FROM THE CHAIR

Greetings from Zulauf! This annual newsletter is an opportunity for alumni and friends of the NIU History Department to keep in touch and receive updates on department happenings. We hope to hear from you; please send your recent news to history@niu.edu.

This has been a busy and productive year for the Department. In October 2009, several hundred students, faculty, and community members turned out to hear the annual Lincoln Lecture, delivered by distinguished historian Jonathan Spence of Yale University. Professor Spence’s tales of a Chinese explorer in early modern Europe kept the audience riveted. We are delighted to announce that Ramón Gutiérrez of the University of Chicago, a renowned scholar of Latino history, will deliver the 2010 Lincoln Lecture on October 28, 2010. We also celebrated the publication of new books by faculty members Valerie Garver and James Schmidt with receptions and book talks.

This was an impressive year for History student achievements. Shay Galto, a History and Psychology double major, was named NIU’s Lincoln Laureate, the highest possible honor for an undergraduate. Our students continue to be accepted into top graduate programs, including American University, the University of Chicago, and Queen’s University in Belfast. You can read more about the achievements of our students inside the newsletter.

In 2009-10 members of the History faculty also received numerous honors, including NIU’s Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching Award, teaching grants from NIU’s Environmental Studies and Honors Programs, and major fellowships from the Fulbright Foundation, the Institute for Research in the Humanities at the University of Wisconsin, the Institute for Advanced Studies in Paris, and the University of Helsinki’s Aleksanteri Institute. See inside for details!

Collaboration between faculty and students was highlighted at NIU’s 2009 Convocation, which featured a presentation by Associate Professor of History J.D. Bowers and two of his students on the connections between classroom and community work on genocide prevention. The Department was Continued on page 2.

Student award winners and Phi Alpha Theta inductees at the 2010 History picnic. See p. 7 for awards list.
In Fall 2009, undergraduate and graduate students in Stan Arnold’s HIST 492/592 (Introduction to Oral History) interviewed seniors about the Great Depression/New Deal. These interviews provided historical context for the NIU Art Museum’s Spring 2010 Exhibition Suite, “This Great Nation Will Endure: Photographs of the Great Depression / Coming of Age: The WPA/ FAP Graphic Section and the American Print.” Although some students interviewed friends, neighbors and family members, most of the participating seniors were residents of two DeKalb retirement centers, Barb City Manor and Oak Crest. On April 13, Professor Arnold chaired a panel, “Hard Times and Hope in the Heartland” at the NIU Art Museum. The panel featured two of the interviewees, Barb City Manor residents Mrs. Laura Uplinger and Mr. Herman Hearne.


**Faculty News**

**Letter from the Chair**

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also honored with an award for Outstanding Assessment Practice, recognizing our graduate program’s comprehensive exams for their contribution to students’ critical thinking.

In Fall 2010 the department will welcome a new faculty member, Damián Fernández, who received his Ph.D. from Princeton University in Ancient History this year. Dr. Fernández is an expert on the Iberian Peninsula during late antiquity, and will be teaching courses on Ancient History and Western Civilization. There will also be some departures. Distinguished Research Professor David Kyvig and Board of Trustees and Distinguished Research Professor Christine Wórobec are retiring from NIU, but will still work with graduate students and continue their stellar scholarly careers in recent U.S. and Russian history, respectively.

In these very difficult financial times, the continued support of our alumni and friends has been extremely encouraging. Donations to History’s scholarship funds have been so healthy that we were able to increase the funds awarded for graduate student research travel this year, despite the economic downturn. And, we celebrated the accomplishments of our scholarship and prize winners at our annual picnic and awards ceremony in May (details inside). We thank you for your support, which is essential in maintaining our department’s strength and our ability to serve our students. Please keep in touch!

Beatrix Hoffman

1910-1945, which was be published in August 2010 by University of California Press. He has been promoted to Professor.

J.D. Bowers has continued his teaching and research on genocide as well as directing the Secondary Teacher Certification program. In 2009-2010, he led two study abroad groups to Turkey and Cyprus, which focused on the role of the US in the eastern Mediterranean and the edge of the Muslim/Arab regions of the Middle East as well as in the Cyprus problem. For summer 2010 he was awarded a US Department of State and AMIDEAST grant to conduct a three-week long peace and conflict transformation program with Cypriot youth on the island as well as in the U.S. using the historical roots of the problem as the foundations for peace. In summer 2009 he co-authored an article on Holocaust education in Canadian Diversity/Canadienne Diversité with Jeffrey Ellison, and the two are now collaborating on a textbook about genocide. He also continues his work on religion (and its intersections with US policy and actions at home and abroad) which is the subject of his monograph in progress, and he presented at several conferences. His work with teachers also continues, having co-sponsored and directed last summer’s Genocide and Human Rights Institute for Teachers with 20 participants from seven states, and as part of three Teaching American History grants, through which he has worked with more than 100 teachers and taught in nearly a dozen elementary and secondary classrooms. Finally, in April, Professor Bowers was recognized for his classroom efforts with NIU’s Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching Award, which is the university’s oldest teaching award and is determined entirely by students.

Kenton Clymer was on sabbatical during the past academic year, during which he began research for a new book, a general history of American relations with Burma. His research took him to a variety of archives and libraries across the United States, as well as visits to the National Archives of Australia and the Myanmar (Burma) National Archives in Rangoon. He was especially delighted to have received permission to work in the Burmese archives, which have been largely closed to foreigners. The American embassy in Phnom Penh, Cambodia has invited Kenton to a special symposium in Cambodia in July 2010 to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the United States and Cambodia. Kenton delivered an address giving an overview of the history of the relationship.

Sandra Dawson’s “Busy and Bored: The Politics of Work and Leisure for Women Workers in WWII Government Hostels” appeared in Twentieth-Century British History in January, 2010. She was elected Executive Director of the Co-ordinating Council of Women Historians in April, 2010, and her book, Holiday Camps in Twentieth-Century Britain: Packaging Pleasure is forthcoming this fall with Manchester University Press as part of their Popular Culture Series.

Sean Farrell had a busy semester on research sabbatical, spending three months in Belfast doing archival research for a new book project on evangelical religion and the making of the working class in Victorian Belfast. He gave invited lectures in Limerick, Belfast, and Liverpool, and Irish Academic Press published Power and Popular Culture in Modern Ireland: Essays in Honour of James S. Donnelly, Jr., a collection of essays he co-edited with Michael De Nie.
Heide Fehrenbach gave a number of talks on her research during the past academic year. In July 2009, she presented a paper on “The Humanitarian Origins of Intercountry Adoption” at the Biennial Conference of the Society for the History of Children and Youth in Berkeley, CA. In October, she spoke on “Emotions and the Logic of Family Construction after 1945” at the German Studies Association Annual meeting in Washington, DC, where she also served as a discussant for a roundtable on “The Utility of Race as an Analytical Category” in German-speaking countries. She helped organize an international workshop on “New Approaches to the History of Adoption” at the German Historical Institute in London which was held in March 2010, during which she discussed her research on the links between interwar humanitarianism and the origins of intercountry adoption. In April 2010, she presented a paper titled “How to Handle a Birth Parent: From Local Practice to International Policy in Early Intercountry Adoption, 1948-1960” at the 3rd International Conference on Adoption and Culture held at MIT. Her essay, “War Orphans and Postfascist Families: Kinship and Belonging after 1945” will appear in June in Histories of the Aftermath: The Legacies of World War II in Comparative European Perspective, edited by R.G. Moeller and Frank Biess.


Aaron Fogleman held the Fulbright Distinguished Chair in American Studies at the Goethe University in Frankfurt, Germany in 2008-2009. Along with teaching courses on American and Atlantic history, he presented at conferences in Halle and Dresden, as well as making special presentations in Berlin, Cologne, Kassel, Mainz, Münster, and in Frankfurt itself. Most importantly, he and his wife Vera Lind had twin boys while in Frankfurt, which made the last four months of their stay in Germany quite different and interesting. After returning in summer 2009, Professor Fogleman resumed teaching courses in early American history and Atlantic World. In addition to teaching undergraduate and graduate courses in these fields, he still organizes the student-faculty weekly discussion group on the Atlantic World, which met regularly throughout the past year. In spring 2009 he published an article entitled “The Transformation of the Atlantic World, 1776-1867” in Atlantic Studies, and he continues to work on a book project entitled “Atlantic Lives: An 18th-Century Couple’s Search for Truth and Opportunity in America,” which is about the encounters of a French Swiss husband and German wife with Africans and Native Americans on three continents, as well as numerous European religious and other groups.

Ph.D. candidate Matt Jagel receives the Jameson Essay Award from Prof. Jim Schmidt.

915,” with the support of a Franklin Grant from the American Philosophical Society and an NIU Research and Artistry Grant. She gave two invited lectures in the last year, one at the University of Duisburg-Essen, Germany in July 2009 and one at Dominican University in February 2010. She also presented four conference papers, one at the University of Tampere, Finland in August 2009, one at the University of Notre Dame in September 2009, one at the Meeting of the American Historical Association in San Diego in January 2010, and one at the International Medieval Congress in Kalamazoo, Michigan in May 2010. Professor Garver also had a lot of fun teaching a new course, “Medieval Women,” in the fall semester. She was promoted to Associate Professor.

Michael J. Gonzales published “Imagining Mexico in 1921: Visions of the Revolutionary State and Society in the Centennial Celebration in Mexico City,” in Mexican Studies/Estudios Mexicanos, Vol. 25, Number 2 (Summer 2009), pp. 247-271.

Beatrix Hoffman published “The Challenge of Universal Health Care: Social Movements, Presidential Leadership, and Private Power” in Jane Banazak-Holl, Sandra Levitsky, and Mayer Zald, eds., Social Movements and the Transformation of American Health Care (Oxford University Press, 2010). She gave a talk on health care reform at the New York Academy of Medicine, and presented a paper on the right to health care at the European Social Science History Conference in Ghent, Belgium (where she enjoyed an extended stay due to volcanic activity!). Professor Hoffman just completed her second year as department chair.

Kristin Huffine held the Monticello College Foundation Fellowship at the Newberry Library between January and August 2009, where she finished the research and writing of Producing Christians from Halfmen and Beasts: Jesuit Ethnography and Guarani Response in the Colonial Missions of Río de la Plata. In July 2009, she worked as a consultant to the John Carter Brown Library at Brown University, authenticating a set of seventeenth-century colonial mission documents from Argentina. She also gave papers at the Latin American Studies Association annual meeting in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, during June 2009 and the History of Science Society annual meeting in Phoenix, Arizona, in November 2009. In April, 2010, Professor Huffine was honored with an invitation to NIU’s Mortar Board Honors Society’s Outstanding Faculty and Staff Recognition reception.

Trude Jacobsen presented “Historical Hatred: The Roots of Cambodian Hostility Toward the Vietnamese” in the two-session panel “Dangerous Histories” organized by Thongchai Winichakul (Madison-Wisconsin) and Mary Zeburchen (Ford Foundation) at the Association for Asian Studies annual conference in Philadelphia, 25 – 28 March 2010. She was invited by the College of DuPage to be one of five speakers at their annual Asia-themed event, Asia Rising; Women on the Move, 16-17 March 2010. She also organized Early Modern Southeast Asia: A Forum on 23 March. Speakers included Professor Jacobsen, Professor Eric Jones, Professor Jim Collins, and a distinguished guest, Professor Barbara Watson Andaya, from the University of Hawaii. On 16 April 2010 she spoke to the seventh grade class at the Emiliano Zapata Academy, Chicago, on connections between Latin America and Southeast Asia in the outreach program, Exploring Pacific Links. She was contracted to carry out an external evaluation of the implementation of the 2009-2010 DOE grant for implementing a Certificate in Southeast Asian Studies at Texas State University, San Marcos, 5-12 April 2010.

Eric Jones’s first book, Wives, Slaves, and Concubines: A History of the Female Underclass in Dutch Asia, was published by Northern Illinois University Press in 2010. He was promoted to Associate Professor.

David Kyvig gave four invited lectures in Germany, Scotland, and the United States over the past year. He delivered “Alcohol, Drugs, and Democratic Government,” the keynote address at the Fifth International Conference on the History of Drugs and Alcohol, at the University of Strathclyde, Glasgow, in Scotland, June 27, 2009. He also gave the keynote address “Doing Nearby History in Utah,” at the Utah Museum Association, in Green River, October 21, 2009. On April 14, 2010, Professor Kyvig presented “Documenting the Depression: The 1930s through the Lens of the Farm Security Administration,” in connection with the exhibit, Art of the New Deal Era, at Northern Illinois University Art Museum, Altgeld Hall, April 14, 2010. Professor Kyvig will also deliver “The Age of American Presidential Impeachment,” at the University of Münster in Germany on July 6, 2010. In addition to his invited lectures, the third edition of Nearby History: Exploring the Past Around You, coauthored with Myron A. Marty, has gone to press for publication by AltaMira Press in August 2010.

Amanda Littauer presented “Someone to Love: Same-Sex Desire and Female Adolescence in Postwar America,” at the American Historical Association annual meeting in January 2010.

In May 2009, Ismael Montana received a Pilot Project Award from Arcadia, through the Endangered Archives Programme for the project entitled: “Preservation of endangered historical records in the Public Records and Archives Administration (PRAAD) in Tamale, Northern Ghana.” This project will explore the possibility...
of rescuing endangered archival materials within the Public Records and Archives Administration's (PRAAD) regional branch in Tamale, Northern Ghana. Many of the targeted materials in the Tamale archives date back to the precolonial and colonial period of Ghanaian history. They are an extraordinary national and global treasure, not only in terms of preserving the history and culture of Ghana, but also in terms of their potential impact on historical scholarship, legal matters, and public policy. This project will create an inventory and digital images of endangered documents.

Barbara M. Posadas published “Strategic Citizenship and Immigration from the Philippines,” (co-authored with Roland L. Guyotte) in Roger Daniels, ed., Immigration and the Legacy of Harry S. Truman (Kirkville, MO: Truman State University Press, 2010), 96-119. She chaired “Filipino/a Diasporas in Historical Perspective” at the AHA Annual Meeting in San Diego in January, and “Across the Pacific: Migration Between Japan, the Philippines, and Taiwan—and the U.S.” at the OAH Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C. in April. In May, she (and Roland L. Guyotte) presented ‘Sending Money Home’: Toward a Transnational History of Migrant Remittances’ at “American Ethnicity: Rethinking Old Issues, Asking New Questions,” an invitational workshop sponsored by the Institute of American Studies and Polish Diaspora of the Jagiellonian University in Krakow, Poland. Just before leaving for Poland, she bid good-bye to her doctoral advisee, Li Tao, a Ph.D. candidate in Southeast Asian Studies at Xiamen University in the Peoples Republic of China, who spent 2009-10 on a Chinese-government fellowship at NIU completing his dissertation, “A Study on the Overseas Filipinos and the Social & Economic Development in the Philippines (1974-2009),” under her sponsorship. In her first of three years as president of the Immigration and Ethnic History Society, she brought nine policy issues before the Executive Board for discussion and vote, supervised the work of IEHS committees, and oversaw the Society’s activities during the OAH, including “Dessert before Dinner,” the first IEHS reception for graduate students and early career scholars in the field.

Brian Sandberg was on research leave in 2009-2010, serving as a Solmsen Fellow at the Institute for Research in the Humanities at the University of Wisconsin at Madison. The highlight of his year was the completion of the revisions of his first monograph, Warrior Pursuits: Noble Culture and Civil Conflict in Early Modern France (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2010, forthcoming), which examines provincial nobles’ orchestration of civil violence in southern France in the early seventeenth century. Brian co-organized an academic conference on Campaign Communities: New Historical Perspectives on Armies, Gender, and the State at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in September 2009, and he was glad that four NIU graduate students were able to attend the conference. He wrote an essay on “All the Many and Varied Remedies and Secrets’: Sexual Practices and Reproductive Knowledge in the Renaissance,” for Early Modern Women Journal, which will be published later this year. Another essay entitled, “‘Only the Sack and the Noose for its Citizens’: Atrocities against Civilians in the Wars of Religion in Early Seventeenth-Century France,’ appeared recently in a collective volume on Inventing Collateral Damage: Civilian Casualties, War and Empire. He presented his latest research at conferences on Family Values: Locating the Family in the Early Modern Italian Workshop in Venice; Campaign Communities: New Historical Perspectives on Armies, Gender, and the State at the University of Illinois; Peculiar Institutions: Borders, Boundaries, Identities, and Genres at the University of Chicago; Globalization and the Humanities at the University of Wisconsin; and Attending to Early Modern Women: Conflict, Concord at the University of Maryland. These papers are all related to a new book project on “Gender and Violence in the French Wars of Religion, 1562-1629,” or to an emerging project on race and violence in the Mediterranean world.

Jim Schmidt published Industrial Violence and the Legal Origins of Child Labor with Cambridge University Press in March 2010. He has been promoted to Professor.


Nancy Wingfield had an International Research and Exchanges Short-Term Travel Grant for research with policy relevance in Lviv, Ukraine during the summer of 2009. While in Lviv, she spoke on “Gender, Memory, and Nationalism Fatigue in Habsburg Central Europe,” at the workshop, “Nationalism Fatigue? New Approaches to the History of Society, Memory and Public Sphere in Eastern and Central Europe,” sponsored by the Ivan Krypiakevych Institute of Ukrainian Studies (National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine), the Center for Urban History of East Central Europe, and the ReSET Project, “Rethinking Social Time and Space: National Regional and (G)local Paradigms in Teaching Eastern and Central Europe.” In addition, she was a panel commentator at an international, interdisciplinary conference she helped organize in Lviv, “Sex in the Cities: Prostitution, White Slaving, and Sexual Minorities in Eastern and Central Europe.” She also co-authored with Lisa Kirschenbaum an article, “Gender and the Construction of Wartime Heroism in Czechoslovakia and the Soviet Union,” for a special issue of European History Quarterly 39/3 (2009), “The Politics of Memory in Modern Europe: Comparative Perspectives.”

Christine Worobec, who will be taking early retirement in August 2010, has a Collaborative Project Fellowship with l’Institut d’Études Avancées/Institute for Advanced Studies in Paris in June and July 2010. The project is focusing on “The Center and the Periphery in the Religious History of Eastern Europe at the Beginning of Modern Times (Orthodox Russians and Ukrainians, Greek Catholics, and Old Believers).” The other scholars involved in the study include Aleksandr Lavrov (Université Paris VIII - Saint-Denis); Urszula Cierńak (Jan Długosz Academy in Częstochowa, Poland); Kateryna Dysa (Mohyla Academy in Kiev, Ukraine); Valerie Kivelson (University of Michigan); and Elena Smilanskaia (Russian State Humanities University in Moscow, Russia). They will be preparing a volume of original essays as well as a collection of translated and annotated primary sources. After moving to Washington, DC in the fall, Worobec will continue working on her long-term research project, “Moving Faith: Pilgrimages in Modern Russia and Ukraine,” for which she has two months support as a Visiting Fellow at the Aleksanteri Institute – Finnish Centre for Russian and Eastern European Studies, University of Helsinki, in spring 2011. She has an article, “Cross-Dressing in a Russian Orthodox Monastery: The Case of Mariia Zakharova,” in a forthcoming special issue of Journal of the History of Sexuality, edited by Nancy Wingfield and Keely Stauter-Halsted.


Kristin Huffine’s *Science in the Spanish and Portuguese Empires, 1500-1800*, co-edited with Daniela Bleichmar, Paula De Vos, and Kevin Sheehan, was published by Stanford University Press in 2009.


Sean Farrell’s *Power and Popular Culture in Modern Ireland*, co-edited with Michael De Nie, was published by Irish Academic Press.

Ismael Montana’s *Slavery, Islam, and Diaspora*, co-edited with Paul E. Lovejoy and Behnaz A. Mirzai, was published by Africa World Press in 2009.
The 2009-10 academic year was quite eventful in History. We witnessed students achieve great successes and honors, and spent more time than in recent memory as a faculty pondering the entire structure of our undergraduate curriculum. An all-afternoon faculty retreat on October 30 yielded several ideas for changes, which the Undergraduate Committee undertook in the spring semester. Among these are a revision of our general education offerings in world history (including the introduction of a pre-1500 class), renumbering of our Historical Methods and Senior Thesis classes, and a reconception of our upper-division field distribution requirements. Remember the maximum limit of four courses in any one field? Starting in 2011, that limit will be replaced with a requirement that History majors take a minimum of one class in each of three fields. The objective is to ensure that students take a broad array of classes, temporally and geographically. The upshot for students is that they will be able to take up to five courses in a field they find stimulating, if they choose to do so. I would like to thank personally the members of the UC (J.D. Bowers, Aaron Fogleman, Valerie Garver, Eric Jones, Jim Schmidt, and student representatives Mary Hatfield and Jorge Rios) and our supportive and unflappable department chair Beatrix Hoffman for their positive energy and thoughtful contributions to the curricular revision process.

Several of our students made us really proud this year. Shay Galto, who also won a USOA R, the Lincoln Laureate, an EYE grant, and a Mortar Board scholarship. Argyropoulos were admitted to masters programs in public history. Below you will find a list of students who won the department’s major prizes and scholarships. All of these students keep us in the game and we are blessed to have worked with them.

In July 2010, Cheryl Lemus steps down from a two-year appointment as my graduate assistant advisor, and John Hink takes up the task for the next two years. Cheryl has done a fabulous job and I wish her the best as she continues to progress with her career as a historian of medicine. John brings a friendly demeanor and a great sense of humor to the job. I am delighted to have him waiting in the wings.

Undergraduate interest in history remains strong at NIU. We are holding steady at around 450 majors and 160 minors. We have good attendance at our Open House presentations for prospective students and their parents. I try to persuade them that the study of history and the skills it requires are valuable in an unlimited variety of careers and avocations. But the best possible evidence we can provide them are YOUR stories! So please keep sending us news of your activities and accomplishments. Not only will you help current students figure out their options, but you will also encourage and sustain your grizzled former teachers with word of your struggles and triumphs.

Taylor Atkins
Director of Undergraduate Studies
Following last year’s notification of full, decade-long accreditation the program has continued to refine its courses, assessments, and policies. Interest in the program has continued to be high, our enrollments steady, and our graduates as impressive as ever. Over the course of this past academic year the program certified 35 new teachers. Unfortunately they have entered the job market at its lowest point in decades. In 2008-2009, the last academic year for which data is available, there were 13 newly certified social studies teachers for every vacancy in Illinois. Several schools shared with us their employment details. One high school, with only one opening, received more than 300 applications; another, with two openings (one history, one psychology) received more than 225 applications for each job. Add to that the growing number of social studies teachers who are losing their jobs in the on-going reductions throughout the state’s districts, and the competition for jobs is fierce. Still, our graduates have not been without some success; those who have completed the program over the past two years have been able to find jobs in Arizona, Illinois, Nevada, North Carolina, Texas, and even South Korea.

As changes in secondary education are settling into place within the schools, our program has responded to better prepare our graduates. This past year we began requiring enrollment in LTRE 311/511, Literacy in the Secondary Classroom, a course that has a specific section designated for our students and those in the English certification program where the assignments, readings, and discussions are focused on the particular needs of the two disciplines. We have further restructured parts of our clinical courses to introduce students to more in-depth training on working with students whose primary language is one other than English, train them in the practices of RtI (Response to Intervention), and greater awareness of the changes in social studies practices and content.

Of particular note are our continuing partnerships with Rockford (RPS #205) and Elgin (U-46) districts through the Teaching American History grant program. Not only do our program faculty play a central role in the planning, delivery, and evaluation of these grants, but we have also had more than 60 of our program’s students participate in their events, including lectures, workshops, training sessions, and curriculum development with some of the nation’s leading historians of the U.S. Our whole goal is to instill in our program graduates the benefits and need for continuing professional development and to get them to work with practicing teachers who are similarly committed.

The program continues to remain the “home base” of NIU’s Genocide and Human Rights Institute which is entirely dedicated to disseminating knowledge about the Holocaust, Ukrainian, Rwandan, Cambodian, and numerous other genocides and human rights violations to students and teachers throughout Illinois and the U.S. This past year GHRI partnered with the Center for Southeast Asian Studies to run a four-day summer institute on genocides in Southeast Asia, with Dr. Nancy Lutz from SIU-E as our keynote speaker. The program attracted 20 teachers (our limit) from seven states and from all levels of teaching. It trained them how to teach such sensitive and horrific topics and provide the best foundations of content knowledge in the field. The GHRI also sponsored and participated in twelve additional events, including hosting speakers and providing programming in the schools. Of particular note were the session on Genocide in International Law at the Constitutional Rights Foundation-Chicago’s annual conference on law-related topics, the content session for the Illinois Humanities Council / IL Secretary of State’s co-sponsored capitol Forum program in Springfield, and the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day programming in two of Indian Creek’s elementary schools. In response to the new Illinois mandate on teaching about Mexican-American repatriation, the program will be bringing on-line (and presenting the results at a conference in the coming year) nearly 80 lessons on the Mexican-American experience and the denial of rights and equality throughout their history. There is not another program like this in the US that does so much outreach, curriculum planning, and training for youth and teachers.

The program’s success is due in no small part to the on-going support of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and various departments, as well as the excellence of the students. This year was a special year for our faculty as well, with Kate Maley, the program Advisor and Instructor, receiving a certificate of merit for her service to the university and with J.D. Bowers being honored with the Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching Award for his teaching in the program, his history content courses, and his courses in Washington, D.C. and abroad.

All in all it has been a good year for the program and this coming year promises to be equally successful.

J.D. Bowers
Director of Secondary Teacher Certification for History and Social Sciences
The 2009-2010 academic year was busy! In August we welcomed 20 new graduate students to our department, including five new teaching assistants, bringing our total student population to 90. NIU Press Director J. Alex Schwartz held a workshop for our graduate students on academic publishing in September, and Donna Martin of the Office of Sponsored Projects spoke to graduate students about successful strategies for identifying and applying for research grants in October. The Graduate Student Association hosted its second annual History Graduate Student Conference, also in October, drawing participants from MA and PhD programs at NIU, Loyola University Chicago, Marquette University, and the University of Iowa. The conference was such a big success that the planning for the third annual conference (to be held in fall 2010) was underway almost immediately! In January, eleven new MA students joined our rolls and the Graduate Committee reviewed more than fifty applications for the fall term in February and March.

Our graduate program and students have been recognized in a number of ways. Our department’s new field essay, which replaced the closed-book timed essays as our comprehensive examination for MA students in 2006, was honored as an outstanding example of student assessment at the annual Assessment Expo held in March. Two of our best students were honored by the Graduate School for their academic excellence in April, with Steven Peach receiving the award for outstanding MA student and Sean Cadagin receiving the award for outstanding PhD student in addition to a coveted Dissertation Completion Fellowship. In May, we awarded research grants to six PhD students and two MA students to facilitate summer research projects.

Across the year, seven PhD students successfully defended their dissertation research prospectuses and advanced to candidacy, and ten MA and PhD students completed their degrees. Another seven are expected to graduate at the end of the summer term. We wish them all good fortune.

Anne G. Hanley
Director of Graduate Studies

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**Outside Speakers**

On 19 October 2009 the eminent Yale historian, Jonathan Spence, delivered the sixth annual W. Bruce Lincoln Lecture. Spence gave a fascinating talk “China and the West: A Seventeenth Century Pioneer,” which chronicled one of the first Chinese visitor’s experiences in Europe and the meeting of two very different cultures. The talk was a preview of Professor Spence’s 2010 Jefferson Lecture in the Humanities (sponsored by the National Endowment of the Humanities) at the Warner Theater in Washington, DC, on May 20. The Jefferson Lecture “is the most prestigious honor the federal government bestows for distinguished intellectual achievement in the humanities.” Professor Spence is the recipient of MacArthur and Guggenheim fellowships, among many other awards, including ten honorary degrees and Companion of the Order of St. Michael and St. George from Queen Elizabeth II.

On 8 April 2010 Professor Christine Ruane of the University of Tulsa gave two presentations connected to her award-winning *The Empire’s New Clothes: A History of the Russian Fashion Industry, 1700-1917* (Yale University Press, 2009) as part of the Graduate Colloquium Series sponsored by the Graduate School. In the morning Professor Ruane conducted a lively graduate seminar on “Display and Consumption in Imperial Russia,” and later that afternoon presented a public lecture accompanied by superb illustrations, detailing the main argument of her book. Students from both history and art history were in attendance.

On 27 April 2010 Dr. Roberto Mazza of Western Illinois University spoke on “Jerusalem, a City in Transition: From the Ottomans to the British 1910-1920” as part of the departmental Brown Bag Lecture Series. Dr. Mazza discussed the history of Jerusalem and its transition from Ottoman rule to British administration. Through extensive unpublished archival materials, his lecture offered a fresh approach to this period of Jerusalem’s history. Dr. Mazza is the author of *Jerusalem: From the Ottomans to the British: A History of Tolerance and Tension* (I.B. Tauris Press, 2009).
Greg Bereiter published a review of John Witte Jr.’s The Reformation of Rights: Law, Religion, and Human Rights in Early Modern Calvinism, Cambridge University Press, 2007, in Symposia: The Graduate Student Journal of the Centre for the Study of Religion at the University of Toronto. Symposia is an online, peer-reviewed journal for graduate students in the study of religion and related fields. He also was selected to attend the University of Geneva’s Institut de l’histoire de la Réformation (IHR) summer course, to be held in Geneva, Switzerland, from 25 May to 4 June, and the H. Henry Meeter Center for Calvin Studies’ French Paleography summer course, to be held at Calvin College in Grand Rapids, Michigan, from 7 June to 18 June. Greg also participated in a semester-long graduate seminar at the Newberry Library’s Center for Renaissance Studies, entitled “Princes and their Cities in Burgundian and Habsburg Europe, 1400-1648.”

Noah Blan presented “The Material Vernacular of Landscape in the Carolingian Lay Mirrors” at the “Emotions as History” graduate student conference at Northwestern University’s Nicholas D. Chabraja Center for Historical Studies on May 14, 2010.

Sean Cadagin was awarded the Graduate School Outstanding PhD History Student Award and the Dissertation Completion Fellowship in April 2010. He was also awarded “Outstanding Paper by a Graduate Student” at the Missouri Valley History Conference for his paper entitled “‘An Act of Special and Savage Ruthlessness:’ Racial Exclusion in Antebellum Illinois,” in March 2010.

Coral Carlson presented “Preserved in Paint: Chinese and Southeast Asian Ceramics in European Art of the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Centuries” at the annual meeting of the Renaissance Society of America on April 9, 2010, in Venice, Italy, and “Travels of the Smiling Fish: A Chinese Cizhou Motif in Asian, European, and American Ceramics” at the Eighth Annual Emerging Scholars Symposium on April 24, 2010, at the Winterthur Museum, Wilmington, Delaware. She also received travel grants from the Kress Foundation and the Royal Thai Government, and the Neher Grant from NIU’s Southeast Asian Studies Program. The grants enabled her travel to Venice and to complete her research on Thai ceramics in Thailand later this year. She will also attend a course at the School of Oriental and African Studies at the University College of London this summer.

Scott Gurman received a Dissertation Facilitation Award from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences for May and June, 2010.

Laura Iandola presented “Selling Non-Proliferation: U.S.-Australian cooperation on the Radio Australia in 1965 Indonesia” at the American Historical Association Annual Meeting in January 2010 and “Seen/Unseen: Gerwani Women and the Visual Narrative of the Indonesian Genocide” at Northern Illinois University’s Southeast Asian Conference in March 2010. She was also awarded a Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship to study intensive Indonesian at Universitas Hasanuddin in Makassar, Indonesia for the summer 2010.

Matthew Jagel won the Hugh Jameson Graduate Student Essay Prize for “Son Ngoc Thanh, Norodom Sihanouk, and the Khmer Issarak Resistance Movement, 1945-1955.” He presented a paper on the same topic and received Top Graduate Paper Award at the NIU Southeast Asia Club Student Conference.

Cheryl Lemus presented “Paying for Healthy Mothers and Babies: Elizabeth Putnam, Prenatal Care, and the Middle Class, 1908-1921” at the American Association for the History of Medicine, April 29-May 2, in Rochester, Minnesota. She also presented “Who is the Modern Pregnant Woman,” at the Western Association of Women Historians Conference, May 20-23 at the University of Puget Sound. Cheryl published The Village of Hoffman Estates: An Artyical Suburb with The History Press in September 2009. She reviewed Esther Katz’s edited volume, The Selected Papers of Margaret Sanger, Volume 2, Birth Control Comes of Age, 1928-1939, September 2009 for H-Women. In addition to her publications and papers, she received a Dissertation Grant from the Schlesinger Library at Harvard University for 2009-2010.

Steven Peach won the Graduate School Outstanding MA History Student Award in April 2010. He presented “Localizing Law and Conquest in the Virginia Backcountry, 1750-1800” at the Missouri Conference on History in Columbia, Missouri and at the Temple University Fifteenth Annual Barnes Club Graduate Student Conference in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Michael Rossoow received a Marshall/Baruch Fellowship from The George C. Marshall Foundation for 2010-2011 for research on his dissertation project, “Medical Care Provided by the U.S. Military to Prisoners of War during World War II.”
Alumni News

Susan Branson (PhD, 1992) is Associate Professor of History at Syracuse University. Her second book, Dangerous to Know: Women, Crime, and Notoriety in the Early Republic, was published by the University of Pennsylvania Press in 2008.

Mary Hatfield (BA, 2010) will be attending graduate school in the fall at Queens University Belfast, Northern Ireland, with the support of a Special Research Scholarship from the School of History and Anthropology International Masters Bursary.


Laura Linde (MA, 2008) will begin a PhD program in Japanese history at the University of Wisconsin-Madison this fall.

Matthew Margis (BA, 2009) will begin a MA program in History at Iowa State University this fall.

Tom Arne Midtrod (PhD, 2008) is Assistant Professor of History at the University of Iowa. His article “The Flemish Bastard and the Former Indians: Métis and Identity in Seventeenth-Century New York” appeared last winter in The American Indian Quarterly, 34:1 (Winter 2010), 83-108. His NIU dissertation will be published by Cornell University Press.

Reid Weber (MA, 2007) recently passed his doctoral comprehensive exams at the University of Florida-Gainesville, where he is pursuing a PhD in medieval history. He is specializing in late medieval Bohemia.

Public History Internships

An internship at a historical society, archive or museum is an excellent way for students to gain practical experience and establish professional contacts. Here are the 2009-2010 interns:

Lindsay Rice (undergraduate student) interned at the St. Charles Heritage Center where she assisted in digitizing the museum’s primary documents. She also handled research requests and designed a small window exhibit on the 175th Anniversary of the City of St. Charles.

Maria “Rai” Hancock (graduate student) worked at the NIU Press where she assisted director Alex Schwartz with the Southeast Asian Studies Series. In addition to editing and writing descriptions of series materials, Rai researched and contacted authors and reviewers and investigated funding options for a Malay language multi-media dictionary project.

Brandyn Grove (at-large graduate student) Brandyn interned at the Stephenson County Historical Society in Freeport. His main responsibility was the fabrication of an exhibit on Stephenson County’s role in the Civil War. The exhibit was in conjunction with the opening of a similarly themed play at nearby Highland Community College. In addition to selecting the artifacts and documents for the exhibit, he also wrote all of the text panels.
In Memoriam

The Department of History remembers three former faculty members we lost in 2009-10.

Margaret Young George

Professor Emeritus Margaret George died on November 8, 2009 in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. Professor George received her Ph.D. from the University of Pittsburgh, and was one of the first holders of a Woodrow Wilson Fellowship. She taught at the University of Illinois-Chicago before coming to NIU in 1961. Professor George taught courses in Modern European History and a ground-breaking course in Marxist thought of the 19th century. Her publications included *The Hollow Men: British Foreign Policy, 1933-39* (published in the U.S. as *The Warped Vision*) and *One Woman’s Situation*, a study of Mary Wollstonecraft. She retired from NIU in 2003. In her legacy as a teacher, Professor George left behind scores of impassioned, dedicated, politically active students, many of whom have gone on to illustrious careers in history scholarship and teaching.

She is survived by her spouse of nearly fifty years, NIU Professor of History Emeritus C.H. George, four daughters, and eight grandchildren.

Constance M. Wilson


Shortly before her death, Professor Wilson bequeathed her unique private library and research materials to NIU’s Southeast Asian Collection. The bequest arrived in April 2010. A memorial fund in Constance Wilson’s name has been established by the American Friends Service Committee in Philadelphia.

J. Carroll Moody

Former History Department chair and NIU Provost J. Carroll Moody died Aug. 18, 2009 in Corpus Christi, Texas. An historian who specialized in American economic and labor history, Moody joined the NIU faculty in 1968 and spent 31 years at the university. His publications include *Perspectives on American Labor History: The Problem of Synthesis* (NIU Press, 1989), co-edited with Alice Kessler-Harris. Beginning in 1974, he served as chair of the Department of History for a decade and later as the executive secretary of the University Council and president of NIU’s Faculty Senate. He became acting provost in 1992. Two years later, after a national search, he was named provost. Professor Moody held the post until his retirement in 1999.

In addition to his wife Carolyn Moody, Professor Moody is survived by five children, nine grandchildren and five great grandchildren. The family requested that memorials in his honor be made to Alzheimer’s research.
The Department of History gratefully acknowledges the generosity of the following alumni and friends who have contributed during the past fiscal year to its endowments.
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