A WORD FROM THE CHAIR

History and the humanities in general have taken a big hit in the mass media over the last few years, with frequent reports on declining enrollments and supposedly poor job prospects. With regard to job prospects for history majors, popular press reporting is simply wrong. According to a recent study done in Florida State University’s Department of Economics, starting and mid-career salaries for History BAs are higher than or comparable to those for majors in biology, advertising, international business, marketing, accounting, and even certain fields of engineering. Another study, at Georgetown University, found that mid-career unemployment rates for history majors are comparable to or lower than those for majors in electrical engineering, advertising, computer engineering, international business, accounting, business economics, law and public policy, marketing, economics, finance, chemistry, political science, economics, and pre-law/legal studies. (Web addresses for the findings cited are http://coss.fsu.edu/economics/economics/salary and https://georgetown.app.box.com/s/9t0p5tm0qhejy8t8hub.) Our History Department is taking steps to disseminate this information, providing students with summary handouts, and liaising with the University’s Gwen Greene Career and Internship Center to provide career counseling for history majors.

Like many history departments, we experienced large drops in enrollments and number of majors since 2000. The nadir was in the fall of 2012, when we enrolled 295 students with an average of 11 students per section. However, since then we have increased enrollments continuously. Below are statistics for fall enrollments from spring of 2012 through fall of 2015.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Total Enrollments</th>
<th>Enrollments per Section</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fall 2012</td>
<td>295</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall 2013</td>
<td>338</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall 2014</td>
<td>371</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall 2015</td>
<td>463</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The 25 percent jump in enrollments this fall and the increase in students per section to 17 are very hopeful signs. At least in part, they are due to our own efforts, including publicizing the Department via social media, organizing dinners for history majors and guests interested in majoring, changing our course offerings, and scheduling larger numbers of courses in popular time slots.

Our faculty’s many accomplishments in 2014 and early 2015 are detailed in the “Faculty News” section of the newsletter. However, I’d like to highlight a few of them. Tom Devaney’s first book, Enemies in the Plaza: Urban Spectacle and the End of Spanish Frontier Culture, 1460-1492 was published this summer with University of Pennsylvania Press (one of the most prestigious presses in medieval studies). Tom Slaughter’s Independence: The Tangled Roots of the American Revolution, came out in the summer of 2014 and was recently released in paperback. The Christian Science Monitor described Independence as “a stimulating and engrossing read.” Ted Brown was extraordinarily active this past year, both as an historian of public health and as an advocate for expansion of health care coverage and public health programs. In addition to multiple presentations at the University’s medical school, Ted published four articles on topics ranging from the League of Nation’s international health organization to US psychologists’ treatment of “shell shock” in World War II.

(continued on page 2)

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Michael Jarvis and Joan Rubin are leaders of two different major university initiatives. Mike heads the new Digital Media Studies program, which brings together computer/engineering expertise with humanistic disciplines. Joan has been appointed interim director of Rochester’s new Humanities Center, a project to invigorate the humanities with fellowships for junior professors and seminars and collaborative work for undergraduates, graduate students, and faculty.

The Department continues to thrive and grow, as we expand outreach to undergraduates, and build on our tradition of scholarly excellence.

MATTHEW LENOE

ALUMNI ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Carl Angeloff ’53
Edward Atwater ’50
Barbara Berg ’65
Dana Bradley ’83
James Capua ’71
Barry Cohen ’66
Jon Getz ’89
Francis Grebe ’54
Robert Kirkwood PhD ’56
Adam Konowe ’90
Marion Maneker ’86
Amy Phelan ’91
Jeffrey Reznick ’92
Nancy Kelts Rice ’58
Peter S. Szabo ’85
James Shedel PhD ’78
Curtis Vock ’87
Randall B. Whitestone ’83
G. Robert Witmer, Jr. ’59
Mark S. Zaid ’89
Arthur Zapesochny
Mitchell Zuckerman ’68

NEWS FROM THE UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM

I’m excited to be taking up the position of Director of Undergraduate Studies, following upon a truly memorable year for Rochester history students. The Undergraduate History Council, under the energetic leadership of Addison Ault, president, Jasjot Grewal, vice president, and David Yao, business manager, sponsored a number of history-related activities, culminating in a trip to Washington, DC.

As Professor Morris Pierce, who accompanied the group, reports: “About 54 of us left UR on a snowy Friday morning on a charter bus. Thanks to the snow, it took us an hour to make it to I-390 south for the journey to Washington. Just north of Williamsport, Pennsylvania, the bus started having transmission problems, so we stopped at the Wegmans in Williamsport for about three hours to wait for a rescue bus. Believe me, there are worse places to be stranded than a big Wegmans! The rescue bus finally got us to Washington around 10 pm. On Saturday morning, the bus dropped us off at the National Mall where the group explored the Smithsonian, the Library of Congress, and other sights. It started snowing around 10 am, and was seriously snowing by 2 pm. Washington doesn’t handle snow very well, so it was very entertaining for us hardy Rochester folk. Several of us trudged over to the White House, which was barely visible through the snow but quite a beautiful sight. We had dinner at Hamilton’s Bar and Grill, near Union Station, then got back on the bus and toured several monuments. We visited the Vietnam Veterans’ Memorial, Lincoln Memorial, then the Jefferson and Martin Luther King Memorials. The evening ended with a massive snowball fight at the FDR Memorial before the cold and wet troopers made it back to the hotel in Arlington. The next morning, we visited Arlington National Cemetery for a couple of hours, then headed north to Rochester.”

A number of exciting new courses drew numbers of students into our classrooms last year, on topics ranging from “Witchcraft and Witch Hunts, 1400-1800” (Professor Tom Devaney), “The History of Latin America through Soccer” (Professor Pablo Sierra), and “Vikings” (Professor Tanya Bakhmetyeva), to “Science, Magic, and the Occult from Antiquity to Newton” (myself), “We’re Coming to the Americas: Immigration in the 19th and 20th Centuries” (Professor Molly Ball), and “Rich China, Poor China” (Professor Elya Zhang). Five students undertook the arduous task of writing a thesis to graduate with honors in history:
Kaight Conheady, Rachel Eskridge, Fukumi Orikasa, Tristan Sharp, and Grace Elizabeth Wagner.

At our graduation celebration in May, diplomas were awarded to eighteen history majors; an additional fifteen students graduated with history minors. Five of our graduating seniors were inducted into Phi Beta Kappa, and Phi Alpha Theta, the history honor society, welcomed seven new members this year. Other notable awards: Kristina Fricker won the President’s Choice Award at the UR Undergraduate Research Expo for her work on ancient ship-building and was selected to present her research at the National Conference on Undergraduate Research in April; Kaight Conheady won a fellowship from the Austrian Federal Ministry of Education and Women’s Affairs Foreign Language Teaching Assistantship Program. Our graduates were headed on a variety of exciting paths: teaching English in Graz, Austria; pursuing an MA in religious studies at NYU; beginning graduate studies at the University of Delaware; studying for a PhD in English at UC-Irvine; entering an MA program in Maritime Archaeology at East Carolina University; beginning an MLS degree in archival studies at Simmons College; and starting work on a PhD in medieval history at the University of Chicago.

This year began with a marked increase in enrollments in history classes, with a total of 441 students registered for classes taught by instructors with primary appointments in the History Department. This number marks an increase of 17% over last fall, 21% over the fall of ‘13, and 37% over the fall of ‘12. We’re cautiously optimistic that the downward trend in enrollments has turned around. More evidence in support of that point comes from the hearty attendance at a freshman orientation session on studying the humanities and social sciences, at which Professors Joanie Rubin and myself spoke, as well as by the steady throng of students who stopped by the History table at the freshman orientation Academic Open House the last week in August. Nearly fifty freshmen came to chat with Professors Pablo Sierra, Molly Ball, and myself about studying history at the UR.

As I take up the mantle of DUS from Professor Mike Jarvis, I look forward to continuing the Department’s efforts to bring more students to the study of the discipline we all love so much. I’ve already had a blast advising students since they arrived on campus last week.

Laura Smoller
Director of Undergraduate Studies

News from the Graduate Program

The Graduate Program continues to play a crucial role in the intellectual and social life of the Department. This past year, students participated in the Department workshop, staged an impressive conference, defied the odds as job candidates, and showed their characteristic energy in maintaining groups devoted to dissertation writing and professional issues.

One change worth noting is that History 501 (“Worlds of Inquiry”), a required course for all graduate students, now has a revamped structure—one that, as the first instructor to try it out, I’m pleased to say worked very well. Designed to introduce first-year students to the scholarly interests and methodological assumptions of Department faculty, the course was divided into four three-week segments, one of which was devoted to my own work. The other segments involved visits to the class from Department colleagues who represented the three rubrics—the world of goods, the world of nations, and the world of knowledge—that structure the Department’s curriculum. Each segment had the same format, which was initially suggested to me by Jonathan Strassfeld, a current fourth-year student as follows: the first week, the class read a monograph that had influenced the faculty member (positively or negatively); the second week, it discussed one or more of the faculty member’s major scholarly writings; and the third week, students learned about the faculty member’s recent and future research agenda. I want to thank Mike Jarvis, Tom Devaney, and Tom Slaughter for generously serving as visitors and for the lively, stimulating perspectives on historical practice they all provided.

This year, we have six new PhD students and an MA student joining the Department. Their fields range from medieval Europe to the United States, and their backgrounds include work in museum studies, photographic analysis, and women’s history. We welcome them to the UR graduate community!

Joan Shelley Rubin
Director of Graduate Studies
MAKING HISTORY:
A LOOK BACK, A LOOK FORWARD
(HAAC AND HISTORY DEPARTMENT HAPPENINGS)

HAAC HAPPENINGS AND
MELIORIA WEEKEND

The History Alumni Advisory Committee met on the Friday afternoon of Meliora Weekend 2014. Professor Matt Lenoe introduced Laura Smoller, a new faculty member and the Department’s new alumni liaison. The committee had a fruitful conversation about ways to attract students to history, as the Department works to overturn the unfortunate misperception that a history major is a career dead-end. Committee members also endorsed Department plans for a re-vamped website and for reaching out to local history alumni for Department events. The Advisory Committee discussion was a fabulous lead-in to one of the highlights of Meliora Weekend 2014: a panel of UR history alumni talking about career paths for history majors. The participants were both informative and inspiring, as they spoke about a variety of career paths ranging from the law to education, museum work, and high finance.

A “virtual” meeting of the Advisory Committee in May afforded the opportunity to continue talking about ways in which alumni can help further the careers of UR history students and to showcase some of the ways in which the Department has begun to implement ideas raised by the Advisory Committee. Professor Smoller directed the Committee’s attention to the Department’s new Facebook page, which she curates, a space to highlight accomplishments of history faculty and students as well as to share news of Department events and other items of interest. Professors Lenoe and Smoller also took the opportunity to offer a preview of the new alumni portal on the History Department’s website: a space offering not just news about our Department’s graduates and profiles of history alums, but also a new “Career Connections” area that aims to link interested students with UR graduates who have achieved success in a variety of fields.

The History Department is sponsoring two events at Meliora Weekend 2015. In keeping with the Department’s tradition of showcasing new faculty, on Friday, October 9, from 4pm to 5:30pm, Professor Laura Smoller will be giving a talk in Sloan Auditorium entitled “Putting the Baby Back Together Again: Miracle and the Image of St. Vincent Ferrer (d.1419).” The presentation is based on her 2014 book about the cult of the fiery Valencian preacher. She is also doing an alumni webinar about the writing of that book at 1pm on October 22, for those unable to attend Meliora Weekend. On Saturday, October 10, from 4pm to 5:30pm, the Department and the Rush Rhees Library Department of Rare Books and Special Collections are hosting an exhibit on Women’s Emancipation: Historic Special Collections from Rush Rhees Library.

More information and registration for these events can be found at: https://rochester.edu/melioraweekend/Schedule and https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/ register/5991164461626715137.

If you have news to share, want to be listed in our Career Connections site, or simply wish to be added to the Department’s event list, please send us an email at history.department@rochester.edu.

Like us on Facebook (https://www.facebook.com/UofRHistoryDepartment). You can also check for Department events on our website at: https://www.rochester.edu/College/HIS/.

LAURA SMOLLER
DIRECTOR OF UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES

GRADUATE HISTORY SOCIETY
ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Graduate students organized the sixth annual conference, “Power, Land and People: To Possess and Dispossess” on February 28 in the Sloane Auditorium of Goergen Hall. Student scholars from across New York and hailing from as far away as North Carolina, Toronto, and Syracuse, offered papers varying in topics from American religious intervention in postwar Japan, Britain’s press control during WWI, plagiarism in California print culture, and the politics of Native American portraiture.

At 1pm, Peter Jemison, a Huron clan member of the Seneca nation and local activist and artist delivered the keynote address, “Time to Turn Around and Look to our Future.” This talk stimulated many of us to contemplate both the past and present-day issues as concerned citizens, intellectuals, and community members. Professor Matthew Lenoe, department chair, offered introductory remarks for the keynote. The faculty members who moderated panels were Thomas C. Devaney, Michael Jarvis, and Stewart Weaver.
Graduate students were again able to offer attendees free admission by encouraging voluntary donations from attendees who wished to help supplement the cost of lunch. This was a successful way to encourage attendance and meet our financial needs. Planning is already underway for the 2016 conference to again be held in February.

**Serenity Sutherland**  
**Graduate History Society**

### The Verne Moore Lecture Series

At our end-of-year meeting, we decided to invite two Verne Moore speakers for next spring: Randall Packard, a historian of disease and public health at Johns Hopkins, and Mary Lou Roberts of University of Wisconsin, whose most recent book deals with “the politics of sex during the American presence in France during the Second World War.” We are pleased that both have accepted our invitation. Randall Packard will be visiting March 23-24, and Mary Lou Roberts will come on March 31. We are looking forward to both of their visits in the spring.

On October 2 of this semester, Michelle Scott (University of Maryland/Baltimore County) spoke on campus. She is the author of “Blues Empress in Black Chattanooga: Bessie Smith and the Emerging Urban South” (Univ. of Illinois Press, 2008).

**Matt Lenoe**  
**Department Chair**

### Bermuda Field School

The fourth Smiths Island Archaeology Project summer field school was the biggest one yet, involving five graduate and seven undergraduate students. This included two past UR field school alums, Leigh Koszarsky and Kristina Fricker, who will be entering archaeology graduate programs this fall. The team investigated four sites during the six-week project and was able to firmly establish that Oven Site dates to the first years of Bermudian settlement (1610s) and the dawn of English colonization of America. We now know the house evolved in two stages and, startlingly, may only be a small outbuilding/kitchen to a much larger building nearby—as suggested by the discovery of a water cistern and numerous post-holes surrounding it.

Further excavations at Cave Site revealed that both the floor and ceiling were deliberately smoothed to make it more comfortable, and concentrations of bones and pottery suggest the site was used for feasting and socializing—probably by enslaved Bermudians—in the early- to mid-18th century.

Clearing excavations inside and adjoining a standing stone ruin at Smallpox Bay revealed a complex network of post holes apparently related to a cluster of early 17th-century buildings and may represent Bermuda's first, brief capitol town, built in July 1612 but quickly abandoned. Numerous artifacts related to the mid-18th to mid-19th century stone ruin reveal that women and children were apparently sharing what was supposed to be a military quarantine site where British troops were quartered during yellow fever epidemics.

In addition to field excavation and lab analysis training, two advanced students in the field school (Alice Wynd and Mimi Beard) also learned about digital archaeology and created a high-resolution 3D digital model of the Smallpox Bay site as well as a virtual museum exhibit interpreting their finds. 3D models were also made for Oven Site, Kiln Site, Cave Site, and the new Oven Site cistern but will require massive computer processing at UR through the fall.

For more information, please visit the many pages of the project blog: smithsislandarchaeology.blogspot.com and Alice and Mimi’s page, https://smithsislandsmallpoxbay.wordpress.com/

**Michael Jarvis**

### The Seward Family Archive Project

The Project is in the second of its three-year grant cycle supported by the Fred L. Emerson Foundation. We also greatly appreciate the support (financial and personal) given to us by alumna Pamela Lessing (class of 1972), who joined us from Vail, Colorado, for the “Seward Stories” event in April 2015.

We have also received grants for the academic year 2015-2016 from the UR Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning and the Rochester Center for Community Leadership to help launch our collaboration with the Highlands at Pittsford, a retirement community affiliated with UR. Highlands residents will be joining the Project as transcribers and annotators of the Seward family’s letters from the mid-nineteenth century. Lauren Davis, a first-year graduate student in history with experience in extension education, will be heading the Highlands collaboration this year.
Serenity Sutherland, a history graduate student and Mellon Fellow, continues as the Project Director; Camden Burd, a second-year history graduate student, is the new TEI Manager; Kathryn Hughes, a graduate student in the Simon School, is our Special Projects Manager; and Nathanael Smith, a Mellon Fellow and graduate student in philosophy, is our new data manager. Spring and Summer 2015, we had fifteen students working with the Project, a combination of undergraduates with majors from computer science to English and History, and graduate students from a number of different disciplines. In Fall 2015, we have ten students new to us and several more from last year’s class in “The Seward Family in Peace and War.”

Our public website (sewardproject.org) will go live at our “Seward Stories” event in April 2016.

THOMAS SLAUGHTER
EDITOR, REVIEWS IN AMERICAN HISTORY

BUILDING A VIRTUAL ST. GEORGE’S

Building a Virtual St. George’s has picked up steam in its 2nd year with the creation of a DIGITAL HISTORY LAB in Rush Rhees 445 and 446 and the award of a $50,000 University Pump Primer grant to take digital recording in the field to the next level.

Professor Jarvis created our new Digital History Lab by grabbing office space recently vacated by UR TV and working with University ITS and Rush Rhees Library to give new life to ten older Dell desktop computers and fit them out with cutting-edge GIS (Geographic Information System) and 3D modeling software. Eight Digital History students spent this past spring researching Bermudian households across three hundred years, building digital models of their homes at different periods, interacting with them within videogame and Virtual Reality environments, and designing historical videogames that drew on their particular research. By the end of the semester, they had developed an impressive set of digital skills, learned a lot about life in 18th-century Bermuda, and designed some really interesting history games, ranging from playing a ghostly widow able to eavesdrop in on white and enslaved household conversations to helping Revolutionary Americans steal Bermuda’s gunpowder stock in August 1775 as the British Empire in the Atlantic began to unravel.

The Virtual St. George’s project gained strong institutional support with a $50,000 UR grant to purchase a FARO Focus X-130 3D laser scanner. With a range of 130 meters and accuracy of 1-2 mm, this machine will enable Professor Jarvis and a team of students to build very precise models of historic buildings in St. George’s today and then digitally restore them to their layout and appearance in earlier centuries. The scanner also enables capture of room interiors, which VSG then hopes to virtually furnish with 3D models of period-appropriate antiques scanned from the Bermuda National Trust’s collection. With the FARO scanner, the VSG project is poised to recreate the interiors and exteriors of some of St. George’s oldest houses in unprecedented, photo-like detail, and compete nationally for additional Digital Innovation implementation funding. Field recording and 3D model processing has also emerged as an important teaching site itself, training undergraduate and graduate students in 21st-century digital history tools with broad application.

The Department’s new Digital History Lab is available to all history majors seeking quiet study space and access to powerful software with relevance to historical research. Installed programs include SAS, SPSS, Stata 11, ArcGIS, Adobe Creative Suite [CS6], Google Earth Pro, Unity 5.0, Microsoft Office Suite, SketchUp, PhotoScan, and Blender. Please contact Michael Jarvis (585-275-4558, Rush Rhees 455) for an access key and terms of use.

MICHAEL JARVIS

CALL FOR COURSE PROPOSALS: 2016 PRE-COLLEGE PROGRAMS

University faculty, staff, graduate students, and alumni are invited to submit proposals for Pre-College Programs’ 2016 summer sessions through Friday, September 25 (although the deadline has passed, proposals are still welcome for future sessions). Faculty in this unique program have the opportunity to engage in meaningful youth outreach, share knowledge with a receptive and eager audience, and participate in a rewarding teaching experience. For 25 years, the program continues to attract motivated, enthusiastic, and energetic students. You can complete the proposal form online at http://enrollment.rochester.edu/precollege/employment/.
FACULTY PROFILE:
RICHARD KAEPUPER

Professor Richard Kaeuper was the University of St Andrews 2014-2015 Donald Bullough Fellow from the University of Rochester. Those who hold this fellowship become part of the academic community of St. Andrews Institute of Mediaeval Studies, participating in various activities, whilst working on their research projects. Richard has kindly shared some of the experiences he has had with both staff and students during his time in St Andrews:

'I am glad to have an opportunity to comment on various possibilities opened by the Bullough Fellowship in Spring Term, 2015. The scholarly project I brought with me to St Andrews, in the first place, could be advanced here. This study takes as its focus the Burgundian lord Louis de la Tremoille who was shot dead on the battlefield of Pavia, 1525, and shortly thereafter memorialized in a Panegyrique commissioned to be written by the early humanist Jean Bouchet. I want to use this text to cross the crucial gap between Louis and the famous Geoffroi de Charny, who was killed at Poitiers in 1356 (and who was the subject of a study I did with Elspeth Kennedy). Victoria Turner of the University of St Andrews plans to write an English translation of this text; I will write an historical analysis of this knight in the autumn of chivalry.

Much of the term was necessarily devoted to seeing Medieval Chivalry through Cambridge University Press, which commissioned it, and Kings, Knights and Bankers (my collected essays) through Brill. Another continuing project involves serving as Medieval European editor for a multi-volume World History of Violence in process for Cambridge. Justine Firnhaber-Baker of the University of St Andrews is writing one chapter for this work.

One activity I anticipated in coming to St Andrews was engaging with postgraduate students here. A means for doing so quickly emerged in the Medieval Reading Group, which took a key text each week, guided by a volunteer leader. I enjoyed all these lively sessions and, with encouragement, led the final discussion, based on the “Gest of Robyn Hood.” All these sessions were fruitful, informal and — like all good conversations — roamed freely, regularly crossing the necessarily porous frontier between history and literature. I met undergraduate students by teaching master classes on topics from courses by Rory Cox and Katie Stevenson. I also joined these students in a field trip to Stirling Castle and Bannockburn. Atop the great height of Stirling, we were nearly blown away by horizontal, freezing rain, but heroically persisted in the pursuit of knowledge.’

Professor Kaeuper teaches and researches on Western European history from the 11th to the 15th century. His earliest publications focused on England but his interests have broadened over time as he has written more about the intersections of law, justice, and religion in medieval society. He has written extensively about chivalry, in particular, in Holy Warriors (2009) and the prize-winning Chivalry and Violence in Medieval Europe (1999). He also collaborated with Elspeth Kennedy to make a 14th-century guide to chivalry available to a modern audience in A Knight’s Own Book of Chivalry (2005). His forthcoming works include: Medieval Chivalry (Cambridge), Kings, Knights and Bankers (Brill), and he is also the Medieval European editor of the forthcoming World History of Violence (Cambridge). Throughout his work he has used literary sources alongside more traditional ones to great effect, as he has sought to understand medieval ‘mentalities.’

LYDIA HAYES
UNIVERSITY OF ST ANDREWS INSTITUTE OF MEDIEVAL STUDIES

LAUNCH OF A NEW HUMANITIES CENTER

The University of Rochester has launched a Humanities Center, in which Department faculty and students are playing a major role. As one of the humanistic social sciences, History is a core department within the Center. Its Interim Director, Joan Shelley Rubin, is the Dexter Perkins Professor in History. Last spring, Department faculty contributed creative ideas for augmenting the undergraduate humanities curriculum by envisioning new programs and courses, starting a conversation that the College faculty will continue this fall. Daniel Rinn, one of our History graduate students, is the liaison from the Center to the graduate student community as well as the assistant helping to support the Center’s work.

The Center has planned a number of events for its inaugural year: a lecture series featuring four distinguished scholars; public events leading up to the Rochester Oratorio Society’s performance of Mendelssohn’s “Elijah”; work-in-progress seminars; and gatherings for undergraduates. All of these events are listed on the Humanities Center’s website at www.rochester.edu/College/humanities/. Alumni who wish to receive emails about upcoming Center activities for the public should contact Daniel Rinn at rinn.dw@gmail.com.

JOAN RUBIN
DIRECTOR OF GRADUATE STUDIES
ED AYERS:
“THE SHAPE OF THE CIVIL WAR”

On March 18, 2015, Professor Edward Ayers, president of the University of Richmond and a renowned historian, delivered an inspiring address as the keynote speaker and Distinguished Visitor in the Humanities. As a leading digital scholar, President Ayers has pioneered new methods and approaches to the history of the Civil War. His digital archive project, *The Valley of the Shadows*, follows the experiences of one Northern and one Southern community from 1859 through 1870. This open-access repository has enabled thousands of students and scholars to engage the history of the war through personal letters, census records, and battle maps, etc. During the keynote address, President Ayers demonstrated how new technologies have enabled historians to reconceptualize the Civil War. For instance, the “History of the Civil War in the United States,” a chart attributed to Arthur Hodgkin Scaife, was first published in 1897 by the Comparative Synoptical Chart Company of Toronto. The chart attempted to represent all available information on battles, casualties and political events as data points as a single graphic. Throughout his presentation, President Ayers highlighted how scholars can now incorporate such information into digital platforms without being bound to a two-dimensional format. Returning to Scaife’s chart, the keynote speaker highlighted specific “layers” of the chart in order to accentuate local events that are often lost in the greater narrative of the Civil War. In the Spring of 1865, for example, Alabama witnessed many more military skirmishes than Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Georgia and Tennessee combined. At the end of this well-attended event, President Ayers responded to questions from faculty, graduate students, and from UR President Joel Seligman.

PABLO SIERRA

HISTORY’S LIFE LESSONS: WAS THERE AN ARGUMENT?

I came to Rochester with a set of bizarre assumptions about the History Department. I had no idea what the study of history actually entailed and intended only to take a few classes in early American history to avail myself of Rochester’s flexible curriculum. The truth is that I was, first-and-foremost, part of the single most insufferable student population on campus: the pre-medics.

But I had heard stories. My uncle studied at Rochester in the 1970s, and had already directed me to the classic works of some of his old professors, Eugene Genovese and Christopher Lasch, who taught his two-semester American history freshman survey course. The comically good fortune of having two intellectual juggernauts on that scale to introduce the discipline was as lost on me as it probably was on him (at the time). He described Lasch as a fidgety, nervous genius, weighed down with disappointment that his students simply could not understand the basics of social theory and dialectical materialism. Genovese, my uncle said, mastered the intellectual aesthetic: fine, tailored suits, and forceful lectures with cigarette drags deliberately placed for rhetorical effect. Most of the students in this survey course spent the subsequent three years of college trying to recover from the damage this power duo inflicted on their GPAs. It was a “dynamic” department, producing big ideas, important books, and vicious political infighting. By academic department standards, it all sounded thrilling.

As far as I remember (and it has only been a few years), none of my professors chain-smoked or regularly wore tailored suits. I received no didactic education in dialectical materialism.

Instead, I received true mentorship. This took many forms, but a few stand out.

The first came in “The Intellectual History of Science.” I signed up as it seemed to encompass both of my interests—biological sciences and history. Professor Brown marched us through the opening chapters of Thomas Kuhn’s *Structure of Scientific Revolutions*. Kuhn’s critique of scientific progress shook everything I thought I knew to be true about science, and as a biologist-in-training, I retreated into a defensive crouch. I was not prepared to be persuaded by Kuhn’s argument that seemed to be a kind of scientific relativism, or Professor Brown’s provocative claim that the three greatest scientific revolutions were, “Einstein’s discovery of relativity, Darwin’s formulation of evolution by natural selection, and Freud’s discovery of the unconscious.” (At the time Freud’s inclusion stupefied me.)

Once we had pushed to the end of *Structure*, which ranks among the most influential academic books of the 20th century, Professor Brown asked us to turn to page 183. He directed our attention to the bottom of the page.

“For significant parts of this episode see: T.M. Brown 'The Electric Current in Early Nineteenth-Century French Physics.’”
As a graduate student, Professor Brown had sat in on a seminar given by Kuhn at Princeton and, compelled by the force of Kuhn’s great idea, wrote a paper framing 19th century French Physics as a Kuhnian paradigm shift. Kuhn cited him. We had gone through the book as though it represented inaccessible, ancient history. However, in fact, Professor Brown had played his part in the most important conversation on the philosophy of science in the 21st century; so, in a way, we were part of the conversation, too.

It is hard to imagine a course having a larger impact. Thanks to Professor Brown, I pursued a Master’s in the History and Philosophy of Science and am currently undertaking a historical project on interwar psychiatry in Eastern Europe, concurrent to medical school. Professor Brown’s encouragement (even after I graduated) motivated a study of the social and political role of psychiatrists. My project has brought me to the archives of abandoned psychiatric hospitals in Poland and recently occasioned a moving conversation with a man who is likely the last Yiddish speaker in Lublin.

The second moment—or moments, really—came at the beginning of every single one of Professor Kaeuper’s lectures on medieval Europe. He began each day with these words: “Today I will try to persuade you that…My lines of evidence will be…” The implicit message was simple: we were colleagues. He would make his argument, and we were to critique it. It was empowering. I have stolen this approach and deployed it while teaching in the Eastern Studies Department at the University of Warsaw, in scientific lectures and presentations, and in other professional settings. I think of Professor Kaeuper each time.

Third, it was completely obvious to me when a professor deeply and genuinely cared for my intellectual development. Receiving a marked paper from Professor Michael Jarvis was beyond humbling. He had a young family, dozens of undergraduate students across several courses, and was finishing a book that would go on to win a major academic award. Yet, he painstakingly went through our papers sentence-by-sentence, providing guidance, encouragement, and thoughtful criticism that blanketed the margins and filled additional pages.

A final memory: late in my senior year I was walking out of a packed lecture hall where a non-academic pop historian had just given a light, inoffensive talk on American politics. I had secured a place at the banquet to follow, thanks to my position as President of the Undergraduate History Council (which did relatively little, as we were still in debt-repayment for an unsanctioned open bar event at the Elmwood Inn something like a decade prior). Walking to the dinner, I caught up with Professor Westbrook and asked him for his thoughts on the lecture.

“Well, David, was there an argument?”

There was not. It was the only question worth asking in response to the talk. This is the question that I have asked repeatedly in the small amount of writing I have put my mind to since—whether journalistic, scientific or historical. What is my argument and am I prepared to defend it?

David Liebers graduated from the UR in 2010 and is currently a first-year medical student at Harvard Medical School.

DAVID LIEBERS
CLASS OF 2010

FACULTY PROFILE: LAURA SMOLLER

Laura Smoller joined us last fall from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, where she taught for several years after earning her PhD at Harvard. Laura has been recently appointed director of undergraduate studies for the Department. She is also the editor-in-chief of History Compass, a cutting-edge journal of peer-reviewed articles exclusively published online. Laura’s research interests are fascinating and vast. As a transnational historian of Medieval Europe, science, medicine, magic, and the occult, in her first book, History, Prophecy, and the Stars (1994), she explored a French cardinal’s use of astrology to investigate the time of the world’s End. Laura is interested in explaining how astrology and prophecy became conflated in the Later Middle Ages, a book project she has tentatively titled “Astrology and the Sibyls.” In addition to investigating how Europeans conceived of “ways of knowing the future,” she has also developed a profound interest in the life and cult surrounding a Dominican friar infatuated with the apocalypse: St. Vincent Ferrer. Her most recent monograph, The Saint and the Chopped-Up Baby (2014), is centered on the cult and canonization of this Valencian preacher and how his life was interpreted throughout the Atlantic world (Brittany, Spain, Mexico, etc.). This summer, Laura has delved into the massive volumes of the Acta Sanctorum, an encyclopedic text of Christian saints, in order to reframe our understanding of demonology and the reform of the Dominican Order vis-à-vis Ferrer. At the heart of these stories is the ancient rivalry between the Franciscan and Dominican orders, and the latter’s use of Ferrer as an instrument of
reform. These research interests have translated into new, thought-provoking courses for all of our students. In “A History of the Future,” Laura combines literature and film to explore how the concerns of the present are often projected onto the future as monstrous or exaggerated visions. Her research seminar, “Disease and Society from Antiquity to the Present,” asks students to think of how societies define disease and how culture affects the treatment of the sick. Aside from her notable academic accomplishments and course offerings, Laura’s talents extend to the musical realm. Over the past year, she has played the flute with the Cordancia Chamber Orchestra, the University of Rochester Symphony Orchestra, and the Greece Symphony Orchestra. A proud Arkansan capable of producing succulent pots of jambalaya and the dedicated owner of two dogs and a cat, Laura is a true delight to have in the Department. Once more, welcome!

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**READING FOR A RAINY DAY: SUGGESTIONS FROM LAURA**

I write about two large topics in medieval and Renaissance history: first, saints and their miracles and, second, prophecy, astrology, and magic. I’m also really interested in reading historians who have found a way to write with academic rigor, yet in accessible prose. The titles below represent books in these fields that have left me with jaw hanging in admiration. First, Daston and Park’s *Wonders and the Order of Nature* takes seriously objects and interests that have often been dismissed or ignored, restoring wonder and the marvelous to their proper place in the history of ideas, and delighting the reader with the monsters, eagle stones, and *mirabilia* that filled the Wunderkammers of their subjects. Sophie Page’s *Magic in the Cloister* reconstructs the library of St. Augustine’s Abbey in Canterbury, whose monks collected large numbers of books on magic and astrology; one of her surprising theses is that scholars enjoyed greater intellectual freedom in the cloisters of the monastery than in the halls of the university. The works by Rachel Koopmans, Robert Bartlett, and Craig Harline all have as their subject miracle tales, and I admire them all as examples of engaging writing as well as fine scholarship. Koopmans, starting with the metaphor of a butterfly collection, tries to read through medieval miracle collections to get at the oral circulation of tales that lay underneath them. Bartlett works outwards from a single miracle tale (the rescue of a hanged criminal) to the dozen or so witnesses who testified about it at the saint’s canonization trial, and finally to the social world of the English-Welsh borderlands in the fourteenth century. With the immediacy of a novelist, Harline uses a series of case studies of miracles to examine the place of the supernatural in the fraught interactions of Catholics and Protestants in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. Happy reading!


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**FACULTY NEWS**

Tanya Bakhmetyeva is publishing her book, *Mother of the Church*: Sophia Svechina and the Politics of Catholicism in Nineteenth Century Russia and France. It is coming out with Northern Illinois Press, which is one of the major publishers in the country in Slavic Studies.

Theodore Brown’s new book with Anne-Emanuelle Birn, *Comrades in Health: U.S. Health Internationalists, Abroad and at Home* (Rutgers University Press, 2013), has been widely and favorably reviewed and was discussed in an hour-long interview on KPFA radio station (94.1 FM in Berkeley, California). Ted also gave local talks related to the book, including presentations to the George Washington Corner Medical History Society at the Rochester Academy of Medicine and to the Globe Med student organization on campus. He gave several other presentations in 2014 on a variety of topics: “The Painful Pursuit of Health Reform” to the eHealth Initiative Conference in Orlando, Florida, and to the annual meeting of the New York State Public Employees Federation in Syracuse; “The Elusive Social Mission of Public Health” to the American Academy of Preventive Medicine in New Orleans; “The Middle Road to Obamacare” to the American Association for the History of Medicine in Chicago; and “Social Sciences in Public Health: Problems and Prospects” at the Mailman School of Public Health of Columbia University in New York City. Ted published historical articles, commentaries, and editorials in the *American*
Journal of Public Health, where he continues to serve as Contributing Editor for History. Ted likewise remains engaged with the American Public Health Association's History Project, and in that connection gave several historical talks at the Association’s annual meeting in November. He remains active as editor of Rochester Studies in Medical History, a book series of the University of Rochester Press, which recently published its thirty-first volume.


Matt Lenoe, in addition to his duties as chairman, chaired a panel on “Channels of Misinformation: The Role of TASS in Soviet Press, Propaganda, and Politics” at the American Society for Eurasian and East European Studies annual convention in November, 2014. Lenoe also undertook two major research trips this summer (2015): one to Moscow to read the World War II letters of Soviet soldiers, and one to Germany’s central military archive in Freiburg to examine Wehrmacht interrogations of Soviet POWs and captured diaries of Red Army men. Both trips were pursuant to Lenoe’s current project on the experiences and daily life of Soviet troops in the first year and one half of the Axis invasion.

Dorinda Outram was an invited commentator at the New York State Association of European Historians conference at SUNY Geneseo in September 2014. In October she travelled to Germany as an invited participant at a conference on the Enlightenment and globalization held at the Lichtenburg-Kolleg of the University of Gottingen, the University's Institute for Advanced Research in the Humanities. She also delivered a public lecture in Gottingen on ‘Globalisation and the University.’ She is the recipient of a Special Senior Research Fellowship for Fall 2015 at the Herzog August Bibliothek at Wolfenbuttel, Germany, and a Senior research Fellowship at the Lichtenburg-Kolleg, Gottingen, to be taken up in the Fall of 2016. Invited publications included an essay review of Anthony Pagden, ‘The Enlightenment and Why it Still Matters,’ in History Workshop Journal (London, UK) and reviews in Isis and the Journal of Modern History. She is continuing work on her book on “Fools and Foolishness in the Enlightenment” with a chapter entitled ‘The Ridiculous Body of the Fool,’ and enjoying teaching classes on the French Revolution and the Enlightenment.

Jean Pedersen designed a new course on Stravinsky’s Paris for the recent centennial of Stravinsky’s Rite of Spring, wrote about Oscar Wilde’s work in Paris and London for the Rochester Humanities Project Symposium on “the veils of Salome,” and updated her course on Modern France to include more materials on the rise and fall of the French empire. She also expanded her course on World War I and World War II to complete the existing sections on Europe and the United States with new sections on aspects of the war in Asia. On the research front, she published the first piece of her new book project on French intellectuals and activists in Gender and History, edited a special issue of Historical Reflections/Refections Historiques on “War, Occupation, and Empire in France and Germany;” and finished a big review article on the history and historiography of French feminism in French Historical Studies. Finally, on the especially rewarding public history front, she blogged on-line about her work for Historical Reflections(see http://berghahnbooks.com/blog/war-occupation-and-empire-interview-with-guest-editor-jean-elisabeth-pedersen), gave a talk on Poulene’s Dialogues of the Carmelites for the Friends of Eastman Opera,
celebrated Women’s History Month at the Little Theatre by leading a film discussion of American Revolutionary, and appeared on WXXI Connections with Evan Dawson and Pablo Sierra to talk about politics, culture, and the World Cup.

Joan Shelley Rubin’s keynote address, “Rethinking the Creation of Cultural Hierarchy in America,” presented to the Reception Study Society in 2013, has been published in volume 6 of the Society’s journal Reception. Her essay “Cosmopolitan Ideals, Local Loyalties, and Print Culture: George Chandler Bragdon in Upstate New York,” will be published by the University of Toronto Press as part of a volume titled Print Culture Histories Beyond the Metropolis. She continues to work on a collaborative digital and oral history project recreating and contextualizing Claude Bragdon’s New York Central Railroad Station in Rochester, and invites anyone with memories of the station to contact her. This summer she returned to her earlier interest in middlebrow culture during the 1920s as she writes an essay for a collaborative literary and cultural history to be published by Cambridge University Press. She is completing her second term as chair of the Steering Committee of the Faculty Council of the College of Arts, Sciences, and Engineering and is the Interim Director of UR’s new Humanities Center among many other campus responsibilities.

Pablo Miguel Sierra Silva continues his research on the African diaspora with the publication of “From Chains to Chiles: An Elite Afro-Indigenous Couple in Colonial Mexico, 1641-1688” in Ethnohistory (Spring 2015). The article focuses on the remarkable life of Captain Felipe Monsón y Mojica, an ex-slave, chile vendor, military captain, and the leader of a religious brotherhood. At the 2015 American Historical Association meeting, Pablo offered a reassessment of New Spain’s transatlantic and internal slave trade based on previously unused notarial documents from the city of Puebla. In April 2015, he presented a chapter on free and enslaved textile labor at the Newberry Library’s Symposium on “Latin America in the Early Colonial Period.” The chapter is part of his current book manuscript, Urban Slavery in Colonial Mexico. In Fall 2014, Pablo also offered a new course on the impact of soccer (fútbol) on Latin American society, popular culture and politics.

Laura Ackerman Smoller joined the history faculty in the fall of 2014, offering courses on pre-modern science and magic, the history of apocalyptic thought, disease in history, and the past’s visions of the future. In addition to her new book with Cornell University Press, The Saint and the Chopped-Up Baby: The Cult of Vincent Ferrer in Medieval and Early Modern Europe, 2014 saw the publication of a chapter entitled “Popular’ Religious Culture(s)” in The Oxford Handbook of Medieval Christianity, edited by John Arnold. Laura also delivered papers at the Arizona Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, “Vincent Ferrer and the Birth of Antichrist: Reconfiguring a Failed Prophet,” the International Congress on Medieval Studies in Kalamazoo, MI, “Speaking of Miracles: The Language of Disease in the Canonization and Cult of St. Vincent Ferrer,” and the International Medieval Congress, in Leeds, UK, “The Lion with the Humble Roar: Astrology, Sibylline Prophecy, Empire, and the Fate of Italy in the works of John of Legnano;” also offering public lectures for the University History Institute in Little Rock, AR, “Discovering Lived Religion in the Middle Ages and Beyond: In Pursuit of the Chopped-Up Baby;” and the Medieval Society at the University of Rochester, “The Saint and the Chopped-Up Baby: Shaping the Image of Vincent Ferrer.” She continues to serve as editor-in-chief of the journal History Compass. At the University of Rochester, she has received tenure from the university, stepped into the role of Alumni Liaison for the Department of History as well as Director of Undergraduate Studies, and also maintains the Department’s Facebook page.

Stewart Weaver’s new book, Exploration: A Very Short Introduction has been published by Oxford University Press (January 2015).

GRADUATE STUDENT ACTIVITY

Camden Burd gave a presentation entitled “Environmentalism at the Point of Extraction: Viewpoints, Politics, and Memory in Michigan’s Upper Peninsula during the Environmental Movement” at Michigan Technological University as the recipient of the Friends of the Van Pelt Library Research and Travel Grant in October. He also received a Digital Humanities Summer Institute Scholarship to attend Digital Humanities Summer Institute at the University of Victoria to explore the research and pedagogical applications of historical 3D modeling. Over the summer, Camden presented “In the Name of Hiawatha: Landscapes, Literature, and Environmentalism on the Shores of Lake Superior, 1968-1980” at this year’s conference for the Association for the Study of Literature and the Environment. During the current
academic year, Camden anticipates progressing towards completion of his research field examinations and continuing his involvement with the Seward Family Archives Project as the TEI and Technology Manager.

Michael Fisher is a postdoctoral associate with the Writing, Speaking, and Argument program during the 2015-2016 academic year.

James Rankine travelled to Bermuda as a volunteer for Michael Jarvis's Smith’s Island Archeology Project this summer, where he served as a site supervisor and research assistant. More recently, he attended a training seminar in laser scanning techniques for the preservation of historic buildings in Pennsylvania.

Kyle B. Robinson (ABD) spent September 2014 in Yamoussoukro, Côte d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast), as a French translator and teacher's assistant at the Institut Biblique de l'Afrique de l'Ouest (The West Africa Bible Institute). In October, he presented a paper entitled “The Contradictions of Calybute Downing (1606-1644), Civil Lawyer and Divine” at the annual New York State Association of European Historians Conference held at SUNY Geneseo. This spring, he participated in a seminar hosted by the Folger Shakespeare Library and convened by Brad S. Gregory of Notre Dame titled “Afterlife of the Reformation: Embodied Souls and their Rivals.”

Adam Stauffer (ABD) taught Writing 105 for the Writing, Speaking, and Argument Program at the University of Rochester during the 2014-2015 academic year. He taught “The California Gold Rush and the World” during UR's 2014 Summer Session and taught “Imagining the Future: The History of Science Fiction” for the 2015 Summer Session. He presented his paper, “‘Hang It, There Goes Byron Again’: Alonzo Delano and the Limits of Regional Authenticity in Early California Literature,” at Syracuse University in March 2015. He also presented his paper, “Doggerel Stuff, or Namby-Pamby, All Over: Representing and Misrepresenting Place in Early California’s ‘Age of Plagiarism,’” at the Annual Graduate History Conference at the University of Rochester. Adam contributed book reviews to the Journal of Popular Culture, the Journal of American Studies, and Essays in History. He is planning to defend his dissertation, which is tentatively titled “Becoming ‘Californian’: Literature, Regional Identity, and Cultural Authority in Early San Francisco Print Culture, 1848-1871,” next year.

DO YOU HAVE NEWS FOR US?
We always welcome news from our alumni for future issues. E-mail us at history.department@rochester.edu or send us a letter and tell us what you have been doing lately and if you would prefer to receive the newsletter electronically:

Attention: Newsletter
University of Rochester
History Department
364 Rush Rhees Library
Rochester, NY 14627

ALUMNI NEWS AND REMINISCENCES
Steve Abbamonte (BA ’77) attended a UR football game versus Gallaudet University with his grandson, Colton, who was eight days shy of his first birthday on September 20, 2014. Colton is Abbamonte’s first and only grandchild and his favorite part of the game was the band. Abbamonte’s favorite part was the experience of being back on campus with his grandson.

Michael Augenbraun (BA ’81) is currently serving as the Division Director of Infectious Diseases at SUNY Downstate Medical Center and at the Kings County Hospital Center in Brooklyn, NY. As he says, “Teaching young physicians, doing clinical research, and taking care of people is not a bad way to make a living.” He tries to indulge his passion for history by reading scholarly works when he finds the time and looks back fondly on his educational experiences at the UR.

John Barry (MA ’69) was the architect of what the October 5, 2014 cover story in The New York Times Magazine called “The Most Ambitious Environmental Lawsuit Ever.” He can be reached at jbarry@tulane.edu.

Frank Baillargeon (BA ’75) celebrated his 15th year as founder and president of F/22 Consulting, a photo industry consultancy, this last year. He also financed and lead the start-up of an Idaho print décor company called Iconic Idaho, where they curate collections of Idaho historical images and offer them to homes and businesses as printed décor. For him, his education has intersected with his career in a most satisfying way.

Bridget Bemis (BA ’03) and her family moved to Okinawa, Japan in September 2014 and will be there for about three years. Her employment remains in the USMC and she works for the III Marine Expeditionary Force (MEF) command element. The staff life keeps
her very busy and she is often on travel. Her husband, Ryan, continues the difficult job of stay-at-home dad for their two kids, ages 8 and 6. Life on the little island is an adventure for all, and, as a second time there, they are very happy to be back.

Lora Block (BA '68) entered the PhD program in European history at Harvard following her graduation from UR. Her dissertation research focused on the development of the Poor Law and public health in London in the mid-19th century but life and marriage intervened. She left Harvard with her MA, but ABD, and returned to Rochester with her husband, Robert Block, who began his residency in orthopedic surgery. While back in Rochester, she became the Health Professions Career Advisor to undergraduates. In 1978, they moved to Bennington, VT, where they still live, and Lora soon became the entire History Department faculty at Southern Vermont College, teaching courses on American history, history of social welfare and history of the family. As a history instructor, she developed a stronger appreciation for the History Department faculty she’d had at UR—among them Loren Bahret, Perez Zagorin, Hayden White, Eugene Genovese, Ted Brown—and for the profound intellectual impact the History Honors Program seminars and external examiner system had on her. Teaching mostly first-generation college students with poor academic skills forced her to think deeply into the reasons why she loves studying history and to find ways to impart that to others. In 1995, Lora changed careers. She has a private practice as a Certified Educational Planner, working as an Independent Educational Consultant helping high school students choose and apply to appropriate and affordable colleges. She considers this another form of teaching but without the angst of grading papers. She delights in frequently recommending UR to her student-clients. When she made her career switch, the hardest part was selling her history library and believing she was changing her identity from being a historian. After a few years, she realized, however, that the habits of mind, love of learning, and understanding of history, which she gained while a history major at UR, never left her. She continues to read widely in history. As a member of two reading groups, she is the informal history instructor to many others. Her biggest challenge is trying to encourage student-clients to study history in college despite being almost universally turned off by the way history is taught in most high schools. Lora likes to hope she’s carrying forward the positive influence of the UR History Department.

Dana Bradley’s (BA ’83) eldest, Saralinda Schell, will be joining the class of 2019 as a Renaissance & Global Scholar. The entire family is truly grateful for this award and is very proud to have a third generation at the UR.

James W. Carden (BA ’98) traveled to Donetsk in eastern Ukraine in late March to report on the unfolding crisis there for both The Nation and The National Interest magazines to which he is a frequent contributor.

Kathleen Casey (PhD ’10) is in her third year as an assistant professor of history at Virginia Wesleyan College in Norfolk, Virginia. Her first book, The Prettiest Girl on Stage is a Man: Race and Gender Benders in American Vaudeville, was published this summer by the University of Tennessee Press and is described thusly, “In this lively and enlightening study, Kathleen B. Casey explores the ways in which the gender- and race-bending spectacles of vaudeville dramatized the economic, technological, social, and cultural upheaval that gripped the United States in the early twentieth century. Analyzing a wide assortment of primary materials—advertisements, recordings, lyrics, music, costumes, photographs, and press accounts from the era—Casey looks not only at gender and racial impersonation but also at how spectators reacted to these performances and how the intersection of gender and race blurred those lines on the vaudeville stage.” The book is a revised version of the dissertation she wrote while a PhD student at UR. She also published two articles and recently received a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to attend a summer institute at Bard College on material culture in 19th century NYC. She will be living in NYC for the month of July studying with other summer scholars there.

Scott Caton (PhD ’93) is dean of the School of Arts and Humanities at Roberts Wesleyan College. In addition to his role as professor of history, he has served as coordinator of the pre-law program and is an ordained priest with the Catholic church.

Sam Claussen (PhD ’15) defended his thesis in July and has accepted a tenure track position at California Lutheran University.

Kaight Conheady (BA ’15) graduated from the History Department this year, completing an honors thesis on Wehrmacht involvement in the Holocaust. She has received a Fulbright fellowship for a year of study in Germany.
Joseph F. Cunningham (MA ’67) has been awarded the Hutchinson Medal by the University and was so honored at the Arts, Sciences & Engineering Ceremony on May 17, 2015.

Andrew Debbins (BA ’12) travelled around the continental 48 states in the summer before he began law school at NYU. As a student of American History, this trip is a dream come true for him. If anyone is interested in following his journey, he is doing his best to catalogue it at https://www.newyorknomads.tumblr.com.

Aida DiPace Donald (PhD ’61) continues to work on her biography of Eisenhower but has taken a breather to study poetry, especially Elizabeth Bishop. She has also begun writing poetry and now has enough poems for a book, which she says is a nice change at age 85. She wants to know who else in her class is writing poetry. She sends warm regards to old friends and asks for them to write her. She can be reached at aida_donald@harvard.edu.

Antoinette Emch-Deriaz (PhD ’84) gave a talk at the 34th Workshop in Theoretical Physics in Bialowieza, Poland on June 29, 2015, in a session organized at the memory of her husband Gerard G. Emch (1936-2013) by his PhD students, many of whom are UR graduates. In this talk, she recalled the research of his last years on the history and philosophy of calculus and the book he was writing entitled: Why Two Hows.

Bonny V. Fetterman (BA ’71) has had her own business as an independent editor specializing in books on history for the past twelve years. Last year, she had the pleasure of seeing three books she edited published: Exit Berlin: How One Woman Saved Her Family from Nazi Germany by Charlotte Bonelli (Yale University Press); Forgotten Trials of the Holocaust by Michael Bazyler and Frank Tuerkheimer (NYU Press); and Commodore Levy: A Novel of Early America in the Age of Sail by Irving Litvag (Texas Tech University Press).

Douglas Flowe (PhD ’14) was interviewed by the Washington Post about his class at Washington University and how it responds to Ferguson. Read the story here: http://www.washingtonpost.com/lifestyle/magazine/teaching-ferguson-how-colleges-are-incorporating-race-cases-in-the-classroom/2015/02/09/a65a9bc2-96bf-11e4-8005-1924ede3e54a_story.html

Bob Ford (BA ’84) owns his own consulting business after spending thirty years in the pharmaceutical and beauty industry in various sales and marketing roles. Prior to starting his business, he was the executive vice president of Global Sales and Marketing, at Sheralven Enterprises, a leading beauty distributor of fine fragrances. Before working at Sheralven, Bob held the position of vice president of Field Sales for Coty Beauty US. Coty a recognized leader in global beauty with annual net sales of nearly $4.5 billion. Coty has leadership positions in fragrance, color cosmetics, toiletries, personal care, and skin care. Bob has broad and diverse business experiences with Glaxo Smithkline, Bayer, and Merck. He is also actively involved as co-chair of the Beauty and Personal Care Committee of the Global Marketing Development Center (GMDC) Advisory Board and leads strategy development for manufacturers and retailers on improving the shopper experience. He is active in the National Association of Chain Drug Stores where he fosters strategic relationships and new memberships such as for small to mid-size companies such as Sheralven. Additionally, he is an active participant of the Mack Elevation Share Group which focuses on Customer and Manufacturer “Co-Creation” strategies. He also serves on the Board of Directors for INROADS NY/NJ region, a non-profit organization who identifies college student internships, training, and development.

Louise Forsyth (BA ’68) has retired this June, after 28 years of teaching high school, to work on a book project about Birobidzhan and also to teach in the CUNY system as an adjunct. After 28 years at Poly Prep, she retired with the class of 2015 who were particularly amazing to teach this year. She had a wonderful time at the unusual school with its very varied students, constant excitement for teaching, and which gave her all sorts of opportunities for professional growth. Louise plans to keep on teaching on a modest level as an adjunct while she settles down to do the research and then the writing of a book on Birobidzhan, Stalin’s solution to the “Jewish problem”—a Yiddish-speaking Socialist state in eastern Siberia, which will be a combination of family history, left-wing history, New York history, and Soviet history. After having written several educational books—Instructors’ manuals and study guides—she’s looking forward to the challenge of writing a ‘real’ history book.

Dan Gorman (BA ’14) writes that he has finished his first year in Villanova University’s history MA program. His paper, “Candid Ken and the Cuban Crisis: Senator Kenneth Keating, the Red Menace, and the Missile Crisis of 1962,” was published last fall in the 2014 Proceedings of the National Conference on Undergraduate Research (http://bit.ly/1tuJWXw). In April, his paper,
“The Untold Stories of Mormonism Exposed: Material Culture, Dime Novels, and Mormonism in American Society,” appeared in Villanova’s Concept graduate journal (http://bit.ly/1ERtQxS). Additionally, Dan presented research at conferences at Temple University and the University of Toronto, and he had a supporting role in Villanova’s well-reviewed production of The Threepenny Opera. He was looking forward to a very uneventful summer vacation after such a busy year.

Harold Helder\{\text{\textit{man}}} (BA ’67) continues to serve as professor of medicine, pathology, and immunology at Vanderbilt University School of Medicine and as Medical Director of the Vanderbilt Transplant Center. He was awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award of the American Society of Transplantation during this past year. His wife, Phyllis (Koppel) Helder\{\text{\textit{man}}} (UR ’67), and he have broadened their travel adventures adding South Africa to Budapest, Hawaii, and Tuscany, with plans to visit St Petersburg and India in the next year along with teaching at Semmelweiss University in Budapest. Alexander Helder\{\text{\textit{man}}} (BA ’96), his oldest child, is an attorney with the pharmaceutical firm Merck in new drug discovery while his wife, Carrie Rosen (BA ’97), works in house at Aramark. His son Ira will defend his thesis in the fall on target to receive a PhD in Religion from Vanderbilt—done while serving as a psychology counselor with a busy private practice. His daughter Rosalind S. is an investigative reporter for the Washington Post and won the Polk Award in journalism last year. All this launched from the Department of History at the UR. Meliora!

Ned Hodgman (PhD ’03), after eight years running a non-profit organization devoted to explaining the work of federal agencies to the general public, has now moved into the world of business and financial services and is working for New York Life. He continues to be interested in US and Russian history and is still toying with the idea of turning his dissertation into a book. In other news, their son, Christopher, who attended Department picnics and events as a child, is enrolling at the UR in Fall 2015.

Lance Holbert (BA ’91) became chair of the Strategic Communications Department at Temple University in July 2014.

Evelyn Jennings (PhD ’01) was promoted to full professor and reappointed to a second, three-year term as the associate dean for Academic Advising at St. Lawrence University.

Pelin Kadercan (PhD ’12) moved to Providence, RI, from the UK in August 2014 and joined the History Department at Brown University as a visiting assistant professor in 2014-15. Her research addresses the intersection of intellectual, cultural, political and social history in and between Europe and the Middle East focusing on the relations between Jews, Christians and Muslims from the 19th century to the present. Her current book project from her dissertation The Reconstruction of Music, Arts and Humanities in Exile: German-speaking Émigrés in Turkey after 1933 sheds light on the transnational encounters in music, visual arts, and literature between Germany and Turkey and explores how the cross-territorial forces in the form of ideas and a real dialogue between multiple actors conditioned the nation-building processes as a dynamic space of decision-making in the two countries. She is currently revising an essay manuscript that questions our tendency to globally assign exiles to the modernist camp and explores the stories of German émigrés in Turkey as evidence of the exiles’ complex confrontation with the new identity imposed upon them. During the past academic year, Pelin taught Europe Since 1945 and led a seminar on Fascism in Europe at the Department of History at Brown University. In the spring semester, she was invited to the University of Rhode Island to give a speech on the musician émigrés from Nazi Germany in Turkey. She also presented an essay manuscript at the Modern European History Workshop at Brown and got constructive feedback on her paper. Pelin is excited to be developing a new lecture course for fall 2015 entitled “Modern Turkey: Empire, Nation, Republic” at the History Department and the Middle East Studies at Brown. In addition, she will curate Turkish Films as part of Film Screenings at Brown University. This summer, she spent a month at the archives of the Orient Institute in Istanbul and the Republican Prime Ministry Archives in Ankara. She will also conduct further interviews for her book project.

Greg Kealey (PhD ’77) retired last November from his position as professor of history at the University of New Brunswick. He spent January to April as a Visiting Fellow at Massey University in New Zealand and was appointed Emeritus Professor of History at UNB in May 2015. He continues to serve on the Finance Committee of the Royal Society of Canada and on the Scientific Advisory Committee of the Council of Canadian Academies. He also chairs the Board of BioNB, a New Brunswick advocacy organization for the bioscience industry and serves on the Board of the McQueen Foundation on Family Violence. His last
Jerald Marsh (BA ’63) was honored at the annual Veterans’ Day dinner in November 2014, provided by the Newark Valley (Tioga County, NY) Historical Society to honor veterans of all US Armed Forces from Northern Tioga County (Richford, Berkshire and Newark Valley). Master of Ceremonies Jim Raftis presented Jerald with the 2014 Veterans Award. This award was for the work he did in researching and publishing his book, *The Brotherhood of Battle: The Civil War Soldiers and Families of Newark Valley, New York* (2012). Additionally, he was interviewed about his book for a feature article that appeared in *Prime Times*, published in Ithaca, NY. In the course of his research, Marsh traveled far and wide. He gathered information from the National Archives in Washington, D.C.; from the New York State Archives in Albany; from the US Army Military History Institute in Carlisle, Penn.; from the Tioga County Clerk’s Office; and from the Tioga County Historical Society. Some information Marsh obtained by talking to local families. He said, “There are quite a few - I can’t put a number on it, but more than a dozen - descendants who provided information and diaries and photographs and letters and allowed me to use them and I am grateful to them.”

Donald Messina (BA ’56, MA ’57) has made his Master’s thesis, “The Role of Fascist Italy in the Spanish Civil War 1936—1939,” available to the Department should anyone be interested. He is very excited for the opportunity to share the work he has done with others.

Dr. Debra Meyers (PhD ’97) has published six books and dozens of articles as a professor of history, religion, and women’s studies at Northern Kentucky University: *Such Order and Civility in the Colonial Chesapeake*, Debra Meyers and Melanie Perrault, eds. (Lexington Books, 2015); *Inequity in Education: Historical Perspectives on American Education*, Debra Meyers and Burke Miller, eds. (Lexington Books, 2009); *Colonial Chesapeake: New Perspectives*, Debra Meyers and Melanie Perrault, eds. (Lexington Books, 2006); *Common Whores, Virtuous Women, and Loving Wives: Free Will Christian Women in Colonial Maryland*, North American Religion Series (Indiana University Press, 2003); *Mujeres y Religion en el Viejo y el Nuevo Mundo, en la Edad Moderna* (Madrid: Narcea, S.A. de Ediciones, 2002); *Women and Religion in Old and New Worlds*, Debra Meyers and Susan Dinan eds. (NY: Routledge, 2001). Meyers has studied at a Roman Catholic seminary and completed a Masters of Religious Studies as well as a pastoral care certificate. She was ordained a Roman Catholic priest on May 25, 2013 in Cincinnati. Her ministry focuses on a growing inclusive
Catholic community in Cincinnati and she serves single mothers and their children who make up the vast majority of impoverished people in our country today.

**Mike Millard (PhD ’73)** currently works as a Financial Advisor at Merrill Lynch in Rochester, where he has been for 38 years. About eight years ago, he started teaching a section of humanities at Geneseo. It is a two semester required literature survey and he teaches the first half each fall. He’s lived in Geneseo for 40 years and has a long standing attachment with the college. Although he has decided not to pursue academia, in 2011, he published a novel, *Tariel’s Way*, though CreateSpace, which is a division of Amazon.

**Craig Nakashian (PhD ’10)** published an article this year entitled “All my sons are bastards’: Geoffrey Plantagenet’s Military Service to Henry II,” in *Ecclesia et Violentia: Violence against the Church and Violence within the Church in the Middle Ages*. He was invited (and funded by the organizers) to attend a symposium at Fitzwilliam College (University of Cambridge) in January 2015 examining the life of Henry of Blois, a 12th century English bishop. The symposium was in support of a volume of articles on that topic that he is contributing to as well. Craig gave a talk on a paper entitled the “Ideals and Realities of Fighting Clerics: The evidence from Anglo-Norman chroniclers and literature” at the Texas Medieval Association Annual Conference in October. He also became the book reviews editor of *De Re Militari: The Society for the Study of Medieval Military History*, was named to the Medieval Academy of America’s Committee on Professional Development, and became the director of the Academic Honors Program at Texas A&M University-Texarkana. In addition, he is thrilled that Courtney Greig will be attending UR in the Fall to work with Professor Laura Smoller. Courtney was one of his undergraduates at Texas A&M-Texarkana, before doing her Masters degree at Texas Tech, and he could not be happier that she’ll be joining the Department.

**Carol Nichols (BA ’72, MS ’75)** is an adjunct professor of the Humanities at Culver-Stockton College and was elected to the Board of Education of the Quincy Public School District, Quincy IL from 2015 to 2019. She is also certified as Junior Intermediate I in the Iyengar Yoga National Association of United States (IYNAUS).

**James Oberly (MA ’77, PhD ’82)** was elected this year to the Organization of American Historians Executive Board.

**Fukumi Orikasa (BA ’15)** has been working as an for the Global Affairs and Partnerships Department since last fall and finds it absolutely fantastic as she already feels like International Development is the right career track for her. She’s happy to say that all the medieval history she studied while at UR has truly helped her understand modern conflicts on a unique level. “It’s interesting how it all ties together!” She says, “Most of all, it’s the writing skills that [Professor Laura Smoller] and the History Department taught me that I know will play a huge role especially during this internship. I have a big project coming up that requires precise, informative, and engaging writing. Thanks to the History Department, I could confidently tell my boss that, yes, I can do the job. For guiding me through that, I cannot thank you enough, Professor!”

**Neal A. Palmer (PhD ’05)** just finished his eighth year teaching at Christian Brothers University, where he is department chair and associate professor of History and Political Science. His wife (Warner school graduate) teaches ESL at Central High in Memphis. Both their boys, Charlie, age 9, and Henry, age 6, are doing great. Neal gave a talk at the October 2014 Ohio Valley History Conference called “Contesting the Boundary of Citizenship: A Comparison of the Civil Rights Struggles of Women and African Americans in Memphis During World War One.” On April 19th, he presented a public lecture at the Dixon Gallery and Gardens in Memphis on “The Social History of British Rock.” In spring 2016, he plans to teach two World War One courses that will include a spring break trip with students to Paris and monument sites in France and Belgium.

**Jeffrey S. Reznick (BA ’92)** is chief of the National Library of Medicine’s History of Medicine Division and received the 2015 Archivists and Librarians in the History of the Health Sciences (ALHHS) best article award for “Embracing the Future as Stewards of the Past: Charting a Course Forward for Historical Medical Libraries and Archives.” The article appeared in *RBM: A Journal of Rare Books, Manuscripts, and Cultural Heritage* (fall 2014 volume 15, number 2). Co-edited by Dr. Reznick and Michelle DiMeo, PhD, Curator of Digital Collections at the Chemical Heritage special, this open-access issue which contains the proceedings of the December 2013 symposium “Emerging Roles for Historical Medical Libraries: Value in the Digital Age” held at the College of Physicians of Philadelphia. Further information can be found at [http://blog.historians.org/2015/06/report-field-history-medicine-division-us-national-library-medicine/](http://blog.historians.org/2015/06/report-field-history-medicine-division-us-national-library-medicine/)
Lynne Spichiger (BA ’69) was the project manager for two websites that might be of interest and was also one of many content contributors. The first is the NEH and IMLS-funded award winning Raid on Deerfield: The Many Stories of 1704 website, which can be found at [http://1704.deerfield.history.museum/](http://1704.deerfield.history.museum/), developed by the Pocumtuck Valley Memorial Association in Deerfield, MA. The second is the NEH-funded Shays Rebellion & the Making of a Nation website, found at [http://shaysrebellion.stcc.edu/](http://shaysrebellion.stcc.edu/), developed by Springfield Community College. Both websites incorporate historic scenes, primary source documents, artifacts, historic maps, essays, a timeline, commissioned paintings, music and stories of real people’s lives. The Raid on Deerfield website commemorates and interprets a 300 year-old historical event from the perspectives of all the cultural groups who were involved—the Kanienkehaka, Wendat, Wobanaki, French, and English. The Shays’ Rebellion website provides a window into the pivotal period from the end of the Revolution up to the creation of the constitution, a forgotten but crucial period in our nation’s founding when the survival of the republican experiment in government was neither foreordained, nor assured. It too presents content from a multiple perspective approach.

Mathew Tekulsky (BA ’75) is the author of Backyard Bird Photography (2014) as well as The Art of Hummingbird Gardening and The Art of Butterfly Gardening (both in 2015). Mass Audubon’s Broadmoor Wildlife Sanctuary will exhibit his backyard bird images from April through May, 2016, and the Santa Monica Mountains Visitor Center will display these images in July 2016.

Kira Thurman (PhD ’13) has been an assistant professor at University of Akron for two years and has just accepted a tenure track position at University of Michigan, with a joint appointment in the German Studies and History Departments.

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**In Memoriam**

**William Gamble (1926-2014)**

William C. Gamble, Class of 1950, passed away in Cincinnati on April 11, 2014, at the age of 87 and was interned in Riverside Cemetery in Rochester. Bill grew up in Rochester and graduated, with honors, from the University of Rochester as a History major in 1950. He had previously attended Monroe High School and served in the US Navy for two years, one of those in the Pacific, before enrolling at the UR. After graduation Bill joined the Ward's Natural Science Establishment, then run in Rochester by his father Dr. Dean L. Gamble. Ward’s was the oldest scientific supply house in the country, founded by Henry A. Ward in 1862. By the time Bill joined full-time, Ward’s was world famous, with annual sales in the millions, and provided materials in all the branches of natural science to schools and museums. The company’s success continued under Bill’s stewardship and he established a new educational service designed to assist teachers in setting up laboratories in the biological fields.

Bill also became very active in community and university affairs. He was a member of the Penfield School Board, a member of the Advisory Board of the Rochester Business Institute, vice president of the Rochester Zoological Society, and president of the Rochester Museum Association. Bill was active in alumni affairs, serving at various times as a member of the Board of Directors of the Alumni Association, the Friends of the University of Rochester Libraries, and the History Department Alumni Advisory Council. He also gave generously to various scholarship funds, the Rush Rhees Library (the popular William C. Gamble Room is dedicated to him), and the Dexter Perkins Fund that helped establish an endowed professorship in the Department. Bill was an enthusiastic book collector who built an extensive personal library and later donated large portions of it to Rush Rhees Library and the Department.

Bill was pre-deceased by his wife Ann and is survived by his two sons James and Thomas, his grand-daughter Sondra, and his sister Ann.

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**Theodore Brown**

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**Jesse Moore (1933-2015)**

Jesse T. Moore Jr., a professor emeritus of history and prominent scholar of American and African-American history who helped focus the University’s efforts to bring diversity to its academic programs and community, died Saturday, April 18, at the age of 82, after a battle with cancer.

A leading historian of the National Urban League, Moore had been a member of the Department of History since 1970, earning praise from his students as a devoted teacher and accolades from his colleagues as an astute scholar of the African-American experience. He later served as an associate dean in the College and at the University, leading initiatives to recruit minority
undergraduate and graduate students and to provide support to those who enrolled.

In 1992, he founded the University’s Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program, a federally supported initiative to encourage talented sophomores and juniors from low-income, first-generation, and underrepresented groups to pursue doctoral degrees. The program is now administered through the David T. Kearns Center for Leadership in Arts, Sciences & Engineering.

For more than a quarter century, Moore represented the academic traditions of Rochester during University-wide ceremonies such as commencement and other events, serving since 1990 in the role of University marshal and later grand marshal.

In an April proclamation, President Joel Seligman recognized Moore’s service and contributions to the University.

“Jesse Moore may be best known as a revered teacher and mentor to generations of students,” Seligman wrote. “But his devotion to students went well beyond the classroom. He is legendary for the hours he spent advising students and working to create a more diverse and inclusive community as an associate dean in the College and the Office of the University Dean of Graduate Studies. Through his work, he has transformed lives.”

Other colleagues, too, noted Moore’s lifelong commitment to improving the lives of those around him.

“Jesse was a pioneer, and we are in his debt for a remarkable legacy of service to the University, as a teacher, scholar, and citizen,” said Provost Peter Lennie, the Robert L. and Mary L. Sproull Dean of the Faculty of Arts, Sciences & Engineering. “His generosity was boundless, and he greatly enriched the lives of all who knew him.”

Said Matt Lenoe, chair and associate professor of history: “Jesse Moore was a truly generous soul, with a deep intelligence, and a steadfast dedication to the ideals of freedom and justice. From his childhood on a rural North Carolina farm to his leadership roles at the University, Jesse led a long, rich, and meaningful life. His colleagues in the history department will miss him greatly.”


Joining the history department in 1970, he was, as he told Rochester Review in 2007, for many years, the only African-American, full-time faculty member on the River Campus. There, he said, he learned the power of mentorship.

“I was fortunate to be in a department and at a university with people—Professors Eugene D. Genovese, Stanley Engerman, Robert Hall, and Presidents W. Allen Wallis and Robert Sproull—who were senior and took an interest in me,” he said. “They made me feel a part of the University.”

For three decades, he taught popular courses on African-American history, American protest movements, and 20th-century American history. He also offered classes on South African history and American constitutional history. He received the Edward Peck Curtis Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching in 1980.

In noting Moore’s retirement from teaching in 2000, Robert Westbrook, the Joseph F. Cunningham Professor in the Department of History, paid tribute to his colleague’s contributions to the department and to the University. “While we in the history department have missed Jesse as a full-time teacher and colleague, we have admired his exceptional devotion to his administrative work,” Westbrook wrote. “No one has labored more strenuously than Jesse to make the UR a more diverse and just community.”

Moore is survived by his son, Jesse (Jay) Thomas Moore III of Boston, his brother, George Leon Moore of St. Louis, his sisters, Dr. Ruth Moore Jackson of Riverside, California, Barbara Smalls Delifus of Jacksonville, Florida, and Georgia Moore Mitchell of Newport News, Virginia.

UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER NEWS CENTER
APRIL 19, 2015

WILLIAM NOLAN (DIED 2015)

William Robert Nolan, (BA ’44, MA ’48) — ”Bob” died peacefully at Strong Memorial Hospital on April 10, 2015. He was predeceased by his two wives, Joan Henner of Webster, NY, and Jane Martin O’Brien of Athens, GA, and by his son, Robert Nolan. He is survived by daughter, Susan Leader (David); grandson, Patrick Nolan; granddaughter Dana Leader; step-children; Ted (Suzanne) O’Brien, Connor O’Brien Mayer (David),
and Robert (Lori) O'Brien; step-grandchildren Brynne and Corinne O'Brien; Michael, Rachel, Alexander and Zachary Mayer, and Aidan and Ian O'Brien; niece Anne Cavuto; nephew David Kujawsky (Amy), and by extended family and friends. Bob welcomed and kept us all in his heart.

During World War II, Bob was a member of Company I, 413th Battalion, 104th Infantry Division (Timberwolves), serving in Europe. Bob remained in the Army reserves and retired as a lieutenant colonel. After the war, Bob returned to the University of Rochester to complete his schooling. After a period teaching at SUNY Oswego, he went to work for the federal government where he worked at the CIA. He had several tours of duty in Germany and Vietnam, before returning state-side to Washington, D.C. Throughout his life, Bob remained active in the Timberwolves, his veterans association from World War II, serving on the Board.

Bob was a native of Rochester, and after his retirement, he returned to the area “for the weather.” Bob became a long-time active participant at the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at RIT, teaching classes, writing poetry, becoming an expert in the Harry Potter series, and serving on the Board. His leadership, wisdom and humor will be missed by all.

ROCHESTER DEMOCRAT AND CHRONICLE
APRIL 19, 2015

THE DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY
WISHES TO THANK THE FOLLOWING
ALUMNI, PARENTS, AND FRIENDS
FOR THEIR GENEROUS SUPPORT:

Dr. Robert L. Baker (BA ’59, MA ’60)
Ms. Julie C. Broadbent (BA ’09)
Dr. Cynthia A. Crosby (BA ’60)
Mr. Dennis M. Horn (BA ’72)
Mr. Arthur Raphael Miller (BA ’56)
Ms. Fukumi Orikasa (BA ’15)
Mrs. Nancy K. Rice (BA ’58)
Mr. Stephen Robert Silverstein (BA ’76) and
Mrs. Susan H. Silverstein (BA ’78)
Mr. David Alan Stein (BA ’72)
Mr. Randall B. Whitestone (BA ’83) and Mrs.
Lisa T. Whitestone
Mr. David C. Yao (BA ’15, BS ’15)

2015 COMMENCEMENT

PHDs AWARDED

Douglas J. Flowe
“Tell the Whole White World: Crime, Violence, and
Black Men in Early Migration New York City”

Jeffrey Ludwig
“Christopher Lasch: A Life
Volume One: History as Social Criticism”

MAS AWARDED

Joseph William Pekarek
James Samuel Rankine
Daniel Wayne Rinn
Jonathan Heschel Strassfeld
Bret David Waples

BAS AWARDED

MAJORS:
Addison Ault
David Balat
Kaight Conheady
Magna Cum Laude, Highest Distinction
Rachel Eskridge
Distinction
Kristina J. Fricker
Highest Distinction
Anima Ghmire
Alexander Gundel
Kara Meaghan King
Zachary Leja
Summa Cum Laude, Highest Distinction
Niklas Malmstrom
Fukumi Orikasa
Cum Laude, Highest Distinction
Tristan Sharp
Highest Distinction
Daniel Siever
Margaret Speer
Magna Cum Laude, Highest Distinction
Niary Tajerian
Gala K. Tubera
Grace Elizabeth Wagner
Magna Cum Laude, Highest Distinction
James Wojakowski
David Wyman
GRADUATE PRIZES AND AWARDS

Meyers Graduate Teaching Prize
To the graduate student who has
Demonstrated excellence in teaching.
Adam Stauffer

Harkins Prize
In Memory of William F. Harkins, Jr. to a graduate student
who has written the best seminar paper.
James Rankine

VanDeusen Award
To support a fourth year graduate student's dissertation research
in the field of American 19th-century history.
Kyle Robinson

Willson Coates Book Prize
To the graduate student most fully demonstrating historical imagination and the capacity for research in British history, European intellectual history, or philosophy of history.
Phillip Koyoumjian

Sanford Elwitt Memorial Prize
To a graduate student in European history for research and travel, in memory of Professor Sanford Elwitt.
Andrew Kless

Donald Marks “Dexter Perkins Prize”
This prize is to perpetuate the name of Dexter Perkins and is to encourage and assist a worthy student in history in his/her cultural and intellectual development.
Lyle Rubin
Jonathan Strassfeld

David B. Parker Memorial Prize
To the graduate student in the PhD program who best exemplifies David B. Parker’s qualities of historical imagination and dedication to learning.
Michael Read

Lina and A. William Salomone Prize
To the graduate student in the PhD program who has done outstanding work in European cultural and intellectual history.
Samuel Claussen

Dorothy Rosenberg-Passer Award
To support a student pursuing a graduate degree.
Justin Trakas

UNDERGRADUATE HONORS, PRIZES, AND AWARDS

HONORS IN HISTORY

Kaight Conheady
“Hitler’s Ideological Barbarians: The Effects of Brutalization on Wehrmacht Conduct after Barbosa”

Rachel Eskridge
“‘With Her Union Card and Her Irish Eloquence’: Irish-American Women, Trade Unionism, and the Pursuit of Suffrage”

Fukumi Orikasa
“Deciphering Medieval Love: Elusive Voices on the Social Realities of Courtly Love”

Tristan Sharp
“Organized-Peace in High Medieval German: From Imperial Landfrieden to Leagues of Peace”

Grace Elizabeth Wagner
“Hollywood Makes Do: Propaganda and the Mechanism of Film During World War II”

Take Five Scholars—Academic Enrichment Program
Daniel Siever

Kauffman Entrepreneurial Year Scholar—Generating and Transforming Ideas into Enterprises that Create Value
Anima Ghimire

Christopher Lasch Fellows in American History
Daniel Siever

N.B. Ellison Prize
To the member of the senior class concentrating in history who has done the best work in the department.
Tristan Sharp
Willson Coates Senior Honors Essay
Prize in History
To the senior student who has written
the best senior essay in the department this year.
Kaight Conheady

History Seminar Prize
To the student who has written the best History Seminar paper.
Eva Reynolds

Hugh MacKenzie Memorial Prizes
To the freshman woman who has shown the highest achievement and interest in The West and the World to 1500.
Franziska Mangot
To the freshman woman who has shown the highest achievement and interest in The West and the World since 1492.
Monica Masterson

Webb Prize
To the undergraduate student who has done the best work in a course dealing with the Black experience in America.
Daniel Parker

Herbert Lawrence Sadinsky Memorial Prize
To the best undergraduate history paper on an aspect of World War II.
Grace Wagner

Phi Beta Kappa—Academic Honors Society
Kaight Conheady
Zachary Leja
Daniel Siever
Margaret Speer
Grace Elizabeth Wagner

Phi Alpha Theta—History Honors Society
Daniel B. Browning
Rachel Eskridge
Niklas Malmstrom
Shiv Patel
Russell Pizzo
Alicia J. Spiegel
David A. Wyman
We are delighted to present this publication of the History Department at the University of Rochester as a means by which to communicate current news and future directions to colleagues, alumni, and friends. We look forward to hearing from all of you.

We especially appreciate any suggestions or submissions for future issues of the newsletter. Let us know how you’re doing. We’ll also be happy to answer questions from prospective students.