Judy Giesberg
joins
Tenure-Track Faculty
by Adele Lindenmeyr

Dr. Giesberg joins the faculty as an assistant professor beginning in fall 2004 after teaching in the department since 2002 in a temporary full-time position. An Americanist and specialist in women’s history, she came to Villanova from a tenure-track position at Northern Arizona University. Having earned her Ph.D. from Boston College in 1997, she published an expanded version of her doctoral dissertation as *Civil War Sisterhood: The United States Sanitary Commission and Women’s Politics in Transition* (Northeastern University Press, 2000). Her current research examines women’s responses to the economic dislocation brought on by the US Civil War and the loss of male wages. She is interested in how working-class women in the urban and rural North struggled to control their labor and keep their families together. An early result of this research is her new article, “Lawless and Unprincipled: Women in Boston’s Civil War Draft Riot,” in *Boston’s Histories: Essays in Honor of Thomas O’Connor* (2004). Dr. Giesberg will teach graduate seminars on US women’s and social history during the Civil War era. She lives in Havertown with her husband, Dr. Edward Fierros, Assistant Professor of Education at Villanova, and their two little boys, Diego and Pablo.

Department Hires South Asian Specialist, Elizabeth Kolsky
by Adele Lindenmeyr

The department is finally able to offer graduate as well as undergraduate courses on the history of the Indian subcontinent thanks to the appointment of Dr. Elizabeth Kolsky, who will join the faculty as an assistant professor in August 2004. Since completing her Ph.D. degree in History at Columbia University in 2002, she has been an assistant professor of history at Pratt Institute in New York. Dr. Kolsky's work combines her interests in feminist historiography, the history of law and crime, and colonialism. Her dissertation, "The Body Evidencing the Crime": Gender, Law and Medicine in Colonial India," examines the codification of criminal law in India and its unintended consequences for the status of women in colonial and post-colonial South Asia, and illuminates the origins and implications of the British rulers’ ideas about Indian difference. Fluent in Hindi and Urdu, Dr. Kolsky has spent long periods of time living and studying in South Asia. Beginning in Spring 2005 she will teach graduate courses on South Asian history, colonialism, and feminist theory.

New Books by History Department Faculty

2003-2004 was a productive year for the history department faculty. In addition to publishing articles and presenting papers at conferences in the US and abroad, members of the department published the following new books:

- German Industry and Global Enterprise: BASF: The History of a Company, co-edited by Jeffrey A. Johnson (Cambridge University Press, 2004). This history of one of Germany’s leading transnational chemical corporations includes Dr. Johnson’s lengthy chapter on the company’s history from 1900-1925 and its role in Germany’s use of chemical weapons during World War I.

- Managing Egypt’s Poor and the Politics of Benevolence, 1800-1952 (Princeton University Press, 2003). See the
article on Dr. Ener on page 5.

- Native American Issues (Greenwood Press, 2003). Dr. Paul Rosier examines the historical background and current debates connected with several major controversies, such as the use of Native American names and images for sports teams, land claims and gambling, and the repatriation of sacred objects and remains from museums and collections.

- Tourist Third Cabin: Steamship Travel in the Interwar Years (Palgrave Macmillan, 2003). Researched and written by Dr. Alexander Varias with his wife, Chestnut Hill College history professor Dr. Lorraine Coons, this book “offers a window into a bygone era in which modern steamships like the Queen Mary, the Normandie, and the Olympic transported new breeds of tourists between Europe and North America and dazzled them with their technological marvels and palatial interiors.”

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**Eulogy for Dr. Alexander Rudhart (1930-2003)**

by Dr. Bernard Reilly, Professor of History Emeritus

October 1, 2003

On a morning such as this one we may be pardoned for hoping that Villanova University is doing well at recruiting its new faculty for it has indeed lost a substantial one in Professor Alexander Rudhart.

Alex, like many of our generation, was fortunate in the time of his birth. He was just too young to have been drafted into the German army before 1945 and so survived the war to live into perhaps the greatest period of peace and prosperity that the Western World has ever experienced. Albeit, his good fortune developed slowly and by dint of heroic effort on his part.

After earning his Doctor Juris Utriusque at the University of Vienna in 1952 he came to the United States in 1953 and served, initially, in a teaching assistantship at the University of Pennsylvania. I first met him when we were both working evenings in unholy penury in the check-transit department of the former Central-Penn National Bank of Philadelphia. Alex came to Villanova in 1954 and I in 1955, where we both worked in holy poverty instead.

But it may well be said that Alexander Rudhart was born to be a university professor. Despite a regulation, fifteen hour teaching load averaging one hundred and fifty students each semester, he seized upon Villanova’s sabbatical program in 1961 and 1962 to earn a doctorate in Modern European History. By 1968 he had already been awarded a contract for his book in 20th Century European History from J. B. Lippincott.

The book was very well received. I might remark, parenthetically, that Alex was one of the very few scholars that I have known, for whom English was not a native language, who wrote in that language with a grace and style that few Americans could equal.

But that was typical of the man and the professor. His classes were unremittingly, demandingly, intellectual in their presentation – and the students flocked to them. His classes in content were political and diplomatic history, given with the rigor and the specificity that those subjects demand – and the students flocked to them. His classes were traditional in their lecture format, requiring his auditors to analyze and internalize their content minute by minute – and the students flocked to them.
Such activity was the joy of his life but not his sole joy assuredly. He had a formidable knowledge of and appreciation for classical music, as befitted a one-time member of the famed Vienna Boys’ Choir. In the arts generally his favorite period and style was, perhaps, the Baroque. He also found painting one of the pleasures of his leisure and among my own possessions I fondly claim one of his works, given to me on my own retirement. But then, Alex sometimes painted houses too. He was occupied with painting his and Kate’s vacation home in Brigantine even late this summer.

Alex liked cars as well; powerful, fast cars and his driving of them created minor legends in the Philadelphia region. There was also, while his health held, a boat for sailing the waters in and around Brigantine, Egg Harbor Bay, and the ocean off Atlantic City. He liked food, especially Chinese food, and was known often to drive up to New York City late at night where he claimed to know the best Chinese restaurant in the country. He was very fond of travel and returned to Europe often. Still, it could be fairly said that he came to the United States a partisan of most things Germanic but became gradually, very gradually, a partisan of most things American.

But, these things being said, at the core of his being, as a public man, was the professor. In that role he expected nothing less than the best from himself. And that best he rendered for close to half a century to Villanova and to his students. His contribution will be missed. His contribution should be emulated.

**Faculty News - 2004**

**Dr. Marc Gallicchio** has been selected as a Fulbright Visiting Lecturer at the University of the Ryukyus (Okinawa, Japan) for the academic year 2004-05. He will be teaching courses on U.S. History with a special emphasis on U.S.-East Asian relations. Dr. Gallicchio chaired a panel at the annual meeting of the American Historical Association on Memory and Chinese-Japanese-American Relations. His paper was on “Memory and the Lost Found Relationship Between African Americans and Japan.” The conference met January 9-12 in Washington, D.C. The book, American Foreign Relations Since 1600: A Guide to the Literature, Robert L. Beisner, editor, for which Dr. Gallicchio served as a contributing editor, was named a Choice Outstanding book for 2003. Dr. Gallicchio contributed Chapter 26 “The United States, Japan, Korea, and the Pacific since 1961.”

**Dr. Judith Giesberg** published her new article, “Lawless and Unprincipled: Women in Boston’s Civil War Draft Riot,” appearing in a tribute to her advisor: Boston’s Histories: Essays in Honor of Thomas O’Connor, David Quigley and James O’Toole, eds., Northeastern University Press, 2004. Dr. Giesberg has been awarded a grant for summer research from the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission Scholars in Residence program. The grant will support six weeks of archival work in Harrisburg this summer.

**Dr. Catherine Kerrison** has been awarded a two-month fellowship by the International Center for Jefferson Studies, Monticello, Charlottesville, VA, for her new project, “Martha and Maria Jefferson and the American Republic of Letters.”

During August 2003, **Dr. Rachel O'Toole** presented a paper entitled ""From the Same Land": Colonial Casta and African Networks in Seventeenth-Century Peru," at the International Seminar on the History of the Atlantic World, 1500 - 1800 of Harvard University and in March 2004, she presented "Constructing Casta, Creating Colonialism: Coastal Andeans and 'Indian' Categories" at the Rocky Mountain Council for Latin American Studies in Santa Fe, New Mexico. She was invited to speak as part of the Latin American Studies Speaker Series: Equality, Race, and Identity at Connecticut College in April 2004 and will be presenting at the D'Arcy McNickle Center for American Indian History during her short-term residency at the Newberry Library in May 2004. Additionally, Dr. O'Toole received a Villanova Faculty Summer Research Fellowship and Research Support Grant, Beinecke Rare Book & Manuscript Library John D. and Rose H. Jackson Post-Doctoral Research Fellowship, John Carter Brown Library Post-Doctoral Research Fellowship funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities, and a Albert J. Beveridge Grant for Research in the History of the Western Hemisphere from the American Historical Association to complete research and writing of her book project, "Making Race, Marking Difference: Africans, Indians, and Casta in Colonial Peru (1640s - 1720s)."

**Professor Emeritus Bernard F. Reilly** was elected by the Board of Trustees of the Hispanic Society of America to become an Honorary Fellow of the Society, a museum and library in New York City for the study of the arts and cultures of Spain, Portugal and Latin America.

**Fr. Joseph Ryan, OSA,** participated as a judge in the annual Krumbhaar Award Contest, a History of Medicine...
Dr. Seth Koven has been awarded a Summer Stipend from the National Endowment for the Humanities to support research on his project, "Voluntary Poverty and Global Citizenship in 20th Century Britain," during the summer of 2004.

Dr. Adele Lindenmeyr was honored by the Association for Women in Slavic Studies when it selected her to receive the Association's 2003 Outstanding Achievement Award, presented at the annual convention of the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies in Toronto on November 22, 2003. The award recognizes contributions to the field of Slavic women's studies in teaching, scholarship mentoring and service. A Russian translation of her article, “The First Soviet Political Trial: Countess Sofia V. Panina Before the Petrograd Revolutionary Tribunal” (The Russian Review, October 2001) has just appeared in the 2004 volume of the periodical Vsemirnoe slovo, published in St. Petersburg. In March 2004 she delivered a paper on her latest research, entitled “Philanthropy and Female Friendship: St. Petersburg-Petrograd-Leningrad, 1891-1931,” at two very different gatherings: first at the Institute of Gender and Women’s Studies of the American University in Cairo, then at the Delaware Valley Modern European History Conference at Chestnut Hill College. Finally, Dr. Lindenmeyr has just completed the copyediting on a book left unfinished when its author, a close friend and fellow graduate student, died in early 2002. The book is The Life of a Russian Woman Doctor: A Siberian Memoir, 1869-1954, by Anna Bek (translated and edited by Anne D. Rassweiler, with a foreword and additional notes by Adele Lindenmeyr). It will be published in October 2004 by Indiana University Press.

Dr. Charlene Mires was a co-winner of The Athenaeum of Philadelphia Literary Award for 2002 for her book Independence Hall in American Memory. The award is given to authors in the Philadelphia area who have written the most outstanding books during the prior year.


Dr. Mark Sullivan recently gave a paper at the annual meeting of the American Culture Association in San Antonio. It was entitled "Man of a Thousand Faces:" Henry David Thoreau in Recent American Portraiture." His article entitled “Meaning in N. C. Wyeth's Walden Pond Revisited” has just been published in The Concord Saunterer, a journal devoted to the study of Henry David Thoreau.

On May 7 Dr. Rebecca Winer delivered a paper entitled “From Generation to Generation, or, How Jewish parents supported their newly wed children in thirteenth-century Perpignan” at the 39th International Medieval Congress at Kalamazoo Michigan.

Tribute to Dr. Mine Ener

By Catherine Kerrison

Dr. Ener arrived at Villanova University in the fall, 1996, essay contest open to students in medical school. Winning essayists may be invited to submit their papers to Transactions & Studies of the College of Physicians, a scholarly publication, sponsored by the Wood Institute of the History of Medicine at the College of Physicians of Philadelphia. Fr. Ryan will give Grand Rounds to the Obstetrics Department at Yale Medical School on 14 October 2004.

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The History Department mourns the loss of Dr. Mine Ener, late associate professor of the Department of History and Director of the Center of Arab and Islamic Studies. Her life tragically cut short on August 30, 2003, Dr. Ener nonetheless established a legacy of innovative scholarship, dedicated teaching, and cherished memories in the hearts of her colleagues, friends, and students.

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Dr. Ener arrived at Villanova University in the fall, 1996,
from the University of Michigan, where she had begun the research that would be the foundation for her book Managing Egypt’s Poor and the Politics of Benevolence, 1800-1952 (Princeton 2003). Her goal, she once wrote, was nothing less than to “develop an entire sub-field of study” dedicated to “forms of charity (including Islamic and Judaic-Christian traditions) and assistance to the poor within Middle Eastern societies.” Laboring in archives that (with the exception of the Ottoman archives in Istanbul) lack catalogs and indexing systems, she poured through mountains of paper, searching for any mention of the destitute and forgotten. Forging friendships with Egyptian scholars, she turned the lonely work of the researcher into a cooperative effort, as she learned of likely sources in long conversations with them. Her drive and persistence sometimes yielded serendipitous surprises, such as the seemingly innocuous Cairo municipal register that led her to a 20-volume record of relief recipients. Her insatiable curiosity led her beyond her initial inquiry about Egyptian charity to comparative studies, which then spawned a series of wide-ranging articles about charity in Istanbul, multiple colonial contexts, and an overview essay aimed at a broad, non-specialist readership.

The qualities that characterized Dr. Ener’s approach to her scholarship flowed into her teaching as well. She brought her archival work directly into the classroom, modeling the inseparable connection between the historian’s active research agenda and their teaching. Devoted to the promotion of peace among the world’s peoples, she brought the history of the Middle East to all levels of learning, from entering freshmen in world history surveys, to graduate students in specialized seminars.

Dedicated to her students, she insisted on meetings with each of her undergraduates to get to know them personally. For graduate students she was teacher, mentor, and friend. Linda Thomas (M.A., 1998), who served as Dr. Ener’s research and teaching assistant, spoke warmly of the mentor who taught her research techniques, secured funding for her own research trip to Egypt, and was instrumental in her successful application to New York University’s doctoral program in Middle Eastern Studies. “Over the years I turned to her for professional and personal guidance,” Thomas wrote, “and her door and her heart were always open.” Stephanie Fineman (M.A., 2003) honed her teaching skills under Dr. Ener’s tutelage and felt ready when she was offered the opportunity to teach her own course at Villanova in the fall of 2003. Despite the loss of her mentor just as she was beginning her own teaching career, Fineman said, “I teach with the confidence that Mine instilled in me and the knowledge that her legacy is the gift she gave to her students, who will carry it to their students.” Speaking for all who were graced to know Dr. Ener’s warmth and light, Fineman concluded, “In that way Mine is still alive.”

Mine Ener Memorial Fund

The History Department has established a memorial fund that will be used to commemorate Dr. Ener’s life and work. The funds will be used to furnish a renovated lounge/study area on the main floor of Falvey Library dedicated to Dr. Ener’s memory. All those who cherish Mine’s memory are invited to contribute to this memorial fund. These funds will be used to support the renovation as well as pay for a memorial plaque. While contributions of any amount will be gratefully received, we suggest a donation of approximately $20-25 to help us achieve our goals. We anticipate that the Mine Ener Lounge will be dedicated some time during the Fall term, 2004. Please make your check out to Villanova University and send your contribution to:

Mine Ener Memorial Fund  
c/o Christine Filiberti  
Department of History  
Villanova University  
Villanova, PA 19085

Full House at Rofinot’s!

Under the coordination of Ms. Catherine Holden and Dr. Rachel O’Toole the Graduate Forum continued to pack Rofinot’s Seminar Room in the past year! After soliciting graduate student input through both a questionnaire and an organizational meeting, the Graduate Forum kicked off the year in September with “Controversies, Courts, and Culture
Divides," an informal discussion of historical ethics. Dr. Marc Gallicchio explored the ethical issues of faculty serving as expert witnesses in recent trials of the tobacco industry. Dr. Paul Rosier discussed the responsibilities of historians who study Native American communities, especially as repatriation of artifacts and bones and tribal land claims are contested in court. Dr. Judy Giesberg capped the discussion with retrospective comments on the Sears case when women's historians presented testimony on both sides of the 1984-1985 case regarding discriminatory hiring and promotion of women employees at Sears Roebuck and Co.

In October, graduate students spent a Friday afternoon at the Mutter Museum, a historical medical collection in Philadelphia. Then, in response to graduate student requests, in November Dr. Catherine Kerrison explained the “Do’s and Don’ts of Publishing a Scholarly Article” as she detailed the process of revisions, drafts, and readers’ reports behind her recent publication in the Journal of Southern History. In January, back by popular demand, Dr. Emmet McLaughlin and Dr. Gallicchio conducted the second annual discussion on “Doctoral Programs in History: Expectations, Requirements, and Preparations” to an inquisitive audience.

The Forum responded to graduate students' requests and in March sponsored presentations by Dr. Chris Haas on the interpretation of ancient artifacts and Dr. Larry Little on the process of expanding his first published project in response to overlooked sources on the AME Church. The Graduate Forum concluded with student research presentations in April and looks forward to bringing together graduate students and faculty for stimulating discussion and conviviality next year.

Catherine Holden, second year graduate student in History, won the award for best graduate paper at the Fifteenth Annual Elizabeth Cady Stanton Conference (2004) for her paper "Offering Their Skirts: Gender, Tobacco, and Strikes in Ybor City, 1911-1916," written under the supervision of Dr. Rachel O'Toole.

**Graduate Update**

**Allen M. Hornblum** ('71) has written a book, *Acres of Skin: Human Experiments at Holmesburg Prison*, a history of abuse and exploitation in the name of medical science at the Philadelphia prison. John Kleinig, Director of the Institute for Criminal Justice Ethics at the John Jay College of Criminal Justice states that "... it shows how the authority of science has been used to effect officially sanctioned exploitation of the vulnerable."

**Dave Clark** ('95) has been accepted into the Ph.D. program at the University of Kansas for fall 2004, where he will pursue a degree in American history. Dave and his wife, Alison are also expecting the birth of their daughter, Josie.

**Fran Ryan,** ('95) received his Ph.D. in American history from the University of Pennsylvania in May 2003. He has accepted a tenure track position in twentieth-century United States urban and labor history at Moravian College, Bethlehem, PA.

**Araceli Duque** ('98) now lives in Seville, Spain and is completing her dissertation at the University of Madrid on

**In Memoriam**

The department was saddened to learn of the recent death of Vernice G. Vantries MA '70, a journalism teacher at Temple University, at age 86. Miss Vantries led a varied life before coming to Villanova to study history in the 1960s. After teaching school in the Midwest, she enlisted in the Army Air Corps, and served as a dispatcher at Westover Field in Massachusetts from 1943 to 1945. Moving to Philadelphia, she served as a governess at Girard College, a school for white orphaned boys, and then earned a bachelor's degree in journalism from Temple in 1953. She edited Temple's business journal and retired as assistant to the dean of the journalism school.

**Alan Morrell** ('02) is living in Bountiful, Utah with his wife and two children, and studying for his Ph.D. in history at the University of Utah.

Congratulations to two of our 2003 graduates, **Jason Guthrie and Sean P. Brennan**, who received the
the writings of the twentieth-century English historian and Catholic thinker Christopher Dawson. For more on his career, philosophy, and significance, see Araceli’s online article, "The Vision of Christopher Dawson," at http://www.geocities.com/dawsonchd/articles/Duque1.htm.

Rhonda Goodman ('98) has started courses at Stanford University toward her doctorate in Art History and Humanities. Rhonda graduated from the M.A. program at Winterthur Museum in Wilmington, Delaware. She then worked as Director of Education at the National Trust for Historic Preservation, which included contributions to the Woodlawn Plantation and the Pope-Leighey House by Frank Lloyd Wright.

Douglas Powell ('98) has just completed his residency requirements for the doctorate at Emory University in Early Modern European History. Supported by a continuing grant from the University, he will be spending the next year in France doing the research for his dissertation.

Linda Thomas ('98) is now the Journals Production Coordinator for the MIT Press in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Maria T. Williams ('99) is pursuing a doctoral degree at Temple University in African-American Studies with a graduate certificate in Women’s Studies.

Michael La Magna ('02) is working toward a degree in library science at St. John's University. He is receiving full financial support through an assistantship in the University Archives.

Graduate Studies Service Award for their contributions as co-editors of the graduate student research journal, Concept. The award recognizes “those individuals whose contributions to graduate studies have enhanced the scholarly activities” of the College.

Sean Brennan (03), has completed his first year in the history doctoral program at Notre Dame University. He was appointed the academic Vice President of the History Graduate Student Union, and he has completed two of the three seminar papers required. The first paper was an analysis of a series of reports from the Soviet political police on the schismatic Living Church movement from 1922-1923, using largely Russian primary sources. His area of specialization is Soviet Russia, with minors in 19th century Russia, 20th century Germany, and U.S. Foreign Relations. He will spend this summer at Notre Dame working on his Russian, and at the National Archives, University of Maryland, researching his last paper.

Jim Perrin ('04), after receiving offers from Temple and Penn State, has decided to attend Ohio State University this fall for his Ph.D. in history.

Jacob Kobrick '04, will be attending the Ph.D. program at the University of Maryland, focusing primarily on early twentieth-century American social and urban history.

Thomas Wirth '04 received full funding offers to history PhD programs at the State University of New York (SUNY) at Buffalo, University of Massachusetts-Amherst, and SUNY-Binghamton. He will attend SUNY-Binghamton and plans to focus on American labor history.

The March 11, 2004 Terrorist Attack in Madrid
By Araceli Duque '98

Spain suffered a violence on March 11th unlike anything in Europe since World War II. Our first reaction was one of disbelief; we just could not believe what human beings are capable of doing to each other. The response of society at large was amazing and truly uplifting. People traveled from all parts of Spain to Madrid to be with the victims; the government announced on Friday that no more blood was needed, as the response of people had overwhelmed hospitals; retired professionals worked full time, twenty-four hours a day to help those affected in any way possible; churches were full of people praying for the affected; hotels throughout Madrid provided free lodging to victims and their families; transportation was free throughout the country so that as many as possible could unite in the streets to show our disgust; Iberia Airlines announced that it would provide free transportation for the family members of victims from other countries; more than 11 million of us went out to the streets throughout Spain, in silence, to show our support for the victims and our outrage at the perpetrators. Since the attacked trains came from working-class neighborhoods, there were immigrants from thirteen different countries among them. One of the reasons why no one appeared to identify and claim some bodies was that they were afraid of being identified by the police, due to their illegal status. Thus, the first thing the Spanish government announced was that all the family members of those victims in the country illegally, would be made, ipso facto, Spanish citizens to remove fear of identifying their loved ones. I felt proud to be a Spaniard during these hours. There is hope for humanity, I thought.

Still in shock, we had to face voting on Sunday, March 14th. As people went out of their way to help those in need, others gathered all their strength to what amounted to a media campaign against the government. Rumors started to circulate that the attack had something to do with Al Qaeda, not the Basque separatist organization ETA. Interior minister Angel Acebes produced evidence that could perhaps involve Al Qaeda in the attacks, although nothing was
certain. Some radio and TV stations embarked on a full-scale campaign against Prime Minister Jose Maria Aznar, calling him a liar and an assassin, the Socialists appeared on TV asking the government to cease lying, and on Saturday, one day before the election, a group of people protested in front of the ruling Popular Party building screaming and yelling obscenities. The Spanish involvement in the Iraq war had never been popular among us, yet all the polls showed that the Popular Party would win the elections on Sunday. In a sense, we could say that Spain went to bed favoring the Popular Party’s candidate, Mariano Rajoy, and awoke Socialist the next day.

Not surprisingly, the first thing [Socialist Prime Minister] Zapatero has announced is that he will make good on his promise to remove Spanish troops from Iraq. He has also stated his conviction, in true incomprehension of democracy, that the government will seek the opinion of everyone, even those within our nation who want to kill and destroy our unity and our families: the terrorists and their political puppets. We will see whether this bears fruit, yet one cannot run on the philosophy that everyone can do as he pleases, and then condemn terrorist attacks as evil. It simply does not hold. Ultimately, we must realize that terrorists are not against a particular government, nation or ethnic group, but all people of good will throughout the world. Their aim is to cause divisions within governments and nations, so that we are weakened in our fight against them.

Graduate Students and the History Honor Society Phi Alpha Theta

Three graduating MA students, Alan H. Brown, Jacob Kobrick, and James K. Perrin, joined twenty-seven undergraduate students to be inducted into Villanova’s chapter of the national history honor society, Phi Alpha Theta, at the Villanova Conference Center on April 18, 2004. The department also presented graduate student Thomas Wirth ’04, co-winner with Lauren Rocco ’04 of the 2003 Carroll Prize for the best graduate history paper, with a new award for outstanding service to the graduate program, presented by the Graduate History Forum.

Post-Graduate Certificate Program Adds New Concentrations

Introduced in 2001, the Advanced Certificate Program in History enables those who already possess an MA degree in history or a related subject to continue taking graduate courses and, after completing five, to earn a certificate. The department just approved the introduction of areas of concentration in the certificate program; in addition to a general certificate, for which students choose courses on the basis of their own interests and needs, students may obtain a certificate in the fields of American history, European history to 1789, Europe since 1789, and World History. For more information contact Dr. Emmet McLaughlin, Graduate Program Director.

Historians at the Beach: Faculty Recommendations for Summer Reading

*Down to Earth: Nature's Role in American History*, by Ted Steinberg, Oxford University Press (ISBN: 0195140095). Passionately argued and thought-provoking, *Down to Earth* retells our nation's history with nature in the foreground—a perspective that will challenge our view of everything from Jamestown to Disney World. (Dr. Paul Rosier)


*The Winter Queen*, by Boris Akunin (Random House, pbk: 2004). For lovers of Russian history and the detective genre, Akunin's novels are a perfect combination. Akunin began publishing his highly popular detective series in 1998. Russian friends have raved about them to me for several years; now the first in the series, *The Winter Queen*, has appeared in English translation. His protagonist, Erast Fandorin, is an earnest young titular councilor in the Moscow investigative police, who finds himself entangled in a complex international plot involving spies, double agents, nihilists, dissipated young millionaires, an English lady philanthropist and a femme fatale. Set in 1876, the novel recreates the atmosphere of tsarist Moscow and Victorian London with vivid characters, gentle humor, and plot full of surprising (and sometimes not so surprising) twists. (Dr. Adele Lindenmeyr)
The next issue will be printed in Spring 2005. Please send your news to us at: georgiana.kilroy@villanova.edu.