there this year: David Armitage, Arunabh Ghosh, Mary Lewis, Charles Maier, Lisa McGirr, Laurel Ulrich, visiting professor Penny Russell, Catherine Warner from South Asian Studies, and Stuart Schrader, a postdoctoral fellow at the Charles Warren Center. Four months later 32 students in History 99 successfully handed in a senior thesis! As has often been the case in recent years, our seniors won a disproportionate number of awards recognizing their excellent work, as outlined below.

This coming year we will be gearing up for some major college-wide changes in the undergraduate program. GenEd 2.0 will launch in Fall 2018, with just four categories in which students must take one course: Aesthetics and Culture; Ethics and Civics; Science and Technology in Society; Histories, Societies, Individuals. This requirement is combined with a distribution requirement of one course in each division and an additional "quantitative reasoning" requirement. So the general load of eight courses devoted to ensuring breadth of education remains the same, but students will have more range of choice in the distribution portion of the requirement. History courses will figure in more than one of the Gen Ed categories and offer many options to students seeking to fulfill the distribution requirement in Social Sciences. In addition in Fall 2018 the daily class schedule will change noticeably: instead of "Harvard time" allowing only seven minutes of passing time between consecutive classes, courses will meet for 75 minutes with 15 minutes of passing time. Classes will start at 9am, 10:30am, noon, 1:30pm and 3pm. In the years ahead, when classes are also held on the Allston campus, courses there will be scheduled with a 45-minute stagger, allowing for 45 minutes of passing time between the two parts of campus. But History courses will continue to be offered in Robinson Hall and nearby buildings.

One of our ongoing missions is to explain to prospective concentrators what concentrating in History is like. A very effective way of doing so is to invite alumni of our program to come discuss the impact on their lives of having concentrated in History. Special thanks to recent alums who participated in our "Harvard and beyond" panels this year:

Undergraduate News

Michael Firestone '05, Giuliana Vetrano '09, Peter Bacon '11, Alexandra Rahman '12, Rekha Auguste-Nelson Rekha '13, Maia Usui '17, and to the current seniors who joined them: Arjun Byju, Adriann Negreros, Olivia Nichols, and Aaisha Shah. Please let us know if you'd like participate on panels of this kind in 2017-18! We also have an alumni voices page offering a glimpse of the many careers that alumni of our concentration have pursued. If you'd like to contribute a write-up, please let us know. Laura Johnson has been our undergraduate coordinator for the past 33 years so if you get in touch the odds are good that she will remember you! It has been a great pleasure working this year with faculty, visitors, teaching fellows, and students who keep History alive on our campus every day, and I look forward to serving as DUS for the year ahead.

Sophomores entering the History concentration, 2011-2016

2011:51

2012: 45

2013: 70

2014: 57

2015: 45

2016: 58



2017 AB Recipients

Ana Lira Alegria Michael Sheffer Avi-Yonah Nelson Landers Barrette Nicole Elizabeth Bellissimo Nathaniel Robert Foster Bernstein John Ring Boyan Gregory Andrew Briker Arjun Satya Byju Christian James Carbone Claire Marie Einaudi Collins Philip Pease DeLaMater Timothy Christian Devine Maura England Duggan Denis D. Fedin Mitchell Freeland Foster Abigail Bacon Conant Gabrieli Declan Patrick Garvey William Rogers Gertler

Abigail Bacon Conant Gabrieli
Declan Patrick Garvey
William Rogers Gertler
Mira Steiner Hayward
Jesse Catherine Vandegrift Hixon
Caroline Claire Hunsicker
Henry Bayard Kennelly
Zoe Anne Kessler
Anatol Elvis Klass
Nancy Ko
Elijah David Lee
Dominique Luongo

Douglas Treadway Maggs Sama Mammadova Katelyn Erin McEvoy Adriann Ali Negreros Olivia Austin Nicholls Alasdair Wyatt Hill Nicholson Jair Gamaliel Olivares Joseph Aengus Paul Frederick Fanning Quesada Randolph Christopher Read II William Coleman Sack **Emily Maria Sartin** Eli Halak Scharlatt Davey Erin Elizabeth Shortell Aaisha Nisha Sikander Shah Wright Leo Smith Elaine Rebecca Herrera Spencer Aubrey Noelle Stoddard Gavin Seamus Sullivan Frank Joseph Tamberino II Alexandra Cynthia Tartaglia Joanna Lee Torres Edward Vasquez Joule Voelz Langston Ellison Ward

Harrison Koppel Wexner

Phi Beta Kappa

Michael Avi-Yonah
Nelson Landers Barrette
Gregory Andrew Briker
Denis D. Fedin
Abigail Bacon Conant Gabrieli
Nancy Ko
Katelyn Erin McEvoy
Wright Leo Smith
Gavin Seamus Sullivan
Joule Voelz

Undergraduate News

Fellowships & Scholarships

ALEX G. BOOTH FELLOWSHIP

The Booth Fund Fellowships help to defray the cost of travel, tuition, or other appropriate expenses for travel to a country or countries related to the recipient's field of interest, either during the summer or during the following academic year.

Eli Scharlatt Davey

FREDERICK SHELDON TRAVELLING FELLOWSHIPS Provides funds for a year of purposeful travel and cultural immersion outside of the US in the year after graduation.

William Coleman Sack

RHODES SCHOLARSHIP

The Rhodes Trust, a British charity established to honor the will and bequest of Cecil J. Rhodes, provides full financial support for Rhodes Scholars to pursue a degree or degrees at the University of Oxford in the United Kingdom in partnership with the Second Century Founder, John McCall MacBain and other generous benefactors. The first U.S. Rhodes Scholars entered Oxford in 1904.

Nancy Ko

History Department Undergraduate Prizes & Awards

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY PRIZE for best total record as history concentrator by the end of the senior year

Michael Sheffer Avi-Yonah and Nancy Ko

PHILIP WASHBURN PRIZE for best thesis on historical subject Gregory Andrew Briker for his thesis: "The Right to be Heard: ONE Magazine, Obscenity Law, and the Battle over Homosexual Speech"

Abigail Bacon Conant Gabrieli for her thesis: "To Set Bounds and Limits [to] Authority: Colonists, Levellers, and Ecclesiology in Atlantic Constitutional History"

FERGUSON PRIZE for best History 97 essay

Gemma Collins for her 2015-16 History 97j paper: "The Motherhood Ideal In Suffrage Propaganda - Simultaneously A Challenge And Expression"

DAVID HERBERT DONALD PRIZE for excellence in American history

Nelson Landers Barrette

LILLIAN BELL PRIZE for best paper on the Holocaust or other major 20th-century event involving human tragedy

Ola Ann Morehead (History of Science Concentrator) for her thesis: "Assembling the Archive of Genocide: Historical Memory of the Wołyń Genocide in Post-War Poland, 1945-2016"

COLTON AWARD for excellence in the preparation of a senior thesis in the Department of History

Elijah David Lee for his thesis: "Stages of Play: State, Civil Society, and Association Football in Istanbul's Urban Space, 1880-1950"

Undergraduate Essay Prize for best work of original historical scholarship produced before the senior year in a history department course

Anatol Elvis Klass for his 2015-16 History 89h paper: "Reconsidering the Russian Option: China Policy During the First Months of the Nixon Presidency and the Shift to Rapprochement"

College-Wide Prizes & Awards

CAPTAIN JONATHAN FAY PRIZE

As part of its mission, and in celebration of the Institute's origins in Radcliffe College, the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study awards the Captain Jonathan Fay Prize annually. The prize is given to the graduating senior who, in the opinion of the selection committee, has produced the most outstanding imaginative work or piece of original research in any field, reflecting the mission of the Radcliffe Institute to foster advanced work across a wide range of academic disciplines, professions, and creative arts, and to sustain a continuing commitment to the study of women, gender, and society.

Gregory Andrew Briker for his thesis: "The Right to be Heard: ONE Magazine, Obscenity Law, and the Battle over Homosexual Speech"

EUGENE R. CUMMINGS PRIZE

Eugene Cummings, the son of an Irish immigrant schoolteacher from Fall River, Massachusetts, was a gay student at the Harvard Dental School who ended his life on June 11, 1920, just days short of receiving his degree, after being interrogated and informed that he would be expelled by the "Secret Court" that purged gay men from Harvard in 1920. This prize has been established to ensure

that his name and experiences will not be forgotten and that future generations will have opportunities for self-expression that were denied to Mr. Cummings. A cash prize will be awarded to the best thesis on a Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, or Transgender Studies topic from any department or program at Harvard.

Gregory Andrew Briker for his thesis: "The Right to be Heard: ONE Magazine, Obscenity Law, and the Battle over Homosexual Speech"

THE CLASS OF 1955/ROBERT T. COOLIDGE UNDERGRADUATE THESIS PRIZE IN MEDIEVAL STUDIES

Awarded by the Committee on Medieval Studies for the best senior thesis on any topic in Medieval Studies.

Sama Mammadova for her thesis: "Art for the Soul: Religious Art as Restitution for Usury in Renaissance Italy"

PALFREY EXHIBITION PRIZE

From the gift of John G. Palfrey, Class of 1815, this prize is awarded annually to the most distinguished scholar in the senior class who is the recipient of a stipendiary scholarship.

William Coleman Sack

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 six of our thirty-two senior thesis writers in History won a Hoopes Prize. Sixty-seven 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:

Gregory Andrew Briker

"The Right to be Heard: ONE Magazine, Obscenity Law, and the Battle over Homosexual Speech"
Nominated by Professor Jill Lepore

Abigail Bacon Conant Gabrieli

"To Set Bounds and Limits [To] Authority': Colonists, Levellers, and Ecclesiology in Atlantic Constitutional History"
Nominated by Professor Richard Tuck

Anatol Elvis Klass

"China's New Order: The Republic of China and the United Nations System in Asia, 1945–1950" Nominated by Professor Erez Manela

Nancy Ko

"Civilizing Omission: French-Jewish Philanthropy and Historical Amnesia During and After the Iranian Constitutional Revolution"

Nominated by Professor Afsaneh Najmabadi

Sama Mammadova

"Art for the Soul: Religious Art as Restitution for Usury in Renaissance Italy" Nominated by Professor Joseph Connors and Professor Daniel Smail

William Coleman Sack

"Soy's Ladder: Health in the Unmaking of Japanese Manchuria" Nominated by Professor Mark Elliott and Professor David Howell



Hoopes Prize Reception

Left to right: Professor Jill Lepore, Gregory Andrew Briker, William Coleman Sack, Anatol Elvis Klass, Nancy Ko, Abigail Bacon Conant Gabrieli, and Professor Ann Blair, Director of Undergraduate Studies.

Photo credit: Susan Lively

Graduate News

PhD Recipients 2016-17

Colleen Elizabeth Anderson

"Two Kinds of Infinity": East Germany, West Germany, and the Cold War Cosmos, 1945-1995

Andrew Baker

Prophets of the Storm: Race, Power, and the New Orleans Crisis of 1900

Marco Perry Basile

The Slave Trade and the Foundations of U.S. International Legal Thought, 1808-1870

Tomasz Blusiewicz

Return of the Hanseatic League or how the Baltic Sea Trade Washed Away the Iron Curtain, 1945-1991

Casey Bohlen

The Politics of Conscience: Religious Activism and Social Change in Postwar America

Sakura Marcelle Christmas

The Cartographic Steppe: Mapping Environment and Ethnicity in Japan's Imperial Borderlands

Nicholas Crawford

Calamity's Empire: Slavery, Scarcity, and the Political Economy of Provisioning in the British Caribbean, c. 1775-1834

Elizabeth Helen Cross

The French East India Company and the Politics of Commerce in the Revolutionary Era

Kathryn Amelia Dooley

Selling Socialism, Consuming Difference: Ethnicity and Consumer Culture in Soviet Central Asia, 1945-1985

Dzavid Dzanic

The Civilizing Sea: The Ideological Origins of the French Mediterranean Empire, 1789-1870

Cristina V. Groeger

Paths to Work: The Political Economy of Education and Social Inequality in the United States, 1870-1940

Elizabeth Carol Kerley

The Contest for Human Rights: Soviet Soft Power through Détente, Reform, and Collapse, 1973-1991

James Robert Martin

Experts of the World Economy: European Stabilization and the Reshaping of International Order, 1916-51

Mircea Constantin Raianu

The Incorporation of India: The Tata Business Firm Between Empire and Nation, ca. 1860-1970

Carolin Firouzeh Roeder

European Mountaineers between East and West: A Transnational History of Alpinism in the Twentieth Century

Rainer Gerold Schultz

From Reform to Revolution: The Transformation of Cuba's Education System, 1959-62

Benjamin David Weber

America's Carceral Empire: Confinement, Punishment, and Work at Home and Abroad, 1865-1946

Graduate Prizes & Awards

HAROLD K. GROSS DISSERTATION PRIZE

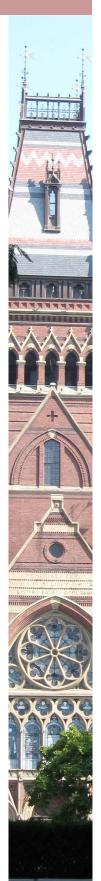
awarded each year to the Ph.D. recipient whose dissertation, in the opinion of a committee of Department of History members, gave greatest promise of a distinguished career of historical research

Dr. Shane Bobrycki

"The Crowd in the Early Middle Ages, c. 500 - c. 1000"

Dr. James Robert Martin

"Experts of the World Economy: European Stabilization and the Reshaping of International Order, 1916-1951"





Graduate Placement

Colleen Elizabeth Anderson

Postdoctoral Fellow, Stanford University

Andrew Baker

Postdoctoral Fellow, Bates College Assistant Professor, Bates College (beginning 2018)

Marco Perry Basile

Law Clerk, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit

Casey Bohlen

Visiting Assistant Professor, Bucknell University

Tomasz Blusiewicz

Assistant Professor, School of Advanced Studies, Tyumen State University, Russia

Elizabeth Helen Cross

Assistant Professor, Florida State University

Cristina V. Groeger

Lecturer, Lake Forest College

Elizabeth Carol Kerley

Associate Editor, Journal of Democracy

James Robert Martin

Assistant Professor, Georgetown University

Mircea Constantin Raianu

Assistant Professor of History, University of Maryland, College Park

Carolin Firouzeh Roeder

Postdoctoral Fellow, Max Planck Institute for the History of Science, Berlin

Rainer Gerold Schultz

Director, Consortium for Advanced Studies Abroad, Cuba-Divisional Center and Professor of History, Brown University (Adjunct)

Benjamin David Weber

Mellon/ACLS Public Fellow and Senior Program Associate, Vera Institute of Justice

Postdoctoral Research Associate in International and Public Affairs, Watson Institute, Brown University (beginning 2019)

History Graduate Student Association Annual Report

James Almeida (Treasurer), Aaron Bekemeyer, Chloe Bordewich, Daniel Chardell, Caroline Kahlenberg, Sam Klug, Iman Mohamed, Rachel Steely (Co-President), Maddie Williams (Co-President)

The History Graduate Student Association offered more programming this year than ever before. In response to recent political upheavals, the HGSA was instrumental in organizing an event series that brought historical perspective to discussions of contemporary issues. Notable events included a panel discussion on "Women in Academia" with professors from the department; a talk on "The Crisis of Brazilian Democracy"; "Social Justice in Brazil" with congressman Jean Wyllys; "Between the Archive and the Public Sphere" with professors of the department; viewing parties for presidential debates; and a talk with former Brazilian President Dilma Rousseff. Consistent high attendance (30-60+) demonstrates strong interest in events of this kind. The HGSA also launched an annual invited speaker event. History graduate students nominated speakers and voted to bring Professor Raymond Craib of Cornell University to campus. He gave two talks: "Libertarian Noir: Anarcho-Capitalists on the High Seas" and "Subversive Santiago: Anarchists, Students and Workers in Early 20th-Century Chile."

The HGSA maintained our popular weekly happy hours and information sessions, in which panels of graduate students present for their more junior peers on topics such as general exam prep, writing the prospectus, teaching, and tools for note management and research organization. The HSGA annual book sale remains an important source of revenue in addition to the funds generously provided by the department. We continue to maintain the grad student lounge as a welcoming space for studying, supplied tea and coffee, and covered the cost of printing for graduate students.

While there are many issues that graduate students care about, we devoted particular energy this year to diversity in graduate admissions to our program and increasing graduate student representation in the civic life of the Department. A series of discussions and meetings with faculty resulted in the creation of two new elected graduate student positions. These individuals will attend faculty meetings to have direct access to those conversations, convey grad student opinions, and advocate for further grad representation where relevant.

In addition, the HGSA reviewed the History Department Graduate Program website and application to propose changes to make the website more accessible to a wider variety of potential applicants. Additionally, the HGSA established a mentorship program that matched incoming students with current graduate students. Our hope is that this program will help facilitate the transfer of relevant information and serve as a source of social support.

We thank the department both for its financial support and for its active engagement with graduate student concerns. We are particularly grateful for the time and support of department chair Daniel Smail, and Director of Graduate Studies Alison Frank Johnson, as well as to the wonderful History Department staff.

Dissertation Prospectus Conference

On January 27, 2017, 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: Professo | r James Kloppenberg |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| 1-10 del decorri i i orebbo | i jumes inoppendeng |

Ella Antell New York and the Long War on Crime

Aaron Bekemeyer The Labor of Law Enforcement: A Social

History of American Police in the Neoliberal

Era

Alicia DeMaio Planting the Seeds of Empire: Botanical

Gardens in the United States, 1800-1860

Abigail Modaff To Meet Life Face to Face: Communication

and American Social Reform from Haymarket to the Harlem Renaissance **Moderator: Professor Tamar Herzog**

Marcella Hayes The Color of Political Authority in

Seventeenth-Century Lima

Max Straus Law and the English Civil War

Peter Pellizzari Empire Reformed: Massachusetts,

Jamaica, and the Remaking of the British

Empire, 1763-1774

Laura Correa Ochoa Forging Popular Solidarities: Race,

Citizenship and Black and Indigenous Mobilization in Colombia, 1934-1993

Moderator: Professor Alison Frank Johnson

Madeline Williams Visions of Motherhood: Blindness,

Belonging, and the Politics of Sight in the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries

Gili Kliger The Human Sciences and the Ethnographic

Turn, 1895-1949

Ben Goossen The Year of the Earth (1957-1958):

Science, Exploration, and the Making of Planetary Consciousness in the Early Cold

War

Matthew Sohm European Multinational Corporations,

Economic Development, and Energy, 1958-

1983

Moderator: Professor Andrew Gordon

H.H. Kang Guns, Military Urbanism and Statecraft in

17th century Korea

Yuting Dong Emperor on the ground: railway towns and

urban encounters in Japan's Manchuria

1905-1945

Lei Lin The Limits of Empire: the Gurkha War,

Qing China's Borderlands, and the Trans-

Himalayan Paradigm, 1788–1793

Yi Lu Socialist Pulp: Print and Information in

Revolutionary China, 1940-1980

Moderator: Professor Daniel Smail

Claire Adams Written in the Bodies of the Monks: a

Bioarchaeology of Monastic Labor in Ireland, the Anglo-Saxon Kingdoms, and

Gaul c. AD 400-950

Eric Nemarich Making Justice Heard in Late Medieval Italy

Tommy Jamison Gunboat Insurgency: Naval War, Resistance

and Military Modernity in the Global South

(1861-1895)

Marijana Misevic Literacy and Multilingualism in the Early

Modern Ottoman Balkans

Moderator: Professor Sunil Amrith

Hardeep Dhillon Indians on the Move: Anticolonialism,

Citizenship, and Rights in the Early

Twentieth Century

Sarah Kennedy Bates Krismon. Social Mobility, Crisis and

Precarity amongst the Indonesian "non-

poor", 1974-2014

Sarah Balakrishnan Inventing West Africa: Land Struggle

and the United West Africa Movement,

1910-1950

Ian Kumekawa World War I, the Economist, and the

Modern Economy

Alumni News

OLIVER DINIUS (PhD '04) was recently named the Executive Director of the Croft Institute for International Studies at the University of Mississippi. He is Associate Professor of History at the University of Mississippi.

ALAN CHARLES KORS (PhD '68) recently published two books with Cambridge University Press: *Naturalism and Unbelief in France*, 1650–1729 (2016) and *Epicureans and Atheists in France*, 1650–1729 (2016). He is Henry Charles Lea Professor of History at the University of Pennsylvania.

BARBARA MILLER LANE (PhD '62) published Houses for a New World: Builders and Buyers in American Suburbs 1945-1965 with Princeton University Press in 2015. The book received the 2016 PROSE Award in Architecture & Urban Planning (Association of American Publishers), the 2016 Historic Preservation Book Prize (University of Mary Washington's Center for Historic Preservation), and the 2015 Athenaeum Literary Award for Art & Architecture (The Athenaeum of Philadelphia). Dr. Lane is Mellon Professor Emeritus in the Humanities and Research Professor in the

Growth and Structure of Cities Department at Bryn Mawr College.

ALINE-FLORENCE MANENT (PhD '16) recently published an article on the French presidential election on *openDemocracy*.

MARY BETH NORTON (PhD '69) has been elected presidentelect of the American Historical Association. She will serve as president in calendar year 2018. She is Mary Donlon Alger Professor of American History at Cornell University.

DANNY ORBACH (PhD '15) published *The Plots Against Hitler* with Houghton Mifflin Harcourt in 2016. He is a senior lecturer for history and East Asian studies at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem.

JOSEPH TULCHIN (PhD '65) recently published *Latin America in International Politics: Challenging US Hegemony* (Lynne Rienner Publishers, 2016). He is the former director of the Latin American Program at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars.

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

