



College of Letters & Science

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

The Past in The Present

News for Alumni and Friends from the Department of History



In this issue:

Chair's Welcome • Wisconsin 101 • Washington, D.C. Public Schools • Épinal Project
Russia's Great War • Faculty Honors and Awards • Faculty, Emeriti, & Alumni Updates
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Front cover: Babcock Butterfat Tester. Wisconsin Historical Society, Museum object 1948.567,A-D

Back cover: Bucky Wagon by Jeff Miller, UW Madison University Communications.

Chair's Welcome



Jim Sweet, Department Chair 2013-present

Even by our normally high standards, we achieved remarkable successes in 2013-2014. Altogether, the faculty produced nearly a dozen books, including four national prize winners—Cindy Cheng, Will Jones, Lou Roberts, and Jennifer Ratner-Rosenhagen. Louise Young and Judd Kinzley received prestigious extramural grants to support their path-breaking research in East Asian history. And the department swept the ranks of university awards—Jennifer Ratner-Rosenhagen (Vilas Associate), Karl Shoemaker (Romnes), and Lou Roberts (WARF).

Our undergraduate and graduate teaching remained stellar. John Hall won a university Distinguished Teaching Award, the highest honor the university bestows for excellence in teaching. Marc Kleijwegt, Neil Kodesh, Al McCoy, and Claire Taylor each directed undergraduate research projects that earned university awards. And two of our graduate students—Jake Blanc (Latin America) and Patrick Otim (Africa)—won the Social Science Research Council's International Dissertation Research

Save the Date!

American Historical Association Conference, New York City, NY

- American Historical Association Conference, January 2-5, 2015, New York City, NY
- AHA History Department Reception, Friday January 2, 2015, 5:00-7:00 p.m., The Perfect Pint, Public House, 123 West 45th Street, New York, NY 10036

Harvey Goldberg Lecture, Madison, WI

- Harvey Goldberg Lecture, featuring Professor Robert Pollin, University of Massachusetts-Amherst, November 6, 2014

2015 Spring Reception, Madison, WI

- Annual Spring Reception, Friday May 8, 2015, 3:30-5:00 p.m., Alumni Lounge, Pyle Center

Fellowship, the most competitive and prestigious award given for research in the Humanities and Social Sciences.

As we turn the corner on a new academic year, the department's future looks brighter than ever. In September, Bill Cronon received the Robert Marshall Award, the highest honor given to any private citizen active in the cause of wilderness protection. Shelly Chan, Fran Hirsch, Jennifer Ratner-Rosenhagen, and Bill Reese recently learned that they are the recipients of national or international awards. Just as promising are the new colleagues we have welcomed into our fold. We are delighted to welcome Giuliana Chamedes and Liz Hennessy. Chamedes, a historian of twentieth-century Europe and the world, focuses on the diplomatic relations of the Vatican between 1920 and 1960. Hennessy's research lies at the juncture of environmental and Latin American histories, concentrating specifically on the history of "evolution" among human and non-human inhabitants of the Galapagos Islands.

In addition to building on the department's tradition of research and teaching excellence, we have made great strides in broadening our intellectual community to include our friends and alums. When I became chair, I promised that I would make an effort to build stronger links between our graduates and the current cohort of professors and students who walk the halls of Mosse Humanities Building. Last year we taught more retired auditors than any other department in the College, save Music. We held outreach events in Chicago and Washington. I personally visited with History alums in Chicago, Houston, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, and Washington. This academic year, I will travel to Atlanta, Los Angeles, and New York and look forward to meeting many more of you.

Altogether, I've had the privilege of talking directly to more than sixty of our alums over the past year. The list includes luminaries in the arts, business, education, law, medicine, and sports. Many of them marvel at the roads they have traveled from their undergraduate days in Madison to the wildly successful, history-making lives they have made for themselves. These former History majors are engaged, self-aware, life-long learners. Moreover, they are unfailingly gracious in attributing their successes to UW, the History department, and even individual professors who shaped their lives. For me, their stories are more than inspirational; they are the clearest expression of what we do, the antidote to those who are skeptical about the value of a History degree.

One universal truth in my conversations with alums is that they think historically in their everyday professional lives. The doctor who tells me the most important thing she does, before ever treating a patient, is take the patient's history. The fund manager who tells me that while pundits on CNBC talk about market trends, his secret weapon is market history. The investment banker who tells me that he carefully weighs the evidence, avoiding the temptations of impulsivity, before buying a new company. The lawyer who describes evidence not merely as a tool to wield in the service of the law, but as a building-block for a compelling story. To be sure, the writing skills, problem solving skills, and creativity demanded of historians are assets that employers will always desire. Based on the many unsolicited and thoroughly convincing stories I hear from our alums, the question

should not be "what can you do with a History degree." It should be "what can't you do with a History degree."

You will see evidence of the richness and breadth of historical study throughout these pages, not expressed simply as "job skills," but also as habits of mind that lead to rich, well-rounded, fulfilling lives. Most of you have probably long forgotten the material details of names, dates, and people you studied in your History courses, but the cognitive dispositions at the core of your education remain firm—critical assessment, discernment, respect, service, leadership. We continue to cultivate these dispositions every day through life-changing classroom experiences like the Wisconsin 101 and Épinal projects. The combination of careful, studied reflection and principled assessment is, to my mind, the signal virtue of thinking historically. At bottom, history teaches us to embrace the fullness of what it means to be democratic citizens, offering us a set of dispositions that demand us to be engaged, life-long learners.

As we continue to expand our intellectual circle and share the good news of UW History, we hope that you will join us. You can show your support for History in any number of ways. Come to our lectures and events! (See opposite page.) Our career counselor Lindsay Williamson is always looking for alums willing to come back to campus to speak to our majors about their lives and career paths. Contact Lindsay at lwilliamson@wisc.edu. Of course, we also encourage you to make a gift to the department. Last year, we raised more money for our Annual Fund than we had in any previous year. Without your gifts, last year's many successes simply could not have happened.

However you choose to engage with us, thank you for your continued loyalty and support. A department like ours is only as great as its alums. You make us better every day.

On Wisconsin!

Stay Connected

We'd like to hear from you. Please send any news we can include in future newsletters or any changes in your contact information to:

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Photo by: Jeff Miller;
UW-Madison University
Communications

What in the World?

Wisconsin 101: Our History in Objects



Babcock Butterfat Tester. Courtesy of the University of Wisconsin Archives

From the outside, it looks like a standard wooden cheese box — a box for letting cheese, especially Cheddar cheese, age — commonly found on Wisconsin dairy farms in the late 1800s. But under the lid someone has built a wooden support for a steel shaft, rigging a simple “whirler” or centrifuge. Also tucked inside are some narrow glass flasks and a small measuring scale. On the inside of the lid is an old sheet of directions for use. What is it?

This was an early example of a Babcock buttermilk tester — the tool that allowed farmers and dairymen to cheaply, easily, and accurately measure the quality (fat content) of milk for the first time. The test made it possible for farmers to improve the fat content of their cows’ milk and for cheesemakers to measure the productivity and quality of their cheesemaking process; it transformed the quality and productivity of the dairy industry not just in Wisconsin but in the United States as a whole. Stephen Moulton Babcock of the University of Wisconsin Agricultural Experiment Station, who built upon the idea of his colleague Frederick Garland Short to develop this test, published it in 1890 without a patent, insisting that it be made available free to anyone who wanted it. While companies around the country took advantage of the unpatented process to build and market Babcock testers, dairy farmers also took advantage of the simplicity of the process to build and use their own testers — as some unidentified farmer, presumably in Wisconsin, did with this cheese box now preserved at the Wisconsin Historical Society.

So what is this object? It’s neither a cheese box, nor a factory-produced Babcock tester. Rather, it is an artifact of Wisconsin ingenuity, a window into the science of food quality control, the transformation of the American dairy industry, and the tradition of the Wisconsin Idea that education should improve people’s lives beyond the classroom. This one object stands at the intersection of several different stories that tie seemingly disparate strands of Wisconsin’s history together.

This early Babcock tester is part of Wisconsin 101: Our History in Objects, a statewide collaborative public history project that will feature an interactive web site and weekly segments on Wisconsin Public Radio’s *Wisconsin Life* series. Like the British Museum’s History of the World in 100 Objects from 2010, this project uses individual objects to tell interesting stories about Wisconsin’s history. However, it also highlights the connections between those stories, weaving together the histories of people throughout Wisconsin. In order to ensure the inclusion of objects and histories from throughout the state, the organizers of Wisconsin 101, Professors Tom Broman and Sarah Thal, have taken the British Museum’s idea in an entirely different direction. Instead of relying on professional museum curators or university faculty to make the choices and build the web site, they aim to enlist broad participation from the public in choosing objects and contributing histories to the site. Thus, they are creating an online exhibit that puts project curation into the public’s hands. Thal planted the seed for Wisconsin 101 almost three years ago when she spearheaded a revision of the History undergraduate major. “When Tom and I first came up with the idea in spring 2012, we were trying to think of ways that history courses might serve purposes outside of the classroom to give students a sense of history’s broader public role,” says Thal. The project was part of an effort to translate the research, writing, and critical thinking skills of the history major to undergraduate career development. As the department reaffirmed in its latest statement of the “Goals of the History Major” in 2013, we want our students to be able to “identify the skills they have honed in



Grade School Children Using Babcock’s Butter Fat Testing Device, Balsam Lake, Wisconsin. Courtesy of the University of Wisconsin Archives

their history courses and to articulate the applicability of those skills to a variety of career paths beyond the professional practice of history.” The individually-authored publication of object histories to the web site is one obvious way for students to enhance their post-graduate portfolios. Students also have the opportunity to leverage their object histories into radio production, presenting their research results on WPR’s program, *Wisconsin Life*. Long-term ambitions include the possibility of collaborating with Wisconsin Public Television in short features that would be a cross between *Antiques Roadshow* and *History Detectives*.

Broman offered a pilot version of the undergraduate research course to honors students in his history of medicine survey in the spring of 2013. Teams of students researched a cupping kit from the 1870s used for bloodletting, a surgeon’s kit from the Civil War, and a type of leg brace known as the “Milwaukee brace” from the early 20th century. Then in the following semester two students who had worked on the cupping kit, McKenzie Bruce, a History major, and Eleanor Miller, a Food Science major, continued working on the cupping kit as an independent study. The results of their research will be seen on the web site when it goes public. Writing about that experience, McKenzie noted that “working on this project for a full year allowed me to appreciate that in researching one object, one can discuss so many aspects of Wisconsin history. From our cupping kit we connected to historical medical techniques, the history of Appleton and the Wisconsin State Medical Society, and even current homeopathic practices.”

Though Wisconsin 101 is still in its infancy, it is already spreading to other parts of the state. Several partners have been integral in defining the project, including the Wisconsin Historical Society, Wisconsin Public Radio, Recollection Wisconsin, the UW-Madison Material Culture Program, and representatives of local history societies and Indian tribes. Faculty and curators in Eau Claire, LaCrosse, Whitewater, Milwaukee, and Madison are planning exhibits, workshops, and undergraduate research classes to generate objects for the project as well.

Thal and Broman intend to take the Wisconsin 101 web site “live” in late 2014. The web site will feature links to multiple stories about each object; supporting historical imagery and documents; and interactive audio/video clips. For example, one object currently on the test site, researched by History department graduate student Sergio Gonzalez, is a 78rpm record produced by Paramount Records, a Port Washington, Wisconsin, company that was the leading producer of jazz and other recordings of “Negro” music in the 1920s. Stories connected to this object highlight how, in the new era of the phonograph, the managers of the Wisconsin Chair Company moved into manufacture of phonograph cabinets and then music recording; how they hired the company’s first black executive, J. Mayo Williams, to recruit artists such as Louis Armstrong and Blind Lemon Jefferson to the label; how workers at the Grafton, Wisconsin, plant pressed records using shells of the original wax master recording; and how jazz and blues became prominent in American popular music in the 1920s.

Above all, the project hopes to engage the interest of the state’s undergraduates with the prospect of writing object histories and seeing them published under their own names on the web site. The invitation for viewers to develop their own interpretations of our shared history — becoming curators or researcher-writers themselves — is what makes a project such as this one truly exciting. If you would like to contribute an object history or become involved yourself, please contact Professor Thal at thal@wisc.edu. Or make a gift to the History Department Annual Fund with the note “Wisconsin 101.”



Wisconsin-born Paramount Records, a pioneer in producing jazz recordings in the 1920s. Courtesy of the Mills Music Library, University of Wisconsin-Madison



Dr. Reeve’s Cupping Kit. Photo from the Wisconsin Historical Society

History in a Bottle



Kelsey Corrigan shows off the bottle that was the object of her investigation for her Wisconsin 101 project

Kelsey Corrigan, a senior major in Biology and History/History of Science, took Professor Tom Broman's Wisconsin 101: History in Objects research seminar in spring 2014. Here, Corrigan describes the class and her research experience:

The Wisconsin 101 course was unique because it created an opportunity for me to work on a project that had relevance outside of the classroom. I really enjoyed taking a class that worked toward real-life applications. At first, I thought researching one object would be much easier than researching a person or an event or a time period. However, I learned that in researching one object, you must explore many details about the object, as well as the details that surround the object. It is often difficult to find information about the owner, setting, and uses of an object, but that is the greatest part of researching a specific object, because you learn interesting and relevant stories that connect to the major themes of the time period when the object existed. Some of these stories and themes even connect to our lives today.

For my research project, I picked a soda bottle from 1904 that was found in my hometown, Whitefish Bay. I started my research searching for information in UW-Madison's libraries, but did not find much about my hometown or the small soda company that owned the bottle. So, I expanded my search to UW-Milwaukee's library and the Whitefish Bay Historical Society. The help and information I received at both places was unbelievable. At UW-Milwaukee's library, I found a bottle-maker's product catalog that taught me everything one would need to know about soda bottles made since the early 1800s. Who knew that the expense of glass soda bottles would lead to the national adoption of glass recycling? At the Whitefish Bay Historical Society, I found written accounts from people who lived in my town in the early 1900s that talked about the soda bottle company. These sources led me to find the most interesting piece of information about Whitefish Bay. The small residential town where I grew up was once a huge resort that attracted people from all over the country, even the president, in the early 1900s. I was astonished that I had lived in my town for 18 years and never realized that a ferris wheel had once stood in nearly the same spot as my house! Even though my object was just a soda bottle, I learned an enormous amount about my hometown and Milwaukee's atmosphere in the early 20th century, and I discovered personal stories about my hometown that I was able to share with my family and neighbors.

Researching an object was not an easy task, but the hard work was worth it! The Wisconsin 101 course introduced me to an entirely new way to investigate history by focusing on objects. Researching historical objects is valuable for uncovering stories and insights into a time and place that may not be found in academic sources. Although it was technically schoolwork, I had an awesome time researching my object and learning about Wisconsin's sleighs, motorcycles, baseball mascots, and dairy testers through my classmates' and my projects. Thanks to this course and the Wisconsin 101 project, now I can consider myself a true Wisconsinite.



Current status of Wisconsin 101: Our History in Objects:

- Website under development; planned launch in November 2014
- 4 completed object histories (including 1 by a UW-Madison student)
- 6 object histories under development (including 3 by UW-Madison students)
- Website to launch with 8 completed object histories
- 1 WPR *Wisconsin Life* segment recorded (by UW-Madison students); programs to air once there are at least 10 segments recorded.
- Traveling exhibit on "How to Write an Object History" in final preparation stages; to travel around the state in early 2015 after the launching of the website
- 1 UW-Madison seminar on researching Wisconsin objects taught in spring 2014; another scheduled for spring 2015; 3 independent studies completed or offered in fall 2014 for students to complete their write-ups and recordings
- June 2014 workshop generated guidelines for submission and enthusiastic endorsements from local history societies, museums, and two tribal representatives
- Directed by Tom Broman, History of Science, and Sarah Thal, History. Staffed by a project assistant. Funded by the College of Letters and Science and the History Department Annual Fund.
- If you would like to contribute to the development and expansion of Wisconsin 101, please consider a contribution to the History Department Annual Fund.

Cronon Earns The Wilderness Society's Highest Civilian Honor and Steps Down as Editor of Path-Breaking Environmental Book Series



Bill Cronon receives the Robert Marshall Award from Jamie Williams, President of the Wilderness Society. Photo courtesy of Hilary Cronon.

On September 18, 2014, Bill Cronon, Frederick Jackson Turner and Vilas Research Professor of History, Geography, and Environmental Studies, received the highest civilian honor given by The Wilderness Society, an organization on whose Governing Council Cronon has served for two decades. The Society's Robert Marshall Award has been given since 1981 to "a private citizen who has never held federal office but has devoted long-term service to and has had a notable influence upon conservation and the fostering of an American land ethic." Past awardees have included such environmental notables as Sigurd Olson, Wallace Stegner, David Brower, Terry Tempest Williams, and Charles and Nina Leopold Bradley.

Cronon is widely regarded as one of the founders of the field of environmental history. His books *Changes in the Land: Indians, Colonists, and the Ecology of New England* and *Nature's Metropolis: Chicago and the Great West* have pioneered new ways of analyzing and narrating the American past so as to bring non-human actors and geophysical processes much more into the mainstream of the way historians approach their work. He has also consistently sought to make his scholarship (and teaching) accessible to public audiences, so that his writings have had widest impact beyond the walls of academe.

Cronon's two decades of service on the Wilderness Society Governing Council, along with his analogous service on the National Board of the Trust for Public Land, are evidence of his belief in public engagement as one of his contributions to UW-Madison's longstanding tradition of the Wisconsin Idea. What makes the Marshall Award especially remarkable is the fact that he joined the Governing Council right after publishing an essay entitled "The Trouble with Wilderness; or, Getting Back to the Wrong Nature," which proved highly controversial among some wilderness activists. In it, Cronon argued that wilderness is best defended by recognizing its connections to, rather than its isolation from, the human communities that value, use, and protect it. That view is now much more widely accepted among environmentalists partly because of the conversations that Cronon's essay helped inspire.

The Wilderness Society's citation in Cronon's honor reads in part:

His work has elevated the discourse about how humans interact with the land, and he has challenged us to find humility in our relationship to the earth and its resources in part through his scholarship around how we define wilderness. He is known by his students, colleagues, and academics as one of the best teachers on the American landscape and has given countless individuals context for how geography has impacted the settlement of this country. Bill's work is both academically rigorous and accessible; but he is also specifically known as one of our nation's most inspiring storytellers on the American landscape.

Earlier this year, in March, Cronon retired as editor of the University of Washington Press's Weyerhaeuser Environmental Books series after more than two decades in that role. The series focuses on human relationships with natural environments in all their variety and complexity. Its books have explored topics ranging from the history of pumpkins to the history of flies, bedbugs, cockroaches, and rats. Some of the series' broadest and deepest contributions have involved tracing the history of wilderness in the United States.

During his tenure, Cronon oversaw the publication of 60 volumes, writing individual forewords for every one of them. More than two dozen books in the series were written by first-time authors, and the series became well-known for the quality of its developmental editing. Cronon closely mentored these early-career scholars, shepherding manuscripts that originated as doctoral dissertations—several of them originally written at UW-Madison—through the publication process, ultimately shaping a whole new generation of scholarship in environmental history. Almost a quarter of the monographs in the series were prize winners. Three won the George Perkins Marsh Prize, the most prestigious book prize in the field of environmental history.

(Continued on page 8)

(Cronon continued from page 7)

To celebrate the occasion of Cronon's stepping down as editor of the series, the University of Washington Press published a special booklet in which series authors described their experience working him and the rest of the staff of the Press. Mark Cioc's comments about his environmental history of Europe's Rhine River are typical:

*I can still vividly remember Bill Cronon's gentle critique of my manuscript, **The Rhine: An Eco-Biography, 1815–2000**, which I had submitted to the Weyerhaeuser Environmental Book series back in 2000. His critique was 90 percent praise and 10 percent criticism, and was dead on. He identified all the major weaknesses of the manuscript, distilled them down to a few succinct and insightful paragraphs, and then urged me to "push harder"—his artful way of saying "think deeper"—about the implications and conclusions of my research. The praise had its intended effect as well: it took away all the pain of having to undertake a substantial revision! ... I've published other books with other publishers, but none compare to Weyerhaeuser. It's not just that Bill is a superb editor with a deep understanding of the field. It's, above all, that he makes you part of a family of scholars, each pursuing their own unique interests in dialogue with each other.*

Cronon himself says, "I am as proud of Weyerhaeuser Environmental Books as I am of anything I've ever done in my professional life," but also declares his hope that shedding this very large labor on behalf of fellow scholars and his field will give him more time to write his own books.

In January, he will again step into the on-campus role (currently held by Gregg Mitman) of serving as Director of UW-Madison's Center for Culture, History, Environment (CHE). Cronon, Mitman, and many other members of the UW-Madison History Department—Joe Dennis, Elizabeth Hennessy, Judd Kinzley, Sarah Thal, and ten History grad students—continue to make CHE and the UW-Madison History Department one of the world's liveliest intellectual communities for studying environmental history.



We welcome our new director of development, Katie Rather. Katie is an alumna of UW-Madison's La Follette School of Public Affairs. Prior to starting her role in the History Department, she worked for the Wisconsin School of Business and various non-profit organizations in Madison. Katie enjoys meeting History alumni and donors and helping to connect them back to campus. Thank you to our donors who make a difference for our students, faculty and programs!

For additional information on gift options, creating your own named fund, or including the Department of History in your estate plans, please contact Katie Rather at the University of Wisconsin Foundation: 608/265-3526 or katie.rather@supportuw.org.

Sifting and Winnowing: What Happened to the Washington, D.C. Public Schools?

In 1963, Minnesota Senator Hubert H. Humphrey asked a pithy, yet seemingly simple question: "If the capital can't set an example in education, how can we expect some Toonerville out there to do it?" More than fifty years later, Humphrey's question still resonates, as federal and local authorities continue to disagree over education policy in Washington, D.C., using the D.C. schools as a laboratory for a variety of educational reforms aimed at the nation more generally. The Spencer Foundation recently awarded Bill Reese a \$451,000 grant to write a history of the public schools in the nation's capital. It includes support for graduate assistantships and arose out of Reese's long-standing fascination with the history of cities and their public school systems. Aided by graduate students, Reese will explore how race, politics, pedagogy, and the curriculum have shaped the character of the District's schools since the early nineteenth century.

Historically, public schools across the nation by law and custom were largely under state and local control, despite Congressional approval of notable educational programs during the Cold War and Great Society and, over a decade ago, the unprecedented "No Child Left Behind." While the federal government has traditionally lacked much influence over schools, it claimed an outsized role in shaping and controlling educational policy in its own backyard, in the District of Columbia. When the District was established, the Constitution granted Congress exclusive control over it, making it a one-of-a-kind site for federal intervention in city schools. Long before Michelle Rhee's turbulent tenure as school chancellor from 2007 to 2010, the system was in the cross-hairs of an array of politicians and activists seeking to advance or hold back the tide of racial integration, improve instruction, strengthen the curriculum, or lift student achievement.

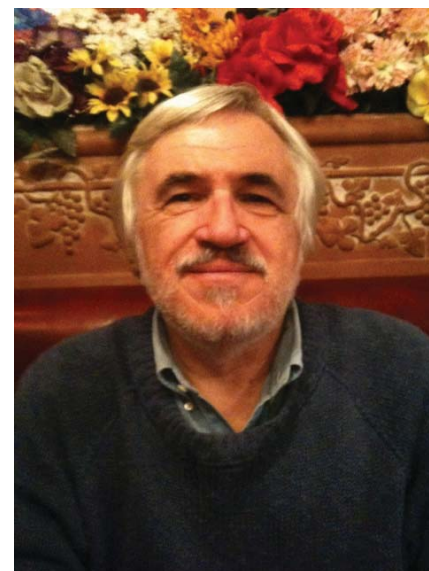
In different eras, members of the House and Senate District Committees from the major political parties regarded the local schools as a convenient site for experimentation, regardless of local sentiments. For example, in the 1860s, as thousands of ex-slaves fled

to the capital for protection, the radical wing of the Republican Party, ahead of white public opinion, led Congress to mandate the establishment of "colored" schools, aid voluntary groups promoting education during Reconstruction, and attempt to integrate public schools to make them a centerpiece of a national movement. In reaction, Congressional support for civil rights for blacks and home rule for the District dissipated in the 1870s. The House and Senate District Committees, which controlled local budgets, often quarreled with the school board over finances and other matters. Dominated by conservative Southern Democrats, the House Committee long opposed school integration. District Committees conducted well-publicized investigations of child-centered teaching practices in the late 1890s, alleged communist influences upon the curriculum in the 1930s, and a variety of classroom practices, in white and black schools alike.

Political battles over educational policy remained intense after World War II, as local activists continued to fight for home rule and civil rights. The U.S. Supreme Court unanimously ruled against segregation in the local system at the time of the momentous *Brown vs. Board of Education* decision in 1954. The first majority-black city in the United States, D.C. by the 1960s witnessed additional civil rights struggles. With support from President Lyndon Baines Johnson, progressives fought successfully for (partial) home rule. They also won major court decisions that forbade curricular tracking in District schools and that mandated more equitable educational funding. The "decline" of urban schools had become a national concern, reflected in Great Society programs such as the Elementary and Secondary Education Act and Head Start, which aimed to lift achievement among the poor. By the 1970s, wracked by recession, demographic change, and political conflict, the D.C. schools seemed to enter a state of free fall, leading to another round of Congressional enthusiasm for reform, through a variety of measures to privatize the system. Once again, the system was cast as a laboratory of reform.

Congressional oversight placed local schools throughout its history under intense scrutiny, generating a rich paper trail of records absent for most cities. Noteworthy educational initiatives or conflicts, or successes and failures there, invariably attracted national attention, from newspapers and mass magazines in the nineteenth century to bloggers and the denizens of chatrooms today. Schools in the nation's capital thus provide a surfeit of primary sources for Reese and graduate assistants to explore the nature, character, and limits of educational change and improvement.

Washington's schools existed in the shadow of the most powerful government and richest nation the world has ever known. Why, then, has the system, long a site for educational reform, fallen on such difficult times, with student achievement levels that are abysmally low? Why hasn't a long-standing federal presence made the system a showcase for the nation?



Bill Reese is the Carl F. Kaestle WARF Professor of Educational Policy Studies and History. His book *Testing Wars* recently won the O.L.Davis, Jr. book prize from the American Association for Teaching and Curriculum.

Undergraduate Research: Students Partner with French Grave Godfathers to Reveal Wisconsin War Heroes' Stories



Lou Roberts at Épinal Cemetery

In January, Mary Louise Roberts, Lucy Aubrac Professor of History, traveled to Épinal American cemetery in eastern France to pay her respects to Wisconsin's fallen soldiers in World War Two. She also shared the fruits of a remarkable research project conducted by the students in her fall 2013, History 357 course.

The project began early last fall with an email from a man in the French village of Val d'Ajol. Joel Houot wrote to Roberts to request information about Robert Kellett, an American G.I. buried in Épinal military cemetery, located near his home. Houot explained that he was a member of an association that tended to the American graves, cleaning the white crosses and stars of David and placing flowers on the graves. Roberts decided that Houot's request might make a good extra credit project for one of the students in her lecture class on The Second World War. She presented Houot's appeal to the class, showing them Val d'Ajol on Google maps, and reading aloud an English translation of his email. The students were touched by the request. When it came time to volunteer, every hand in the room went up.

Building on her students' enthusiasm, Roberts wrote back to Houot requesting more names of U.S. soldiers resting in the cemetery. Two weeks later, an email arrived from Jocelyne Papeard-Brescia, the director of the 'parrainage' or gravesite adoption program at Épinal. A retired elementary school principal, Papeard-Brescia started the adoption program in 2012. She sent Roberts the names of several soldiers, describing them as "boys buried in Épinal World War Two U.S. cemetery." Most exciting to the students was the fact that all the soldiers were from their home state of Wisconsin.

In this way, the Épinal project was born. Over the course of the semester, Roberts' students conducted research on the biographies of 25 Wisconsin soldiers who lost their lives in Europe. The students

worked closely with the U.S. Army Human Resources Command in Washington to uncover the Individual Deceased Personnel File (IDTP) for each soldier. The students then conducted follow-up research in U.S. census records, local Wisconsin newspapers, and veterans records. With the help of the History Department Annual Fund, Roberts compiled the students' research findings into a 55-page report, "Our Wisconsin Boys in Épinal Military Cemetery, France."

Roberts traveled to Épinal for the first time in January to deliver the report. She was met by a delegation that included Jocelyne Papeard and other local grave godparents. As the French escorted Roberts through the cemetery, they laid a long-stemmed white rose on the grave of each soldier that the students researched. After a moment of silence, they moved on to the next site. Roberts took photographs of the decorated grave markers and sent them to each of the students whose research corresponded to the individual.

Charles Schellpeper, one of the 43 students in Professor Roberts' History 357 course, approached the Épinal assignment from a unique perspective. Schellpeper, a native of Oconomowoc, WI, served a tour in Iraq in 2008 as an Army combat medic. One harrowing day in November of that year, Schellpeper was traveling in a military convoy when an IED exploded under the lead vehicle. Schellpeper raced to the downed Humvee and treated the five bloodied and broken men inside. Miraculously, all survived and were evacuated in Black Hawk rescue helicopters, but only after an agonizing twenty-minute wait.



Roberts lays flowers on the graves of Wisconsin's fallen soldiers

Fast-forward five years to Professor Roberts' classroom. Schellpeper is assigned to research the name of World War Two deceased infantryman PFC Gilbert J. Hinrichs. Upon conducting

preliminary research on the internet, he learns that PFC Hinrichs was "dental/medical" personnel. Knowing that medical personnel were not routinely assigned to infantry duty, Schellpeper immediately realized: Hinrichs was a combat medic, just like he had been in Iraq. "When I learned PFC Hinrichs was a medic, I became much more attached to the project," says Schellpeper. "I felt as if I needed to tell Hinrichs' story, not only for him, but also for his family." Eventually, Schellpeper gained access to Hinrichs' Army casualty file, which included heart-wrenching letters from Hinrichs' mother in Kenosha.

"Going through that casualty file and absorbing the feelings associated with Hinrichs' death made me connect with my own military service in Iraq. Replace Hinrichs' name with a soldier killed in Afghanistan/Iraq and there is no difference; the family is never whole again, fellow unit-members are angry and changed forever, and the war goes on."

Charles Schellpeper's contribution to the Épinal Project can be found in its entirety below. You can find more on his experiences in Iraq in Charles Schellpeper, "Like Angels in the Sky: A Combat Medic's Story," *The Bugle: Quarterly Publication of the Wisconsin Veteran's Museum*, 19:1 (2013): 8-9. Schellpeper graduated from UW in August and has recently moved to Washington, D.C. where he is searching for research/writing positions related to domestic or international politics and security. He can be reached at: chas0615@gmail.com.

PFC Gilbert J. Hinrichs - 7th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Infantry Division

Private First Class (PFC) Gilbert J. Hinrichs was born in 1916 in Kenosha, Wisconsin, to Frank Hinrichs and Lillian Pepke. Before joining the army PFC Hinrichs completed two years of high school and was employed as a general farm hand. He enlisted in the United States Army July 29, 1940, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. PFC Hinrichs was a combat medic assigned to 2-3 Medical Detachment, 7th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Infantry Division, 7th U.S. Army. By the time of his death on January 23, 1945, PFC Hinrichs had been overseas for 28 months and likely had campaigned through Italy and France with the 3rd Infantry Division. While fighting in France around the Colmar Pocket in late January, 1945, PFC Hinrichs was hit by an enemy shell and received severe injuries to his left arm and head. Although he was transported to the 51st Evacuation Hospital located in Saint-Die-Des-Vosges, France, PFC Hinrichs' wounds were mortal and he subsequently died January 23, 1945. He was 28 years old.

PFC Hinrichs' mother, Lillian, had a difficult time accepting the fact that her son had truly died. Lillian did not understand the military's organizational structure and thus when she received letters expressing sympathy from the 3rd Infantry Division she was convinced there had been a mistake. Lillian only understood that PFC Hinrichs had been in the 7th Infantry Regiment, a part of the 7th Army. She did not understand that the 7th Infantry Regiment was also a part of the 3rd Infantry Division which fell under the command of the 7th Army. Therefore, Lillian was convinced the casualty list was incorrect because it claimed that PFC Hinrichs was in the 3rd Infantry Division at the time of his death. In August, 1947, almost two years after PFC Hinrichs' death, Lillian still did not believe her son was really dead. An official government form from August, 1947, titled "Request for Disposition of Remains" explains: "Mother states that she is in doubt about identity—wishes body be thoroughly check for positive identification." To make matters worse PFC Hinrichs' family never received most of his personal possessions. His mother was sent a check for \$47.71, some type of "small stone," and a rosary. PFC Hinrichs' mother wrote a letter to the War Department on March 22, 1946, expressing her anger and sadness about the loss of her son and his property: "How [come] I keep thinking that there is a mistake[?] He had many things with him that I [sent] him and that he was going to have when he [came] home." Sadly PFC Hinrichs would never

come. On June 18, 1948, Gilbert J. Hinrichs, was laid to rest for the final time at Épinal American cemetery next to his cousin, Donald Lee Nickel, who was killed in action September 12th, 1944.

I honor and respect the sacrifice made by PFC Hinrichs. Having been a combat medic myself, I understand the danger and responsibility that comes with being a medic on the battlefield. Although I never knew Hinrichs, his service inspires me.

"Soldier Medic, Warrior-Spirit!"



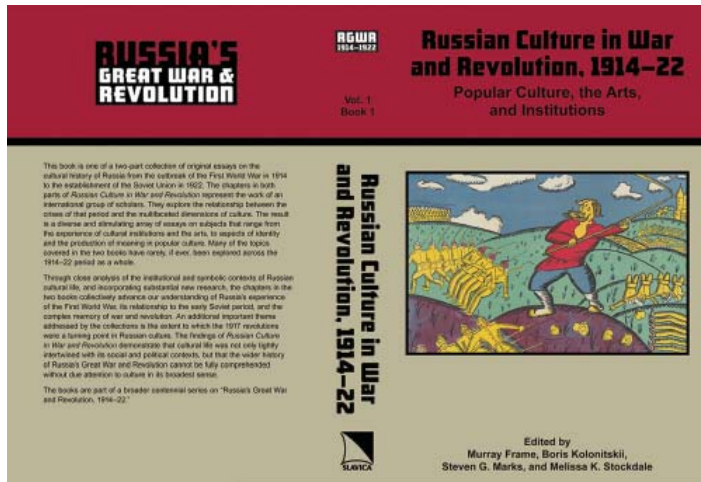
Charles Schellpeper on patrol in Diwanayah, Iraq

Since January, the Épinal Project has been the subject of several prominent news reports, including in the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel and Fox News. After displaying the Épinal Project results in their offices, the U.S. Army Human Resources Command also sent the following tribute:

It is with sincere appreciation that I send this response to you. I want you and your students to know that your project touched the hearts of multiple family members who stopped to read about your soldiers. Grief seems to be such an individual and often isolating experience, but your research and the compassion that was conveyed through your narratives established connections with those who read your stories. The sister of a WWII soldier stated that she had promised her mother on her deathbed that she would continue to seek information about her brother and get him buried in the family plot. She related that it was now her turn to die and she hadn't fulfilled her promise. She wished her brother was one of the men buried in Épinal because at least then she would know that someone was caring for him. After reading the story about Dominic Giovinazzo, a man remarked, "Our families came from all over to settle in this country. These boys are from Wisconsin, but it could just as well have been my uncle. My family was from Italy too." The former spouse of a soldier who remains unaccounted-for from Vietnam was visibly moved by PFC Hinrichs's story and the compassion expressed by the former combat medic. She remarked, "we are family despite the passage of time or the conflict," adding that her sense of helplessness surrounding his death still haunts her. It was years before she accepted he was never coming back. You touched many lives and I truly applaud your effort! You gave these family members hope that their soldiers are as real to others as they are to them and hope that they will not be forgotten. Thank you!!

Corinne Hagan, MPA, CSW
Team Chief WWII, Korea, SEA
Past Conflict Repatriations Branch
United States Army Human Resources Command
1600 Spearhead Division Avenue, Dept 450

Sifting and Winnowing: Russia's Great War



One might well ask, as did a prominent retired colleague, “who needs another book on the First World War?” Certainly, the shelves in libraries and bookstores creak under the weight of literature on the first “total war,” addressing the conflict’s effects on virtually every aspect of battle itself, as well as social, gender, economic and colonial relations in the combatant states. One answer to this question came to me when another prominent colleague—a non-historian—freely confessed to not knowing that Russia had even taken part in the war. Similarly, Russia and the “eastern front” went largely unmentioned during this summer’s commemorations of the Great War’s centenary, which invoked the Somme and Verdun or the “war poets,” while passing over Tannenberg, Przemyl, and *The Good Soldier Svejk*.

This inattention to Russia’s Great War extends to English-language scholarship. For western historians, the Russian war was a way-station between the fall of the Romanovs and the rise of the Soviet Union, less an independent set of events than an appendage to the receding or succeeding period. Soviet historians downplayed the war simply as evidence of tsarism’s fatal decadence. They focused instead on the Bolsheviks’ triumph in the civil war of 1918-1921, and especially on the victory in the “Great War of the Fatherland” against Nazi Germany, the defining experience of postwar Soviet identity. Whatever the reason, historians’ treatment of Russia’s World War I experience seems perplexing when one realizes that by virtually any measure—duration, casualties, economic, political and social disruption—the “eastern” war far exceeded its western counterpart in enormity, while also giving rise to the Soviet Union, our chief political and ideological rival until 1991.

Since 2006, I have had the privilege and great pleasure of serving as one of three general editors for an international research consortium devoted to *Russia’s Great War and Revolution, 1917-1922*. The consortium comprises ten editorial teams of historians from North America, western Europe and Russia. Over the next six years, Slavica Publishers at Indiana University will issue more than twenty books, also to be available online through Project Muse. Organized in thematic “volumes,” these books address such areas as military

history, international relations, the “home front,” and the global impact of Russia’s revolutions, to name only a few. The first two books will appear this fall. *Russia’s Great War* presents the research of approximately 250 scholars from five continents; they run the professional gamut from graduate students to professors emeriti. Taken together, their contributions provide a “snapshot” of the current state of scholarship and suggest future lines of research on this second “time of troubles” in Russian history.

Russia’s Great War and Revolution not only fills a crucial lacuna in the historical record; it elevates the Russian experience to its rightful place in larger narratives about the conflict and its aftermath. It takes advantage of a new interest in the war among Russian and western historians alike, who have begun to look at the war on its own terms, from the perspective of its participants, and not in the retrospective shadow of its consequences. We have now come to regard the war in Russia as much like that elsewhere in Europe, where it produced new forms of statecraft and rekindled older social and economic frictions, transforming states, societies, individuals and empires societies in the process.

This massive project sprang from several important circumstances, not least the new possibilities for collaboration that have emerged with the post-1991 opening of Russian archives and the Russian academy. Many of our contributors come from the Russian Federation or former Soviet republics; the Russian members of our editorial teams have played an indispensable part in our undertaking. Over the last six years, we forged a vibrant partnership in the course of five editorial conferences in Madison, at the University of Aberdeen in Scotland, and Sweden’s Uppsala University. These meetings succeeded in fostering a strong mutual respect despite our varying viewpoints and interpretations. The contents in our collection reflect this variety and the vibrancy of our debates.



David McDonald

Most of all, however, *Russia’s Great War and Revolution* has taken shape thanks to strong support from friends of UW’s Department of History, particularly Alice D. Mortenson. A product of Madison’s Vilas neighborhood and West High School, Alice learned to love Russian history in the classes of legendary teacher Michael Petrovich. In his memory, she endowed the Alice D. Mortenson/Petrovich Chair in Russian History, which I have the honor of holding. In addition to funding graduate and undergraduate research and special lectures, the endowment made our editorial meetings possible. Our project would not have succeeded without Alice’s support. My colleagues and I owe her our deepest gratitude—and a full set of *Russia’s Great War and Revolution*.

Faculty Honors, Awards, and Milestones

Cindy I-fen Cheng won the Asian Pacific Library Association's prize for best adult non-fiction book for her *Citizens of Asian America: Democracy and Race during the Cold War* (New York University Press, 2013).

William P. Jones's book *The March on Washington: Jobs, Freedom and the Forgotten History of Civil Rights* (WW Norton, 2013) won the United Association for Labor Education's prize for the best book published in 2012-13 related to the field of labor education. The book is also a finalist for The Hurston/Wright Legacy Award for best nonfiction book. The prize will be awarded at a ceremony at the Carnegie Library in Washington, D.C., on October 25.

Mary Louise Roberts' book *What Soldiers Do: Sex and the American GI in World War II France* (University of Chicago Press, 2013) won the Gilbert Chinard Prize awarded jointly by the Society for French Historical Studies and the Institut Français d'Amérique. The French translation appeared with Seuil in April. The book has been featured in *l'Histoire*, *Le Point*, *Le Figaro littéraire*, and *Le Monde des livres* among others. Translations into Chinese, Japanese and Czech are on the way. The book is also being made into a full-length documentary film called "Le Repos des guerriers," produced by Parisian-based MAHA productions. It will appear on A2 French television in 2015. Meanwhile,



D-Day through French Eyes: Memoirs of Normandy 1944 (University of Chicago Press, 2014)

Roberts' *D-Day through French Eyes* was published in May and excerpted in *Harper's* in June of 2014.

D-Day through French Eyes turns the usual stories of D-Day around, taking readers across the Channel to view the invasion anew. Roberts builds her history from an

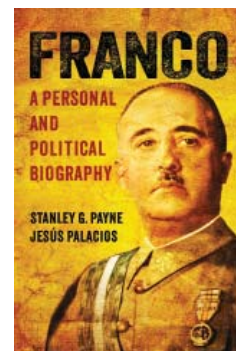
impressive range of gripping first-person accounts of the invasion as seen by French citizens throughout the region. A farm family notices that cabbage is missing from their garden—then discovers that the guilty culprits are American paratroopers hiding in the cowshed. Fishermen rescue pilots from the wreck of their B-17, only to struggle to find clothes big enough to disguise them as civilians. A young man learns how to estimate the altitude of bombers and to determine whether a bomb was whistling overhead or silently headed straight for them. In small towns across Normandy, civilians hid wounded paratroopers, often at the risk of their own lives. When the allied infantry arrived, they guided soldiers to hidden paths and little-known bridges, giving them crucial advantages over the German occupiers. Through story after story, Roberts builds up an unprecedented picture of the face of battle as seen by grateful, if worried, civilians.

Robert M. Kingdon, founding editor, and **Lee Palmer Wandel**, managing editor. *Registres du Consistoire de Genève au temps de Calvin*. 10 volumes. (Librairie Droz, 1996-2015) The Registers of the Geneva Consistory in the period of Calvin's ministry (1542-1564) provide a record of singular richness about the ideas and behavior of ordinary people coping with religious changes of revolutionary magnitude. The Consistory was the central disciplinary body in the city where Calvin instituted the Reformed Church. Over years, hundreds of Genevans appeared before it. Their testimonies, recorded in the Registers, offer us a unique glimpse into how they lived as Christians, what Reformation meant to ordinary Christians, as well as relations familial and neighborly in the city that became the model for a Christian tradition Puritans carried to the North American shore.

The project of publishing the Registers began in 1987 under former UW History professor Robert Kingdon. The first volume was published in 1996. Upon his death in 2010, Professor Kingdon left a generous bequest that made possible the completion of another four volumes, the last of which, volume 10, is scheduled to appear in 2015. Lee Palmer Wandel has served as Managing Editor of those volumes. The Genevan sources are famously difficult — written quickly, laced with abbreviations for which

there is no dictionary, recording local dialects phonetically, and in a hand markedly different from court or Renaissance manuscripts. The transcription, annotation, and indexing of these sources was Kingdon's life work. He worked with Thomas A. Lambert (Wisconsin PhD 1998), Isabella M. Watt, and Jeffrey R. Watt (Wisconsin PhD 1987), as well as Wallace McDonald, a former graduate student, for over twenty years. Jim Coons (Wisconsin PhD 2014) worked on the final volumes. The publication of the Registers, so critical to Reformation studies and understanding the Reformed Tradition both in its origins and as it was disseminated around the globe, was a decidedly Wisconsin project.

These volumes will provide future generations with rich source material on questions of marriage, family, children, gender, sexuality, worship, ethics, economic practices, and the ways that radical change in the scope and nature of religion shaped each.

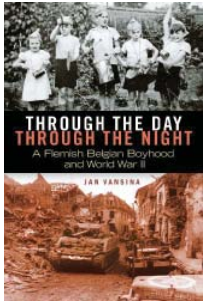


Stanley Payne and **Jesús Palacio**, *Franco: A Personal and Political Biography* (University of Wisconsin Press, 2014)

General Francisco Franco ruled Spain for nearly forty years as one of the

most powerful and controversial leaders in that nation's long history. This new book represents an attempt to treat the "authentic Franco," not merely in terms of his career as military commander and long-lived dictator, but also with respect to his personal and family life, and even to certain issues not normally treated, such as his role in the extensive repression attending and following the civil war, or his decision-making about a Spanish atomic bomb. A new biography has become possible in large measure thanks to new primary sources, such as the recently opened Franco Archive (Fundación Nacional Francisco Franco) and the extensive set of personal interviews that the co-authors conducted with his daughter in January 2008, the only notable interviews she has ever given. Jesús Palacios is a distinguished investigative journalist and historian who

was the first scholar to open the restricted Franco Archive to critical research with a series of three earlier books, including *La España totalitaria* (1999) and *Las cartas de Franco* (2003). The Spanish edition appears simultaneously this month in Madrid.



Jan Vansina, *Through the Day, through the Night: A Flemish Belgian Boyhood and World War II* (University of Wisconsin Press, 2014)

One of twelve children in a close-knit, affluent Catholic Belgian

family, Jan Vansina began life in a seemingly sheltered environment. But that cocoon was soon pierced by the escalating tensions and violence that gripped Europe in the 1930s and 1940s. In this book Vansina recalls his boyhood and youth in Antwerp, Bruges, and the Flemish countryside as the country was rocked by waves of economic depression, fascism, competing nationalisms, and the occupation of first Axis and then Allied forces. Within the vast literature on World War II, a much smaller body of work treats the everyday experiences of civilians,

particularly in smaller countries drawn into the conflict. Recalling the war in Belgium from a child's-eye perspective, Vansina describes pangs of hunger so great as to make him crave the bitter taste of cod-liver oil. He vividly remembers the shock of seeing severely wounded men on the grounds of a field hospital, the dangers of crossing fields and swimming in ponds strafed by planes, and his family's interactions with occupying and escaping soldiers from both sides. After the war he recalls emerging numb from the cinema where he first saw the footage of the Nazi death camps, and he describes a new phase of unrest marked by looting, vigilante justice, and the country's efforts at reunification.

John Hall, Ambrose Hesseltine Chair of American History, won the university's William H. Kiekhofer Distinguished Teaching Award. Since 1953, the university has bestowed the distinguished teaching awards in honor of its finest educators. Hall, an expert in American military and Native American history, accepted the award from Chancellor Blank at a ceremony in May 2014.

In its award citation, the university committee noted that Hall, "sets expectations for his

teaching as high as he sets his expectations for students. Students often label faculty members who take this approach as 'too difficult,' but Hall maintains remarkably high evaluation scores from students. He develops beautifully crafted lectures that are exemplars of organizational, oratory and intellectual sophistication. He is also committed to improving his teaching by experimenting with 'smart' classrooms and interactivity, and to improving the undergraduate experience beyond the classroom. For example, the Undergraduate History Association has been revived and reinvigorated under his tutelage. In an era when students often expect ironic detachment or crass theatrics in the classroom, Professor Hall's deep seriousness of purpose and sincerity of engagement inspire sustained commitment."



John Hall

Please consider a gift!

Last year, we raised \$130,000 for our Annual Fund. That money helped us retain three of our very best faculty members who were recruited by Columbia, NYU, and UC-Berkeley. The Annual Fund also supported innovative projects like Épinal and Wisconsin 101. We sponsored lectures and undergraduate classroom visits from four distinguished speakers. We also resumed our long tradition of providing faculty members with modest subventions to support their research or travel to conferences.

Without your gifts, last year's many successes simply could not have happened. Thank You!!

Our goal is to raise \$200,000 for our annual fund in 2014. UW History counts more than 16,000 living alums; yet fewer than 350 made a donation to our Annual Fund last year. If we could double the number of donors to the Annual Fund to a mere 4% of our total alums, we could achieve our goal. Please consider a gift of any size. Small gifts are welcome, but consider a recurring gift of \$10 or \$20 per month charged directly to your credit card.

Supporting Excellence

Gifts of any size make a difference for our faculty, staff and students. Alumni and friends of the Department of History contribute to our excellence and ensure the value of a History degree for current and future Badgers.

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Send a check made payable to the UW Foundation (indicate "Department of History" or your choice of specific fund) to:

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Jeanne and John Rowe Endow Third Chair in History



Current and former History chairs, along with Rowe Family Professors celebrate the Rowes' latest endowed chair at the History department's spring reception. Left to right: Tom Archdeacon, David McDonald, Claire Taylor, John Rowe, Jeanne Rowe, Jim Sweet, Leonora Neville, Steve Stern, and Florencia Mallon.

In the spring, Jeanne and John Rowe (BA 1967) performed yet another act of extraordinary generosity on behalf of the History department, endowing their third chaired professorship. The Rowe Family Chair in the History of American Politics, Institutions, and Political Economy will connect large-scale institutional processes with the most intimate details of everyday life in the modern world. The department eventually hopes to attract a scholar who brings to bear a broadly integrative, multi-faceted approach to the history of U.S. politics, institutions, and political economy from the Civil War to the present day. This position will fill crucial needs for the department and the university. A host of retirements and departures since the 1970s have gradually eroded the History department's former strengths in this area. The imperative for offering courses on the history of American political economy has been heightened by the outpouring of new scholarship in the field, as well as by recent crises in U.S. economic and political institutions, all of which cry out for greater historical perspective and understanding.

The Rowes' philanthropic commitment to UW History goes back more than fifteen years. In 2000, they established the Rowe Family Chair in Byzantine History, now held by Leonora Neville. Then, in 2008, they created the Rowe Family Chair in Greek History, which Clair Taylor filled in 2013.

John Rowe, former CEO of Exelon Corporation, has devoted his life to the intersection of law, economics, and politics in one of the most important industries that defines modern life: electricity, and energy more broadly. With this gift, the Rowes enable our department to recruit a new colleague in a field that could hardly be closer to John Rowe's own life and work. Their gift holds out the promise of rebuilding a field of American history in which the University of Wisconsin was once among the leading centers of the world.

Faculty Research Award Honors Professors Margaret and Allan Bogue



Al Bogue, Jim Wright, and Margaret Bogue celebrate the establishment of the Bogue Award at the University Club

Last fall, History alum Jim Wright (PhD 1969) established an endowed research award in honor of his graduate mentors Margaret and Allan Bogue. The Bogues, pioneers in U.S. Agricultural and Environmental history, supervised Wright's dissertation on the politics of populism in Colorado.

Wright left his hometown of Galena, IL, at the age of 17 to join the U.S. Marine Corps. He served in Hawaii and Japan before returning home and attending UW-Platteville. Wright paid his tuition by working in the zinc mines outside of Galena during summers and holidays. After graduating from Platteville, Wright earned his PhD in History and went on to a stellar academic career, culminating in the presidency of Dartmouth College from 1998 to 2009.

The Margaret and Allan Bogue Research Award will provide three years of funding to a faculty member. The award recipients will be selected through an internal department competition. The inaugural winner of the Bogue Award is Marc Kleijwegt, who will conduct research on a book project focused on the slave experience in ancient Greece and Rome.



Author and comedian Max Brooks delivered the University Distinguished Lecture, "10 Lessons for Surviving a Zombie Attack." Brooks also lectured in John Sharpless' History 600 course, "From Revelations to Zombies: Apocalyptic Prophecies in Western History." December 2013.



Al McCoy, Oliver Stone, and Peter Kuznick discuss Stone and Kuznick's book, *The Untold History of the United States*. April 2014.

Faculty and Emeriti Profiles

Giuliana Chamedes joined the Department this fall. Over the past year, she taught a course on the history of consent in twentieth-century Europe through Harvard's History & Literature program, and completed two articles on the Vatican's political and cultural activism in interwar Europe for the *Historical Journal* and the *Journal of Contemporary History*. She is currently editing a special volume on religion and decolonization with Elizabeth Foster for *French Politics, Culture, and Society*. In September, she will be celebrating the first birthday of her baby boy, Elia.

Shelly Chan continues to enjoy the exciting challenges and warm support for being one of the recent hires of the History Department. She has two articles that will soon appear in *The Journal of Chinese Overseas* and *The Journal of Asian Studies*, entitled "The Disobedient Diaspora: Returned Overseas Chinese Students in Mao's China" and "The Case for Diaspora: A Temporal Approach to the Chinese Experience." This coming year, with the generous funding of a Resident Fellowship at the UW Institute for Research in the Humanities and of a Junior Scholar Grant from the Chiang Ching-Kuo Foundation for International Scholarly Exchange, she will take a break from teaching and work hard on her first book manuscript, "Diaspora's Homeland: Modern China in the Age of Global Migration." It examines how Chinese culture and society were made and remade by the mass emigration of over twenty million Chinese during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, as a means to understand how China had been transformed by global connections. In the past year, Chan developed two new courses, "Images of China" and "Chinese Migrations since 1500," both of which stress the study of China in regional and global contexts.

Bill Courtenay attended a conference in Paris last October on the *Sentences* commentary of Nicholas of Dinkelsbühl. There, he presented a long paper on the faculty of theology at Vienna, 1415-1425, followed a week later by a paper on the pre-university schools at Cologne to open their celebration of the 625th anniversary of founding. In March he gave a paper at Princeton on the relationship between the University of Paris and the Capetian monarchy, and in July a paper at Notre Dame comparing the intellectual milieu of the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries. Two additional articles were written and submitted for publication, one on the changing iconography of seals of Parisian masters, concluding five years of research on that topic, and one revising the narrative of the founding of the Dominican convent of St. Jacques in Paris. With those items out of the way, he hopes to make progress on a book on the changing roles of the two 'protectors' of the University of Paris in the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries, the French monarchy and the papacy. On the leisure side he acquired a new sailboat for Mendota and occasional trips to Door County and beyond.

Jim Donnelly (along with Professor Tom Archdeacon) continues to serve as co-editor of the *History of Ireland* and the *Irish Diaspora Series* at the UW Press (15 volumes to date). Two new titles will appear in the Fall list of the Press: *An Irish-Speaking Island: State, Religion, Community, and the Linguistic Landscape in Ireland,*

1770-1870, by Nicholas M. Wolf of New York University (a former student of Donnelly's), and *A "Greater Ireland": The Land League and Transatlantic Nationalism in Gilded Age America*, by Ely Janis of the Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts. Since 2001 Donnelly has also served as co-editor of *Éire-Ireland: An Interdisciplinary Journal of Irish Studies*, published twice annually. He pursues old and new research interests in retirement. Among the recent products of his longstanding interest in religion in modern Ireland are "Bishop Michael Browne of Galway (1937-76) and the Regulation of Public Morality," *New Hibernia Review*, 17:1 (Spring 2013), 16-39; and "Knock Shrine: The Worst of Times—The 1940s," *Éire-Ireland*, 48:3-4 (Fall/Winter 2013), 213-64. Among the products of his new interest in the Irish War of Independence and the Civil War is "Big House Burnings in County Cork during the Irish Revolution, 1920-21," *Éire-Ireland*, 47: 3-4 (Fall/Winter 2012), 141-97. Jim and his wife Joan enjoy their winters in Vero Beach/Fort Pierce, Florida.

John Hall continues to work on his second book, *Dishonorable Duty: The U.S. Army and the Removal of the Southeastern Tribes*, a part of which he will present at this fall's meeting of the American Society for Ethnohistory and will inform his contribution to a forthcoming volume on American Empire. This May, the University of Wisconsin awarded John the William H. Kiekhofers Distinguished Teaching Award, and in July *The Journal of Military History* published his essay, "An Irregular Reconsideration of George Washington and the American Military Tradition." In the coming year, John has agreed to teach "The History of Wisconsin in Objects" and to take on a larger role in this exciting project.

Rogers Hollingsworth, professor emeritus, presented a lecture at the Kavli Institute for Brain and Mind at the University of California San Diego on "Psychological and Social Factors that Influence Creativity in 20th Century Science." He also presented a lecture at the Wisconsin Institute for Discovery on "The Emergence of a New Epistemology." In October, Oxford University Press will publish his study "Nobel Prizes in Biomedical Research" with Ellen Jane Hollingsworth. Hollingsworth is a senior fellow of the Kauffman Foundation and of the BioCircuits Institute of the University of California San Diego.

William P. Jones kept busy last year talking about his book, *The March on Washington: Jobs, Freedom and the Forgotten History of Civil Rights*. Among other places, he spoke at the National Book Festival in Washington, D.C., at the British Library in London, and will be at the Chicago Humanities Festival this November. The book was honored by the United Association for Labor Education and is a finalist for The Hurston/Wright Legacy Award. In addition, Will taught lecture courses on the "United States Since the Civil War" and the "U.S. Since 1945," an undergraduate seminar on the "Civil Rights Movement" and a graduate seminar on the "U.S. Since the Great Depression." He is looking forward to teaching a seminar for students beginning the U.S. history graduate program this fall, and to teaching a new undergraduate course on "Work, Freedom and Democracy in the Americas, 1491-the Present."

Judd C. Kinzley was a Henry Luce/ACLS China studies postdoctoral fellow last year. After spending the fall in Madison, he, along with his wife Corentine (Coco) and son Xavier, spent the winter and spring in Taipei, Taiwan, Republic of China where Judd was a visiting scholar in the Research Group in Environmental History at the Academia Sinica. In addition to nearing completion on his book manuscript, tentatively titled, *Natural Resources and the Topographies of State Power in China's Far West*, he also gave invited lectures at Duke University, the University of South Carolina, and the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology and gave a paper at last year's Association for Asian Studies conference.

Rudy Koshar continues to teach graduate and undergraduate courses on modern European and German social and cultural history. He is also a fiction writer. Since last fall, his short stories have appeared in *Wisconsin People & Ideas*, *Gravel*, *Turk's Head Review*, *Wilderness House Literary Review*, *The Write Room*, *Black Heart Magazine*, *Open Road Review*, and *Red Fez*. He published three nonfiction essays: "What Should Haunt Us About World War I," *Guernica* (February 2014); and "Giving Barbarism its Due," and "How to Speak Weimar," in *The Montreal Review*, January 2014 and May 2014 respectively. His interview, "The Centennial of World War I," aired on Wisconsin Public Television's *University Place* on May 12, 2014.

Stanley Kutler continues to publish on various blogs, including Huffington Post, Truthdig, Reuters, among others. His TV series, *Nixon's the One* (in collaboration with Harry Shearer) played in England this past year and will debut on YouTube this October. His play had a 3-day reading in New York this past fall and now awaits a producer with a few bucks to pay a big star.

Elizabeth Lapina joined the faculty of the Department as an Assistant Professor of Medieval History in January. Elizabeth received her BA from the UW-Madison, so this was a homecoming for her. Her previous appointment was as Leverhulme Early Career Fellow at the University of Kent in England. Her article entitled "Gambling and Gaming in the Holy Land: Chess, Dice and Other Games in the Sources of the Crusades" came out in the journal *Crusades* early in the year. Over the summer, she submitted a revised manuscript of her book entitled *Warfare and the Miraculous in the Chronicles of the First Crusade* to Penn State University Press and she has moved on to a new book-length project "Representations of Crusades in Monumental Art in the Twelfth and Thirteenth Centuries in France and England." The six sessions that she co-organized at the International Medieval Congress at Leeds on the topic of "The Uses of the Bible in Crusader Sources" were remarkably well-attended. These sessions will form the base of a co-edited volume. Another co-edited volume, *The Crusades and Visual Culture* is moving along well also. Elizabeth spent a part of the summer preparing for her new seminar "The Middle Ages in Film."

Florenca Mallon, in the first year after stepping down from the chairship, has been hard at work on her new research project tentatively entitled "Rediscovering 'Our America': Race and Coloniality in the Western Hemisphere." During her upcoming sabbatical year she plans to develop a new 100-level undergraduate lecture course on

the same subject. She was in Chile from 8-14 August at a seminar on the history of the concept of Latin American Studies and presented a paper on the hemispheric history of Panamericanism.

Brenda Gayle Plummer published *In Search of Power: African Americans in the Era of Decolonization, 1956-1974* (Cambridge University Press, 2013), and an essay in Emily S. Rosenberg's anthology, *Body and Nation: The Global Realm of U.S. Body Politics in the Twentieth Century* (Duke University Press, 2014). She also contributed to Richard Immerman and Petra Goode's *Oxford Handbook of the Cold War*. Plummer gave the 2014 Cunliffe lecture at the Cunliffe Centre for the Study of the American South, Sussex University, Brighton, U.K.; and the 2014 Annual American Studies Lecture at the University of Leicester, UK.

Jennifer Ratner-Rosenhagen was awarded her third national book prize—the American Historical Association's biennial Dunning Prize honoring the best monograph in United States History—for her *American Nietzsche: A History of an Icon and His Ideas*. In spring, she was elected to the Organization of American Historians' Nominating Committee (2015-17), and was a fellow at UW-Madison's Institute for Research in the Humanities. Jennifer will spend the 2014-15 academic year as a fellow at the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Studies in Cambridge, Massachusetts, working on her new book on the quest for wisdom in 20th-century American life.

David Sorkin moved to New York City in 2011 when he was appointed Distinguished Professor of History at the City University of New York Graduate Center. In February 2014 he received a telephone call from a Search Committee at Yale asking whether he would consider being a candidate for a position there. Much to his surprise he now finds himself to be living part time in New Haven where he is Professor of History and Judaic Studies at Yale University. His wife, Shifra Sharlin, is a Senior Lecturer in Yale's Department of English.

Thomas Spear is the founding Editor-in-Chief of *Oxford Bibliographies: African Studies*, an on-line series that will ultimately comprise some 200 critical reviews of the literature on diverse topics in African Studies. He is also General Editor of the UW Press series, *Africa and the Diaspora: History, Politics, Culture*, which recently published David Sandgren's (PhD, 1976) *Mau Mau's Children: The Making of Kenya's Post Colonial Elite*, Crawford Young's (UW Political Science), *The Post-Colonial African State in Comparative Perspective*, and Susan Thompson's *Whispering Truth to Power: Everyday Resistance to Reconciliation in Post-Genocide Rwanda*. He has published extended critical reviews of the literature on 'The Invention of Tradition,' 'African Christianity,' and 'Swahili City States of the East African Coast' as well as a multi-authored scientific study using DNA to assess the validity of oral traditions in Ghana in PLoS ONE. He and his wife Sheila split their time between Madison and Arrowsic Island in Maine. tspear@wisc.edu

Lee Wandel published the edited volume *A Companion to the Eucharist in the Reformation* (Brill, 2013). Winter semester, Wandel taught in the UW in London program, where, for the first time, she could teach the material traces of early modern life. Her students explored the Thames and urban topography, the inscription of

religious life onto the space of the city, the objects of daily life from the Romans through the Tudors, the spatial articulation of social groups, the past as palimpsest. While in London, an Australian journalist interviewed Wandel in the BBC for a piece on the Eucharist, which aired in March.

Andre Wink lectured on Al-Hind and some of his other recent and forthcoming publications at the UW-Madison, University of Chicago, Sindh Madresatul Islam University-arachi, Universitaet Wien, Gadjah Mada University-Yogyakarta, Universiteit Gent, and Stanford University.

Louise Young won a National Endowment for Humanities fellowship, which coincided with the first of a multiyear appointment at the UW's Institute for Research in Humanities. She is using this wonderful opportunity to move forward on three research projects:

the first dealing with a history of social class in Japan; the second an intellectual history of Japanese sociology; and the third, several solicited essays on Japanese colonialism. Young gave public talks at the University of Washington, the Seattle Art Museum, a conference at Osaka University (organized by one of our PhD alums and student of Tom McCormack: Professor Yone SUGITA), and on a panel at the annual meeting of the Association for Asian Studies. Young traveled to Tokyo this summer, where she was a visiting researcher at Waseda University. UW-Madison recently inked an agreement for faculty exchange with Waseda; we are in the process of negotiating a graduate student exchange. Waseda is one of the premier private universities in Japan and at the forefront of international scholarly exchange both within Asia and between Japan and the US. The new partnerships provide us with access to top-tier research facilities.



A.K. NARAIN (1925- 2013)

Avadh Kishore (A.K) Narain, an internationally renowned

historian, archaeologist, numismatist, and authority on Buddhism in ancient India and Central Asia, passed away on July 10, 2013, at his home in Varanasi, Bihar, India. During a long and distinguished academic career, he shaped the study of Indo-Greeks around the world, attracting, influencing, and mentoring generations of scholars and forging life-long scholarly linkages and personal friendships with scholars on several continents.

Narain was born in 1925 in Gaya, Bihar — near Bodh-Gaya, the birthplace of Buddhist Enlightenment — and grew up on Sarnath and Varanasi, about 160 miles east, where he spent most of his adult life. In 1947, he was awarded his first Post-Graduate Degree in Ancient Indian History, Culture, and Archaeology by Banaras Hindu University (BHU). In 1954, he completed his Ph.D. at the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London, under the direction of A. L. Basham. His most famous work, *The Indo-Greeks* (OUP, 1957), challenged ideas of Sir William W. Tarn (d. 1957). His long association with his alma mater in Varanasi continued for the rest of his life. He held the Manindra Chandra Nandi Chair of Ancient Indian History & Culture (AIHC) & Archaeology at BHU; became Head of the Department of AIHC&A; Principal

of the College of Indology; Dean, Faculty of Arts; and Director of Archaeological Excavations and Explorations.

A.K. Narain's earliest connection with UW came in 1964, with his help, collaboration and sponsorship of the UW College-Year -In-India at BHU, Varanasi. In 1971, he was appointed Professor of History and South Asian Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. During the next seventeen years, he inspired and trained generations of graduate students, many of whom themselves went on to occupy professorships in prestigious universities. He also served as Chair of the Buddhist Studies Program at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. After taking early retirement in 1988, he was made Professor Emeritus of History and of Languages and Cultures.

Returning to Varanasi, Professor Narain founded and served as first director of the Bikkhu J. Kashyap Institute of Buddhist and Asian Studies at BHU. Among manifold contributions to organizing research in his field throughout the world, he became editor, or founder-editor, of seven academic journals. During his last years, he was engaged in work on his most ambitious project: *Kurush to Kanishka – A Millennium of Early History of Asia without Nation-State boundaries: Movements and Interactions of Peoples, Ideas, and Institutions*. Some volumes of documentary history in this project are complete and at various stages in the publication process. He strongly believed in “connected histories” and his writings all exhibit a marked tendency toward a focus that blend elements both Indian and non-Indian.

During his long academic career, Professor A. K. Narain's knowledge and scholarly expertise left an imprint both deep and wide. His influence on scholars and students was such that some have banded together to produce two commemorative volumes. The first, a special 2014 issue of the *Indian Journal of Buddhist Studies*, is being organized and edited by Dr. Roger Jackson, John W. Nason Professor of Asian Studies & Religion, Carleton College, MN, and Dr. Lalji 'Shravik', Professor of Pali and Buddhist Studies, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi. The second volume reflects Professor Narain's interest on “India and the ‘Other’” (scheduled for 2015), and is being produced by Dr. Kamal Sheel, Professor of Chinese Studies a BHU; Dr. Charles Willemsen, Professor and Distinguished Fellow of the Belgian Royal Academy of Overseas Sciences and (currently) Vice-Rector of the International Buddhist College, Sogkhla, Thailand; and Dr. Kenneth Zysk, Professor and Head of Indology, University of Copenhagen, Denmark.

Personal postscript: After A.K.'s arrival in Madison, my wife Carol and I helped the Narain family get settled; and we got to know and admire A. K. and Usha, together with their gifted children. They became part of our world. South Asian (Indian) History at UW reached its zenith: – with A. K. Narain (Ancient), John F. Richards for (Medieval / Muslim) , and myself (Modern). Those were the days!!

Robert Eric Frykenberg
Professor Emeritus of History

Graduate Research: African American Travel and Cultural Diplomacy



Athan Biss poses with Alexander Pushkin, Moscow

Recently, vox.com published a color-coded map illustrating an often overlooked aspect of global inequality. Rather than focusing on the gap between the world's richest and poorest nations, the vox map was shaded to reflect the relative strength of a given nation's passport. On one end of the spectrum, Americans enjoy visa-free access to 172 countries. Afghans, by contrast, are limited to 28. Despite the march of globalization, a humble three-by five-inch booklet stands as a reminder that freedom of movement is still a luxury.

Athan Biss' dissertation, "Race Diplomacy: African American Cultural Diplomacy, 1873-1958," explores the power of travel through the lens of African American international engagement. From the earliest slave codes to the rise of Jim Crow, restrictions on African Americans' freedom of movement remained at the heart of the social and legal edifice that bolstered white supremacy in America. Under these circumstances, travel, like migration, became an inherently political act. Biss explores the ways in which African Americans used foreign travel as an effective strategy for exposing the arbitrary nature of Jim Crow discrimination while countering popular misconceptions about African American culture abroad.

Biss begins his story in the final decades of the nineteenth century, when the Fisk Jubilee Singers of Nashville, Tennessee, embarked on a series of international fundraising tours. Tapping into the era's vibrant transnational network of evangelical Protestant organizations, the Jubilees performed their signature repertoire of Negro Spirituals for audiences in Britain, Ireland, Germany, Switzerland, and Holland. When they returned home, the Jubilees used their newfound celebrity to publicize discrimination and press for federal civil rights legislation, establishing a valuable template for future activism.

The next major development in the evolution of African American cultural diplomacy took place during the interwar years when African Americans began to foster quasi-diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union. Drawing on previously unreleased records from the Russian state archive in Moscow, Biss explores how the African Americans who toured, worked, and lived in the Soviet Union became pivotal players in the growing ideological rivalry between "Democratic" America and "Communist" Russia. In addition to high-profile visitors like Langston Hughes and Paul Robeson, Biss highlights the lived experiences of working-class African Americans who directly participated in the great Soviet "experiment" as bus drivers, engineers, agronomists, journalists, and even professional wrestlers. Some of these men and women, like Robeson's brother-in-law Frank Goode, settled permanently in Soviet Russia. In an era when Jim Crow was largely dismissed by American foreign policy officials as an "internal domestic matter," African American engagement with the Soviet Union helped to propel American racial discrimination beyond its regional and national boundaries and onto the global stage.

The onset of the Cold War finally convinced the United States to take African American cultural diplomacy seriously. While the Justice Department revoked the passports of prominent African Americans deemed too sympathetic to Communism, the State Department recruited other prominent African Americans, like the Chicago Attorney Edith Sampson, as goodwill ambassadors to bolster the international "image" of the United States. Biss' work points to the centrality of race within the American Cold War "cultural offensive" and reminds scholars of the rich tradition of African American cultural diplomacy upon which it was built.

Athan Biss is a PhD. Candidate in History. Born and raised in northern New York, he received his B.A. from Princeton University and taught high school at the NYC LAB School before coming to UW-Madison. In April 2014, he was awarded the inaugural Professor Jan Lucassen Prize at the European Social Science History Conference in Vienna, Austria. He is a Julie M. and Peter Weil Distinguished Graduate Fellow and has received research support from the History Department, CREECA, and the Botstiber Institute for Austrian-American Studies.

Graduate Students Win Prestigious Awards

In April, the Social Science Research Council announced that Jake Blanc and Patrick Otim have been awarded International Dissertation Research Fellowships (IDRF). The IDRF fellowship supports graduate students in the humanities and humanistic social sciences enrolled in PhD programs in the United States and conducting dissertation research on non-US topics. It is among the most competitive contests in the country, awarding just eighty fellowships in a field of more than a thousand applicants across fifteen different disciplines.

Blanc and Otim will conduct dissertation research in Brazil and Uganda in 2014-15. They join John Boonstra (2013, France and Lebanon) as History's most recent winners of this prestigious award.



Jake Blanc

Contested Development: Itaipu and the Meanings of Land and Opposition in Military Brazil

My project will use the history of the Itaipu hydroelectric dam to trace the layered contours of development, land, and opposition during Brazil's dictatorship from 1964 to 1985. Itaipu marked a distinct shift in Brazilian development ideologies; rather than taking an urban-industrial approach, the dictatorship began to view the countryside as a new fulcrum for growth. However, the military's perception of Itaipu clashed with that of the 42,000 people whose lands it flooded, galvanizing a struggle of small-scale farmers, landless peasants, and indigenous communities. By looking at Itaipu from the margins, we can grasp the manifold ways that dictatorship and development insinuated themselves into the lives of rural Brazilians. My project is premised on three hypotheses. First, Itaipu must be understood as an experience rather than a project—one that was contested by the military and various rural actors. Second, the question of land determined much of Itaipu's history and its consequences. For the dictatorship, Itaipu was an experiment in rearranging rural landscapes by displacing local farmers under the banner of national development, and for enabling the cross-border colonization of Paraguay's fertile agricultural lands. For local Brazilians, diverging relationships to land resulted in unique forms of social mobilization at particular stages of the protests against Itaipu. Finally, these movements reveal an unexplored genealogy of the Landless Workers Movement (MST) that emerged toward the end of the dictatorship, elucidating the meanings of Brazil's political transition and the social realities that persisted after the return to democracy. By exposing the broader realities of development, the image of land as a social catalyst, and the complexities of Brazil's path toward democracy, my project will articulate Itaipu's role in the transformation of modern Brazil.



Patrick Otim

Forgotten Voices of The Transition: Precolonial Intellectuals and the Colonial State in Northern Uganda, 1850-1950

In a special issue of *The Makerere* (1972), the Ugandan historian Balam Nyeko critiqued scholars for ignoring the role of African ideas in shaping colonialism. Existing literature on colonial employees pays little attention to African intellectual contributions to the colonial state. Instead, scholars have overemphasized the Africans' roles in the army, their manipulation of colonial administrators for personal gain, their greed as tax collectors, and their conflicts with their people. The growing field of African intellectual history has continued this trend by focusing solely on nationalist figures such as Julius Nyerere and Kwame Nkrumah, who received education in the West and made exceptional contributions to independence. But should the focus of African intellectual history start with nationalist figures? What about the generation that came before them and was nurtured by African institutions? This project seeks to expand the field of intellectual history by including Africans who were nurtured by local institutions and who were instrumental in the transition from the precolonial to the colonial state. It focuses on the Acholi of Uganda. I intend to argue that while British colonial violence, especially public executions of rebellious Africans, might have caused fear and weakness among the Acholi, violence alone does not adequately explain the triumph of the European colonial enterprise. The Acholi who became colonial employees brought with them significant knowledge and ideas that contributed heavily to the success of the colonial administration. My study will employ two main sets of sources: documentary and oral. A combination of these sources will generate information on both the precolonial and colonial eras. Thus, this work will contribute to the literature on African colonial employees and on African intellectual history, especially the discussion about the contributions of African ideas and institutions to the shaping colonial projects in Acholliland.

2013-2014 Ph.D.s Awarded

- Mark Belson: "Sharing the Burden: The Comparative Dynamics of Anglo-American Intervention in South Africa and the Philippines, 1899-1902" (December 2013)
- Sara Brinegar: "Baku at All Costs: The Politics of Oil in the New Soviet State" (May 2014)
- Marin Cerchez: "Religion in the Alexiad" (May 2014)
- John Coakley: "Agents of Colony and Crown: The Politics of Sea Raiding in English Jamaica, 1655-1701" (August 2014)
- James Coons: "The Grand Condé and the King: Absolutism, Rebellion, and the Evolution of Political Culture, 1643-1659" (August 2014)
- Bennett Cross: "Conversations at the bin Laden Hotel: Nationalism, Islam, and Urban Life in the Malian Diaspora (Lagos 1960-2010)" (August 2014)
- Joshua Gedacht: "Islamic-Imperial Encounters: Colonial Enclosure and Muslim Cosmopolitans in Island Southeast Asia, 1800-1940" (December 2013)
- Jeffrey Hobbs: "The Liberal Crucible: Provincial Rebellion, State Power, and the Origins of Liberal Democratic Culture in July Monarchy France, 1830-1835" (August 2014)
- Jennifer Holland: "Making Babies: Social Conservatism and Abortion Politics in the Four Corners States, 1967-2000" (December 2013)
- Katie Jarvis: "'Politics in the Marketplace': The Popular Activism and Cultural Representation of the Dames des Halles during the French Revolution" (May 2014)
- Brian Leech: "The City that Ate Itself: A Social and Environmental History of Open-Pit Mining in Butte, Montana" (December 2013)
- Eric O'Connor: "Democracy in the Dark: Public Inclusion and Exclusion in European Unity, 1948-1975" (August 2014)
- Haley Pollack: "Theaters of Memory: Placing the Past on the San Francisco Bay" (May 2014)
- David Rodriguez: "Listen, Yankee! The Influence of Castro, Trujillo, and the Puerto Rican Democratic Left on U.S.-Latin American Relations during the Early Cold War" (August 2014)
- Laura Wangerin: "The Administration of Law and Justice in the Tenth-Century Saxon Kingdoms: A Comparative Study of the Ottonians and Anglo-Saxons" (August 2014)
- Naomi Williams: "Workers United: The Labor Movement and the Shifting U.S. Economy, 1950s-1980s" (August 2014)

Graduate Job Placements and Post-Doctoral Fellowships for 2013-2014

- Mark Belson, commander, United States Naval Academy
- Sara Brinegar, postdoctoral fellow, Yale University
- James Coons, visiting assistant professor, Minnesota State-Mankato
- Joshua Gedacht, postdoctoral fellow, National University of Singapore
- Jennifer Holland, assistant professor, University of Oklahoma
- Katie Jarvis, assistant professor, Baylor University
- Brian Leech, instructor, Augustana College
- Eric O'Connor, postdoctoral fellow, European University Institute
- Naomi Williams, visiting assistant professor, Georgia Tech University

Departmental Graduate Student Teaching Awards

- Terry Peterson, Capstone Award
- Staci Duros, Exceptional Service
- William Schuth, Exceptional Service
- Johanna Lanner-Cusin, Innovative Teaching
- Abby Lewis, Early Excellence Award
- Erin Hardacker, Early Excellence Award

L&S Graduate Student Teaching Awards

- Billy Warner, Teaching Innovations Award
- Simon Balto, Honored Instructor Award

Graduate Fellowship Awards

- American Association of University Women: Katherine Eade
- Fulbright Fellowships: Jennifer Gramer, Jason Morgan, Brett Reilly, Evan Wells
- Japan-Korea Cultural Exchange Fellowship: Hye Eun Choi
- Mellon-CES Dissertation Completion Fellowship: Maya Holzman
- Social Science Research Council Fellowships: Jake Blanc, Patrick Otim

Alumni News and Notes

David B. Dennis (BA 1984) I am Professor of History at Loyola University Chicago where I teach courses on modern European cultural history. Having studied with scholars such as George Mosse, Harvey Goldberg, Robert Wohl, Eugen Weber, Saul Friedlander, Robert Winter, and others, my own scholarship has focused on German cultural and political history. My book *Beethoven in German Politics, 1870-1989* (Yale University Press, 1996) examines evocations and uses of Beethoven's biography and music by all of the major parties of 19th- and 20th-century German political culture. My most recent book *Inhumanities: Nazi Interpretations of Western Culture* (Cambridge University Press, 2012) provides an intense and comprehensive examination of the main publication of the Nazi Party, the *Völkischer Beobachter*, showing how that newspaper interpreted the History of Western culture, from the Ancient Greeks through the Weimar Era. I have written numerous book chapters and articles appearing in a variety of journals including, the *International Journal of Humanities*, the *Journal of Political and Military Sociology*, and the *German Studies Review*.

Phil Edwards (BA 2006) Since graduation, I've had a couple of humor books published (*Dumbemployed* and *Fake Science 101*) which have earned notice in many national publications. However, I also edit a website called Trivia Happy which has happily drawn upon my history education. There, I've gotten to delve into some amazing historical stories, and my work, from the truth about Taft's bathtub to the invention of the Fedora, has been featured by Smithsonian Magazine, the Theodore Roosevelt Society, and many internet outlets. Though I didn't continue history at the graduate level, I fondly remember my senior thesis, and that same exhilarating thrill of working with primary sources has helped me develop my writing for a general audience.

Timothy Ernst (BA 1980) Tim became the General Counsel of Big Heart Pet Brands in February 2014. Based in San Francisco, California, Big Heart Pet Brands is the largest standalone maker of premium

quality, branded pet food and pet snacks in the U.S. The Company's brands include Meow Mix®, Milk-Bone®, Kibbles 'n Bits®, 9Lives®, Natural Balance®, Pup-Peroni®, Gravy Train®, Nature's Recipe®, and other iconic brands. The Company does not yet offer a line of Badger food, so Bucky will have to be content with gophers, nuts and other such things. Prior to Big Heart Pet Brands, Tim was the General Counsel of Del Monte Foods, also based in San Francisco. Tim received his law degree from UCLA after graduating from Wisconsin.

Thomas Gilligan (BA 1986) In late July, Minnesota Governor Mark Dayton announced the appointment of Thomas A. Gilligan, Jr. as District Court Judge in Minnesota's Second Judicial District in St. Paul. Gilligan was deeply influenced by the scholarly energy and activism of Professor Harvey Goldberg. In his 24 years as a civil litigator, Gilligan has focused on personal injury, toxic tort, and employment discrimination matters. He also has served as a guardian ad litem and performed pro bono work for low-income victims of domestic violence. In his spare time, Gilligan is an avid soccer fan. He is a board member of the St. Paul Blackhawks Soccer Club and the (Tony) Sanneh Foundation. Gilligan lives in Arden Hills, MN, with his wife, son, and daughter (a 2014 UW graduate in English).

Edward Gingold (PhD 1973, Payne) The end of August 2014, I start my 37th year as an attorney in the General Counsel's Office of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). FERC is a part of the US Department of Energy, in Washington, DC. FERC regulates the interstate sales of electricity and natural gas, as well as the licensing and inspection of hydroelectric dams. I draft appellate decisions. Besides my drafting responsibilities, for the last decade, I have managed my agency's annual Combined Federal Campaign (CFC). CFC is the US Government's version of United Way. I have been honored multiple times US Government-wide for my successes. I am also my agency's alternate representative on the Board of Directors of the National Energy and Utility Affordability Coalition (NEUAC). The NEUAC helps low and middle income people pay their utility bills. Finally, I am also one of my agency's Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO)

Counselors. I attempt to resolve complaints of discrimination based on race, religion, age, gender, or disability. All this is a far cry from teaching Spanish History. *Asi es la vida.*

Paul Grendler (PhD 1964, Mosse) is the 2014 winner of the International Galileo Galilei Prize, which was conferred on October 4, 2014, at the University of Pisa. This prize is awarded to a non-Italian scholar who, in the judgment of a jury of Italian scholars, has made distinguished contributions to Italian scholarship over the course of his or her career. Grendler, Professor Emeritus of History of the University of Toronto, has written nine books on the Italian Renaissance and has been editor-in-chief of two encyclopedias including *Encyclopedia of the Renaissance*, 6 vols., 1999. His books have won five prizes, and he has been president of three scholarly societies. Grendler is a member of the American Philosophical Association.

Jay Hatheway (PhD 1992, Koehl) Most recently, I completed a sabbatical from Edgewood College where I am a professor of history and chair, the Department of History. While on sabbatical, my latest book, *Masjid-ai-Suliaman: Images in and around an Oil Camp in Pre-Revolutionary Iran* was completed and published. This book contains more than 200 color photos taken by my father in the 1960s when he was the chief petroleum engineer in the oil districts of southern Iran. Numerous photos highlight the British colonial lifestyle that ex-patriots lived in opposition to the bare bones existence of the local population, a situation that would eventually be the cause of much resentment.

Jake Jung (BA 2009) Moving to Houston upon graduation to join the 2009 Teach for America corps, I quickly found a love for what would soon become a life-long passion for teaching and the movement to end educational inequity. I taught multiple grades and subjects during this time at Durham Elementary in the Houston Independent School District, also making time to help develop the community around this school through various social initiatives. At the conclusion of my second year in Houston, I moved to Brooklyn, NY, where I currently live and work at Bedford Stuyvesant Collegiate Charter School — a public charter school

under the Uncommon Schools umbrella in Bed Stuy, Brooklyn, NY. Serving as a 6th grade math teacher and Chair of Student Culture, I am extremely excited to help rebuild and redevelop the culture of the community surrounding Bed Stuy Collegiate through parent and family outreach as well as through unique community events targeted at fostering relationships and forging networks between people with ties to the school and those with roots in the neighborhood.

Nathan King (BA 2004) I am currently the web coordinator for the National Park Service in Washington, D.C. Since graduating from UW, I have worked as a park ranger at Glacier National Park (MT), Theodore Roosevelt National Park (ND), Pipestone National Monument (MN), Fort Larned National Historic Site (KS), and the National Mall and Memorial Parks (DC). My Bachelor of Science degree in History prepared me for a career communicating with the public and connecting them to our nation's human and natural history. I've climbed mountains, negotiated with bears and bison, performed onstage for crowds in the thousands, and have worked on the biggest events hosted by the National Park Service. There is no single reason why I came to take this path; it was a trajectory launched by a thousand gentle pushes. I walked the same paths as John Muir at UW and in Montana. John Sharpless taught me to connect history with the landscape on camping adventures. Chuck Cohen taught me to write well. Stephen Kantrowitz's passion still affected me years later while working in the Lincoln Memorial. Even that African Storyteller class I took continues to enhance/ruin every book or movie to the present day.

Abigail Kriebs (BA 2011) The last year has been a year of change. In addition to working as a full-time editor for a B2B trade publication, in September of 2013 I started my own freelance writing and photography business: Inkwells & Images, LLC. Since then, I have been writing magazine articles, advertising & product copy, and contributing to online publications. In the meantime, I also had the opportunity to shoot my first wedding as a photographer last fall, with a sprinkling of family and event shoots throughout the year as well. In June of 2014,

I left my job as an editor and took a position as a Social Media Copywriter with Shopbop, an Amazon company, here in Madison. Working with a team based in Madison and New York City, I am drafting copy for Facebook and Google+ as well as curating images for the social feeds of the company.

Wayne Landsverk (BA 1968) I was elected a Fellow of The College of Labor and Employment Lawyers and will be inducted in November 2014 at the historic Biltmore Hotel in Hollywood. There are only 16 Fellows in Oregon and I am one of 9 who represent management in labor and employment matters.

Earl Mulderlink III (PhD 1995, Sewell) My book, *New Bedford's Civil War*, part of the Fordham University Press Series, "The North's Civil War," was published in paperback in April 2014. It was published originally in 2012. In 2013, I delivered the Grace A. Tanner Distinguished Faculty Lecture at Southern Utah University entitled "America's Civil War: History vs. Hollywood." I presented a slightly modified version as the keynote address for the opening of SUU's American Cultural Center at Hunan Normal University, Changsha, China, in January 2014. In 2013, I was named as one of twelve "Extraordinary Educators" at SUU, mainly for my promotion of engaged, experiential, and service-learning opportunities. In 2013-2014, I traveled with SUU students on service-oriented trips to the Dominican Republic and Nicaragua, building from previous trips there and to places such as Kenya and Ghana. Some of these activities emanate from my role as Director of SUU's Community Engagement Center, a position held since July 2011.

Eric Nelson (BA 2008) I am a high school Social Studies teacher in Forest Lake, MN. In 2009, I was up late one night struggling to figure out how to inspire my students to care about world events, when I decided to check my fantasy football team. An hour or so into researching, I realized I was learning. I wondered if I could recreate this experience with my students. "Fantasy Geopolitics" was born. Think "fantasy football for social studies and literacy standards." Teachers sign up, facilitate a draft of world countries in class, and use scores and resources however they want. Students draft teams

of countries, become more aware as they turn into fans, and automatically score points every time their countries are mentioned in the New York Times. The software tallies scores every evening based on what happened each day. Fantasy Geopolitics immediately turned my students into fans of learning about the world. In 2013-14, I shared my idea in Chicago, New Orleans, and Nashville, and received financial support from a variety of investors. The new Fantasy Geopolitics web site is now up and running with more than 15,000 users playing. www.fantasygeopolitics.com

Jeremy Neren (BA 2005) Since 2006, I've been running a local grocery delivery service in Madison called Madtown Munchies. We are making a number of improvements to our service this upcoming Fall as we prepare to take the same concept to several other college markets throughout the country. Moving forward, we will operate under the name "Munchie Delivery." It's been exciting to run a business in the Madison area, definitely grateful to have the opportunity to provide a service to current UW-Madison students and faculty. As a tribute to my UW days, I sign all of our newsletters to customers "Munch On."

Joseph Parkes (MA 1970) I have been the President of Cristo Rey New York High School in East Harlem since our opening in 2004. We serve only students from low income families. We are part of a strong network of 28 Cristo Rey schools around the country. All of our students work one day a week in corporate and not-for-profit entities, and the money earned pays for 45% of the operating cost of the schools. I am very happy to report that a graduate of our first class, Amaidani Boncenor, who graduated from Fordham University and worked two years as a paralegal, is now a first year law student at UW.

Clinton Philips (BA 1987) I earned my BA at UW with a double major in Geography and History and my MA from UT Austin in Geography. I'm reflecting today on being a participant in the first Gay Studies course that UW offered. The course was set up on an interdepartmental basis in 1987. I don't recall if the History department was a sponsor...I entered the class through the

Zoology department. My recent personal accomplishment is that today I'm proudly celebrating my 26th anniversary with my partner Robert Luther! My work and experience with Dr. Goldberg and others in the department have been great and enduring influences on my life.

Dana Seidenberg (BA 1968) I live in Nairobi, Kenya. Half of my life has been spent as an academic at the University of Nairobi's History Department and Institute for Development Studies. My doctoral dissertation out of Syracuse University's former Programme of Eastern African Studies was my first book. It is entitled *Uhuru and the Kenya Indians* published by Vikas Press, New Delhi: 1983. My second work is *Mercantile Adventurers: the World of East African Asians* published by New Age, New Delhi: 1996. Currently I am a feature writer for the Nairobi newsweekly, the *East African* and Nairobi daily, the *Nation*. The other half has been spent in political activism. For decades I have been part of the Palestinian resistance against the colonial occupation of all of Historic Palestine. Every year in September, I go to Beirut to commemorate with the refugees and others the Sabra and Shatilla Massacre of 1982. Recently I had a photo exhibition at the Alliance Francaise here in Nairobi. Called the Forgotten People, it provided a window into the daily lives of 450,000 Palestinians stuck in Lebanon since 1948.

James Seroogy (BA 1968) I am owner and operator of Seroogy's Chocolates in De Pere, WI. We have two retail stores in the Green Bay Area. In addition, we distribute our chocolates through fundraising organizations,

corporate sales, and mail-order catalogs nationwide. I have three children and six grandchildren all under the age of six. Yikes! Great memories of Dr. Mosse's cultural history lectures and generally of the great times in Madison during the 60s.

Allen Swerdlowe (BA 1970) After graduating from the University, I received an MFA from the Art Institute of Chicago, became an academic in Minneapolis and subsequently received another Master's Degree in Architecture at Columbia University. I am a practicing architect in New York, grounded by my foundation in History. I recently crossed paths with Dr. Stanley Katz, an inspiration while at the University. He and I shared an interest in modifying an inappropriate plan put forth by the New York Public Library. We won the argument and the Library is back on the right path.

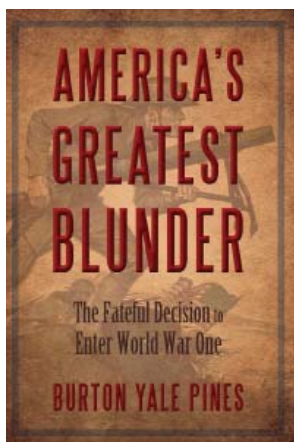
Mark Van Ells (PhD 1999, Cooper) I have written a traveler's guide to the American experience in World War I entitled, *America and World War I: A Traveler's Guide* (Interlink Publishing, 2014). Though aimed at a general audience, I hope it also reflects the scholarly standards I learned at UW. It is due out in September.

Neal Vermillion (MA 1999) This year, I was inducted to the Oconomowoc High School *Wall of Fame* due to my accomplishments since graduating from OHS in 1992. I joined the Foreign Service in 2002 and served as a U.S. diplomat in four countries: Bulgaria, Madagascar, Australia, and China. I am currently working as a senior manager in the visa unit at the U.S. Embassy in Beijing,

China, where we process over half a million visas a year for Chinese citizens wanting to visit the U.S. to travel, study, or work.

Ken Vogel (BA 1997) I'm the Chief Investigative Reporter for POLITICO, a Washington, D.C.-based media outlet covering — as the name suggests — politics. In June 2014, PublicAffairs (New York) published my first book, *Big Money: 2.5 Billion Dollars, One Suspicious Vehicle, and a Pimp — on the Trail of the Ultra-Rich Hijacking American Politics*. The book spent parts of several weeks at No. 1 in Amazon's "Elections" and "Political Advocacy" categories and *The Economist* noted it "has Washington aflutter." In addition to *The Economist*, *Big Money* was positively reviewed by *The New York Times Sunday Book Review*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Washington Post*, *Financial Times*, *Yahoo! News*, *Book Forum* and others.

Edmund Willis (MA 1955) For the centennial celebration of the Town of Pembine (Marinette County), I wrote a 65-page history of the town entitled "Pembine, Our Story," which was published this year with photos and family sketches (224 pages total). As a preface to the history I quoted from Frederick Jackson Turner: "The existence of an area of free land, and the advance of American settlement westward, explain American development...The frontier is the line of most rapid and effective Americanization." (1893) Pembine perfectly illustrates Turner's thesis. The town evolved under the leadership of numerous and varied immigrants and their descendants, beginning with logging and railroads about 1886.



America's Greatest Blunder

Burt Pines is the author of the recently published critical analysis of America's role in World War One, *America's Greatest Blunder*. In writing it he mobilized his decades of experience observing policy-making and historical crises — first as a Time Magazine foreign correspondent and editor and then as a think tank executive in Washington, D.C. His previous books include *Back to Basics* (1982, William Morrow) and *Out of Focus* (1993, Regnery), while his essays on foreign and defense policy have appeared in the *Washington Post*, *Wall Street Journal* and other national publications. A three-time recipient of the New York Newspaper Guild's "Page One Award for Excellence in Journalism," he now lives in Manhattan with his wife, Helene, and their Old English Sheepdog.

Historians at Work: Author Editor Burt Pines (History, 1961)



Some weeks ago, in writing a note to the Department of History, I became aware that it now is housed not in Bascom Hall as it was in my day (long long ago) but in what is called the George L. Mosse Humanities Building. This new address just about knocked me over with delight, pride and exhilaration. For a building to be named after George Mosse is an astoundingly fitting recognition of the power of a teacher to inspire generations of students and of the power of what he taught — history — to shape how they subsequently viewed their lives and their world. At least that's what George Mosse and his stellar colleagues Michael Petrovich, Harvey Goldberg and others did for me.

I realize that I am far from alone in declaring my debt to them, and to George in particular. No one shaped my life and professional development more than they did. From fall 1957, when I, as a freshman, was enraptured by Prof. Mosse in what quaintly was called History 2 (modern European history), through all of his undergraduate courses and then in his grad school seminars, he gave me the framework by which to analyze and evaluate not only events, but also life. He fixed in my firmament a lodestar which has served me well.

What was it about George and his colleagues? To be sure (and that's a phrase he commonly invoked), he was a superstar and that brought some glamor to his topic. It was, as the Chinese and Japanese would say, "big face" to be taking one of his classes. It was common to overhear in the Rathskeller or in Langdon Street's Greek houses (George, after all, was an advisor to a fraternity), someone making a point by stating confidently: "Mosse said." And there were few greater boosts to an ego or claims to glory than to be recognized on campus by a gruff nod from him.

George also was a path-breaking scholar, though few of us as undergrads really understood what made that scholarship so special; we simply were impressed that George "wrote books." And, of course, George was a legendary lecturer, as indeed were Harvey and Mike. George's intensity, cadence, excitement and seductive tone and volume mesmerized the vast numbers of us jamming into the biggest auditorium the history department could find.

But what was most important about George and Mike and Harvey was that it was clear to us that they believed deeply that what they were teaching was important stuff, stuff that mattered. And because it transparently was so important to them, we came to feel that it too was searingly important to us. History became much more than an interesting study of what had happened in years and ages past. It became a Rosetta Stone giving us the power to decipher and make some sense of a turbulent world. It was a thrilling, exhilarating experience, changing the lives of many and enriching the lives of the rest.

Dusty records in the history department will show that I was a research assistant and a teaching assistant for George for a bunch of semesters, had a number of fellowships and completed all my PhD work in, of course, modern European history, including the "pre-lims" (if comprehensive PhD exams are still called that). I then headed off to Germany (in 1965-1966) to research my dissertation. There, alas, I was recruited by *Time Magazine* to be a foreign correspondent. Somehow, though this meant that if I accepted the offer I'd be abandoning the academic path on which George had propelled me, neither he nor Harvey nor Mike seemed dismayed. They encouraged me to consider seriously *Time's* offer, explaining that it would give me the opportunity to bring all that they and the history department had invested in me to a huge audience. "Isn't that also teaching?" Mike Petrovich kindly asked me. And, in fact, as I subsequently learned, what *Time* had found appealing in me, someone with absolutely no journalistic experience, was my training as a historian. "You know context. You have perspective," my new employer told me. So I became a *Time* correspondent, first in West Germany (as it then was called), then in Viet Nam and then in Eastern Europe where I was bureau chief during the depths of the Cold War. Eventually, I became a *Time* editor — covering mainly foreign affairs and U.S. national security matters.

I know, from the many times I'd see him, that my work tickled and even pleased George. And he was just as encouraging when I jumped from journalism in the 1980s into public policy, becoming a senior executive of a Washington think tank, supervising its large research staff and guiding the production of a steady stream of policy papers. Throughout all of this, George would say in one way or another (as did Mike and Harvey), that what I was doing was, after all, what historians do: making sense of human actions on a grand scale, looking for connections, invoking context, seeking relevance and even being presumptuous enough to draw some conclusions and point to some lessons.

And they were right. That's what historians do even if professionally and technically they're not "historians." And, in my mind (another of George's common phrases), the fact that a humanities building on the great Madison campus bears the name of an historian is a recognition of that special relevance and value of historical training.

Historians at Work: Psychologist Michael Kaplan (History, 1970)



As a moody student radical (Students for a Democratic Society) and anti-war activist in the late 1960s, I majored in History. Never a stellar student, I had always been attracted to the study of the past. The reasons are complex, but are perhaps best summarized in a recent book review of a new translation of Herodotus. The reviewer for *The Economist*, quoting the translator, remarked that Herodotus's "Histories" were useful for "enlightened people...who believe that it is both desirable and possible to learn from history...The Greek word meant something more like investigation, and Herodotus' curiosity led him to explore the structure, customs and past of the then known world."

My most influential history professor, George L. Mosse, projected this same sentiment in his famous European Cultural History classes. The reading lists were as likely to include Freud, literature, or sociology as any more precise historical work. Later in life, Professor Mosse included pioneer contributions on nationalism and sexuality as part of the same historical point of view.

Thanks to professors like George Mosse and Dean Jack Cipperly,

I absorbed a broader view of human civilization. Even in the midst of the tumultuous times at UW, I understood the hazards of dichotomous thinking and impulsivity, especially in studying the emergence of Nazism and the attendant failure of dichotomous ideologies such as communism and capitalism in explaining the emergence of such a force for terrible evil.

Although I never went beyond my Bachelor's degree in history and instead received an M.S. in Educational Psychology, history has always informed me. For example, in working with individuals with persistent mental illness, as well as those suffering from various addictions, I have often been struck by their high level of rigid, uncompromising thinking. I have frequently heard my clients say things like, "If I have done bad things then I must be a bad person."

History teaches us otherwise. I learned this as an undergraduate in Madison in the 1960s, and the enduring relevance of thoughtful, complex problem-solving has informed my personal and professional lives ever since.

Michael Kaplan graduated from University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1970 with a major in History (B.S.). He subsequently attended UW-Milwaukee, graduating with an M.S. in Educational Psychology in 1973. Michael's main career has been working as a mental health/addictions counselor. In the late 1990s, he opened up a private practice and for many years had an office in Portland, Oregon. A long term volunteer consultant to foundations in Hungary and Romania, Michael has consulted on a wide range of topics. In May 2014, he was a speaker in both Hungary and Romania on "Burn Out Among Health Professionals." A seasoned skier at age 67, Michael still enjoys a season pass to ski on Mt. Hood, Oregon.



Phi Alpha Theta is a national history honors society whose purpose is to promote the study of history and to bring students, teachers and writers of history together in intellectual and social ways. We strive to make the study of history fun and to bring students interested in history together to form friendships with others interested in history as well as create a professional network.

In the past, Phi Alpha Theta was a joint organization with the Undergraduate History Association (UHA). Last spring, UHA disbanded and Phi Alpha Theta was revived as a stand-alone organization. As a primarily social organization, UHA was not giving undergraduates the return on time that a national honors organization, such as Phi Alpha Theta, could. The decision to disband UHA and develop PAT Lambda Xi was made in hopes that it would provide undergraduate students the opportunity to be actively involved in an honors society that will provide returns on student investment.

Since this shift, undergraduate participation in Phi Alpha Theta has increased dramatically. Phi Alpha Theta hosted its Fall Kick-Off Picnic September 18 and looks forward to hosting a variety of history related events, such as film presentations, lectures, and museum tours, as well as participating in career development events.

Asian History on the Rise

Asian students represent one of the fastest-growing cohorts on the UW campus. The population of students hailing from that continent grew from 3,106 in 2007 (7.4% of all students) to 4,732 in fall 2013 (10.9% of all students), the majority of them Chinese. Partly in response to this anticipated wave of new students and partly in response to growing scholarly emphasis on Asia, UW has renewed its emphasis on teaching and research in the area. Since 2009, the History department added five new colleagues in East Asian history, with specialties ranging from the early history of publishing in China to the histories of Asians in diaspora.

2013-14 was a watershed year for our up-and-coming Asian history program. Louise Young and Judd Kinzley received prestigious fellowships for their innovative research. Joe Dennis piloted UW's "Global Gateway" summer study-abroad program, mentoring 15 select UW-Madison undergraduates on a four-week, intensive experience in Shanghai. The program fees and airfare for all of the students were covered by the Division of International Studies. At the graduate level, eight of the seventeen students in the incoming 2014-15 cohort will work on Asian topics.

As always, History presents a unique environment to explore social, cultural, and economic transformation. One need only look at the award-winning undergraduate scholarship of the past year to see Asia's mark on Wisconsin and the world. The winner of the Baensch Prize for best essay on Wisconsin history was Emily Nelson for her "Ginseng's Wisconsin Roots: The Growth of an Industry." Meanwhile, Shao Deng received the William F. Allen Prize for his "Mary Magdalene: The Abandoned Apostle." History honors graduate and Margaret E. Smith Esther-Butt Scholarship winner Laura Luo wrote her senior thesis on the history rural entrepreneurs and the environment in modern China. And History honors graduate Corina Cheung wrote her thesis on Chinese immigrant workers in South Africa in the 1930s.



Laura Luo, foreground, joins Isaac Lee and Colin Higgins at the 2014 Graduate and Awards Ceremony



Corina Cheung receives her award for Honors in the major at the History graduation ceremony in May. Professor Suzanne Desan and undergraduate advisor Scott Burkhardt presented the awards.

Laura Luo, BA 2014

In Chinese primary school, my teachers emphasized analytical thinking for math and science and rote absorption of historical facts. I thought knowledge outside of math and science superfluous. But when I began taking history courses in college, I became aware of the greater narratives of life in which technology played a role, but functioned with far less direction and purpose outside of social and political contexts. I chose to major in both physics and history in order to observe scientific developments from a humanities perspective; one that considers rapid factory expansion through measuring effects of spatial shifts on social and economic infrastructure, and one that calculates investment returns using metrics of environmental harms and health hazard concerns. After writing my senior thesis on the effect of policy changes upon rural entrepreneurship and environmental shifts in post-Mao China, I hope to pursue a career in environmental policy. Since environmental narratives are almost always interwoven with economic developments, I will be starting my post-graduate journey at a global investment-consulting firm in New York City.

Corina Cheung, BA 2014

I was born in China and grew up in Hong Kong. After drifting between different educational systems for more than a decade, I decided to transfer to University of Wisconsin at Madison in 2012 because I wanted to study history. At UW-Madison, I not only had the privilege of learning from distinguished scholars in different fields of history, but also have been touched by the faculty and advisors' dedication and care to their students. My senior honors thesis, funded generously by the Kaplan Family Fellowship, focuses on the experience of Chinese diaspora in South Africa, a topic that reflects my interest in transnational exchanges between diverse peoples of different continents. Upon my graduation, I will be attending graduate school in Chinese and World History at the University of California at Irvine — a program based upon a comparative approach pioneered at UW-Madison.



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Traveling in the Bucky Wagon around the Dane County Farmers' Market on the Capitol square in downtown Madison, mascot Bucky Badger and members of the cheerleading spirit squad share their enthusiasm on a football Saturday game day. At the wheel, Becci Menghini, senior director of campus relations for the Wisconsin Alumni Association, is one of two official drivers for the vintage vehicle. The 1932 American La France fire engine was donated to the university in the mid-1970s by class of 1949 alums J.J. and Norma Normington of Wisconsin Rapids.

