Chair’s Letter

The last year has been a year of change for the Department of History. In July, I took over as Chair. In addition to the change in the chair position, Valerie Garver replaced Taylor Atkins as Director of Undergraduate Studies. In the coming year, more shifts in departmental administration will take place. After returning from a fellowship in Ireland in January, Sean Farrell will become the new Director of Graduate Studies, replacing Anne Hanley. In summer 2014, Trude Jacobsen will become the new Assistant Chair. We would like to thank Beatrix and Anne for their many years of outstanding service in administrative positions. In Spring 2013, Prof. Michael Gonzales, Director of the Center for Latino and Latin American Studies, retired. Many thanks to Michael for being a mainstay of the department in scholarship, service, and teaching.

As you will read in the stories that follow, the Department has had many successes in the past year. Our undergraduate students continue to amaze. We are particularly proud of history major Tom Bouril, who became NIU’s first ever finalist for the Rhodes scholarship. In another highlight, our graduate students hosted a highly successful conference in honor of our late colleague Al Young. Faculty continue to make outstanding contributions to scholarship and garner national and international awards, including a prestigious National Endowment for the Humanities Faculty Fellowship to Heide Fehrenbach.

We continue to face challenges on the intertwined issues of enrollment and budget, but we continue to provide excellent scholarship, teaching, and service with reduced resources. In this constrained environment, we appeal to alumni to encourage prospective students to consider Northern and the history major and to give to the department via the NIU Foundation whenever possible.

James Schmidt
When I began as Director of Undergraduate Studies in August, I knew I had big shoes to fill. Professor Taylor Atkins had ably filled the position for most of the ten years I had been at NIU. I’m sure many alumni will agree that we are grateful for his years of service to our majors and minors.

The undergraduate program has seen a few other changes this year. For the first time, we were able to award history credit to students who took history internships. We continue to work closely with the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences in placing interested students in a wide range of internships, but we are pleased that students can now choose to earn credits toward their history major while gaining valuable hands-on experience working in a variety of history-related settings. Our first students in HIST 395 “Internship in History” took up positions at the Blackwell History of Education Museum and Research Collections and at the Illinois Regional Archives. We also recently expanded our departmental honors program to award history honors credit to undergraduates who take history graduate courses.

Like many departments at many American universities, we are dealing with the challenges of decreased enrollments, and one of my main concerns this year has been to recruit more history majors and minors. Despite lower numbers of majors than in the recent past, however, I have been impressed with the high quality of many of our students. Please find elsewhere in the newsletter a list of undergraduate accomplishments for this year. I’m happy to report that they are too numerous to include in my letter.

Valerie L. Garver

Undergraduate Achievements

Thomas Bouril

Selected for an interview for a Rhodes Scholarship; URAD 2014 and 2nd place winner in Arts, Education, Health, Humanities, and Social Sciences (faculty advisors: Rosemary Feurer and Nancy Castle, NGOLD).

Natalie Cincotta

Research Rookie, 2013-2014 (faculty advisor: Heide Fehrenbach); URAD 2014 Honorable Mention in Humanities (faculty advisor: Heide Fehrenbach); University Honors Research Scholar, Summer 2014-Spring 2015; Northern Lights Ambassador, 2014-2015; Participant in the Seminar in Archival Research at the Center for Jewish History, New York City, May 2014; Honors Program Continuing Student Tuition Waiver Recipient, Spring 2014; Presenter at the National Conference for Undergraduate Research, Spring 2014
On May 2014 the History Department awarded these prizes and scholarships to outstanding students in recognition of their accomplishments.

Janette Clay
Outstanding Woman Student at NIU.

Michael Kaczmarek
Provost Travel Grant for Study Abroad, Summer 2014.

Alex Kyc
URA, Spring 2014 (faculty advisor: Andy Bruno)

Ron Leonhardt
FLAS Summer Fellowship for the study of Khmer language in Cambodia this summer; accepted fully funded place in graduate program at George Washington University, to start in Fall 2014.

Jessie Shattuck
USOAR 2014 (faculty advisor: Valerie Garver); Mortar Board inductee, February 2014; Phi Beta Delta International Scholar Honor Society inductee, November 2013.

Lindsey Sheehan
URAD participant 2014 (faculty advisor: Ann van Dijk, Art History); Provost Travel Grant for Study Abroad, Summer 2014

Matthew Thomas
Internship at the Blackwell History of Education Museum and Research Collection, Spring 2014

Jennifer Wegmann-Gabb
URAP 2013-2014 (faculty advisor: Valerie Garver); Frederick L. Kitterle Memorial Scholarship Recipient; URAD 2014 1st place winner in the Humanities (faculty advisor: Ann van Dijk, Art History); Presenter at the National Conference for Undergraduate Research, Spring 2014

Rita Weisheit
Internship at the Illinois Regional Archives, Spring 2014

Honors and Prizes

College of LAS Dean’s Award: Thomas Bouril
Outstanding History Student: Natalie Cincotta and Benjamin Donovan
Marvin Rosen Scholarship: Mike Kaczmarek
Oscar Matasar Scholarship: Mike Kaczmarek and Benjamin Donovan
Jeannie Hainds Scholarship: Brandon Phillips and Benjamin Donovan
HIST 495 Research Paper Prize: Wayne Duerkes and Eric Spokus
The David L. Wagner Medieval Studies Capstone Prize: Matthew Baker and Jennifer Wegmann-Gabb
James Shirley Award in Asian History: Mike Kaczmarek
James Shirley Essay Award: Rachel Kmenec and Emad Malick
Hugh Jameson Graduate Student Essay Prize: Wayne Duerkes
Alumna of the Year: Amy Powers
J. Patrick White History Education Scholarship: Janette Clay, Fall 2013, and Rick Banik, Spring 2014
Runners up: Erica Williams, Fall 2013, and Ashley McMahon, Spring 2014
Honorable Mention: Kyle Neville, Fall 2013, and Aimee Berkowsky, Spring 2014
In the 2013-2014 academic year we welcomed 19 new students to our department, 15 in the MA program and 4 in the PhD program, offering them assurances that the winter would pass and they would eventually be warm once again. U.S. history continued to dominate the research interests of our MA and PhD students, but this year’s incoming cohort was almost as well represented in European and Asian/Southeast Asian history programs combined. Welcome to all.

A highlight of the year was the 6th annual HGSA conference. This year’s conference was held in honor of the late Al Young, our eminent Professor Emeritus of Early American history who passed away in November 2012. This year’s conference gathered Al Young’s former students and colleagues back in DeKalb to celebrate his life and his groundbreaking career. It featured a keynote address by Linda Kerber of the University of Iowa, and a roundtable discussion of Al Young’s scholarship by Terry Fife (History Works, Inc.), Mary Furner (UCSB), Allan Kulikoff (University of Georgia), Tom Arne Mitrad (Iowa), Wayne Bodle (Indiana University of Pennsylvania), and Aaron Fogleman of our own department. It was a wonderful day in which Al Young was honored not only by those who knew him, but by the legacy of exciting research by a new generation of historians. This year’s conference drew graduate students from Akron, Iowa, Loyola, Marquette, Northeastern Illinois, Southern Illinois, SUNY Buffalo, Heidelberg by way of Northwestern, and of course NIU.

Our public history program continues to grow and thrive. Almost one-third of our 35 MA students are earning their degree with a concentration in Public History. Rob Glover and Clint Cargile in the Public History program published books, Rob’s stemming from the local Sycamore History Museum exhibit, “Why Sycamore Works” and Clint’s growing out of a public history project about the Sycamore train depot. Many more held internships in libraries, museums, local archives and historical societies. An incoming MA student in the Public History program (fall 2014) got her start by discovering a box of family records in the attic! She was hired by the Regional History Center to catalog the collection, and will join the Regional History Center as the IRAD intern for the coming two years.

While our public historians are promoting the profession in the world outside academia, our MA and PhD students are hard at work on their original research to broaden, deepen, and extend our understanding of the past within the academy. Our graduate students in both the MA and Ph.D. programs presented original research at conferences and universities around the country, published articles in scholarly journals, and won local, national, and international grants. I encourage you to visit our 2013 and 2014 Graduate Student Accomplishments pages for a comprehensive list of these impressive young scholars.

This research activity is especially on display in the summer months, when the Graduate Committee offers grants to help fund the archival research needed to work on an MA essay or to do research on a PhD dissertation topic. These awards are possible thanks to the generous support of alumni contributions to the Earl W. Hayter and Alfred F. Young and History Department Foundation funds. In the summer of 2013 we were able to support the summer research trips of six graduate students. Another eleven will venture out this summer to conduct archival research on a range of topics including immigrant cultural assimilation through religious music, criminality in Early America, white slavery in Europe and North America, Irish nationalism and colonialism, and early modern European religious violence. A listing of award winners, along with summaries of their 2013 summer research, can be found on our web site. Keep an eye out this fall for reports on the upcoming summer research!

Most of our graduates in the 2013-2014 academic year came out of our M.A. program. All told, 10 students graduated from the master’s program between August 2013 and May 2014. In addition, we produced one newly minted Ph.D. Congratulations to Jamie Hink! Jamie, who studied with Professor Aaron Fogleman, is our 133rd doctoral degree recipient since we conferred our first degree in 1966. We wish good luck to her and to all of our graduates. We would love to update our Alumni page as well, so we hope all of you will keep in touch and send us your news!

On a final note, this will be my last newsletter. I am handing the reins of the History Graduate office over to Dr. Sean Farrell after the close of the fall 2014 semester. It has been a privilege to work with this program.

Anne Hanley
Graduate Accomplishments

Scott Abel (PhD) has been awarded the Clark and Arlene Neher Graduate Fellowship for the Study of Southeast Asia for 2014-15. The fellowship comes with a tuition waiver and a stipend of $5200 for the academic year. Scott also has a FLAS Summer Fellowship for Indonesia and a FLAS Academic Year Fellowship for 2014-15. He was named the Outstanding Graduate Student 2013-2014 from the Center for Southeast Asian Studies. He had an article accepted for publication in Explorations, a journal in Southeast Asian Studies based at the University of Hawaii-Manoa. The e-edition is available after June 1, 2014.

Krista Albers (MA) was awarded a FLAS Summer Fellowship for Vietnamese language at the Southeast Asian Studies Institute (SEASSI) at the University of Wisconsin-Madison this summer.

William Avila (MA) presented "Adult Comics: HIV/AIDS and Popular American Comic Books of the 1980s" at the International Graduate Historical Studies Conference held at Central Michigan University. It won "CMU's Women and Gender Studies Program Award," sponsored by the women and gender studies program for the best paper related to women's history, history of sexuality or gender studies. William received the Internship/Co-op Student of the Month Award for his internship at Rochelle's Flagg Township Museum in spring 2014.


Amando Boncales (MA) has a paper, "The Political and Historical Discourse of the Philippine Claim Over Sabah" accepted for the 2014 Southeast Asian Studies Symposium, sponsored by Project Southeast Asia at the University of Oxford.

Tracy Brindle (MA) was named the Outstanding Graduate MA Student in History 2013-2014.


Katrina Chludzinski (PhD) presented a paper, "Among Pagodas and Fair Ladies": British Ambiguities Concerning the ‘High Status’ of Burmese Women, 1870-1925", at the Midwest Conference on Asian Affairs, October 25-27, 2014. She was also awarded a Foreign Languages and Area Studies (FLAS) Summer Fellowship for Burmese language study in Myanmar this summer.

David Downs (PhD) was named the Outstanding Graduate PhD Student in History 2013-2014. David has also been awarded a Dissertation Completion Fellowship for 2014.

An article written by Nicole Dressler (PhD) and Ian Burns (PhD) about the NIU Graduate Student Conference was recently published in the Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture’s Uncommon Sense: https://oieahc.wm.edu/ucs/young.html

Wayne Duerkes (MA) was asked to be the guest speaker for the LaSalle County Historical Society on November 24, 2013.
Robert Fulton (PhD) has been awarded a prestigious Bourse Jeanne Marandon Fellowship for research in France in 2013-2014. Robert received the 2013 Outstanding PhD Graduate Student Award.

Scott Hanley (MA) has been awarded FLAS Summer and Academic Year Fellowships. Scott will be in Yogyakarta, Indonesia for the summer.

Andres Hijar (PhD) who held a one-year dissertation completion fellowship at Western Illinois University, Macomb, IL for 2013-2014, has accepted a tenure-track position (Latin America) in the History Department at Western Illinois University, beginning Fall 2014. Andres is completing his dissertation on labor rights in the aftermath of the Mexican Revolution under the direction of Rosemary Feurer.

Adam Lopez (MA) received the Lundsford Fellowship for 2014-2015.

Isabelle Squires (MA) has been awarded FLAS Summer and Academic Year Fellowships for Tagalog. Isabelle will study Intermediate Tagalog in the Philippines over the summer.

Journey Steward (PhD) presented papers at two conferences this year, “Prostitution and American Immigration Policy: Panic over ‘White Slavery,’ 1890-1920,” at the Sexuality, Human Rights, and Public Policy Conference, Marquette University, April 2014, and “Prostitution and American Immigrants: ‘White Slaves’ or Women Looking for Love in All the Wrong Places?” at the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana’s Gender Symposium, February 2014. She also advanced to candidacy in the spring semester.

Lily Ann Villaraza (PhD) accepted the position of Philippine Studies Instructor at San Francisco Community College for the 2014-15 academic year. She is heading to the Philippines this summer for final archival investigations and translation work with literary specialists before she begins writing her dissertation.
From the Program’s Staff

“Our program completers continue to be successful in a very competitive job market. Of the previous academic year’s graduating class, fifty percent secured full-time teaching jobs by August at schools across the area.”

It’s been an eventful year for History & Social Sciences Secondary Teacher Education Program as we have worked to redesign the program in order to better equip our teacher candidates to navigate a changing education landscape. One of the most visible changes has been our new “medical school model” early clinical that we piloted during 2013-2014 at Sycamore and DeKalb high schools. Inspired by Finland’s highly regarded teacher training system, the medical school model clinical places entire cohorts of teacher candidates at one of our partnership schools where, in groups of two or three, they observe experienced social studies teachers and practice teaching in real classrooms. Program faculty supervise these clinical students on site and participate in debriefing seminars at the end of each observation day. The school’s social studies teachers join in these seminars as well, offering valuable insights about the instructional strategies the teacher candidates have observed during the day. The response from both teachers and clinical students to this new approach has been overwhelmingly positive. The new structure has also fostered some valuable relationships with social studies teachers in our local partnership schools that have already paid dividends in facilitating student teaching placements, curricular collaborations, and professional development opportunities. The program will be expanding the medical school model clinical to two new partner high schools, Kaneland and East Aurora, in the next academic year.

Along with the changes to clinical experiences, we worked during 2013-2014 to redesign our professional education coursework to align with new state educational standards. We’ve reached out to course providers in the College of Education to coordinate our efforts to prepare our students to meet the ever-changing and increasingly stringent requirements for new teachers. New courses in classroom management, instructional technology and assessment, and teaching English language learners will become part of the required curriculum for social studies teacher candidates in the next academic year.
Our program completers continue to be successful in a very competitive job market. Of the previous academic year’s graduating class, fifty percent secured full-time teaching jobs by August at schools across the area, including Rockton, Rockford, Peoria, Freeport, Amboy, Bloomington, Geneseo, and Portage (Indiana). Another twenty percent found teacher’s aide positions or were admitted to graduate programs. We expect that this year’s graduating class will be equally successful: one December program completer secured a full-time social studies position at mid-year while another was hired at a local archive to spearhead a Common Core Standards initiative.

We’ve recognized some of our outstanding teacher candidates with departmental and college level awards. The J. Patrick White History Education Scholarship was awarded to Janette Clay and Richard Banik. Runners-up were Erica Williams and Ashley McMahon while Kyle Neville and Aimee Berkowsky received honorable mentions. Danielle Benesh and Ashley McMahon were named as the College of Liberal Arts and Science’s Exemplary Student Teachers for social studies.

Our program faculty had a productive year as well. Besides working on clinical and coursework redesigns, the program director, Andrea Smalley and assistant director, Kate Maley presented “Who is Mineola McGee and Why Does She Have Only One Arm?” to over one hundred area teachers at NIU’s New Ideas in History and Social Studies conference. Other conference presenters included Lauren Brown, student teaching supervisor; Janette Clay, Common Core coordinator for the Regional History Center and program alumna; and Jim Schmidt, department chair. Dennis Fink, one of our program’s veteran student teaching supervisors, published his new book, The Battle of Marathon in Scholarship: Research, Theories, and Controversies Since 1850 (McFarland) in early May. And finally, assistant director, Kate Maley received one of four university Presidential Awards for Excellence in recognition of her outstanding work in teacher education. Congratulations Kate!

We would love to hear what you are up to these days! Please let us know where you are and what you are doing!

**Andrea Smalley**, Director

**Kate Maley**, Assistant Director

**Frank Bell**, Advisor
Taylor Atkins gave invited talks at Centers for Korean Studies at UC-Berkeley, Stanford, and University of Washington. In October he also delivered the keynote address at the 2nd Biennial Conference of the East Asian Regional Association of the International Musicological Society at National Taiwan University in Taipei. He was interviewed for the web site AllAboutJazz.com, and for National Public Radio’s “A Blog Supreme” in commemoration of International Jazz Day. His article “Jazz by the Sea: KRML and the Radio Presence of ‘America’s Classical Music’” (co-authored with his former URAP student Ashley Nichole Parra) was published in the journal Jazz Perspectives. The highlight of Prof. Atkins’ year was the arrival of his first doctoral student, Heeyoung Choi, who came to the department with a Masters in Musicology from the Academy of Korean Studies in Seoul.

Stanley Arnold’s book, Building the Beloved Community: Philadelphia’s Interracial Civil Rights Organizations and Race Relations, 1930-1970 will be published in summer 2014 by University Press of Mississippi. The book tells the story of a determined cohort of Philadelphia activists who sought to transform race relations. While they initially focused on community-based relations, these activists became increasingly involved in building coalitions for the passage of civil rights legislation on the local, state, and national level. This Philadelphia-based movement influenced the southern civil rights struggle. These activists would inspire the growth of similar organizations across the nation and their pioneering public programs would help shape contemporary multicultural education.

Kristy Wilson Bowers published Plague and Public Health in Sixteenth-Century Seville with the University of Rochester Press as part of their series, Rochester Studies in the History of Medicine. The work offers a reassessment of the impact of plague in the early modern era, presenting sixteenth-century Seville as a case study of how municipal officials and residents worked together to create a public health response that protected both individual and communal interests.

Andy Bruno began the past academic year as a Visiting Scholar in the “Threatened Orders” Collaborative Research Cluster at the University of Tübingen in Germany. While in Europe last summer, he also had the chance to present his work at École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales in Paris. His article, “Tumbling Snow: Vulnerability to Avalanches in the Soviet North,” appeared in the October issue of Environmental History. In January he participated in a roundtable on Arctic environmental history at the American Historical Association meeting.

Kenton Clymer was invited to teach a course on the History of US Relations with Burma/Myanmar since World War II at Yangon University in Yangon (Rangoon), Myanmar (Burma) during December 2013. He was the first foreign visiting professor to teach in the History Department since 1962. In July 2014 he will also be teaching at Renmin (People’s) University of China in Beijing, where he will teach a course in the International Studies Department on the United States in Southeast Asia. Clymer taught at Renmin University in 2003-04 as a Distinguished Fulbright Professor. He also published an article, “The United
Faculty News (continued)

States and the Guomindang (KMT) Forces in Burma, 1949-1954: A Diplomatic Disaster,” in *Chinese Historical Quarterly*. He is currently completing a history of American relations with Burma/Myanmar since World War II.

**Sean Farell** received the 2014 NUI Galway/IACI Fellowship and is looking forward to spending the Fall Semester in Galway, Ireland. He was also named to the Irish Education 100 for 2013, an award given by the Irish Voice to the most influential Irish educators.

**Heide Fehrenbach** completed work on the volume she is editing with Professor Davide Rodogno (Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva, Switzerland) titled *Humanitarian Photography: A History* – to be published by Cambridge University press in 2015. The essays in the volume consider the special role played by photography since the late 19th century in raising public awareness and funds to ameliorate humanitarian crises abroad. She received an NEH Fellowship for the 2014/15 academic year to work on her next book project, *The Humanitarian Eye*, which will explore the history of child-centered imagery. In March 2014, she gave a keynote address on this new project at a conference on the “Histories of Humanitarianism” in Washington, DC, sponsored by the German Historical Institute and the University of Maryland. In April, she gave a talk at a conference on “The Crisis of Humanitarianism” at the University of Chicago. In addition, she has been invited to participate in a historical workshop on “The Agents of Internationalism” at Birkbeck College, University of London, in June, where she will present a paper titled “Children as Casework: International Social Service and Global Norm-Making.” Moreover, she was honored to be selected for the “Faculty Mentor of the Year” award for 2013/14.

**Damian Fernandez** published an article in *Antiquité Tardive* titled “City and countryside in Atlantic Iberia during Late Antiquity”. He delivered a paper on Visigothic taxation and state power at a conference on the infrastructural power of ancient states at the University of Chicago. He will also present a paper on Visigothic churches and aristocratic status this summer at the International Late Antique Network conference in New York City. He received a CLAS Research & Artistry Grant to start his research on a second book project on the interactions between the Atlantic and the Mediterranean during Late Antiquity, which he will carry out at Harvard University Library during the summer.

**Aaron Fogleman**’s new book, *Two Troubled Souls: An Eighteenth-Century Couple’s Spiritual Journey in the Atlantic World*, was published by the University of North Carolina Press in December 2013. He spoke about the book as part of an endowed distinguished visitor series at Coastal Carolina University and at the Wissenschaftskolleg in Berlin. He also began work on his new book project on revolution, emancipation, and migration in the Atlantic World, 1776-1830. This year Aaron also organized a new faculty-student meeting, tentatively entitled the “Regional-Global Discussion Group,” in which attendants explore the interplay between global history and that of large regions like the Atlantic World and the Indian Ocean Region.
Faculty News (continued)

**Valerie Garver** took over as Director of Undergraduate Studies this year. Her edited book *Rome and Religion in the Medieval World* (co-edited with Owen Phelan) was published by Ashgate Press, and her article "Textiles as a Means of Female Religious Participation in the Carolingian World," appeared in *Ancient and Medieval Religion in Practice*, ed. Sari Katajala-Peltomaa and Ville Vuolante. She gave invited lectures at the University of Michigan, the University of Notre Dame, and Lake Forest College, and she gave papers at conferences in Leeds, UK; Kalamazoo, Michigan; and Oslo, Norway. In addition, she became one of the editors of the journal *Medieval Prosopography*.

**Anne Hanley** was back at NIU after a year's leave on a research grant. She spent the 2012-2013 academic year travelling between Illinois and Brazil, working with a team of economists and economic historians on a major study of the Brazilian National Development Bank. While she was on leave, her first article in her project on the history of municipal public finance, “A Failure to Deliver: Municipal Poverty and the Provision of Public Services in Imperial São Paulo, Brazil 1822-1889,” was published by the *Journal of Urban History*. She also presented her research at conferences of various history and economic history associations including the World Economic History Congress, American Historical Association, the Rocky Mountain Conference on Latin American Studies, and the Latin American Studies Association. Since returning from leave, she has read a great deal, written a couple of book reviews on Brazilian economic and urban history, and focused her energies on completing her second book, “The Public Good: Finance, Services, and Inequality in Municipal São Paulo, 1822-1930.” She is in the planning stages of her next project, a history of Brazil’s first national census.

**Beatrix Hoffman** completed her five-year term as department chair and in 2013-14 she has been on sabbatical in Granada, Spain, beginning research for a new project on comparative rights to health care for immigrants and migrants. She has had the opportunity to give talks on her work in Spain, Sweden, and France, and to conduct research at the World Health Organization in Geneva. Her book *Health Care for Some: Rights and Rationing in the United States since 1930* was released in paperback by the University of Chicago Press and was named a *Choice* Outstanding Academic Book.

**Kristin Huffine** was promoted to Associate Professor and was named Acting Director of the Center for Latino and Latin American Studies during the summer of 2013. She was invited to speak at Northwestern university, where she presented “Redefining Race at the Margins of Empire: Indians as Categories of Natural Historical Analysis in José de Acosta’s *Historia natural y moral de las Indias*,” at the Center for African American History. She was also invited to speak at UCLA and the William Andrews Clark Memorial Library in October, where she presented “De scientia sacerdoti necessaria: Religious Knowledge and Indigenous Cultural Reform in the Writings of José de Acosta.” Her book, *Producing Christians from Half-Men and Beasts: Jesuit Ethnography and Guarani’ Response in Colonial Río de la Plata* is coming out with the University of Pittsburgh during the spring of 2015. She also has articles coming out in Karen Melvin’s and Sylvia Sellers-Garcia’s *Imagining Histories of Colonial Latin America: Essays on Synoptic Methods and Practices*, forthcoming with the University of New Mexico in 2015 and in Cynthia Radding’s *Borderlands of the Iberian World* with Cambridge University Press in 2016.
Trude Jacobsen started her visiting research fellowship in the Centre for History in Public Health at the School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine at the University of London. Her paper ‘Debt Bondage in Cambodia’s Past – and Present’ was published with others from her panel in the Cambodia Studies Conference in 2012 as a special issue of Studies in Gender and Sexuality. She was invited to review Mixed Medicines: Health and Culture in French Colonial Cambodia, by Sokhieng Au and The Authority of Influence: Women and Power in Burmese History, by Jessica Harriden for Pacific Affairs. She organized a panel for the Midwest Conference on Asian Affairs at Michigan State University entitled ‘The Past in Burma’s (Gendered) Present: Historicizing Intersectionality in Myanmar’. Two graduate students and one undergraduate student accompanied her to MSU. Her own paper for the panel was called ‘Why NGOs Fail at Preventing Sex Trafficking in Burma/Myanmar: Lessons From the Past’. She continued her role as a consultant to the Royal Government of Cambodia’s Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport on a World Bank project to build capacity in the tertiary sector. She also served as the Southeast Asia representative to the executive board of the Midwest Conference on Asian Affairs for the second year running.

Natalie Joy presented “The Liberty of Indian Slavery” at the annual conference of the Society for Historians of the Early American Republic in St. Louis, Missouri, in July 2013. She also presented “Abolitionists and Indian Slaveholding” at the inaugural conference of Historians Against Slavery in Cincinnati, Ohio, in September 2013. In May 2014 she was a visiting fellow at the Gilder Lehrman Center for the Study of Slavery, Resistance, and Abolition at Yale University. While there, she gave a public lecture titled, “Finding Refuge in the Wigwam: The Antislavery View of Indians and Fugitive Slaves.”

Emma Kuby published “From the Torture Chamber to the Bedchamber: French Soldiers, Anti-War Activists, and the Discourse of Sexual Deviancy in the Algerian War (1954-1962)” in Contemporary French Civilization and “In the Shadow of the Concentration Camp: David Rousset and the Limits of Apoliticism in Postwar French Thought” in Modern Intellectual History. The first article was the recipient of the Lawrence R. Schehr Memorial Award.

Brian Sandberg is currently serving as a Fulbright Research Scholar in France, where he has been working on revising a book manuscript on Heroic Souls: French Nobles and Religious Violence after the Edict of Nantes and researching a book project on A Virile Courage: Gender and Violence in the French Wars of Religion, 1562-1629. He has also been able to collaborate with NIU History doctoral candidates through overlapping research trips to France recently. Sandberg’s chapter on “‘Calm Possessor of his Wife, but Not of Her Château’: Gendering Religious Violence in the French Wars of Religion,” was published in Gender Matters: Discourses of Violence in Early Modern Literature and the Arts, edited by Mara Wade. He presented research papers at a series of conferences: The Mediterranean and Maritime Perspectives, (University of California, Santa Cruz), I Medici e il Levante: Culture e diaolghi tra Firenze e il Mediterraneo Orientale (Florence, Italy), Sixteenth Century Society and Conference (San Juan, Puerto Rico), Social Science History Association (Chicago), and Les histoires de René Allio (Paris, France), and La Cruauté en images. Guerre et Paix dans la société (Paris, France). Brian recently received a fellowship from the Institut des Études Avancées de Paris to conduct research in France during 2014-2015.
Kristy Wilson Bowers' *Plague and Public Health in Early Modern Seville* offers a reassessment of the impact of plague in the early modern era, presenting sixteenth-century Seville as a case study of how municipal officials and residents worked together to create a public health response that protected both individual and communal interests. Similar studies of plague during this period either dramatize the tragic consequences of the epidemic or concentrate on the tough “modern” public health interventions, such as quarantine, surveillance and isolation, and the laxness or strictness of their enforcement. Arguing for a redefinition of "public health" in the early modern era, this study chronicles a more restrained, humane, and balanced response to outbreaks in 1582 and 1599-1600 Seville, showing that city officials aimed to protect the population but also maintain trade and commerce in order to prevent economic disruption.

Jean-François Reynier, a French Swiss Huguenot, and his wife, Maria Barbara Knoll, a Lutheran from the German territories, crossed the Atlantic several times and lived among Protestants, Jews, African slaves, and Native Americans from Suriname to New York and many places in between. While they preached to and doctored many Atlantic peoples in religious missions, revivals, and communal experiments, they encountered scandals, bouts of madness, and other turmoil, including within their own marriage. Aaron Spencer Fogleman’s riveting narrative offers a lens through which to better understand how individuals engaged with the eighteenth-century Atlantic world and how men and women experienced many of its important aspects differently. Reynier’s and Knoll’s lives illuminate an underside of empire where religious radicals fought against church authority and each other to find and spread the truth; where Atlantic peoples had spiritual, medical, and linguistic encounters that authorities could not always understand or control; and where wives disobeyed husbands to seek their own truth and opportunity.

Tunisia is known for being the first Muslim country to abolish slavery during the modern period. Although Ahmed Bey, the country’s ruler in the mid-nineteenth century, was morally opposed to slavery, he did not have the broad support of the citizenry to enact reforms. Even religious leaders were against change, pointing to Islamic law’s precedent for slave ownership. Yet Bey realized that increased European intervention throughout North Africa threatened Tunisian independence and thus embraced abolition as a progressive reform measure to safeguard its integrity and sovereignty. In this groundbreaking work, Ismael Montana fully explicates the complexity of Tunisian society and culture and reveals how abolition was able to occur in an environment hostile to such change. He reveals how European capitalism, political pressure, and evolving social dynamics throughout the western Mediterranean region helped shape this seismic abolition process. The result is a study that reassesses the impact of the broader transformations of the late eighteenth century on black slavery throughout North Africa and the Mediterranean lands of Islam.
Alumni News

Janette Clay (BA 2013), was named an Outstanding Woman Student at NIU.

Robert Hanserd (PhD 2011), currently an instructor at Columbia College in Chicago, had an article accepted for publication in Atlantic Studies tentatively entitled “Okomfo Anokyo’s Magic in West Africa and America: The Transfer of Priestly Power and Ideas of Freedom in the Afro-Atlantic.”

Tom Arne Midtrød (PhD 2008) was recommended for tenure and promotion to associate professor of History at the University of Iowa, effective this summer.

Steven Peach (MA 2011), PhD candidate at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, published an article in the Fall 2013 issue of Ethnohistory entitled “Creek Indian Globetrotter: Tomochichi’s Trans-Atlantic Quest for Traditional Power in the Colonial Southeast.” The article is a revision of work he completed at NIU.

Christopher A. Schnell (BA 1990), currently a PhD candidate in U.S. history at St. Louis University, received the 2014 King V. Hostick Scholarship from the Illinois State Historical Society. This award will enable Schnell to undertake research for his dissertation, “The Lawyers Frontier: The Professionalization of the Bar and the Middle Class in Abraham Lincoln’s Midwest.”