Gandhi, India, and the Empire
by Rajmohan Gandhi

During the fall semester of 1997, Rajmohan Gandhi served as George A. Miller Visiting Professor in the Department of History. Professor Gandhi is research professor with the Centre for Policy Research in New Delhi, India. He has served in the upper house of the Indian Parliament and has led an Indian delegation to the United Nations Human Rights Commission in Geneva. His numerous books include a study of Hindu-Muslim relations and biographies of several of the leaders of India’s twentieth-century independence movement. He is himself a grandson of the great Indian leader whose life ended fifty years ago. His biography, The Good Boatman: A Portrait of Gandhi, was published in 1995. At the special request of the editor of History at Illinois, he provided the following reflections on his grandfather’s legacy.

Let me, in this piece, share from some recently-gained understanding of Gandhi. The fiftieth anniversary of Gandhi’s assassination by an extremist Hindu group is perhaps a suitable moment for offering my first point, which is about Gandhi’s supposedly pronounced Hinduness.

That Gandhi’s “use of a religious vocabulary—inevitably Hindu in origin” (Ainslee Embree’s phrase) alienated the subcontinent’s Muslims and thus contributed to India’s 1947 Partition is a view fairly widely held among Western students of Indian history, and also by a few in India. In a 1986 study of Hindu-Muslim relations, I expressed agreement with it.

Now, following further research, I would put the matter differently. Without denying that the Hindu part of Gandhi’s idiom was capable of confusing and possibly putting off Muslims in India, I would stress that Gandhi was using his Hindu symbols to win the Hindus over to his goal of Hindu-Muslim trust, and that some Muslims perceived this even in his lifetime.

Indian political figures before Gandhi had employed Hindu symbols. Bal Gangadhar Tilak (1856-1920) invoked the Hindu god Ganpati and Aurobindo Ghose (1872-1950) the goddess Durga. Unlike Tilak and Aurobindo, Gandhi strove to assure Muslims that they had nothing to fear from his Hinduness, which enabled him to reach the Hindu heart and moderate it, even though some Hindus, like the ones who eventually killed him, never forgave what they saw as his appeasement of Muslims.

During the Gandhi-led 1920-22 movement of Nonviolent Noncooperation, when India’s Hindus and Muslims stood as one, Gandhi’s Hinduness was regarded as an asset by his Muslim colleagues. It enabled Gandhi to bring the Hindus to the anticolonial battlefront on which the Muslims were keen at the time. Later, especially after the deaths of his close Muslim ally Hakim Ajmal Khan (in 1927) and an equally close associate Dr. Mukhtar Ahmed Ansari (in 1936), Gandhi lacked a sufficient number of Muslim colleagues who could put his Hinduness in perspective to the subcontinent’s Muslims.

Though taking every chance himself to explain his Hinduness to Muslims, Gandhi could not afford to

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Notes From the Chair

I have assumed the chair with more than the usual trepidation. I am taking over from Charles Stewart who has done a remarkable job under unusually difficult personal circumstances in building and strengthening the department over the past five and a half years. He oversaw a critical period in which we substantially overhauled the graduate program, replaced some of our most distinguished senior colleagues with very promising younger hires, and launched the very successful Centennial Fund drive which allowed us to create a new computer lab and a fancy new seminar room. It is nice to be assuming leadership of a department that was in such good shape, but will I do as good a job as Charles? I quickly gave up on this worry. Even if I should not be as good a practical administrator or as creative a planner, perhaps I can make other sorts of contributions to the department. I have more than one Chicago ward heeler in my background, and that must count for something.

One thing for which I am particularly grateful is the quality of the people here and the academic program they have created and continue to maintain. Since individual faculty achievements are highlighted elsewhere, I'd like to take this opportunity to describe just a few of the more substantial department plans under way and to thank at least some of the folks who have made special contributions to our work.

In an age of downsizing, the number of historians in Gregory Hall continues to grow. Three new searches were authorized for 1997-98.

The first, in *Modern Europe*, will replace (if that is possible) Paul Schroeder. The second, a new sort of position in International/Transnational history, intends to cover some of the same ground previously held by Paul and Bill Widener in our International Relations field, while moving us in new comparative directions. A generous endowment from Sheldon and Anita Drobny has allowed us to establish the new Chaim LopatAssistant Professorship in European Jewish History. We hope that our search will lead to an appointment in the course of the year 1998. The department's nomination for a Swanlund Chair was successful at both the college and campus levels, and I hope to report favorably on this effort once we have the results. We expect to conduct at least a couple of searches next year, including one in *Modern British History* to replace Walter Arstein and another for a brand new position in Asian-American history as part of the campus plan to establish an Asian-American Studies Program. Future hiring plans will be shaped considerably by a priorities committee chaired in 1997-98 by Diane Koenker who has done more than her share of administrative work this year. The university's new budgeting system makes it likely that we will need to do such long range planning continuously in the coming decade.

Thanks to the dean's generosity and a new committee chaired by Peter Fritzsch, we have been able to do more special programming this year than in the past. In addition to a host of colloquia presented by outside speakers and our own colleagues, the committee is planning several comparative conferences involving peasant life, historical memory, and the history of the written word. Meanwhile, a joint History/Anthropology planning committee is reinventing the successful collaboration which brought us Natalie Davis, Jack Goody, and Sally and Jacob Price as visiting professors over the past several years.

In the coming year we hope to reduce the rather heavy student load of our teaching assistants, a reform that will benefit both graduate and undergraduate education, and to augment both travel and fellowship support for our graduate students through a combination of internal reallocation and generous support from our alumni. In this connection, let me urge those of you who have not already done so to support our outstanding graduate students by contributing to the Graduate Fellowship Endowment and/or purchasing copies of *Imagining the Twentieth*.

History at Illinois

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Walter I. Arstein

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Barrett Named Department Chair

In August 1997 Professor James R. Barrett took over as chair of the Department of History. A native of Chicago, Barrett received his B.A. from the University of Illinois at Chicago, his M.A. from the University of Warwick (England), and his Ph.D. from the University of Pittsburgh. Before joining the University of Illinois faculty in 1984, Barrett taught at the University of Pittsburgh, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and North Carolina State University at Raleigh.


Barrett’s name has repeatedly appeared on the University of Illinois List of Outstanding Teachers, and he has received both the Department of History Queen Prize and the William Prokasy Award of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences for Outstanding Teaching. His other honors have included that of Beckman Fellow in the UI Center for Advanced Study, of Faculty Fellow in the UI Program in Cultural Values and Ethics, the Newberry Library’s Lloyd Lewis Fellowship in American History, and the Illinois State Historical Society Book Award for Work and Community in the Jungle.

His most recent article (with David R. Roediger) is “In Between Peoples: Race, Nationality and the ‘New Immigrant’ Working Class” in the May 1997 issue of the Journal of American Ethnic History.

Notes, continued

Century, edited by Charles Stewart and Peter Fritzsche. (Please see the advertisement elsewhere in this issue.) This commercial interlude allows me to close with the most important of my tasks—the thank yous. Thanks to all of you for your support over the years. A few people have been particularly important in the transition from one chair to another. Anyone who has observed the physical state of my office will understand the importance of Associate Chair Caroline Hibbard’s organization and precision. The same terms apply to Apryl Orwick, secretary to the chair. I am deeply grateful to her for regularly going far beyond the call of duty. Anyone familiar with my budgeting skills will know that our business manager, Sandy Colclasure, stands between our beloved department and financial embarrassment. My close work with the other members of the department staff—Jan Langendorf, Judy Patterson, Marci Blocher, Stanley Hicks, and Pat Prothe—leaves me deeply in their debts. These are all extremely hardworking and dedicated people. Professor Ken Cuno and my assistant, Sharon Michalove have assumed responsibility for substantial changes in the undergraduate curriculum. The faculty have generally been very helpful and often extremely supportive. Finally, I wish to thank the faculty for the confidence they have shown in me.

James R. Barrett

James R. Barrett
From McDonalds to tortas ahogadas en mole

During May and June 1997, a group of University of Illinois students traveled to Guadalajara, Mexico, for a three-week-long undergraduate seminar on Mexican culture and history supervised by Professor Cynthia Radding. There they were exposed to formal classroom lectures at El Colegio de Jalisco, a graduate research and teaching facility located in Zapopan (on the outskirts of Guadalajara) by members of its research staff as well by Radding. They also became acquainted with that institution's excellent library, which includes numerous relevant books in English as well as Spanish. They were guided by a leading archaeologist through both the Museo de Guadalajara and through an archaeological site currently under excavation. They became acquainted with Guadalajara's impressive colonial monuments and with the powerful murals painted by José Clemente Orozco and David Alfaro Siqueiros.

While in Guadalajara they also encountered both street vendors and supermarkets, visited the laundromat, attended orchestra concerts, traveled through the city by bus, and became familiar with the smell of chicharon cooking in the open market. The students visited artisan villages where they tried their hand at loom weaving and admired Mexican ceramics and blown glass. Even as they were reminded that McDonald's, Coca-Cola, and American television constitute part of the Guadalajara atmosphere nowadays, they tempted their palates with pollo con mole and tortas ahogadas.

In addition to doing a number of assigned readings, the students wrote research papers on a variety of topics ranging from the nineteenth-century Mexican independence movement and cholera epidemics to twentieth-century muralist art. The students were housed in the same hotel and developed a high degree of camaraderie with one another. In Radding's words: "I can only hope that the U of I students will remember the fun and good humor, the extraordinary helpfulness with which they were treated, and the colorful beauty of Mexico, as well as the faces of poverty and deprivation that are more easily hidden in the United States."
Looking Back on Our Century

In October 1997, *Imagining the Twentieth Century* (University of Illinois Press), the volume of photos and essays contributed by seventeen members of the Department of History (announced in last year’s issue), was launched with a massive book signing event at a Champaign bookstore. The “scrapbook of our collective memory” consists of over 120 photos selected by the editors, Charles Stewart and Peter Fritzschke, in collaboration with the essay authors who had worked together in a year-long faculty seminar during the 1995-96 academic year. The jointly-taught course on “The Fate of the Twentieth Century” that was
Special Honors

East Asian Department Names Toby as Head

In August 1996, Ronald P. Toby, a holder of three degrees from Columbia University and a member since 1979 of both the Departments of History and of East Asian Studies, became head of the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures. The twenty-faculty members of that department teach courses in the languages, literatures, and cultures of China, Japan, and Korea. The department also supervises the university’s “Year in Japan” program.

Toby, the author of State and Diplomacy in Early Modern Japan (Princeton U. Press, 1984), has

Departmental Awards

At the spring 1997 Phi Alpha Theta/History Department banquet, the department presented the following awards:

- **Martha Belle Barrett Prize (for the best grade point average for graduating seniors)**
  - Susan Feuille
  - Kathleen E. Kennedy
  - Joseph ‘Kip’ Kosek

- **Michael Scher Award (for the best undergraduate research paper)**
  - Joseph ‘Kip’ Kosek

- **Robert W. Johannsen Scholar**
  - Rosemarie N. Stremlau

- **Robert H. Bierma Scholarship (for juniors with the highest grade point average)**
  - Robert A. Miller
  - Corinne O’Melia
  - Peter Schroder
  - Christopher Quick

- **Joseph Ward Swain Prize (for the outstanding graduate seminar paper)**
  - Andrew Nolan

- **Joseph Ward Swain Prize (for the outstanding published article by a graduate student)**
  - Glenn Penny

- **Frederick J. Rodkey Prize in Russian History**
  - Susan J. Smith

- **Laurence M. Larson Prize (in Medieval or English History)**
  - Christopher Prom

- **Theodore and Marguerite Pease Award in English Constitutional History**
  - James Cornelius

- **George & Gladys W. Queen Excellence in Teaching Award (by a faculty member)**
  - Diane Koenker

- **John G. and Evelyn Hartman Heiligenstein Award for Teaching Excellence by a Teaching Assistant**
  - Julia Walsh

- **William C. Widenor Teaching Fellowship**
  - Tom Trice
  - Heather Coleman
  - Toby Higbie
  - Eric Burin

- **Computer Courseware Development Prize**
  - Chad Fauber
received numerous honors ranging from the designation of University Scholar by the University of Illinois to that of NEH Senior Fellow, Japan Foundation Professional Fellow, and visiting professor in Kyoto University’s Institute for Research in the Humanities. In the course of 1996-97 his co-authored book, *Nihon e no yuigon* (A Testament for Japan) was published in Tokyo. He also published a large number of brief articles in Japanese in *Issatsu no hon* (About Books), and he served as co-author of the report of the committee that reviewed the Historiographical Institute of the University of Tokyo. Toby currently serves as vice-president of the Early Modern Japan Network and as a member of the editorial board of *Early Modern Japan*.

**Julia Walsh Wins Teaching Award**

In the spring of 1997, Julia Walsh won both a College Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching by Graduate Teaching Assistants and the History Department’s own John G. and Evelyn Hartman Heiligenstein

![Julia Walsh](Image)

Award for Teaching Excellence by a Teaching Assistant. An honors B.A. graduate of Cambridge University (England), Walsh has earned an M.A. in history at the University of Illinois and is currently completing a Ph.D. dissertation, “Horny-Handed Sons of Toil: Workers, Politics, and Religion in Augusta, Georgia, 1880-1910,” under the supervision of Professor O. Vernon Burton.

Walsh has successfully taught both semesters of the university’s American history survey course, and she currently holds a fellowship under the auspices of the Pew Program in Religion and American History. She has presented papers on two occasions to sessions of the Social Science History Association, and an article by her appeared in the Summer 1997 issue of the *Georgia Historical Quarterly*. Another is forthcoming in the *American Dictionary of Biography*.

**Ph.D.s Awarded**

_During the 1996-97 academic year, the following students received their Ph.D. degrees in History_


JACQUELINE DEVRIES (B.A., Calvin College; M.A. University of Illinois) “A New Heaven and Earth: Feminism, Religion and the Politics of Identity in Britain, 1903-1918” (Sonya Michel) 1997-98: Augsburg College (Minnesota)


EDWARD TENACE (B.A. U. of Maryland; M.A. U. of Illinois) “The Spanish Intervention in Britain and the Failure of Philip II’s Bid for European Hegemony” (Geoffrey Parker) 1997-98: Lyon College (Arkansas)


**In last year’s issue, the title of SALLY WEST’S Ph.D. dissertation was reported incorrectly. The title should have read: Constructing Consumer Culture: Advertising in Imperial Russia to 1914.”**
Pansie Dawn, 1920-1997

The wife of Professor Emeritus C. Ernest Dawn died on July 2, 1997, after a long illness. She was born on December 8, 1920, in Roscoe, Texas, the daughter of Felix and Anna Williamson Dooley. She attended Mary Hardin-Baylor College in Belton, Texas. Beginning in early 1941, she lived in Washington, D.C. where she was employed first in the Department of State and then in the Legislative and Liaison Division of the War Department Special Staff as secretary to Lieutenant Colonel Bruce Harlow and then to Major Wilton Persons, chief of the Division. (Persons and Harlow were subsequently to serve on President Eisenhower’s White House staff; the latter also served on President Nixon’s White House staff.)

On July 8, 1944, Pansie and Ernest Dawn were married. While Ernest was completing his graduate studies at Princeton University, Pansie served as secretary to the noted physicists Eugene Wigner and John Wheeler. In 1946 the couple moved to Princeton, and in 1949 to Urbana, where Ernest Dawn began his four-decade-long career with the University of Illinois. Pansie is survived by her husband and by two daughters, Julia Anne Kuykendall of St. Louis and Carolyn Louise Feldsine of Seattle.

Natalia Belting, 1915-1997

Natalia Belting, who died on December 17, 1997, was born in Oskaloosa, Iowa, on July 11, 1915.

Her life encompassed at least three overlapping careers. The first involved the University of Illinois. Her father had played on its football team before receiving his B.A. in 1912. It conferred on her a B. S. degree in journalism in 1936 and subsequently both the M.A. degree in history in 1937 and the Ph.D. in 1940. She taught in the department from 1943 until her retirement in 1985. She taught both introductory survey courses and upper-level courses in French Colonization in North America, in the History of Illinois, and in the History of Immigration to the United States. Her most important publication as a historian was Kaskaskia Under the French Regime (University of Illinois Press, 1948; reprinted by the Polyanthos Press, 1975).

Her second career involved the authorship of nineteen children’s books based on American history, on American Indian lore, and on major holidays. Most were published by Holt, Rinehart, and Winston. Calendar Moon won the American Library Association “Notable Book” Award, and The Sun Is A Golden Earring was runner-up for the Caldecott Medal. Other titles include Winter’s Eve, Summer’s Coming In, Christmas Folk, and Whirlwind Is A Ghost Dancing. Tens of thousands of these colorfully illustrated books have been sold, and in 1979 the Illinois Association of Teachers of English named her “Author of the Year.”

Her third career was as a local historian and as one of the department’s prime links with the Champaign County community. For many years she contributed a column, Illinois Past, to Sunday issues of the Champaign-Urbana News-Gazette, and she provided Station WCIA (Channel 3, Champaign) material for sixty videocassettes on Illinois history. She also spoke to scores of elementary school classes, teachers groups, service clubs, and women’s groups about the history of East-Central Illinois, and in 1983 the Champaign County Historical Museum named her “Local Historian of the Year.” She was a charter member of the Board of Governors of the Champaign County Historical Society and an active member of the Champaign County Bicentennial Committee. At its banquet in 1986, the Mother’s Association of the University of Illinois presented her with its Bronze Medallion of Honor as a woman who “by example and service has used her talents to enrich the lives of others.”

Belting died in her home in rural Urbana, a home that over the years served as refuge to numerous dogs and other animals. Her survivors include a sister, Dorothy Runelle of Fern Park, Florida. A memorial service was held December 22, 1997.
Gandhi, continued

discard it. He knew that India’s masses, Hindu or Muslim, could not be stirred by leaders or movements divorced from their traditions or disdainful of their cultural and religious inheritance. At the same time, Gandhi insisted that this inheritance needed touchstones of ethics, commonsense, and tolerance.

When Gandhi was killed on January 30, 1948, Mian Ifikharuddin, president of the West Punjab Muslim League, said:

Each one of us who has raised his hand against innocent men, women and children during the past months, who has publicly or secretly entertained sympathy for such acts, is a collaborator in the murder of Mahatma Gandhi.

In thinking of Gandhi as a human being rather than a Hindu, Ifikharuddin was not alone in Pakistan in 1948. Now, after fifty years, Muslims on the subcontinent, in India, Pakistan, and Bangladesh, appear increasingly to see Gandhi as a Hindu-Muslim reconciler rather than as a champion of Hindu interests.

That Gandhi’s value system was in some respects similar to that of the Empire he rebelled against is my second point. In August 1947, the month of India’s independence and of suffering from Hindu-Muslim violence, Gandhi found it natural to publish in his journal, Harijan, lines by Browning that an English friend had sent him:

To dry one’s eyes and laugh at a fall,
And baffled, get up and begin again.
So the chase takes up one’s life, that’s all.

To laugh at setbacks and begin again, and to keep repeating the process until “Death the Friend” (a phrase often on Gandhi’s lips) ended it, was how Gandhi as well as some Empire-builders thought life should be lived. In a well-known biography of Gandhi, his secretary, Pyarelal, quotes most of Kipling’s “If,” including the lines about meeting with equal indifference the twin impostors of triumph and disaster, summarizes the rest of the poem, and adds:

If the poet had for his pattern the man whom it was my privilege to serve and follow till the end of his days, the picture could not have been truer to life.

In a biography of John Lawrence, the Empire official who enlisted the Punjab in suppressing the 1857 rebellion, Bosworth Smith, claims that the motto of Lawrence’s life was contained in these words written to a friend:

I look for neither fame nor abuse. All I wish is to do my duty.

When Lawrence’s brother Henry, also an Empire hero, was critically injured during the 1857 siege of Lucknow, he is supposed to have said to those around him: “Put on my tomb only this—Here lies Henry Lawrence who tried to do his duty.”

As is well-known, the performance of duty irrespective of success or failure, or praise or blame, is the core prescription of the Bhagavad Gita, the Hindu “Song of God” to which Gandhi constantly turned.

Finally, I should draw attention to a constant awareness in Gandhi that the psychologically humiliating British connection was valuable for India. In remarks to his private secretary Mahadev Desai in March 1918 (three years after concluding a twenty-year South African experience), Gandhi gave clear expression to this view:

Ever since I read the history of the East India company, my mind refuses to be loyal to the Empire and I have to make a strenuous effort to stem its tide of rebellion. The first thought that rises up in the mind is that the British should be driven out of India bag and baggage; but a feeling deep down in me persists that India’s good lies in [the] British connection...

Almost thirty years later, in July 1947, a month before India’s independence and partition, Gandhi acknowledged Britain’s role in Indian unity even as he deplored the division that was on the anvil:

The British carried on their rule in India for 150 years and... accepted the fact that politically India was one nation. They also tried to develop it as a nation and to some extent succeeded also. Before them the Moghuls had made a similar effort but they were less successful.

Having first unified the country, it is not a very becoming thing for them to divide it. (my emphasis)

The Empire disliked for its alienness and coercion had nonetheless become an influence for Indian unity. At different times during British rule, groups of the ‘untouchables’ of Hindu society or of Muslims, Sikhs, native chiefs (“Maharajahs,” “Nawabs,” and the like), or landlords, seemed to place greater confidence in the British Raj than in the Indian National Congress guided by Gandhi.

Aware of this, and valuing Indian unity, Gandhi desired a continuance of the British connection on terms honorable to Indians. Yet he had to respond also to India’s, and his own, urge for national independence.

This conflict between independence and unity would have been resolved had Congress filled the Raj’s place. Gandhi strove valiantly for this to happen, but in the end he and Congress were unable to win over a majority of the subcontinent’s Muslims. Britain, on its part, was unwilling to hand over all its power and place in India to its chief foe, Congress. In consequence, Independence and Partition arrived in August 1947 as two sides of a single coin.

If you are interested in receiving references for the quotations, please contact Professor Walter Arneistein, Department of History, 309 Gregory Hall, 810 South Wright Street, Urbana, IL 61801.
Department Marks Retirement of McColley, Schroeder, Widenor

In May 1997 more than sixty department members and friends attended a dinner at Silver Creek Restaurant in Urbana to honor (from left) Paul W. Schroeder, William Widenor, and Robert McColley, whom among them had devoted a total of ninety-three years to service as members of the UI Department of History.

Robert McColley

Robert McColley joined the department in the year 1960, soon after earning his Ph.D. degree at the University of California, Berkeley. He has been a specialist in the history of the United States from the American Revolution to the Age of Jackson, and his publications include *Slavery and Jeffersonian Virginia* (1964; 2nd ed., 1973), *Federalists, Republicans, and Foreign Entanglements* (1969), and more recently, a new edition of Henry Adams's *John Randolph* (1996). In recent years he has also taught, on a regular basis, the department's course on the History of Illinois, and in May 1997 he began a two-year term as president of the Illinois State Historical Society. His most recent activities also include the presentation of a paper on the aftermath of slavery in the United States, part of an Atlantic History Symposium at the University of East Anglia (England), and service as commentator at the annual meeting of Historians of the Early American Republic. Reviews by him have recently appeared in *Civil War History*, the *Journal of Southern History*, and the *African American Review*. In 1997 he completed his term as a member of the editorial board of the *Virginia Magazine of History and Biography*. His other distinctions include that of being the father of five daughters and a son—all of whom have earned B.A. degrees and most of whom have earned advanced degrees—and the grandfather of four. He has also long been an avid collector of records of classical music and a frequent contributor to and reviewer for *Fanfare: the Magazine for Serious Record Collectors*.

Paul W. Schroeder

Paul W. Schroeder joined the department in 1963 after completing his Ph.D. at the University of Texas and teaching for five years at Concordia College. In 1992 he was also named Jubilee Professor of the Liberal Arts and Sciences. His well-attended courses in the department involved the history of international relations during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, European imperialism, and historiography. His first book was entitled *The Axis Alliance and Japanese-American Relations*, 1941 (1958), and it won the AHA Albert J. Beveridge Prize. His later books—and a multitude of articles—have focused on the history of international relations during a time period ranging from the mid-eighteenth century to the onset of World War I, e.g., *Metternich's Diplomacy at its Zenith 1820–1823* (1962)—winner of the Walter Prescott Memorial Prize—*Austria, Great Britain and the Crimean War* (1972), and *The Transformation of European Politics, 1763–1848* (1994). The last-named book has prompted several academic conferences—one of them described elsewhere in this issue—and a special issue of the *International History Review*. In the course of 1996–97 he was featured lecturer at a conference in Halle, Germany sponsored by the Institute for European History at Mainz. He remains one of two American members of the Academic Advisory Council of the last-named institution. In October 1996 he gave the annual Robert A. Kann Memorial Lecture at the University of Minnesota's Center for Austrian Studies. His article, "History and International Relations Theory: Not Use or Abuse but Fit or Misfit" appeared in the Summer 1997 issue of *International Security*. In 1997 Great Britain's Royal Historical Society honored him with election as Corresponding Fellow. During the spring semester of 1998 he was scheduled to serve as visiting scholar at the Marshon Center for International Security and Public Policy at the Ohio State University. His retirement years will obviously be busy ones.

William C. Widenor

William C. Widenor joined the department in 1973 with a Ph.D.
This fall the new Gateway courses were implemented, in the form of special sections attached to the Western Civilization and U.S. History surveys. Once this first-year trial period is over, and the curriculum revision has been approved, entering students majoring in history and upper-level students wanting to transfer into the history major will have to achieve a C grade in a Gateway section in order to be in good standing or to be admitted to the major, respectively. The sections have the dual purpose of quality control and of familiarizing our majors at the outset with the basics of historiography and historical methodology. The committee is currently monitoring these sections to work out the bugs.

Also in the planning stage is an orientation course which would serve as a guide for new majors to the discipline and the department. Students would be introduced to the areas and approaches represented in the department, to library and computer resources, to basic study skills, and so on. Like the gateway course concept, the orientation course reflects our commitment to enhance the quality of education we deliver to our undergraduate majors.

The committee has also recommended that undergraduate majors be required to take a nonwestern history course, as a way of giving them the broadest possible exposure to the history of different world regions and cultures. Other issues and tasks on the table include a general review of the curriculum to instill greater cohesion and higher standards in our undergraduate major, and a review of the effectiveness of the department's list of questions asked of students on Course Evaluation Questionnaires.

The department is enrolling only about twenty new graduate students a year now, an intentional "slimming" that should help us offer more sustained financial aid and better place our students in the still unpredictable academic job market. The quality of entering students continues to rise, and our advanced students continue to excel at garnering competitive university and external awards for research and writing. The latter this year (1997-98) include a Fulbright (U.K.), two Pew Fellow-
ships, an IREX (Hungary), a Canadian SSHRC, and several DAAD (Germany) awards. In recent years, the department has developed and funded various "professional development" initiatives in order better to prepare our students, e.g., pre-dissertation summer research fellowships and a proposal writing workshop.

Until the university commits more resources to graduate fellowships and our History Department

endowment fund reaches a higher yield level, our students will continue largely to depend on such external grants. There are spin-off advantages to this relative poverty. The professional skills developed and the visibility our students acquire from conference presentations (in part funded by the department) are valuable in the job search. Of the dozen Ph.D.s awarded during the 1996-97 academic year, almost all have academic employment, half in tenure-track jobs.

Two new projects are in the works this year. One, under the experienced oversight of Professor Mark Leff, is a reshaped TA workshop. Undergraduate pedagogy is a current priority both on our campus and in peer institutions. Two, the Graduate Program Committee is in the process of developing a required first-semester course for entering students that introduces them to the broad range of fields available in the department.

Working with our students has been very rewarding since I took over this job in August 1997. The achievement profiles they provided for the campus fellowship board has resulted in a rise in the relative standing for the department. Our students' vigor, idealism, and dedication help re-vitalize the faculty as well. We invite you to share in our pride as these students continue the tradition to which you belong.

Of the dozen Ph.D.s awarded during the 1996-97 academic year, almost all have academic employment, half in tenure-track jobs.

History Colloquium Series

The 1996-97 program included distinguished participants from both outside and inside the University of Illinois. In September, the topic of Robert Wiebe (Northwestern University) was "Reconsidering Nationalism." In October, Jeremy Black (Exeter University, England) joined our own Paul Schroeder and John Lynn as panelists for a roundtable discussion on "The Definition and Roles of International Systems in International Conflict from the Seventeenth through the Nineteenth Centuries." In November an all-UI panel moderated by Elizabeth Pleck and made up of Clare Crowston, Diane Koenker, Leslie Reagan, and Sonya Michel, took up the topic, "Recent Trends in Women's History." In December Charles Stewart and Peter Fritzsch pondered "The Fate of 'the Fate of the Twentieth Century': What's Next?"


History Workshop
Kenneth M. Cuno

The Social History Group has a new name: the History Workshop.

The Social History Group, which renamed itself the History Workshop last year, had several lively sessions in which the participants' work in progress was read and discussed. Kathryn Oberdeck presented "Popular Narrative and Working-Class Identity: Alexander Irvine's Early-Twentieth-Century Literary Adventures," which examined popular periodical literature in the early twentieth-century U.S. as a laboratory of class identity, as it intersected with distinctions of race, ethnicity, and gender.

U.S., “Christmas in Many Lands,” which, despite the title, contained a section on Hannukah.


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**Phi Alpha Theta**

*James M. Cornelius*

Though principally a service organization, Epsilon Chapter of Phi Alpha Theta delivered both goods and services in roughly equal amounts during this past year. The picnic it hosted in September 1996 at the North Woods Pavilion in Crystal Lake Park, Urbana, was the scene of much post-summer catching up, eating of fried chicken and salads, and swatting of a volleyball more or less over the net; and most of this occurred before rains doused our fun late in the day.

In October, on the 4th floor of Gregory Hall, we held what is partly by tradition and partly by procrastination the Biennial Used Book Sale. (Can anyone assist in coming up with a name for it that does not yield the acronym ‘BUBS’?) Thanks to the many generous donations by faculty and by friends in the Library, and to the hard work of the earnest though ephemeral Undergraduate History Association, this two-day event netted plenty of cash to help underwrite the Department’s Spring Awards Banquet.

The annual gala occurred on May 3, 1997, in the Colonial Room of the Illini Union. The award-winners and all others who filled the room were treated to amusing after-dinner remarks by retiring faculty light, Professor Paul Schroeder, the title of whose speech was too long to print in the program and so is too long for this page as well. Dr. Schroeder received the warm applause of his colleagues, as did outgoing department chair Professor Charles Stewart, who was surprised with oddly shaped gifts but straightforward praise by the outgoing associate chair and director of graduate studies, Professor Nils Jacobsen.

The academic work of Phi Alpha Theta’s members old and new was also inspiring. At the organization’s regional conference, held in Edwardsville, Illinois, in early March, the award for best paper by a graduate in a non-American field went to chapter secretary Stephen Herzog for “The Idiom of Change: The Peasant Question and Modernization in Hungary, 1918-1938.” Our undergraduate representative, Josh Jungerich, read his paper “Frederick the Great and the War of Austrian Succession: Triumph or Disappointment?”

In April twenty-seven high-achieving undergraduates were initiated into lifetime membership in the organization. They were joined by seven new graduate members, plus one transfer, to give us a total of thirty-five new members, the largest such group in many years. Chapter officers for 1997-98 include Matt Norman, president; David Kamper, vice-president; and Jennifer Cohlman and Christine Drez, undergraduate representatives. The chapter is wisely and generously guided, as for many years, by Professor Walter Arnstein.

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**History Graduate Student Association**

*Kathleen Anne Mapes*

The HGSA held several meetings during 1996-97 and remains active during the current academic year. Most recently it has organized a panel to discuss preliminary doctoral examinations with first, second, and third-year graduate students. Our concern was not only with scheduling, reading lists, and reviewing old examinations, but also with how best to prepare for such examinations, how to locate the most important books and articles, and how to form study groups.

In future meetings we hope to ask a panel of students who have nearly completed their dissertations to tell us of the trials, tribulations, and triumphs that they have experienced while doing dissertation research. We also hope to offer a forum for candidates for academic posts to practice their skills as interviewees prior to on-campus visits.

Ruth Fairbanks (the current vice-president) and I (the current president of HGSA) sit on the Graduate Program Committee and confer regularly with faculty members on student concerns, curriculum, and planning.

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The Little Giants

It has been a busy year for Professor Robert W. Johannsen's Ph.D. students, otherwise known as the Little Giants out of deference to the nineteenth-century Illinois Senator who personified Young America. Meeting once a month, sometimes twice, over suitable refreshment in the relaxed atmosphere of Johannsen’s home, members of the group subjected their dissertation chapters to constructive criticism and searching inquiry. Among the presenters were Stacey Klein (Margaret Junkin Preston, the Confederate poet and patriot), Mike Conlin (The Popular and Scientific Reception of the Foucault Pendulum in the United States), Linda Clemmons (Missionaries in the Dakotas), and Ed Bradley (James Long, the Adams-Ortis Treaty, and the Monroe Administration). Guest appearances were provided by Thomas F. Schwartz, former Little Giant and now Illinois State Historian, who spoke on civil unrest in Illinois during the Civil War, and Dr. Stephen Shafer, who entertained the group with an illustrated lecture, "Illinois in the Civil War on Film: Abraham Lincoln as Cultural Icon." Early in the summer of 1997, the group welcomed into the world David Christopher Klein, the Littlest Giant. Mike Conlin read a paper at the History of Science Society meeting in San Diego and was awarded a research grant in aid by the American Institute of Physics.

Stacey Klein's paper was read at the 1997 Mid-American Conference on History, and Linda Clemmons presented a paper at a Madison, Wisconsin, conference on Women of the Midwest. Bryon Andreasen, recipient of a King Hostick dissertation research grant, read sections of his dissertation on Copperhead Christians at conferences on the Civil War at Murray State University and the Chicago Historical Society. Colin McCoy has received short-term research fellowships from the Newberry Library and the American Philosophical Society. Dan Monroe will present a paper on President John Tyler at the next OAH meeting. It has been a busy but fruitful year.

The British History Association

Christopher Poram

In the course of 1996-97, the British History Association played host to an impressive series of evening dinners and lectures. Once again, graduate students found uncommon opportunities to meet well-established historians and hear about their latest research. The year began with a bang. On September 14, 1996, more than sixty guests helped celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the BHA. Old friendships were renewed, new ones made, and good cheer had by all. After dinner, we listened to the often-amusing memories of three former BHA officers, Dr. Esther Simon Shkolnik, Dr. John Beeler, and Dr. Thomas Connors. Our faculty adviser, Professor Walter L. Arnein then addressed—with the appropriate gravity—the question, "Did Queen Victoria Have a Sense of Humor?" The highlight of the evening, however, was yet to come, when former and current cabinet members surprised Dr. Arnein with a token of appreciation for his twenty-five years of service to the BHA, a framed Vanity Fair portrait of Charles Bradlaugh.

Affairs calmed down, but not much, in October. Dr. Paul Schroeder hosted the large crowd who came to hear the irrepressible Dr. Jeremy Black of the University of Exeter. Dr. Black offered his animated reflections on eighteenth-century British politics and international affairs. In November, Dr. Simon Cordery from Monmouth College discussed "Railway Ties: Friendly Societies and Trade Unions in the Victorian Railway Industry."

Dr. Nicholas Temperley helped us shake off the mid-January blues. He led a nothing if not-rousing chamber performance of Gilbert and Sullivan's "The Yeomen of the Guard." Over fifty audience members and nearly twenty performers crowded into his house, making this the all-time best attended BHA event. In February, affairs turned more serious, but no less enjoyable, when Dr. T. William Heyeck of Northwestern University addressed the question, "Is Britain A Post-Christian Society?" Surveying evidence such as low church-attendance figures, nominally-Christian popular beliefs, and British intellectuals' prevailing assumptions, Dr. Heyeck answered his question with a surprisingly unqualified "Yes."

In March we heard Dr. James Sack's reflections on "Disraeli, the Jews, and the Conservative Party."

Dr. Sack, who teaches at the University of Illinois at Chicago, noted that Disraeli, who converted to Anglicanism at a young age, remained ambivalent toward his heritage. The year drew to a close in April, when Dr. Arnein led us in discussion over the significance of Britain's then-upcoming May 1997 general election.

During 1996-97, the British History Association has been placed under the capable leadership of Prime Minister Todd Larson and his fellow cabinet members Derek Shouba, Robert McLain, David Kamper, and Chad Beckett.
Faculty News for 1996-97

News about the following faculty members has not been noted elsewhere in *History at Illinois*.

A published interview with **Walter L. Arnstein** was included in Roger Adelson, ed., *Speaking of History: Interviews with Historians* (East Lansing: Michigan State University Press, 1997). He was in the midst of his term as President of the North American Conference on British Studies, and he presented papers to the British History Seminar at the University of Texas, to the annual meeting of the North American Conference of British Studies, and to a joint NACBS/Royal Historical Society conference on “Anglo-American Attitudes” at Harvard University. Reviews by him appeared in *Nineteenth-Century Prose, The Historian, the Journal of Social History, the Catholic Historical Review*, and the *History Teacher*, and his name appeared on the List of Excellent Teachers.


**Richard W. Burkhardt** received a Research Fellowship for the academic year from the National Science Foundation. He contributed one book chapter, “Animal Behavior and Organic Mutability in the Age of Lamarck” to *Lamarck E Il Lamarckismo* (Naples, 1996) and another, “The founders of ethology and the problem of animal subjective experience,” to Marcel Doi et al. (eds.), *Animal Consciousness and Animal Ethics: Perspectives from the Netherlands* (Sessen: Van Gorcum, 1997). Two of his reviews appeared in *Isis*.

**Vernon Burton** is the co-author of “An Officer and a Gentleman”: *The Social and Military History of James B. Griffin’s Civil War* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1996), a volume based on a collection of hitherto unpublished letters. He also contributed “The Modern ‘New’ South in a Postmodern Academy: A Review Essay” to the November 1996 issue of the *Journal of Southern History* and a review to the *AHR*. He remains involved with several major projects designed to utilize the computer for “Learning Technologies in Higher Education,” including RiverWeb, a database designed to teach the history and

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Visiting Faculty (1997-98)

Our department continues to be a popular venue for scholars from around the country and abroad who are drawn by the wonderful campus library and other research facilities. **Sergei Yuferovich Shenin** of Saratov State University in Russia and Dr. **Caroline Rae Ferguson** of Illinois State University are spending the entire 1997-1998 academic year on campus. Shenin as a Fulbright Fellow, Ferguson as a Chancellor’s Postdoctoral Fellow in History and Afro-American Studies. Ferguson, an Indiana University Ph. D., has written extensively in the field of African-American women’s history and is currently completing a book on black club women in Indianapolis, 1879-1917. Shenin, a specialist in US foreign relations, received his graduate training at Saratov University and is completing a book on the Truman administration and the beginning of the Cold War in East Asia.

During the fall semester **Rajmohan Gandhi** traveled from India to serve as visiting professor of history and to help the university community celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of Indian independence. His background is described elsewhere in *History at Illinois*. **Mark White** of Eastern Illinois University (a native of England who holds a Ph.D. from Rutgers University) has helped out with courses in the History of American Foreign Relations and Twentieth-Century American History. **Carl Estabrook**, a frequent visitor who holds a Ph.D. from Harvard University, has been teaching the History of England to 1688.

Several of the department’s own graduates and **ABDs** are helping out with lecture courses: **Tobie Higbee**, **Elise Moentmann**, **Jeff Smith**, **Randi Storch**, **Thomas Trice**, and **Stephen Vaughan**. In the meantime, **Heather Coleman** and **Eric Burin** are conducting undergraduate symposia. **Dan Monroe**, **Michael Shirley**, and **Carolyn Waldron** have taught in a variety of other capacities around campus.
culture of the Mississippi River basin. Under his direction, the campus has been established as a regional multimedia center of H-NET. Burton was on leave during the fall of 1996 under the auspices of a Pew Foundation Fellowship. He has been named a member of the OAH ABC-CLIO “America: History and Life” Award Committee and of the executive committee of the Agricultural History Society. He is on the boards of editors of Continuity and Change, Locus, and the History Computer Review.


CLARE H. CROWSTON presented papers to both the French Historical Studies Conference and the Family History Conference.

DONALD CRUMMEY served as a Fulbright Research Fellow in Ethiopia. He was also awarded a College of Liberal Arts & Sciences Fellowship for Study in a Second Discipline (Geography). In August 1996, he presented a paper, “The Politics of Modernization: Protestant and Catholic Divisions in Modern Ethiopia,” to the International Symposium at Lund University (Sweden).

During the fall of 1996, KENNETH M. CUNO served as visiting research scholar at the American University in Cairo. He also spoke at Cairo University, the University of Amsterdam, the University of Michigan, and the Ohio State University about various facets of family history in nineteenth-century Egypt.

PETER FRITZSCHE is the author of “Did Weimar Fail?” in the September 1996 issue of the Journal of Modern History. He presented a paper, “The Invention of Nostalgia,” to the Fifth Conference of the International Society for the Study of European Idea in Utrecht in August 1996. On the Urbana campus he served as a member of both the Budget Strategies Committee and the Task Force on Graduate Education. He remains a member of the Board of Directors of the Illinois Humanities Council.


MATT GARCIA contributed a review essay, “Chicana/o History in a Changing Discipline,” to the Humboldt Journal of Social Relations 22:1, and a review by him was published in the Western Historical Quarterly. He served as chair and commentator at the meeting of the American Studies Association, and his name appeared on the List of Excellent Teachers.


NILS JACOBSEN contributed a chapter, “Liberalism and Indian Communities in Peru, 1821-1920,” to Robert Jackson, ed., Liberals, Indians and the Church: Corporate Lands and the Challenge of Reform in Nineteenth Century Spanish America (Albuquerque, 1997) and a review to Slavery and Abolition. During 1996-97 he served as Department director of graduate studies and as a member of the executive committee of both the Department of History and the Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies.

A paperback edition of FREDERICK C. JAHER’S book A Scapegoat in the New Wilderness was put out by the Harvard University Press. He presented papers to the Far West Jewish Studies Conference and the John Carter Brown Library Conference. He also contributed a review to the Journal of Social History.

ROBERT W. JOHANNSEN’S article, “America’s Golden Midcentury,” appeared in the Summer 1996 issue of the Journal of Aesthetic Education. “The War with Mexico and the American Republic” was published in Douglas A. Murphy, ed., Papers of the Bi-National Conference on the War Between Mexico and the United States (Matamoros/Brownsville, 1997). Articles on “Abraham Lincoln,” “Mexican War,” and “Zachary Taylor” were included in the Reader’s Companion to Military History (1996), and
"Stephen A. Douglas" appeared in the new edition of the Dictionary of Afro-American Slavery (1997). He also provided a forward to the paperback edition of Fayette Copeland, Kendall of the Picayune (Norman, OK, 1997). In 1997, the University of Illinois Press published a paperback edition of his biography, Stephen A. Douglas, with a new introduction. Johannsen also served as consultant for a PBS film commemorating the one hundred fiftieth anniversary of the War with Mexico, and wrote a review for the Pacific Historical Review.

BLAIR KLING served as keynote speaker at a campus conference on Rabindranath Tagore. He also contributed a review to the AHR.

DIANE P. KOENKER served as co-editor of Revelations from the Russian Archives: Documents in English Translation (Washington, D.C.: Library of Congress, 1997). Her article, “Factory Tales: Narratives of Industrial Relations in the Transition to the NEP,” appeared in the July 1996 issue of the Russian Review. She reviewed books for that journal and also for the AHR, Europe-Asia Studies, and the International Review of Social History. She remains editor of the Slavic Review. She also helped organize and made a presentation at the Midwest Russian History Workshop (Urbana, March 1997). In 1996 she began a five year term as member of the Board of Directors of the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies.


Promotions for Doak and Hoddeson

A member of the department since 1994, KENNETH M. DOAK has been promoted to the rank of associate professor of history. A native of Rock Island, Illinois, Doak received his Ph.D. in Japanese history from the University of Chicago, and he holds a joint appointment in the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures, which he now serves as director of graduate studies. During the spring of 1997, Doak held an appointment as a Fellow in the UI Center for Advanced Studies. He is the author of Dreams of Difference: The Japanese Romantic School and the Crisis of Modernity (Berkeley, 1994), and the April 1997 issue of the American Historical Review included his article, “What is a Nation and Who Belongs? National Narratives and the Ethnic Imagination in Twentieth Century Japan.” He also contributed a review to Social History.

Together with Professors Kai-Wing Chow and Po-Shek Fu, he was involved in organizing an international conference on “Narratives, Arts and Ritual: Imagining and Constructing Nationhood in Modern East Asia” which met on the Urbana campus in November 1997. He also participated in the annual meeting of the Midwest Conference on Asian Affairs. His name appeared on the List of Excellent Teachers.

At the same time tenure was awarded to Associate Professor of History LILLIAN HODDESON. A holder of a Ph.D. in physics from Columbia University, she is also a senior research physicist in the UI Physics Department, historian at the Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory (Batavia, Illinois), and director of the Study of the Superconducting Super Collider. Her most recent publication is (with Catherine Westfall), “Thinking Small in Big Science: The Founding of Fermilab, 1960-1972,” which appeared in the July 1996 issue of Technology and Culture. In 1996-97, she received awards from the National Science Foundation to support her study of the Superconducting Super Collider and from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation and the Richard Lounsbery Foundation to support her projected biography of physicist John Bardeen. She gave a guest lecture at the Royal Society (London), and she organized a plenary session of the American Physical Society meeting in Kansas City. Her name appeared twice on the List of Excellent Teachers.
HARRY LIEBESOHN spent the academic year as a Dilworth Member of the Institute for Advanced Study at Princeton. His article, “Images of Monarchy: Kamehameha I and the Art of Louis Choris” appeared in the Summer 1996-97 issue of Voices (the quarterly journal of the National Library of Australia), and a review essay, “Recent Works on Travel Writing” was published in the September 1996 issue of the Journal of Modern History. The Cambridge University Press has agreed to publish his next book, Aristocratic Encounters: European Travelers and American Indians. He began a three-year term as a member of the AHA’s Leo Gershoy Award Committee for books in early modern European History His name appeared on the List of Excellent Teachers.

DANIEL C. LITTLEFIELD is the author of Revolutionary Citizens: African Americans, 1776-1804 (New York: Oxford U. Press, 1997) as well as of reviews in the South Carolina Historical Magazine and in Slavery and Abolition. His conference activities included that of panelist at a meeting of the Southern Historical Association and that of commentator at a University of Mississippi Symposium and a conference at Charleston, South Carolina. He presented a paper at the first annual meeting of the Afro-Latin American Research Association at Bahia, Brazil, and he served as chair of the Southern Historical Association’s Francis B. Simpkins Award Committee to select the best book in southern history published in 1995 and 1996.

JOSEPH L. LOVE remains the director of the UI Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies. His article “Las fuentes del estructuralismo latinoamericano [The Sources of Latin American Structuralism]” was published in the April/June 1996 issue of Desarrollo Economico. He also provided eight entries to Barbara Tenenbaum, ed., the Encyclopedia of Latin American History and Culture (5 vols., New York, 1996), and a review to The Americas.


MEGAN MCLAUGHLIN’s book, Consenting With Saints: Prayers for the Dead in Early Medieval France (Ithaca/ London: Cornell University Press, 1994) was hailed in the Journal of Ecclesiastical History as both “a thoughtful, well-organised and clear treatment” of the subject and “a much-needed point of entry for English-language readers into the wealth of scholarship on the subject in French and more particularly German.” Church History described it as a “carefully researched and well-constructed monograph.” She served on both the Pinckney Prize Committee and the Program Committee of the Society for French Historical Studies. Her name appeared on the List of Excellent Teachers.


SHARON D. MICHALOVE remains assistant to the department chair. She has also been appointed adjunct assistant professor in the campus Department of Educational Policy Studies. Her article, “College Comes to the Community: Teaching K-12 Students On-Line,” appeared in the H-Net AHA pages for the 1997 meeting, and reviews by her were published in both the NACADA Journal and Ricardian Register. She continued to serve as an editor for H-ALBION and as a member of the editorial board of the NACADA (National Academic Advising Association) Journal.

SONYA MICHEL remains director of the Women’s Studies Program on campus and co-editor of Social Politics: International Studies in Gender, State & Society. She gave guest lectures at the University of London, the Roehampton Institute (London), Loyola University (Chicago), the University of Arizona, and the University of California at Davis.
Bruegel and Koslofsky Join
Department

In August 1997 two new assistant professors of history became members of the department. A native of Switzerland, Martin Bruegel received his education in that nation as well as France before completing a Ph.D. degree in history at Cornell University in 1994. His area of specialization is the United States during the early national era, and he takes a special interest in comparative social and cultural history. His publications include “Time that can be relied upon: The Evolution of Time Consciousness in the Mid-Hudson Valley, 1790-1860” in the Spring 1995 issue of the Journal of Social History, and “Unrest: Manorial Society and the Market in the Hudson Valley, 1780-1850,” in the March 1996 issue of the Journal of American History. He has also contributed an article to the January-March 1997 issue of Revue d’histoire moderne et contemporaine.

Craig Koslofsky, a native of Michigan, received his B.A. degree in history and political science from Duke University before earning both his M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in history from the University of Michigan. He has also spent two academic years as a graduate exchange fellow at the Eberhard Karls University in Tuebingen (Germany), one year as holder of a DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service) Fellowship at the Free University of Berlin, and one year as a post-doctoral research fellow at the Max Planck Institute for History in Goettingen, Germany. From 1995 to 1997 he served as assistant professor of history at Millersville State University (Pennsylvania).

Koslofsky is a specialist in the history of early modern Europe who has studied in detail the role of death and ritual in the era of the German Reformation. His publications include “Separating the Living from the Dead: Wessel Gansfort and the Death of Purgatory,” Essays in Medieval Studies 10 (1994), “Honour and Violence in German Lutheran Funerals in the Confessional Age,” Social History 20,3 (October 1995), and an article on nocturnal burial in Lutheran Germany in the seventeenth century published in Historische Anthropologie 5,3 (1997). A major monograph and two volumes co-edited by Koslofsky are forthcoming.

KATHRYN OBERDECK was awarded an NEH Newberry Library Fellowship for 1997-98. Her article, “Contested Cultures of American Refinement: Theatrical Manager Sylvester Poli, His Audiences, and the Vaudeville Industry, 1890-1920,” was published in the Fall 1996 issue of the Radical History Review.

ELIZABETH H. PLECK was awarded a fellowship for the fall semester of 1997-98 in the UI Institute for Cultural Values and Ethics. She is the co-author of “Fatherhood Ideals in the United States: Historical Dimensions,” in Michael Lamb, ed., The Role of the Father in Child Development, 3rd ed. (John Wiley, 1997). She remains a member of the editorial board of the Journal of Women’s History and Associate Editor of American National Biography.


JOHN PRUETT’s name appeared again on the List of Excellent Teachers.

CYNTHIA RADDING is the author of Wandering Peoples: Colonialism, Ethnic Spaces, and Ecological Frontiers (Northwestern Mexico, 1700-1850) (Durham : Duke University Press, 1997). She also contributed reviews to the Hispanic American Historical Review and the Colonial Latin American Review and an article, “De las culturas amazónicas a la cultural misional: los llanos de mojos (siglos XVII-XIX),” to the 1996 Yearbook of Archivo y Biblioteca Nacionales de Bolivia. She remains a member of the editorial board of The Americas.

LESLIE J. REAGAN’s prize-winning book, When Abortion Was a Crime: Women, Medicine and Law in the United States, 1867-1973 (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1997) was hailed in the Atlantic Monthly as an “important and original” book that “manages with apparent ease to combine serious scholarship... and broad appeal to the general reader.” The Library Journal described it as a “fascinating history” and the San Francisco Chronicle commended it as “a brilliant account” and “a model social history.” An earlier article, “About to Meet Her Maker: Women, Doctors, Dying Declarations, and the State’s Investigation of Abortion, Chicago, 1867-1940,” was reprinted in Gender and Reproduction: An American History, ed. Andrea Tone (Scholarly Resources, 1996). Reagan has been named to the President’s Book Award Committee of the Social Science History Association. Her name appeared on the List of Excellent Teachers.


CHARLES STEWART shifted administrative gears in July 1997 when he stepped down from the post of chair of the department after five and one-half years and became an executive associate dean in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. There he looks after international studies and the humanities and interdisciplinary departments and programs—about half of all the units in the College.

In October 1997 the volume co-edited (with Peter Fritzche), Imagining the Twentieth Century, was published. During the year he also published book reviews and an encyclopedia entry.

The Department Staff

In the course of the summer of 1997, APRIL ORWICK, the secretary to the department's chair, successfully superintended a time of transition from the administrative methods of Charles Stewart to those of James Barrett.

Who said, "You can't teach an old dog new tricks"? Many of the business functions of the department are now being transacted "on-line" because of the university's announced intention to go paperless by March 1998 at least with regard to electronic appointments, electronic purchasing, and electronic time reporting. SANDY COLCLASURE has demonstrated her ability to hang in there through both training periods and frequent software updates.

In addition to coordinating the paper work for two major department searches, JAN LANGENDORF has taken classes on the FileMaker Pro 3.0 database program and has designed numerous databases for the department.

PAT PROTHE remains preoccupied, among other responsibilities, with textbook orders and a major department search committee.

After a year of experience, STANLEY HICKS finds that his job has become more carefully defined. In addition to distributing mail and answering innumerable questions, he coordinates proficiency examinations and keeps records of physical inventory.

JUDY PATTERSON remains the experienced advising secretary in Gregory Hall's Room 300, where she serves as aide to both the director of graduate studies and to the assistant to the chair for undergraduate studies. She also serves as a helpful resource to students baffled by the computerized course registration system.

The newest member of the staff is MARCI BLOCHER, a permanent part-time secretary with an A.A. degree from Parkland College who maintains files in the undergraduate advising office.


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About our Ph.D.s

1930s

T. A. LARSON ('37), professor emeritus at the University of Wyoming, reports that he has survived to the age of eighty-seven and is moving onward and upward.

ROBERT D. OCHS ('39) remains alive and active in South Carolina.

1940s

ARETAS A. DAYTON ('40), the former head of the Division of Social Science and Chair of the Department of Economics at Eastern Washington University, has reached the age of ninety.

DAVID HERBERT DONALD ('46) is Charles Warren Professor of American History Emeritus at Harvard University. Simon & Shuster has published a paperback edition of his Lincoln (1995) which is also being translated for editions in Chinese and German. He is also responsible for a new and expanded edition of Why the North Won the Civil War. He also served as consultant and commentator for the television film, “Lincoln,” prepared for the Discover Channel by Kunhardt Productions.

JAMES W. NEILSON ('58), professor of history and economics at Mayville State University (North Dakota), expects to retire in 1998.

1950s

JOHN J. BEER ('56) lives in retirement in Newark, Delaware.

CHARLES G. NAUERT ('55) is professor of history, University of Missouri, Columbia. At the Sixteenth Century Studies Conference in October, 1996, he completed his tenure (dating from 1979) as editor of the monograph series, Sixteenth Century Essays and Studies, and he presented one of the two invited keynote addresses, “Humanism as Method: Roots of Conflict with the Scholastics.” He continues his work on the next volume (12) of the Correspondence of Erasmus published by the University of Toronto Press.

ALBERT P. MARSHALL ('53) has since 1980 held the rank of professor emeritus at Eastern Michigan University. He remains academically active, however. His most recent book is Unconquered Souls: The History of the African American in Ypsilanti. He is also responsible for two shorter publications, The “Real McCoy” of Ypsilanti and The Legendary 4-Horseman of the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

1960s

EDWARD M. BENNETT ('61), professor emeritus at Washington State University, has continued his travels together with his wife, Margery (M.A., 1956). He has prepared contributions for the forthcoming Notable U.S. Ambassadors since 1775.


LEON E. BOOTHE ('66) retired from the presidency of Northern Kentucky University following the death of his wife, Nancy, in January 1997. He retires as professor of history effective January 1998.

CHARLES H. CLARK ('66) is senior professor emeritus at Harrisburg (Pennsylvania) Area Community College, where he retired in May 1997. In January 1997, he taught in
England on the History of England and traveled with his wife in both the United Kingdom and Ireland. He expects to use the time afforded by retirement to write.

CULLOM DAVIS ('68), professor of history emeritus, University of Illinois at Springfield, remains director and senior editor of the Lincoln Legal Papers. Lincoln Memorial University has presented him with the Lincoln Diploma of Honor. He is the author of Memorial Days: A History of Community Partnerships (Springfield, 1997).

RALPH D. GRAY ('62) retired in 1997 as professor of history, Indiana University and Purdue University, Indianapolis, where he had taught for 33 years. He has been retained there, however, to write a history of the university. He has made several public presentations, and he has completed the maximum three terms (of three years each) on the Board of Trustees of the Indiana Historical Society, but he remains involved with that organization. He has published articles in both Traces of Indiana and Midwestern History, and he is seeing a book manuscript through the press.

KENNETH GLENN MADISON ('68), assistant professor of history at Iowa State University, presented "The Banners of Bayeux Tapestry" at the 32nd International Congress on Medieval Studies (Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, May 1997).

PHILLIP S. PALUDAN ('68), professor of history at the University of Kansas, served as visiting professor of history at Rutgers University for the period 1995-1997. His article, "Tainey, Lincoln, and Constitutional Conversation," appeared in the Supreme Court Historical Review (1996).

GEORGE PILCHER ('63) retired in 1997 as professor of history at Ball State University (Indiana), and he has built a new house.

LEWIS M. ROBINSON ('63) is retired as professor of history, Westmont College (Santa Barbara, California).


ARVARR H. STRICKLAND ('62) is professor emeritus at the University of Missouri, Columbia, having retired in January, 1996. In 1995, he was made a member of the Tougaloo College Alumni Hall of Fame, and he received the Distinguished Faculty Award from the University of Missouri, Columbia, Alumni Association. In 1997, he received the University of Illinois LAS Alumni Achievement Award. The citation for the award reads in part: "Since joining the University of Missouri, Columbia in 1969 as the first black member of the faculty, Strickland has been a steady advocate, actively recruiting black graduate students, establishing a Black Studies Program, serving in leadership positions at the university and in national and international professional organizations, making a monumental contribution to early formulations of African American studies in Missouri, serving on panels and, always, teaching."

JOSEPH FREDERICK ZACEK ('52), professor of history, State University of New York at Albany, made presentations at the American Association for Slavic German Studies (1994), the Mid-Atlantic Slavic Conference (1997), and the Polish Institute of Arts and Sciences at Fordham University (1997). He contributed an article on Frantisek Palacky to the Encyclopedia of Historiography (Garland Press, 1996). In 1994 his earlier, co-authored work, Nationalism in Eastern Europe, was reissued by the University of Washington Press.

1970s

JEFFREY P. BROWN ('79) is associate professor of history and associate dean, College of Arts and Sciences, at New Mexico State University, Las Cruces. He has published "History in an Era of Change" in the Public Historian.

PARKS M. COBLE ('75) is professor of history at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln where he recently completed his term as chair of the Graduate Committee. He is pursuing his work on the economic history of Shanghai during World War II, and he made presentations on the subject at both the University of Hong Kong in July 1996, and the University of Queensland, Australia, in March 1997.

GERALDINE FORBES ('72), professor of history and director of women's studies at the State University of New York at Oswego, was appointed in 1997 to the editorial board of Gender and History. In March 1997, she presented a paper, "Protest on the Job and Appraisal at Home: Haimavati Sen," to the AAS convention in Chicago. Her book, An Historian's Perspective: Indian Women and the Freedom Movement, was published by the Women's University, Bombay.

WILLIAM HARWOOD ('77) is a decennialization officer in the Office of the General Counsel, United States Information Agency, Washington, D.C., a post that he assumed in May 1996. He has been responsible for surveying documents from the Federal Records Center, establishing guidelines for processing them, and making them available to researchers at the National Archives. A website, www.usia.gov, lists those documents that have been made available to the public.

DAN M. HOCKMAN ('75), professor of history at Eastern Illinois University, received an award for Faculty Excellence in Teaching in 1996 and the United States Army Outstanding Civilian Service Award in 1997 for his work in support of the university ROTC program.

J. DAVID HOEVERER ('71), professor of history, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, organized (with the support of the Organization of American Historians) a conference of area high-school teachers on National History Standards. RONALD M. JOHNSTON ('70) is professor of history and director of American studies at Georgetown University. He presented papers at the American Studies Association, the European American Studies Association, and the Colloquium for African-American Research. He co-authored an entry on "Literary and Scholarly Periodicals" in the Oxford Companion to African-American Literature (1996).

JOHN D. KLER ('73) remains head of the Department of Hebrew and Jewish Studies and Cerob Professor of Modern Jewish History at University College, London.

SALLY GREGORY KOHLSTEED ('72) is professor in the History of Science and Technology Program at the University of Minnesota and director of the Center for Advanced Feminist Studies there. In 1997, she was visiting professor at the America-Institut at the University of Munich; there she presented "Exhibitionism: Gender on Display in Nineteenth-Century Natural History Museums." With others, she edited Gender and Scientific Authority (University of Chicago Press, 1996). She has been active in the section on History of Science of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

JAMES B. NORTH ('73) has been appointed vice president for Academic Affairs at the Cincinnati Bible College and Seminary, after serving for twenty years as professor and for three years as interim dean. In collaboration with Barry L. Callen, he has published Coming Together in Christ: Pioneering a New Testament Way to Christian Unity (1997).


DONALD F. SHEPARDSON ('70), professor of history, University of Northern Iowa, received the Outstanding Teaching Award from the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences. He is the author of "The Fall of Berlin and the Rise of a Myth," in the Journal of Military History (1997).
KEITH A. SCULLE ('72) is head of research and education at the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency in Springfield. He edited two additional numbers on "Triumph and Tragedy in Illinois History" and "Illinois and the Civil War" of the Illinois History Teacher, to assist high school teachers in fulfilling the state's mandate for learning state and local history.

THEODORE R. WACHS ('76) serves as editor and translator at the University of Bern, Switzerland. His most recent translation involves a book on the world's forests.

JUDITH SHARE YAPHE ('72) is a Senior Fellow at the Institute for National Strategic Studies at the National Defense University. She has recently published several strategic-studies papers on Islamic radicalism and U.S. interests in the Middle East, on the U.S.-Turkish strategic relationship, and on the status of Saudi Arabia.

LYNN C. BOUGHTON ('82) lives in Palatine, Illinois, and serves as an adjunct member of the Department of Philosophy at Oakton Community College. In March 1997, she presented "Terminology in the Jannhine Trial Narratives" at the 27th Annual Scholars' Conference on the Holocaust and the Churches; the paper was scheduled to appear in the fall of 1997 in the conference proceedings. Also slated for fall 1997 publication are: "The Quest for Illumination: Graal Legends in Context" in the Journal of Interdisciplinary Studies, and "Time Sense and Consequences in the Synoptic Cup Citations" in the Synoptic Bulletin.


JIM FARRELL ('80) is concluding his 3-year term as Boldt Distinguished Teaching Professor in the Humanities at St. Olaf College. He served as program chair for the 13th convention of the Mid-America American Studies Association. He is the author of The Spirit of the Sixties: Making Postwar Radicalism (London and New York: Routledge, 1997).

JAMES A. FILKINS ('83) is deputy medical examiner in the Cook County Office of the Medical Examiner. He has been enrolled part-time at the DePaul University College of Law and has been serving on the writing staff of the DePaul Journal of Health Law. His current research topics include the liability of blood banks for transfusion-related AIDS.

STEPHEN G. FRITZ ('80) is professor of history at East Tennessee State University, where he recently organized a conference on the Holocaust. He published "We are trying ... to change the face of the world: Ideology and Motivation in the Wehrmacht on the Eastern Front: The View from Below," in the Journal of Military History 60 (1996).

SHAMSUL HUDA ('89) is associate professor and chair of the Department of History at Xavier University (Louisiana). At Chittagong University in Bangladesh, he presented two papers: "The Wars of American and Bangladesh Independence: A Dual Perspective," and "Running the Show: Elites of Chittagong, Bangladesh."

JAMES L. HUSTON ('80), associate professor of history, Oklahoma State University, was coordinator of the 19th annual Mid-America Conference on History. His article, "Evaluating Ecological Regression by Computer Simulation," appeared in the Summer 1997 issue of Historical Methods, and "Democracy by Scripture," Democracy by Process: Reflections on Stephen A. Douglas and Popular Sovereignty, " was published in the Fall 1997 issue of Civil War History.

IRENE B. KATELE ('86) is her second year at the University of Wisconsin Law School, Madison. She is a member of the Wisconsin Law Review and the Moot Court Board.

WILLIAM CARL KLUNDER ('81), associate professor of history at Wichita State University, has been appointed department director of undergraduate studies. His book, Lewis Cass and the Politics of Moderation (Kent State University Press, 1996), was a finalist in the Book Awards competition of the Society for Midland Authors.

ALESIA MALITZ ('89) recently took a position as the first faculty member in the new doctoral program in environmental studies at the Antioch New England Graduate School. She works with first nations communities in America and Europe on resource extraction issues. She contributed "Whole Terrain" to the Journal of Law and Religion.

BARRY MEHLER ('88) is associate professor at Ferris State University, Big Rapids, Michigan, and director of the Institute for the Study of Academic Racism. In 1997, he was appointed a contributing editor of the Encyclopedia of Genocide. He published "Beyazlism: Raymond B. Cattell and the New Eugenics" in Genetics 99 (1997).

RICHARD ALLEN MORTON ('88), associate professor of history at Clark Atlanta University (Georgia), has organized a chapter of Phi Alpha Theta there. He is the author of Justice and Humanity: Edward F. Dunne, Illinois Progressive (Cathodale: Southern Illinois University Press, 1997).

ASA L. RUBENSTEIN ('86) holds appointments as Adjunct Assistant Professor, Department of History, Pace University, and as Librarian II (Reference), Local History and Genealogy Division, New York Public Library.

STEPHEN C. SHAFER ('82) remains assistant dean in the UI College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and pre law adviser. He has completed a term as president of the Midwest Association of Pre Law Advisers, and he remains on that organization's board of directors. His book-length University of Illinois Pre Law Handbook has been entered on the World Wide Web. At the same time he continues, from time to time, to teach courses in the History Department on the role of movies in American history. His long-awaited book, British Popular Films, 1929-39: the Cinema of Reassurance, was published in London and New York by Routledge in 1997.

Having found academic jobs scarce, FRANK H. WALLIS ('87) is employed as a paralegal at Vogel and Meredith, San Francisco. He was awarded a paralegal certificate with honors by San Francisco State University. An entry he prepared for the new edition of the Dictionary of National Biography is in press.

PRADEEP BARUA ('95) served during 1995-96 as Ohio Post-doctoral Fellow and lecturer at Yale University. In 1996 he was appointed assistant professor of history at the University of Nebraska at Kearney. In 1997, he received two grants in support of his research from his university's Research Services Council. His article, "Strategies and Doctrines of Imperial Defence: Britain and India, 1919-1947," appeared in the Journal of Imperial and Commonwealth History 25(2):1997.

DAVID COLEMAN ('96) is assistant professor at the University of Minnesota, Duluth. He won an award for "the best first article published in the last three years" from the Society for Spanish and Portuguese Studies. He also published two book reviews in the Sixteenth-Century Journal and received a research grant from his university.

DEREK CROXTON ('96) is a post-doctoral fellow at the Marshon Center, Ohio State University. He has both an article and a book in press.

LYNNE CURRY ('95), assistant professor of history at Eastern Illinois University, presented papers at the Northern Great Plains History Conference and at the Women of the Midwest Conference. She has a book chapter in press and is working on a book manuscript for the Ohio State University Press.

JACK DAVID DAVIS ('95) has been teaching a variety of history courses as an adjunct faculty member at Richland Community College in Decatur. In 1996, he presented "Abraham Lincoln and the Significance of the Decatur Editors' Convention of 1856" at the Annual Illinois History Symposium.

Our report last year about THERESA KAMINSKI ('92), assistant professor of history at the University of Wisconsin-

DANIEL SOLOFF ('93) has been appointed a member of the Core Faculty in the B.A. Completion Program at Antioch University, Seattle.

After four years as a teacher at University High School, WILLIAM R. SUTTON ('94) is enjoying 1997-98 as a Pew Evangelical Research Scholar, studying both the Washingtonian temperament movement of the 1840s and the life of John H. W. Hawkins. His book, Journeyman for Jesus: Evangelical Artisans Confront Capitalism in Jacksonian Baltimore, was published in 1997 by Penn State Press.


KURT W. TREPTOW ('95) is director of the Center for Romanian Studies at Iasi, Romania. He was named president of the Foundation for Romanian Culture and Studies, Iasi. A third edition of his History of Romania appeared in 1997 (Boulder CO: East European Monographs), and he produced Romanian Gymnastics both as book and as CD-ROM (iasi, 1997), a History of Romania as CD-ROM (iasi, 1996), and, with Marcel Popa, Historical Dictionary of Romania (Lanham, MD: Scarecrow Press, 1996).

About our M.A.S.

R. J. MCHANOG ('81) has been teaching American history and Western civilization at Aiken Technical College (South Carolina) since 1992. After a long and at times harrowing career in the U.S. Foreign Service, MICHAEL P. E. HOYT ('56), has retired to New Mexico. During the fall of 1997, he was slated to teach a course in the history of Sub-Saharan Africa at the University of New Mexico. His article, "Bloody Footsteps in Bununud," appeared in the Foreign Service Journal (1996).
Contributors to History Funds August 1996 to August 1997

The following University of Illinois Foundation funds—the Robert Johannsen Fund (for undergraduate scholarships), the LAS Development Fund for History (for “Study Abroad” and comparable projects), and the History Graduate Student Fellowship Endowment—all grew significantly during the past academic year. The members of the Department of History are grateful to all of you who, by means of your contributions, have strengthened the cause of historical study at the University of Illinois.

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Among Our Emeriti

ERNEST DAWN contributed a chapter to The Six-Day War: A Retrospective, ed. Richard B. Parker (University Press of Florida, 1996). He also was a discussant at the Conference on the Ottoman State, Modernism, and the Euro-Islamic Synthesis, at the University of Wisconsin (Madison) in June 1996.

RALPH T. FISHER continues as president of the Board of Directors of the University of Illinois Library Friends organization. He enjoys doing what he can to help raise outside funds for our inadequately-funded library. He continues also to serve on the editorial board and the Board of Trustees of the Russian Review. In November 1996 he served as panelist at the annual convention of the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies. At that convention he was presented with the Award for Distinguished Contributions to Slavic Studies, the highest honor bestowed by the AAASS.


MARY LEE SPENCE is the editor of the Arizona Diary of Lily Frémont, 1878-1881 (Tucson: U. of Arizona Press, 1997). The diary, which offers a portrait of social, economic, and political life in Prescott by the daughter of the territorial governor, was located at Columbia University among the papers of the late Professor Allan Nevins, himself a UTUC graduate and a biographer of John C. Frémont. Spence’s sketch of Jessie Benton Frémont is included in By Grit and Grace: Eleven Women Who Shaped the American West, eds. Glenda Riley and Richard Etulain (Fulcrum Press, 1997).


ROBERT SUTTON appreciates the pages of History at Illinois as a means of hearing from and keeping in touch with long-time friends and colleagues scattered all around the country—and the world. There is not much to report in the way of scholarly activity: a book review here, a note there, and an occasional talk on such intriguing subjects as “The Future of Amtrak” and “Reflections on the American Systems.” To his surprise, membership on the National Cliché Advisory Commission has proven far more time consuming than one would imagine.
The Department of History welcomes your support. To make a gift to the Robert Johannsen Fund, make your check payable to UIF/Johannsen Fund. To make a gift to the LAS Development Fund for History, make your check payable to UIF/LAS ADF History. To make a gift to the History Graduate Student Fellowship Endowment, make your check payable to UIF/History Fellowship. Checks should be sent to:
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