History Fans Bid Kid Adieu

The headline, of course, mimics that of John Updike’s famous essay about the retirement from baseball of Peter Hayes’s boyhood hero, Ted Williams. And, the announcement is a bit premature, as Hayes will teach one last course next year. But, to mark the completion in June of his five years as department chair and his thirty-four years at Northwestern, the Department held the party depicted on this page at Oceanique Restaurant in Evanston. Hayes says the event will stand as his official and grateful farewell. He hopes you enjoy the pictures as much as he did the evening.
Message from the Chair, Peter Hayes

In the two years since the last Newsletter, Northwestern’s History Department has gone from strength to strength. An extraordinary series of national honors testified to the Department’s standing: Dylan Penningroth received a MacArthur Fellowship; Sarah Mazanec and Ed Muir won election to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, joining Ken Alder among our three current members, and Lacey Baldwin Smith and Garry Wills among our previous colleagues who have been so recognized; Ed Muir also received a lifetime achievement award from the Society of Italian Historical Studies; the National University of Ukraine conferred an honorary doctorate on Yohanan Petrovsky-Shtern; and the President of the United States presented Darlene Clark Hine, an affiliated faculty member whose principal appointment is in African American Studies, with a National Humanities Medal.

Scholarly prizes were also numerous: Gerry Cadava received the Frederick Jackson Turner Prize from the American Historical Association for the best first book published in History, the Royal Historical Society awarded the Whitfield Prize for the best first book in British history to Scott Sowerby, and Helen Tilley won the Ludwig Fleck Prize from the Society for the Social Studies of Science for the best book in science and technology studies published in 2010-13. No fewer than five faculty members won prestigious external fellowships to support leaves in 2014-15. Closer to home, University and College fellowships to support leaves in 2014-15.

Kevin Boyle (PhD Michigan 1990) specializes in the history of the twentieth century United States. He joined the Northwestern faculty as the William Smith Mason Professor of American history in autumn 2013, after eight years at the University of Massachusetts and eleven years at Ohio State. He has published three books in labor history: The UAW and the Heyday of American Liberalism (Cornell University Press, 1995); Muddy Boots and Ragged Aprons: Images of Working-Class Detroit, 1900-1930 (with Victoria Getis) (Wayne State University, 1997); and Organized Labor and American Politics: The Labor-Liberal Alliance (SUNY Press, 1998). Then he turned to the history of the civil rights movement. That switch resulted in Arc of Justice: A Saga of Race, Civil Rights and Murder in the Jazz Age (Henry Holt, 2004), which received the National Book Award, the Chicago Tribune’s Heartland Prize, and the Simon Weisenthal Center’s Tolerance Book Award. It was also a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize and the National Book Critics Circle Award. Now he’s at work on a micro-history of early twentieth century political extremism, The Splendid Dead: An American Ordeal, and a narrative history of the 1960s, Change Is Gonna Come. He’s also trying to learn how to love the Chicago Cubs after a lifetime of rooting for the Detroit Tigers.

Paul Ramirez (PhD Berkeley 2010) studies Mexico in the late colonial and early national periods. A native of the Chicago area, he arrived at Northwestern last fall after teaching for two years at Washington University in St. Louis and one year as the Dana and David Dornsife Fellow at the Huntington Library in San Marino, California. He has published articles in Hispanic American Historical Review, Endeavour, and The Americas, for which he was awarded the 2013 Tibesar Prize from the Conference on Latin American History, and he is completing a book manuscript on health care reform in Mexico during a tumultuous period of experimentation and insurgency. Tentatively titled Minerva’s Mexico: Enlightenment Battles against Epidemic Disease, the book considers the social, political, and epistemological implications of popular participation in public health campaigns, including the introduction of preventive techniques such as immunization against smallpox. He holds degrees in the study of religion from Harvard College and Harvard Divinity School and is pleased to be back in Chicago.
Message from the Chair, Peter Hayes Continued

Helen Tilley (PhD Oxford 2002) studies the history of environmental, medical, and human sciences in sub-Saharan Africa, making Northwestern an ideal intellectual home. She joined the faculty in the autumn of 2012 and has already served on two successful searches in African and Latin American history. She lectures at the undergraduate level on environmental and medical topics and is helping to launch graduate training in transnational and global history. Her first book, *Africa as a Living Laboratory: Empire, Development, and the Problem of Scientific Knowledge* (Chicago, 2011), examines the role of field sciences in shaping ideas about economic development in British colonial Africa. It was a finalist for the Herskovits Prize in African Studies and was awarded a Choice Outstanding Academic Title prize in 2012 and named the best book in science and technology studies by the Society for the Social Studies of Science in 2014. She has edited volumes on the history of anthropology in colonial Africa and on utopian and dystopian dimensions of recent human history. Her current project explores African decolonization and the global turn to “traditional medicine” in the third-quarter of the twentieth century, for which she was awarded a Kaplan Humanities Fellowship in 2013-14. Her prior research has been supported by grants from the National Science Foundation and the Wellcome Trust for the History of Medicine.

Keith Woodhouse (PhD Wisconsin 2010) specializes in environmental history, political history, and the twentieth-century United States. He arrived at Northwestern last year after two years as a postdoctoral fellow with the University of Southern California and the Huntington Library’s Institute on California and the West. His current project is a history of radical environmentalism in the late-twentieth century, and in particular its relationship to mainstream American political thought. He also teaches in the program in Environmental Policy & Culture.

As I look back on my five years as chair (and on my thirty-four years in this Department!), I am filled with a profound sense of satisfaction at what we have achieved and an equally strong sense of gratitude for the memories I have of many wonderful students and colleagues. Thank you to all alumni and friends of the Department for all you have done and will continue to do to keep this superb community of scholars and students thriving!

All best, Peter
In 2012, the Chabraja Center’s founding director Tim Breen retired, and Sarah Maza took over the directorship of what has become the heart of the department’s intellectual life as well as an important resource for the wider university community and beyond. The Center’s expanding roster of activities is possible thanks to the loyal and generous support of Nicholas D. Chabraja and his family.

The Center continued these last two years to host lectures by established and emerging stars of the historical discipline, often to standing-room-only audiences in Harris 108. In the last two years, our speakers have included William Cronon, Caroline Walker Bynum, Bethany Moreton, Elliott West, Richard White, Susan Pedersen, Madison Smartt Bell, and Margot Canaday, among others. CCHS has also forged connections with many departments and programs on campus for ad-hoc and ongoing partnerships that bring in an additional set of scholars: our collaboration with the University Library is long established, with prominent historians of the book visiting each winter, and we have begun to work with the Center for African American History on an annual lecture that this year brought us the distinguished African-Americanist Tera Hunter.

CCHS also draws on the talents of Northwestern Faculty. Our own Jonathon Glassman was a speaker in 2012, and we periodically organize faculty panels on provocative topics such as “History: How is it Different in Other Disciplines?” which brought together faculty from English, Art History, Sociology, and Political Science, and “Teaching Controversial Histories: Sex, Race, and Religion in the Classroom” with faculty in Asian-American, Middle Eastern, and Gay and Lesbian history.

Students, both graduate and undergraduate, are some of the principal beneficiaries of the Center’s activities. Each year two graduate fellows assist us in preparing for and hosting the speakers, engage with our undergraduate fellows, and organize their own conferences. Recent conferences and their organizers have included “Oceans of History” (Neal Dugre), “Debt in History” (Michael Martoccio), “The Law in Action” (Jesse Nasta), and “Reputations in History” (Andrea Seligman), all of which featured distinguished external plenary speakers and commentators. Next year we will be able to bring the number of our graduate fellows up to three, one of whom will be in charge of expanding CCHS’s online presence (look out for historical tweets coming your way!) In honor of our founding director, our graduate associates are now known as the T.H. Breen Fellows.

The Chabraja Center also serves as a hub for undergraduate historical research. We continue every year to oversee the activities of a dozen talented and highly motivated undergraduates, most but not all of them history majors, who contribute substantively to their faculty mentors’ research projects on subjects as varied as traditional medicine in colonial Africa, the holocaust in the Czech lands, Salvador Dali’s surrealist objects, or heiresses in nineteenth-century Europe.

Finally, the Chabraja Center continues to forge links with institutions across the world. These past two years have included workshops bringing together Northwestern graduate students with their overseas counterparts at Bogazici University in Istanbul and Warsaw University in Poland. This year we launched what we hope will be an ongoing partnership with the Institute for Historical Research in London (this year seven of our graduate students visited the IHR over spring break, and we hosted their seven British counterparts in May), and we have plans involving Hong Kong University as well.

This brief account does not include all the Center’s many recent activities, about which we invite you to find out more at www.historicalstudies.northwestern.edu.
**Faculty News**

**Ken Alder** returned to Evanston in June 2014 after a year as a visiting faculty member at NYU working on his new project on material culture. He presented a portion of this as the plenary address at the 2013 centennial meeting of the History of Science Society in Boston. This required him to impersonate Marie Curie’s bicycle. (As if we needed more proof that he takes the materialist approach to history seriously!) For the 100th anniversary issue of the journal *Isis* he published an article proposing a new methodological approach to the study of the history of science. In 2013, he was elected a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. At the induction ceremony he shook the hand of Alan Alda, but was disappointed that his co-inductee, Mel Brooks, did not attend. In September 2014, he assumes the august role of chair of the department.

**Michael Allen** continued to work on and contend with his current book project, which he has retitled *Tug of War: Confronting the Imperial Presidency, 1966-1992*. He also shepherded his first three graduate students through qualifying exams and into PhD candidacy, taught some new courses, including a three-year tour of duty with the U.S. survey and one of the department’s first course offerings to fulfill its new “Approaches to History” seminar requirement, a course called “War and the State in the American Century,” and he reaped the rewards of Associate Professor status by becoming Director of Undergraduate Studies.

**Kathleen Belew**, a postdoctoral fellow, spent most of the year revising her manuscript, *Bring the War Home: Vietnam and the Radical Right*, which Harvard University Press will publish in 2015. She also published a journal article on vigilantism and lynching in United States history and a *New York Times* op-ed on white power movement violence. She is looking forward to participating in the Alice Kaplan Institute for the Humanities series as an affiliate next year and to teaching the American Studies senior project series. She also welcomed her first child, and has spent many happy hours this year playing with him rather than working.

**Henry Binford** used the seemingly endless winter of 2014 to complete a draft of his seemingly never-finished book on nineteenth-century Cincinnati slums, tentatively titled *Squalor in the Great American Valley*. He also celebrated and lamented the departure of his twin sons for their first year in college. With some dismay, he realized that Charlie and Evan were born around the time he started research in Cincinnati.

**John Bushnell** is nearing completion of a book that, two years ago, he did not realize he was writing: on the very large numbers of Russian peasant women who would not marry and the almost unknown religious sect to which they predominantly belonged. That book broke away from his project on the history of Russian peasant marriage and will include chapters demonstrating that, contrary to a widely held belief, serfs’ owners generally did not intervene in serf marriage prior to the mid-18th century, then began to intervene precisely in response to their discovery (revealed to them by angry male serfs desperate for brides) that many of their female serfs refused to marry. He hopes that two years from now he will be able to report the book’s publication.

**Geraldo Cadava** had an eventful and life-changing year. His first son was born and his first book was published, both in September. The boy is a delight and is showing signs that he may begin sleeping through the night, walking, and talking. And his book, *Standing on Common Ground: The Making of a Sunbelt Borderland*, won the Frederick Jackson Turner Award from the Organization of American Historians.

**Peter Carroll** recently returned from a fortnight-long jaunt in China that included a week on a boat, floating down the Yangzi River from Chongqing (Chungking) to Shanghai. He was a faculty lecturer on a NU Alumni Trip, a tough teaching assignment, but someone had to do it. He was glad, almost three decades after first going to Shanghai, finally to stay down the hall from where Noel Coward wrote *Private Lives* (1930). Coward caught influenza and convalesced for a couple of weeks: he sketched the play out during most of his stay and then wrote it in four days. Coward’s mojo—or was it the free flowing gin and such of 1930s Shanghai?—was absent, so Carroll regrets that he did not complete any major works during his two-day stay. He has, however, continued to do research and to present his work. In the summer of 2013, he spoke at conferences at Brown.

**Faculty Bookshelf**

**CADAVA**

*Standing on Common Ground: The Making of a Sunbelt Borderland*


**COHEN**

*Family Secrets: Shame and Privacy in Modern Britain*


**KRAMER**

*The Republic of Rock: Music and Citizenship in the Sixties Counterculture*


**LERNER**

(with Sean L. Field and Sylvain Piron)

*Marguerite Porete et le Miroir des simples âmes: Perspectives historiques, philosophiques et littéraires*


**MASUR**

(with René Hayden, Anthony E. Kaye, Steven F. Miller, Susan E. O’Donovan, Leslie S. Rowland, and Stephen A. West)

*Freedom: A Documentary History of Emancipation, 1861–1867*

Series 3, Volume 2: Land and Labor, 1866–1867

and Shanghai University. This summer he will be giving talks at the Academia Sinica and the National Central Library, both in Taipei, Taiwan. He looks forward to a fall talk at Vanderbilt, where, following discussions of Republican Chinese era social science, suicide, and concerns regarding youth, he has been promised a weekend of honky tonkin’.

Deborah Cohen’s book Family Secrets came out in 2013, published by Viking Penguin and Oxford University Press. Her mother was glad to learn it wasn’t a study of the Cohen family secrets, but those of British families from the late eighteenth century to the present-day. Family Secrets was named a book of the year by the Spectator; The Sunday Times (UK) and the Times Literary Supplement.

Dyan Elliott enjoyed a fabulous research leave last year (2012-13) at the National Humanities Center in North Carolina, where she inaugurated her new project on scandal and the medieval church. Reentry into “normal life” was rumored to be difficult. This past year, Elliott has published on mystical rapture and gender and on the Christian tradition. She has articles in press about counterfactual thought in twelfth-century and clerical sexuality. Her most recent talk was at the May meeting of International Congress on Medieval Studies (Kalamazoo, MI), where she spoke on the medieval church’s grisly practice of damnatio memoriae (a practice that understandably spawned considerable scandal). Last but not least, Elliott has completed a historical novel entitled A Hole in the Heavens, which is set in fourteenth-century Paris.

Caitlin Fitz has loved the process of revising her book for publication. (Really!) Entitled Our Sister Republics: The United States in an Age of American Revolutions, it will appear from Norton/Liveright in 2016; the Journal of American History will publish a related article on the hemispheric dimensions of the War of 1812 next fall. Caitlin spent last winter and spring quarters on parental leave with her second daughter, Lundy; born on Christmas Eve, Lundy had perfect in utero attendance at her mother’s fall quarter early American history lectures.

Caitlin will spend 2014-15 on an ACLS fellowship.

In July 2013, Benjamin Frommer became the Director of the Holocaust Educational Foundation (HEF), which recently joined Northwestern University after three decades of independent existence. HEF promotes and supports college-level teaching and academic research about the Holocaust. The Foundation organizes a yearly Summer Institute for scholars at Northwestern, runs the biennial Lessons and Legacies Conference, and disburses grants to support research and teaching. Frommer simultaneously began his three-year term as Charles Deering McCormick Professor of Teaching Excellence.

Jonathon Glassman’s most recent publication is an article in the Spring 2014 issue of the Journal of African History that troubles notions of creole hybridity. Since the last newsletter, two of the honors that he has found most meaningful came from institutions close to his heart. In November 2012, his work was the subject of a one-day graduate-student conference at his alma mater, the University of Pennsylvania. That same month, he had the unnerving experience of delivering a lecture before his colleagues at the Chabraja Center on “Race, violence, and the heart of darkness: some lessons from African history.” He has also presented lectures and invited papers at Washington University-Saint Louis and at the Universities of Cambridge, Birmingham, and Wisconsin. Jonathon is especially pleased that the long search for a colleague in West African history has succeeded in recruiting Sean Hanretta from Stanford. In 2014-15, Jonathon will be on leave at the National Humanities Center, working on a book manuscript on difference and race in African thought.

Peter Hayes is completing his five years as chair of the Department as this Newsletter goes to press. He takes greatest pride in having brought the number of vacancies in our ranks down from six to one in the course of his term, even as the Department increased in size, and in boosting enrollments in History through reforms in the way we schedule courses. His substantial anthology, How Was It Possible? A Holocaust Reader, is due out in early 2015. During his final year of teaching at Northwestern in 2014-15, he hopes to finish turning the lectures for his acclaimed course on the history of the Holocaust into a book. In June 2014, he began serving as Chair of the Academic Committee of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, DC.

Laura Hein especially enjoyed teaching in 2013, including a new course on World War II in Asia, as well as her courses at the first-year and graduate levels on commemoration and remembrance. She was pleased to receive her first teaching award, from the Northwestern Panhellenic Association. At Northwestern, she chaired successful searches for Assistant Professors in Hindi & Urdu Literature in 2012-13 and Japanese Literature in 2013-14, both for the new Department of Asian Languages and Cultures. She also published three essays, two on art museums and one on taxation, which gives a good sense of the range of her current scholarly interests. She serves on the board of editors of four journals but Asia-Pacific Journal: Japan Focus, an on-line, peer-reviewed publication, is most likely to take over her life, not to mention those of her graduate-student and Leopold-Fellow undergraduate assistants. The journal has had 6.2 million visitors since 2008, and most essays reach 10-15,000 readers. In the five minutes she spent writing this paragraph, readers logged on from Canada, Japan, Great Britain, Malaysia, New Zealand, and nine U.S. states.

Daniel Immerwahr has found his first two years at Northwestern very pleasurable. He has taken command of three lecture courses: US Intellectual History, Global History II: 1750-the present (“The Age of Carbon”), and US Foreign Relations. His book, Thinking Small: The United States and the Lure of Community Development, has been finished and is due out in November 2014 from Harvard University Press. He has also been busily working on a second book, tentatively entitled How to Hide an Empire: The United States and the Problem of Territory. But his proudest achievement was that he made it through the 2013-14 winter commuting to campus by bike from Chicago.
For most of the last couple of years, Rajeev Kinra has been busy finishing his first book, an examination of 17th-century Mughal literary and political culture as seen through the eyes of the celebrated Hindu poet and state secretary, Chandar Bhan Brahman. Writing Self, Writing Empire is now reaching the final stages of production and should be out in early 2015. In the meantime, Kinra has begun work on a second book, a cultural history of Mughal India narrated through a series of biographies of some of the more eclectic, eccentric, and downright zany characters who have popped up in Kinra’s recent research, but somehow never made it into conventional histories of the period. Since 2012, he has been among the core faculty overseeing Northwestern’s global history curriculum, and last year he also happily became an affiliate of Weinberg’s new Department of Asian Languages and Cultures (DALC). His most recent article, “Handling Diversity with Absolute Civility” (Medieval History Journal, October 2013), explores the forgotten global legacy of early modern Indo-Muslim approaches to cultural and religious pluralism and the importance of recovering such histories for our understanding of modern ideas about tolerance more generally.

Michael J. Kramer, Visiting Assistant Professor in History and American Studies, published The Republic of Rock: Music and Citizenship in the Sixties Counterculture with Oxford University Press in 2013. The book explores how participants in the counterculture used rock to probe both everyday and institutional politics in key locations such as the San Francisco Bay Area and the Vietnam War zone. His more recent teaching and research focus on digital history and revolve around a multimodal study (book, website, exhibition) of the Berkeley Folk Music Festival. He is investigating the folk revival’s understudied history on the West Coast of the United States and its vexed relationship to technology. This work was featured in the Spring 2014 issue of Weinberg College Magazine. He co-founded the Northwestern University Digital Humanities Laboratory at the Alice Kaplan Humanities Institute in 2012 and blogs about a variety of topics at michaeljkramer.net. In the fall of 2014, he will begin directing an oral history and archival digitization research project on the history of dance performance in Chicago, funded by the Chicago Dance History Project.

Given the leisure time made available by retirement, Jacob Lassner accepted invitations to present at two international conferences. In addition, he made his usual rounds at various scholarly societies in the United States. Along with several articles, he published Jews, Christians, and the Abode of Islam: Modern Scholarship, Medieval Realities (University of Chicago Press). He is currently completing a monograph titled The Origins of Islamic Jerusalem in which he addresses the question of when and in what circumstances Muslims embraced the sacred city of Jews and Christians, considering it comparable to Mecca and Medina, the holy cities of Arabia. In a moment of weakness, he also contracted with the University of Toronto Press to produce a reader for medieval Jewish history. His task: to introduce to the general reader a series of texts translated from Hebrew, Arabic, and Judeo-Arabic that shed light on the life of Jews in the lands of medieval Islam. A second section of the reader dealing with the Jews in medieval Europe will be written by his co-author Robert Chazan. Coming as a complete surprise was his being awarded the Franz Rosenthal Prize, the most coveted award for a lifetime of achievement in Islamic studies and Semitic languages. He trusts that all his scholarly obligations will not interfere with watching Big Ten football with his grandsons.

Since 2012, Henri Lauzière has been in and out of the United States. He spent an entire year in Montréal, thanks to a grant from the Gerda Henkel Foundation, and thus discovered the joys of having a split personality: writing a book manuscript in English by day and speaking Québécois French by night. Upon his return to Illinois in August 2013, Lauzière moved to Evanston (where he had never lived before), started teaching again, and closeted himself as much as possible to complete the last remaining chapters of his book-in-progress about the history of Salafism—the most ultra-orthodox form of Sunni Islam. In the meantime, however, he managed to visit Northwestern University’s campus in Qatar, to land a (very) small part in a (real) movie in Canada, and, best of all, to turn 40 without anyone noticing. Or so he hopes.

Robert Lerner has probably been pursuing too many projects. In February 2012 he spoke on “Mechthild of Magdeburg: New Revelations” at the Newberry Library’s Medieval Seminar; in March 2012 he spoke on “The
Faculty News continued

Persons of Intelligence in Fifteenth-Century Brussels” at the University of Notre Dame; in June 2012 he spoke on “Ernst Kantorowicz’s Decision” at the University of Frankfurt/Main; in March 2013 he spoke on “Prophecy as Nightmare” at the annual meeting of the Medieval Academy of America; in July 2013 he spoke on “John of Rupescissa’s Vade mecum in Seven European Vernaculars” at Barbara Newman’s Mellon Symposium, “The Middle Ages in Translation,” at Northwestern; and in September 2013 he spoke on “Ernst Kantorowicz’s Methods Course at Berkeley” at the University of Lüneburg (Germany). His main concern is finishing his biography of Kantorowicz, but the manuscript keeps on getting longer and longer. Newer arrivals to Northwestern who wonder who is the elderly gnome inhabiting the basement of Harris Hall should probably be told that it’s Lerner.

Tessie Liu is looking forward to her research leave in 2014-15. She will be working on a new project on the relationship between Negritude and Surrealism in the cosmopolitan dance culture of Paris during the 1920s and 30s.

Melissa Macauley lectured on various topics in seventeenth, nineteenth, and twentieth-century history at Harvard, Yale, Utah, the Chabraja Center, and two Annual Meetings of the Association for Asian Studies. She continued to contribute to the expansion of Asian Studies on campus by serving on search committees in Chinese politics and modern Chinese literature. She was appointed the Gerald E. and Marjorie G. Fitzgerald Professor in Economic History. She hopes to finish her book next year as a Fellow of the Kaplan Institute for the Humanities. She knows she said something to that effect in the last newsletter, but this time she really means it.

Kate Masur is taking a deep breath as her three-year term as Director of Graduate Studies ends, and she looks ahead to a year of leave at Harvard’s W.E.B. Du Bois Research Institute. In 2013, she plunged into the blogosphere, publishing a critique of Steven Spielberg’s film, Lincoln, in the New York Times and follow-up articles in the Chronicle and the Atlantic Online. She soon returned to civilian life, but she continues to enjoy speaking on the conjunction of history and Hollywood film. Her research on an African American woman named Kate Brown, who worked in the U.S. Capitol during the Civil War and Reconstruction, was published last year in the Journal of American History. She is currently editing, with Greg Downs (a professor at City College of New York and erstwhile Ph.D. student at Northwestern), a volume of essays on the post-Civil War United States; she and Downs are also working with the National Park Service on a Reconstruction Handbook slated for publication in 2015.

Sarah Maza has thoroughly enjoyed directing the Chabraja Center for Historical Studies in the last two years. It has been a treat to host a range of extraordinary historians and others, to collaborate with colleagues across the university and beyond on joint programs, and to get to know our advanced graduate students as fellows of the Center and during our international exchanges (read all about this elsewhere in the Newsletter!). Aside from intellectual (and physical) sustenance, one big perk of being Center director is benefiting from the skills and support of the Center’s amazing Assistant Director, Elzbieta Foeller-Pituch. Her other big news is her election last year to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. She is currently writing an overall introduction to the field of history, a hubris enterprise that the University of Chicago Press has recklessly agreed to publish if and when Completed.

Joel Mokyr, who straddles both sides of Deering Meadow between Harris Hall and his econ office in Andesren Hall, continued to serve two demanding masters in History and Economics. Among his highlights was a 2013 plenary address to the Centesimus Annus – Pro Pontifice Foundation at the Vatican, followed by a personal audience with Pope Francis. In 2014, he gave the Patinkin lecture before the Israel Association of Economics as well as the Rogge lecture at Wabash College. Economic history at Northwestern continues to flourish: in the past years graduate students in economic history were placed at Auburn University, the University of Iowa, Yale University, and the Hebrew University. Another highlight was a March 2014 conference in Belfast commemorating the publication of his Why Ireland Starved thirty years ago. He was appointed director of the new Northwestern Center for Economic history. He contributed a column “Is Technological Change a Thing of the Past” to Voxeu.org (a widely followed site for economics), which was one of September 2013’s “most widely read” items and to date has had almost 33,000 hits. He was one of the experts consulted for Atlantic Magazine’s November 2013 article of the “50 Greatest Inventions in History” and cited at length in it. He is still slaving away on his book manuscript, Cultural Origins of Modern Economic Growth (forthcoming with Princeton University Press). Among his publications were “Cultural Entrepreneurs and the Origins of Modern Economic Growth,” Scandinavian Economic History Review 61 (2013), pp. 1-33; “An Age of Progress,” in Roderick Floud and Jane Humphries, eds., The Cambridge Economic History of Britain (Cambridge University Press, 2014); “The Real Future of Capitalism,” Current History 112 (2013), pp. 291-297; and “The Next Age of Invention” City Journal 24 (2014), pp. 12-21.

Bill Monter still enjoys retirement. Recent academic highlights include telling a French audience why Carlo Ginzburg (about to receive his first honorary doctorate) was actually a benandante, and publishing an article in the Catholic Historical Review that drew praise from two fellow emeriti, Garry Wills and Robert Lerner.

Edward Muir completed in April his two-year long (sometimes very long) tenure as President of the Renaissance Society of America, which has grown dramatically with new members from abroad, mostly Europe. What was once a modest East-Coast professional organization run out of a professor’s back pocket has become a 5,000 member international conference, lobbying organization, and publishing endeavor complete with the largest interdisciplinary journal in the field. During those same years he enjoyed the Distinguished Achievement Award of the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, which financed the Academy for Advanced Study in the Renaissance, co-directed with Regina Schwartz of the Northwestern English Department. The Academy has been devoted to funding
two advanced graduate students from Europe and North America. In 2013 and 2014, the fellows enjoyed site visits, lectures, and workshops in Italy and England all with the goal of invigorating interdisciplinary Renaissance studies among the next generation of scholars. The fourth edition of his co-authored textbook, *The West: Encounters and Transformations*, appeared in 2014, and the next edition will probably be entirely digital. The sorts of things that happen toward the end of a career have started: the Citation of Career Achievement from the Society for Italian Historical Studies and election to the *Academia Europaea* and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Alex Owen was honored to receive the E. LeRoy Hall Award for Excellence in Teaching in the Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences in June 2013 and has endeavored to live up to it ever since. She conducted research in the U.K. in Winter 2014 and participated in a panel at Northwestern in the Spring with Matt Houlbrook (*Queer London: Perils and Pleasures in the Sexual Metropolis, 1918-57*) and Seth Koven (*Slumming: Social and Sexual Politics in Victorian London*) that considered questions of subjectivity and interiority in relation to the practice of history. A volume to which she contributed, *Aleister Crowley and Western Esotericism*, Henrik Bogdan & Martin P. Starr, eds. (Oxford University Press, 2012), was published in German translation by Edition Roter Drache in May 2014.

Susan Pearson is still at work on her new book project, a history of the spread of universal and compulsory birth registration in the United States. Thanks to an ACLS fellowship, she’ll be on leave next academic year—archive fever is already setting in. Meanwhile, she’s been busy with essays on nineteenth century debates about animal language, animal protection and the welfare state, and the use of the birth certificate as a form of age verification in the campaign against child labor. In the classroom, Susan has prepared new courses on the history of marriage in the U.S. and U.S. women’s history before the Civil War. Outside of Harris Hall, you can find Susan tooling around town with her two kids, ages 6 and 2. Life is full, to say the least.

Dylan Penningroth wrote a draft of his book on African American legal culture, partly during a sabbatical year at the Stanford Humanities Center.

Grateful, as always, to Northwestern as a major research university, Yohanan Petrovsky-Shtern continued improving his command of foreign languages: he took elementary Arabic and Turkish and studied at Hochschule Bremen were he obtained his German Oberstufe (advanced level) certificate. In comparison with the first ten years of the 21st century, YPS spent ever more time giving invited lectures. He appeared at University College London, University of Cambridge, University of Oxford, Free Ukrainian University in Munich, YIVO Institute for Jewish Studies, Shevchenko Scientific Society of America in New York, Hebrew College in Boston, Harvard University, University of Alberta, University of Toronto, Hebrew University in Jerusalem, Tel-Aviv University, University Kyiv-Mohyla Academy, Kharkiv University, Leopold-Maximilian University of Munich, and University of Vienna. YPS also participated in more than a dozen international conferences. In addition, YPS published vol. 26 of the annual *Polin: Studies in Polish Jewry* (co-edited with Antony Polonsky); a short book on *Cultural Interference of Jews and Ukrainians* in Ukrainian; and a monograph, *The Golden Age Sheitel*. For his scholarly achievements, the National Ukrainian University Kyiv Mohyla Academy awarded him a doctorate honoris causa, Hebrew University made him the Lady Davis Visiting Professor, and Princeton University Press nominated his *The Golden Age Sheitel* for a Pulitzer Prize.

In the previous issue of the Newsletter, Carl F. Petry expressed skepticism about positive outcomes of the so-called ‘Arab Spring’ that was emerging at that time. While appreciative of the numerous ways in which this phenomenon has ‘gone wrong,’ he now discerns substantive evidence that genuine change is happening in the region—whether positive or negative remains unclear. The capacity of traditional authoritarian regimes to continue unchallenged is now seriously compromised. They may cling to power, but at increasing cost. The patchwork quilt imposed by British and French strategist after WWI seems finally to be unraveling. And the aggressive acts of individuals or groups routinely dismissed as “fringe” or “criminal” can no longer be ignored. They are disrupting regimes across the Muslim world, but the region still beckons. Petry hopes to return to Egypt as soon as feasible—not just for research but to hang out with friends and contacts. Such interaction remains the most informative source for understanding the current situation. Petry has lectured and attended conferences in several venues: the Middle East Documentation Center, University of Chicago, April 2012; The Eurasian Empires Project, sponsored by the Universities of Amsterdam, Cambridge, Ghent, Istanbul, Nijmegen, and Vienna, August 2012; program in medieval Egyptian and Syrian studies at the Annenmairie Schimmel Kolleg, University of Bonn, December 2013; Middle East Studies Association, New Orleans, October 2013. The program in Middle East and North African Studies at NU is now formally organized, offering a major and minor to undergraduates, and interdisciplinary “cluster” study to graduate students. Does formation of a genuine department lie in the future? As they say in Cairo: “Hanshua!” (We shall see).

Elie Rekhess co-edited Muslim Minorities in non-Muslim Majority Countries: The Test Case of Islamic Movement in Israel (2013), which features his article “The Islamization of the Arab Identity in Israel.” He also published an article on the “The State of Israeli Studies: An Emerging Academic Field” in the *Bloomsbury Companion to Jewish Studies*. He presented a paper at Brandeis University’s Conference on Zionism in the 21st Century (“The Arab Minority in Israel”), and at Eotvos Lorand University in Budapest (“History and Historiography: Opposing Narratives of the Israeli-Arab Conflict”). In 2013, Northwestern launched a new minor in Israel Studies that Elie Rekhess is directing. To inaugurate the program, he organized an International Conference on “The Zionist Ideal in Israeli Culture: Dream and Reality,” where he gave a lecture on “Soldiers by Adi Nes: Revisiting the Model of Israeli Masculinity.” Finally, Rekhess was named to the Associated Student Government Honor Roll in 2012-13.
David Schoenbrun published an article in Comparative Studies in Society and History on emotion and the founding of Bunyoro, East Africa’s oldest kingdom. In January of this year, he joined at Working Group at the Santa Fe Institute focused on “Conceptual Innovation and Major Transitions in Human History.” And, next October, he’ll contribute an essay, “Swallow the Old Meaning: Constellating Communities of Practice, Power, and Making a Maritime World in Northern Lake Victoria, 900 to 1100 CE,” to a group of archaeologists at the Amerind Foundation in Dragoon, AZ. In 2015, the University of Arizona Press will publish the work in an edited volume. He will spend the Spring Semester 2015 as a visiting professor in Duke University’s Department of History.

David Shyovitz has spent the past two years hard at work on his book manuscript (The World Made Flesh: Nature and the Body in Medieval Jewish Culture) and has had a number of articles accepted for publication (including in the Journal of the History of Ideas and in the Association for Jewish Studies Review). He presented his research at conferences in Chicago, Boston, Kalamazoo, Jerusalem, and Tel Aviv; taught a Continuing Education course to the Alumnae of Northwestern; and led a study trip for Chicago-area clergy to the German cities of Speyer, Mainz, and Worms. He has also taught an array of new undergraduate and graduate courses. In 2014-15, David will be on leave at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem as a Yad Hanadiv fellow and will be an invited lecturer at gatherings in London, Haifa, and Utrecht.

Scott Sowerby’s book, Making Toleration: The Repealers and the Glorious Revolution, published in 2013 by Harvard University Press, received the Royal Historical Society’s Whitfield Prize for the best first book in British history. He spent 2013-14 at the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C., beginning a new project on religion and politics entitled States of Exclusion: Britain, France, and Ireland, 1670–1720. In 2014, he was promoted to the rank of associate professor and received the Weinberg College Award for Distinguished Teaching. He will be taking over from the ever-capable Kate Masur as director of graduate studies in the department in the fall of 2014. Prodded by his partner, who started a new job at Twitter’s offices in Chicago, he recently began to tweet.

Amy Stanley was tenured and promoted in 2013. It was a busy year: she also shepherded twelve seniors through the thesis-writing process; published an article in the Journal of Asian Studies (“Enlightenment Geisha: The Sex Trade, Education, and Feminine Ideals in Early Meiji Japan”); presented papers in Ann Arbor, Vancouver, Northampton, Berkeley, San Diego, and New Orleans; and welcomed her second son, Henry. 2014 has been relatively quiet. Professor Stanley is working on her new book project, “Stranger in the Shogun’s City: A Japanese Woman and her Worlds, 1821-62,” and writing an article about the social and economic lives of maidservants in early modern Eurasia. In 2015, she will be teaching the first half of the global history survey for the first time. She wonders what she has gotten herself into.

İpek Yosmaoğlu welcomed her first baby, Ilias Alexander, into the world in May 2013. Another important “first” of the past year was the publication of her book, “Blood Ties: Religion, Violence, and the Politics of Nationhood, 1878-1908” (Cornell University Press) in November 2013. Despite having repeatedly foresworn further pursuit of any theme related to violence and nationhood, she is currently at work on a new project on elements of ethnic purity, militarism, and hypermasculinity in the making of the Turkish nation. She is hoping this will be her last foray into the realm of weapons, warfare, and ethnic cleansing.

Ji-Young Yuh is excited to be exploring ways to merge oral history and digital humanities. She is developing a digital archive of oral histories and a new history course in which undergraduates conduct oral history research in immigrant communities and contribute to the archive. This work is partially supported by the Arthur Vining Davis Digital Humanities project at Northwestern. She is also the principal investigator for “Storytelling in the Global Midwest,” a community history and oral history project focusing on immigrant and diasporic communities. The recipient of a seed grant from the Mellon Foundation-supported Humanities Without Walls Consortium, “Storytelling in the Global Midwest” brings together scholars from several Midwestern universities to develop a network of digital archives and support deep engagement between communities and scholars. In addition to the digital archive network, the project plans a series of community events, seminars and workshops, a major conference, and a scholarly anthology. She is also working on her second book, a history of ethnic Koreans based on oral history research in three nations. She is finishing another year as director of the Asian American Studies Program and is pleased to be handing the reins to a most competent colleague come September. She is also very pleased to have worked with Northwestern colleagues across multiple departments to develop a new graduate course, “Theory and Method in Comparative Race and Diaspora,” for the Comparative Race and Diaspora graduate cluster.
Alumni News

Jean Allman (PhD 1987) is the J.H. Hexter Professor in the Humanities at Washington University in St. Louis. In June, she completed a five-year term as History Department Chair and became the director of the university’s Center for the Humanities.

Michael Bailey (PhD 1998) published Fearful Spirits, Reasoned Follies: The Boundaries of Superstition in Late Medieval Europe with Cornell University Press in 2013, edited the four volume collection Magic and Witchcraft for Routledge in 2014, and began working on Magic: The Basics. He also hopes to have several articles finally see the light of day in 2015. For his efforts, he has been promoted to full professor of history at Iowa State University. His proudest scholarly achievement, however, remains the role he played in the seminal journal Speculum.

Nicholas Baker’s (PhD 2007) first book The Fruit of Liberty: Political Culture in the Florentine Renaissance, 1480-1550 appeared in 2013 from Harvard University Press. He was the Jean-François Malle Fellow at Villa I Tatti, the Harvard University Center for Italian Renaissance Studies in the 2013-14 academic year. While there he developed a new book project on financial risk-taking and thinking about the future in Renaissance Italy.

In retirement, Michael C. Batinski (PhD 1969) has been finishing a second book on local historical awareness and working with Quakers on peace and social justice concerns. Also he has been traveling with his wife to New England and Asia and with graduate school friend Peter Carroll along the back roads of this country.

Justin Behrend (PhD 2006) just completed his seventh year at SUNY Geneseo, where he is an Associate Professor of History. He recently received the SUNY Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Teaching. His most recent article was published in the Journal of African American History, and he is eagerly awaiting the publication of his first book, Reconstructing Democracy: Grassroots Black Politics in the Deep South after the Civil War, which will be released in January. Besides work, Justin enjoys hiking in the Finger Lakes and Adirondacks with Maria and their two children, Zachary age 10 and Maya age 6.

Ed Berkowitz (PhD 1976) published a book about the Supplemental Security Income program in 2013 and is contemplating writing a book about the 1950's. He continues, for at least a little bit longer, as a Professor of History and Public Policy at George Washington University.

Wayne H. Bowen (PhD 1996), Professor and Chair, Department of History, Southeast Missouri State University, has signed an advance contract with the University of Missouri Press for what will be his eighth book, Truman, Spain and the Cold War. His seventh book, the second edition of The History of Saudi Arabia, will be available in December 2014 from ABC-CLIO. Bowen also was reelected recently to the City Council of Cape Girardeau, Missouri, with 97% of the vote, only slightly less impressive given that he was unopposed in the election. He continues to serve as a lieutenant colonel in the US Army Reserve, drilling at Ft. Knox, Kentucky.

In 2014, Mohamed Saliou Camara (PhD 1996) authored Political History of Guinea since World War Two (Peter Lang) and the fifth Edition of Historical Dictionary of Guinea (Scarecrow Press), and he is finishing a monograph to be published by Edwin Mellen Press on knowledge and epistemology in Africa. His next research projects pertain to Islam and competing world orders in Africa from the cold war to the global war on terror and regional integration in the quest for sustainable human security in twenty-first-century Africa. Mohamed is the director of the McNair Scholars Program and the current head of the Faculty Senate at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Florida.

Marcus S. Cox (PhD 2001) was recently promoted to Associate Dean of The Citadel Graduate College with leadership responsibility of Evening Undergraduate Studies. He also earned a master’s degree in business administration from The Citadel in 2011 and is the author of Segregated Soldiers: Military Training at Historically Black Colleges in the Deep South. He holds the distinction of being the first African American faculty member to serve in the position of Dean in the 172-year history of The Citadel. Pray for him!

David A. Davidson (PhD 2012) is teaching high school history at the Dalton School in New York City. Never one to shy away from memories of NU, David has a desk next to that of Stephen Mak, PhD 2010, who also teaches in the department. David will be teaching a senior seminar on the American presidency in 2014-15. He and his wife, Susan, welcomed their son Jonathan into the world in October 2012. Despite his parents’ best efforts to care for his well-being, Jonathan shows all signs of becoming an avid Mets fan, like his father.

Molly MacKean Davis (PhD 2013) has completed her third year teaching history at Phillips Exeter Academy, where this spring she was the recipient of the Charles E. Ryberg Award for young faculty. She has recently been working on several curriculum development projects, including a new art history course to be offered next year, and she has also had the opportunity to travel to both India and China as part of Exeter’s push for global exploration. All in all, she reports that the decision to teach high school has been pretty darn awesome.

Sean L. Field (PhD 2002) has been busy in 2013-14. He is particularly proud to have co-edited Marguerite Porete et le Miroir des simples âmes: Perspectives historiques, philosophiques, et littéraires (Vrin 2013) with Robert E. Lerner and Sylvain Piron. Most recently, he has published The Rules of Isabelle of France: An English Translation with Introductory Study (Franciscan Institute Publications, 2014); and (with Larry F. Field and M. Cecilia Gaposchkin) The Sanctuary of Louis IX: Early Lives of Saint Louis by Geoffroy de Beaulieu and William of Chartres (Cornell University Press, 2014). Currently he is collaborating with Jacques Dalarun, Anne-Françoise Leurquin-Labie, and Jean-Baptiste Lebigue on Isabelle de France, soeur de Saint Louis. Une princesse mineure, which should be published by Les Éditions franciscaines (Paris) in late 2014 or early 2015. Field has just been promoted to full professor at the University of Vermont, where he has taught since 2003.

of the American past and replace it with a past of their own invention. … The Memory Hole examines five central topics in the US history curriculum, showing how anti-historians of both the left and right seek to distort these topics and insert a refashioned story in America’s classrooms. … The beleaguered hero of this book is the discipline of History, and The Memory Hole shows how the history curriculum should adhere to history’s habits of mind that require complex, sophisticated and subtle thinking about the past. History and social studies teachers, students of history and all those who care about the deep and enduring value of history will value this book and its conclusions.”

Brett Gadsden (PhD 2006) is Associate Professor of African American Studies and History at Emory University in Atlanta, GA. He recently published his first book Between North and South: Delaware, Desegregation, and the Myth of American Secticism (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2013). He is currently at work on his second book, tentatively entitled From Protest to Politics: The Making of the “Second Black Cabinet,” JFK to Nixon. This project explores the set of historical circumstances that brought African Americans into key cabinet, sub-cabinet, and other high-level advisory positions in the Kennedy, Johnson, and Nixon administrations.

In January 2015 Ronnie Grinberg (PhD 2010) will begin a tenure track positions as Assistant Professor in the Department of History and Schusterman Center for Judaic & Israel Studies at the University of Oklahoma. She and her husband are expecting a baby at the end of July and she will be taking off the fall semester to focus on being a mom. Her article, “Neither ‘Sissy’ Boy Nor Patrician Man: New York Intellectuals and the Construction of American Jewish Masculinity” was published in the July 2014 issue of American Jewish History (98:3).


Karl Gunther (PhD 2007) is an assistant professor in the Department of History at the University of Miami and his first book, Reformation Unbound: Protestant Visions of Reform in England, 1525-1590, will be published in Fall 2014 by Cambridge University Press. He is Vice-President of the Southern Conference on British Studies and can be found most days cycling around Miami.


Robert L. Harris, Jr. (PhD 1974) retired after 38 years at Cornell University in the Africana Studies & Research Center. In 2008, the Board of Trustees named him Vice Provost for Diversity and Faculty Development Emeritus. Upon his retirement in 2013, he was named Professor of African American History, American Studies, and Public Affairs Emeritus. He relocated from Ithaca, N.Y. to Fulton, Md. to be near his only grandchild, a grandson, and research facilities in Washington, D.C. and Baltimore, Md.

Wallace Hettle (PhD 1994) is Professor of History at the University of Northern Iowa. His most recent book is Inventing Stonewall Jackson (LSU, 2011). He lives with his wife, Leslie Cohn, their teenaged son Arlo, and their teenaged cat Ciel.

David Johnson (PhD 2000), now tenured in the history department at the University of South Florida, will be enjoying next year as a fellow at the National Humanities Center in North Carolina finishing his book on gay consumer culture in the 1950s and 1960s. It’s tentatively titled Buying Gay: Physique Magazines, Censorship, and the Rise of the Gay Movement.

Samantha Kelly (PhD 1998) is halfway through a sabbatical that follows on the heels of Mellon New Directions fellowship, intended to retrofit her from a medieval Europeanist to a medievalist conversant with Africa as well. Her first article on Ethiopian-European cultural exchange was recently accepted at Renaissance Quarterly and will appear next year. She hopes to master Ge’ez, the language of medieval Ethiopia, sometime prior to retirement.

James R. Lehnig (PhD 1977) is Professor of History at the University of Utah. Cambridge University Press published his book European Colonialism since 1700 in 2013.

In 2009, Lily Mafele (PhD 1993) was appointed to the Scientific Committee of the on-going UNESCO Project on the Pedagogical Use of the General History of Africa (GHA), which aims to renovate the teaching of African history in African schools. Subsequently, she was nominated to serve as the Rapporteur of the Scientific Committee. More information on the Project can be accessed at: http://www.unesco.org/new/en/culture/themes/dialogue/general-history-of-africa/педагогический-использование-общеи.

Brian Maxson (PhD 2008) published his first monograph, The Humanist World of Renaissance Florence, with Cambridge University Press in early 2014. He also has a co-edited volume, After Civic Humanism, forthcoming from CRSS later this year. In the 2014-15 academic year, he has visiting fellowships at the Marco Institute at the University of Tennessee and Villa I Tatti, the Harvard University Center for Italian Renaissance Studies.

Elizabeth McKillen (PhD 1987) is still a Professor of History at the University of Maine, where she devotes considerable intellectual energy to trying to decide whether the winters in Chicago or Orono are worse. She recently published a book, Making the World Safe for Workers: Labor, the Left and Wilsonian Internationalism (Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 2013).

Graham A. Peck (PhD 2001), Associate Professor of History at Saint Xavier University, just completed a 57-minute documentary on antebellum Illinois Senator Stephen A. Douglas. The film features roughly 250 still images, voice acting from leading Lincoln
and Douglas re-enactors, and five historians featured as “talking heads.” It was created in collaboration with students, staff members, and colleagues, and premiered at a university-sponsored conference titled “Visualizing the Past: Remembering Stephen A. Douglas in the Age of Ken Burns.” It will be screened again in April 2015 at the OAH conference in St. Louis, and well before that should be on permanent exhibit at the Douglas Tomb on 35th Street in Chicago. Peck will co-teach Historical Documentary Filmmaking in 2015 with art professor Nathan Peck, who helped him finish the film. If the course succeeds, we will re-title it Peck Productions.


John Reiger (PhD 1970), professor emeritus of history, Ohio University, continues to enjoy his recent retirement and his new home in Worthington, Ohio, less than a mile from his two young and almost always adorable grandchildren. His autobiography, Escaping Into Nature: The Making of a Sportsman-Con- servationist and Environmental Historian, published in 2013, includes a section on his time at Northwestern. Several brief reviews of the book can be seen on Amazon.

Dave Roediger (PhD 1980) began a new job as Foundation Professor of American Studies at University of Kansas in August 2014. His Seizing Freedom: Slave Emancipation and Liberty For All is new from Verso.


Amanda I. Seligman (PhD 1999) is working on several projects, including a history of block clubs in Chicago and the Encyclopedia of Milwaukee, for which she and her collaborators received a $250,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. In summer 2014, Marquette University Press is publishing The Bibliography of Metropolitan Milwaukee, of which she is a co-author.

During 2013-14, David H. Stam (PhD 1978), Senior Scholar and University Librarian Emeritus at Syracuse University, received one prize and published both an article and his memoirs. He was awarded the Gerald E. Morris Prize by the Mystic Seaport Museum for the best article published in 2012 in its online journal, Coriolis: an Interdisciplinary Journal of Maritime History. “The Lord’s Librarians: The American Seamen’s Friend Society and their Loan Libraries, 1837-1967” appeared in the June 2012 issue. His article from a paper read in May 2008 finally appeared in the conference proceedings by the American Philosophical Society in late 2013 under the title “‘Congering’ the Past: The Books of the Lady Franklin Bay Expedition, (1881-84).” In early 2014, he self-published his autobiographical memoir called What Happened to Me: My Life with Books, Research Libraries, and Performing Arts (AuthorHouse), with due acknowledgment to the mentorship of Lacey Baldwin Smith and Timothy H. Breen. It is available through the publisher, Amazon, Barnes & Noble, and other outlets. His next project, tentatively titled “An Anthology of the Antarctic Reading Experience,” is well underway.


Joel Tarr (PhD 1963) is the Richard S. Caliguiri University Professor of History & Policy at Carnegie Mellon University. His teaching load is split between the CMU Dept. of History and the Heinz College of Public Policy and Management. This year he published one article – “Toxic Legacy: the Environmental Impact of the Manufactured Gas Industry in the United States,” Technology & Culture (January 2014), 107-47, and one chapter with co-author Karen Clay: “Pittsburgh as an Energy Capital: Perspectives on Coal and Natural Gas Transitions and the Environment,” in Pratt, Melosi, and Brosnan (eds), Energy Capitals: Local Impact, Global Influence (University of Pittsburgh Press, 2014). He is co-editor with Martin Melosi of the History of the Urban Environment Series at the University of Pittsburgh Press and invites communication from historians who believe they have topics that would fit in our series.

Michael W. Tuck (PhD 1997) reports that in consequence of past sins he is in the midst of a term as Chair of the Department of History at Northeastern Illinois University, Chicago. He thinks back fondly on his time at Northwestern, when he was immersed in scholarship and blissfully ignorant of assessment rubrics, program reviews, and state budgets.

Dana E. Weiner (PhD 2008) has been busy over the past few years. Since 2008, she has been teaching U.S. History at Wilfrid Laurier University in Waterloo, ON. In August of 2012, she married Tim in an outdoor ceremony on the hottest day of the year. Her university approved her promotion and tenure application that December, and she published her book, Race and Rights: Fighting Slavery and Prejudice in the Old Northwest, 1830-1870 through Northern Illinois Press and the Early American Places Series in March 2013. That book was the winner in the history category at the 2011 Midwest Book Awards. Dana spent the 2013-14 academic year on sabbatical, during which she researched African Americans in early California and attended an NEH institute on Westward Expansion and the Constitution in the Early American Republic at the University of Oklahoma.

James Zarsadiaz (PhD 2014) defended his dissertation, “Where the Wild Things Are: ‘Country Living,’ Asian American Suburbanization, and the Politics of Space in Los Angeles’ East San Gabriel Valley, 1945-2005.” He plans to turn his dissertation into a manuscript for publication. This fall, James starts as tenure-track Assistant Professor of History at the University of San Francisco, where he will teach courses on urbanism, Asian American studies, and general U.S. history. He will be affiliated with the Philippine Studies program and the Critical Diversity Studies program, a new major comprising African American, Asian Pacific American, Chicano/o and Latina/o, and Gender and Sexualities studies. James is currently a fellow at the Smithsonian National Museum of American History.
Alumna Judith Westlund Rosbe’s Life with History

In the fall of 2013, my husband and I returned to Northwestern to celebrate our 50th reunion. We had met the first week of school freshman year in September 1959. Upon reflection, we decided to give our 50th reunion gift to the undergraduate history department, in appreciation for the skills I learned in the history department, which led me to a lifelong interest in history.

Although I was a lawyer by profession, my avocation has always been to record the history of the small town where I have lived for over 37 years: Marion, Massachusetts. When we moved to Marion in 1977, my neighbor, upon learning that I was a history major at Northwestern, told me that they were looking for “young blood” to join the board of our local historical society. So in 1978, I became a director of our local Sippican Historical Society, and I have been a director since then, including more than 15 years as its president.

Marion is a small town of approximately 5000 residents in southeastern Massachusetts on the shores of Buzzards Bay. Marion was originally called Sippican for the Native Americans who lived there. In 1678, 29 Pilgrim families left Plymouth, Massachusetts and settled in Marion, which was rich in oysters and had plentiful grazing land for their cattle. My interest in Marion’s history led me to write five local history books about Marion: Marion (cataloging the architecture and ownership of Marion’s historic homes), Maritime Marion, Massachusetts (the town’s relationship to the sea), Beverly Yacht Club (founded in 1872), Marion Art Center (history of the arts and theater in Marion), and Marion in the Golden Age (a history of all of the famous people who summered in Marion at the end of the nineteenth and the beginning of the twentieth centuries). The first four books were published by Arcadia Publishing Company, and History Press published my last book.

More recently I have been recording oral histories of long-time Marion residents. Many of the videotaped oral histories have been shown on our local educational TV channel.

I also conducted a memoir writing class with weekly sessions at our local library. In addition, I appeared on the “Mysteries at the Museum” show on the national Travel Channel discussing the mysterious disappearance of the captain, his family, and the crew from the vessel Mary Celeste in 1872 (the captain was from Marion). And I have been interviewed on C-SPAN regarding the famous people who summered in Marion between his two non-consecutive terms in office. In fact, they named one of their daughters Marion because of their love for the town. My husband and I are fortunate to own the house that the Cleveland spent summers in Marion.

Our 50th reunion brought me to thinking of how fortunate I was to have been exposed to Northwestern’s History Department, which gave me the skills and inspiration to record my town’s history for future generations to enjoy.

More Success for the Graduate Program, 2012-14

Our graduate students continue to bring honor and recognition to the department. No fewer than four--Sam Kling, Wen-Qing Ngoei, Ian Saxine, and Marlous van Waijenburg--have won article prizes since 2012. Some have ventured into the world of online publishing and op-eds, among them Charles Keenan, Emily Van Buren, James Zarsadia, and Yanqiu Zheng.

History grads have done remarkably well at winning competitive fellowships. Two students won Charlotte Newcombe Fellowships in 2014: Alexandra Lindgren-Gibson and Melissa Vise. Alexandra had a banner year, also winning a Mellon-CES Dissertation Completion Fellowship (which she declined) and a research fellowship from the International Association for the Study of Sexuality, Culture and Society.

Marlous van Waijenburg was named a Presidential Fellow, the highest honor Northwestern bestows on a graduate student. She also won a dissertation fellowship from the Economic History Association.

Since our last update, Joel Penning and Payson Croy won Fulbright fellowships, and Joel was accepted to the Mellon Summer Institute in Italian Paleography at the Getty Library. Charlotte Cover and Azeta Kola received Gladys Krieble Delmas Foundation fellowships for research in Venice; Donald Johnson won a dissertation fellowship from the McNeil Center for Early American Studies, as well as short-term fellowships at the New York Historical Society and the Huntington Library.

Valerie Almendarez-Jiménez won a Five College Fellowship at Hampshire College; Andrew Baer was awarded the American Bar Foundation’s Law and Social Science Dissertation Fellowship; Juri Bottura won a research fellowship from the Réseau Français d’Études Brésiliennes; Kyle Burke got a dissertation completion fellowship from the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations; Teng Li won a summer grant from the Henry Luce Foundation/ACLS Program in China Studies; Michael Martoccio won a pre-doc at Ohio State’s Center for Historical Research; Jesse Nasta was selected as a participant in the 2013 J. Willard Hurst Summer Institute in Legal History at the University of Wisconsin-Madison; Wen-Qing Ngoei received the W. Stull Holt Dissertation Fellowship from the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations (SHAFR), as well as SHAFR’s Diversity and International Student travel grant; Howard Pashman, the History
Department’s first joint J.D./Ph.D. graduate, won a Jerome Hall Postdoctoral Fellowship at Indiana University’s Maurer School of Law; Nick Smith won an SSRC International Dissertation Research Fellowship (IDRF); and James Zarsadia was awarded an Ethnic Minority Dissertation Fellowship at the University of San Francisco.

That’s not all. Our students also earned grants to travel to research libraries and to study languages. Emma Goldsmith received the Curran Fellowship, awarded by the Research Society for Victorian Periodicals; Ashley Johnson won a Clark Travel-to-Collections Research Grant from The Henry Ford Research Center and the Mark C. Stevens Fellowship from the Bentley Historical Library at the University of Michigan; Matt June got the Moody Research Grant from the LBJ Foundation; Matt Kahn was awarded a Gerald R. Ford Foundation Research Travel Grant for travel to the Ford Library; Joy Sales won a Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowship from the University of Wisconsin-Madison; Ian Saxine received a summer research fellowship at the Library of the Society of the Cincinnati, located in Washington, D.C.

At Northwestern, Emily VanBuren was co-winner of the 2013 Beiling Wu Prize in Writing, which is awarded to first-year students who write a superlative essay on literature or literary culture; Jamie Holeman won a fellowship from Northwestern’s Paris Program in Critical Theory; Julia Miglets and Johanna Sturgeon received Mellon Dissertation Year Fellowships from the Medieval Studies Program at NU; and Keith Rathbone was selected for a year-long fellowship at Sciences Po in Paris through NU’s exchange program.

The job market remains difficult for people with Ph.D.’s in History seeking tenure-line positions. Some students secure such jobs as they finish graduate school; many others are hired into tenure-line positions after one or more short-term positions. Since our last newsletter, our recent Ph.D.’s have landed tenure-track jobs at University of Houston-Clear Lake, University of Louisiana-Lafayette, University of Nebraska, University of Oklahoma, University of San Francisco, University of South Florida, St. Norbert College, St. Thomas University, and Trinity University-San Antonio. Our students have also secured visiting assistant professorships at Allegheny College, Bates College, the College of William and Mary, Franklin and Marshall, and Georgetown University.

Some graduates seek different kinds of careers upon finishing the dissertation, and we have encouraged such decisions. In fall 2013 James Grossman, Executive Director of the American Historical Association, spoke to the department about how History Ph.D. students can prepare themselves for a variety of possibilities, and in the 2012-13 academic year, we hosted (with the Religious Studies Department and The Graduate School) a series of panels on non-tenure-track careers for History and humanities Ph.D.’s. We were pleased to host alums Charlotte Cahill, Christopher Hayden, and Matthew Miller, as well as several other interesting and accomplished people as speakers at those events.

Seeking to build ties with an area institution and create opportunities for our students, in 2012 the Department and the Newberry Library inaugurated a summer internship program in which students work on the Library’s Digital Collections site (http://dcc.newberry.org/). Neal Dugre, Ashley Johnson, Alex Lindgren-Gibson, and Blake Smith have availed themselves of the opportunity.

Neal, who continued his internship during the 2013-14 academic year, wrote: “I love working on the Digital Collections site, and it has been refreshing to be able to delve into research unrelated to my specialty. I think most of all, the work reminded me of the practical application of the knowledge and skills that I’ve acquired during grad school; it’s been really instrumental in helping me transition from seeing myself as a student to seeing myself as a professional.”

The Department continues to promote stellar teaching among our graduate students and the students, in turn, continue to be recognized for their excellence. In 2013-14, more than two-dozen students participated in an experimental workshop series, funded by the Teagle Foundation, to examine best practices in the teaching of history. Convened by Daniel Immerwahr and Rebecca Marchiel, the workshops asked broad questions ranging from why history matters, to what students ought to learn in history classes, to how we align our pedagogical goals with the form and content of our courses. More information about the project, which was coordinated through The Graduate School, may be found here: http://www.tgs.northwestern.edu/about/teagle-foundation-grant/index.html.

Our students’ teaching skills are recognized far and wide. In four consecutive years, a History student has won a WCAS Outstanding Graduate Student Teacher award: Jason Johnson (2011), Andrew Warne (2012), Rebecca Marchiel (2013), and Matt June (2014). Matt will succeed Rebecca as graduate coordinator of the Teagle program in 2014-15 and as the Searle Center’s Graduate Teaching Fellow.


Our graduate program benefits enormously from the support of the Department’s alumni. The Alseth Summer Language Grant program, inaugurated in 2013 thanks to a generous bequest, has enabled us to better meet our students’ language study needs. We have distributed more than $13,000 to students who have used Alseth awards to gain crucial skills in Arabic, Ateso, Kikongo, Mandarin Chinese, Tagalog, Ukrainian, and Xhosa.

We are always eager to hear from our Ph.D. alums both inside and outside the professoriate. Please send your news to Eric West: e-west@northwestern.edu.
PhDs and Placement 2013-2014

2014


Theresa M. Keeley, “Reagan’s Gun-Toting Nuns: Catholicism and U.S.-Central American Relations,” Visiting Assistant Professor, Georgetown University.

Anne M. Koenig, “Robbed of their Minds”: Madness, Medicine and Society in Southeastern Germany from 1350 to 1500,” Assistant Professor, University of South Florida

Stephanie L. Nadalo, “Constructing Pluralism in Seventeenth Century Livorno: Managing Religious Minorities in a Mediterranean Free Port (1537-1737),” Professor of Art History chez Parsons Paris (The New School), Professor of Liberal Studies chez Paris College of Art, Museum Educator chez Paris Muse


2013


Celeste McNamara, “The Tragedy of Tridentine Reform in Late Seventeenth-Century Padua,” Visiting Assistant Professor, College of William and Mary.


Meghann Pytka, “Policing the Binary—Patrolling the Nation: Race and Gender in Polish Integral Nationalism, from Partitions to Parliament (1883-1926),” Instructor, Southern Illinois University.

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