



HARVARD UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY SUMMER 2021 NEWSLETTER

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Ann Blair

Department Chair

Sidney Chalhoub

Outgoing Director of Graduate Studies

Dimiter Angelov

Director of Graduate Studies

Ian Miller

Director of Undergraduate Studies

Lisa McGirr

Outgoing Director of Undergraduate Studies



From the 2020-21 Department Chair

Ann Blair, Carl H. Pforzheimer University Professor

2020-21 was a most unusual year in which Harvard operated entirely on Zoom. Despite the difficult circumstances every constituency of the History Department rose to the occasion, managing new challenges and solving unexpected problems as needed in order to carry on with teaching, advising, learning, institutional business, and research and publication.

Warmest thanks to all our students and faculty and to our amazing staff for their community spirit and wholehearted dedication to our collective mission throughout a year of crisis! There are of course many uncertainties ahead, but we can face them knowing that our ability to adapt has been put to the test and well honed. The Department was lucky to experience great continuity during this year, with just one faculty retirement. Well wishers gathered on Zoom to mark James Kloppenberg's 22 years at

Harvard as the Charles Warren Professor of American History. He was a pillar of our program, serving as chair in the History Department, in American Studies, and the Committee on Degrees in Social Studies and his teaching was universally admired. He will now turn to full-time research and writing for two book projects underway, one of which will complete a trilogy he began in 1986 devoted to the history of democracy in European and American thought.

We enjoyed continuity also in crucial leadership positions, with Lisa McGirr carrying on as Director of Undergraduate Studies and Sidney Chalhoub as Director of Graduate Studies. After all the hard work they devoted to adapting our programs to Zoom and advising and supporting our students who were attending classes and carrying out research online from almost every time zone of the globe, *continued on page 2*

CHAIR'S LETTER

they have now begun much-deserved research leaves. Warm thanks to both of them for their crucially important service during these past several years!

We are also most grateful to the steadfastness of our staff, led by Kimberly O'Hagan who began as Director of Administration and Operations in 2019 and is admired throughout our Department and the FAS for excelling in this role. Thanks to her savvy use of a minor staff reorganization the Department was able to realize a longstanding desideratum in creating a permanent staff position for our Assistant Director of Undergraduate Studies, instead of requesting that this position be renewed every year. We were delighted to welcome Dr. Carla Heelan in this role as of July 1, 2021. Carla brings to her new role extensive experience with our undergraduate program, having earned her PhD in modern European history in our Department and served as TF, head TF, House adviser, then lecturer/Assistant DUS for the last three years.

Kimberly oversaw another major transition following the retirement in December 2020 of Cory Paulsen, Finance Associate since 1987. It was great news when Suma Baidya joined the Department as our new Finance Associate in late May, after many years at the Harvard Medical School and the School of Public Health, and we are all looking forward to meeting her in person for the first time very soon!

On October 25 we held a remembrance for Bernard Bailyn, Adams University Professor Emeritus, who died on August 7, 2020 at the age of 97.

Over 200 attendees gathered over zoom to celebrate Professor Bailyn's remarkable life as a scholar, teacher, colleague, friend, and family member. The Department of History was his professional home for some 74 years, starting in 1946 when he entered as a graduate student and extending well past his official retirement in 1993. He was a towering presence on campus and in the profession, thanks to his multiple widely influential books, his much-loved courses, and his fifty plus graduate advisees, who spoke eloquently of the lasting impact of his mentorship. Learn more about his life [here](#).

Among the long continuities in our Department is the great pride we take in our graduate students and their accomplishments. 18 graduate students completed their PhDs this year. Two of them shared the 2021 Harold K. Gross dissertation prize: Erin Hutchinson for "The Cultural Politics of the Nation in the Soviet Union After Stalin, 1953-1991," and Joseph la Hausse de Lalouvière, for "Enslavement and Empire in the French Caribbean, 1793-1851." Congratulations also to the three students who held Harvard Prize Instructorships in 2020-21: Hardeep Dhillon, Henry Gruber, and Caroline Kahlenberg each offered a seminar of their own devising in South Asian, medieval, and modern Islamic history respectively. We are most grateful to the advanced students who held leadership positions in 2020-21: Belle Cheves as Department Pedagogy Fellow, who co-teaches with the DGS our Colloquium on Teaching Practices (History 3920), Claire Adams as Department Writing Fellow, Eric Nemarich as Department

Media and Design Fellow, and Michael Sohm as administrative tutor in History 97.

Even on Zoom we maintained our tradition of Department seminars featuring short talks and rich discussions with historians on our campus. This year David Armitage lined up an exciting roster of speakers: Tiya Miles, David Spreen, and Elizabeth Papp Kamali in Fall 2020 and Intisar Rabb, Michael Puett, and Sophus Reinert in Spring 2021. Our annual faculty book tour featured ten books published this year, as the several colleagues involved describe below (Rosie Bsheer, Arunabh Ghosh, Annette Gordon-Reed, Jill Lepore, Fred Logevall, Tiya Miles, Serhii Plokhii, Emma Rothschild, Dan Smail, and Ann Blair).

We are now ready to start the academic year 2021-22. Ian Miller has just begun his tenure as Director of Undergraduate Studies. He will bring to the position the unique expertise he has gained from serving as Co-Faculty Dean of Cabot House, along with his wife Crate Herbert, since July 2020. We think that the last time a History faculty member served in this crucial role in an undergraduate House was probably David Herlihy as master of Mather House in the late 1980s. Dimiter Angelov returns as Director of Graduate Studies, after serving as Interim DGS two years ago. About 30% of undergraduates chose to take a leave during this past year, so we are expecting an extra large cohort of undergraduates in every class, as we return to in-person teaching on September 1, 2021. Thankfully we will benefit from the courses of two full-time lecturers,

Aaron Bekemeyer in modern U.S. history and Johanna Folland in modern European history, and individual courses by Flynn Cratty (Associate Director of the Human Flourishing program), Kris Klein Hernández (Global American Studies Postdoctoral Fellow in the Charles Warren Center for Studies in American History), Kelly O'Neill (Imperiia Project Director, Davis Center for Russian and Eurasian Studies), Ian Kumeakawa and Michael O'Sullivan (both Prize Fellows in Economics, History and Politics at the Joint Center for History and Economics). We also welcome the seminars of History Prize Instructors Belle Cheves, John Hayashi, and John Mulhall, and the teaching of Danielle Leavitt-Quist as Department Pedagogy Fellow, Claire Adams as Department Writing Fellow, and Anna Bisikalo as co-instructor for History 99.

We are very pleased to have been authorized to search this year in two areas of urgent need: [medieval Islamic history](#) (jointly with NELC) and [20th-century African American history](#) (jointly with AAAS). We hope to have good news to share about new appointments in a year's time. Best wishes until then for good health and fulfilling endeavors.



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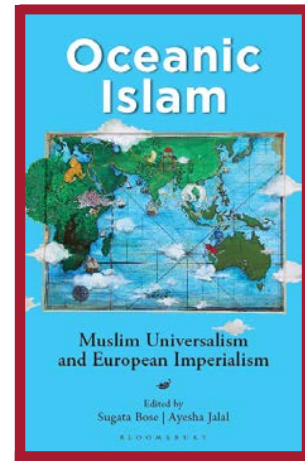


Emmanuel Akyeampong was on sabbatical for the 2020-21 academic year, and spent the period from January to June 2021 as a fellow at the Stellenbosch Institute for Advanced Studies (STIAS). His STIAS public lecture examined “Early Independent Africa’s Abortive Attempt at Industrialization: The Case of Ghana under Kwame Nkrumah” (May 2021), and he delivered the Thys Visser Memorial Lecture at the University of Stellenbosch on May 27, 2021, entitled “Pandemics, Commodity Markets and Recessions: Africa and the Corona Virus.” His article on “An Unusual Kind of Town: Cattle Disease, Zoonosis, and Public Health in Colonial Salaga (Northern Ghana),” appeared in the *International Journal of African Historical Studies*, 53:2 (2020); and his essay on “Africa after Covid-19: Community, Spirituality and the Face of Hope,” was published in *Contemporary Issues on African Trade and Trade Finance (CIAT)*, 6: 1 (2020). He has just completed his book on *The First Generation of Independent African Leaders and the Making of the African Nation State*.

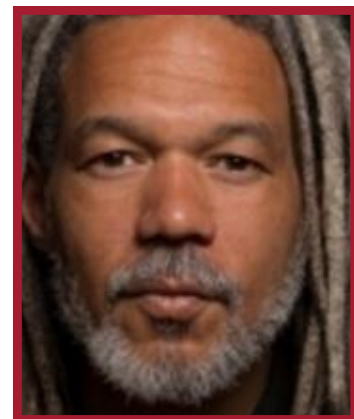


Ann Blair co-edited two volumes which appeared this past academic year: [Physico-theology: Religion and Science in Europe 1650-1750](#), with Kaspar von Greyerz (Johns Hopkins University Press, 2020), and [Information: a historical companion](#), with Paul Duguid, Anja-Silvia Goeing, and Anthony Grafton (Princeton University Press, 2021). [Information](#) argues that every historical context grapples with information in various cultural and

technical forms. The book focuses on information cultures since the late middle ages, with a chronological narrative in 13 chapters followed by 101 alphabetized entries on media, practices, and systems that span multiple places and time periods. See infohist.fas.harvard.edu for more details. She also published a short, well illustrated book in French to accompany the Conférences Léopold Delisle that she delivered “in” Paris in March (on zoom): [L’Entour du texte: la publication du livre savant à la Renaissance](#) (Bibliothèque nationale de France, 2021); the two lectures can be viewed [here](#).



Sugata Bose published two jointly edited volumes of collected essays with Ayesha Jalal: [Oceanic Islam: Muslim Universalism and European Imperialism](#) (London: Bloomsbury, 2020) and [Kashmir and the Future of South Asia](#) (London: Routledge, 2021). He delivered the Inaugural Mushirul Hasan Memorial Lecture at the Jamia Milia University, Delhi. Penguin has published a new paperback edition of his translations of Rabindranath Tagore’s songs, [Tagore: The World Voyager](#) in 2021. He has also written the introduction to the Penguin edition of Tagore’s [Nationalism and Home and the World](#) that came out this year.



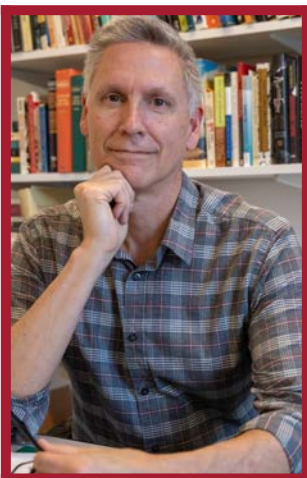
Vincent Brown’s book [Tacky’s Revolt: the Story of an Atlantic Slave War](#) (2020) was awarded the 2021 James A. Rawley Prize from the Organization of American Historians, the 2021 Elsa Goveia Prize from the Association of Caribbean Historians, was

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co-winner, 2021 Anisfield-Wolf Book Award for Nonfiction, and is a finalist for the George Washington's Mount Vernon. The book was also a finalist for the 2021 Professional and Scholarly Excellence (PROSE) Awards from the Association of American Publishers, named among the Best Books of 2020 by The Guardian and The Observer, named among the Best Black History Books of 2020 by the editors of the African American Intellectual History Society, and named among the 25 Best Books of 2020 by Counterpunch Magazine.



Rosie Bsheer, Assistant Professor of History, was named a Walter Channing Cabot Fellow (2020–2021) in recognition of her achievements and scholarly eminence in her field. She was also appointed as a Weatherhead Center Distinguished Research Faculty Associate for fall 2021 and received the Dean's Competitive Fund for Promising Scholarship (2021–2022). Her book, [Archive Wars: The Politics of History in Saudi Arabia](#), was published in October 2020 by Stanford University Press and her "The Limits of Belonging in Saudi Arabia" appeared in the International Journal of Middle East Studies in November 2020. Rosie delivered the annual keynote lecture at George Mason University, "Making History: Archives and the Built Environment in Saudi Arabia," in April 2021.



Philip Deloria was elected to the American Philosophical Society and as a Corresponding Fellow of the Australian Academy of the

Humanities. In 2021, he is serving as the President of the Organization of American Historians and is furiously planning for the 2022 OAH Conference on American History, to be held in Boston. He delivered the Merle Curti Lectures at the University of Wisconsin, held the McIlroy Visiting Professorship at the University of Arkansas, and gave Zoom talks at the American Museum of Natural History, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the School for Advanced Research, the Saint Louis Art Museum, among others. He is co-PI on a \$5 million Mellon Foundation Just Futures Initiative grant, which is being used to create the Research on Indigenous Social Action and Equity Center, aimed at nurturing a pipeline of Indigenous voices focused on changing mainstream narratives that marginalize Native peoples. He is Chair of the Peabody Museum's committee on the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA), and serves on both the Peabody's Faculty Executive Committee and the Harvard Steering Committee on Human Remains in Museum Collections.

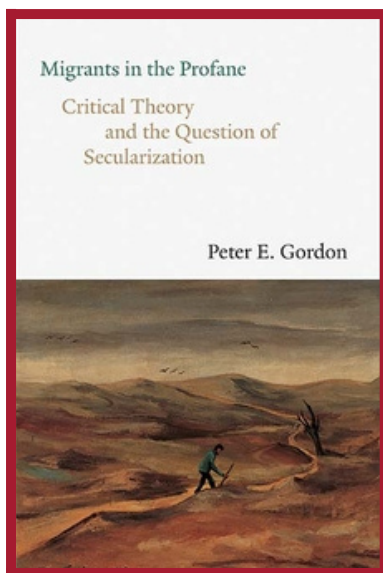


Alejandro de la Fuente's latest book, [Becoming Free, Becoming Black: Race, Freedom, and Law in Cuba, Virginia, and Louisiana](#) (coauthored with Ariela J. Gross), was published in Spanish as [Ser libre, ser negro: raza, libertad y derecho en Cuba, Luisiana y Virginia by Editorial Catarata](#) (Madrid). He also authored (with Stanley Bailey), "The Puzzle of Racial Inequality in Cuba, 1980s–2010s" (Du Bois Review) which was published in Spanish by the Real Instituto Elcano (Madrid). He continued to coedit (with George Reid Andrews) the [Afro-Latin America](#) book series at Cambridge University Press and to serve as director of the Afro-Latin American Research Institute (ALARI) at the Hutchins Center for African and African American Research. This year the ALARI graduated the second cohort of its Certificate on Afro-Latin American Studies, a series of online courses in Spanish and Portuguese, open to the general public, that deal with questions of race, racism, and racial inequality in Latin America, taught by an international group of faculty. The second cohort of the Certificate enrolled 206 students from 21 countries.

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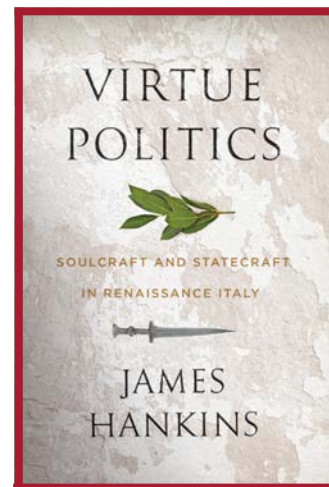


Astonished at the slow rollout of the COVID-19 vaccine in Japan **Andrew Gordon** continued his detour into the history of public health in the winter of 2021 by co-authoring an article on [“The Puzzle of Vaccine Hesitation in Japan”](#) with Professor Michael R. Reich of the Harvard T.H. Chan School of public health (Journal of Japanese Studies, Summer 2021). In March, on the tenth anniversary of Japan’s compound disaster of 2011, Gordon spoke on various commemorative occasions and published an article in the Nihon Keizai Shinbun on lessons learned from that tragedy. In June he was honored with the (pandemic delayed) [2020 International Prize in Japanese Studies](#) from Japan’s National Institute for Humanities. Unfortunately, the pandemic forced the prize ceremony and his commemorative [lecture](#) on “The Excitement of History and the Responsibility of Historians” into Zoom mode.



Peter E. Gordon published his latest book [Migrants in the Profane: Critical Theory and the Question of Secularization](#) in the fall of 2020 (Yale University Press), and since its appearance, he has conducted several interviews and book panels about the

book in venues such as New York University, The Journal of the History of Ideas, the on-line journal Jewish Currents, and Sussex University, and it received favorable reviews in the TLS, inter alia. The esteemed German philosopher and social theorist Jürgen Habermas has called it “an extraordinary achievement.” Gordon continues to write criticism for the public sphere on topics of modern society theory and literature, including an [essay](#) for The Nation on Theodor W. Adorno’s lectures on the new right-wing extremism, and a long-form [essay](#) on Paul Celan’s poetic legacy for the Boston Review. He introduced a new undergraduate lecture survey, “Hegel and Marx,” which he taught over Zoom and which drew a wide and diverse collection of students from Harvard and from other institutions in the U.S and many countries abroad, from Germany and the U.K. to Israel and Hong Kong.



Jim Hankins' book, [Virtue Politics: Soulcraft and Statecraft in Renaissance Italy](#) (Belknap Press of Harvard University, 2019), received the 2020 Helen and Howard R. Marraro Prize of the American Historical Association. It was also named a Times Literary Supplement Best Book of 2020.



Evelyn Brooks Higginbotham's article, “History in the Face of Slavery: A Family Portrait,” appears in the 2021 winner at the Arles photo festival—the book [To Make Their Own Way in the World](#) (2020), co-edited by Ilisa Barbash, Deborah Willis, and

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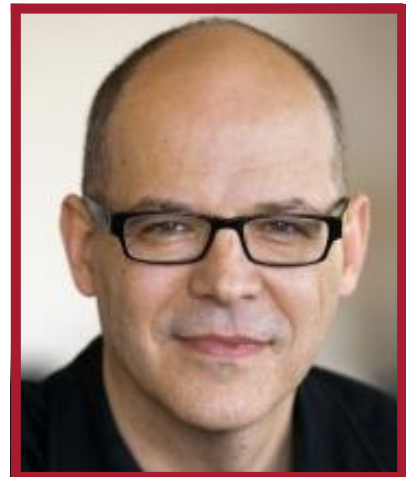
Molly Rogers. The article by Higginbotham was featured in January, when she was the honoree of the Winter Family Benefit of the New England Historical Genealogical Society and American Ancestors. Also of note, Duke University conferred the honorary doctorate on Higginbotham at its graduation ceremony on May 2nd.



Jane Kamensky spent much of this year working as one of seven principal investigators on [Educating for American Democracy](#) (EAD), which launched in March 2021. Funded by the National Endowment for Humanities and the Department of Education, the EAD initiative offers a roadmap for achieving excellence in the teaching of American history and civics in primary and secondary schools across the country. A cross-ideological effort, the EAD Roadmap guides rigorous, principled, evidence-driven inquiry across seven content themes, in which students build knowledge, skills, and civic dispositions from kindergarten through senior year. Kamensky and her fellow PIs, including Harvard political theorist Danielle Allen, steered the efforts of a diverse team of nearly three hundred scholars, classroom teachers, curriculum specialists, and non-profit leaders. (Harvard History graduate student Peter Pellizzarri, PhD 2020, served as one of the researchers working with EAD's American history task force, which Kamensky co-led.) The publication of the Roadmap and allied documents was greeted by editorials and feature coverage in the Atlantic, the Boston Globe, PBS News Hour, and the Washington Post, among many others. The Wall Street Journal published an opinion column in which six former Secretaries of Education endorsed the initiative, which is now in its implementation phase. This summer, Kamensky is working with a group of undergraduates from Harvard and Amherst College to identify and curate lesson plans and other resources that align with EAD themes and pedagogical principles.



Jim Kloppenberg retired from teaching on June 30, 2021, the week he turned 70, after 21 years at Harvard. He is grateful to all his students, colleagues, and the staff of the History Department for making those years deeply rewarding and (almost always) enjoyable. With three books under contract, he intends to continue writing about the issues that have engaged him for decades, including the theory and practice of democracy and the continuing significance of philosophical pragmatism in a time of dueling dogmatisms. He and his wife Mary (shown celebrating their 49th anniversary where their marriage began, in the Colorado Rockies) intend to spend more time traveling and visiting with their children, grandchildren, and treasured friends.



Fredrik Logevall, Laurence D. Belfer Professor of International Affairs and Professor of History, published [JFK: Coming of Age in the American Century, 1917-1956](#) (Random House, 2020), which won the Elizabeth Longford Prize for Historical Biography and was named The Times (UK) Biography of the Year. The paperback edition will appear in September.

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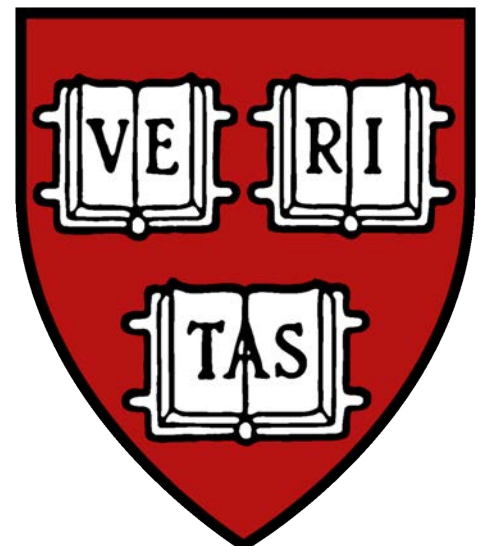
Tiya Miles' sixth book, [All That She Carried: The Journey of Ashley's Sack, a Black Family Keepsake](#), was released by Random House in June of 2021. The book follows the story of a special object passed down by generations of Black enslaved women and their free descendants in South Carolina and Pennsylvania, while interweaving discussion about the meanings of African American women's lives, Black material culture, and women's arts and crafts. In the spring semester, Miles offered a new undergraduate seminar, "Abolitionist Women and Their Worlds," with the support of the Schlesinger Library and the Mindich Program in Engaged Scholarship. Miles, students, and the teaching fellow Alyssa Napier presented research that had been conducted in collaboration with the Cambridge Black History Project, a local group, at the Cambridge Historical Society's History Café series in May.

In 2020-21, Miles was appointed by President Larry Bacow to the Harvard and the Legacy of Slavery Committee, chaired by Dean Tomiko Brown-Nagin and to the Steering Committee on Human Remains in Harvard Museum Collections, chaired by Professor Evelyn Hammonds. She began serving, as well, as the new Director of the Charles Warren Center for Studies in American History. The Center will be run by former and interim Director Walter Johnson while Miles is on leave as a Radcliffe Fellow in 2021-2022. Also, over this past year, Miles published essays on slavery and public memory in *The Boston Globe*, *The Public Historian*, *The Atlantic*, and *Winterthur Portfolio: A Journal of American Material Culture*. She had the pleasure of consulting, alongside 300th Anniversary University Professor emerita Laura Thatcher Ulrich, with the Museum of Fine Arts Boston on the upcoming exhibit: *Fabric*

of a Nation: American Quilt Stories, which will run from October 10, 2021- January 17, 2022.



Derek Penslar, the William Lee Frost Professor of Jewish History, published "Theodor Herzl, Race, and Empire," in [Making History Jewish: The Dialectics of Jewish History in Eastern Europe and the Middle East](#), eds Pawel Maciejcko and Scott Ury (Brill) and "Towards a Field of Israel/Palestine Studies," in [The Arab and Jewish Questions: Geographies of Engagement in Palestine and Beyond](#), eds Bashir Bashir and Leila Farsekh (Columbia University Press). Derek's book [Theodor Herzl: The Charismatic Leader](#) won the 2020 Canadian Jewish Literary Award in the History category. Derek gave remote talks at American University, Birkbeck College, London, The Center for Jewish History, Columbia University, Dalhousie University, the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, New York University, and UCLA. Derek continued work on his current project, titled *Zionism: An Emotional State*, and he broke ground on a new book project, a global history of the 1948 Arab-Israeli war.



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Intisar Rabb published the inaugural issue of the Journal of Islamic Law – for which she serves as editor-in-chief – in Spring 2020, followed by its second volume in Spring 2021; in it, she wrote the Foreword to its Forum on Brunei's New Islamic Criminal Code. Between December and February, she co-edited a Roundtable on Islamic Legal History and Historiography on the Islamic Law Blog, featuring 21 leading and emerging scholars of Islamic law and history on the latest trends in the field, culminating in a live webinar in March. In October 2020, she was invited to deliver the 43rd Annual Donald A. Gianella Memorial Lecture at Villanova University on [Interpreting Islamic Law](#), presented on [Islamic Legal Canons as Memes](#) at the Department of History Workshop (which she later published as a part of the Roundtable), and was featured in The Universal Title—a [podcast about Muhammad Ali's spiritual journey](#), in an episode focused on the Supreme Court case that reviewed, and ultimately vindicated, his refusal of the Vietnam War draft as a conscientious objector on religious-social justice grounds.

The Program in Islamic Law received a \$234,000 grant from the John F. Templeton Foundation to support the SHARIAsource [Courts&Canons \(CnC\) Project](#)—a platform that uses digital tools to uncover the theological foundations of Islamic law and to examine evolving Islamic values through 'meme-mapping' Islamic legal canons, through work with collaborating historians Matthew Miller, Maxim Romanov, and Sarah Savant; data scientist Dr. Yusuf Celik; and several students, scholars, and development partners at the SHARIAsource | Islamic Law Lab.

In April, using an ancient legal canon from the common law, Rabb [successfully represented and won a case for former police officer Cariol Horne](#), who was wrongfully terminated for intervening to save the life of an unarmed Black man caught in a chokehold by a fellow police officer using excessive force in the City of Buffalo v. Cariol Horne.

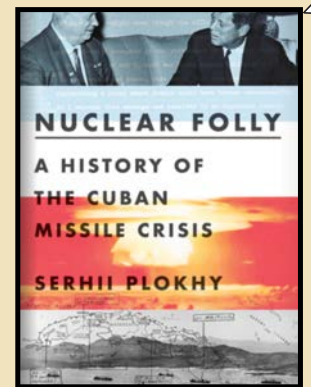
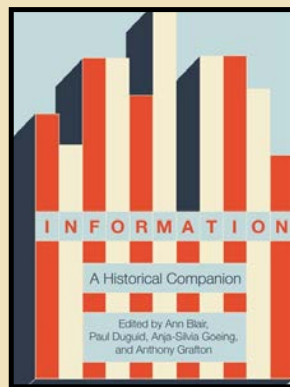
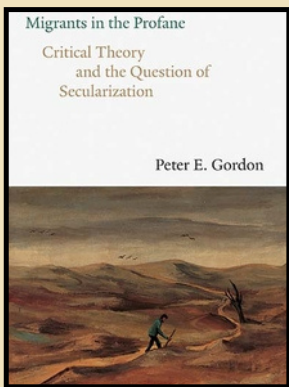
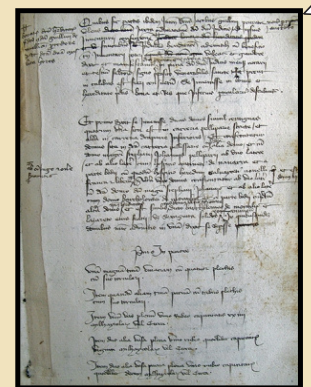
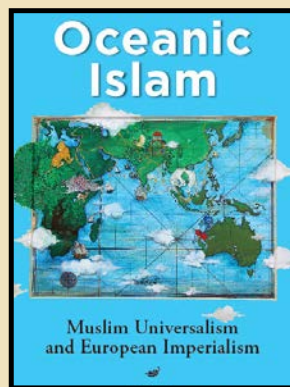
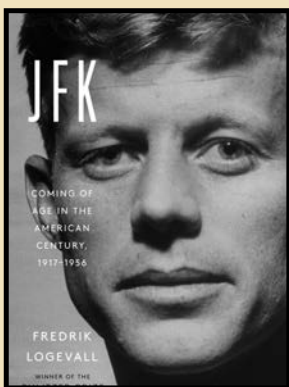
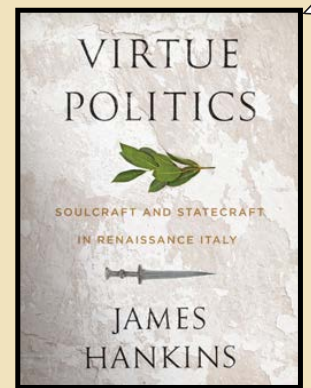
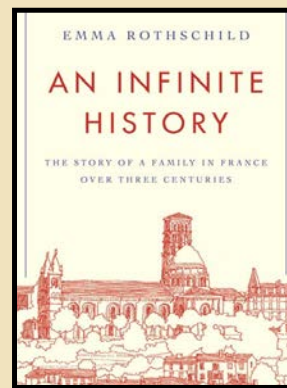
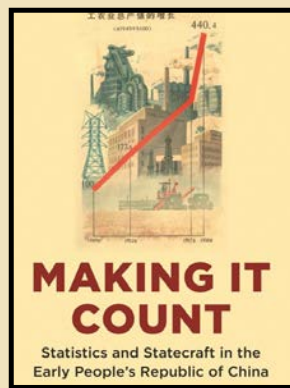
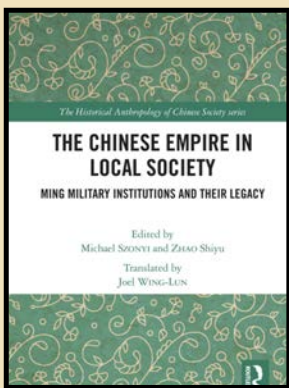
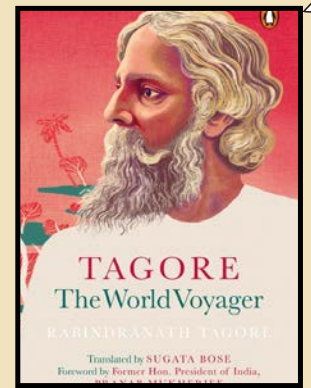
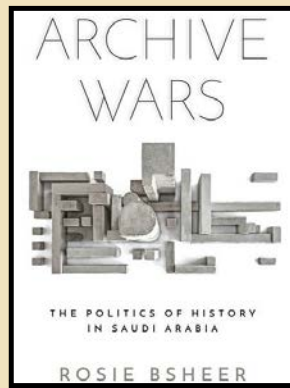
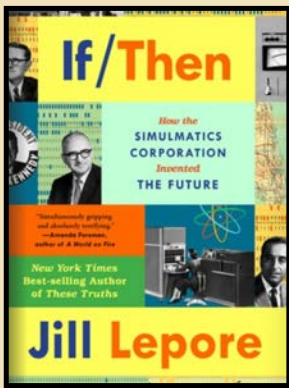


Last summer's enforced idleness allowed **Dan Smail** to make a good deal of progress on a semi-biographical book tentatively entitled "Magdalena Coline: A Berber Slave in Medieval Provence." In the fall, he designed and taught a new seminar on slavery in the global middle ages to a small but enthusiastic group of undergraduates. He also published several articles and, like most of us, did a lot of disembodied travel to conferences and workshops, all of which turned out to be strangely productive.



Kirsten Weld spent the Fall semester as a Visiting Research Scholar at Princeton's Shelby Cullom Davis Center for Historical Studies, where she was part of a two-year research cluster working on the theme of "Revolutionary Change." She published essays in Dissent (on the resurgence of Latin America's far right) and Boston Review (on archival politics and attacks on democracy in Guatemala), as well as four pieces in edited volumes ([Information: A Historical Companion](#), eds. Blair, Duguid, Goeing, and Grafton; [Libraries and Archives in the Digital Age](#), ed. Mizruchi; [The Perilous Public Square: Structural Threats to Free Expression Today](#), ed. Pozen; [Archives and Human Rights](#), eds. González Quintana, Caravaggio, and Boel). In late November of 2020, she and her partner Aaron welcomed their absolutely scrumptious first baby, Margot.

FACULTY NEWS: PUBLICATIONS



UNDERGRADUATE NEWS

The Undergraduate Corner

Carla Heelan,
Assistant Director of Undergraduate Studies

Last fall we greeted 46 new concentrators, a number which has increased to 58 now that students have returned from leaves of absence. We welcomed these concentrators at our virtual Winter Reception where history students, faculty, house advisers, and teaching fellows mingled in Zoom breakout rooms to catch up and meet new members of the department. The faculty, house advisers, and members of the History Department Student Advisory Board were integral to last fall's virtual recruitment outreach, as were [Claire Adams](#), the departmental writing fellow, and [Belle Cheves](#), the 2020–21 Pedagogy Fellow.

All Undergraduate Office events were virtual, and we are grateful to the many members of the department who contributed to their success. We continued our faculty speaker series for undergraduates, “Historians and Public Engagement,” on Zoom, and in October Professor Fredrik Logevall met with an enthusiastic group of students to discuss his new book, *JFK: Coming of Age in the American Century, 1917–1956*. Just a few weeks later undergraduates had the chance to meet with Professor Jill Lepore to talk about her book, *If Then: How the Simulmatics Corporation Invented the Future*, and to learn about her commitment to reaching audiences beyond the university. Professor Walter Johnson concluded the 2020–21 faculty speaker series last spring when he met with students to discuss his recent book, *The Broken Heart of America: St. Louis and the Violent History of the United States*, and his ongoing involvement with local communities in St. Louis.

In the spring we held two events in the popular “Career Pathways” series, which is intended to provide current and prospective concentrators with a sense of the many professional opportunities available to History students. In April one of the Harvard recruiters from McKinsey & Company held an informational session for concentrators to discuss how their training as historians also prepared them for careers as consultants. Later that same month the Undergraduate Office organized the Annual Alumni Panel with Sophia DiCara, '20, a consultant at Bain & Company; Jackson Grigsby, '20, an associate producer for “Don Lemon Tonight” on CNN; and Wright Smith, '17, who worked as a program analyst for the Department of Defense right after graduation and is now pursuing a Ph.D. in Political Science at MIT. Many thanks to these three panelists for speaking with current concentrators about their work! As part of our efforts to renew alumni engagement, the Undergraduate Office is expanding the [“Alumni Voices”](#) page of our website

to showcase the many kinds of careers possible with a History degree. If you would like to contribute a write-up or if you would consider speaking on an Alumni Panel, please contact the undergraduate coordinator, Laura Johnson (lmjohns@fas.harvard.edu).

The History Department Undergraduate Office continued its curricular outreach during the remote year, and 2020–2021 marked the second successful year of the foundational courses ([History “101s”](#)) program, a subset of General Education and lecture courses that are especially welcoming to first-years and non-concentrators. Thanks to the dedication and hard work of the faculty and graduate students, History enrollment numbers continued their upward trend despite the high numbers of undergraduates who took leaves of absence. History 97 just completed its eighth iteration in its updated format of parallel thematic research seminars united by a common set of writing assignments. This spring the Department offered seminars on intellectual history (Professor & Chair Ann Blair), imperial history (Professor Sugata Bose), urban history (Professor Elizabeth Cohen), biography (Professor Jill Lepore), and indigenous history (Professor Philip Deloria).

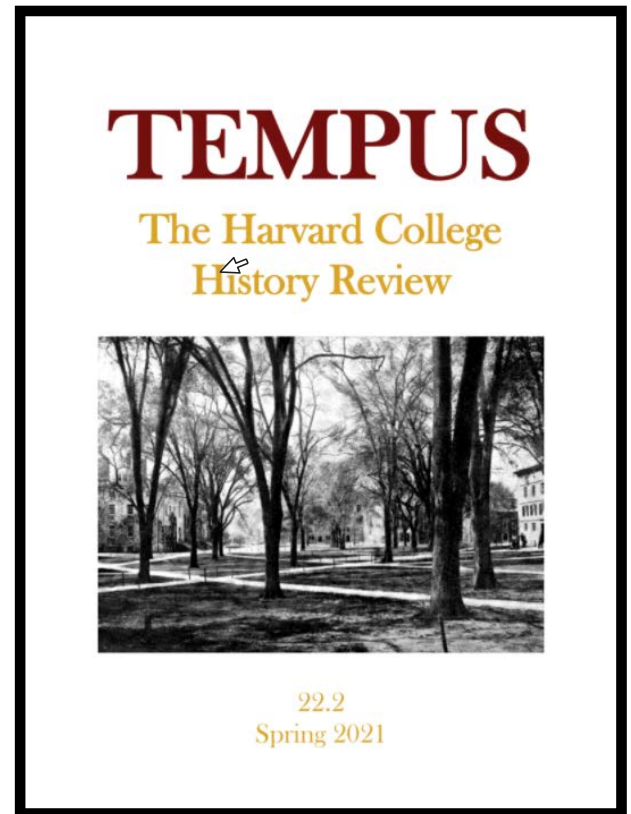
This year we had a small but intrepid cohort of 17 thesis writers, who adapted to the constraints of remote research to produce a set of superb theses on subjects ranging from Danish archeology in the shadow of the Third Reich to the racialization of Britishness during the civilian evacuation of Hong Kong. Members of the department had the opportunity to hear about these projects at the annual Thesis Conference at the end of October, and many thanks to the faculty who moderated a panel: Professors Joyce Chaplin, Arunabh Ghosh, Fredrik Logevall, Lisa McGirr, and Daniel Smail. Congratulations to the thesis writers—and the many prize-winning authors among them—and to the Class of 2021! Warm thanks to the undergraduates, graduate students, and faculty members who contributed to the success of these events and programs, and a special thanks goes out to all the departmental advisers who provided remote support to our students. For the coming academic year, Professor Ian Miller will serve as the new Director of Undergraduate Studies, and Dr. Carla Heelan will assume the reconfigured Assistant DUS position, with Laura Johnson continuing as the Program Coordinator. Many thanks to the outgoing DUS, Professor McGirr, for her leadership and vision during the past three years!

UNDERGRADUATE NEWS

Tempus Update

In the 2020-2021 academic year, Tempus: the Harvard College History Review continued to thrive despite the challenges posed by the COVID-19 global pandemic. Under the direction of Editors-in-Chief Diana Myers '21 and Zelin Liu '22, Tempus published two excellent online issues covering diverse topics from the Deccan Riots of 1875 to the Jewish Anti-Fascist Committee trial of 1952. Please find links to the issues here: [Spring 2021](#) and [Fall 2020](#).

This coming semester, the Editorial Board, led by Zelin Liu and Rasleen Krupp '23, is excited to bring Tempus back to campus and open up a new chapter in the journal's history. We look forward to reading new submissions on any topic relating to history and welcoming new editors to join us. Reach out to us with any questions or submissions at tempus.harvard@gmail.com.



COLLEGE-WIDE PRIZES & AWARDS

Captain Jonathan Fay Prize awarded to **Frances Hisgen** for her project entitled “We Don’t Know What to Do with the Likes of You’: Racializing Britishness during the Civilian Evacuation of Hong Kong, 1939–1941”

Department of the Classics Prize awarded to **Justin Tseng**

Friends of the Harvard Department of Mathematics Prize awarded to **Jingyao (Lux) Zhao**

Sally and Cresap Moore Prize awarded to **Carissa J. Chen**

Louis Curtis Prize awarded to **Justin Tseng**

Cynthia Wight Rossano Prize in Harvard History awarded to **Sonia F. Epstein**, for her project entitled “The Fight for Fritz, Kurt, Konrad, and Max: Memorializing German Student-Soldiers at Harvard Post-WWI” and **Alexander Schwartz Koenig**, for his project entitled “Internal and External Pressure: The Effects of McNamara’s Visit to Harvard, 1966”

James R. and Isabel D. Hammond Prize awarded to **Jakob Phillips Lazar**, for his project entitled “International Fission: Atoms for Peace, Mexico, and the Creation of a Cold War International Community, 1953–1967”

UNDERGRADUATE NEWS

2021 A.B. RECIPIENTS

Anthony Alvarez	Frances Hisgen	Joey Minatel
Shera Avi-Yonah	Selket Jewett	Tom Slack
Esat Bayar	Freddie Johnson	Alexandra Todorova
Karla Chavez Espinosa	Nam Hyun Kim	Justin Tseng
Carissa Chen	Lucas Koelle	Samantha Um
Rory Conway	Alexander Koenig	Garrett Walker
Edward Creamer	Jake Lazar	Jack Wasserstein
Jacinta Crestanello	Kaiwen Li	Justin Wei
Koji Everard	Elizabeth Lively	Derek Woo
Reed Farley	Andrew Mammel	Jingyao (Lux) Zhao
	Cassandra Marando	

2021 SECONDARY FIELDS

Manuel Abecasis	Ece Hakim	William Quan
Jonah Berger	Charlotte Hutchinson	Paul Ramsey
Isabelle Blair	Tynan Jackson	Zhuohan Shao
Haig Cholakian	Vivekae Kim	Jack Steinberg
Simone Chu	Michelle Kuroda	Grace Sullivan
Alex Conrad	Eli Langley	Angus Woods
Sarah Flynn	Sydney McDonald	Bryan Wu
Delano Franklin	Clarke Patrone	Angela You
	Will Penzer	

SOPHOMORES ENTERING THE CONCENTRATION, 2012-2020

2012: 45	2015: 45	2018: 41
2013: 70	2016: 58	2019: 46
2014: 57	2017: 51	2020: 46

UNDERGRADUATE NEWS

PHI BETA KAPPA

Class of 2021

Michael Cheng

Koji Everard

Frances Hisgen

Alexandra Todorova

Class of 2022

Justin Wei

FELLOWSHIPS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Rhodes Scholarship

Awarded to **Shera Avi-Yonah and Carissa Chen**, for study at Oxford University for two to three years.

John Eliot Scholarship

Part of the Harvard-Cambridge Scholarship Program
Awarded to **Andrew Mammel** for one year of study at Cambridge University.

Paul Williams Scholarship

Awarded to **Frances Hisgen** for a year of study in international studies at Emmanuel College, Cambridge.

HISTORY DEPARTMENT UNDERGRADUATE PRIZES & AWARDS

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY PRIZE (for the best total record as history concentrator by the end of the senior year) awarded to **Koji Everard, Frances Hisgen, and Justin Wei**

COLTON AWARD (for excellence in the preparation of a senior thesis in the Department of History) awarded to **Jingyao (Lux) Zhao** for “The History And Mathematics Of The Axiom Of Choice: A Story in Three Acts, 1904–2021”

UNDERGRADUATE ESSAY PRIZE (for the best work of original historical scholarship produced before the senior year in a history department course) awarded to **Carissa Chen** for “A Private Rebellion in a Public Bank with Millions of Assets at Stake: Hsia Pin-Fang and the Bank of China London Branch from August, 1949 to February, 1950” and **Frances Hisgen** for “Detrimental to the Public Interest: Anti-Miscegenation in 1880s-1920s British China”

WILLIAM SCOTT FERGUSON PRIZE (an outstanding essay as part of a tutorial assignment) awarded to **Julie Hartman** for “The CIA and Lumumba’s Assassination: Not Just About Communism”

FRANKLIN AND ELEANOR FORD PRIZE (for the best senior thesis in the Department of History on the history since 1500 of one or more of the countries, territories, or societies currently in the European Union) awarded to **Alexandra Todorova** for “The Evil Years: Danish Archaeology in the Grip of National Socialism, 1935-1947”

LILLIAN BELL PRIZE (for the student with the best paper on the Holocaust or other major 20th-century event involving human tragedy) awarded to **Tamara Shamir** for “No Exit: Stuck Inside Trump’s Immigration Trap”

DAVID HERBERT DONALD PRIZE (for excellence in American history) awarded to **Andrew Mammel**

PHILIP WASHBURN PRIZE (for best thesis on historical subject) awarded to **Koji Everard** for “The Political Ecology Of Sugar: Beet Agriculture and the Limits of State Power in Interwar Hokkaido” and **Frances Hisgen** for “We Don’t Know What To Do With The Likes Of You: Racializing Britishness during the Civilian Evacuation of Hong Kong, 1939-1941”

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 nineteen senior thesis writers in History won a Thomas Temple Hoopes Prize. Seventy-four 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:



Carissa Chen for her submission entitled “‘Though Dwelling in a Land of Freedom’: An Intergenerational Biography of Harvard Enslaved and Their Descendants in Boston, 1734–2020”—supervised and nominated by Professor Sven Beckert.

Koji Everard for his submission entitled “The Political Ecology of Sugar: Beet Agriculture and the Limits of State Power in Interwar Hokkaido”—supervised and nominated by Professor Ian Miller.

Alexandra Todorova for her submission entitled “‘The Evil Years’: Danish Archaeology in the Grip of National Socialism, 1935–1947”—supervised and nominated by Professor Mary Lewis.

Frances Hisgen for her submission entitled “‘We Don’t Know What to Do with the Likes of You’: Racializing Britishness during the Civilian Evacuation of Hong Kong, 1939–1941”—supervised and nominated by Professor Maya Jasanoff.

Garrett Walker for his submission entitled “A House Divided: The Rise of Hyperpartisanship in the House of Representatives, 1968–1989”—supervised and nominated by Professor Fredrik Logevall and Mr. Aaron Bekemeyer.

Jingyao (Lux) Zhao for her submission entitled “The History and Mathematics of the Axiom of Choice: A Story in Three Acts, 1904–1921”—supervised and nominated by Professor Ann Blair and Professor W. Hugh Woodin.

GRADUATE NEWS

PHD RECIPIENTS 2020-21 & GRADUATE PLACEMENT

Sarah Balakrishnan, Assistant Professor, University of Minnesota
Anticolonial Public: From Slavery to Independence in Southern Ghana, c. 1500 - 1957

Kelly Brignac, Assistant Professor, Colby College
Free and Bound: Abolition and Forced Labor in the French Empire

Hardeep Dhillon, Postoral Fellow in Law and Inequality, American Bar Foundation
Indians on the Move: Law, Borders, and Freedoms at the Turn of the Twentieth Century

Marcel Garbos, Visiting Fellow, Harvard University
The Clash of Internationalisms: Prometheism, National Communism, and the Fate of the Soviet Borderlands, 1889-1939

Louis Gerdelan, Visiting Fellow, Harvard University
Calamitous knowledge: Disaster research in the British, French and Spanish Atlantic worlds, c.1605-1755

Ben Goosen, AHA/NASA Fellow in the History of Space Technology
The Year of the Earth (1957-1958): Cold War Science and the Making of Planetary Consciousness

Sally Hayes, Assistant Professor of History, University of Wisconsin, Madison
The Black Spaniards: The Color of Political Authority in Seventeenth-Century Lima

Joseph la Hausse de Lalouvière, EHS Tawney Fellow, University of London
Enslavement and Empire in the French Caribbean, 1793–1851

Louis Lu, Oxford School of Global Area Studies, Post Doc
The Dustbin of History: Making Archives in Modern China

Ian Kumekawa, Prize Fellow, Harvard Center for History and Economics
Imperial Schemes: Empire and the Rise of the British Business-State, 1914-1939

Patrick Meehan, Visiting Fellow, Harvard University
A Promised Wilderness: Colonial Encounters and Landscape in the Late Medieval Baltic

Abigail Modaff, College Fellow in Social Studies, Harvard University
To “Meet Life Face to Face”: Communication and American Social Reform from Haymarket to the Harlem Renaissance

Georgia Whitaker, NYU Law School, Incoming Student
Middle-Class Politics and the Neoliberalization of Copper Mining in Pinochet-era Chile

Nissanka Wijeyeratne, Professor, Tokyo Women's Christian University
Red Sun Rising: Individuals, Institutions, and Infrastructure in Japan's Space Program, 1920-2003

GRADUATE NEWS

GRADUATE PRIZES

HAROLD K. GROSS DISSERTATION PRIZE is awarded each year to the Ph.D. recipient(s) whose dissertation, in the opinion of a committee of Department of History members, gave the greatest promise of a distinguished career of historical research. *This year, it was awarded to:*

Erin Hutchinson,

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

Joseph la Hausse de Lalouvière,

Enslavement and Empire in the French Caribbean, 1793-1851

HISTORY GRADUATE STUDENT ASSOCIATION ANNUAL REPORT

Annie Boniface (G-2), Kenneth Alyass (G-3, Co-President), Natalie Behrends (G-3), Sophia Horowitz (G-3), Camden Elliott (G-4, Co-President), DeAnza Cook (G-4), Clare Anderson (G-4), Nathan Grau (G-4), Belle Cheves (G-6)

The new semester is almost here and with it comes feelings of excitement and earnestness to restart graduate social life in the department. 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. Before this lifechanging period, we hosted our ever-popular weekly happy hours, as well as a graduate student holiday party. To foster community, the HGSA 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 look forward to staging these events and more come this September.

Our priority this fall is to welcome the newest cohort members into our community. Notably, the incoming cohort this year is smaller than usual, but they will be meeting in-person for the first time along with the cohort before them who were admitted in the midst of the pandemic. We hope to host a welcome party early in the semester and a celebration dinner for those G2s who passed their general exams earlier in the year. On top of our usual programming, we will be working on establishing a series of talks and workshops featuring some of the fantastic scholars visiting Harvard along with our annual booksale.

We would like to extend a special thanks to the Chair Ann Blair, former Director of Graduate Studies Sidney Chalhoub, incoming Director of Graduate Studies Dimitar Angelov, 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 look forward to restarting in-person events, especially our weekly happy hours, 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 and in our profession.

STAFF NEWS

Letter from Cory Paulsen

Cory Paulsen retired on December 31, 2021 after 34 years of service. Please find a farewell message from her below:

When I started working in the History Department in the fall of 1987, Angeliki Laiou was the Chair and Laura Johnson was working in the undergraduate office.

We used rotary telephones (this was a lot of fun when calling numbers outside the US during graduate recruitment), electric typewriters, and there was just one computer where we could sign up for one hour a day to use it. Coffee was 25 cents a cup. Only Steven Ozment ever put any money in the cup.

Geri Malatesta had succeeded Harriet Dorman as Department Administrator, only recently changed from the title of Department Secretary.

Faculty meetings were over dinner at the faculty club.

The DuBois Center was in the basement of Canaday Hall. In the next few years there would be a fight to establish Women's Studies, later WGS, but we lost Olwen Hufton, who left Harvard. John Clive and Wallace MacCaffrey, David Herbert Donald, Franklin Ford, Donald Fleming, Ernest May and Bernard Bailyn were some of the senior faculty and not yet Emeriti. Ernst Badian and Wendy Lurie were tucked away outside the office where Christine McFadden had tea every day at 4 pm with her daughter Christina. I think that must have been History of American Civilization in that small office.

Angeliki liked to invite the staff to join her for sherry on Friday afternoons, and you never knew when Geri would get a yen for frozen yogurt and send someone out to get some for the whole staff.

Turns out historians are big baseball fans. We could get a group of 40 to go to a game once (or more) a season. We were overwhelmed with responses from students, staff and faculty. For some reason, faculty originally from Britain or visiting from there were among the biggest fans and actually enjoyed sitting in the bleachers.

There was always great support from faculty and students for our organizing efforts and the staff organized the HUCTW in the late '80s. Friends in the History Department enthusiastically supported us in all our battles to form a union and then our many contract negotiations in our more than 30 years. History is still a hotbed of radicalism. The HGSU/UAW has just concluded negotiating its first contract and students now have representation.

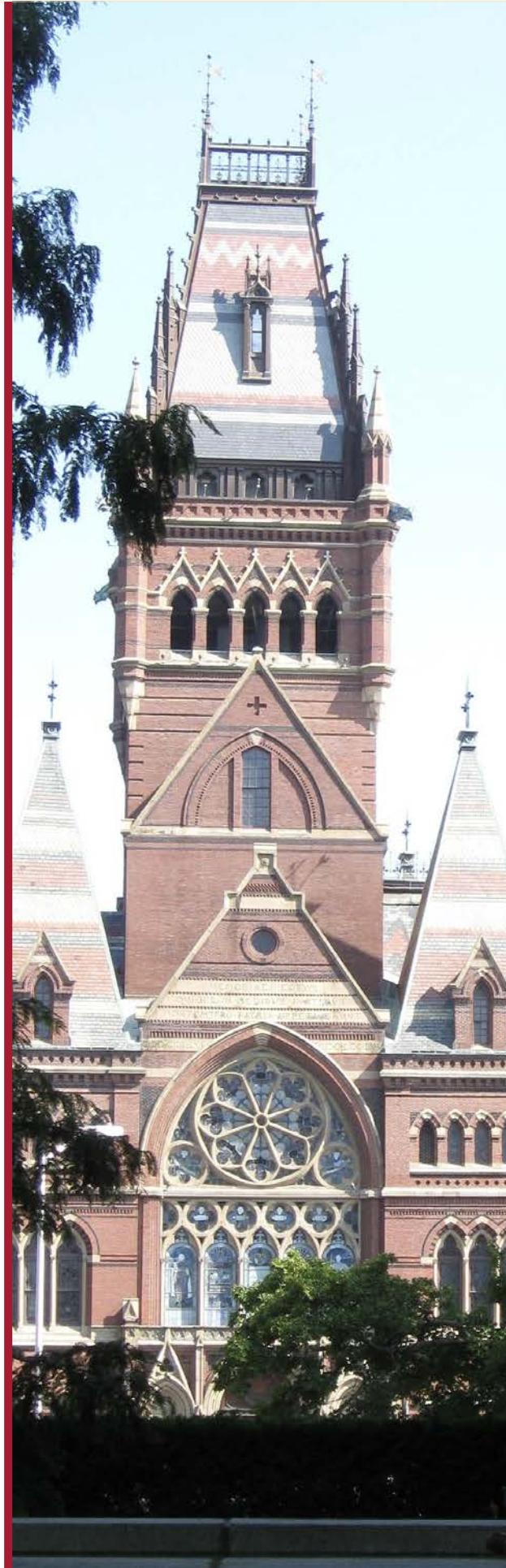
Many students and faculty cycled through in the following years. We used to have quite a cohort of junior faculty, all of whom I miss. Some were promoted to tenure. Some were the ones that got away. Now Robinson Hall finally has its elevator, and we were just getting used to it when the pandemic hit, and we all went home. Evelyn Higginbotham and Ann Blair shared a "first" as History Department chairs. First to run the department when Harvard and the world went virtual.

Robinson Hall isn't going anywhere, and you will all be gathering there again. Who knows, maybe the Holiday Party will be in the Great Space in 2021.

Through building renovations, technology updates, too many changes in systems to name (I know you will Concur) and a Great Recession, one constant among others was the staying power of the staff in History. I often heard the query from co-workers in other departments, "Any openings coming up in History?". We have been fortunate in Chairs and Department Administrators; students, faculty and visitors never fail to thank us on a daily basis. I have always felt seen and appreciated.

Mary McConnell and Laura Johnson are still there to keep an eye on the tradition of just being there, whatever comes their way. When in residence, History is one of the few departments where callers are greeted by a live human being. Kimberly O'Hagan, Dan Bertwell, Taylor Maurice, Lisa Lubarr, Josh Mejia and Sylvie Papazian with the Administrative Support Group on Sumner Road and Emily Gauthier and Jennifer Nickerson in The Center for History and Economics in my building, CGIS, continue the support and more than collegiality of arguably the best staff group in FAS.

Thanks to the internet, cell phones, and living only a bike ride away from campus, I hope to continue my association with you all in the years to come. Though I leave behind my department duties, I look forward to weekly tea virtually and eventually in person at the Center for History and Economics. I will make a point of running into all my friends on campus when the world opens up again. Like most retirees, I will have lots of time to chat and you will be on your way to your next class, meeting, or appointment. I won't hold you up, just a quick greeting. Those friendly encounters on campus were always the highlight of my day.



ALUMNI NEWS

Steven J. Ericson (PhD '85) published his new book, [Financial Stabilization in Meiji Japan: The Impact of the Matsukata Reform](#),[↗] in the Studies in Money series published by Cornell University Press.

Ariane Liazos (PhD '07) published her book [Reforming the City: The Contested Origins of Urban Government](#),[↗] 1890-1930 in December 2019.

Di Yin Lu (PhD '12) was recently promoted to Data Science Manager at Cisco Systems, a company she joined in 2016 as part of Cisco's acquisition of Network Security Startup OpenDNS. During the COVID-19 pandemic, she spoke at several industries and academic panels on finding jobs outside the academic market, as well as careers in Data Science. She often finds herself the only woman, and only Humanities degree holder, at STEM career talks - she hopes that will change in the near future.

Meron Medzini (PhD '64), Professor (Emeritus), Department of Asian Studies at the Hebrew University published the Japanese translation of his book [Under the Shadow of the Rising Sun - Japan and the Jews During the Holocaust](#),[↗] (Academic Studies Press, 2016) in March 2020 by Bensei Shuppan, Tokyo.

Jeffrey P. Moran (PhD '96), Professor of History at the University of Kansas, published [The Scopes Trial: a Brief History with Documents](#),[↗] Second Edition (New York: Macmillan, 2021).

Ronald K. Rittgers (PhD '98) and Carlos Eire provided a new forward for the 40th anniversary edition of Steven Ozment's [Age of Reform](#),[↗] (Yale University Press) published in August 2020.

Jonathan Rosenberg (PhD '97), Professor of History at Hunter College and the CUNY Graduate Center, published [Dangerous Melodies: Classical Music in America from the Great War through the Cold War](#),[↗] (W.W. Norton, 2020).

Thomas Schwartz (PhD '85) published his book, [Henry Kissinger and American Power: A Political Biography](#),[↗] in August 2020 by Hill and Wang.

Peter Stansky (PhD '61) has published [Twenty Years On](#),[↗] (Pinehill Humanities Press) a selection of pieces written over the past twenty years. It is available from Amazon, etc. Some years ago he established a small endowment fund at Widener for the acquisition of books in modern British studies.

The *New England Quarterly* gratefully acknowledges the many contributions of Harvard professor Bernard Bailyn, Ph.D.'53, LL.D.'99 as an author and as a long-time member of its corporate and editorial boards. We welcome contributions in his honor, which would be used to fund the position of the **Bernard Bailyn Editor of the *New England Quarterly*.**



Checks may be sent to:
NEQ c/o Loring Wolcott and Coolidge,
230 Congress Street, Boston, MA 02110
or donate online via PayPal at:
bit.ly/NEQbernardbailyn

**We welcome your recent news for
inclusion in our next newsletter.**

Please email your updates to *history@fas.harvard.edu*

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