

History Department Newsletter

Greetings from Barbara M. Cooper
Chair, Department of History

The big news this fall is that we are fortunate to welcome three new faculty members to the department. Our South Asian history search resulted in not one but two hires! We are delighted to announce the arrivals of Julia Stephens and Johan Matthew. Julia Stevens will be our new South Asia specialist; a Harvard Ph.D. she comes to us from Yale University. Her first book project, well underway, is entitled "Governing Islam: Law, Empire, and Secularism in South Asia." Johan Mathew is our new specialist in Global History; he too is a Harvard Ph.D. His book, *Margins of the Market: Trafficking and Capitalism Across the Arabian Sea* is out with the University of California Press. He comes to us from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst.

We also ran a search for a non-tenure track position in Public History. Kristin O'Brassil-Kulfan will take over running our budding Public History Program as well as our ongoing Internship Program. She is a freshly minted Ph.D. from the University of Leicester in England with a dissertation entitled "Illicit Mobilities and Wandering Lives: The Criminalization of Indigent Transiency in the Early American Republic." She comes to us from the Pennsylvania House of Representatives Archives.

An unexpected windfall to the department came in the form of a part-line hire of Lilia Fernandez, whose tenure home will be in Latino and Caribbean Studies. Lilia Fernandez works on migration and urban history in Chicago, with a book entitled *Brown in the Windy City: Mexicans and Puerto Ricans in Postwar Chicago* with the University of Chicago Press.

We also have quite a few promotions to celebrate. Marisa Fuentes is now a tenured Associate Professor. Alastair Bellany, Jennifer Mittelstadt and Johanna Schoen and are now Full Professors. The wave of retirements as many of our baby-boomer generation faculty turn to new adventures has been the occasion for celebrations as well. This year our colleague Ann Fabian, who is at this moment enjoying just such an adventure in Japan, prompted the aptly named "Material Girl: Ann Fabian and the Cultural History of Everyday Life Conference" in April. The event featured talks by former students and colleagues Mia Bay, Seth Koven, Beryl Satter, Jon Butler, Kelly Enright, Melanie Kiechle, Karen Routledge, Kirsten Swinth and Melissa Cooper.

On a sadder note, scholar of Native American history Alison Bernstein, who directed the Rutgers Institute for Women's Leadership after a long career at the Ford Foundation, died in June as a result of endometrial cancer. Emeritus Professor William O'Neill, a well-known historian of American social and political life who taught at Rutgers for 35 years, died in late March.



But the department is as vital and busy as ever. We look forward to moving the Rutgers Center for Historical Analysis to the New Humanities Building, which will be completed in time for the Fall term. Department officers have rotated a bit: this year Melissa Feinberg will serve as Undergraduate Vice Chair, Alastair Bellany will take up the Graduate Vice Chair, and Samantha Kelly will serve as the Associate Chair. Our marvelous dependable staff, Candace Walcott-Shepherd, Tiffany Berg, Melanie Palm, Matthew Leonaggeo, Dawn Ruskai, Lynn Shanko and Matt Steiner continue to keep us on track. We look forward to the challenges of the academic year ahead.

Left: President Obama was our commencement speaker this year!

Welcome New Faculty!



Johan Mathew is starting this fall as an assistant professor of history at Rutgers, New Brunswick with a specialization in global history. He was born in India and spent most of his childhood in the Middle East before coming to the US as a teenager. He has studied at Princeton University, the University of London's School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) and Harvard University. After receiving his doctorate, Johan spent four years jointly appointed in the departments of history and economics at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. His first book, *Margins of the Market: Trafficking and Capitalism across the Arabian Sea*, was published by the University of California Press in May 2016. The book traces how labor, property and capital – the conceptual foundations of capitalist ideology – were reframed by the interplay between trafficking networks and colonial regulations. He is now beginning research on a second project tentatively entitled, "Opiates of the Masses: Labor, Narcotics and Global Capitalism." This project examines the consumption of cannabis

and opium as a means of illuminating how people cope with labor under global capitalism. Johan teaches courses on global history, capitalism, piracy, and the Indian Ocean world.

Kristin O'Brassill-Kulfan is a public historian whose work examines the nineteenth century roots of issues related to class, labor, race, crime, and punishment, and how best to present challenging histories to the twenty-first century public. Having trained as a practitioner as well as an academic, she has worked in a variety of institutions in the US and abroad, including the Archives of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives, the National Museums of Northern Ireland, and the History Department at Drexel University. This summer, Kristin is completing her PhD in US History at the University of Leicester in England, and she also holds an MA in Modern History from Queen's University Belfast in Northern Ireland. This fall, she will begin teaching Public History: Theory, Method, and Practice as well as the Public History Internship class. As the new coordinator of the Public History Program, she hopes to expand the scope and utility of the program for undergraduate students, faculty, and the local community.



Julie Stephens is an historian of modern South Asia. Her research focuses on how law has shaped religion, family, and economy in colonial and post-colonial South Asia and in its wider diasporas. She is currently completing a book manuscript entitled *Governing Islam: Law, Empire, and Secularism in South Asia*. The book brings into conversation colonial legal archives with rich alternative worlds of vernacular legal debate, captured in religious disputations, popular pamphlets, newspaper columns, and Urdu *fatwas*. Alongside her book manuscript, Professor Stephens is working on a new project tentatively entitled *Worldly Afterlives*. The project reconstructs the lives of South Asian migrants out of the archives of their deaths, including wills, lists of effects, statements of next-of-kin, and coroner reports. These records provide rich materials for writing new "subaltern" histories of migration and family relations.

In 2016-2017 Professor Stephens will be continuing this research in India, South Africa, Hong Kong, Singapore, and the United Kingdom on an InterAsia research fellowship funded by the Social Science Research Council. She looks forward in 2017-2018 to teaching courses at Rutgers on modern India and Pakistan, Islam, and methods of tracing diasporic family histories.

Digital Blackness Conference



April 22-23 brought the Rutgers Digital Blackness Conference after a year and several months of planning. A collaborative effort between the History and Women's and Gender departments and Africana Studies, Professor Deborah Gray White organized and hosted the conference with the assistance of her self-proclaimed "co-conspirators" Dr. Brittney Cooper and Dr. Melanye T. Price. Kaisha Esty, a Ph.D. candidate in the History department and graduate assistant to Professor White, curated and coordinated the nuts and bolts of the two-day event. The interdisciplinary Digital Blackness conference met extraordinary success in its aim to interrogate the "new modes, customs, and arrangements of racial identity as they are mediated through digital technologies." In the beautiful space provided by the Zimmerli Art Museum and Voorhees Hall, we welcomed over 200 scholars, students, activists, and artists of diverse fields, disciplines and generations from across the US and internationally. The two-day event was streamed live. We also extended an interactive platform to our virtual audience via social media and the official hashtag #RUDigitalBlackness.

Attendees voluntarily live-tweeted individual and plenary panel sessions, building an invaluable public digital archive. By the close of Day 1, #RUDigitalBlackness trended nationally on Twitter. The award-winning TV producer, writer, and creator of shows *Girlfriends* and *Being Mary Jane*, Mara Brock Akil, delivered a powerful, raw, and inspiring keynote address on her experience as a black woman in Hollywood. Other notable speakers included Dr. Mark Anthony Neal, Professor of African and African American Studies at Duke University, Dr. Melissa Harris-Perry, formerly of MSNBC's *Melissa Harris-Perry Show*, Darnell Moore, Senior Editor at *MicNews* and Jamilah Lemieux, Senior Editor at *EBONY Magazine*. By the end of the conference, participants had listened, lectured, laughed, cried, theorized, and strategized. Almost everyone left feeling energized by such a timely conversation.



Above: Dr. Wanda A. Hendricks, Dr. Deborah Gray White, Dr. Mark Anthony Neal, and Dr. Darlene Clark Hine

Global and Comparative History Master's Program

Since its launch five years ago the department's M.A. program in Global and Comparative history has thrived. Thanks largely to the imagination and hard work of Michael Adas, the program immediately established itself as one of the premier programs for training in methodologies and approaches to global history. Since 2011, dozens of teachers, professionals, and aspiring scholars from across the country have enrolled. It has continued to attract enthusiastic applicants and excellent students since Professor Adas' retirement. Eleven students, including Lindsay Bernstein, Henry Crouse, Mathew Gallagher, Sam Hege, Vishal Kamath, Jason Lowcher, Ryan Raia, Lauren Ronaghan, Gregory Spear, Joel Thompson, and Colleen Wall, have completed the program. Their research interests have been wide ranging, with students pursuing research on Indian Ocean networks, British history, Vikings, the early modern Americas, global industrial agriculture, Mediterranean trade, Ottoman history, climate histories, racialization, and global histories of gender. Through two years of coursework, examinations, and a capstone research paper, the program has helped secondary school teachers develop world history expertise for curriculum development. It has also prepared a number of students to gain admission to well-regarded Ph.D. programs, for work in public history, university administration, and government employment. Our wonderful students are a source of pride and inspiration. Many of the faculty have benefited tremendously by their presence on campus, their participation in our graduate colloquia, and by their collective excellent work.

Class Fieldtrips

American Natural History Museum

On February 9, 2016, with generous support from the History Department, Professor James Delbourgo led a fieldtrip to the American Natural History Museum in New York with his STEH graduate class on Race, Science and Museums. The willing expeditioners comprised a wonderful group of highly talented and convivial students who made the class as a whole a great success: Taylor Moore, Paul Sampson, Alexander Petrusek and Meagan Wierda from the PhD Program; Robert Hoberman, Mike Collins, Sean Coogan, Nick Scerbo and Kevin O'Shaughnessy from the MA program; and David Robertson, a PhD student in the History of Science Program at Princeton.



We assembled in the shadow of the dinosaurs and Teddy Roosevelt's momentous dicta at the entrance to the museum on a crisp Tuesday afternoon in winter, having been primed for our visit by a set of readings in museum studies and the history of race and racism. Instead of examining the famed animal dioramas of the museum, dating back a century and including stampeding herds of elephants and mountain scenes of African gorillas, we turned our attention to the human or cultural halls featuring a wide range of the museum's sometimes overlooked ethnological displays and extraordinary human dioramas. After assembling, we split into smaller groups and individual exploratory units and

focused our attention on the museum's African Hall (several decades old), Asian Hall (this dates only to the 1980s!) and the Northwest Canadian Coast Hall famously associated with Franz Boas.

The intriguing thing about all these exhibits is that they are in many ways time capsules of previous eras' modes of museological display, allowing historians a unique opportunity to see 20th-century museum work in action on the model of a scientifically objective and omniscient curatorial authority -- sometimes with hilarious and often with disturbing consequences (the museum hosted important conferences on eugenics early in that century.) The pedagogical value of this exercise is impossible to overstate. Any museum studies class has to go to the museum to grasp that a museum is not a text to be read but a theatrically staged experience that must be understood in terms of dramaturgy, sensory engagement and affect as much as intellectual categories or framing texts. Such was our aim.

We roamed the galleries taking photos and asking questions about how the human artifacts, music (piped in over loudspeakers), costumes and dioramas communicated messages about the peoples they depicted through means of staging and performance rather than merely through captions and labels. Many troubling vestiges of racial thinking and primitivist anthropology survive in these galleries but the experience was nonetheless a rich, enjoyable and inspiring one. Afterwards, we retired to a nearby Irish bar where we engaged in substantive reflection and discussion of what we had seen, assisted by the consumption of Irish beer and kosher pizza. Most importantly, the experience gave us a shared reference to which we fruitfully returned many times in conversation in class over the weeks that ensued as we read further into the histories of race, science and museums. Having our visit early in the term worked beautifully both as an experience that brought us together as a group and that created a foundation for our discussions of the nature and power of the museum as a theater of knowledge and performance that produces perceptions of human difference.



The Camden 28

"History Detectives: The Camden 28," one section of the History Workshop offered this Spring taught by Professor Jennifer Mittelstadt, emphasized the exciting, flexible, but orderly nature of research—not unlike the research detectives undertake when solving cases. As historians, we took on the "case" of the Camden 28, a Catholic Left Anti-Vietnam War group from Camden, NJ, who broke into a Selective Service Office to destroy draft records, but were captured by the FBI, tried, and acquitted. As historians, we wanted to know not only the who, what, where, and when of the story, but the why and the who cares? We tried to answer all of these questions by undertaking two kinds of inquiries. One, we wanted to understand the worlds our historical subjects lived in. Two, we wanted to figure out how to tell new and compelling stories about them based on our research.

This Spring we were lucky enough to be able to visit the people who helped make this history. In April of 2016 we travelled to Camden to meet one of the main participants in the Camden 28, Gene Dixon. Dixon took us to the US District Court of the State of New Jersey, where the case was tried. There, we also met with the Honorable Judge Joseph Rodriquez, a lifelong resident of Camden and informal advi-

sor to the Camden 28 back at the time of the trial. As we sat in the jury box in the same courtroom where the case was tried, the judge described to us the legal strategy and significance of the case. Afterwards, Gene Dixon took us on a tour of Camden, pointing out where the Camden 28 met, how they planned the break-in to the draft office, and giving us background on the participants and the city. Dixon also graciously allowed us an interview, which was enormously helpful in our research.

At the end of the class, we posted all of our research on a website. Check it out:

<http://camden28case.blogs.rutgers.edu/>



ROHA Happenings

Armed with their microphones, ROHA's interviewers have sought out voices from every corner of the Garden State and in fifteen states across the United States in 2015-16. ROHA conducted 150 new interviews, bringing the collection to 1,700 interviews in total, with 815 now available on the ROHA website.

This new flurry of oral history activity resulted from a number of newly forged relationships. In partnership with Prof. Douglas Greenberg, ROHA has begun interviewing the participants of the "Black on the Banks" conference about their reflections on their time at Rutgers, including their experiences with discrimination and their fight for equality in education. ROHA joined with the Center for European Studies to interview refugees from Hungary and Cuba who settled in New Jersey in the second half of the 20th Century. ROHA presented selections from its new interview material during the Center's March 2016 conference, "The Cold War at Camp Kilmer: Hungarian '56ers, Cubans, and US Refugee Policy in New Jersey."

ROHA began a relationship with the Italian and Italian-American Heritage Commission to conduct interviews with cultural, social, and political leaders among New Jersey's Italian-American population. The material generated by ROHA will be utilized by students on the K-12 and University levels in lesson plans and multimedia presentations. The ROHA staff worked with senior groups at the Rossmoor community in Monroe Township, NJ, to bring many new voices into the collection from the South Asian and East Asian immigrant communities. ROHA recently engaged in a new enterprise with the Rutgers-Newark Alumni office that will allow ROHA to both focus on the history of that institution and delve into the diverse peoples that make up Newark's population. Finally, ROHA has teamed up with the Pride Center of New Jersey and Colab Arts to record and preserve the voices and stories of the LGBTQ+ communities in New Jersey. By interviewing leaders involved in advocacy and awareness, a variety of perspectives will shed light on the LGBTQ+ communities' struggles for equality and social acceptance.

The ROHA staff has also kept busy with dozens of public outreach events and educator workshops in cities across the state. In May, ROHA organized the 2016 Rutgers Living History Society Annual Meeting, which brought approximately 200 guests to the Rutgers New Brunswick Campus. The staff also participated in the 2016 Rutgers Day event on the Rutgers-Newark Campus, where they exhibited the ROHA collection for hundreds of visitors.

The 38th Annual Susman Graduate Student Conference

This past April, the History Department hosted the 38th annual Susman Graduate Student Conference, which focused on the theme “Confronting the Violence(s) of History: Critical Methods, Epistemologies, and Engagements.” Organized by current third year students Bren Sutter and Rachel Bunker, the conference brought together graduate students and faculty from Rutgers and neighboring history departments in the Northeast for two days of conversation about the role violence plays in the researching and writing of history. The conference offered a focus upon “violence” as a possible critical methodology and as an ethical dimension in interdisciplinary approaches to the practice of history. The theme prompted participants to ask: How does thinking about the points of intersection between violence and resistance question our normative understandings of these categories? Can violence ever be a generative space in addition to a space of trauma? What ethical obligations do scholars have to their historical subjects and objects, if any?

Following tradition, the conference commenced with tea and baked goods at the annual Bea Tea on Wednesday, April 6, in Van Dyck Hall. On Thursday evening, Associate Professor Marisa Fuentes gave the opening lecture, “Archival Dispossession: The Violence of History on Enslaved Bodies.” Professor Fuentes spoke on the violent omissions of the archive and our historical obligation to pursue the perspectives of the enslaved. She also shared preliminary thoughts on her next scholarly project.

Eight graduate student panels took place on Friday, April 8th, in the New Brunswick Theological Seminary. The ninety-minute panels were organized around ideological themes, including: Rhetorics and Resistance to Violence, War and Ideological Violence, Internationalism and Violence in Wartime, Violence and Performativity, Gendered Violence, and Violence in the Archive. In all, twenty-two students delivered papers and eight Rutgers History Department faculty served as moderators.

The conference concluded with a compelling keynote lecture given by Rutgers alumna, Laura Ann Twagira. Currently an Assistant Professor of History and Gender, Women, and Sexuality Studies at Wesleyan University, Twagira presented her research on gendered state control in rice cultivation in early postcolonial Mali. Further, she explained how women in Mali resisted everyday state control through the use of their bodies and their identity as women.



Lastly, such a successful conference would not have been possible without all of the History Department faculty and staff who supported the event through their time, efforts, and guidance. The conference organizers would like to especially thank Marisa Fuentes, Laura Ann Twagira, Barbara Cooper, and all the department faculty and staff that participated in the conference.

Left: Laura Ann Twagira and Barbara Cooper display the conference poster.

Nancy A. Hewitt Wins OAH Roy Rosenzweig Distinguished Service Award

The OAH Roy Rosenzweig Distinguished Service Award is presented each year to an individual or individuals whose contributions have significantly enriched our understanding and appreciation of American history. This year the award was presented to Nancy A. Hewitt, Distinguished Professor Emerita of our department. The awards committee remarked, “Occasionally an educator appears on the scene with a talent for individual mentorship that is so great, so charismatic that her accomplishments can best be measured in the satisfaction and achievements of those whose lives they have touched in a direct and personal way. That is especially true of this year’s recipient of the Roy Rosenzweig Distinguished Service Award. Many who wrote in support of Nancy Hewitt’s nomination praised her peer mentoring of scholars at her home institution and across the profession. Those who know her best—her colleagues, her fellow historians—know that the measure of Nancy Hewitt’s contribution is perhaps most reflected in the undergraduate and graduate students whom she has mentored over the years.”

The award is named in memory of Roy Rosenzweig, who was the Mark and Barbara Fried Chair and founding director of the Center for History and New Media at George Mason University. Rosenzweig, a pioneer in the field of digital humanities, was actively involved in OAH for more than fifteen years, serving on its nominating board, program committees, executive board, and was an OAH Distinguished Lecturer. Rosenzweig passed away in 2007 at the age of 57.



Right: Dorothy Sue Cobble, Nancy Hewitt and Joanne Meyerowitz at OAH Conference

"A Tale of Two Uprisings" Poland Trip

By: Jordan Cohen, History/Political Science Major

This spring, I had the opportunity to go where no member of my family has been in several generations. With Professor Nancy Sinkoff, Dean Karima Bouchenafa, and nine other students, I experienced Poland as a student in the Rutgers program, "A Tale of Two Uprisings." We traveled to Warsaw and Krakow, and experienced the Polin Museum, Auschwitz-Birkenau, the Wieliczka salt mines, and Wilanów Palace. We met with distinguished leaders in their respective fields such as museum curators and community organizers. It was an inspirational and enjoyable trip which challenged me to think differently about our world.

In America, we see the world through a relatively narrow lens in history. While Rutgers University may be older than Warsaw University by a full fifty years, the history of Poland as a country stretches back to the ninth century, hundreds of years before Europeans knew that the Americas existed. Travelling to Poland put that historical disparity front and center. Exploring



elaborate buildings that had been built at a time when the United States was barely a concept, touring a salt mine that had at one time allowed Poland to be one of the largest players in a continental economy, and visiting the memorials built for Poland's recent history during World War II, caused me to consider how much we in the U.S. look at our own much shorter history through the lens of 'American Exceptionalism.'

The part of my visit I most enjoyed was engaging with Polish and Ukrainian students from the University of Warsaw. We discussed politics, history, hobbies, and food. We feasted on pizza while exploring the differences between our respective universities and cultures. The Polish students we spoke with were knowledgeable about American politics, had seen American movies (in English!) in theatres, and were fantastic ambassadors for their country. As an American student, it made me aware that the eyes of the world really are on America.

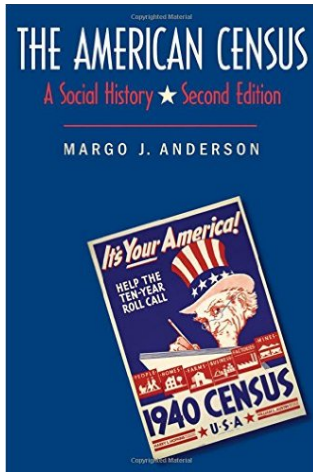
It became evident while we spoke with our hosts that there is a generation gap in Poland. The older generation remembers Poland as one of the most multicultural countries in the world, whereas the younger generation only knows Poland as one of the most homogenous countries in the world. The older generation spoke wistfully of something the younger generation may never experience, and it made me glad for the multi-culturalism we still have here in the U.S.

My trip to Poland was an opportunity of a lifetime filled with food, fun, photos, friends, and solemn reflections. I am extraordinarily grateful for the opportunity to be able to go on this trip, expand my horizons, and return to a place where my family once lived for generations.



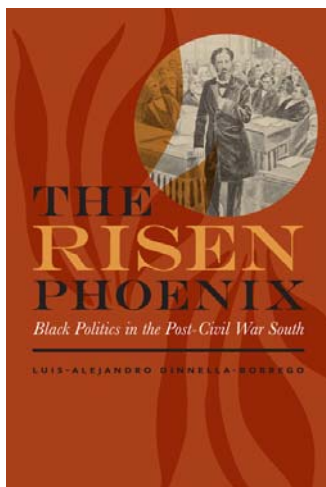
All photos by Jordan Cohen

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR ALUMNI!



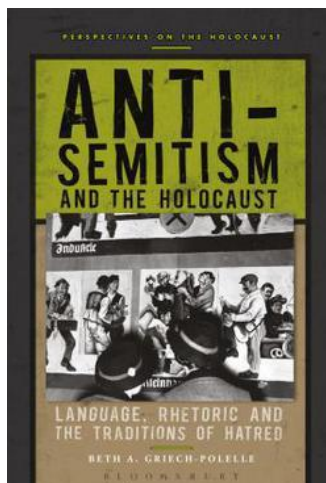
Margo J. Anderson

*The American Census:
A Social History*
(Yale University Press, 2015)



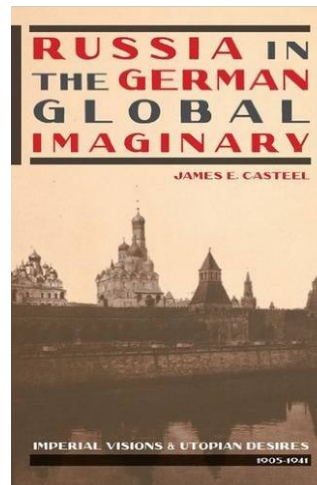
**Luis-Alejandro
Dinnella-Borrego**

*The Risen Phoenix: Black
Politics in the Post-Civil War
South*
(University of Virginia Press,
2016)



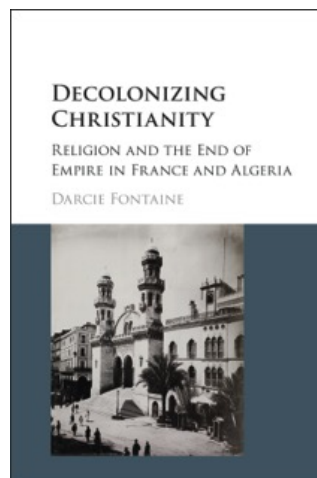
**Beth A.
Griech-Polelle**

*Anti-Semitism and the Holo-
caust: Language, Rhetoric,
and the Traditions of Hatred*
(Bloomsbury Publishing,
2016)



James E. Casteel

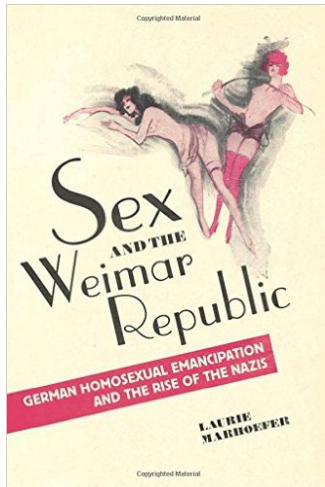
*Russia in the German Global
Imaginary: Imperial Visions
and Utopian Desires,
1905-1941*
(University of Pittsburgh
Press, 2016)



Darcie Fontaine

*Decolonizing Christianity:
Religion and the End of Em-
pire in France and Algeria*
(Cambridge University Press,
2016)

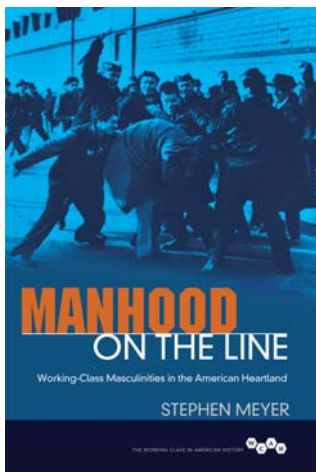
RECENT ALUMNI BOOKS



Laurie Marhoefer

*Sex and the Weimar Republic:
German Homosexual
Emancipation and the
Rise of the Nazis*

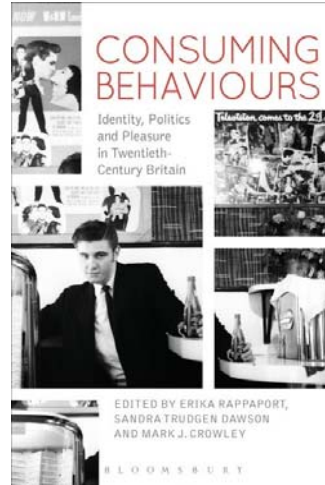
(University of Toronto Press,
2015)



Stephen Meyer

*Manhood on the Line: Work-
ing-Class Masculinities in the
American Heartland*

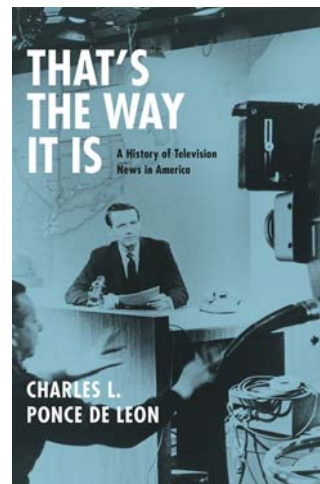
(University of Illinois Press,
2016)



**Erika Rappaport,
ed.**

*Consuming Behaviors:
Identities, Politics and Pleas-
ure in Twentieth-Century Brit-
ain*

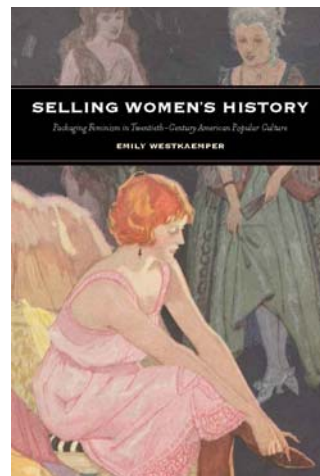
(Bloomsbury Academic,
2015)



**Charles L.
Ponce de Leon**

*That's the Way It Is:
A History of Television News
in America*

(University of Chicago Press,
2015)



Emily Westkaemper

*Selling Women's History:
Packaging Feminism in Twen-
tieth-Century American Popu-
lar Culture*

(Rutgers University Press,
2017)

Graduate Student Accomplishments in 2016

Fellowships, Grants, and Other Awards

Beatrice Adams, *Franklin Research Center Travel Grant (Duke University)*

Catherine Babikian, *Rutgers GSNB Pre-Dissertation Research Travel Grant*

Jesse Bayker, *Andrew W. Mellon Completion Fellowship*; he was also awarded an *Albert J. Beveridge Research Grant from the American Historical Association*

Moyagaye Bedward, *Fulbright Fellowship (for research in Morocco)* as well as the *American Institute for Maghrib Studies Summer Research Grant*

Christopher Blakley, *Social Science Research Council Dissertation Proposal Development Fellowship Grant*; he was also awarded the *Andrew W. Mellon Summer Research Grant*

AJ Blandford, *Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Fellowship* at the Library Company of Philadelphia and the Historical Society of Pennsylvania; she also was awarded the *American Philosophical Society Digital Humanities Fellowship*, and the *Rutgers Digital Humanities Initiative Seed Grant Award and Research Fellow* at the Consortium for History of Science, Technology and Medicine

Kendra Boyd, *Andrew W. Mellon Completion Fellowship*

Julia Bowes, *Andrew W. Mellon Completion Fellowship*; she was also awarded the *Woodrow Wilson Women Studies Dissertation Fellowship*

Hilary Buxton, *Louis Bevier Dissertation Fellowship*

Miya Carey, *Albert J. Beveridge Research Grant from the American Historical Association*

Satyasikha Chakraborty, *Andrew W. Mellon-Sawyer Pre-Doctoral Fellowship (Rutgers Center for Historical Analysis)*

Thomas Cossentino, *Andrew W. Mellon Summer Research Grant*

Courtney Doucette, *Andrew W. Mellon Completion Fellowship*

Hannah Frydman, *Chateaubriand Fellowship (for research in France)*

Travis Jeffres, *Warren and Beatrice Susman Dissertation Completion Fellowship*

Tracey Johnson, *Rutgers GSNB Special Study Grant*

Julia Katz, *Warren and Beatrice Susman Dissertation Completion Fellowship*

William Kelly, *Andrew W. Mellon CLIR (Dissertation Research in Original Sources)*

Alissa Klots, *Warren and Beatrice Susman Dissertation Completion Fellowship*

Raechel Lutz, *Andrew W. Mellon Summer Research Grant*

Tara Malanga, *Digital Humanities Public History Internship*

Paul Mercandetti, *Rutgers GSNB Pre-Dissertation Research Travel Grant*

Taylor Moore, *Ford Foundation Pre-Doctoral Fellowship*

Alexander Petrusek, *Rutgers GSNB Pre-Dissertation Research Travel Grant*

David Reid, *Andrew W. Mellon Completion Fellowship*

Melissa Reynolds, *Andrew W. Mellon Summer Research Grant*

Paul Sampson, *Rutgers Center for Historical Analysis Graduate Fellowship*

Peter Sorensen, *Andrew W. Mellon Summer Research Grant*

Dustin Stalnaker, *Fulbright U.S. Student Award (for research in Germany)*

Brenann Sutter, *Cornell University's Phil Zwickler Memorial Research Grant*

Lance Thurner, *John Carter Brown Library Three-Month Residency Fellowship*; he was also awarded a *Huntington Library Travel Grant (for research in the UK)*

Dara Walker, *Ford Foundation Dissertation Fellowship*

Pamela Walker, *Rutgers GSNB Pre-Dissertation Research Travel Grant*; she was also awarded a *Mississippi Freedom Summer Teaching Fellowship*

Jennifer Wilson, *Andrew W. Mellon-Sawyer Pre-Doctoral Fellowship (Rutgers Center for Historical Analysis)*

Meagan Wierda, *Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council Doctoral Fellowship*; she was also awarded a *Rutgers GSNB Pre-Dissertation Research Travel Grant*

Caitlin Wiesner, *Rutgers GSNB Pre-Dissertation Research Travel Grant*

Danielle Willard-Kyle, *Visiting Fellowship at the Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies* at the US Holocaust Memorial Museum

Publications

Raechel Lutz, "Still Life with Vitamins: Art and Science at the 1939 New York World's Fair" *Environmental History* 21, 2 (April 2016), 365-378.

Kate Imy, "Fascist Yogis: Martial Bodies and Imperial Impotence," *Journal of British Studies* 55, 2 (April 2016), 320-343.

Kate Imy, "Queering the Martial Races: Masculinity, Sex and Circumcision in the Twentieth-Century British Indian Army," *Gender & History*, 27.2 (August 2015), 374-396.

Ph.D. Degrees Conferred

Sara Black, "Psychotropic Society: The Medical and Cultural History of Drugs in France, 1840-1920", under the direction of Bonnie Smith

Mark Bray, "The Anarchist Inquisition: Terrorism and the Ethics of Modernity in Spain, 1893-1909", under the direction of Temma Kaplan

Robert Daiutolo, "George Croghan: The Life of a Conqueror", under the direction of Jan Lewis

Mark Duggan, "Souls of the Beheaded: Contested Martyrdom in England, 1649-1665", under the direction of Alastair Bellany

Elizabeth Eitrem, "The Teachers' Dilemma: Gender, Empire, and Education, 1879-1918", under the direction of Nancy Hewitt and Benjamin Justice

Nigel Gillah, "Buccio di Ranallo and His Followers: Chroniclers of L'Aquila, 1254-1529", under the direction of Samantha Kelly

Melissa Horne, "To Blaze the Trail: Black Student Activism in the Early Twentieth Century", under the direction of Mia Bay

Kate Imy, "Spiritual Soldiers and the Politics of Difference in the British Indian Army", under the direction of Bonnie Smith and Seth Koven

Katharine Lee, "'The Young Women Here Enjoy a Liberty': Philadelphia Women and the Public Sphere, 1760s-1840s", under the direction of Nancy Hewitt and Paul Clemens

Kristoffer Shields, "Culture on Trial: Law, Morality, and the Performance Trial in the Shadow of World War I", under the direction of Jackson Lears

Adam Wolkoff, "Possession and Power: The Legal Culture of Tenancy in the United States, 1800-1920", under the direction of Ann Fabian

Master's Degree in the Global and Comparative History Program Since Fall 2011

Lindsay Bernstein, Henry Crouse, Mathew Gallagher, Sam Hege, Vishal Kamath, Jason Lowcher, Ryan Raia, Lauren Ronghan, Gregory Spear and Joel Thompson

New Positions

Sara Black, Visiting Assistant Professor of History at Bryn Mawr College

Judge Glock, Visiting Assistant Professor in the College of Business and Economics at West Virginia University

Kate Imy, Tenure-track Assistant Professor in Modern Britain at the University of North Texas

Alissa Klots, Tenure-track Associate Professor at the European University at Saint Petersburg beginning February 1, 2017.

Alumnae/Alumni News

Robin Chapdelaine (c/o 2014)—a former advisee of Temma Kaplan and Carolyn Brown: Tenure-Track Assistant Professor in African History and the Center for African Studies at Duquesne University

William Jelani Cobb (c/o 2003)—a former advisee of David Levering Lewis: Tenured Associate Professor in Columbia University's School of Journalism (also, Cobb was named winner of the 2015 Sidney Hillman Prize for Opinion and Analysis Journalism)

Melissa Cooper (c/o 2012)—a former advisee of Mia Bay and

Ann Fabian: Tenure-track Assistant Professor of African American History at Rutgers Newark beginning Fall 2016. She was formerly a Research Assistant Professor in Southern Studies at the University of South Carolina

Annalise Kinkle DeVries (c/o 2013)—a former advisee of Seth Koven: Tenure-track Assistant Professor of World History at Samford University

Sergei Glebov (c/o 2004)—a former advisee of Seymour Becker—was tenured and promoted to the rank of associate professor of Russian History at Amherst and Smith colleges

Jen Manion (c/o 2008)—a former advisee of Nancy Hewitt—published her first book, *Liberty's Prisoners: Carceral Culture in Early America*, with the University of Pennsylvania Press in October 2015. Jen will begin a new appointment as associate professor of history at Amherst College in Fall 2016

Khalil Gibran Muhammad (c/o 2004) —a former advisee of David Levering Lewis: has been named professor of history, race and public policy at Harvard Kennedy School (HKS) and appointed the Suzanne Young Murray Professor at the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study. Khalil served as director of the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture of The New York Public Library (NYPL), one of the leading research facilities dedicated to the study of the African diaspora. His new academic appointment at Harvard began on July 1, 2016.

Stacey Patton (c/o 2011)—a former advisee of Ginny Yans: Tenure-track position at Morgan State University. She will also be the editor-in-chief of the *Morgan Journalism Review*. Stacey was formerly with the *Chronicle of Higher Education* for the past four years covering graduate education, faculty life, race and diversity issues.

Todd Uhlman (c/o 2007)—a former advisee of Jackson Lears: Tenure-track assistant professor of History at the University of Dayton

Dora Vargha (c/o 2013)—a former advisee of Paul Hanebrink: Lecturer in Medical Humanities (equiv. to assistant professor in the US) at the University of Exeter. She was formerly a post-doctoral fellow at Birkbeck for the past three years

Adam Wolkoff (c/o 2015)—a former advisee of Ann Fabian: 2015 Gilbert C. Fite Award for the Best Dissertation on Agricultural History



Above: Seth Koven, Sara Black, Kate Imy, Bonnie Smith

In Memoriam



William L. O'Neill, Distinguished Professor of History Emeritus at Rutgers University, died on March 29 in New Brunswick, New Jersey, at the age of 80.

An eminent social and political historian of modern America, he was the author of more than a dozen books on subjects such as women, politics, and war in the United States in the Twentieth Century. Among his most well-known books are: *Everyone Was Brave: a History of Feminism in America* (1969); *Coming Apart: An Informal History of America in the 1960's* (1971); *The Last Romantic: A Life of Max Eastman* (1978); *A Better World: Stalinism and the American Intellectuals* (1982); *American High: The Years of Confidence, 1945-1960* (1986); and *A Democracy at War: America's Fight at Home and Abroad in World War II* (1993). In addition to editing numerous books, he also authored text books, including *World War II: A Student Companion*, and published many articles.

Born and raised in Big Rapids, Michigan, Professor O'Neill was the eldest son of John and Helen O'Neill. He graduated Phi Beta Kappa from the University of Michigan, and then earned his doctorate in history at the University of California, Berkeley. After teaching at the Universities of Pittsburgh, Colorado, and Wisconsin, Professor O'Neill joined the faculty of Rutgers University in New Brunswick, New Jersey, in 1971 and taught there for 35 years, until his retirement in 2006.

A popular teacher, Professor O'Neill taught courses on modern America as well as World War I and World War II. He was a founding member of the Academic Advisory Board of the Rutgers Oral History Archives. O'Neill received a Senior Fellowship from the National Endowment of the Humanities in 1979 and the Rutgers Board of Trustees Award for Excellence in Research in 1983. He is listed in *Who's Who in America* and other directories.

Professor O'Neill is survived by his wife of 55 years, Elizabeth Carol; two children, Cassandra and Catherine; and two grandchildren, Caleb and Monica Aspy. He was a devoted husband, father, and grandfather and is sorely missed by his family.

Rutgers lost a wonderful scholar, administrator, visionary, and friend with the death of **Alison Bernstein** on June 30th as a result of endometrial cancer. Alison Bernstein came to Rutgers in 2011 to become the Director of the Institute for Women's Leadership. She was a scholar of Native American history, and the author of the 1991 book, *American Indians and World War II: Toward a New Era in Indian Affairs*; she also co-authored with sociologist Jacklyn Cock, *Melting Pots and Rainbow Nations: Conversations about Difference in the United States and South Africa*, which appeared in 2002. Naturally, as an historian, Alison had her tenure home in History. Those of us with an interest in gender, women's health, and feminist studies knew her well and admired

her energy and imagination in raising money to finance an endowed chair in Media, Culture and Feminist Studies in honor of Gloria Steinem. Prior to coming to Rutgers she worked for many years at the Ford Foundation, where she championed programs in culture, the arts and the media, and education from kindergarten through graduate school. She will be much missed, especially by her partner and our colleague, Johanna Schoen.



Graduate Student Milestones

Proposal defenses and working titles:

Dale Booth, "A Pleasant Genealogy for Man-kind: Intersections of Sex and Species on the British Shore, 1750-1914"

Kaisha Esty, "A Crusade against the Despoiler of Virtue: African American Women, Female Purity, and the Gendered Politics of the Negro Problem"

Julia Katz, "From Colliers to Colonials: Chinese Migrants in Hawai'i"

William Kelly, "Revolucion es [Re]construer: Everyday Life and Housing in Cuba, 1960-1989"

Ashleigh Lawrence-Sanders, "Confronting the Rebel Yell: How African Americans Challenged the Lost Cause, 1865-1965"

Melissa Reynolds, "Gentyll reader ye shall understand: Practical books and the making of an English reading public, c. 1400-1560"

Lance Thurner, "Medical Mestizaje and the Ordeals of Nature in 17th Century Colonial Mexico"

Major Field Examinations in:

American: Rachel Bunker, Marika Plater, Ryan Tate, Kyle Williams, Amy Zaroni

Early Modern Europe: Lauren Swift

Medieval: Hugo Marquez Soljancic

Modern Europe: Hannah Frydman, Anna Nath, Dustin Stalnaker, Daniel Willard-Kyle

Modern Middle East: Taylor Moore

STE: Christopher Blakley, Rachel Bunker

Minor Field Examinations in:

Atlantic Cultures and African Diaspora: Zachary Bennett

Early Modern Europe: Laura Michel

Modern Transatlantic Intellectual: Kyle Williams

STE: Rachel Bunker

Women's & Gender: Ryan Tate

Sabbatical Achievements

Associate Professor Chie Ikeya, Researching Histories of Inter-Asian Families in South and Southeast Asia

I spent much of my 2016 sabbatical in New Jersey, working on my second book manuscript, *Illegible Intimacies of Empire: Inter-Asian Crossings, Belongings, and Otherings in Colonial Burma, Southeast Asia, and Beyond*. I decided to make the history of one particular inter-Asian family—the family of R. Meah and R. P. Mohan—central to *Illegible Intimacies*. The Meahs, Mohans, and their ancestors and descendents lived through key historical moments in Burma and, more broadly, South and Southeast Asia: British colonization and hegemony over the Indian Ocean; an unprecedented mass migration of indentured “coolie” labor, prompted by the abolition of slavery; liberal empire’s establishment of the “rule of law” over the rule of culture or religion which was now confined, through legal pluralism, to the personal, private sphere; the consolidation of racially and religiously informed cultural affinities and differences; the Second World War and colonization by the Japanese, the only “non-Western” imperial power; and decolonization, independence, and ethnocultural nationalization. Life stories and memories of the Meah-Mohan family illuminate each of these historical moments.

I also traveled to Yangon, Myanmar, to conduct interviews with surviving members of the family and explore their family records. The trip to Yangon also gave me an opportunity to visit the Japanese, Baha’i, Fujian, Yunnanese, Shia, and Sunni cemeteries to begin gathering life stories and biographical information from the epitaphs on the gravestones of various inter-Asian families and individuals who appear (may appear) in my book.

I hope to supplement my interviews with records of the Chinese Council of Batavia (present-day Jakarta, Indonesia)—an underexplored archive that promises to shed light on the history of Sino-Malay intimacies in the Dutch East Indies. Set up in the mid-18th century, the Chinese Council of Batavia was a semi-autonomous organization that administered customary law and settled disputes involving the city’s Chinese residents from 1775 to 1950. The documents of the Council range from marriage, divorce, and death records to the minutes of the Council’s board meetings, providing a unique window onto the lives of the Chinese men, women, and families.

To prepare myself for the study of the Council’s records, I took two semesters of Classical Chinese at Rutgers over the course of 2015-2016. However, knowledge of Classical Chinese is not sufficient for researching these materials, which also demand familiarity with other languages, especially Malay. I will spend the summer of 2017 in Denpasar, Indonesia, learning Malay.

Professor Belinda Davis, Researching German Political History

While on leave this past year, I worked on revisions of a book on extra-parliamentary politics in West Germany. I spent five months as a Fernand Braudel Senior Research Fellow at the European University Institute, outside Florence, Italy,



bringing to mind the surprisingly frank admission of an Italianist I once knew, who claimed he went into history for touristic reasons. I lived inside a palace designed by Raffaello and worked inside a former papal villa, really lovely (although I myself would recommend keeping ancient stone fountains out of the entryway of homes, as I once walked into the one in the palace and knocked myself out cold). The leave also gave me time to complete several articles, deliver a number of talks in Germany and Qatar, and pursue research on my next project, concerning the language of political modernity in Europeanist historiography. I also worked on organizing the U.S. Social Forum in Philadelphia.

Faculty News

Rudy Bell. This year I devoted my energies to developing and then teaching a new, fully online course with colleague Paul G. E. Clemens on the “History of Rutgers”, sparked by the 250th anniversary hoopla. Paul’s recent book, *Rutgers since 1945*, was a mainstay among the required readings, which also included Richard L. McCormick’s *Raised at Rutgers* and Richard P. McCormick’s *Black Student Protest at Rutgers*. So, a heavy dose of History Department expertise – all in a course intended NOT to be simply celebratory as it explored the doing of institutional history.

The usual 4-wall lectures were replaced by video interviews with experts from all three campuses, engaged in research ranging from harvesting deep ocean creatures to planting the new Rutgers tomato; teaching classes on theater, dance, and visual arts; administering units dedicated to community involvement and service to the state; and coaching both winning and losing athletic teams. Clemens and I traveled to corners of New Jersey previously unknown to us and learned much as well from the 40+ alumni and alumnae who joined the course as resource persons, sharing their experiences from back in their student days onto their present-day. Five undergraduate research assistants/videographers joined us in putting together each week’s work, always starting with the videos and then moving to intensive online discussion forums.

The course was well-received by nearly all, and we will be offering it again in fall 2016, with some fine-tuning.

Alastair Bellany. I’ve been thinking a lot about Britishness lately. As I was completing *The Murder of King James I*, I decided to accept an offer from Oxford University Press to write the first volume of a two-volume *New History of Britain* designed for the American undergraduate market. The project appealed to me as a change of pace from the intensively researched studies I’ve previously published, and as a challenge that would force me to operate on a much broader historical timescale and across traditional geographic and political boundaries – for this has to be a properly Britannic study, integrating the histories of England, Scotland, Wales and Ireland (as well as England’s early imperial (mis)adventures in the Atlantic and South Asia). The question of Britishness has long intrigued me. Born in Australia to a Welsh mother and Scottish father, brought up from the age of two in England, and now a long-term resident in the US, I’ve always had a complex sense of my own Britishness. My feeling of Englishness is deep, yet deeply inflected by growing up in the north rather than the south of the country, and profoundly shaped by the Welsh and Scottish (and Cornish) perspectives of my parents and grandparents. Sporting allegiances render the mess of loyalties visible. I root for England in football – the less said about that the better – but have a sentimental attachment to Wales in rugby union, and a peculiarly inflexible loyalty to Australia in cricket. And this jumble of Britannic (and post-imperial) identities was always clearly going to shape the way I had to approach this new book; in particular, they add some emotional weight to the difficult intellectual task of decentering English history in the Britannic past, and they press home the importance of paying attention to connection and mobility, hybridity and entanglement. But writing *The Murder of King James I* had taught me something else that had to be taken into account – Britannic history has always been entangled in European history; the seas around the Isles have served as roadways as well as walls. And, of course, all these rather abstract problems suddenly acquired a compelling contemporary politics. I figured the best way to start work on the book

would be teach a Britannic History survey class: the first run through took place in the months before the Scottish independence referendum of 2014; the second, this past semester, took place in the run up to the British EU referendum in which a resurgent English nationalism always looked likely to play a major role. And now, as I write, in the wake of Brexit, as the charlatans, speculators, xenophobes and opportunists who orchestrated the Leave campaign survey the wreckage they have wrought, I wonder what a book of Britannic history ought to say to our confused and conflicted present.

Carolyn Brown. This has been a very eventful year for me. In the fall I (and many other scholars) became disturbed by the pictures of drowned Africans trying to migrate to Europe. Every week pictures of capsizing boats, African bodies washing up on vacation beaches and the startling images of Italian emergency workers handling immigrants with severe protections of sanitized suits resembling a Hollywood movie about the plague. We recognized that this tragic example of globalization as crisis touched a number of Rutgers centers. Nancy Sinkoff and I brought together our two centers (Centers of African Studies and Center for European Studies) and joined with Rhiannon Welch of the Department of Italian (who was already planning a project on African migration to Italy) and held a wonderful collaborative symposium – “*Africa, Europe and the Mediterranean Migration Crisis*” – a panel discussion, film presentation and art exhibit on this tragedy. The panel included scholars from Rutgers, African artists and scholars from Italy and Senegal, and scholars from Columbia, University of California, etc. Over 13 Rutgers departments and divisions gave support. The timing was perfect as now – despite the on-going tragedy of African deaths and drownings – press attention to the continent has been eclipsed by the shift in emphasis to Syria and Islamic terrorism. It’s clear, nonetheless, that this migration crisis is redefining the meaning of ‘European’ and we anticipate additional programming around this topic.

Paul Lovejoy (York University, Canada) and I secured funding for a project – *Global Timbuktu: Meanings and Narratives of Resistance in Africa and the Americas* – that links the historic city of Timbuktu (Tombouctou), Mali and two ante-bellum African American Settlements by that name in southern New Jersey and in Lake Placid New York State. Mali’s Timbuktu has been an important center of trade and Islamic learning for almost a thousand years. The diasporic settlements of this name were collectivities of African American protest against slavery and intersected with the histories of the Underground Railroad and, in the New York case, the radical abolitionism of John Brown. The project is a series of educational and scholarly initiatives focused on the place of Timbuktu in the history, culture and imagination of Africa and its global diaspora. It includes a teachers’ workshop (held in June 2016), a videotaped conversation between NJ middle school students and students in Timbuktu, Mali (October 2017), an international symposium of community activists and prominent scholars from Mali, South Africa and France, an exhibit – ‘Dreaming of Timbuctoo’ – organized by John Brown Lives! – an Adirondack human rights organization, and a site visit to Westampton Township, Burlington County, the locale of Timbuctoo. The project highlights the complex and interlocking connections among the various meanings of Timbuktu in order to increase public awareness of its history, the significance of Islam in the modern world, the legacy of slavery in North America and the proud assertion of a people to their heritage. The project is funded by the NJ Council for the Humanities, the NJ

Amistad Commission and many departments and divisions of Rutgers University.

Finally, I was invited to contribute to an international project commemorating the 100th anniversary of the International Labor Organization (ILO), a creation of the League of Nations. The project – a *General History of Labor in Africa* – is sponsored by the Amsterdam International Institute of Social History <https://socialhistory.org/en>, The International Research Center "Work and Human Lifecycle in Global History", Humboldt University, Berlin <https://rework.hu-berlin.de/en/news.html> and the ILO Africa Office in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia <http://www.ilo.org/addisababa/lang--en/index.htm>

This has been a busy year but a fulfilling one and I do think I'm being pulled into New Jersey history. I just learned about the immigration of Barbadian planters' sons to New Jersey. Craig Wilder's *Ebony and Ivy* mentions that this recruitment saved Rutgers and Princeton (The College of New Jersey) from bankruptcy. They brought with them the slave culture of the Caribbean and founded the city of Hackensack, then named, until 1921, New Barbados! Who knew? There's a lot of interesting African diaspora history in New Jersey—stay tuned for Deborah White and Marisa Fuentes' research project on Rutgers' connections to slavery and the slave trade.

Paul G. E. Clemens. At the end of last summer, Rutgers University Press published my book, *Rutgers since 1945: A History of the State University of New Jersey*, which included a marvelous chapter written by my art history colleague Carla Yanni on the social and architectural history of Rutgers dormitories. Carla and I also combined for an article on the early years of Livingston College which just came out this fall as a part of a two-issue collection of essays in the *Journal of the Rutgers University Libraries* tied to the university's celebration of its 250th anniversary. The founders of Livingston made an unusually strong commitment, even for the 1970s, to interdisciplinary learning, community-based internships and course work, full student involvement in college governance, and minority admissions (meaning, at that time, African American and Puerto Rican). As one result of the research I have done, I'm working with Kathy Lopez, in the Department of Latino and Caribbean Studies, on a fall conference that will return to campus some of the Puerto Rican activists from the late 1960s and early 1970s.

As for my teaching, this was both a wonderful and unusual year. My fall constitutional history course (1877-present) saw many of my best students from a previous US survey course join with carry-overs from the first half of constitutional history (origins to 1877) that I'd taught the previous school year. They were a tight-knit little group of sophomores and juniors, and all have already had the type of academic experience that Rutgers offers students with enough initiative to seek it out. In the spring, my semester was cut a month short because of heart surgery – first time in more than forty years I've missed more than a day of class for medical reasons. Rudy Bell helped enormously by simply shouldering the burden in our co-taught online course on Rutgers history. Teaching online was another first for me, and we were successful in encouraging both undergrads and alumni to register. I also taught our new, required History Workshop course. The course prepares students early in their college career for the writing and analysis that they'll be asked to do throughout the program. In April, Lance Thurner, a graduate student, took over for me and did a splendid job. My medical problems also curtailed my participation on the Rutgers Committee on Enslaved and Disenfranchised Populations. The committee, similar to ones at many older, east-coast universities, is looking into Rutgers historical

involvement with the enslaved and Native Americans with a view to recommending academic and practical responses that the University can now make.

This summer, while turning my attention back to colonial history, I also returned to hiking. I spent almost two weeks in Grand Teton and Yellowstone with my son and daughter-in-law. I've regained my ability to hike at higher altitudes, but can't yet deal with some of the elevation gains that I enjoy overcoming.

I'm looking forward to teaching this fall with Rudy again and with Dick McCormick, both in courses on Rutgers history as our 250th anniversary celebration comes to a conclusion.

Dorothy Sue Cobble. I feel very blessed to have received two years of fellowship awards for my book, *American Feminism: A Transnational History*, under contract with Princeton University Press. Last year, with support from the American Council of Learned Societies, I visited archives in Australia and elsewhere and drafted the first three chapters on transnational feminist reform networks from the Progressive Era to World War II. Next year, I'll be living in Stockholm as the Kerstin Hesselgren Chair at Stockholm University, a research fellowship awarded by the Swedish Research Council. I'm hoping to finish my chapters on Cold War feminism in the 1940s and 1950s; I'll also be giving some talks in Iceland and in the far north Lapland region of Sweden in November, where the northern lights should be spectacular. It would be great to see friends and colleagues. Come visit!

James Delbourgo. I continued work on finishing my book on Hans Sloane and the British Museum which is due out in 2017. In the meantime, I taught several new courses on the history of science, and collecting and museums. I taught a new global history of science lecture course to both humanities and science students, focusing on the period 1500-1800, which was a greatly enjoyable experience; a new honors course on collecting and museums for the Honors College, including a field trip to the Metropolitan Museum where our group had a curator-led tour of the Met's Kongo exhibition; and a graduate class on race, science and museums, including a field trip to the American Museum of Natural History. I also continued to do some writing for magazines, including the *Chronicle Review* and *The Atlantic*.

Leah DeVun. This year has been an especially enjoyable one, thanks to my participation in RCHA's "Ethical Subjects" seminar. I learned a lot from my colleagues, and a course release in the fall helped me make progress on the last chapters of my book manuscript (now almost complete!). It's also been great to work with our graduate and undergraduate students, and I've particularly liked teaching my research seminar, "The Body and Society," this spring. I've published two articles this year, "Erecting Sex: Surgery and the Medieval Science of Sex" in *Osiris*, and "I Object" in *ASAP/Journal*. I've presented my work at invited lectures at Johns Hopkins University, Brown University, CUNY Grad Center, Leslie-Lohman Museum, and the "Kalamazoo" medieval conference at Western Michigan University.

I've also had an active year as an artist. My first film, "The Summit" – an experimental short inspired by the life of composer and suffragist Ethel Smyth – will be premiering at Skidmore College's Frances Young Tang Museum in October. It's been great fun to learn new skills with a talented crew of cinematographers, performers, film editors, and sound designers, and to bring women's and gender history to life through a different medium. My artwork was also included in the *Art Papers* 40th anniversary exhibition earlier this year, and I

was profiled in the *Huffington Post*. On the home front, our son, Saint Cyr, graduated from Pre-K and will be moving on to kindergarten in the fall. We look forward to many beach and hiking trips this summer.

Thomas Figueira ("Language as a Marker of Ethnicity in Herodotus & Contemporaries") and Sarolta Takács ("Herodotus' (After)life in Byzantium") presented papers at the panel "Ethnicity and Multiculturalism in Herodotus: Through Others' Eyes" at the 9th Celtic Conference in Classics at University College Dublin, Eire (June 22-25, 2016). Organized by Thomas Figueira and Carmen Soares (Coimbra), this panel belongs to a broader initiative to strengthen intellectual dialogue between Lusophone ancient historians and classicists in Portugal and Brazil and North Americans. See <https://sites.google.com/site/celticclassics2016/programme> (pp. 23-24). Sarolta and Tom were joined by other Rutgers presenters, Emily Allen-Hornblower (Classics) and Classics doctoral candidates Steven Brandwood and Brian Hill. The videocast of a paper by Gregory Nagy (Director of the Center for Hellenic Studies, Harvard University) and a colloquium with the participants in the panel can be viewed at <https://youtu.be/hVj4t6mTtic>.

Temma Kaplan. "North Carolina on My Mind," I first became involved in North Carolina politics in 1992 and 1993 when I had a grant from the National Humanities Center to write my book *CRAZY FOR DEMOCRACY: WOMEN IN GRASSROOTS MOVEMENTS* (Routledge, 1997). While doing research on the environmental crisis at Love Canal outside Buffalo, New York, I repeatedly came across footnotes about the environmental justice movement in Warren County, North Carolina, and one of its leaders, Dollie Burwell. I got in touch with Dollie and, after numerous hours of interviews, we became close friends. Unlike Love Canal, where toxic wastes had been seeping into basements and perhaps causing cancer and birth defects among the lower middle-class families who lived there, Warren County was chosen as the destination for toxic wastes laced with PCBs that had been dribbled over the roads of fourteen counties in North Carolina in 1978 when it had become illegal to dump them in New Jersey as had been done previously.

Dollie Burwell along with her minister and neighbors fought against the state's scraping up the wastes and disposing of them in their county seemingly because it was poor and predominantly black. In September 1982, in an attempt to stop the trucks carrying toxic wastes to the recently created dump, Dollie and her neighbors carried out massive acts of civil disobedience and launched what is known as the environmental justice movement against environmental racism.

Again working on a history of grassroots movements in comparative perspective, I recently returned to the South and joined Dollie's friends the 94-year-old Ms. Rosanell Eaton, her daughter Armenta Eaton, the Reverend Doctor William Barber II, head of the NAACP in North Carolina, and other plaintiffs in Richmond, Virginia, where the Fourth Circuit Court was meeting on June 21, 2016 to decide whether my companions and their allies, the U.S. Justice Department, the League of Women Voters, the NAACP and a dozen other Civil Rights organizations were accurate in their claim that North Carolina's altered voting regulations robbed them of their civil rights.

Ms. Rosanell had been voting since she turned 21, when she could recite the preamble to the Constitution when asked to do so. But, on the very day in 2013 that a majority of the Supreme Court declared a part of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 unconstitutional, the North Carolina legislature imposed some of the most discriminatory voting constraints in the nation. The state ruled that voting required a picture ID (excluding the identity cards of those receiving welfare bene-

fits) and mandated greater restrictions on when and where people could vote, thereby disenfranchising many of NC's poor Black and Latino voters. Those who know the history of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 or recently realized its significance through the film, "Selma," will recognize how valiantly people fought for and even died to secure such rights. But few people are familiar with the technical issues, such as having the government pre-approve the election laws of certain states with long traditions of discrimination. Yet, on the same day that the majority of the Supreme Court ruled that states no longer had to apply to the Department of Justice for permission before they changed voting procedures in their states, and North Carolina demonstrated its eagerness to roll back the clock, Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg excoriated the court: "Throwing out preclearance when it has worked and is continuing to work to stop discriminatory changes is like throwing away your umbrella in a rainstorm because you are not getting wet." If the Fourth Circuit Court sides with her, it could possibly reverse the new voting restrictions before the November elections and re-enfranchise thousands of voters. Stay tuned.

Aldo Lauria Santiago. I have been finishing a rough draft of a labor/class history of the Puerto Rican community in New York City from 1910 to 1970. Will likely be a very long book. I've also drafted shorter books on Puerto Rican youth rebellions against the police in the 1960s and 1970s and US labor recruitment in Puerto Rico during WWI. With Lorin Thomas, chair of history at Rutgers Camden, we drafted a history of Puerto Rican rights movements in the US and are now looking for a publisher. I'm also returning to work on El Salvador with a brief study of cold-war era repression during the late 1940s and 1950s.

Jackson Lears. Things have been humming in the Lears household and its satellite branches. Jackson, who continues to steer the Raritan Quarterly toward uncharted waters, will be a Visiting Fellow in 2016-7 in the Institute for Advanced Studies in Culture at the University of Virginia, working on a cultural history of animal spirits in Anglo-American economic and intellectual life. Karen is putting together a major exhibit of her art work, to open at the Johnson and Johnson International Headquarters in New Brunswick in January 2018. Adin, having received her Ph.D. in Medieval English at Cornell, is now an Assistant Professor at SUNY-Oswego. And Rachel, who just finished a documentary film on "The New Fight for Voting Rights," has just presented us (in March) with our first grandchild, Max Blotnick-Lears--already a strapping lad of seventeen pounds with a fine set of pipes. Compared to parenthood, grandparenthood is a piece of cake!

Gary A. Rendsburg, the Blanche and Irving Laurie Professor of Jewish History, spent Summer 2015 in Cambridge, England, affiliated with both the University of Cambridge and Tyndale House. At the former he researched manuscripts of the book of Samuel held by the Taylor-Schechter Genizah Research Unit; while at the latter he was busy at work writing a commentary on the book of Samuel. During Fall 2015, Prof. Rendsburg was on sabbatical, spending most of the time at UCLA, where he made further progress on the Samuel commentary. During academic year 2015-2016, he delivered lectures at UCLA, SUNY-Purchase, and Renaissance Weekend. He published nine articles in various journals and monograph collections dealing with such topics as the history of the Hebrew language, the literature of the Bible, and medieval Hebrew manuscripts. In addition, he co-edited a volume, "Did I Not Bring Israel Out of Egypt?" *Biblical, Archaeological, and Egyptological Perspectives on the Exodus Narratives*, published by Eisenbrauns.

Walter Rucker. I had a very busy and productive second year in the department. My second single-authored monograph, *Gold Coast*

Diasporas: Identity, Culture, and Power (Indiana University Press, 2015), appeared in August; I finished revisions for two solicited chapters for anthologies appearing in 2016-17—"Earth from a Dead Negro's Grave": Ritual Technologies and Mortuary Realms in the Eighteenth-Century Gold Coast Diaspora," in Rebecca Shumway and Trevor Getz, eds., *Slavery and Its Legacy in Ghana and the Diaspora* (Bloomsbury) and "American Slavery and Resistance," in Thomas Buchanan, ed., *Slavery and the United States: An Historiographical Approach* (Kent State University Press); and I have started work on a chapter solicited for an anthology edited by James Mellis on African American hoodoo, conjure, and related ritual practices in slavery and beyond.

In addition to the new and forthcoming publications, I survived the first-year of a two-year term—split by a much needed sabbatical—as Vice Chair for Graduate Education. During an unprecedented year in which 15 Ph.D. students earned external fellowships or internships, we turned an expected \$77,000 program budget deficit into a significant surplus; recruited 12 diverse and dynamic new Ph.D. students; funded every eligible sixth-, seventh-, and eighth-year student in good academic standing; and, with the leadership and assistance of Jennifer Mittelstadt, organized a series of professional development workshops on public history, publications, conference presentations, and fellowship proposals. In addition, History was one of a small handful of departments which had every TA/GA PDF application forwarded to the Graduate School awarded funding during the Summer 2016 cycle. 30 current students received funding through this process—the highest count for any graduate program on campus. Also, seven of nine first years received Pre-Dissertation or Special Study Grants (though all nine received summer funding from other internal and external sources). All of this success occurred as we made necessary adjustments to our funding allocation system, residency requirements, and the definition of "good academic standing." I dare say the successes of this year puts to rest concerns about the proliferation of a neoliberal administrative philosophy.

I also survived a stint as Director of the Rutgers Women's Rights and Community Service-Learning Program in Ghana this summer (May 27 to July 1). I recruited and led 13 Rutgers undergraduate students from a range of majors—Public Health, Political Science, Women's and Gender Studies, and Public Policy—on a five-week experiential study tour, academic course, and service-learning internships with various women's empowerment NGOs in Accra, Ghana. The students had an impactful time and many plan to visit Ghana again in the near future.

In 2016-17, I look forward to a much slower year and to taking Ayinde—now 18-months old—to the nearby parks in Metuchen for playtime as often as possible.

Nancy Sinkoff. I had a full year running the Center for European Studies (CES), designing new courses, and working on my scholarship. The highlight of the year was running a new course, "Exile under Nazism and Communism" with a 1-credit global field experience to Poland, "A Tale of Two Uprisings." In May, I—with Assistant Dean Karima Bouchenafa of the SAS-HP—took twelve students to Warsaw and Cracow, with two day trips to Nowa Huta ("New Steelworks"), a model of Soviet urban planning now part of Cracow's municipality, and to Auschwitz-Birkenau, the complex of concentration and extermination camps, respectively. The field experience introduced students not only to the complexities of Polish history and to its shifting geography in the modern period, but also to the various ways in

which the past is remembered, commemorated, and taught. They kept a terrific blog of their experiences, which you can access here: <https://ataleoftwoupisings.wordpress.com/>. After the students flew home, I made a day trip to Gdańsk to explore the possibility of including this stunning port city in a future field experience.

I published "From the Archives: Lucy S. Dawidowicz and the Restitution of Jewish Cultural Property," *American Jewish History*, and my interview with journalist Paweł Smoleński, "Żyd Jego Książęcej Wysokości/The Jew of His Royal Highness," appeared in *Gazeta Wyborcza*: <http://wyborcza.pl/alehistoria/1,147738,18614281,zyd-jego-ksiazceja-wysokosci.html>



I will be on fellowship leave next academic year at the Institute for Advanced Study, School of Historical Studies in Princeton, and plan on finishing my biography of Lucy S. Dawidowicz and seeing a co-edited volume on Sara Levy between covers.

Paola Tartakoff received a fellowship from the Israel Institute for Advanced Studies to spend academic year 2016–2017 in Jerusalem as part of a research group on the history of Jewish women. She also received a fellowship from the European Institutes for Advanced Study (EURIAS). She published "Testing Boundaries: Jewish Conversion and Cultural Fluidity in Medieval Europe, 1200–1391" in *Speculum: A Journal of Medieval Studies* and continues to work on her book-in-progress, *Conversion, Circumcision, and Ritual Murder in Medieval Europe*. She published a review of David Nirenberg, *Neighboring Faiths: Christianity, Islam, and Judaism in the Middle Ages and Today* (Chicago, 2014) in *The Association for Jewish Studies Review*. She spoke at Harvard on "The Deacon and the Jewess: Conversion to Judaism in Medieval Spain and Beyond" and gave a paper at the Jewish History Colloquium at Yale titled "From Conversion to Crucifixion: Circumcision's Connotations in Christian Europe." She also spoke on "Conversos, Inquisitors, and the Problem of Indeterminate Circumcisions" at the Americal Historical Association conference, on "Circumcision and Identity Change in the Wake of Lateran IV" at the Concilium Lateranense IV conference in Rome, and on "Apostates' Children and the Jewish Community in Medieval Europe" at the Association for Jewish Studies conference.

Mark Wasserman. Stanford University Press published my *Pesos and Politics: Business, Elite, Foreigners, and Government in Mexico, 1854-1940* in May 2015. The book won the Arthur P. Whitaker Prize for the best book written by a member of the Middle Atlantic Council on Latin American Studies for 2015. I completed a year as a fellow at the Institute for Research on Women as a participant in an interdisciplinary seminar on Poverty. I presented a paper at the IRW on "Poor People and the Mexican Revolution." I also chaired and acted as commentator on a panel "Pesos and Politics: New Views on Mexican Business History," at the Rocky Mountain Council on Latin American Studies in March. In June I presented a paper at the Conference on Mining History, "Tragedy or Opportunity: Mining in the Mexican Revolution."

I am currently supervising four dissertations and I am a member of another seven dissertation committees.

I have served the University as a member of the School of Arts and Sciences Core Curriculum Evaluation Committee and the University Senate's Budget and Finance Committee.

Alumni News

It has been a while since **Margo Anderson** (1978) and **Steve Meyer** (1977) have sent something. Though Steve retired from UW-Milwaukee five years ago as a consequence of the Wisconsin labor struggles, Margo persists working at UWM in the classroom and in faculty governance on the Wisconsin tenure battles. Margo recently published a revised and updated edition of her *The American Census: A Social History* (Yale University Press, 2015) and a few years ago began, with colleagues at UWM and Marquette University, a large NEH funded project on *The Encyclopedia of Milwaukee* (emke.uwm.edu), both digital and hard-copy versions. A few years ago, she became a distinguished professor at UW Milwaukee. Without the pressures of work in UWM departmental administration and in faculty governance, Steve has finally managed to finish and publish a long delayed book, *Manhood on the Line* (University of Illinois Press, 2016), a gendered history of the positive virtues and negative values of male auto workers. Our children fled the nest some time ago, though a son and daughter remain in Wisconsin in Madison and Milwaukee respectively, a daughter is in Austin, Texas, and a son in our homeland, New York. We thoroughly enjoy our four grandchildren Graham, Liam, Stella, and Theo, aged from six to twelve.

Lindsay Braun. Since receiving tenure at the University of Oregon in May 2015, I've been on a long-overdue sabbatical and spent most of my year in South African archives and libraries chasing data for three new projects. The central one, on geography in colonial Africa from Egypt to South Africa, is currently expanding to Zimbabwe, Uganda, Zambia, and Tanzania. Those countries have some frustrating and slow clearance processes, but in the meantime there is plenty of other work to do before I return to campus in September. Otherwise, my wife and I have been enjoying our new home in Eugene, and we are doing our best this summer to relax for the first time in many, many years.

James Casteel (2005). This academic year has been a good one for me. I received tenure at Carleton University in Ottawa where I teach at the Institute of European, Russian, and Eurasian Studies and the College of Humanities. I also completed my book *Russia in the German Global Imaginary: Imperial Visions and Utopian Desires, 1905-1941* which was published by the University of Pittsburgh Press in their Pitt Series in Russian and East European Studies in May 2016. This year has also been my first sabbatical, which has been great for finishing up the final touches on the book and to begin working on a new project that will explore the role of memory among Russian German and Russian Jewish migrants from the former Soviet Union to Germany since 1989. I was in Berlin in November to present preliminary work for that project at a conference on the "Russian Germans in Comparative Perspective" organized by the Federal Institute for Culture and History of the Germans from Eastern Europe and the Institute of Migration Research and Intercultural Studies at the University of Osnabrück. Otherwise, Sarah and I have our hands full chasing our three kids, now 3, 7, and 10. We're taking them with us on a research trip to Berlin this summer which should be an adventure!

Amrita Chakrabarti Myers. Greetings from Bloomington, Indi-

ana! It seems hard to believe that I just finished my 11th year of teaching at IU. It's even harder to recall that my first book came out in 2011, and I earned tenure in 2012. Since then I've been working on my second book, an examination of interracial sex in antebellum America, focusing in large part on the relationship of Vice President Richard Mentor Johnson and his long-time sexual partner, Julia Chinn. I am wrapping up the research for that project this summer and will be drafting the manuscript while on leave in January. I've also been doing more programming work on campus, and am now coordinating an annual lecture series that brings together national speakers and local Bloomington activists and scholars to discuss issues of injustice in America. I brought Rutgers friend and colleague, Jelani Cobb, to campus last year, in the inaugural teach-in on Black Lives Matter and issues of state violence and incarceration. Next year, black women and gender violence will take center stage as Historian Kali Gross comes to campus to discuss the Say Her Name movement. Finally, I am delighted to announce that I was just named the Ruth N. Halls Associate Professor of History and Gender Studies here at IU. I am humbled by the honor and excited to see what the future holds. I hope to see many of you at various conferences in the year to come, and if you are ever passing through Indiana, please do reach out. There is always a place in my home for my Rutgers compadres.

Vincent J. Cirillo (1999). In June my article titled "'I am the Baby Killer!': House Flies and the Spread of Polio" was published in *American Entomologist*, 62(2): 83-85 (2016). In addition, as a longtime Sherlock Holmes aficionado, I have a letter-to-the-editor titled "Empty Logic behind the Great Hiatus" scheduled to appear in this December's issue of the *Sherlock Holmes Journal* (London).

On the home front, my 12-year-old grandson, Joseph, is still competing in junior drag racing at Raceway Park in Englishtown, New Jersey. This year he received the Daniel Lorenzo, Jr. Memorial Sportsmanship Award, because he lent his race car to a friend whose car had developed a cracked chassis. By doing so, Joseph knowingly jeopardized his chances for a victory that would have qualified him for a coveted berth at the NHRA Summernationals. "Greater love hath no man than this"

Elaine R. Cusker. My husband **Joseph Cusker** - PhD (a Warren Susman student) and I are RU History alums - Elaine has an MA. While he is retired and I am not, we assist at the University at Buffalo commencement each year and the *Buffalo News* took and published our photo. The picture really does justice to the Rutgers doctoral robe on Joe!!



Luis-Alejandro Dinnella-Borrego (2013). My new book, *The Risen Phoenix: Black Politics in the Post-Civil War South* has been published by the University of Virginia Press. My co-advisors were Ann Fabian and Mia Bay and my committee included Jackson Lears, David Greenberg, and Eric Foner of Columbia University.

Finis Dunaway (2001). I was very surprised and delighted to learn that my recent book, *Seeing Green: The Use and Abuse of American Environmental Images*, was selected to receive the following awards: the John G. Cawelti Award for the best scholarly book in Popular and American Culture from the Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association; the AEJMC History Division Book Award for the best book in Journalism and Mass Communication History from the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication; and an Honorable Mention for a PROSE Award in Media and Cultural Studies from the Association of American Publishers. I was recently promoted to full professor at Trent University, where I teach courses in US history, visual culture, and environmental studies. I also now serve as the Gallery and Graphics Editor for the journal *Environmental History*. I am currently researching the history and imaginative geographies of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, a remote area in northeastern Alaska that has become one of the most contested landscapes in modern North America. At first, our kids were quite excited: they thought that this research would involve me going into the wilderness to follow a massive herd of caribou migrating around Alaska and northern Canada. They were rather disappointed to learn that I would instead be spending all my time reading books, scouring archives, and interviewing activists and photographers. In the fall, this research took me to Berkeley, California, where I had the great pleasure of having dinner with John and Tina Gillis. Dana Capell and I continue to enjoy living in Peterborough, Ontario, with Max (now 11) and Zoe (now 8). We are all dual citizens now, which means that we carry eight passports (conveniently enough, all with different expiration dates). We welcome inquiries from potential experts.

Darcie Fontaine. I have had a busy and productive couple of years, and am pleased to announce that my first monograph *Decolonizing Christianity: Religion and the End of Empire in France and Algeria* has just been published with Cambridge University Press, in large part thanks to the generous assistance of many Rutgers faculty and alums. I'm still teaching at the University of South Florida in Tampa, and working on a bunch of new projects, including a textbook on the modern French empire. Aaron is teaching film studies and production at the University of Tampa, and we mostly spend whatever free time we have trying to keep our crazy golden retriever entertained.

Leigh-Anne Francis. In March 2015, Leigh-Anne Francis accepted a tenure track position at The College of New Jersey in the departments of Women and Gender Studies and African American Studies. She's glad to be back in New Jersey with her wife, Jenny, and their 2 year old twin sons, Rustin and Langston.

David Fowler (GSNB '87) contributed an article to the forthcoming 250th Anniversary commemorative issue of *The Journal of the*

Rutgers University Libraries (volume 68, no. 1). Entitled "Benevolent Patriot: The Life and Times of Henry Rutgers," it includes an introduction that highlights certain aspects of the university namesake's life and places him in context, along with a longer narrative that deals with his progenitors in the New World and his own life from 1745 to the outbreak of hostilities with Britain in 1776. Part II, which will be published in the fall issue of *JRUL* (volume 68, no. 2), includes two articles that deal with Rutgers's Revolutionary war service and his postwar life up to 1800. The articles expand upon my biographical essay "Benevolent Patriot: Henry Rutgers, 1745-1830" (2010), which can be found on the university's institutional repository, RUCore. The Henry Rutgers biography project is affiliated with Special Collections and University Archives, Rutgers University Libraries.

Sarah Gordon. I am happily and busily employed as a Fellow at the Center for Women's History at the New-York Historical Society. I'd like to thank Paul Clemens and Nancy Hewitt for their support. I am involved with a range of projects including exhibits, public and educational programming, and a collections program, and was especially pleased to have the opportunity to work with Alice Kessler-Harris on her MOOC (Massive Open Online Course) entitled *Women have Always Worked*. Please come visit the Center when we open in March of 2017!

Beth Griech-Polelle has moved from Bowling Green State University in Ohio to the position of Kurt Mayer Chair in Holocaust Studies at Pacific Lutheran University. Her latest book, *Anti-Semitism and the Holocaust: Language, Rhetoric, and the Traditions of Hatred* is forthcoming with Bloomsbury Publishing, UK this summer/fall 2016.

Atina Grossman (1984). A quick report from summer in Berlin where I find myself in the midst of three forthcoming publications, numerous conferences and workshops, and dreaming of a sabbatical for 2017-18 that will allow me to *really* focus on the central ongoing project about "*Remapping Survival: Jewish Refugees and Lost Memories of Displacement, Trauma, and Rescue in the Soviet Union, Iran, and India*," as well as the entanglements of family memoir and historical scholarship.

Co-editors Mark Edele, Sheila Fitzpatrick and myself recently sent off – ready for peer review – our volume on Shelter from the Holocaust: Rethinking Jewish Survival in the Soviet Union to be published by Wayne State University Press. The collection of articles on deportation and evacuation of Jews in the Soviet Union during the second World War brings together (we think!) some of the most up-to-date scholarship on a long-neglected aspect of Holocaust history.

Avi Patt, Maud Mandel, Linda Levi and I are also almost ready to submit another edited volume to Wayne State University Press, discussing the quite extraordinary history of the transnational Jewish relief organization, "Joint," the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, primarily in the years from the first world war through the post-Holocaust/World War II era.

In between I am trying to work on a long delayed collection of documents on Jewish DPs in postwar Germany, co-edited with Tamar Lewinsky and Avi Patt, to be published by the Dubnow

Institute for East European Jewish History of Leipzig University.

All this after an intense year at Cooper to which I returned in September 2015 after a year away; two semesters at the Humboldt University in Berlin (the exhausting wonders of different academic calendars, so that one can go straight from US spring semester into German “summer” semester) and then a much too short luxurious spring term at the Davis Center for Historical Research in Princeton which allowed for some sustained work on my “Refugee Jews in Central Asia, India, and India” project. And just to prove that the old adage “no good deed goes unpunished” retains all validity, for my sins of having been active in the (so far failed) effort to restore free tuition (or as the Trustees and administration prefer to say, full scholarship) to Cooper Union, no sooner had I set foot back on campus, I was pulled into serving as the Humanities and Social Sciences Faculty “observer” on the Board of Trustees and as the faculty “observer” on the BOT’s court-mandated Free Education Committee which is charged with figuring out how to undo the tuition decision or explain why even after a good faith multi-year effort the move cannot in fact be reversed. Needless to say, I have been learning, and spending huge amounts of time on, things that I never wanted to know about in the first place – like spreadsheets and IPEDs (those administrators among you will know that is, I still don’t understand but it has something to do with how many people are getting paid how much to do what....needless to say it’s not the academic staff that is “overpaid”).

As always, many conferences including a challenging meeting June 26-30 on the entangled global histories of the Holocaust, Genocide and mass violence, held at the Hebrew University in the shadow of ongoing conflict. Also side trips to workshops in Dachau, Graz, and Prague (international summer school on “Nationalism, Religion, and Violence in Europe”) and one more summer school lecture coming up at the POLIN Jewish Museum in Warsaw before heading back in late July to my son Max’s transnational wedding stretching in various pieces from New York to Kerala. And maybe a bit of tourism and vacation.

Then on to another year of institutional labor at Cooper, while hoping for a year off to continue work on the Transnational Refugee Stories (also a family history of the ambivalences of refuge in Iran and British India) as well as a volume (primarily for teaching purposes) on gender and the Holocaust, co-written with Dorota Glowacka.

Craig Harline continues to teach and write at Brigham Young University, but is thankfully on leave during calendar-year 2016, thanks to one of the new NEH Public Scholar fellowships. He is using it to write one of the legions of books sure to be published about Martin Luther in 2017 to commemorate the 500th year of the 95 Theses. His is meant to stand out for its slight rearrangement of words, its focus on just the first four years of Luther’s troubles, its relentless sixteenth-century setting, and its targeting of a decidedly general (thus public) audience—all of which might help it just a very little, alas. Currently titled *Wild Boar: The Exceedingly Troubled and Yes Starling Rise of Dr. Martin Luther, Friar*, it will be published by the

trade division of Oxford University Press in November 2017. His Dutch-language book *Jacobs vlucht: een familiesaga van de Gouden Eeuw*, a three-generation story of a Netherlandish preaching family with some seriously troubled (and also brave) members, is more riveting than it sounds, he promises, and will appear in November 2016 in the Netherlands. He loved seeing President Obama in the paper wearing the scarlet robes of Rutgers, and sends best wishes to all of his former teachers and classmates.

Rita Heller (1986). Professor William L. O’Neill, who recently passed, set very high standards of scholarship and mentorship for me when I pursued my Ph.D. In his prolific career, he modeled meticulous research as well as clear, non-ideological writing which generally provided both sides of a divisive issue. Professor O’Neill also served as Chief Consultant on my National Endowment for the Humanities documentary film, *The Women of Summer, The Bryn Mawr Summer School for Women Workers, 1921-1938*, which I produced from my history dissertation of the same name.

Osamu Ishii. In May, 2015 my 500-page book on the Nixon Administration and East Asia came out (in Japanese). For the last 20 years I have been compiling US diplomatic/national security documents ---- with introductory essays, which are published twice a year.

Peter Larson. This is a period of transition for me. This past December I stepped down from being Graduate Director after 5 ½ years. I spent the spring on a sabbatical to focus on my new monograph, *Community and Change: The Transformations of a Northeastern Parish, c. 1383-c. 1662*. What started as a socio-cultural study of how ordinary English men and women experienced the transition from medieval to early modern has turned into something larger, using this case study to complicate the narrative of the development of agrarian capitalism (which is mainly based on central and eastern England) and from there the larger debate on economic development. This summer I’ve done a little more archival work and attended the general meeting of the Selden Society in London and the XIIth Anglo-American Seminar on the Medieval Economy and Society in Stirling. Sadly, the timing of this trip means I have seen the fallout of the Brexit vote first hand.

In the fall, I will be interim Chair of my department. I am looking forward to the challenge. We have several new hires coming in with ideas and energy, and a number of digital and public history programs ready to move to the next level, although not all of what will happen will be happy; one of our major activities will be helping to preserve the history of the Orlando Pulse massacre and the local responses. Whether I return to the faculty after a year as chair or remain in the position is up in the air.

Lynn Mahoney and **Charles Ponce de Leon** are emerging from a period of transition. After six-and-a-half years as an administrator at Cal State Long Beach, Lynn became the Provost and Vice-President for Academic Affairs at Cal State Los Angeles in February 2015. Her new position is enormously challenging,

but the work, overseeing the academic side of the house at an institution that largely serves low-income, first-generation Latino students, is very rewarding. She has already begun to make the kinds of changes at LA that were so impactful when she and her colleagues instituted them at Long Beach, which contributed to a dramatic increase in the number of degrees that the university awarded. She and Charlie continue to live in Irvine, which makes for a hellish 38-mile commute (each way!) along the nation's most congested freeway. It gives her lots of time to listen to music, podcasts, and the news (anything but the election, please!). She continues to enjoy working out, hiking, cooking, going to restaurants, and drinking wine with friends.

Charlie is still teaching at Cal State Long Beach, where he is now Professor of History and American Studies (having gone through the review, tenure, and promotion process twice, first at Purchase College). He published his most recent book, *That's the Way It Is: A History of Television News in America* (University of Chicago Press), in May 2015. His new research project is on *Rolling Stone* magazine and politics and culture of the "Long Seventies." He very much enjoys teaching at CSULB. The students are diverse and hard-working and display very little of the sense of entitlement that is a supposed hallmark of their generation. His colleagues in the History department are wonderful, too: friendly and down-to-earth, working on interesting projects, and really engaged and inspiring teachers. Like Lynn, Charlie enjoys working out, hiking, and food and wine. Their children, Caroline and Christopher, are pretty much out of the house and involved in their careers. Caroline, who graduated with an Econ degree from UCLA, works as a merchandiser for Old Navy in San Francisco. She lives with fellow Bruins in the Cow Hollow section of the city and enjoys SF. Christopher has just completed his junior year at Stanford, where he is majoring in Computer Science. He will be working this summer as a software engineering intern for Google in Zurich. Like his father, he is a supporter of the Arsenal Football Club and has become accustomed to yearly episodes of disappointment and frustration.

Laurie Marhoefer. In fall 2015 I published *Sex and the Weimar Republic: German Homosexual Emancipation and the Rise of the Nazis* (Toronto), which is based on my Rutgers dissertation. It's about the fight for sexual liberation in Weimar-era Germany, home of the world's first gay rights movement, and the diverse set of actors who contested sexual norms -- from the famous German-Jewish sexologist Magnus Hirschfeld to the inadvertently openly gay Nazi Ernst Roehm to the transgender activist Lotte Hahm. (It's out in an affordable paperback -- perfect for course adoptions!) Though everything I do professionally is Rutgers-related in some way, I had another closely Rutgers-related thing happen this year, which is that an article on lesbian sexuality and transgender in Nazi Germany that began life as my seminar paper for the Modern European Research Seminar taught by Matt Matsuda was accepted for publication in the *American Historical Review*; it will be out in Fall 2016. Thanks to Matt as well as to the other students in that seminar, Terry Younghwa and Rachel Schnepfer, for their comments on many versions of the semi-

nar paper. But most important of all: in January 2016, Stephanie Clare and I welcomed Harriet Marhoefer Clare. Her arrival raised the total number of what I now increasing refer to as "our small family" (despite still standing ready to join the queer revolution and smash both family and state!) to four, our loyal fourth being beloved orange dog Tigger Blackclaw. This third item, too, has a Rutgers angle: Stephanie and I met in a class in the basement of Van Dyck.

Joseph (Jay) P. Moore. I'm sure you're looking for some upbeat news for the newsletter. But that's not what I've got. Despite having a Rutgers History PhD (2011) on top of over 20 years of college teaching as an adjunct, I have not been able to find a "real job." It's been very depressing. I am reduced to being a low-paid "content provider" for a couple of online colleges where the courses are already designed and you are monitored like a school child. I was also working online grading SAT essay exams for Pearson, but that went away at the first of the year when the essay was made optional. I liked Rutgers and the great people but now I'm wondering if it was worth it.

Erika Rappaport, Professor of History at the University of California, Santa Barbara, recently co-edited *Consuming Behaviors: Identities, Politics and Pleasure in Twentieth-Century Britain* (Bloomsbury, 2015). Next year, *A Thirst for Empire: How Tea Shaped the Modern World* will be published by Princeton University Press.

Juan C. Santamarina (1995). After four years as chair of the University of Dayton Department of History I have agreed to serve for another term of four years. Supporting good student work, supporting faculty scholarship and innovation, and creating a space wherein the life of the mind can flourish, from my perspective, is the cornerstone of the job and it has been very rewarding. Days are very few wherein something really interesting hasn't happened! In terms of research projects, revision of my completed book continues and I also continue to work on documentary films on Cuba. *Cuba: The Forgotten Revolution* aired on PBS this past year via American Public Television and in the fall 2016 *Cuba: A Lifetime of Passion* will also air on PBS via American Public Television. Finally, I have continued to travel a significant amount, Croatia, Slovenia, Italy, Peru, Argentina, and Chile were highlights this past year.

Emily Westkaemper (2009). Since 2010, I have been teaching at James Madison University. This year I was granted tenure and promotion to associate professor, which will go into effect in August. At JMU my courses include the U.S. history survey, American women's history, historical research methods, and the modern U.S. history course for M.A. students. My book *Selling Women's History: Packaging Feminism in Twentieth-Century American Popular Culture* is forthcoming from Rutgers University Press in January 2017. I am enjoying research for a second book project on American popular culture's depictions of women's employment in business and professions.

Ann Fabian Day

April 1st was Ann Fabian Day this year at Rutgers. To raise our collective spirits after we heard of her imminent retirement, the department held a conference and lunch in her honor. The conference was titled "Material Girl: Ann Fabian and the Cultural History of Everyday Life" and included intellectual (and material) gifts presented by Mia Bay, Beryl Satter, Jon Butler, Melissa Cooper, Kelly Enright, Melanie Kiechle, Seth Koven, Karen Routledge, and Kirsten Swinth. Topics ranged from threshing machines and Gullah textiles to transatlantic turtles and beaded birds. It was a fitting tribute to a historian of Ann's extraordinary range and imagination. Jon Butler spoke for many of us when he called it the "best retirement event ever." We will all miss Ann more than we can adequately say (thought we tried hard on April 1), and we do hope she manages to pop in occasionally after she returns from Japan.

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Undergraduate Awards and Prizes

Departmental Awards



Edward Romano memorial Award in History and Public Service. This year's winner was Sharon Aguirre. This award honors the memory of History Honors student and Lloyd C. Gardner fellow in Leadership and Social Policy; it is awarded to a student who combines a passion for historical study with a commitment to activism and public service.

Martin Siegel Prize. This year's prize was awarded to Zachary White for his thesis *Muslim Refugees from the Balkans: Leaving the Homeland, Not Returning to It*. This prize was established in honor of Dr. Martin Siegel, a Rutgers College history major of the late 1940s. The prize is awarded annually to a student whose work in the History Seminar is judged to be best that year.

Michele S. Hirshman Scholarships. This award provides valuable support so that four to six students can study abroad each year. This year funds supported Chelsie Riche, Cecilia Harris, Kelsey Haddorff, Savannah Demande, Elisheva Rosen, Joanna Lampa, Tierra Brown, and Patrick Travens.

James Reed Award in Public Speaking. The winner of the award this year is Siri Nesheim for her Honors Conference presentation of her thesis *Courtly Love: Reality and Fiction of Court Literature in the Middle Ages*. Named in honor of longtime History professor, James W. Reed, this award to the student who makes the most effective oral presentation at the annual Rutgers History honors conference.

Harold Poor Prizes. This year's winners are Nicole Mordarski, Cody Beltis and Mohammad Athar. This award is made possible through the support of Professor Emeritus Philip Greven and the History Department to honor the memory of a beloved Professor and colleague, Harold Poor. It recognizes three of the top honors theses each year.

Ceil Parker Lawson Prize. This year's winners are Maxine Wagenhoffer and Zachary Goldfarb. Endowed by Steven Lawson and Nancy Hewitt in memory of Professor Lawson's mother, this award goes to two students who have written outstanding honors theses in the field of twentieth century U.S. history.

Joseph B. Bradley Memorial Award in Roman Law. This year's winner is Daniel McCann. This award in honor of Joseph B. Bradley is awarded to a senior who has studied ancient or medieval history and who has shown an aptitude in Roman law or historical problems related to Roman Law.

University Awards in History

Margaret Atwood Judson Prize. This year's winner is Annaliese Johnson. This award administered jointly by the School of Arts and Sciences and the History Department, is awarded to a female History major whose work is in keeping with Judson's scholarly eminence and leadership.

Helen Praeger Miller Award in History. This year's winner is Maxine Wagenhoffer. This award is administered by Douglass Residential College for the Douglass student who has shown excellence in historical study.

Maurice Dupont Lee, Jr. Fellowship. This year's winner is Maxine Wagenhoffer. This award is given to a History or Art History major who is part of the Douglass Residential College to support their graduate education.



Phi Alpha Theta 2015-2016	Joseph Casais	Zachary Goldfarb	Samantha Melisi	Jenna Rutsky
	Daniela Correia	Evan Gottesman	Charles Melman	Zachary Sinkiewicz
	Evan Dave	Abigail Haresign	Ryan Modi	Jennifer Stice
Richard Alleyne	Jonathan David	Luke Heyer	Alexandra Nicolaou	Victoria Tobio
Michael Antosiewicz	Michael Denis	Winston Ho	Peter Niewrzol	Patrick Travens
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If you would like to make a gift to any of the following programs in the History Department, please complete the form below. You can also make a gift online at [http:// www.support.rutgers.edu/history](http://www.support.rutgers.edu/history). If you have any questions, please contact Paul Kuznekoff, in the School of Arts & Sciences-New Brunswick Development Office, at 848-932-6457. Thank you!

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For more on the awards and this year's winners see p. 23

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