



Harvard University Department of History

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From the Chair

Greetings from the second floor of Robinson Hall, where I returned to the chair's office for the second year of my three-year term. As you know, Liz Cohen had the unenviable task of steering the History Department through two stormy years following the steep decline of Harvard's endowment in 2008. This year, with the deficit in the Faculty of Arts and Sciences shrinking from colossal to daunting, we have been holding steady. Although our budget remains much more constrained than it was before the crisis, no further cuts loom, and a few signs suggest that the University is recovering its financial health.

In addition to painful reductions in staffing, the History Department faculty has shrunk as a result of departures and retirements. From a high of fifty-seven tenured and tenure-track faculty in 2007-08, our numbers have declined to forty-seven this year, of whom forty-one are senior and six are junior. The History Department, like many other Harvard departments, has been forced by the financial crisis to postpone a number of crucial job searches, and we look forward to returning to full strength as the University recovers. Searches are under way in three fields. Those in Byzantine history and the history of Central Asian Islam are nearing completion. Open-rank searches in Latin American history, where we have been especially hard hit by the retirements of John Coatsworth, Jack Womack, and Kenneth Maxwell, have recently begun, and we will continue to search in this crucial field until we have appointed at least two outstanding scholars.

The number of undergraduate concentrators has decreased by roughly the same percentage, from 246 before the crisis to 195 this year. The percentage of undergraduates majoring in History typically declines nation-wide during economic down-turns. As the economy picks up and we replenish our ranks with new faculty members in the coming years, we expect that the number of concentrators will return to its usual range between 230 and 250 students. Recently we have been unable to offer as many courses in certain popular fields, notably Latin America, US immigration and ethnicity, and modern European women's and cultural history, as we were offering a few years ago; that has surely made a difference in the number of students attracted to the study of history. The reform of the undergraduate concentration, which now requires students to take two seminars in addition to the venerable History 97, has been completed. A wide array of small-group, discussion-intensive courses as well as lecture courses are now available to undergraduates as they proceed through the concentration. We anticipate that the excellent response to those new courses will soon translate into a growing number of concentrators.

Our graduate program continues to attract a record number of top-flight candidates. Although only 6% of applicants gain admission to Harvard College, only 5% are accepted to our Ph.D. program in History. Successful applicants arrive weighed down by the honors they have won as undergraduates and in other graduate programs. This spring a remarkable 78% of those offered fellowships chose to enroll at Harvard, an indication of the quality and attractiveness of the graduate program.



Two recent innovations deserve mention. First, all third year graduate students now take a year-long course, co-taught in recent years by the chair of the Department and Department teaching fellow Abby Balbale, designed both to acquaint them with recent research on teaching and learning and to equip them with the pedagogical skills necessary for them to succeed in the classroom. Liz and I agree with the evaluations submitted by the last two G-3 cohorts: largely thanks to Abby's extraordinary skills as a teacher, this course has been a great success. We are delighted that it will be co-taught next year by the new Department Writing Fellow, Heidi Tworek, and by Harvard College Professor and newly named Amabel James Professor Peter Gordon, one of the Department's most accomplished lecturers and seminar leaders. Second, the History Department has been authorized by Allan Brandt, Dean of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, to experiment with a program enabling advanced graduate students who have demonstrated outstanding ability in the classroom to teach undergraduate seminars of their own. Following long-established models at most of our peer institutions, this program will give some of the best teachers in our graduate program a chance to construct and offer courses that will enrich our curriculum, help them learn how to widen the scope of their dissertations by framing their research within broad questions of interest to undergraduates, and give them invaluable experience before they enter the job market. We reviewed outstanding applications for the first cohort of History Prize Instructors, and we are pleased to announce that Heidi Tworek will teach a course entitled "Breaking Headlines: The History of News" in the fall semester. Next spring we will have two more new courses, "Islam, Law, and the State," taught by Julia Stephens, and "The University and Society," taught by Michael Tworek.

Another innovation has been the appointment of College Fellows, recent recipients of the PhD who are selected

to teach three undergraduate courses and continue their own research at Harvard. This year's College Fellows included Brendan Karch, who taught "Ethnic Cleansing and the Making of Nation-States," "Order and Conquest: Modern Central Europe," and History 1256: "Fascist Europe, 1918-1945"; and Ann Wilson, who taught "Rebels, Radicals, and Reformers in Nineteenth-Century America," "Women Acting Globally," and "Culture and Politics in the (First) Gilded Age: The United States, 1861-1900."



In 2011-12, our College Fellows will be Jeffrey Webb, who will teach "Problems in Medieval History," "Sacred and Secular Power in Medieval Europe," and "Crusade and Jihad in the Medieval Mediterranean"; and Sergio Silva-Castaneda, who will teach "Readings in Modern Latin American History," "Society and Environment in Latin America," and "The History of Mexico 1810-2011."

As usual, our undergraduate and graduate students continue to shine, winning multiple prizes and fellowships, including five Hoopes prizes. Thanks to the expert guidance of Assistant Director of Undergraduate Studies Tryg Throntveit, all thirty-five senior theses were turned

in on time. For further details on our students' exploits, see the report of the Director of Undergraduate Studies, Dan Smail, and the Graduate News section, elsewhere in this newsletter. This spring marks the end of Dan's tenure as DUS, a term marked by the reshaping and renewal of the concentration and the institution of much more planning and coordination of our course offerings as a result of the hard work of the curriculum committee chaired by Dan and Peter Gordon. We are delighted that Ann Blair will be our next DUS, with Maya Jasanoff filling in next spring while Ann is on leave. Erez Manela did an excellent job this year serving as Director of Graduate Studies; in the fall David Armitage, back from sabbatical, will return as DGS.

The stellar staff of the Department is largely unchanged from last year. Janet Hatch remains the Department's memory bank and the paragon of efficiency she has always been. Mary McConnell continues to work her magic, cheerfully coordinating all aspects of our curriculum and schedule. Cory Paulsen, with help from Sylvie Papazian, handles the finances. Matthew Corcoran and Laura Johnson oversee the graduate and undergraduate programs, respectively, with steady hands and sound judgment. From their location in a new, multi-department faculty support center on Sumner Road, Lori Kelley assists with myriad projects, and Michael Kelley makes sure our increasingly complex technological systems work smoothly and reliably, all under the skilled leadership of Jessica Glasser.

Jesse Halvorsen, who adroitly handles the varied responsibilities of the front desk, will be missed when he departs in the fall to begin graduate studies in US labor history at UC Santa Barbara. Elena Palladino, who joined us last summer, has quickly established herself as an indispensable member of the Department. Not only has she very ably assisted Janet and me in meeting our obligations, she has efficiently coordinated everything from faculty activities to the department's searches and promotions.



On the subject of promotions, we have two to celebrate this year. Ian Miller, who recently published, among other things, a sparkling op-ed in the Sunday New York Times concerning the tsunami and earthquakes in Japan, was named Associate Professor of History. Maya Jasanoff, fresh from the publication of her second highly praised book, *Liberty's Exiles: American Loyalists in a Revolutionary World*, was awarded tenure and named Professor of History. We congratulate them both and look forward to equally happy results in the future. Our younger colleagues were not alone in bringing honor to the History Department. Three products of our Ph.D. program, Gordon Wood of Brown, Stanley Katz of Princeton, and the director of their dissertations, Bernard Bailyn, Adams University Professor and James Duncan Phillips Professor of Early American History, emeritus, received the National Humanities Medal from President Barack Obama. Bailyn was also awarded an honorary degree from Columbia University. News about the activities of current and emeritus faculty members appears in the Faculty News section of this newsletter.

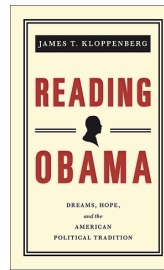
On a sadder note, in October I read a Memorial Minute at the Harvard Faculty Meeting for former member of the History Department David Donald, and Ernst Badian died on February 8, 2011.

Finally, I cannot resist the temptation to mention, as I did in the version of this message that I wrote in the winter of 2008, that Harvard historians continue to distinguish themselves not only as scholars and teachers but as leaders of the University. President Drew Faust

has earned admiration for her skillful stewardship of Harvard through an extremely difficult period, and she has continued to demonstrate the value of history in other ways: on May 2, 2011, she delivered this year's Jefferson Lecture, a brilliant meditation on humanity's timeless fascination with war, based in part on her Bancroft Prize-winning book *This Republic of Suffering: Death and the American Civil War*. Historians likewise continue to serve the University in other ways: Evelyn Hammonds as Dean of Harvard College, Allan Brandt as Dean of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, and Robert Darnton as Director of the University Libraries. Just as we were putting together this issue of the Newsletter, we learned that Liz Cohen has been named interim Dean of the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study. Although we will miss Liz next year, we wish her well in her new role, and we know from experience that Radcliffe will be in very good hands.



Chair's News



Jim Kloppenberg had a busy year. My book *Reading Obama: Dreams, Hope, and the American Political Tradition*, published by the Princeton University Press, attracted a lot of attention--positive and negative. After I discussed the book at a conference in New York City, the *New York Times* ran an article on the book--<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/10/28/books/28klopp.html>--which sparked a firestorm of criticism from conservatives who dismissed the book even before it had been released. *Reading Obama* is an intellectual biography, a study of Obama's ideas based on his books, his speeches, and interviews with dozens of his teachers, colleagues, and friends. The book locates Obama in the long history of American political thought and in the narrower context of late twentieth-century intellectual upheaval, the time when Obama was coming of age in Honolulu, Los Angeles, New York, Chicago, and in Cambridge at the Harvard Law School. It is a work of intellectual history rather than prophesy or partisanship, yet both Obama's allies and his foes (on the left as well as the right) have taken it to be a defense of his presidency. Having never before swum in the riptides of the commentariat, I have found it challenging as a historian to keep from drowning in hyper-partisan debates about the present and future of American politics. Bracing interviews with Charlie Rose, Christopher Lydon, Scott Horsley, and for radio stations from Ireland and Spain to New Zealand and Japan have taught me to give short answers to difficult questions. An article in *Newsweek* and conversations with reporters showed me the value of concision. Talks about the book in seven countries and in states stretching from California and Oregon to New Hampshire and Virginia convinced me that many people are more willing to listen to--and more capable of comprehending--arguments about challenging ideas such as historicism, perspectivalism, anti-foundationalism, and deliberative democracy than commentators give them credit for. In addition to these alternately invigorating and exhausting discussions of *Reading Obama*, I taught rewarding new courses on pedagogy for our third-year graduate students and on intellectual history for our concentrators. I also gave two versions of a soon-to-be-published paper on the prospects for American intellectual history, and I was honored by Harvard as a Walter Channing Cabot Fellow. This summer I'm savoring the splendid isolation of scholarship as I work to complete my long-delayed intellectual history of democracy in Europe and America. Without the superb staff in Robinson Hall, and especially without skilled jugglers Janet Hatch and Elena Palladino, I could not have taken advantage of all these opportunities while chairing the Department. Although all Department faculty members are indebted to the staff for enabling us to do what we do, no one's debt is deeper than mine at the end of this year.



Faculty News



David Armitage, Lloyd C. Blankfein Professor of History, gave the Wiles Lectures at Queen's University Belfast, the Costa Lecture at Ohio University, and the Adams Lecture at the Salem Athenaeum. He also lectured in London, Mexico City, Paris, Sydney, and Tokyo and at universities across the US from Orono to Palo Alto. Among his publications was an edition of the Declaration

of Independence produced in collaboration with the photographer Robert Frank. He was a Professeur invité at the Ecole des Hautes Etudes and was elected a Member of the Colonial Society of Massachusetts. While on leave this year, he has been working on *Civil War: A History in Ideas* (Knopf, forthcoming), among other projects. He will be returning to the post of Director of Graduate Studies in the fall.

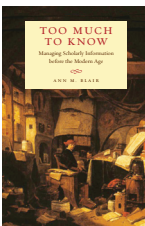


Sven Beckert won a Guggenheim fellowship in 2011. He published an edited collection, with Julia Rosenbaum, on *The American Bourgeoisie: Distinction and Identity in the American Century*. He started, with Christine Desan from the Harvard Law School, the "Program on the Study of Capitalism at Harvard University" (for

details see <http://history-of-capitalism.org/>). Beckert also helped to organize two conferences: Slavery's Capitalism in April 2011 (details at <http://brown.edu/web/slaveryconf/index.html>) and Capitalism in Action in March 2011 (details at <http://history-of-capitalism.org/capitalisminaction>).

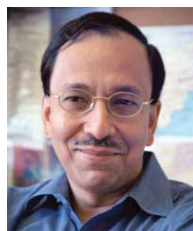


David Blackbourn gave the keynote lecture at the biennial German Historical Conference in October, in the great hall of the Pergamon Museum in Berlin. He also took part in a meeting of environmental historians at the National History Center in Washington, DC in June and delivered the inaugural Jakob and Wilhelm Grimm Lecture at Waterloo University, Ontario, in November. He gave the annual lecture of the London School of Economics History Department in April 2011.



Ann Blair wrote *Too Much To Know: Managing Scholarly Information Before the Modern Age*, which was published by Yale University Press in November 2010. Long before the digital age scholars complained of the overabundance of books and developed techniques for selecting, sorting, and storing information on a large scale.

This book examines information management in pre-modern contexts with a special focus on the impact of printing in Europe in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. Blair is now starting two new projects, on French Catholic natural theology from 15th to 18th centuries, and on collaborative authorship in the early modern period.



Sugata Bose, Gardiner Professor of History, has just published his latest book *His Majesty's Opponent: Subhas Chandra Bose and India's Struggle against Empire* (Cambridge, MA: the Belknap Press of Harvard University Press and New Delhi: Allen Lane, Penguin, 2011). A revised and expanded third edition of his widely read joint work with Ayesha

Jalal – *Modern South Asia: History, Culture, Political Economy* (London and New York: Routledge, 2011) also appeared in spring 2011. In addition, he has jointly edited with Kris Manjappa a new collection of essays in transnational history titled *Cosmopolitan Thought Zones: South Asia and the Global Circulation of Ideas* (London: Palgrave MacMillan, 2010).

Bose has translated into English and published recordings in a four-CD set of all the songs of Rabindranath Tagore composed on the poet's overseas voyages under the title *Visvayatri Rabindranath* (with Pramita Mallick singing the Bengali originals) as well as a CD titled *Amaar Rabindranath or My Tagore* (Calcutta: Bhavna Records, 2010) and *Songs of Tagore* (Paris: UNESCO, 2011), containing translations of 40 Tagore songs as part of the UNESCO project on 'Universalism Reconciled: Tagore, Neruda, Césaire'.

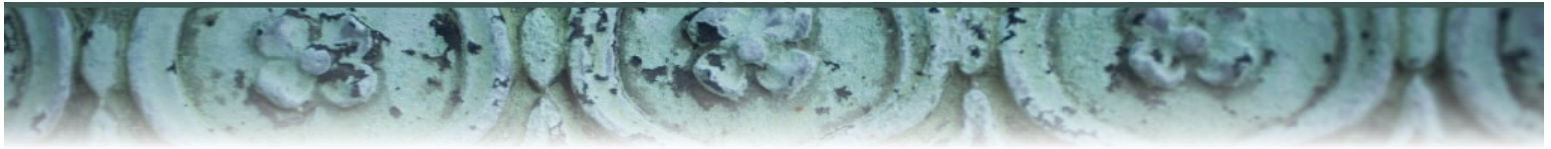
His published articles include "20th Century Rediscovery of Asian Universalism: Rabindranath Tagore's Interpretation of the Epics" in Gauri Krishnan's (ed.), *Ramayana in Focus: Visual and Performing Arts of Asia* (Singapore: Asian Civilizations Museum, 2010) and "Different Universalisms, Colorful Cosmopolitanisms: the Global Imagination of the Colonized" in Sugata Bose and Kris Manjappa's (eds.), *Cosmopolitan Thought Zones: South Asia and the Global Circulation of Ideas* (London: Palgrave Macmillan, 2010).

He has delivered major lectures during the year in Beijing, Shanghai, Singapore, Sydney, Delhi, Kolkata, Mumbai, Lahore and other places in North America and Europe.



Lizabeth Cohen spent academic year 2010-11 on sabbatical, working on a book entitled *Saving America's Cities: Ed Logue and the Struggle to Renew Urban America in the Suburban Age*. During academic year 2011-12, she has agreed to serve as Interim Dean of the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, while President Drew Faust undertakes a search for a new permanent dean.

History Department faculty, students, and alums are all invited to attend the many interesting lectures and conferences planned to take place at Radcliffe next year.



Nancy F. Cott, Jonathan Trumbull Professor of American History, served as an expert witness on the history of marriage in *Perry v. Schwarzenegger*, the federal case in

California seeking to establish that the state's Proposition 8 (which overturned the legality of marriage for couples of the same sex there) defies the equal protection guarantees in the U.S. Constitution and should be struck down. Ever since writing *Public Vows: A History of Marriage and the Nation* (2000), Cott has led in writing historians' *amicus curiae* briefs and providing declarations and affidavits in state-level cases seeking to establish equal marriage rights for same-sex couples. The *Perry* case was the first time that she took the stand and testified in court, however, in this high-profile trial. Judge Vaughan Walker's decision for the plaintiffs quoted and in part relied on Cott's testimony. She subsequently provided an affidavit in the successful federal case brought by the Attorney-General of Massachusetts against the Defense of Marriage Act, arguing that the DOMA was an unprecedented incursion into state jurisdiction over marriage definition. Both of these cases are currently being appealed at the federal circuit court level. These activities have led universities elsewhere to ask Cott to speak about how historians can affect public policy. She has discussed this question recently at the University of California at Berkeley and at Los Angeles, at Yale Law School, at the University of Kentucky, Carnegie-Mellon University, and M.I.T.



Robert Darnton devoted most of the year to the reorganization of Harvard's 73 libraries. As University Librarian and a member of the new Library Board, he has

worked to promote the goals formulated by the provost's Library Implementation Working Group, especially the integration and expansion of collections and the launching of several digital initiatives. On October 1-2 he directed a conference on the possibility of creating a National Digital Library. Since then this project, renamed the Digital Public Library of America, has developed into a full-scale campaign with headquarters in the Berkman Center at Harvard. Darnton continued to be involved in the debate over Google Book Search, mainly through articles published in the *New York Review of Books*. And he published a new book with the Harvard University Press, *Poetry and the Police: Communication Networks in Eighteenth-Century Paris*.



Niall Ferguson published *Civilization: The West and the Rest* (Penguin) in the United Kingdom. The book, described by the London Sunday Times as 'a masterpiece'

and by the Economist as 'a dazzling history', will appear in the U.S. in the fall. The accompanying television series was broadcast on Channel 4 and will be shown later this year by PBS. Ferguson was on unpaid leave from Harvard this academic year, working as Philippe Roman Visiting Professor at the London School of Economics. He has also started writing a weekly column for *Newsweek* magazine. He returns to Harvard next semester.



Andrew Gordon made his first foray into internet based publication and the study of visual materials with an essay on "Social Protest in Imperial Japan: The Hibiya Riot of 1905", as part of the innovative

project on Visualizing Cultures at MIT (<http://visualizingcultures.mit.edu>). He also organized a related conference at Harvard on Visualizing Asia on May 20-21, 2010. A new book, *Fabricating Consumers: The Sewing Machine in Modern Japan* will be published by University of California Press in fall 2011.



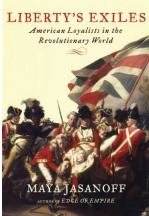
The I Tatti Renaissance Library, a bilingual Latin-English text series edited by **James Hankins** and published by Harvard University Press, celebrated its 10th

anniversary and its 50th volume this year. A joint Festschrift in honor of his work and that of his late wife, Virginia Brown, is to be published in the fall by UCLA's Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies.



Evelyn Brooks Higginbotham published the classic African American survey *From Slavery to Freedom: A History of African Americans*, as co-author

with John Hope Franklin. She thoroughly updated and rewrote the book. In the academic year, Higginbotham has been teaching courses at the Duke University Law School as the inaugural John Hope Franklin Professor of American Legal History. She returns to Harvard in June. Higginbotham also received an honorary degree from Howard University on May 14, 2011 during its commencement.



Maya Jasanoff published *Liberty's Exiles: American Loyalists in the Revolutionary World* (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 2011; London: Harper Press, 2011). She delivered numerous

lectures and presentations on the subject this year, including *In Conversation* with Jill Lepore at the New York Public Library, and looks forward to developing her new project on "The Worlds of Joseph Conrad."



Walter Johnson spent the year at the Radcliffe Institute. He was also awarded fellowships by the Guggenheim Foundation and the American Philosophical Society. In May, he was

elected to membership in the Society of American Historians.



Cemal Kafadar was one of three recipients of Turkey's 2010 Presidential Grand Awards in Culture and Arts. In December, he took part in a conference

in Beirut on the notion of decline in the historiography of Islamic societies. At the University of Chicago in March, he gave a lecture on Ottoman perceptions of Europe in the 16th through 17th centuries and presented a documentary film on which he had worked as a consultant and co-scriptwriter. The film is on Sheikh Bedreddin, an early 15th century utopian thinker, jurist, and mystic, who was executed in 1417. He is the co-organizer of a Harvard conference (held in April, 2011) titled *The Mediterranean, Criss-crossed and Constructed*.



Les Frontières de la République: Immigration et limites de l'universalisme en France (1918-1940), the French edition of **Mary Lewis's** book, *The Boundaries of the*

Republic: Migrant Rights and the Limits of Universalism in France, 1918-1940 (Stanford, 2007), was published in fall 2010 by Editions Agone with a translation by Françoise Jaouën. Mary and her husband also welcomed their second child, Simon Frederic Lewis Dizikes, in August 2010.



Emeritus Faculty News



Christopher P. Jones, George Martin Lane Professor of Classics and History, emeritus, has been elected to the Académie des Inscriptions et Belles-Lettres, Paris,

as a "Correspondant étranger." Founded in 1663, the Académie is one of the five Academies of the Institut de France.



On March 2, 2011, Professor, emeritus, **Bernard Bailyn** was awarded the National Humanities Medal at the White House. Two

of Bailyn's former doctoral students, Stan Katz and Gordon Wood, also received the medal. Professor Annette Gordon-Reed received the medal in 2009.



Charles Maier is on leave in the spring of 2011 and serving as the distinguished fellow at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars in Washington DC. While

at the Wilson Center he is working on a study tentatively entitled: "Once within Borders: History and Territory since 1500." Along with colleagues Niall Ferguson and Erez Manela and former graduate student Daniel Sargent, now teaching at Berkeley, he has edited *The Shock of the Global: The 1970s in Perspective* (Harvard University Press, 2010), and he has completed a segment for the multi-volume global history edited by Professor Emeritus Akira Iriye and Juergen Osterhammel of the University of Konstanz entitled "Leviathan 2.0: Inventing the Modern State." His wife, Professor Pauline Maier of MIT (Radcliffe AB 1960 and Harvard Ph.D. 1968) won the Gilder-Lehrman's George Washington prize for her book, "Ratification: Americans Debate the Constitution" (Simon & Schuster 2010).



Roger Owen completed the draft of a manuscript for Harvard University Press on 'Arab Presidents for Life' in late December, just before two of them

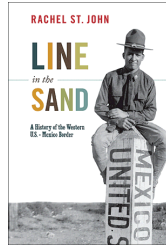
were forcefully removed. He is now revising the work with the help of an Author's Conference organized by the Mindich Center (part of the WCFIA). He led a Harvard Alumni Cruise of the Eastern Mediterranean in late March. He organized a WFCIA-funded international conference on Economic Institutions in the Pre-Modern Middle East. Owen will participate as an instructor in a Near East course for the military's Foreign Area Officers at the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, 6-10 June 2011.



Emma Rothschild's new book, *The Inner Life of Empires: An Eighteenth-Century History*, was published in May 2011 by Princeton University Press; see <http://press.princeton.edu/titles/9407.html>.

The April 2011 issue of *Modern Intellectual History* (see <http://journals.cambridge.org/action/displayJournal?jid=MIH>) contains a forum on the Idea of Sustainability, with articles by Alison Frank, Emma Rothschild, and Paul Warde (Joint Center for History and Economics). The forum was based on a workshop on History and Sustainability held in the Robinson Hall Lower Library in 2008, with the participation of David Blackburn, Charles Rosenberg, Sverker Sörlin and Gro Harlem Brundtland.

The Joint Center for History and Economics has received a grant from the Harvard University Center for the Environment for a new research program, *Energy and Environment: A Global History*, to be led by Alison Frank, Ian Miller, Rachel St John, and Richard Hornbeck (Economics), with the involvement of Harriet Ritvo (MIT), Sunil Amrith (London University), Paul Warde (University of East Anglia) and Emma Rothschild.



Rachel St. John spent the 2010-2011 academic year in Princeton where she was a Member of the School of Historical Studies at the Institute for Advanced Studies and a Fellow at the

Shelby Cullom Davis Center for Historical Studies at Princeton University. Her book, *Line in the Sand: A History of the Western U.S.-Mexico Border*, was published this spring by Princeton University Press.



Dan Smail and his principal coauthor, Andrew Shryock (University of Michigan), completed the manuscript for *Deep History: The Architecture of Past and*

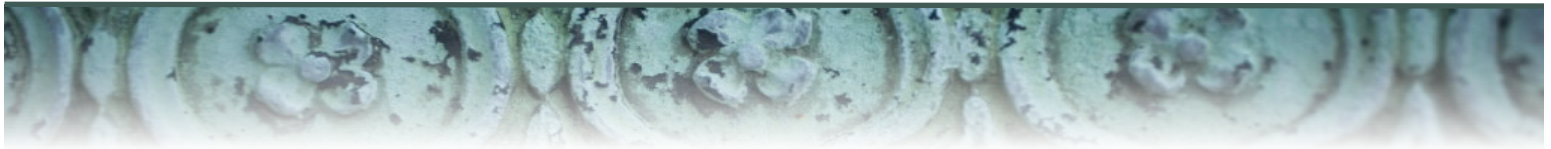
Present, which will be appearing early in the fall (University of California). He gave papers or presentations on deep historical topics at Brown University, the University of Michigan, Mount Holyoke, and the Catholic University of America, and also presented papers or comments at a colloquium in Paris, the American Historical Association, Binghamton University, and several other venues. He will be spending his 2011-12 sabbatical at the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study where, *inshallah*, he will finish up a study of debt recovery and material culture in fourteenth-century Marseille and Lucca. This spring saw the publication of a disciplinary forum long in the making called "History and the Telescoping of Time: A Disciplinary Forum" (*French Historical Studies* 34 [2011]). This spring marks the end of his three-year term as Director of Undergraduate Studies, and he wishes to thank the staff and his colleagues for all their assistance.



Hue-Tam Tai is currently in Hanoi, taking part in a conference on Education and Gender in East Asia that is funded by the Harvard-Yenching Institute. Additionally, she is in the midst of

planning three conferences to be held in 2012 and 2013 on Vietnam during the period of Nguyen rule (1558-1885) and *Migration and Popular Religion: Connections and Comparisons between China and Vietnam*. The conferences, funded by the Asia Center and the Harvard-Yenching Institute, will be held in Hong Kong, Cambridge, Hanoi and Hoi An.

Tai has joined the editorial board of a new e-journal, Cross-Currents and, as co-editor of the series Asia: Global Themes/Local Studies, she is busy helping a number of new Ph.D.s turn their dissertations into monographs.



Undergraduate News



Letter from Daniel Lord Smail,
Director of Undergraduate Studies

The last few years have brought some important changes to the teaching of history at Harvard. It is fitting, perhaps, for the department to experience that which it teaches. The implementation of the Gen Ed program generated the most significant challenge to our teaching mission, since history as a methodology is no longer explicitly included in the Gen Ed categories. Facing this changing environment, many faculty have put in the long hours needed to generate new Gen Ed courses or to completely overhaul existing ones, with some notable successes. Even so, concerns remain, and adjustments are ongoing.

The shift to Gen Ed corresponded with the de facto demise of our old stalwarts, History 10a and 10b, the two courses that introduced a generation of Harvard students to history. At present, we are still grappling with the question of how to define the appropriate “gateway courses” into the concentration. The absence of a clearly marked entry into the concentration is the concern most commonly expressed by our students, and it will be a task for the coming years to resolve this conundrum.

History itself is flourishing in the classroom despite these concerns. Our students continue to generate fascinating and deeply researched research seminar papers and senior theses. The remarkable range of subjects addressed in these research endeavors attests to our commitment to methodological and topical diversity, a major drawing point for the concentration and a source of considerable pride for the department as a whole.

Starting in 2010-11, the Undergraduate Office reduced the number of half-courses required for the History concentration from 12 to 10 (14 to 12 for honors), while at the same time reducing the number of allowable related-field petitions to one at most. We anticipated no net gain or loss of students in the classroom, since so many of our concentrators were petitioning courses taught outside History. It remains to be seen what the long-term effect will be, although the short-term gain was immediate: a dramatic reduction in paperwork for all parties concerned.

Faculty continued to be involved in our fall semester History House Lunch program, where concentrators and interested sophomores joined faculty for lunch in small group settings to talk about history, research projects, teaching initiatives, current events, and doubtless many other things. Warm thanks go to Professors Sven Beckert, Nancy Cott, Emma Dench, Maya Jasanoff, Cemal Kafadar, Charles Maier, Lisa McGirr, Roger Owen, Serhii Plokhii, Emma Rothschild, Daniel Smail, Trygve Throntveit, and Laurel Ulrich for participating in these lunches. Several faculty moderated panels of seniors sharing their works-in-progress at the Department’s annual Thesis Writers’ Conference. Our thanks and appreciation go to Professors Nancy Cott, Alison Frank, Ivan Gaskell, Rachel Greenblatt, Maya Jasanoff, Andrew Jewett, Charles Maier, Erez Manela, Lisa McGirr, and Roger Owen, and to Drs. Adam Ewing, Brett Flehinger, and Brendan Karch for supporting this vital aspect of the thesis program, and also to the faculty who joined the audience.

In the spring semester, during the College’s Advising Fortnight, Jill Lepore, Ivan Gaskell, and Laurel Ulrich gave generously of their scant time to help the Undergraduate Office inform students about the Department and the variety of horizon-expanding opportunities it offers to concentrators and non-concentrators alike. Jill gave her audience a virtual tour through a research seminar, while Ivan and Laurel gave their guests a personal tour through “Tangible Things,” an exhibit they co-curated using many objects from the Harvard museums and collections. For the second year running, we sponsored a panel of recent alumni who were charged with responding to the question “What is a History Degree Good For?” The panelists shared dinner and answered questions from prospective and current concentrators about how History helped them get to where they are. Panelists included representatives from law, medicine, public policy, academia, and finance. To alums Marcello Cerullo ‘10, Rowan Dorin ‘07, John Riley ‘10, Ari Ruben ‘08, Ryan Sepassi ‘10, and Hummy Song ‘08: many thanks! (Alumni who wish to volunteer for this next spring are warmly welcomed to contact the Undergraduate Office.)

All good wishes go to Prof. Ann Blair, who will be serving as DUS for three years starting in Fall 2011, and to Professor Maya Jasanoff, who will be serving as interim DUS in Spring 2012 while Ann is on leave. On a personal note, it has been a great pleasure working with Dr. Trygve Throntveit and our wonderful office assistant, Laura Johnson; I know I leave the office in excellent hands. Finally, many thanks to all the faculty and teaching fellows who have made history happen for our students this year, and to our amazing departmental staff for making everything work.



AB Recipients

Branden Christopher Adams
Stephen George Anastos, Jr.
Manuel Jose Antunes
Peter Gamble Bacon
Theodore Patrick Barron
Oscar Daniel Basantes
Priscilla MacKenzie Bok
Allan Standish Bradley
Anne Taylor Browning
Ellen Clark Bryson
Ryan Timothy Bucke
Claire Goldfarb Bulger
Spencer Dylan Burke
Carlo Andrew Simon Caretto
Nicholas Patrick Castaneda
Julia Siyun Chen
Lucy Diana Chen
Taylor James Davidson
Cherish Alise Drain
Jeffrey Warren Feldman
Carmen Virginia Feliz

Madelyn Downing Finucane
Rachel Alexis Patrice Gholston
Rebecca LeAnn Gruskin
Matthew Tyler Hale
Antonio Jubencio Hernandez
Bonnue Jasmine Kavoussi
Eugene Kim
Christopher Rogers Kingston
Alexander Royse Konrad
David Andrew Levine
Daniel Leeland Liss
Ahmed Nagi Mabruk
Marcella Antonina Marsala
Hilary Lane May
Cullen Duross McAlpine
Neal Joseph Meyer
Tony Ray Meyer, Jr.
Diana Michta
Mary Elizabeth Miller
Eleony Shepherd Moorhead
Emily Stephens Naphtal
Khue Nguyen Nguyen

Emma Notis-McConarty
Benjamin Armstrong Pinkas
Dillon Campbell Powers
Anna Elizabeth Pritt
Steven Charles Rizoli
Katherine Marie Savarese
Jason William Schnier
Alison Emma Schumer
Caroline Amelia Smart
James A. Smith
Drew Loren St Lawrence
Robert Edward Tillinghast Tainsh
Alexander Scott Thompson
Maia Usui
Martin Michael Wallner
Holly Lynn Walsh
Bethan Grace Nash Williams
Jonathan Charles Wise
Natalie Jessica Wong
Youran Ye
Zhongrui Yin



Department Awards and Prizes

The **Department of History Award** for best overall record in the Department and the **Colton Award** recognizing excellence in the preparation of a senior thesis went to **Maia Usui**. Maia's senior thesis was titled, "From The World's Fair To The Scream: The Fin-de-Siecle Individual Between Consumerism and Modernism in Paris, Berlin, and Tokyo," and was advised by Professor Patrice Higgonet.

The **David Herbert Donald Award** for the best student in American History and the **Philip Washburn Prize** for the best senior

thesis submitted to the Department of History went to **Kenzie Bok**. Kenzie's senior thesis was titled, "'Does Life Need To Be Redeemed?'" The Religious Origins of Rawls's Liberalism," and was advised by Professor James Kloppenberg.

The **Undergraduate Essay Prize** for the best paper produced in a research seminar went to **Jason Schnier** for his essay "Eating Between Memory and History," and was written for Professor Daniel Smail's course "History 80b: Persons and Things in Medieval Europe."

Phi Beta Kappa

Seniors, class of 2011:

Priscilla MacKenzie Bok
Ellen Clark Bryson
Rebecca LeAnn Gruskin
Daniel Leeland Liss



Juniors, class of 2012:

Aditya Balasubramanian
Madeleine Schwartz



Thomas Temple Hoopes Prize

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

Kenzie Bok, "'Does Life Need To Be Redeemed?' The Religious Origins of Rawls's Liberalism," advised by Professor James Kloppenberg

Daniel Liss, "Black, White, and the Limbo in Between: The Precarious Position of the South African Chinese Under Apartheid, 1948-1994," advised by Meghan Healy

Eleony Moorhead, "The Muslim Aristocrats: British Converts to Islam at the Turn of the Century," advised by Professor Mary Lewis

Maia Usui, "From The World's Fair To The Scream: The Fin-de-Siecle Individual Between Consumerism and Modernism in Paris, Berlin, and Tokyo," advised by Professor Patrice Higonet

Zhongrui Yin, "Threat From The Campuses: Student Dissent and the Launching of the Chinese Anti-Rightist Campaign of 1957," advised by Professor Roderick MacFarquhar

Tempus

The History Department's undergraduate research journal, *Tempus*, entered an exciting new phase in 2010-2011. The editors transformed the journal into an all-online publication a few years ago, and this past year, with renewed support from the undergraduate office, they overhauled its format, submission procedures, and marketing. The result was one of the most successful issues in memory. As Professor Jim Kloppenberg noted at the first-ever reception for *Tempus* staff, contributors, and invited History Department members, the essays published this past year truly captured the variety and creativity that characterizes work by professional historians at the cutting edge of the discipline. The fact that such essays were in fact all student-produced is a testament above all to the contributors' hard work and talents. But kudos too to the mentorship of their faculty instructors; to the critical eye of our Department Writing Fellow and official *Tempus* graduate consultant, Ryan Wilkinson; and of course, to the marketing savvy and sound judgment of the *Tempus* staff, led by editors Arjun Ramamurti and Miranda Margowski.

Fellowships and Scholarships

Artist Development Fellowships

Julian Gewirtz '13 (Quincy House)



Frank Knox Memorial Fellowships

Ahmed Mabruk '11 (Mather House)



Marshall Scholarships

Priscilla (Kenzie) Bok '11 (Pforzheimer House)



Carl And Lily Pforzheimer Foundation Public Service Fellowships

Bethan Williams '11 (Winthrop House)



Edward M Lamont Public Service Fellowships

Daniel Villafana '12 (Kirkland House)



Weissman International Internship Grants

Lauren Feldman '13 (Lowell House)

Henry Schull '13 (Winthrop House)

Thomas Snyder '13 (Winthrop House)

Benjamin Wilcox '13 (Quincy House)

Harvard History Abroad

Offerings from the Office of International Programs Office and the Summer School

Harvard College Europe Program

The Harvard College Europe Program aims to introduce Harvard students to European answers to the challenges of the modern world, offering a rigorous, semester-long study abroad program in Freiburg, Germany at Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg (University of Freiburg), with course offerings at Universität Basel in Basel, Switzerland, and Université Robert Schuman in Strasbourg, France. In addition, students will travel on faculty-led excursions to Istanbul, Turkey, and to Warsaw, Poland.

In this first exciting year, **Professor Sven Beckert, Laird Bell Professor of History, Harvard University's Department of History**, will serve as Resident Harvard Faculty Director and academic adviser; he will be on-site for the duration of the program to teach and to help students set and attain academic goals, and adjust to a foreign culture.

Through cultural immersion, field-based learning, and internships, Harvard College students will study how Europeans deal with the challenges of the modern world, will explore the complexities of the twenty-first century, and will begin to develop an understanding of what it means to become truly global citizens. The goal of this program is to facilitate a life-changing international experience.

The Harvard College Europe Program invites applications from Harvard College sophomores, juniors and rising seniors in good standing; all concentrations are welcome. There are no language prerequisites.

Harvard College Europe Program Dates: January 25, 2012–July 24, 2012, with a possible extension period until the end of August for students who wish to undertake Senior Thesis Research or extend their internship. For more information, email Sven Beckert (beckert@fas.harvard.edu).

Harvard Summer Program in Ghana

AFAM S-136: Representing Ghana's Past — Slave Trades, the African Diaspora, and Slave Roots Tourism

Led by **Emmanuel K. Akyeampong, Professor of History and of African and African American Studies**, this program explores the history and material culture of slavery and slave trade in West Africa (Ghana) and the Caribbean (Danish Caribbean and Jamaica). It combines lectures, the critical use of contemporary sources such as oral history and film, trips to sites of enslavement and slave trade (European forts along the coast, interior slave marts and settlements that survived slave raids), and archaeological fieldwork on Danish plantations in the reconstruction of the period between about 1650 and 1850. Gold Coast influences on the material and socio-political cultures of the Caribbean are examined through slave lifeways and revolts. The course engages the politics of memory and the presentation of Ghana's place in the Atlantic world through contemporary slave roots/routes, tourism, cultural festivals, and museum exhibitions. For more information, contact Emmanuel Akyeampong (akyeamp@fas.harvard.edu).



For more information:

Harvard Office of International Programs
<http://www.fas.harvard.edu/~oip/>
Email: oip@fas.harvard.edu

Harvard Summer School
<http://www.summer.harvard.edu/programs/abroad/>
Email: summerabroad@dcemail.harvard.edu

Graduate News

Recent Ph.D. Graduates

Antara Datta

(B.A. St. Stephens's College, Delhi University,
B.A. Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford,
A.M. Harvard)
(B)ordering South Asia: War, Violence and Displacement in 1971
Teaching Fellow, Royal Holloway, University of London

Adam Ewing

(B.A. Queens College,
A.M. Harvard)
Broadcast on the Winds: Diasporic Politics in the Age of Garvey, 1919-1940
Post-Doctoral Fellow, Johns Hopkins

Adrian Finucane

(B.A. Yale,
A.M. Harvard)
The South Sea Company and Anglo-Spanish Connections, 1713-1739
Assistant Professor, University of Kansas

Kelly Gibson

(B.A. University of Virginia,
A.M. Harvard)
Rewriting History: Carolingian Reform and Controversy in Biographies of Saints
Assistant Professor, University of Dallas

Amy Houston

(B.A. Alberston College,
A.M. Harvard)
Defending the City, Defending the Faith: The Sieges of the French Civil Wars, 1552-1628
Assistant Professor, Stonehill College

Ian Klaus

(B.A. Washington University in St. Louis,
B.A. Oxford,
A.M. Harvard)
Virtue is Dead: A History of Trust
Policy Planning Staff, U.S. State Department

Hiromu Nagahara

(B.A. Gordon College,
A.M. Harvard)
Unpopular Music: The Politics of Mass Culture in Modern Japan
Assistant Professor, MIT

Vanessa Ogle

(B.A. Gutenberg University,
M.A. Free University of Berlin,
A.M. Harvard)
Clocks, Calendars, and Conversion Charts: Reorganizing Time During the First Wave of Globalization, 1883-1939
Assistant Professor, University of Pennsylvania

Vernie A. Oliverio

(B.A. National University of Singapore,
A.M. Harvard)
The United States, Multinational Corporations and the Politics of Globalization in the 1970s

Kristin Poling

(B.A. Washington University in St. Louis,
A.M. Harvard)
On the Inner Frontier: Opening German City Borders in the Long Nineteenth Century

Christopher Nixon Prigge

(B.S. United States Military Academy,
A.M. Harvard)
Tradition and Transformation: The Origins of the U.S. Armored Cavalry Regiments

Miles V. Rodriguez

(B.A. Rice,
A.M. Harvard)
The Beginnings of a Movement: Leagues of Agrarian Communities, Unions of Industrial Workers, and Their Struggles in Mexico, 1920-1929

Ann Marie Wilson

(B.A. San Francisco State University,
M.A. Michigan,
A.M. Harvard)
Taking Liberties Abroad: Americans and International Humanitarian Advocacy, 1821-1914
Assistant Professor, Lieden University College, The Hague





Graduate Student Placement

Tenure-track positions:

Jonathan Conant
Kelly Gibson
Louis Hyman
Hiromu Nagahara
Vanessa Ogle
John Ondrovčík
Ann Wilson

Brown University
University of Dallas
Cornell University
MIT
University of Pennsylvania
University of Mississippi
Leiden University College

Other:

Ian Klaus

Policy Planning Staff,
U.S. State Department

Harvard lectureships:

Brendan Karch
Maya Peterson
Sergio Silva-Castaneda
Jeff Webb

Social Studies
History of Science
History
History

Post-doctoral fellowships:

Adam Ewing
Johns Hopkins

Eren Tasar
ACLS at Washington
University in St. Louis

Helena Toth
LMU Munich

Awards

Juliet Wagner
John R. Marquand
Award for
Advising and
Mentorship

Henry Adams Club

The Henry Adams Club continues its mission of providing beer, wine, and snacks to thirsty and hungry graduate students. Our weekly happy hour is going strong and the first-years are active and fun participants. We just held an event for admitted students that featured pizza from the Upper Crust Pizzeria, friendly mingling, and even a panel that fielded questions from the admits. The admits are a great bunch...Henry's ghost has smiled upon us! The club's organizers, Josh Specht, Greg Afinogenov, and Eva Bitran, are currently preparing for the Department book sale. Thank you faculty members for donating so many great books. The sale will help keep the Henry Adams pantry well-stocked.

In other news, the club (with the help of G2s Carla Heelan and Kristen Loveland) has organized a number of panels on topics of interest to current students. We held a panel geared toward the concerns of first-year students as well as subsequent discussion in which older students gave tips to G2s preparing for generals. The panels have been well received and will be an ongoing part of Henry Adams Club activities.





Dissertation Prospectus Conference

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

Session moderated by Professor Michael McCormick

Rowan Dorin, Expulsions of Foreign Merchants & Moneylenders in Western Europe, 1200-1450

Caroline Spence, Export Liberalism: Britain, Spain, and the Abolitionist Crusade, 1778-1840

Devon Dear, Statistics on the Steppe: Market Governance in a Chinese-Russian Borderland, 1880-1921

Philippa Hetherington, Victims of the Social Temperament: Prostitution, Migration, and the Traffic in Women in Imperial Russia and the Soviet Union, 1890-1928

Session moderated by Professor Laurel Ulrich

Gloria Whiting, "Endearing Ties": Black Family Life in Massachusetts, 1630-1800

Kristen Keerma, After Life: A History of Suspended Animation and Artificial Resuscitation in the United States, 1770-Present

Yael Merkin, Untying the Gilded Corset: A New Approach to New York's Female Elite



Session moderated by Professor Daniel Lord Smail

Rubina Salikuddin, Sufis, Saints, and Shrines: Piety in the Timurid Period, 1370-1507

Steven Press, The Price of Sovereignty, 1757 to the present

Jennifer Gordon, Obeying those in Authority: Determining Spiritual and Temporal Powers in Medieval Baghdad

Sarah Shortall, Soliders of God in a Secular World: The Politics of French Catholic Theology between Church-State Separation and Vatican II

Session moderated by Professor Erez Manela

Macabe Keliher, Saving the Sun: The Board Rites and the Institutionalization of Social Order in Late Imperial China

Wen Yu, To Build Individual Minds, To Share a Common World: The Kaozheng Scholarship in the Intellectual Transitions in 17th & 18th Century China

Steffen Rimner, The Last Opium War: Transnational Protest and the Origins of Global Control, 1880-1920

Benjamin Siegel, Two Blades of Grass: Building Indian Agriculture, 1905-2010

Session moderated by Professor Walter Johnson

Jakobina Arch, Rendering Whales: Science, Enterprise, and Imagination in Early Modern Japan, 1600-1900

Jeremy Zallen, American Lucifers: The Dark History of Artificial Light

Joshua Specht, Everything but the Moo: The Consolidation of the Cattle-Beef Complex, 1870-1910

Victor Seow, Coal Capital: Japan's Empire of Energy in Northeast China, 1907-1952



Please let us hear from you

Thank you to all the alumni who have contributed to our newsletter and supported the History Department with gifts.

Please use this form to keep in touch with us. We welcome your recent news for inclusion in our next newsletter, as well as contributions to the History Department for graduate student support and other uses. You may give to the Department directly, or you may also designate the History Department when giving to the Harvard Campaign or the Graduate School’s Annual Fund.

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Harvard University
Robinson Hall 201
35 Quincy Street
Cambridge, Mass. 02138

Name

Address

Phone Email Degree and year

News for future newsletter

Alumni News



John Bohstedt (PhD ‘72) is Professor of History emeritus at University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

Vincent Tompkins (PhD ‘91), following five years as Deputy Provost at Brown University, became Head of School at St. Ann’s School in Brooklyn, NY on July 1, 2010.

Christa Walck (PhD ‘80) has returned to doing some historical research on the impact of business and industry on the environmental histories of communities and she remembers her time at Harvard fondly. After graduating in 1980, Walck completed a summer program to track Humanities & Social Sciences PhDs into business. After working in banking for 6 years, she returned to academia at Michigan Technological University. Walck was Dean of the School of Business & Economics there for 3 years, then spent one year as Interim Director of the University Library, and is currently the Assistant Provost at Michigan Tech.

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Department of History
Alumni Newsletter
Summer 2011