GRADUATE HISTORY PROGRAM REVAMPED, EFFECTIVE FALL 2008

The history department has just finished its first comprehensive review and revision of the graduate program since the early 1990s. In the fall of 2006, the Graduate Steering Committee began the process by gathering information about both Villanova's program and programs around the country. In January 2007, the Committee presented its findings and proposals to an all-day workshop at the Villanova Conference Center. Benefiting from the extensive discussions at the workshop, the Committee, which was renamed a Task Force in fall 2007, prepared a series of detailed proposals concerning the shape of the program, degree requirements and the comprehensive examinations. After consultation with the Graduate Student Advisory Committee and fine-tuning at meetings of the entire graduate faculty, the new program was approved to take effect with students beginning course work in fall 2008 and after. Incoming students have been informed concerning the changes and advisement explaining its implications has begun. The program and the new composition of the comprehensive exams were detailed at the Writing Workshop for new students in late August 2008.

Three principles guided the revision. The first was to take cognizance of important changes within the discipline of history that privilege transnational and global perspectives. Second, the new program would reflect the needs of our students in an increasingly globalized world. The third was to allow students the most flexibility and freedom to construct courses of study that met their individual needs and interests.

Concentrations

The most important change concerned the seven major fields available to students. Their traditional geographical and chronological character constrains the students' historical vision in ways that were not fully reflective of historical reality. Borders based on 19th century nationalism and other arbitrary geographical regions obscure the flow of the people, goods and ideas that bound together neighboring cultures and widely

continued on page 4

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY CELEBRATES FACULTY AUTHORS

It was a full house on Friday, November 30th in the Presidents’ Lounge at the Connelly Center when the department of history celebrated five faculty authors at a book party. Friends and family joined in celebrating publications by (pictured above, left to right) Marc Gallicchio, Ph.D., Jeffrey Johnson, Ph.D., Maghan Keita, Ph.D., Paul Steege, Ph.D., and Paul Rosier, Ph.D. The books represent the Department’s broad geographical expertise and the faculty’s commitment to interdisciplinary collaboration.


Inside this Issue

History Program Revamped 1
Faculty Authors 1
Faculty News 2
Current Student News 6
Graduate Forum 7
Ursinus Conference 7
Faculty News


Jessey Choo, Ph.D., was awarded a research grant from the Center for Chinese Studies of Taiwan's Ministry of Education. She will work closely with a group of scholars at the Institute of Chinese Literature and Philosophy at the Academia Sinica.

In addition to beginning his term as chair of the department, Marc Gallicchio, Ph.D., edited and contributed to The Unpredictability of the Past: Memories of the Asia Pacific War in U.S.-East Asian Relations (Duke University Press 2007). On the occasion of Chinese New Year and Black History Month, Dr. Gallicchio was interviewed about African American encounters with China in the 20th century on WNWR (AM 1540 Philadelphia).

Judith Giesberg, Ph.D., gave a series of talks at the Union League Club of Philadelphia: “A New Kind of Recruit: Missionaries and Medical Workers,” "A Separate Battle: Women and the Civil War," "To Stand Erect and Maintain Our Rights: Philadelphia Seamstresses’ Civil War," and "The unclean devil which tortures this country:" Moral Culpability and Civil War Prisoners of War.” She also gave “Words Cannot Adequately Describe: Framing Civil War Prisoners of War” at the National Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association Annual Conference in San Francisco. Dr. Giesberg delivered the 2008 Henry Whitney Bellows Lecture at The Unitarian Church of All Souls in New York City: “War and the Legacy of Women’s Work for the United States Sanitary Commission.” She also conducted three teacher workshops on "Women in the Civil War" for the American Institute for History Education (AIHE), and was interviewed for AIHE’s Teacher Tube, a website of downloadable podcasts. She is helping plan the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission’s statewide commemoration of the sesquicentennial of the U.S. Civil War in 2009 – 2015.

Christopher Haas, Ph.D., published “Kôm El-Dikka in Context: The Auditoria and the History of Late Antique Alexandria” in Alexandria Auditoria of Kôm El-Dikka and Late Antique Education (University of Warsaw, 2007), a special supplement to The Journal of Juristic Papyrology.


Catherine Kerrison, Ph.D., wrote Claiming the Pen: Women and Intellectual Life in the Early American South and it was named Outstanding Book of 2007 by the History of Education Society. In addition, Dr. Kerrison has been awarded a year-long postdoctoral fellowship from the American Association of University Women of only 97 from over 1100 applicants. Dr. Kerrison also presented “The Geographies of Female Intellectual Life at Monticello,” to the Virginia Forum Conference, at Mary Washington University, Fredericksburg, Virginia.
Elizabeth Kolsky, Ph.D., was Visiting Fellow for 2007 – 2008 at the British Academy in London and Visiting Scholar at the Center for the Social History of Health and Healthcare, University of Strathclyde, Scotland. She has also been awarded a prestigious National Science Foundation Fellowship for 2008 – 2009. Her “Crime and Punishment on the Tea Plantations of Colonial India” appeared in Modern Histories of Crime and Punishment, Markus Dirk Dubber and Lindsay Farmer, eds. (Stanford University Press, 2007). During her British Academy Fellowship she presented “White Violence and the Ambiguous Promise of ‘British Justice’ in Late 19th Century India” at the University of London’s School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) and “White Peril: Law and Lawlessness in Early Colonial India,” at the University of Edinburgh Centre for South Asian Studies.


Timothy McCall, Ph.D., delivered “The Gendering of Libertas and the International Gothic: Carlo Crivelli’s Ascoli Annunciation” at the College Art Association Conference in New York and “Bramante’s Coro Finto and the Miraculous Madonna of Santa Maria presso San Satiro in Milan,” at the Annual Meeting of the Renaissance Society of America in Miami.


Charlene Mires, Ph.D., was guest editor for an issue of Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography commemorating the 25th anniversary of Philadelphia: A 300-Year History, edited by Russell Weigley. Dr. Mires also contributed “Philadelphia: The History of a History,” an edited roundtable interview with the surviving authors and staff members of Weigley’s original project. Dr. Mires held two training sessions for National Park Service rangers on “The Promise and Paradox of Liberty: Fugitive Slaves and Independence Hall” at Independence National Historical Park. She is co-facilitator of the National Council on Public History working group, “Finding Common Ground Between Interpreters and Historians,” and has served on the Scholars-in-Residence selection committee for the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission. Dr. Mires has also been selected as a Penn Humanities Forum Mellon Regional Faculty Research Fellow for the 2008 – 09 academic year to conduct research on the establishment and siting of the United Nations.


Paul Rosier, Ph.D., wrote an article, “They are Ancestral homelands’: Race, Place, and Politics in Cold War Native America, 1945 – 1961” and it appeared in the Journal of American History and won the Western History Association’s 2007 Arrell Gibson Award for best essay (2006) on the history of Native Americans. This article will also be included in the Organization of American History’s The Best American History Essays to be published by Palgrave Macmillan in 2008. Dr. Rosier also co-edited the book, Echoes from the Poisoned Well: Global Memories of Environmental Injustice, (Lexington Books, 2006), with Sylvia Hood Washington, Ph.D., and Heather Goodall, Ph.D.

Paul Steege, Ph.D., participated in a University of Michigan-Ann Arbor symposium on “Practices and Power in the Everyday Life of the Twentieth Century.” His “Black Market, Cold War: Everyday Life in Berlin,” at Falvey Library was the subject of a panel discussion at the Woodrow Wilson Center for International Affairs.

Mark Sullivan, Ph.D., lectured on “American Art of the Post-War Period: How America Came to Lead the Art World,” at the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts.

Rebecca Lynn Winer, Ph.D., presented “Conscripting the Breast: Lactation, Slavery, and Salvation in the Thirteenth-Century Realms of Aragon and Majorca,” at the University of Nebraska at Lincoln. Dr. Winer also delivered “Daily Life, the Longue Duree and the History of Jewish Women in Medieval Perpignan,” at the Annual Conference of the Association for Jewish Studies in Toronto for a special session she organized in memory of her friend and colleague Dr. Elka Bath Klein (1965 – 2005).
separated regions. Contemporary economic networks are, after all, only the most recent form that globalization has taken throughout human history.

In place of the seven major fields the department now offers sixteen concentrations (see below). Alongside of one for the United States, four other concentrations are based on regions or continental masses. Another concentration on the “Americas” was held in abeyance until we replace our Latin Americanist. Eight concentrations are topical in nature, like “Women and Gender” and “Industrial Societies.” The fourteenth concentration is purely chronological. Students interested in this concentration would select an historically significant period without any geographical limits, for example, the world of the nineteenth century. Periods could also be defined using non-Western periodization, such as post Hegira. Public History comprises the fifteenth concentration, which has more specific requirements based on professional needs. The last concentration is completely self-defined. Students submit a cogent rationale and possible course of study for approval by their advisor and the director of the graduate program. The key to successful use of the entire new concentration system is close consultation between students and their academic advisors.

**Public History Concentration**

The public history concentration builds on the History Department's longstanding relationships with historic sites, museums, and archives to prepare graduate students for careers or community service in these settings. This concentration combines seminar discussions of public history issues with practical experience and in-depth study of United States history. The required seminar in the concentration is Public History, which introduces students to the literature, theory and practice of the field. This is followed by an Introduction to Public History as well as suitable electives in United States History.

The courses in the Public History Concentration have been introduced into the M.A. program over the last five years. To date, students have completed internships at the National Archives, Valley Forge National Historical Park, Cliveden of the National Trust and the Philadelphia Archdiocesan Archives. In the first offering of the Public History Practicum, during Spring 2007, one team of students completed research necessary for restoration of the Catholic Chaplain’s Office at the Eastern State Penitentiary Historic Site. An additional team completed interpretive studies of monuments at Valley Forge. Meetings with public history professionals on campus led to opportunities for employment with the Once Upon a Nation history story-telling project in Philadelphia and the ExplorePAHistory.com web project.

**Requirements**

Students are required to take at least four classes in their concentration. We have retained the requirement of at least one course in Historiography. The remaining five courses are free electives. Students may choose to increase the number of classes in their concentration, select a second concentration, write a thesis, or simply pursue their varied interests.
Comprehensive Examinations

Currently, comprehensive exams are divided into three parts: a two-hour morning exam in the student's major field and two one-hour afternoon exams in minor fields. The program revision of necessity required changes in the examination structure since there will no longer be minor fields. The faculty took this as an opportunity to reconsider the purpose and usefulness of the comprehensive examination requirement. While a traditional examination on a student's concentration made sense as both an assessment of student achievement and a spur to synthesize the results of individual courses, the faculty decided to make creative use of the afternoon exams to address larger issues in the study of history. At the beginning of their studies, students will be given nine important general questions facing historians that they will consider as they take classes. These questions, or at least some of them, might be addressed explicitly in their courses. But it would be the responsibility of the student to consider them even in classes where they are not. Students would then be asked to respond to two of the questions on the day of the exam, such as "Does history normally proceed in fairly steady evolution, or is most historical change effected in series of rapid and radical disjunctures?" and "Which has been more important in advancing our understanding of the past, the discovery and use of new sources of information or the application of new methods and approaches?" (See Comprehensive Exam Questions at right.)

Students in Dr. Judith Giesberg's History of Nineteenth Century Reform class visited Eastern State Penitentiary (ESP) on May 1, 2008.

For more information about the graduate program in history, please visit www.gradhistory.villanova.edu.
GRADUATE STUDENT UPDATE

Michael Smith '94. After several years of teaching at Ithaca College on term contracts, Smith was hired for a tenure-eligible position. In April 2008 he and his wife Kristen welcomed to the world Isaiah Peter Brennan Smith, their second son.

Deve Clark '95, a lieutenant colonel in the United States Army, completed his third combat tour of duty in Iraq and returned home for good in January 2008. Clark has completed the comprehensive exams and begun work on his doctoral dissertation on the presidency of Millard Fillmore within his major field of 19th-century American political history. His minor fields include Public History and 18th- and 19th-century urbanization in Paris, London and Vienna.

Ed McNamara '95 enjoys trying to develop interesting new lessons while teaching his usual history courses to middle and high school students. McNamara recently met one of the “Little Rock 9” at a workshop and was able to develop a lesson plan on the integration of Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas in the late 1950s. During the summer of 2007, Ed and his wife, Denise, also spent three weeks exploring parts of Slovenia and Croatia.

Mary Jane Morrissey '96 retired in February 2008 from the registrar’s office at Villanova University. Congratulations, Mary Jane!

Paul Bartels '02 completed an M.A. for his teaching certification at the University of Portland, Oregon, and is now teaching history at a middle school in Lakeview, Oregon.

Martei Radu '03 attended Villanova Law School and in his third year advanced to the finalist stage in the U.S. Fulbright competition. After pursuing his M.A. in the history of international relations at the London School of Economics, Radu is serving as an adjunct professor in the Villanova Center for Liberal Education.

David Goldberg '07 has been accepted into the doctoral program in History at West Virginia University (WVU) with full funding. Goldberg will work with Peter Carmichael, Ph.D., the Endowed Chair of the Civil War Studies Program at WVU.

Rachel Wineman '07 was admitted to four doctoral programs—the University of Wisconsin-Madison, the University of Maryland, the University of Massachusetts-Amherst, and the University of California, San Diego (UCSD). She has accepted the UCSD offer for several reasons including their outstanding professors, their excellent science studies program, the lovely campus and the San Diego/Eugene Cota-Robles Fellowship award. This award includes a five-year funding package that covers tuition and fees including a stipend for the first two years, a TA for the third and fourth year, and funding for her dissertation research year. Congratulations, Rachel!

Michael Chornesky '08 wrote an article “Visceral History: Interpreting Independence National Historical Park,” that will be published in the Hindsight Graduat History Journal, offered by the History Department of California State University-Fresno. The journal is to be unveiled at a conference called “Discourse and History,” and will feature a number of graduate student presentations along with a keynote address by a University of California, Los Angeles professor. Chornesky's paper, which connects interpretations at the park to underlying historiographic trends, including Robert Bellah's concept of “civil religion” and the shift from “consensus” to “social” forms of American history, will also be published in the 2008 issue of the Villanova graduate student journal Concept.

Hillary Kativa '08 and Lance Eisenhower '08 will be presenting the results of work on the Eastern Penitentiary Catholic Chaplain's office at the Pennsylvania Historical Association annual meeting in Bethlehem, October 16 – 18, 2008. Their help restoring the Chaplain's office was part of the department's Public History Practicum in spring 2007 that was conducted by Charlene Mires, Ph.D.

Hilary Kativa '08 received offers of admission to both Rutgers University and Simmons College in Boston for the Master of Library and Information Science. She has decided to attend Rutgers.

John Gilbert '09 had his paper titled “Jimmy Carter’s Human Rights Policy and Iran: A Re-examination, 1976 – 1979” chosen to be published in the 2008 issue of Concept, the graduate student journal at Villanova.
HISTORY GRADUATE STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN CONFERENCE AT UR SINUS COLLEGE

Four history graduate students joined seven Villanova undergraduates to present their research at the Regional Phi Alpha Theta Student History Conference at Ursinus College. The all-day conference on April 5, 2008 included papers by more than forty students from a dozen different colleges and universities in Pennsylvania and New Jersey. The Villanova graduate students who participated were David Heayn, who presented his research on “Veritatis Romanitas: Seeking Roman Culture in 6th and 7th Century Western Europe”; Sarah Beiter, whose paper was titled “From Indifference to Hatred to Friendship: Japanese-American Relations and World War II”; Michael Chornesky, who presented a paper on “Protected Advance: An Analytical Biography of Brigadier-General John Forbes”; and Michael Szustak, whose paper “Surrounded on All Sides” explored the life and legacy of Ukrainian anarchist Nestor Makhno. The prizes for the best graduate student papers in American and European history were awarded to two of the Villanova graduate participants, Michael Chornesky and David Heayn, respectively.

GRADUATE FORUM

Under Jessica Delisi’s outstanding leadership, the Graduate Forum offered graduate students a number of stimulating conversations about the practical and the intellectual dimensions of graduate history education. Sessions included the annual “Do You Really Want To Go On For A Ph.D. In History” roundtable of history faculty; Craig Bailey, Ph.D.’s enlightening talk on how to get an article published; a presentation by Dr. Bailey and Timothy McCall, Ph.D., on the hows and why’s of presenting research at academic conferences; Adele Lindenmeyr, Ph.D.’s engaging session on the joys and challenges of her ongoing book project; a visiting lecture by a U.S. Stata Department official, invited by Marc Gallichio, Ph.D.; and an end-of-the-semester lunch that brought faculty and students together one last time. The History Department faculty recognized Delisi for her hard work organizing these events by awarding her the Graduate Forum Prize at the Phi Alpha Theta luncheon in April 2008.
In "Political Economy of Health Care in Senegal," (Brill, 2006), Dr. Keita presents a political economic history of the three and a half-century rivalry between competing health care systems in Senagambia, focusing in particular on the historical agency of indigenous populations.

Dr. Johnson edited Frontline and Factory: Comparative Perspectives on the Chemical Industry at War, 1914 – 1924, (Dordrecht, NL: Springer, 2006), with Roy M. MacLeod, Ph.D., a collection that resulted from an international conference the co-editors organized in Bologna, Italy, in June 2002.

Echoes from the Poisoned Well: Global Memories of Environmental Injustice, (Lexington Books, 2006), represents Dr. Rosier's editorial debut. Dr. Rosier co-edited the book with Sylvia Hood Washington, Ph.D., and Heather Goodall, Ph.D. Poisoned Well examines environmental justice struggles across the globe from the perspective of environmentally marginalized communities, weaving together the work of scholars and community activists fighting against environmental inequalities.

Dr. Gallicchio edited The Unpredictability of the Past: Memories of the Asia-Pacific War in U.S.-East Asian Relations, (Duke University Press, 2007), a book that brings together an international group of historians who examine how collective memories of the Asia-Pacific War continue to affect relations among China, Japan and the United States. The essays provide a rich, multifaceted analysis of how the dynamic interplay between past and present is manifest in policymaking, popular culture and public commemorations.

All books are available at the University Shop in the Faculty Author's section, near Customer Service.