Greetings from Alastair Bellany
Chair, Department of History

July saw the changing of the guards at Van Dyck Hall. Barbara Cooper stepped down as Chair after three years of exemplary stewardship during which she steered this large, complex and vibrant department ever onward, nimbly avoiding the treacherous whirlpools (and submerged icebergs) that the contemporary university tends to throw in our way. I had the privilege of working with Barbara for a year as her Associate Chair and another year as her acting Vice-Chair for Graduate Education, so I know all too well how hard an act she is to follow. The department remains deeply in her debt.

With a new Chair comes a new administrative team. Johanna Schoen succeeds Chie Ikeya as Associate Chair; Jamie Pietruska succeeds Melissa Feinberg as Vice-Chair for Undergraduate Education (for a one-year term through 2018-19); and Jennifer Mittelstadt succeeds Walter Rucker as Vice-Chair for Graduate Education. As early modern political moralists never tired of explaining, the secret to good governance is counsel, and I feel fortunate going forward with such a stellar team of vice-chairs. I know I am also very lucky to work alongside the department’s superb administrative staff whose daily labors keep the office running.

The department was its usual busy self in 2017-18, and space permits only a cursory look at some of the highlights. Searches in Modern Latin American and in Global History resulted in two wonderful additions to the faculty—Yesenia Barragan, a post-doctoral fellow at Dartmouth and author of an excellent 2016 Columbia dissertation, “To the Mine I Will Not Go: Freedom and Emancipation on the Colombian Pacific, 1821-1852”; and Tatiana Seijas, who comes to us from Penn State and whose important first book, *Asian Slaves in Colonial Mexico: From Chinos to Indians* (Cambridge, 2014), was the winner of the 2014 Berkshire Conference of Women Historians Book Prize. We had a full raft of tenure and promotion cases again this past year, and all made it safely through. Andrew Urban was promoted to Associate Professor with tenure; Carolyn Brown, James Delbourgo and Melissa Feinberg were all promoted to Full Professor; while Camilla Townsend was promoted to Distinguished Professor. Three faculty members received University awards for their teaching: Jamie Pietruska received a School of Arts and Sciences Award for Distinguished Contribution to Undergraduate Education; Andy Urban won the Presidential Fellowship for Teaching Excellence; and Seth Koven received an Excellence in Teaching and Mentoring Award from the School of Graduate Studies.

The department welcomed a steady stream of visitors during 2017-18 to speak in our ongoing lecture series in American and European history. This year saw the launch of the “Bonnie G. Smith Lectures” as a special subset of the long-running “Distinguished Lectures in European History” series. The inaugural Smith lecture, on “The Life and Death of the Russian Revolution”, was given by Yuri Slezkine (UC-Berkeley) in early December; and the Spring semester offering was given by Sanjay Subrahmanym (UCLA), who spoke on “How to be a ‘Citoyen du Monde’: French Travelers in the Age of Louis XIV”. The “Interpreting American History Graduate Workshop and Lecture Series” held its inaugural “Deborah Gray White Distinguished Race and Gender History Lecture” in March, with a talk by Crystal Feimster (Yale) on “Rape and Mutiny in the Civil War”. We look forward to many more great lectures honoring and building upon the transformative scholarship of our two remarkable colleagues.
Exploring the History of New Jersey Latino/a Communities

Lilia Fernández

New Jersey has a remarkably diverse, though largely understudied, Latino population. In 2016, according to the American Community Survey, people who identify as Hispanic or Latino were estimated to number over 1.7 million making them nearly 20 percent of all New Jersey residents. Yet we know very little about their roots. Who are the Garden State’s Latinos? What is their history? This summer, seven Rutgers undergraduates and History Ph.D. student, Carie Rael, worked with Professor Lilia Fernández to find out as part of the Latino New Jersey History Project. Their goal was to research, document, and record the history of New Jersey’s diverse Latino populations.

The team included Amy Castillo (Criminology and Latino and Caribbean Studies ’20); Tania Mota (Journalism and Media Studies and Latino and Caribbean Studies ’20); Aracely Ortega, (Sociology and Africana Studies ’20); Aziel Rosado (Mathematics and Latino and Caribbean Studies ’20), Kevin Rosero (History and Political Science ’19), Laura Sandoval (Sociology ’20), and Luz Sandoval (History and Public Health ’19). Over the course of six weeks they set out to answer these other questions as well: Where have New Jersey’s Latinos come from (ethnic background/national origin)? Where have they settled and why? What has their experience been in the towns and cities where they live? How have they changed those communities with their presence?

The group used a variety of sources and methods. They gathered census data, for example, to produce maps and tables enumerating Latinos throughout the state, its counties, and its main cities and towns. Some were surprised at what they learned. While we might expect Newark, Elizabeth, and Paterson to have large Latino enclaves, few realized that New Brunswick is 56 percent Hispanic and West New York is 78 percent Hispanic (both as of 2016). Census data revealed unexpected trends and unlikely settlement destinations.

Next, students produced maps in Social Explorer and Story Maps in Arc GIS with training from Francesca Giannetti of the Digital Humanities Lab at Alexander Library. Through their map-making efforts, they were able to trace demographic changes over time, settlement patterns, and the migration stories of individuals and entire communities. The digital humanities elements of this work were supported by a grant made by possible by Professor Kristin O’Brassill-Kulfan and the Rutgers Public History Program.

Students also visited the Puerto Rican Community Archives (PRCA) at the Newark Public Library to learn about how the PRCA has collect-
ed more than one hundred oral histories over the past two decades and has gathered many archives and records of New Jersey’s Puerto Rican communities. Yesenia Lopez, the archivist and head of the New Jersey Hispanic Research and Information Center at the library, impressed upon us the longstanding community efforts to document and preserve Puerto Rican history in the state. This provided both inspiration and a model for the type of historical research Rutgers undergraduates pursued for the Latino New Jersey History Project.

Perhaps the most exciting part of the summer was completing oral histories with local residents. Shaun Illingworth and Kathryn Rizzi of the Rutgers Oral History Archives (ROHA) provided training and guidance on ethical and practical considerations in conducting oral histories. After extensive training, background research, and preparation, students went out and recorded oral history interviews with various Latino residents and community leaders in South Plainfield, Newark, New Brunswick, Paterson, and Union City, among other towns and cities. Some were able to interview members of their own communities, while others interviewed important figures like Irving Linares, the publisher of a Spanish language newspaper in Newark for the past 40 years.

Since the group created either audio or video recordings of their oral histories, they also benefited from basic video editing training at the Douglass Media Library with Stacey Carton. Jan Reinhart provided support with a/v equipment as well. With the video training, two groups of students were able to produce short videos—one on the history of New Brunswick and another on the Latino populations of Union City. These will be posted online, along with the oral histories and map projects, so they can be made available to public audiences.

The students and Professor Fernandez learned a great deal about New Jersey’s rich history. They discovered for example, that the state’s sizeable Latino population is relatively recent, having grown mostly since the mid-1980s through migration waves that brought Mexicans, South Americans, Central Americans, and Dominicans to the Garden State. In 1970, for example, the census counted only 135,656 people of “Spanish origin” (what today we generally refer to as “Latinos” or “Hispanics”), compared to the 1.5 million the census counted in 2010. The largest subgroups, as of that year, include Puerto Ricans (27% of all Latinos), Mexicans (14%), Dominicans (13%), Spaniards (7.7%), Colombians (6.5%), and Ecuadorians (6.5%). Today, one in five Jersey residents identifies with some type of Hispanic or Latino ancestry.

Professor Fernandez plans to continue the Latino New Jersey History Project in the future to keep exploring and documenting the diverse and varied origins of the state’s Hispanic communities. The maps, oral histories, and other digital humanities elements will help make this history accessible to audiences beyond the university and beyond the state.
Public History Program Update
Kristin O’Brassill-Kulfan

Students in the Public History: Theory, Method, and Practice class visit the Brooklyn Historical Society's new DUMBO museum space in Spring 2018 for a private curatorial tour.

The Department’s Public History Internship and undergraduate certificate programs continue to grow, with more students enrolling and participating in related projects each semester. Some of the most exciting highlights over the past academic year include: our public history interns led historical walking tours featuring the research from Scarlet & Black beginning in Fall 2017, bringing this important work to nearly 200 people, including Chancellor Dutta and visitors to campus on Rutgers Day this Spring. We also hosted some international public historians in November, Professors Olwen Purdue and Dominic Bryan, who offered some comparative perspective on debates over monuments, memorials, and public commemorations in the US and in Northern Ireland.

In Spring 2018, the public history class conducted a survey of historically significant sites across the New Brunswick campus, identifying sites worthy of commemoration as part of an interpretive plan for historical markers that was solicited by the office of Institutional Planning and Operations. Public history students this year also hosted and participated in a community history collection day at the New Brunswick Free Public Library, visited the Cornelius Low House, East Jersey Old Town Village, and the Brooklyn Historical Society’s new museum space in DUMBO, where they received a private tour from the curator herself.

This summer, the program is enlisting the assistance of two History students and one Sociology doctoral student to begin the research and development of a portion of the next international traveling exhibit being created by the Humanities Action Lab, which will consist of critical public historical work on contemporary policy debates surrounding climate justice, migration, and housing. Then, in Spring 2019, this work, including an integral component of the exhibit development, will be conducted in the undergraduate Public History course – a tremendous opportunity for our students to undertake hands-on public history work that will be engaged with around the globe. Cheers to what’s in store for the next year!
RECENT FACULTY BOOKS

Barbara Cooper
La honte au Sahel
Pudeur, respect, morale quotidienne

Rachel Devlin
A Girl Stands at the Door
The Generation of Young Women Who Desegregated America’s Schools

Nancy Sinkoff
Sara Levy’s World
Jenner, Judaism, and the Heroic Tradition in Enlightenment Berlin

Julia Stephens
Governing Islam
Law, Empire, and Secularism in South Asia
Faculty News

Rudy Bell: My plans for retirement in 2020 are underway and so spring 2018 turns out to have been the last semester when Don Roden and I joined to teach our undergraduate Patterns in Civilization sequence on love and death in Japan and Europe. I also will miss co-teaching with Paul Clemens on the History of Rutgers, a more recent venture in the kind of serious online offerings so desperately needed by many of our working students with familial obligations.

For the upcoming 2018-19 year I will be on a research sabbatical and devoting my efforts to seeing what can be learned about late 17th century northern Italian girlhood from the five autobiographical confessions written by a troubled nun who ultimately was canonized.

Alastair Bellany: I was fortunate to cobble together two semesters worth of sabbatical / assignment to research in 2017-18, allowing me to spend the year reading and writing for my new book, a History of the Britannic Isles, commissioned by Oxford University Press. The book begins with the first evidence of hominin presence on what would become the British Isles and will end somewhere around the Jacobite rebellion of 1715. During the fall and spring, I drafted the book’s first six chapters (2/3 of the whole), and have the story poised at the beginning of the fourteenth century and the impending arrival of famine, plague and deep-seated socio-political unrest. On the home front, I’m bracing for an empty nest as my daughter heads off to college at NYU. Her brother is a rising senior at Yale, and has spent the summer of 2018 working for the Texas Tribune covering everything from the Beto O’Rourke senate campaign to the implementation of “zero tolerance” policies on the Mexican border.

Paul Clemens: I’ve spent the last year returning to colonial history and reading the literature on early American labor that I had been away from for too long. I have also gone back for a fresh look at my project on Leopold and Loeb, a step made easier by the fact that I will be teaching my Famous Trials course this fall and use the case to look at the early 20th-century and the modern debates about capital punishment. I have continued my hiking adventures, challenging myself to return to the mountains I could handle before heart surgery a couple of years ago but also exercising common sense in what I do and don’t do. Long hikes this past summer in Rocky Mountain National Park were most rewarding.

Belinda Davis: I have taken over directorship of the Center for European Studies (CES) for the next three years—one of a number of changes for CES. Tatianna Pasley-Smith has joined CES as Senior Project Administrator, stepping into the big shoes (also administering British Studies and Medieval Studies) left by long-time administrator Susanna Treesh, who has retired. CES will also be moving to the new Academic Building, joining RCHA, CCA, and other centers. CES already has an impressive schedule of events set up for the fall and beyond, and we hope any and all who are interested and in the region will come join us! Events will focus on a couple of themes, including “What is Europe?,” “Democracy in Europe,” and “(Post-)Nation,” permitting us to look at many burning issues facing Europe now, as well as in the past, and its relationship with the rest of the world. My book The Inner Life of Politics: Extraparliamentary Activism in West Germany, 1962-1983 goes into press imminently with Cambridge UK. I am much looking forward to working with the new faculty and grad students who continue to make our department so superb.

Thomas Figueira: As a faculty mentor I accompanied History major Jonas Tai to the annual Sunoikisis conference of undergraduate research at the Center for Hellenic Studies (Harvard University) in Washington DC, where Jonas had been chosen to deliver a paper entitled “The Nature of Healing at the Epidaurian Asklepieion”. Figueira himself delivered two conference papers this spring: “Humanities Department Survival Guide”, at the International Symposium. Intercultural Studies for a Global Age.: Principles, Methodology, Practice, University of Georgia, April 12-14; “Poetic Evidence for Epichoric History: Pindar’s Eighth Pythian as Test Case”, at Greek Epichoric Histories, Corpus Christi College, Oxford, 12-13th May 2018.

John Gillis: I want to thank Candace for the work she has put into the Newsletter. Last year I failed to respond to her request and deeply regret the lapse. I continue my bicoastal existence, Maine in the summer
and California the rest of the year. I persist in writing on environmental and geographical themes, and a Chinese translation of my book The Human Shore: Seacoasts in History will soon be in print. My recent focus has been on notions of place, and how these shape our understanding of movement in what Thomas Friedman has called the Age of Acceleration, when our obsession with speed has drained travel of its pleasures. We are now so fixated with getting somewhere that we can relish neither place nor moment. As I no longer get to the AHA, I hope that some of you will take me up on my standing invitation to visit Berkeley or Gotts Island. We’ll keep the light on for you.

Warren Kimball: My history of The United States Tennis Association: Raising the Game (Lincoln: Univ. of Nebraska Press, 2017) came out too late for the latest newsletter which I received today. But that nicely done newsletter reminded me to send you this information.

I’ll be back, however briefly. Though I’m retired and living near Charleston, SC, and in the Berkshires (you can guess which seasons where), I’ll occasionally have to come back to watch my grandson, Tommy Coyne, who is a freshman and started last week on the varsity lacrosse team game against St. Johns.

My best to all, and a special hi to those who remember me.

Jackson Learns: It has been a big winter and spring for Raritan. Two of our authors have received major recognition. Jessica Burstein’s hilarious "All Politics" (Summer 2017) has won a Pushcart Prize and Adam Shatz’s probing "No Direction Home: the Journey of Frantz Fanon" (Fall 2017) has been chosen for inclusion in Best American Essays 2018 (Hilton Als, ed.).

Our Winter "War and Peace" issue included our former (but not forgotten) colleague Victoria deGrazia’s extraordinary essay on Jochen Hellbeck’s (equally extraordinary) Stalingrad: the City that Defeated the Third Reich. (Jochen tells me the essay has already aroused the attention of Russian and German translators). The issue also contains Samuel Moyn on "American Peace in an Age of Endless War," Rutgers Ph. D. Eugene McCarraher on the great pacifist A. J. Muste, and my own reflections on the 75th anniversary of the battle of Stalingrad, "War and Forgetfulness." Despite counsels of digital doom and gloom, the magazine continues to attract new subscribers, not to mention new contributors.

Jamie Pietruska: I have enjoyed a busy and rewarding year at Rutgers. I returned from sabbatical to teach three new courses: a graduate colloquium on the History of Technology and Nature, an SAS Interdisciplinary Honors Seminar on the History of Predicting the Future (and Getting it Wrong), and—following a record-setting hurricane season—an undergraduate course on Accidents and Disasters in the U.S. and the World. I was truly honored to receive a School of Arts and Sciences Award for Distinguished Contribution to Undergraduate Education, which would not have been possible without the labor of the talented and dedicated teaching assistants and graders that I have been so fortunate to work with over the past several years. In the spring, I had the pleasure of presenting a seminar on “Science, Technology, and Capitalism in the Long Gilded Age” to the Rutgers High School Teachers Institute. My book, Looking Forward: Prediction and Uncertainty in Modern America, was published by the University of Chicago Press in 2017. My 2016 article “Hurricanes, Crops, and Capital: The Meteorological Infrastructure of American Empire in the West Indies” was awarded the biennial Journal of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era Best Article Prize in 2018, and my article “‘A Tornado is Coming!’: Counterfeiting and Commercializing Weather Forecasts from the Gilded Age to the New Era” was accepted for publication in the Journal of American History in December 2018. I was invited to present a paper on “Risk, Uncertainty, and Cotton Forecasting in the Gilded Age” at Princeton’s Davis Center Seminar and a paper on “Paperwork, Bureaucracy, and the Case of the Two Pinkerton Detective Agencies” at the University of Delaware, and I look forward to delivering the keynote address at a conference on “Futures Past: Economic Forecasting in the 20th and 21st Century” at Universität Hamburg this fall. In my off-campus life, I enjoy family excursions with my husband Jason and our sons Miles and Silas.

Gary A. Rendsburg (History and Jewish Studies) published “The World’s Oldest Torah Scrolls,” The Ancient

Nancy Sinkoff: I continued to serve as the director of the Center for European Studies, overseeing a full array of programs related to Europe in cooperation with several academic units and centers at Rutgers. The year’s highlight was the fifth annual “Polish Jewish Studies Workshop,” which I co-organized with Dr. Halina Goldberg (Indiana University) and Dr. Natalia Aleksion (Touro College). The workshop comprised an international symposium, “Centering the Periphery: Polish Jewish Cultural Production beyond the Capital,” and a concert, “Soundscapes of Modernity: Jews and Music in Polish Cities.” You can hear a bit of the incredible music performed by Rutgers students and faculty here: “Soundscapes of Modernity: Jews and Music in Polish Cities”. Sara Levy’s World: Gender, Judaism, and the Bach Tradition in Enlightenment Berlin, Eastman Studies in Music series (University of Rochester Press), a co-edited volume based on papers from an international symposium that I—with my colleague Rebecca Cypress (Music Department, Mason Gross School of the Arts)—co-organized in 2014, appeared in June. I wrote the volume’s introduction, “Experiencing Sara Levy’s World.”


Julia Stephens completed her first year teaching on campus in New Brunswick in 2017-2018, including introducing new courses on “The Making of Modern India and Pakistan,” “Asian Migrations,” and “Political Islam, Present and Past.” She is happy to announce the publication of her first book Governing Islam: Law, Empire, and Secularism in South Asia which came out with Cambridge University Press in June. Over the summer she has split her time between Highland Park, NJ, South Africa, and the United Kingdom while working on a new book on death and diaspora in the Indian Ocean.

Paola Tartakoff served as Acting Chair of the Department of Jewish Studies at Rutgers this year and as co-chair for the division of Medieval and Early Modern Jewish History, Literature, and Culture at the Association for Jewish Studies. She completed her second book manuscript, Conversion, Circumcision, and Ritual Murder in Medieval Europe, and submitted it for review. She spoke on “Conversion, Martyrdom, and Cultural Entanglement in the Fourteenth Century” at the “Jewish Life in the Medieval Christian and Muslim Worlds” conference at Notre Dame University, and she served as a respondent for a panel on “Modes of Polemic and Conversion between Jews and Christians in the Medieval Eastern Mediterranean” at the Association for Jewish Studies conference. She published a review of Benjamin Gampel’s recent monograph, Anti-Jewish Riots in the Crown of Aragon and the Royal Response, 1391–1392, in the American Historical Review (June 2018).
2018 SUSMAN GRADUATE STUDENT CONFERENCE
Katie Sinclair

Over two days in late March 2018, the 40th Annual Susman Conference brought together graduate students from across disciplines – and across the East Coast – to discuss a topic that had been a major theme of the past year: “Narratives of Resistance.” In our call for papers, we asked for conference participants to explore what “resistance” means, and how narratives of resistance can help us imagine alternative visions of the future. But we also acknowledged the problems with the binary framework of “resistance/oppression”, and encouraged participants to explore and critique what exactly “resistance” means.

On Thursday, March 29, we gathered in the Rutgers Academic Building for the conference’s opening address by Dr. Camilla Townsend, 1995 Rutgers History PhD. In her talk, entitled “What 1960s Conservatives Were Right About – and How Historians Can Yet Prove Them Wrong”, Dr. Townsend reflected on the tough year behind us and discussed her own training as a historian at Rutgers. One takeaway? History is a bit like the rearview mirror on your car: “Objects in the past are closer than they appear.”

The next day, graduate students and faculty members gathered in the Academic Building for the main event. This year, the Susman Conference attracted students from Columbia, Virginia Tech, Yale, Temple, NYU, CUNY, Syracuse, and, of course, various departments across Rutgers. As usual, graduate students from the Rutgers History Department made a very strong showing, with excellent presentations all around. Many professors kindly agreed to moderate panels such as “Media and the Arts – Technologies of Discipline and Resistance” (Jackson Lears), “Party Politics and New Perspectives” (Lilia Fernandez), “Public Critiques of Gendered Knowledge” (Melissa Feinberg), “Beyond the Grave” (Barbara Cooper), “Rethinking Space and Politics through Women’s Perspectives” (Rachel Devlin), “Living with and Resisting the Violence of Colonialization” (Chie Ikeya), and “Activism and Politics in the Postwar World” (Belinda Davis).

After a long day full of good food and great discussion, conference participants gathered to hear the keynote address by Dr. Shannen Dee Williams, assistant professor at the University of Tennessee Knoxville and 2013 Rutgers History PhD. Dr. Williams’s lecture was titled “Confronting Archival Silences and Navigating Spiritual Landmines: Writing a History of Black Catholic Nuns in the Twenty-First Century.” In addition to talking about her own experiences building relationships, accessing private archives and compiling oral histories, Dr. Williams told the stories of many of these women and talked about the challenges of desegregating the Catholic church in the United States. We left the talk inspired not only by Dr. Williams’s passion for her work, but also by the care with which she approaches her subjects.

Of course, this conference would not have been possible without the help of a well organized and highly motivated committee. We were fortunate to have that in this year’s Susman Committee, with Alison Hight, Sam Hege, Joseph Williams, Eri Kitada, Emmet von Stackelberg, Lisette Varón Carvajal, Jerrad Pacatte, Brenna Yellin, Xavier Macy, Timur Mukhamatulin, Celso Mendoza, Jennifer Ernie-Steighner, and Katherine Sinclair. The committee worked tirelessly for months, starting in September, to ensure that the conference went smoothly, and pulled everything off without a hitch! Thanks also to the Rutgers History Department and especially its administrative staff: Dawn Ruskai, Matthew Leonaggeo, Candace Walcott-Shepherd, Quiyana Butler, and Anuja Rivera.

As we reflect on this 40th Susman Conference, we also look forward to the future, hoping that this annual tradition will continue bringing excellent graduate scholars and speakers to the Rutgers campus and encouraging great discussions for years to come.
Recent Graduate Student Accomplishments

Graduate Student Milestones

Proposal defenses and working titles:

Yarden Avital. “Between Nationalism and Internationalism: The Jewish Anti-Fascist Committee as a Microcosm of Soviet-Jewish Identity”

Catherine Babikian. "Creating Welfare, Nursing Empire: Colonial Nursing and the National Health Service”

Julia Buck. “Law and Memory on the National Periphery: Remembering the Resistance in Postwar Marseille”

Patrick Harris. “Imperial Exiles: The French Colonial Emigration, 1789-1815”

Catherine Naeve. “Notre Refuge et Notre Force”: Huguenots in the British Isles, 1680-1720”


Paul Sampson. “Imperial Ventilations: Environmental Machines in the British Atlantic World”

Pamela Walker. “Everyone Must Think We Really Need Freedom”: Black and White Mothers, the Mississippi Box Project, and the Civil Rights Movement”

Major Field Examinations:

Aries Li (American), Alexander Petruskek (Modern European), Sam Hege and Paul Sampson (STEH)

Minor Field Examinations:

Caitlin Wiesner (African American), Shaun Armstead (American), Tracey Johnson (Atlantic Diaspora), Catherine Babikian (Women’s & Gender)

Ph.D. Degrees Conferred


Hilary Buxton. “Disabled Empire: Race, Rehabilitation, and the Politics of Healing Non-white Colonial Soldiers, 1914-1940”, under the direction of Seth Koven


Lytton McDonnell. “Ecstatic Anthems: Music and the Persistence of Enchantment in Modern America”, under the direction of T.J. Jackson Lears


Jennifer Wilson. “Reading Ambiguous Bodies: Confessional Politics and Epistemological Anxiety in Early Modern England, c. 1580-1660”, under the direction of Alastair Bellany

Jasmin Young. “Strapped: A Historical Analysis of Black Women and Armed Resistance, 1959-1979”, under the direction of Deborah Gray White

Recent Master’s Degree in the Global and Comparative History Program

Ryan Wernlund, Terrance Witcher

Fellowships, Grants, and other Awards

Long-Term Awards

SAS Mellon Completion Fellowship: Satyasikha Chakraborty, Hugo L. Marquez Soljancic, Ryan Tate, and Kyle Williams

Bevier Completion Fellowship: Kyle Williams

Warren and Beatrice Susman Dissertation Fellowship: Kaisha Esty, Dustin Neighly

CCA Fellowship: Chris M. Blakley

Mellon/ACLS Dissertation Completion Fellowship: Melissa Reynolds

Fulbright IIE: Alex Petruskek

PEO Scholar Award: Jessica Criales

McNeil Center for Early American Studies Dissertation Fellowship: McNeil Center: Chris M. Blakley

German Academic Exchange Service Fellowship: DAAD (Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst): Alex Petruskek
Canadian SSHRC: (multi-year award): Megan Wierda
Andrew W. Mellon Pre-doctoral Fellow in History Education: Museum of the City of New York: Amy Zanoni

Short-Term Awards & Grants
The Neal Ira Rosenthal History Travel Fellowship (Fall 2018): Beatrice Adams, Shaun Armstead, Dale Booth, Rachel Bunker, Alison Hight, Katherine Sinclair, Paul Sampson, Kyle Williams, Pamela Walker
• Hoover Institution Library & Archives Workshop on Political Economy: Kyle Williams
• Jacob M. Price Fellowship from the William Clements Library at the University of Michigan: Chris M. Blakley
• John Whiteclay Chambers II Oral History Graduate Student Fellowship: Pamela Walker
• North American Conference on British Studies Pre-Dissertation Grant: Catherine Babikian
• New England Regional Fellowship Consortium: Doris Brossard
• The Pennsylvania State Archives Scholars in Residence Program Grant: Ian Gavigan
• State Department Critical Language Scholarship for Urdu Study in Lucknow, India: Hilary Buxton
• NEH Summer Institute "Global Histories of Disability": Hilary Buxton
• USC Shoah Foundation Grant: Danielle Willard-Kyle
• American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee Archives Fellowship: Danielle Willard-Kyle
• Rutgers Global, School of Graduate Studies Fellowship: Eri Kitada

Conference Presentations
Rural Women’s Studies Association Conference: Beatrice Adams; Mid-Atlantic Conference on British Studies; North American Conference on British Studies: Catherine Babikian; Organization of American Historians Conference; American Historical Association Conference; History of Science Society: Chris M. Blakley; Western Society for French History Conference: Julia Buck; Interracial Intimacies Symposium; European Research Council International Conference: Satyaskha Chakraborty; Ethnohistory Conference: Jessica Criales; African American Intellectual Society Conference: Kaisha Esty; European Nahuatl Conference; Northeastern Group of Nahuatl Studies Conference: Tara Malanga; Middle American Council of Latin American Studies Conference: Celso Mendoza; Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations: Laura Michel; Western Society for French History Conference: Catherine Naeve; Berkshire Conference on the History of Women: Bren Sutter; Western History Association Conference; American Society of Environmental History Conference: Ryan Tate; Organization of American Historians Conference; Rural Women’s Studies Association; Association for the Study of African American Life & History: Pamela Walker; "Medicine and Healing in the Age of Slavery" Conference at the University of Houston: Megan Wierda; American Association of the History of Medicine Conference; Labor and Working Class History Association Conference; Berkshire Conference on the History of Women: Amy Zanoni

Publications

New Jobs & Postdoctoral Fellowships
History Faculty, The Frisch School (Private Secondary School), in Paramus, NJ: Raechel Lutz
Assistant Professor in United States Black History, York University: Kendra Boyd
Assistant Professor in Gender History, University of Hong Kong: Julia Bowes
Presidential Postdoctoral Fellow, Office of the University of California, UCLA: Jasmin Young
Postdoctoral Fellow, The School of Advanced Study at the University of London: Hilary Buxton
Postdoctoral Fellow, Richards Civil War Era Center, Penn State Univ.: Dara Walker
Postdoctoral Fellow, Scarlet and Black Project, Rutgers Univ.: Miya Carey

Alumnae/Alumni News
Courtney Doucette (c/o 2017) - a former advisee of Jochen Hellbeck: Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of History, Connecticut College.
Alissa Klots (c/o 2017) – a former advisee of Jochen Hellbeck: Postdoctoral Fellow, Tel Aviv University.
Katharine Lee (c/o 2016) - a former advisee of Paul Clemens and Nancy Hewitt: Lecturer position, Southeast Missouri State University.
CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR ALUMNI!

Rebecca Ard Boone
Real Lives in the Sixteenth Century: A Global Perspective
(Routledge, 2018)

Kevin Dann
The Road to Walden: Thirteen Life Lessons from a Sojourn to Thoreau’s Cabin
(TarcherPerigee – Penguin USA, 2018)

Bertram M. Gordon
War Tourism: Second World War France from Defeat and Occupation to the Creation of Heritage
(Cornell University Press, 2018)

Kathleen Keller
Colonial Suspects: Suspicion, Imperial Rule, and Colonial Society in Interwar French West Africa
(University of Nebraska Press, 2018)

Jennifer A. Miller
Turkish Guest Workers in Germany: Hidden Lives and Contested Borders, 1960s to 1980s
(University of Toronto Press, 2018)

David Randall
The Concept of Conversation: From Cicero’s Sermo to the Grand Siècle’s Conversation
(Edinburgh University Press, 2018)
Rebecca Boone (2000) My third book came out in April, Real Lives in the Sixteenth Century. A Global Perspective (Routledge 2018). Intended as a supplementary text for world history students like mine, one reviewer described it as "bloody, plotting, romantic, dramatic, shocking." I envision it as the first of a series of Lives books that stretch into the twentieth century. My other two books are Mercurino di Gattinara and the Creation of the Spanish Empire (Routledge 2015) and War, Domination, and the Monarchy of France (Brill 2007). Chris and I have lived in Southeast Texas for the last sixteen years, where I am Professor History at Lamar University and Chris is Director of Planning and Community Development for the city of Beaumont. Since we have been here, he has coordinated disaster relief for three hurricanes. Our girls, Lucy (19) and Helen (17), are now big but are doing fine.


Dr. Elaine R. Cusker, MA ’70, who served as Senior Associate Dean for Academic Affairs at the University at Buffalo retired June 1, 2018. She and husband, Joseph Cusker, PhD ’90 are living in Buffalo, NY and will be celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary June 28, 2018.

Kevin Dann (1995). For NYU Press, I’ve just finished Enchanted New York: A Walk Up Broadway Through Manhattan’s Magical Past, a cultural history of magical activity in Gotham, masquerading as a walking tour. Entering the masquerade more fully, I created This Magic Isle, a flaneur street theater piece in NoHo and Greenwich Village. In July, Pen-guin will publish The Road to Walden, a field report from a walk I made last spring from the Bowling Green on Broadway up to Walden Pond. I’ve added Harlem and Morningside Heights to my bike tour repertoire, and am working on As Above, So Below, And in Between – Us! – a Cosmogony for the 21st century.

Gary Darden. Accomplishments update: I won the University Distinguished Service Award at Fairleigh Dickinson University at their Fall 2017 Convocation, awarded to one member of the faculty for leadership and service at the department, college, and university levels.

Alix Genter. My news is that I’ve launched an academic editing business. Check it out at www.alixgenter.com.


In addition, my article “The Musée de la Grande Guerre du Pays de Meaux - A Simulacrum of the 1914-1918 War?” will be published in the Journal of Tourism and Cultural Change. Another essay, “Tourism and Erotic Imaginaries in Wartime Paris:
French and Germans during the Occupation, 1940-
1944,” will appear in English, French, and German
versions in the online journal Via@Tourism Review
(Paris).

As of June, I am now Professor Emeritus at Mills Col-
lege, though I continue to teach occasional courses
there and at Santa Clara University's Osher Lifelong
Learning Institute, as well as co-edit H-Travel, within
the H-Net electronic history network. Since 2013 I
have been General Secretary of the International
Commission for the History of Travel and Tourism
(ICHTT), a group affiliated with the International
Committee of Historical Sciences, and we hope to be
able to sponsor sessions at the 2020 conference in
Poznan, Poland. Please contact me if interested in
the history of travel and tourism: bgordon@mills.edu.

Lastly, I will present a paper, “Paris May 1968: 50
Years Then and Now,” at the August 2018 meeting of
the Pacific Coast Branch, American Historical Associa-
tion, at Santa Clara University in August and would
be delighted to say hello to any visiting Rutgers peo-
ple who may be in attendance.

Mike Heaney (2008). Was very involved in pro-
moting Ken Burns/Lynn Novick's Vietnam War docu-
mentary, released last September. This 10-episode
marathon of a film earned very positive reviews
(Hanoi allowed it to be live-streamed in Vietnam,
where it was watched by tens of thousands), and re-
sulted in many viewers (including Vietnam vets)
stating, "I never knew that about Vietnam." There
were many reasons for this ignorance (in which I
shared), including popular indifference to other peo-
ple's suffering, persistent executive lying about the
actual status of the war, legislative gutlessness, and
hubris.

I make modest appearances in Episodes 1, 4
(ambush), 8 (Kent State), and 10 (return to VN). My
promotional involvement included moderated panel
appearances with Burns & Novick at Dartmouth Col-
zege, Columbia University, and Middlebury Col-
zege. Got many folks talking. But when are we going
to be done with our current, unwinnable wars?

Left to right: Burns, Novick, me, and Jim Ralph, Academic
Dean/Moderator, at Middlebury, March 2018.

At the other end of the bloody pipeline, I continue to
work with vets, especially traumatized ones. This has
mostly consisted of vet reading and discussion
groups, generously supported by the Vermont Hu-
nanities Council; our regional, White River Junction
VA Medical Center; and others.

Still working on a combat memoir. Still very grateful
to recently retired John Chambers, who had the big-
gest impact by far on my late-in-life "turn" to aca-
demics, and on my decision to write a memo-
ir. Thanks, John. Happy retirement.

Lisa Kazmier. I usually don't post items to you or give
updates on my status. I found it depressing to do so.
You'll soon see why.

I had struggled for years to find employment as my
health grew worse. I am now on SSDI waiting for
Trump to eliminate it, I suppose, and make me more
poor. My situation started with Lyme Disease
(actually the bite occurred in 1996), but now the
neurological dysfunction is painfully obvious. I had
been pursuing an immunoglobulin therapy (IVIg) un-
der the diagnosis of Chronic Inflammatory De-
myelinating Polyneuropathy (CIDP) but found no ma-
jor gains from it. I had been doing it for over a year.
Tired of the lack of results, I looked into something a
doctor told me once: you'll never get better
(meaning ambulatory skills) without stem cell thera-
py. I found a NIH approved study of a specific tech-
nique geared toward those who suffer from my sort of neurological problems. I qualify for the treatment. Sadly, unlike any study I've come across, patients are expected to pay the costs of the treatment. (I have no idea if this is now typical in this country or what.) It costs $17K.

As a kind of New Year's challenge to myself, I started a GoFundMe campaign to see if I could raise the money. To date, I've raised just over $3K, about 1/6 of what I need. Could you put it in a newsletter and ask either for donations or sharing for them on the social media accounts of your readers (e.g., Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, etc.) The minimum donation, fyi, is $5. The campaign appears on -- www.gofundme.com/lisakazmier.

Thanks for your time. If you have any questions, just ask.

Kathleen Keller. In 2017 I spent the summer in France doing research in Aix-en-Provence and Paris with the support of a grant from the American Philosophical Society.

In April 2018 I published my first book: Colonial Suspects: Suspicion, Imperial Rule, and Colonial Society in Interwar French West Africa with the University of Nebraska Press.

Melissa R. Klapper (2001). It's hard for me to believe, but I have just completed my 17th year at Rowan University. I am now Director of Women's & Gender Studies in addition to Professor of History, and I am working hard with a wonderful group of colleagues to expand the program's course offerings and to forge more links with various campus constituencies. My book on the social history of ballet class in America is coming along nicely, and I am have made a foray into the world of podcasting with Pirouettes from the Past, a monthly podcast on American ballet history that you can find on iTunes, Stitcher, and the Balancing Pointe website. I also have a side project on American Jewish women who traveled abroad between the Civil War and World War II. Recent publications include an article on boys and ballet class in the Spring 2017 issue of the Journal of the History of Childhood and Youth and an article on two American Jewish women's 1929 journey to Russia, Greece, Turkey, Syria, Palestine, and Egypt in the January 2018 issue of American Jewish History. I have been the book review editor of American Jewish History since 2010 and am also the current co-chair of the Association of Jewish Studies division of Modern Jewish History--The Americas.

Alissa Klots (2017). I am happy to report that I will be spending academic year 2018-2019 as Dan David Fellow at the Zvi Yavetz School of Historical Studies, Tel Aviv University (Israel).

Karen Routledge. I am at the same job I've held since leaving Rutgers: a historian for Parks Canada, the Canadian National Parks Service. I work with staff and communities in northern Canada on public history projects for parks and historic sites. Last summer I got to work for a few weeks in Quuttinirpaaq National Park, which is a stunningly beautiful and vast park just about as far north as you can get on land. I live in Calgary with my husband Brian and our five-year-old daughter, Mira. My book, Do You See Ice? Inuit and Americans at Home and Away, is coming out this November with University of Chicago Press. I often think back to my time at Rutgers and I am grateful to have had such an amazing PhD experience with wonderful mentors, staff, and colleagues.


**Faculty Awards**

*Left:* Jamie Pietruska received an award for Distinguished Contribution to Undergraduate Education from SAS, New Brunswick.

*Above:* Seth Koven (right) received the Excellence in Teaching and Mentoring Award from the School of Graduate Studies, New Brunswick, presented by Dean Jerome J. Kukor.

*Left:* Andy Urban, American Studies and History, was awarded a Presidential Fellowship for Teaching Excellence. He is flanked by (left to right): Barbara M. Cooper, then chair of the History department, and colleagues Angus Gillespie and Leslie Fishbein, American Studies.
Undergraduate News

Department Awards

Edward Romano Memorial Award in History and Public Service This award honors the memory of a 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. This year’s winner was June Titus.

Dr. Martin Siegel History Prize This prize was established in honor of Dr. Martin Siegel, a Rutgers College history major of the late 1940’s. The prize is awarded annually to a student whose work in the History Seminar is judged to be the best that year. This year’s prize was awarded to Kevin Dragert for his thesis, Hungarian Refugees in the Cold War Era: Tracy Voorhees and the New Jersey Connection.

Michele S. Hirshman Scholarship This award provides valuable support so that four to six students can study abroad each year. This year’s funds supported Tyler VanAtter.

James Reed Award in Public Speaking Named in honor of longtime History professor, James W. Reed, this award is presented to the student who makes the most effective oral presentation at the annual Rutgers History Honors Conference. This award was given to Christopher Kay for his Honors Conference presentation on his thesis Shifting Perceptions of Bishops and their Rights in Parliament between 1640-1642 and 1679-1682.

Harold L. Poor Prize This award recognizes the top three honors theses each year. The prize 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. This year’s prizes were awarded to Michael Antosiewicz for Disputed Dicing: Kuboi, Astralogoii, and the Cultural Contestations around Dice Games in Classical Greece, Joseph Westendorf for The Culture of Secession: New York City, New Jersey, and the Secessionist Movement in the North during the Secession Crisis, and Katherine Mitchell for The Indian Man’s Burden: The British Women’s Suffrage Movement and Westernization in Indian Nationalist Rhetoric.

University Awards in History

Margaret Atwood Judson Prize This prize, 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. This year’s winner was Katherine Mitchell.

Helen Praeger Miller Award in History This award is administered by Douglass Residential College for the Douglass student who has shown excellence in historical studies. This year’s award was given to Ariel Bae.

Maurice Dupont Lee, Jr. Fellowship This award is given to a History or Art History major who is part of the Douglass Residential College to support their graduate education. This year’s award was given to Catherine Lydon.

Henry Rutgers Scholar Award was given to Michael Antosiewicz for his thesis, Disputed Dicing: Kuboi, Astralogoii, and the Cultural Contestations around Dice Games in Classical Greece.

History Department Honors

History Department Honors has been conferred on the following students, listed with their advisors in parenthesis. Michael Antosiewicz (Professor Thomas Figueira); Jordan Cohen (Professor Paul Clemens); Arsanious Hanna (Professor Paola Tartakoff); Christopher Kay (Professor Alastair Bellany); Jessica Madeira (Professor Donald Roden); Katherine Mitchell (Professor Seth Koven); Joseph Westendorf (Professor Lou Masur); and Anthony Yew (Professor David Foglesong).

Public History Awards

The Public History Program awarded certificates to the following students this year: Jack Chiang, Rachel Diroll-Zack, Waylen Glass, Jenna Kershenbaum, Donald Koger, Elliot Medina, Colleen Nester, Caroline Safreed, Natalie Saldarriaga, Alexandria Slobodnik, Courtney Stevenson, Alexandra Sutton, Andrea Vacchiano, Joseph Westendorf, and Lara Worthington.
Phi Alpha Theta (ΦΑΘ) is an American honor society for undergraduate and graduate students, as well as professors of history. The society has over 400,000 members, with some 9,000 new members joining each year through 970 chapters nationwide.

Phi Alpha Theta was established on March 17, 1921 at the University of Arkansas by Professor Nels Cleven. Cleven had become convinced in his time at the university that a fraternity of scholars, which would accept men and women, was important for the study of history. He invited students to a meeting to form the society, then called the “University Historical Society”, on March 14, and the society was officially recognized on the 17th. In April of 1921, the decision was made for the society to be known by the Greek letters Phi Alpha Theta.

2018 ΦΑΘ Inductees

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Christiaan Bedrij-Arpa
Nicole Bellmay
Michael Belvin
Jamin Collins
Samantha Contrini
Angelica Coss
Megan Coyne
Christopher Curran
Samer Elsamna
Eric Fesco
John Ignatius Francisco
Sherine Hamade
Annika Hansen
Sarah Holovinsky

Carlos Hurtado-Esteve
Linshan Jiang
Sarah Kearsley
Liam Kennedy
Gabrielle Kleyner
Bailey Lawrence
Catherine Lydon
Lilianna Maciejak
Daria Martin
Joshua Maybrook
Sarah McCaffrey
Melis Ocal
Adam Panish
Brianna Peterson
Umbereen Rashid

Cody Reid
Alexander Rosado-Torres
Louis Ruziecki
Kevin Salcedo
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