



For The Record



College of Letters & Science

The Annual Newsletter of the Department of History | Spring 2011

LETTER FROM THE CHAIR



One of the privileges of serving as chair of the Department of History at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee is this opportunity to contact our many graduates and friends. This is a time of considerable challenges in the realm of higher education – and don't think we have been immune from these – but I'm pleased to report that our department remains vibrant and lively, boasting nationally and internationally recognized faculty who are engaged in groundbreaking research. Our faculty are dedicated to teaching our students and contributing to the university, the community and the historical profession.

First, the comings and goings. We have added seven new members to our faculty since the last edition of the newsletter:

- David DiValerio – religious history
- Carolyn Eichner – France, women, and gender and politics
- Christine Evans – Russian history
- Marcus Filippello – sub-Saharan African history and environmental history
- Ben Johnson – U.S. social and environmental history
- Katherine Paugh – health and healing, early modern Caribbean, colonial and revolutionary America
- Robert Smith – African-American history, civil rights, race and law

We also have been pleased to be joined this year by two visiting professors. Dr. Philip Minehan has taught 20th century southern European comparative history, while Dr. Filippello has been here as a visitor this year, preparatory to his appointment to the permanent faculty.

We said good-bye to some beloved colleagues as they retired after many distinguished years at the university. Bruce Fetter, our specialist in African history, retired in 2008. At the end of the 2010-11 academic year, Michael Gordon, Jeffrey Merrick, Steve Meyer and Philip Shashko will also go into retirement. We wish them well in their new endeavors, and extend our gratitude for their dedicated service.

Within the past two years, two of our junior faculty – the folks we count on for the future of the Department – have reached the important career milestone of promotion to tenured status: Jasmine Alinder (public history, visual culture and museum studies) and Cary Miller (Native American). We hope, indeed expect, that these numbers may have grown by the time you read these words.

Our doctoral program, introduced in 2003, continues to develop into an integral part of our curriculum. Within the past two years, we have conferred our first two Ph.Ds: Zacharia Nchinda (dissertation: "Poverty and Intervention Programs in Cameroon, 1946-1982") and Brice Smith (dissertation: "Yours in Liberation': Lou Sullivan and the Construction of FTM Identity"). This number will surely grow, as we currently number 22 students enrolled in doctoral study.

We have substantially expanded and upgraded our departmental website,

largely through the expert efforts of Assistant Professor Nan Kim. Visit www4.uwm.edu/letschi/history and glance through the profiles of our departmental faculty. You will notice a plethora of honors, awards, fellowships, grants and the like that have come their way, too many to single out here. These citations for excellence or accomplishment testify to the high esteem my colleagues enjoy within the scholarly world. By extension, that esteem reflects well on our graduates and the value of their degrees.

No doubt this newsletter will reach many whom I have encountered during my years at UWM, or who may even have had the dubious pleasure of having taken one of my classes. It is a great pleasure to renew acquaintance, even in this indirect fashion, and to urge you to keep in touch with us: drop a line, send an e-mail or stop by just to chat. You're always welcome here on the third floor of Holton Hall.

Neal Pease

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Masthead map image from the American Geographical Society Library, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Libraries

Faculty News and Research

In 2009, **Jasmine Alinder** published *Moving Images: Photography and the Japanese American Incarceration* (Chicago and Urbana: University of Illinois Press). She is currently working on a new research project on photography and the law, funded by an American Council of Learned Societies Charles A. Ryskamp Fellowship. In addition to her research, she is the director of the March On Milwaukee Civil Rights History Project (www.marchonmilwaukee.uwm.edu), a digital archive of primary sources, which just launched in September 2010.

Ellen Amster's research concerns Sufi Islam, French colonialism, midwifery and birth in Islam, and health and healing in Islamic societies. Her first book, *Medicine and the Saints: Science, Islam and the Colonial Encounter in Morocco, 1877-1956*, is forthcoming, and she is preparing her second book, *Perfume of the Souls: The Kitab salwat al-anfas wa muhadathat al-akyas bi-man uqbira min al-ulama wa al-sulaha bi Fas of Muhammad ibn Ja'far al-Kattani*, a translation to English from Arabic with a spatial map and photographs of Sufi shrines in Fez, Morocco. She served 2010-11 on the Fulbright National Screening Committee for North Africa and secured an Undergraduate International Studies and Foreign Languages Grant which was used to create a Middle East speaker series, film festival, and study abroad program. Ellen is currently a Global Studies Fellow at the UWM Center for International Education and developing a study-abroad program for nursing students in Morocco.

Joe Austin's most recent publication on graffiti and street art is entitled "More to See Than A Canvas in a White Cube: For an Art in the Streets" and appeared in the journal *City* in March, 2010. He is currently doing research on African-American teenagers and youth in US central cities between 1940 and 1970, with case studies focused on Milwaukee and Memphis.

Rachel Ida Buff is currently on sabbatical and working on a history of deportation from the United States, 1930-1970.

Martha Carlin's recent publications include "What say you to a piece of beef and mustard? The Evolution of Public Dining in Late Medieval and Tudor London" in *The Places and Spaces of Early Modern London* and "Putting Dinner on the Table in Late Medieval London" in *London and the Kingdom: Essays in Honour of Professor Caroline M. Barron*. She just completed a book with a British colleague, *English Society, 1200-1250: Lost Letters of Everyday Life* (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2011). A spin-off from that research will be published in 2011 as an article entitled "Cheating the Boss: Robert Carpenter's Embezzlement Instructions (c. 1261-8), and Employee Fraud in Medieval England," in *Markets and Entrepreneurs in Medieval England: Essays in Honour of Richard Britnell*.

Greg Carter has won several UWM awards, including a Graduate School Research Council Award, an Institute on Race and Ethnicity Campus Reading Seminar Stipend, a Faculty Diversity Research Fellowship, and a Summer Undergraduate Research Assistantship. Nationally, he has presented for the American Studies Association, the National Association for Ethnic Studies, the American Educational Research Association, and the Critical Mixed Race Studies Association. His writing has appeared in *Ethnic Studies Review*, *Journal of American Ethnic History*, and *Mixed Race Hollywood* and forthcoming in *Race and the Obama Phenomenon*, *The Encyclopedia of American Reform*, and the *Handbook on American Immigration and Ethnicity*. His first book, *The United States of the United Races: The History of a Utopian Ideal*, will be published in 2012.

Winson Chu is currently working on multiethnic politics in the city of Lodz, Poland and German annexation policies during World War II. He recently received grants from the American Council on Germany, the German Historical Institute in Warsaw, UWM's Graduate School, and the UWM Center for International Education to conduct research in Germany and Poland. He presented his recent findings at the annual meeting of the German Studies Association and at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. Winson is currently a fellow at UWM's Center for 21st Century Studies.



Carolyn Eichner spent one month in Paris, funded by a UWM Research Growth Initiative Fellowship, researching her project "In the Name of the Mother: Radical Naming, Marriage, and the Matronym." She will present a paper based on this research in Lisbon, Portugal, in February 2011 at the conference Mothering and Motherhood in the 21st Century: Research and Activism. In March, 2011, she will present a paper at the conference Regards sur la Commune de 1871 en France Nouvelles approches et perspectives. This paper, entitled "The Deportation Lens: Images of Exile and Empire," emerges from her other project on feminism and imperialism/anti-imperialism in late nineteenth-century France.

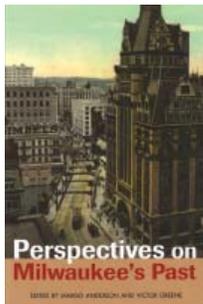
Marcus Filippello's dissertation, "The Slow Road to Ketu: Colonial Resistance, Environmental Change and Post-Independence Autonomy in a Beninese Forest Community," is a social and environmental history of a road connecting Pobé and Ketu in southeastern Benin, West Africa. The thoroughfare carves through a valley of seasonal

wetlands that serves as the social and political center of an autonomous indigenous forest state established by Yorùbá-speaking settlers three to four centuries ago. Marcus analyzes the highway's history alongside debates on environmental change and nationalism in Africa. The dissertation describes how the people living in this region comprise an African forest state that never conceived of themselves as colonized. Marcus is teaching African and world history.

Carlos Galvao-Sobrinho's research interests are on slavery and poverty in the Roman world and the history of ancient medicine. He is writing a chapter entitled "Manumission, Citizenship and Acculturation" for the *Oxford Handbook of Greek and Roman Slavery* (Oxford University Press) and has recently completed "Claiming Places: Sacred Dedications and Public Space in Rome in the Principate" (*Sacred Dedications in the Greco-Roman World: Diffusion, Function, Typology*, ed. J. Bodet and M. Kajava, Rome, Quasar, 2009, pp. 127-159); and "Feasting the Dead Together: Household Burials and the Social Strategies of Slaves and Freed Persons in the Early Principate" (forthcoming in *The Freedman in Roman Society* (provisional title), ed. S. Bell and T. Ramsby, London, Duckworth). A second edition of *Artes e ofícios de curar no Brasil [The Art and the Craft of Healing in Brazil]*, a volume of essays that Carlos co-edited with Sidney Chalhoub et al was published by Unicamp Press in Brazil. Carlos' book *Doctrine and Power: Theological Controversy and Christian Leadership in the Later Roman Empire* is due out from the University of California Press in 2011. He also co-coordinates the Workshop in Ancient Mediterranean Studies.

Michael Gordon is co-coordinator of the public history specialization. He is studying unemployment in Milwaukee during the depression, and a socialist and progressive state legislator in the 1930s and 1940s. He also is working on a local environmental history project with the Milwaukee County Historical Society, where he is member of the Board of Directors and an editor of *Milwaukee County History*, their quarterly magazine. His recent article on Milwaukee anarchists in the *Wisconsin Magazine of History* won an award from the Council for Wisconsin Writers.

Victor Greene is co-editor, with **Margo Anderson**, of *Perspectives on Milwaukee's Past* (Univ. of Illinois Press, 2009). The volume includes contributions by professors **Genevieve McBride**, **Aims McGuinness**, and **Joseph Rodriguez**. Also in 2009, the Immigration and Ethnic History Society honored him with its Lifetime Senior Achievement Award for his scholarship and professional contributions. He is the 2010-11 Chair of the International Committee of the Organization of American Historians and continues work on "American Genre Painters' Depiction of Ethnic Minorities in the 19th Century." Victor also serves as local liaison between the Wisconsin Labor History Society and the Zeidler Memorial Lecture Committee.



A.C. Isaacs Portrait of John Bascom, ca. 1883 (Wisconsin Historical Society, WHI-33717)

J. David Hoeveler has begun writing a biography of John Bascom, president of the University of Wisconsin from 1874 to 1887. Bascom wrote extensively on philosophical subjects and embraced several social reform causes during his presidency. Hoeveler published a summary of those activities in the *Revue Francaise D'Etudes Americaines, Number 122* (2009). He also recently authored *The Evolutionists: American Thinkers Confront Charles Darwin, 1860-1920*.

Douglas Howland was on sabbatical for the 2009-10 academic year researching and writing on two projects: a global and comparative study of popular sovereignty and Japan's recovery of sovereignty in the nineteenth century through mastery of international law. He hosted International Law and World Order, an international and interdisciplinary conference in April 2010. Papers from the conference will appear as a special issue of the *Journal of the History of International Law* in 2011.

Glen Jeansonne teaches 20th century American history. He has published articles on Hank Williams, Jimmie Davis, Herbert Hoover and Huey P. Long during 2010, and his biography of Elvis Presley was published in February, 2011. Glen's major research is a study of the presidency of Herbert Hoover. He presented a paper on Hoover at the 2010 Organization of American Historians convention in Washington. Glen developed a new graduate course dealing with the Great Depression and World War II and a new undergraduate course on writing biography. The undergraduates write their autobiography as well as a brief biography of a historical figure.

Nan Kim's article about the recent military crisis in Korea, "Korea On the Brink," will appear in the May 2011 issue of the *Journal of Asian Studies*. She is working on a book entitled *The Afterlife of Division: Korea's Liminal Modernity and Reunions of North-South Separated Families*. Her research concerns the cultural and social implications of Korea's national division, exploring family history as a vital site of Cold War memory and conflict. In fall 2010, she presented at the Cold War Cultures Conference at UT-Austin.



Marc Levine is working on *The March of Folly: Fads and Foolishness in Economic Development Policy* and also completed several papers in the past year: "The False Promise of the Entrepreneurial University: Selling Academic Commercialism in Milwaukee" and "The Crisis Deepens: Black Male Joblessness in Milwaukee, 2009." He is serving on a national task force on anchor institutions in local economies, and a city of Milwaukee task force on African-American male unemployment. In 2009-10, he introduced a new course that uses HBO's "The Wire" as a lens into the urban crisis.

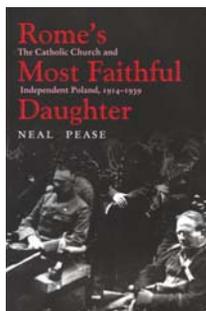
Faculty News and Research (continued)

Genevieve G. McBride received a grant from the Milwaukee Journal Foundation for further research on thousands of letters sent by readers to columnist Ione Quinby Griggs from the 1930s into the 1980s. Dr. McBride and Dr. Stephen R. Byers, formerly a lecturer in History and now on faculty at Marquette University, both worked at the Journal with the beloved "Mrs. Griggs" and are collaborating on other research and publication related to Mrs. Griggs' prior career as a stunt reporter and "sob sister" to mobsters' molls in Chicago during the Roaring Twenties.

Aims McGuinness curated a bilingual (Spanish/English) exhibition at the Smithsonian Institution which ran from October 2009 to May 2010. Entitled "Panamanian Passages," the exhibition covered 4 million years of the history of the Isthmus of Panama, from the geological emergence of the isthmus to the completion of the transfer of the Panama Canal from US to Panamanian control in 1999. The exhibition was located in the Smithsonian's Ripley Center and received more than 400,000 visits.

Jeff Merrick, Associate Dean for the Humanities since July 2008, will retire in June 2011 and relocate to Florida. His most recent publication is "Gender in Pre-Revolutionary Political Culture," in *Deficit to Deluge: Essays on the Origins of the French Revolution*, ed. Thomas Kaiser and Dale Van Kley (Stanford University Press, 2011), 198-219.

Katherine Paugh's teaching and research interests focus on the history of colonial America, the Caribbean and the British Empire during the seventeenth through nineteenth centuries. She is especially interested in issues of race and gender, as well as the history of medicine. Her current book project is on the history of pregnancy and childbearing on sugar plantations in the British Caribbean. Her research and writing have been funded by grants and fellowships from Harvard University's Atlantic History Seminar, the American Philosophical Society, the Gilder Lehrman Institute and the McNeil Center for Early American Studies.



Neal Pease concentrates his teaching, research and publication in the history of Poland and central Europe, with additional interests in church history and the role of baseball in American history. In 2011, he will complete a term as department chair and assume the presidency of the Polish American Historical Association. His book *Rome's Most Faithful Daughter: The Catholic Church and Independent Poland, 1914-1939*

(Ohio University Press, 2009) was named co-winner of the 2010 Orbis Book Prize. This prize, awarded by the Association for

Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies, honors the best book on any aspect of Polish affairs. Ask him about his 2008 trip to the Republic of Georgia in 2008 that was interrupted by the invasion of the Russian army.

Helena Pycior is now concentrating her teaching and research on the human-animal bond and on race, ethnicity, gender and science. She published two essays on President Warren G. Harding's Laddie Boy, an Airedale terrier, and FDR's Fala, a Scottish terrier. Upon completion of her book on the history of presidential pets (projected for 2011), she will resume her study of pioneering African-American research scientists and mathematicians. For the past two years, she has chaired the History of Science Society's Committee on Honors and Prizes.

Lex Renda is analyzing several aspects of the American electoral system in historical perspective, including competitiveness in presidential elections, variations in party fortunes in congressional elections, and the social roots of partisanship.

Joe Rodriguez taught American history in Taiwan as a Fulbright Scholar in spring 2010. He is currently researching a book on race and ethnicity in Milwaukee.

Kristin Ruggiero teaches an introductory course on Latin America and specialized courses on Mexico and Cuba. Her research concentrates on medicine, law, foreign contagion, and society in Argentina between the 1850s and 1920s. She is currently working on articles on honor and suicide (from a conference at the Rockefeller Foundation Bellagio Center in Italy), and on the history of criminality, stress, and modernity (from a conference at the National Institutes of Health). She is also the director of the Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies.

John Schroeder is the Naval Academy Class of 1957 Distinguished Chair in American Naval Heritage for the 2010-11 academic year and is completing a book on the United States Navy and the American Commercial Empire in the Pacific from 1815 to 1890. He will return to the faculty at UWM for the 2011-12 academic year.

Amanda Seligman is currently planning an encyclopedia of Milwaukee, which she will co-edit with Professor **Margo Anderson**. They received a UWM Research Growth Initiative Award for \$149,026 to begin staffing the project, plan for the print table of contents and online version, and develop a federal grant proposal. In addition, she recently published an article on the history of riots in the 1960s in the *Journal of Urban History* and is writing a piece about block clubs in Chicago.

Philip Shashko received grants from the UWM Graduate School, the UWM Center for International Education, the Department of History, and the Urban Studies Programs, for on-going research travel to Sydney, Melbourne and Perth (Australia) and to Skopje, Florina and Thessaloniki to complete a collection of folk songs, proverbs and tales entitled *The Village Garland: The Folklore of Dafina Shashko*.



Lisa Silverman specializes in modern Jewish history and culture. In 2009, her co-edited volume *Interwar Vienna: Culture Between Tradition and Modernity* appeared with Camden House. She is currently completing a manuscript on Jews and culture in Austria between the world wars, which will be published by Oxford University Press. She presented her work at conferences at Oxford University

and in Milwaukee and has been invited to lecture at SUNY-Buffalo in the spring. She is the recipient of a 2009-10 UWM Distinguished Undergraduate Teaching award.

Robert Samuel Smith researches the intersection of race and law. His dissertation and book *Race, Labor and Civil Rights: Griggs v. Duke Power and the Struggle for Equal Employment Opportunity* chronicled efforts on the part of grassroots civil rights activists who used Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 to garner better jobs and promotions. Previous to arriving at UWM, Rob was a member of the Africana Studies Department at UNC-Charlotte where he sharpened his skills on studies involving the African diaspora. His current research, which explores the relationship between civil and human rights attorneys in the United States and South Africa, connects his training as a legal scholar with his training in diaspora studies. Rob teaches courses on African-American history, the history of African-Americans and the law, as well as a more general course on U.S. legal history.



Photo by Alan Magayne-Roshak

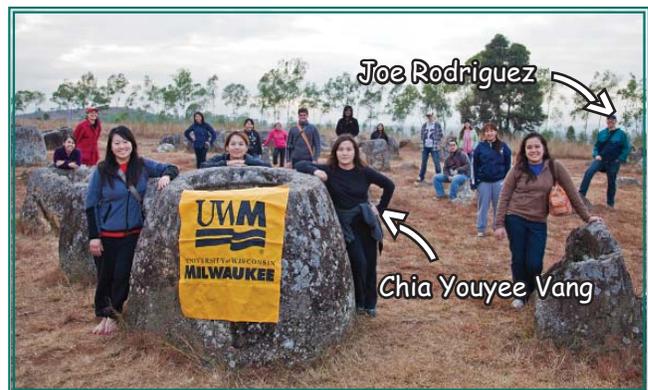
Merry Wiesner-Hanks was the keynote speaker at the Swiss Congress of Historical Studies in Basel, Switzerland, and the keynote at the World History Association annual conference. She presented work drawn from her most recent book, *The Marvelous Hairy Girls: The Gonzales Sisters and Their Worlds*, at Observatory, a gallery and performance space in Brooklyn. This book, published in 2009 by Yale University

Press, was reviewed widely, including by *The New Yorker*, *ArtNews*, and the *Times Literary Supplement*. She continues to serve as the chief reader for the Advanced Placement world history exam, in charge of the 900 teachers and college faculty who grade more than 150,000 exams. She is also the editor-in-chief of the forthcoming nine volume *Cambridge History of the World*.

Chia Youyee Vang specializes in American involvement in Southeast Asia in the post-WWII era and the large flow of refugees in the aftermath of the American war in Vietnam, with an emphasis on U.S. refugee resettlement policies and practices in western nations. Her teaching interests include the American war in Vietnam, contemporary Hmong migration history and Asian-American history. She led a short-term study abroad program with fourteen students to Laos during UWinteriM 2009 and led another program to Laos and Vietnam during UWinteriM 2011. Her book, *Hmong America: Reconstructing Community in Diaspora*, was published by the University of Illinois Press in November 2010. She also contributed essays to two edited volumes in 2009: "U.S. Cold War Policies in Laos and the Hmong" (*De-Centering the Cultural Cold War: The U.S. and Asia*, eds. Yuka Tsuchiya and Toshihiko Kishi) and "Hmong Anti-Communism at Hmong and Abroad" (*Anti-Communist Minorities in the U.S.: Political Activism of Ethnic Refugees*, ed. Ieva Zake).



To learn about the legacy of war, history faculty members Chia Youyee Vang, Joseph Rodriguez and UWM students toured the Cu Chi Tunnels in My Tho, southern Vietnam. (January 2011)



UWM students and faculty visited the Plain of Jars, an archeological site in Xiengkhouang, Laos thought to be an ancient burial ground dating from the Iron Age. (January 2011)

Nick Hoffman (BA, History, 2004; MA, History, 2007) recently made his way back to Wisconsin after being named the curator at The History Museum at the Castle in Appleton. The History Museum is owned and operated by the Outagamie County Historical Society and showcases the history of the Fox Valley dating back to the 1840s.



Nick Hoffman holding a ceremonial sword from the I.O.O.F. circa 1890. The drum was used by an Ohio Volunteer Infantry Regiment during the Civil War.

Prior to his current role, Nick was the Director and Curator of the Elkhart County Historical Museum in Bristol, Indiana. Under Nick's direction, the museum increased attendance by over 100%, improved collection stewardship, and expanded its educational offerings. In 2009, he presented at the American Association for State and Local History National Conference on a re-housing project that involved the relocation of a collection into a

new storage facility built during his tenure. In 2010, he was involved in the completion of the Museum Assessment Program (Institutional) with the American Association of Museums.

Growth at the museum resulted from an active schedule with neighborhood walking tours, programs on how to research local history, and increased activities for families. Additional projects that Nick worked on included designing an enhanced newsletter and restructuring staff positions. The biggest challenge Nick faced was growing the museum during the harsh economic climate in Elkhart County, which was hit particularly hard by the recession.

Nick's passion for Wisconsin's history has not wavered, and he is involved with numerous independent projects. His graduate research was on Milwaukee's glass industry and was published in the Wisconsin Magazine of History in fall 2007. The article focused on changes to manufacturing and labor at William Franzen and Sons glass factory in Bay View. Nick, along with his wife Kristi Helmkamp, recently finished a new furnishing plan for the St. Peter's Church living history exhibit at Old World Wisconsin. His current research interests are early bicycling culture and bicycle manufacturing in Wisconsin.

Congratulations to **Trevor Jones** (MA, History, 1998). Trevor recently became the Director of Collections and Exhibitions at the Kentucky Historical Society in Frankfort, KY. The Kentucky Historical Society is an agency of the Kentucky Tourism, Arts and Heritage Cabinet and houses more than 120,000 artifacts, 8,000 oral history interviews, 90,000 published works, 16,000 reels of microfilm, 200,000 photographs, 1,900 cubic feet of manuscripts and 2,000 maps. Trevor comes to the Kentucky Historical Society with experience as the curator at the Neville Museum in Green Bay and as curator at the Mountain History Center at Western Carolina University.

Congratulations to **Britta Arendt** (MA, History, 2002). Britta has joined the U.S. House of Representatives as a collections specialist. Previously, Britta worked at the Frank Lloyd Wright Preservation Trust in Oak Park, IL.

FRIENDS OF HISTORY

We would like to take this opportunity to thank our alumni and friends for their generosity towards the History Department this year. Your contributions allow us to enhance the educational experience of our students and to strengthen the research and development of our faculty and staff.

We want you to know how much you mean to us and therefore, from this time forward, we will recognize all donors to any fund that supports the History Department as a "Friend of History." Please join us in thanking our current Friends of History (based on donations July 2010 – present.)

<i>Dr. David & Diane Buck</i>	<i>Mr. Louis Maris</i>
<i>Ms. Katharyn Giever</i>	<i>Mr. Robert Otwell & Ms. Julie Hardwick</i>
<i>Dr. Victor Greene</i>	<i>Mrs. Patricia Pellowski</i>
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Student News

Student Awards

The History Department awards for 2009-10 and 2010-11 are:

Best Graduate Thesis:

- » Laura Luepke, "Prostitution in the Pinerias: Commercial Sex in the Logging Regions of Northern Wisconsin and the Discourse of White Slavery, 1866-1913."
- » Joel S. Enders, "The German Invasion of Belgium 1914: The German 'Atrocities' and Images of Future War"
- » Lea A. Gnatt, "Publishing Prophecies: Female Prophets and their Motivations for Publishing in Early Modern England"

Best Graduate Paper:

- » Mark Speltz, "Marching on Milwaukee: Photography and the Civil Rights in the North."
- » Chris Langer, "Hitler's Declaration of War Revisited"
- » Nicholas Gerard-Larson, "The Cure for Scurvy: Medical Theory and Diet in the Eighteenth Century British Navy"

Undergraduate Research Award:

- » Daniel Hauck, "'The Massacre': Rivalries that Undermined the 1886 Milwaukee Labor Movement."

Zeidler Award:

- » Benjamin Barbera, "British Raid on New London, Connecticut and the Battle of Fort Griswold, 1781: A Historiography"

CONTACT US

We welcome your news and information for future editions of our newsletter:

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<http://www4.uwm.edu/letsci/history/>

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Study Abroad

In the summer of 2010, Ellen Engseth (BA, history, 1992; MA, history, 1997), now an archivist at the UWM Libraries, and history graduate student Katie Blank led a study abroad class to Scotland. "In the Scottish Archive," a two-week comparative study of the archival profession in the UK and the US, was developed and taught by Ellen and offered through UWM's School of Information Studies (SOIS). The Center for International Education also provided support as did Laura Meyer from SOIS who joined the trip as a leader.

The class was based at Dalkeith House, a historic country estate near Edinburgh and former home of the Duke of Buccleuch. The current House was built circa 1700 under the direction of Duchess Anne Scott and today provides an ideal learning space to consider the history of its residents, and to learn about the role of documents and records in Scotland. Dalkeith played host to some important moments in history. In what is now the dining room, General Monck planned the Restoration of Charles II, and Polish Resistance Army soldiers stayed at the house during World War II. Their graffiti remains on the walls and provides meaningful written and pictorial evidence of their residence. The fireproof "Charter Room," now the faculty lounge, secured important titles and deeds.

Through readings, lectures, behind-the-scenes tours and daily discussions with many hospitable Scottish colleagues, the class gained a comparative understanding of

archival work in the US and the UK. Highlights included meeting the national archivist, the "Keeper of the Records." Other highlights included a private showing of the original last letter written by Mary Queen of Scots and a trip to the Hopetoun House family library and archives.



Study abroad group outside of Hopetoun House

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