

History Department Newsletter

Life After the History Degree

On March 12, Mike Flores, a distinguished alumnus of the CSULB History Department, visited the campus and spoke to students and faculty about Life After the History Degree. The following is an excerpt of what he has to say.

“What are you going to do with a history degree?” If I had a dime for every time I heard that question while at CSULB, I would be quite wealthy. Prior to majoring in history, I had my life planned out: I would major in Political Science and go to law school. Then, I took History

“What are you going to do with a history degree?”

340, taught by Dr. Donald Schwartz; that course and Professor Schwartz changed my life forever. I loved studying and learning about Cold War history: the Soviet Union, China, the Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia, the domino theory, and the Cuban Missile Crisis. I was so uncertain about this

sudden love of history that I addressed this issue with my newly found mentor, Dr. Schwartz. I will never forget his sage advice: ‘If you’re good at what you do, the jobs will come.’ I took a chance, declared a double major (PoliSci and History with honors), and never looked back. Little did I know the knowledge gained as a history major would serve me so very well in the future.

Today, as a U.S. diplomat, I continue to utilize the skills I learned as a history major. More importantly, my job requires me to build bridges between the United States and foreign governments and people. A large part of those connections is understanding people’s culture, values, and history. One of my favorite memories was a weekly discussion group on current Russian-U.S. relations in the American Center in Moscow; twenty-five Russian citizens attended regularly. We may not have agreed on every point, but I held my own and floored them with my knowledge of their history and society by quoting events, dates, and books in Russian history. The same group would come to my discussions each week for over a year to debate and talk. I have learned from traveling to over thirty countries and living overseas that today’s competitive job market requires one to relate to various nationalities/cultures. A degree in history not only gave me a huge head-start in obtaining that background, it also provided me with a well-paying, prestigious job with great benefits and opportunities to travel the world.



Abroad with Dr. Hood

David Hood lead his 22nd Winter Session Class to Europe this past Winter. Begun in 1989, The Greek World, an interdisciplinary class stressing history, art and literature, has traveled to Greece during the January Winter Session. In 1995, The Roman World was introduced, and the class was held in Italy. Since then, Dr. Hood has alternated taking students to Greece and Italy. As a treat for those students taking the class, he also leads optional ten-day “Pre-Trips” in December to visit the ancient sites in such places as Turkey and Egypt.

This year he took 6 students to Sicily before teaching The Roman World to 27 students in Italy. In January 2013 Dr. Hood will teach The Greek World



in Greece, and the December 2012 “pre-trip” will be to Egypt if stability is restored by that time.

Beginning in 2006, Dr. Hood has also taken graduate students to ancient sites in the early summer. In June 2009 he took six graduate students to visit Hadrian’s Wall in Northern England as well as to explore Greek and Roman sites in Provence. He plans a similar trip in June 2012. Some of Dr. Hood’s former students have established the Ancient History Scholarship Fund to support student travel to Greek and Roman sites with Dr. Hood. Both contributions to this fund as well as applications for funding are welcomed; potential donors as well as potential applicants should contact Dr. Hood for more information.

When not traveling and teaching ancient history, he serves as on the Academic Senate for the California State University. On campus, he serves on and chairs various committees in addition to serving as the campus’ WASC Accreditation Liaison Officer.

News from our Programs



The **Yadunandan Center for India Studies** has had an exceptional academic year in 2011-2012. In the Fall 2011, YCIS hosted the only Southern California visit of Prashant Bhushan, a key adviser to Anna Hazare and his team leading a large-scale anti-corruption campaign in India. Some 250 people attended this unique event. In March 2012, YCIS hosted a crowd of over 250 for the 10th Annual Uka and Nalini Solanki Lecture, at the Pointe, featuring internationally acclaimed author William Dalrymple. Dalrymple offered a preview of his new book on the First Afghan War and discussed its relevance to the situation in Afghanistan today. At the March gathering, the Center also coordinated with the California History Project to present the D.R. SarDesai Prize for the outstanding K-12 India-related lesson plan in the U.S., and the winner, Kathleen Marien, from Wisconsin, was awarded this year's prize. In January 2012, Co-Coordinators Arnold Kaminsky and Tim Keirn visited India for meetings with faculty and administrators at Lucknow and Calcutta Universities. Professor Eileen Luhr and fifteen CSULB students were there as well for a study-abroad program (see article). CSULB also sent a high-level delegation to discuss collaboration with universities in West Bengal in mid-April.



College of Liberal Arts
California State University
Long Beach

The **Jewish Studies Program** suffered a great loss in fall 2011, when the president of its leadership board, Jean Blakey, passed away. The Jewish Studies Program is greatly honored to announce that funds have been raised to establish a Robert and Jean Blakey scholarship to support students at CSULB.

In August 2011, the Program put on the second annual Teacher Training Workshop on the Holocaust, focusing on art and the Holocaust. This workshop provided pedagogical instruction to area teachers on how to cover this subject in high schools. Teacher participation increased by fifty percent, and planning is underway for the August 2012 workshop, which will examine extremes of behavior during and after the Holocaust.

In addition, the Jewish Studies Program continues to bring a variety of scholarly and cultural events to the campus and community. In addition to cosponsoring the annual Long Beach Jewish Film Festival, the Program has hosted numerous speakers, including Dr. Shai Cherry on Jewish postures toward science; Frances Dinkelspiel, author of *Towers of Gold: How Isaias Hellman Created California*; and the Russian documentarian Evgeny Tsymbal, who screened his latest film, *Diary From a Burned Ghetto*. For more information on the Program, the major and minor, and upcoming events, go to <http://www.csulb.edu/colleges/cla/programs/jewishstudies>.

It was a busy year for the **American Studies Program**, which continued to grow by attracting and serving a wide-range of students drawn to the major because of its interdisciplinarity, flexibility, and the questions it asks about American history and culture. In addition to taking classes within the major, students visited the Museum of Jurassic Technology, downtown Los Angeles, the Aquarium of the Pacific, the Watts Towers, and historical sites and archives in Long Beach as part of their studies. For more information on this exciting interdisciplinary major and minor, please contact Dr. Brett Mizelle, the program director and advisor, at brett.mizelle@csulb.edu, or consult the Program website: <http://www.csulb.edu/colleges/cla/programs/americanstudies/>.

The **Middle Eastern Studies Program**, housed in the History Department, is growing, as more students consider adding the minor to their undergraduate experience and education at CSULB. The Program encourages undergraduate students to acquire a broad and interconnected understanding of the dynamics of Middle Eastern and Central Asian societies, cultures, and histories by taking courses in a variety of disciplines including History, Arabic language, Political Science, Geography, Art History, International Business, and Religious Studies. In collaboration with the Middle East/Near East Sub-Committee of the International Education Committee (co-chaired by Professors Hourii Berberian and Ali İğmen) and the co-sponsorship of the History Department and other departments and programs, the Program organized a very well attended and successful talk by public intellectual and expert on the Middle East, Professor Juan Cole (Richard P. Mitchell Collegiate Professor of History at the University of Michigan) on the Arab Spring in November 2011. As developments unfolded in Syria and in order to help the campus acquire a better understanding of Syria's predicament, the Program screened Vincent de Cointet and Christophe Ayad's documentary, *Syria: The Assads' Twilight* (Icarus Films, 2011) in April 2012. For more information on pursuing the minor or to support the Program, please contact its acting Director for Spring 2012, Dr. Ali İğmen (Ali.igmen@csulb.edu). The Director, Dr. Hourii Berberian (hourii.berberian@csulb.edu), is currently on sabbatical and will return in Fall 2012.

Student News

Kevan Antonio Aguilar was a speaker at the university's Occupation Conference and conducted Getty Multicultural Internship over the summer. "Aiming to increase diversity in and provide support for Los Angeles-area museums and visual arts organizations, the Multicultural Undergraduate Internship program has funded substantive, full-time summer work opportunities for students at Los Angeles-area museums and visual arts organizations. Since the program's founding in 1993, more than 100 local arts institutions, including the Getty Center and the Getty Villa, have hosted over 2,500 undergraduates, exposing these students to career possibilities in the arts." (http://www.getty.edu/foundation/funding/leaders/current/multicultural_undergrad_internships.html)



Jazmine Contreras was elected to CSULB's chapter of the Phi Beta Kappa honor society. "Founded in 1776, Phi Beta Kappa is the oldest and most prestigious academic honor society in the United States. Phi Beta Kappa celebrates excellence in the liberal arts and sciences, serving as the nation's leading advocate for freedom of inquiry and expression, disciplinary rigor, breadth of intellectual perspective, the cultivation of skills of deliberation and ethical reflection, the pursuit of wisdom, and the application of the fruits of scholarship and research in practical life. The Phi Beta Kappa Society sponsors activities to advance these studies — the humanities, the social sciences, and the natural sciences — in higher education and in society at large.



The Rho Chapter of California was established at California State University, Long Beach in 1977. CSULB is one of 22 colleges and universities in California -- and only one of three in the California State University system -- to be granted a Phi Beta Kappa chapter. Our inclusion in this selective group of institutions is a testament to our university's excellence in the liberal arts and sciences. . ." (<http://www.csulb.edu/divisions/aa/phibetakappa/>)

Antonio J. Mendoza was accepted into the McNair Scholar Program (Dr. Guotong Li will be his advisor). ". . .The CSULB McNair Scholars Program provides academic support services, research opportunities and involvement in scholarly activities to thirty low-income, first-generation and underrepresented students enrolled at CSULB and prepares them for doctoral studies by working close with them through their undergraduate requirements, encouraging their entrance into graduate programs and tracking their progress to successful completion of advanced degrees." (<http://www.csulb.edu/divisions/students>)



Liliana Montalvo has received a Fulbright Award. Please see the full article on Ms. Montalvo's accomplishments on page 10.



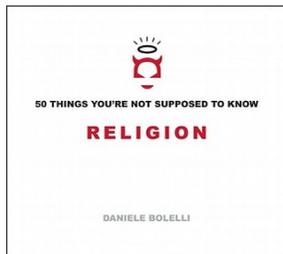
In the fall, the **History Students' Association** organized a variety of events. From the University of California, Irvine, the association invited Dr. Patricia Seed, who gave a lecture on the role of European colonial power in the Americas, and specifically, the conquest of the Americas. With the assistance of History Department professor Dr. Marisol Moreno, HSA co-sponsored a lecture and performance by Chicana activist and scholar, Martha Gonzalez of the East LA musical act Quezta. Gonzales discussed her research on transnational musical endeavors by *folklorico* musicians in Veracruz, Mexico.

For the spring semester, the association continued to actively promote history on campus. On March 7, 2012, the association sponsored a resume-writing workshop conducted by the department's own Dr. Jane Dabel. On April 4, 2012, in response to the controversial "KONY 2012" campaign of Invisible Children, Inc., a non-profit organization, the association hosted a talk by Long Beach's Dr. Kenneth Curtis entitled "Beyond KONY: Religion and Politics in Today's Uganda." For the upcoming fall semester, Long Beach's history undergraduates look forward to promoting history on campus and hope to cooperate further with history department faculty in that effort.

Published Faculty

Last year's department newsletter featured articles on the publications of two books celebrated at our annual book celebration in December 2011: Professor Sebouh Aslanian's *From the Indian Ocean to the Mediterranean: The Global Trade Networks of Armenian Merchants from New Julfa* (University of California Press, 2011) and Professor Brett Mizelle's *Pig* (Reaktion Press, 2011). In addition to these two authors and titles, the December Reception also celebrated the scholarly achievements of four other departmental authors who had books appear in 2011.

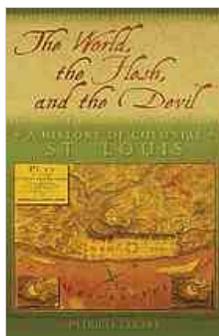
Professor Daniele Bolelli published *50 Things You're Not Supposed to Know: Religion* (The Disinformation Company), which presented fifty stories about strange and



little known anecdotes, characters, and events from the history of world religions. The Amazon description of the book provides teasers about the fifty items, noting, for example, that “the Tao Te Ching was only created because Lao Tzu was

thrown in jail by a disciple who didn't want to let him leave town without writing down his teachings.”

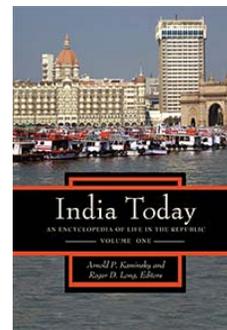
Professor Patricia Cleary's new book, *The World, the Flesh, and the Devil: A History of Colonial St. Louis* (University of Missouri Press), chronicled how in the 1760s, the French outpost of St. Louis was expanding into a diverse global village, with a population of indigenous Americans, French traders and farmers, African and Indian slaves, Spanish officials, and immigrant explorers. She explores how as the village's significance as a commercial hub grew, its people became increasingly unpredictable, feuding constantly and succumbing to the temptations of “the world, the flesh, and the devil.” Covering the period from the founding to the 1804 absorption into the young United States, this study reflects on the experiences of the inhabitants of St.



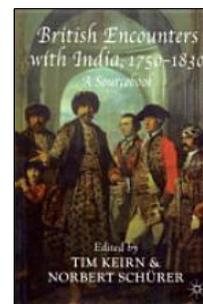
Louis, as they loved, fought, worshipped, and traded at the crossroads of empires. *The World, the Flesh, and the Devil* is an inclusive, wide-ranging, and overdue account of the Gateway city's earliest years, and it contributes to a comprehensive national history by revealing the untold

stories of Upper Louisiana's capital.

Professor Arnold Kaminsky, along with co-editor Roger Long, published *India Today: An Encyclopedia of Life in the Republic* (ABC-CLIO/Greenwood), a two-volume work featuring almost 250 entries written by scholars from around the world on the politics, economics, society, and cultures of India since 1947. With more than a billion citizens—almost 18 percent of the world's population—India is a reflection of over 5,000 years of interaction and exchange across a wide spectrum of cultures and civilizations. *India Today* describes the growth and development of the nation since it achieved independence from the British Raj in 1947. Presenting an analytical review of India's transition from fledgling state to the world's largest democracy and potential economic superpower, as well as providing current data and historically informed perspectives, the encyclopedia brings together the latest scholarship on India's diverse cultures, societies, religions, political cultures, and social and economic challenges. It covers such issues as foreign relations, security, and economic and political developments, helping readers understand India's people and appreciate the nation's importance as a political power and economic force, both regionally and globally.



Professors Tim Keirn and Norbert Schürer (Department of English) published their co-edited volume, *British Encounters with India, 1750-1830: A Sourcebook* (Palgrave Macmillan). Growing out of their co-teaching experiences with undergraduate and graduate students at CSULB, this text features a collection of primary sources that one reviewer describes as “arresting and entertaining, with a judicious mix of the historically indispensable and fascinatingly obscure.” The anthology, featuring mercantile accounts, literary texts, exposés, and travelers' reports, among other sources, is designed to be useful to students and scholars alike, and will appeal to anyone interested in exploring the Anglo-Indian cultural encounters of the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries.



Graduate and Alumni News & Profiles

Alan Emrich combined his love of history and his talents as a game designer to create a series of popular historical simulation games. He had already co-founded a game convention in Los Angeles in the 1970s, but after graduating his career took off. He founded his own company, designed games, ran gaming conventions, and published several magazines, for which he received the Charles S. Roberts Award (an annual gaming industry award) for Best Amateur Magazine in 1985.

Emrich attended CSULB in the late 1970s and early 1980s, majoring in History. He was mentored by David Hood, whom Emrich describes as "one of the three great teachers in [his] life." He adds, "[Dr. Hood] inspired me to take my passion for history and gift for teaching and build my life around them."

In addition to designing historical-themed games, Emrich has also developed training and emergency preparedness games for military, medical, and business clients. Since 2003, he has taught game and game design courses at UC Irvine and Stanford University. He is currently teaching at The Art Institute of California—Orange County, and running Victory Point Games. The latter is a small business game company, which provides opportunities for college students to gain job experience in the gaming industry.

For those of you wondering what to do after earning an M.A. in History at CSULB, look no further than **Marialana Wittman** (M.A., CSULB, 2007) who is currently pursuing her Ph.D. at Queen Mary College, University of London. Her doctoral thesis, "*La maladie honteuse: Venereal Disease in France, 1736-1789*" is an examination of eighteenth-century

France's concerns with, and debates over, venereal disease. Marialana has been spending long hours at the Bibliothèque Nationale de France, as well as the Académie Nationale de Médecine, and the archives of the Assistance Publique-Hôpitaux, exploring the burgeoning medical profession's efforts to come to grips with the disease's contagion. She has presented at conferences in Madrid, Spain, Ghent, Belgium, and Salem-Winston, NC, and has a chapter forthcoming in an edited collection on gender and disease.

"The idea for my project actually came from a discussion in my History 590 class at CSULB," Marialana explains. Her decision to pursue her doctoral studies in London was inspired by her desire to work with one of the anglophone world's preeminent scholars of eighteenth-century France and collaborate with a community of scholars in London who are researching the history of medicine (and, like Marialana, receive funding from the Wellcome Institute). Marialana also relishes the opportunity to live and work in London and Paris, though she still misses her beloved Los Feliz-Silver Lake neighborhoods.

The **Distinguished Alumni Award** was recently bestowed upon **George Gascon**, 1977 B.A, History. Mr. Gascon is District Attorney for the City and County of San Francisco. The Distinguished Alumni Award is CSULB's highest alumni honor, "... bestowed annually on each college by the CSULB Alumni Association. In addition to demonstrated pride and positive affinity for CSULB, awardees are chosen based on an achieved record of distinction, recognition and accomplishment in their fields, and a proven record of leadership and service to their communities and society at large". (The Beach Connection, Spring/Summer 2012, p. 9)

Phoenix "Elizabeth Murray Project" Rises from Internet Ashes

A couple of years ago, a special web project, based in the History Department and funded largely by the National Endowment for the Humanities, the "Elizabeth Murray Project," suffered a technological catastrophe, caused by the combination of an outmoded server and human errors. With the breakdown, it looked like the site, including curricular materials, scholarship, and archival sources developed by K-12 teachers in Long Beach Unified and members of the History Department (Patricia Cleary, Sean Smith, Tim Keirn, and Dave Neumann) was irretrievable, a significant loss for all those involved and for those who use the site for research and teaching purposes; the site has been featured in several college textbooks and was awarded a "We, the People" designation from the NEH. With support from the department chair and

the College of Liberal Arts, a remarkable rebuilding project began. Single-handedly and with admirable dedication, Sean Smith rebuilt the entire site, redesigning and updating it as

he did so to make it more stable and durable. In the process, he learned how to do new kinds of programming and endeavored to make the site even more user-friendly. Project director Cleary acknowledged co-director Smith's labors: "Without Sean's willingness to take on this monumental task, the work that took a whole team several years to complete would have been lost for good. He deserves recognition and appreciation, not only from those involved in creating

the site, but from the university. He has insured that this project will survive." To see the new site, go to <http://www.csulb.edu/elizabethmurray>.



The History Teacher

Under the leadership of Editor **Jane Dabel**, and now in its 45th volume, *The History Teacher* (<http://www.thehistoryteacher.org/>) started 2012 with an expanded journal format. Always eager to include more voices in the historical conversation, Society of History Education President **Troy Johnson** initiated expanding the size of *The History Teacher* to accommodate the ever-growing number of excellent manuscripts we receive from a diverse field of historians seeking publication. We strive to provide a venue for publication of well researched articles relative to the history classroom, and accordingly, the National Advisory Board voted to increase the number of articles that will be published in each edition of the journal. As a result, the journal will feature approximately 100 additional pages of materials per year—with no additional cost to subscribers.



The Society for History Education is pleased to declare that it will continue offering free online access to *The History Teacher* archives at the History Cooperative (<http://www.historycooperative.org/>). Complementing the traditional print edition, online archives allow instant access to *The History Teacher* worldwide. *The History Teacher* ranks second only to *The William and Mary Quarterly* on number of articles accessed online by members of JSTOR and the History Cooperative. Equally or more impressive was the announcement that the number of active subscribers to *The History Teacher* is the largest subscriber base of all of the associated journals.

In addition to maintaining the accessibility and affordability of the journal, Society for History Education Director **Elisa Herrera** has encouraged partnerships with other historical organizations, collaborating with the Organization of American Historians (<http://www.oah.org/>) and the Association for Asian Studies (<http://www.aasianst.org/>) to strengthen educational networks. As an affiliate of the American Historical Association, the Society for History Education offers free subscriptions to *The History Teacher* for AHA members who register as K-12 teachers. For more information about subscribing or contributing to *The History Teacher*, visit <http://www.thehistoryteacher.org/>.

The History Teacher is the most widely recognized journal in the United States devoted to the teaching of history in the secondary and higher education classroom. Published quarterly, it features practical and insightful professional analyses of traditional and innovative teaching techniques.

The Society for History Education, which publishes the *History Teacher*, supports all disciplines in history education in universities, community colleges, and secondary schools. The Society for History Education is an Affiliate of the American Historical Association.

Department Research Seminar

Now in its seventh year, the History Department Research Seminar featured two faculty presentations each semester. In the fall, Professor Patricia Cleary presented a paper on "The Destruction of Big Mound" (September), and Professor Caitlin Murdock addressed "Radium Mania: Spas, Health, and the Politics of Scientific Authority in Germany, 1919-1935" (October). This spring, Professor Jane Dabel explored "Education's Unfulfilled Promise: The Politics of Schooling for African-American Children in 19th-century New York City" (February), and Professor Brett Mizelle examined "Mass Killings of Pigs and the Challenge of Multispecies Justice" (March). Keep your eyes open for announcements of next year's presentations; everyone is welcome to attend these seminars in the department conference room, Friday afternoons.

MA Program

History Department's **M.A. Program** is committed to imparting historical knowledge and cultivating intellectual curiosity, critical thinking, and oral and written communication competency. The department is not only dedicated to pursuing understanding of the past for its own sake but also to preparing students to live in the twenty-first century world as global citizens. For that reason, the History department recognizes the need to expose students to knowledge of diverse peoples, cultures, and history; the need to explore different historical perspectives; and the need to communicate that knowledge clearly and effectively. Furthermore, the History Department believes that teaching and research are inseparable; this conviction is exemplified by its teacher-scholar faculty.

The M.A. Program in History continues to increase the number of qualified incoming graduate students, the performance of its continuing students, and the number of timely and successful completions of the M.A. degree. (See the graduate profiles for updates on current activities of recent M.A. students.) The Program, whose excellent reputation continues to grow, has garnered the attention and interest of departments within and outside CSULB.

New Course Offering

The Educational Policies and Curriculum Committee this fall approved two new courses in history: History 395 (Gender, Sexuality and Desire in World History); and History 544/444 (The Pacific Ocean in World History). Both continue to expand the department's offerings in World History.

Professors Tim Keirn and Eileen Luhr teach CSULB students in India

“During fall 2011, with the support of the Endowed Faculty-Student Research Program established by Dr. Dee Abrahamse, Professors Tim Keirn and Eileen Luhr, both from the Department of History, taught the interdisciplinary graduate and undergraduate seminar “Western Encounters with India” (C/LA 496A/596A). The course built on themes developed in an earlier seminar, taught by Keirn and Professor Norbert Schürer of the Department of English, which culminated in the publication of an edited volume *British Encounters with India, 1750-1830* (Palgrave, 2011). In the course, students explored the encounters between India and the West since the eighteenth century, using sources that ranged from Orientalist and British East India Company texts to Kipling’s *Kim*, exposés on Indian gurus, and accounts of the Beatles’ visit to the ashram of Maharishi Mahesh Yogi. In weekly discussions, students sought to locate forms of cultural hybridity that resulted from encounters between India and the United States and Britain.

A January 2012 short-study abroad course to India allowed these students to delve more deeply into the country’s history. While in the north, students learned about the history of the Mughal Empire. Highlights included trips to Delhi’s Red Fort, Humayan’s Tomb, a heritage tour of Old Delhi, and a visit to the Taj Mahal. A visit to Lucknow University allowed for interaction with Indian students. The itinerary then took the students to southern India, where students toured Mysore and Srirangapattana as well as sites associated with the late eighteenth-century rule of Haider Ali

and Tipu Sultan. In Kochi, students again witnessed examples of the Indian encounter with other cultures, including Syrian Christians, Chinese mariners, and Portuguese, Dutch, and British merchants and imperialists. Finally, students relaxed on an afternoon boat tour through Kerala’s backwaters that set the background for a reading of Arundhati Roy’s *The God of Small*

Things. Students reflected on their trip through final research papers or lesson plans based on their experiences in India.

Dr. Dee Abrahamse, former CLA Dean and interim CSULB Provost, donated a generous gift to the College of Liberal Arts that created the Endowed Faculty-Student Research Program within the College and ensured the existence of this project in perpetuity. The Faculty-Student Research program was founded in 2005 to bring faculty from different fields in the humanities and social sciences together to study a significant interdisciplinary issue with undergraduate students who produce original research.” (California State University Long Beach, College of Liberal Arts Website)



Notes From The Chair

This year has been one of great achievements for our Department. We are graduating record numbers of majors, and now have more than a dozen students participating in our rigorous Departmental Honors’ program. Our students are active in research initiatives, in student government, in organizing intellectual and social events, and in peer instructional activities. Faculty members remain deeply engaged in their scholarship, publishing and presenting their work in many venues. Our faculty colleagues bring this research expertise into the classroom – one of the strengths of this Department, making History a great place to study and to work.

The History Department is an extraordinarily successful academic unit: We have stellar faculty members, excellent students, fabulous alumni and friends, and wonderful staff. Yet at this time, despite all our successes, we in the CSULB community are facing an enormous budget challenge. State funding for public higher education is diminishing rapidly. Next year will be grim: Faculty will be expected to teach more students with fewer resources. Even though we’ve mandated austerity measures for our department, we may not have the funding to provide basic supplies for students or faculty. Donations to our scholarship accounts are down. We will struggle to provide a high quality education to our students and our students will increasingly struggle to get their degrees. We need your support. Please consider our request for assistance: If you are able, donate to a scholarship fund or to the department’s general fund. If not, there are many other ways you can help us all achieve our goals: Let your family, friends, neighbors, and state legislators know how important CSULB has been to you! Stay in touch after you graduate, as we’re always happy to hear about the adventures of our graduates! Volunteer to come back and meet with students to let them know careers in your field for those with a History degree. Take pride in your knowledge, your skills, and your Department! Thank you for your support.



Nancy Quam-Wickham
Chair, Department of History

Faculty News

In the past year, **Linda Alkana** has written two journal articles: "Identity and Loyalty: *Catch-22* and *The English Patient*," for the *Journal of Literature and Art* and "What Happened on 9/11? Nine Years of Polling College Undergraduates: 'It was always just a fact that it happened'" for *The History Teacher*. She also wrote reviews for *The History Teacher* on the following books: *The Missing of the Somme* by Geoff Dyer, *The Influencing Machine* by Brooke Gladstone and *A Short History of Celebrity* by Fred Inglis, as well as a media review of *Woman Rebel* for Media Reviews Online. Dr. Alkana continues to enjoy being an advisor for undergraduate History majors and teaching a variety of History courses from Critical Thinking and Methodology to European Women and Rebels and Renegades.

Houri Berberian is currently on sabbatical (Spring 2012) and working on her new book project, "Armenians and Russian, Ottoman, and Iranian Connected Revolutions in the Early Twentieth-Century." In June 2011, she conducted research for the project in archives located in – of all places – Watertown, Massachusetts. In Fall 2011, she completed the co-editing (with Ali İğmen and Damla Isik) of a special issue on State-Society relations for the journal, *Comparative Studies of South Asia, Africa, and the Middle East* (forthcoming 2012). Recently, Dr. Berberian served as discussant on a panel on "The Qajar Era and the Constitutional Revolution," at a conference entitled Constitutional Politics in Modern Iran: A Re-examination and Implications for the Future in UC Santa Barbara (March 2012).

Emily Berquist finished up her fellowship time at the Huntington Library and completed her first book manuscript, *The Bishop's Utopia*. In October 2011, Dr. Berquist was an invited speaker at the "Freedom and Abolition in Latin America" conference at the City University of New York Graduate Center in New York City, where she delivered a paper based on her second book, entitled "Early Antislavery Sentiment in the Spanish Empire."

In 2011 **Daniele Bolelli** published two books about world religions --one in the United States (*50 Things You Are Not Supposed To Know about Religion*. (Disinformation Publishing, 2011) and one in Italy (*iGod: Istruzioni per l'Uso di una Religione Fai Da Te*. (LTD Publisher, 2011.)

Patricia Cleary published *The World, the Flesh, and the Devil: A History of Colonial St. Louis* in July 2011 (University of Missouri Press). With a Mellon Research Fellowship at the Huntington Library, she began her new project on Indian mounds. That research informed the paper she prepared for the Department Research Seminar (September 2011) and annual meeting of the Western History Association (October 2011): "The Destruction of 'Big Mound.'" In addition, she published a book review in the *Journal of Southern History* (February 2012). She continues to serve as Web-library editor for *Common-Place* and to make presentations for K-12 teachers, most recently on "Chocolate" (February 2012) for Dave Neumann's "Food for Thought" series. She acknowledges the tremendous work Sean Smith has done in rebuilding their NEH-funded website: "The

Elizabeth Murray Project" www.csulb.edu/elizabethmurray. Sean has single-handedly rescued the work of a whole team of people from oblivion, so visit the new site!

Kenneth Curtis is back in the history department teaching World History and African History after working for several years in international education administration. His most recent scholarly activities include completing revisions for the second edition of *Voyages in World History*, the textbook he co-authored with Valerie Hansen of Yale University, and beginning work on a new book, *Architects of World History*, with Jerry Bentley of the University of Hawaii. Dr. Curtis's position on the Academic Advisory Council of the College Board sends him across the country to New York and Washington every spring and fall (to see what real weather feels like). This coming summer he will be teaching for the second consecutive summer at John Cabot University in Rome, and he hopes to see some CSULB History students there.

Amy Essington published reviews of *Knocking on Heaven's Door: Six Minor Leaguers in Search of the Baseball Dream* in the *Journal of Sport History*, *The Most Famous Woman in Baseball: Effa Manley and the Negro Leagues* in the *Journal of African American History* and *No Girls in the Clubhouse: The Exclusion of Women from Baseball* in *Women's Studies: An Interdisciplinary Journal*. She published entries for "Rob Carew," "Larry Doby," "Josh Gibson," "Rickey Henderson," and "Kenneth Washington" in *Great Lives from History: African Americans*. She presented "The Integration of the Pacific Coast League: A Social History of Race on the West Coast" (Western Historical Association Conference), "Integrating the Pacific Coast League: A Social History of Integration" (Society for American Baseball Research Convention), and "The West Coast Baseball Association: The Negro Leagues of the West and the Social Change of World War II" (North American Society for Sport History Conference).

CSULB awarded **Ali İğmen** with the "Early Academic Career Excellence Award" in 2011. In November 2011, his article "Soviet Houses of Culture in Kyrgyzstan" was published in *Reconstructing the House of Culture* (Berghahn Press, 2011). In March 2012, the College of Liberal Arts recommended him for tenure and promotion. Dr. İğmen served as an undergraduate adviser and the Director of the Middle and Near East Subcommittee during the Spring Semester of 2012. He is the Director of Oral History Program, and the Chair of the Department Student Awards Committee. He also served as the member of the College of Liberal Arts Awards Committee in 2012. Dr. İğmen was awarded with a sabbatical, which he will take during the Spring Semester of 2013 to conduct research in Turkey and Kyrgyzstan.

Andrew Jenks' biography of *Yuri Gagarin, The Cosmonaut Who Couldn't Stop Smiling: the Life and Legend of Yuri Gagarin*, was published this spring with Northern Illinois University Press. Dr. Jenks is starting a new project about transnational consciousness, the Cold War, and space flight. He presented a paper on the topic at the Max Planck Institute in Berlin in April.

Faculty News (cont'd)

Marie Kelleher has been selected as a participant in a National Endowment for the Humanities summer seminar, "Networks and Knowledge in the Medieval Muslim-Christian-Jewish Mediterranean," to be held in Barcelona, July 2012.

Margaret Kuo has been spending 2011-2012 at the Center for the Pacific Rim, University of San Francisco. The fellowship has kept her busy teaching and working on several research projects. She teaches an undergraduate course on East Asian Civilizations and a graduate course on international politics in the Asia Pacific. She has prepared articles for publication in the journals *Modern China* and *The Frontiers of History in China*; secured a book contract with Rowman & Littlefield Publishers for her manuscript on *Intolerable Cruelty: Marriage, Law, and Society in Early Twentieth-Century China*; and begun researching her next major project, an intellectual biography of the Republican Chinese lawmaker and Catholic convert John C.H. Wu. She enjoys interacting with the Asian Studies community and has recently been invited to join the editorial board of USF's *Asia-Pacific Perspectives*. She very much appreciates living in the Bay Area too.

Arlene Lazarowitz received a research grant from the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library. Based on her research at this archive, Dr. Lazarowitz presented a paper, "American Jewish Leaders and President Gerald R. Ford: A Reassessment of the Middle East," at the Western Jewish Studies Association Conference in Eugene, Oregon. She also wrote an encyclopedia entry, "American Jewish Attitudes Toward Israel" for ABC-CLIO.

Guotong Li spent the spring semester of 2011 in China on research leave with a Wang Family Faculty Stipend fellowship, working on her book manuscript--*Reopening the Fujian Coast*. During her stay in China, Dr. Li delivered an invited talk at Beijing Normal University in June 2011. Her article, entitled "Rethinking Liang Qichao's (1873-1929) Colonial Thinking," is going to appear in *New Perspectives on Chinese Intellectual History*, edited by the National Institute for Advanced Humanistic Studies, Fudan University. Dr. Li's review essay on "The New Migration History under Gender Lens" is forthcoming in *New Aspects of Chinese History under Gender Lens* (Beijing: Social Sciences Academic Press). She also presented a paper on "Women's Learning: Gender and Ethnicity on China's Southeast Coast" at the Association for Asian Studies Annual Meeting in Toronto, Canada, in March 2012.

Brett Mizelle's book *Pig*, which charts how humans have shaped the pig and how the pig has shaped us, focusing on the unresolved contradictions between the fiction and the reality of

our relationships with pigs, was published in Reaktion Books 'Animal' Series in Fall 2011. His article "'A man quite as much of a show as his beasts': James Capen 'Grizzly' Adams and the Making of Grizzly Bears," was published in *Werkstatt Geschichte* 56: *Animals* (2011), pp. 29-45. Dr. Mizelle presented scholarly papers at several conferences, including an international Critical Animal Studies meeting in Prague and the World History Association meeting in Beijing. Dr. Mizelle also traveled to talk about history education and to work with in-service teachers at meetings in Milwaukee, Wisconsin and Boise, Idaho. He has several projects in progress or in press, including work on mass killings of pigs and the challenges of multispecies justice, on how distancing and concealment operate as mechanisms of power in the meat industry, and on animals in the early American circus.

The 2011-2012 academic year was a busy one for **Sarah Schrank**. Last summer she presented "Chinese Medicine and Transnational Views of the Nineteenth-Century Body," at the World History Association in Beijing and spent a month as a fellow-in-residence at The Wolfsonian in Miami Beach. In the fall, Dr. Schrank traveled to Chicago to present her work, "Naked Houses and *Sunshine and Health* Magazine: Suburban Architecture and the Visual Culture of Nudism," at the Newberry Library Seminar in American Art and Visual Culture. As part of the Getty arts initiative, *Pacific Standard Time*, Dr. Schrank presented at a roundtable to launch the exhibition "Civic Virtue: The Impact of the Municipal Arts Gallery and the Watts Towers Arts Center." In addition, she published an article entitled "Suntanning in Suburbia: Health, Fashion, and the Built Environment," *Imperfect Health: The Medicalization of Architecture*, edited by Giovanna Borasi and Mirko Zardini (Montréal, Québec: Canadian Centre for Architecture and Lars Müller Publishers, 2012, 364-83) and a review essay in the journal *Public Art Dialogue*.

Hugh Wilford completed his book manuscript on the early years of the CIA in the Middle East for Basic Books, with publication expected in 2013. He published an essay on the same subject, "America's Great Game: The CIA and the Middle East, 1947-67," in Bevan Sewell and Scott Lucas, eds., *Challenging US Foreign Policy: America and the World in the Long Twentieth Century* (Palgrave Macmillan, November 2011) and a review essay, "Unintended Consequences," in *Diplomatic History* (November 2011). Dr. Wilford presented papers to the annual meeting of the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations in Alexandria, Virginia (June 2011), an invited conference about transnational anti-Communist networks in the Cold War at the Université de Fribourg, Switzerland (October 2011), and the California History-Social Science Project here in Long Beach (December 2011).

Welcoming History Babies

Congratulations to Dr. Jeremy Sullivan on the birth of his daughter Sidra, and to Dr. Emily Berquist on the birth of her daughter Zoey, and to Drs. Wilford and Cleary on the birth of their son Jonathan.

History Student Liliana Montalvo Receives Fulbright Award



Liliana Montalvo, the first California State University, Long Beach History Major to receive a Fulbright Award, will use the support provided by the Fulbright Garcia Robles Grant to interview surviving *braceros* in Mexico, and carry out research at the *Archivo Migratorio Central del Instituto Nacional de Migracion* in Mexico City. The archive holds recently digitized documents on the migration of Mexican citizens. "These are documents pertaining to the 1940s through the 1960s," Montalvo explained. "These records trace more than 500,000 Mexican citizens who left their country. This access enables me to write a history of the bracero program with documents never used before. This is a gold mine." Montalvo will also travel to the state of Jalisco where she will work with Dr. Candido Gonzalez Perez at the *Universidad de Guadalajara Centro Universitario de Tepetitlan de Morelos*.

"I was really excited to receive the Fulbright," said Montalvo. "I feel humbled by such an award. I know this is a prestigious prize. I feel happy, proud and even ecstatic. It is a great opportunity for study I never thought I'd have." She never expected to win a Fulbright when she first enrolled at CSULB. "Yet it would not have happened if I had not enrolled here," she said. Montalvo thanked the History Department for their support. "I feel lucky to belong to such an amazing department," she said. "It is as if I had found a second family. They supported me all the way. Dr. Igmen especially went out of his way to gain passage of the IRA grant. The department's support has been invaluable. I really feel that I owe much of whatever success I achieve through this Fulbright to the support I received from CSULB's Department of History."

History's Jane Dabel, Montalvo's faculty mentor, applauded her success. "I am delighted that Lili has won this award," said Dabel, a member of the university since 2001. "This is a tremendous opportunity for her and she is truly deserving of this honor." Dabel feels the Fulbright will not only sharpen Montalvo's study skills but her research techniques. "In winning this award, Lili has demonstrated the skills that she has learned as a history major. In particular, this award illustrates her strong research capabilities and her extensive experience in conducting oral history interviews," she said. "Lili is fluent in Spanish and already has first-hand knowledge of Mexican culture and history as demonstrated by her McNair Scholar research project as well as her work on the Bracero Oral History project."

History's Ali Igmen, a member of the university since 2006, also praised Montalvo's achievement. "I first met Lili in my Oral History Methods course during the Fall Semester of 2009," he recalled. "She was one of the undergraduate history students among both graduate and undergraduate students from Music, History and Anthropology. Lili was of the most engaged undergraduate students who easily kept up with the pace and the requirements of this 'hands-on' methods course. She was always enthusiastic about the readings and discussions. Lili's views on the oral history materials were on the whole encouraging and fascinating due to her interest in Chicano/a history. Her eagerness to absorb this material showed that she would, someday, be an influential oral historian."

One highlight of Montalvo's CSULB career was participation in organizing the Braceros Oral History Project, which she along with another student, Aniela Lopez, designed to interview surviving braceros and their family members in California and Mexico. "She approached me to provide training for the students who had not taken the methods course," Igmen recalled. "CSULB awarded this project with a coveted IRA (instructional research activities) funding. Her understated but skillful leadership role will take her places."

At first, Montalvo had not heard about the bracero program, (named for the Spanish term *bracero* or "strong-arm") which was a series of laws and diplomatic agreements, initiated by a 1942 exchange of diplomatic notes between the United States and Mexico for the importation of temporary contract laborers from Mexico to the US. It wasn't until she watched a documentary titled "Harvest of Loneliness: The Bracero Program" that she became aware of the program's notorious abuses. "I was shocked by what I saw," she recalled. "I began a 'penny drive' among the other students to raise awareness of the bracero program. Then I began to interact with the bracero program participants and hear their stories. It wasn't until I began to research the bracero program that I discovered by talking to my mother that my grandfather was a bracero working in Riverside. It really created a personal connection to the project. Even though my grandfather passed away when I was a child, I felt I learned a piece of his story whenever I interviewed another bracero."

Montalvo has learned that recording oral histories is much different than reading documents. "This program has allowed me to dig into the lives of the braceros in a way that documents won't let you," she said. "People let me into their lives. I was a total stranger yet they let me in to ask personal, intimate questions. To be able to do that and have them reciprocate with honest answers is a good experience."

Fulbright Award (cont'd)

Montalvo also was one of four volunteers who interviewed members of the anti-Vietnam war movement based in Los Angeles. "Their stories (oral histories) are priceless for people doing research on the topic of the Resistance and the Vietnam antiwar movement," said Igmen. "We are in the process of incorporating these interviews into CSULB's Oral History archives and the Southern California Library for Social Studies and Research. Montalvo's contribution was exceptional for she played a leading role in this project."

Dabel believes in Montalvo's Fulbright success. "I am quite proud to have Lili represent us as a 'citizen ambassador' to the citizens of Mexico," she said. "I feel confident that she will engage in meaningful ways with the community where she is working. We plan to keep in touch with Lili through Facebook posts while she is Mexico. She will do weekly updates to keep us posted on her adventures."

Igmen agrees. "Lili has many interests, including secondary-school teaching, oral history, museum studies and Mexican-American political theory and history," he said. "Furthermore, she has a gregarious personality, which helps her not be intimidated by authority."

When Montalvo graduates from CSULB in May 2012, she will receive not only her Bachelor of Arts degree in History with a minor in American Studies, but a certificate in Theoretical Urban Studies as well. While studying at California State University, Long Beach, Montalvo:

- Participated in the McNair Scholars Program
- Received the Department of History Douglas McNeally Award, 2011
- Served as the Getty Multicultural Intern for the University Art Museum
- Worked as a student assistant in the Department of History Office
- Worked as a research assistant for Peace Press Graphics 1967-1987: Art in the Pursuit of Social Change exhibit at the University Art Museum, CSULB (<http://www.csulb.edu/org/uam/index.html>)

(the above article was excerpted in part from an article by Richard Manley, University Publications)

Remembering

Dr. Sharon Sievers passed away on April 5, 2010, after a long illness. Dr. Sievers was a specialist in Japanese history and a graduate of Augustana College, the University of Nebraska, and Stanford University, where she completed her doctorate. Her first book, *Flowers in Salt: The Beginnings of Feminist Consciousness in Modern Japan* (1984), won the Sierra Prize for the best monograph in women's history and was widely acclaimed as a path-breaking book in the history of women's experiences in Japan. She began her career at Long Beach State College in 1968; she retired in August 2008. During the intervening 40 years, Sharon served the University with all her heart: She became an award-winning historian and teacher, helped to found the Department of Women's Studies, participated actively as an affiliated member of the Asian Studies Department, and eventually, led the Department of History with fairness, compassion, and distinction. She influenced generations of students and scholars, and is deeply missed. A scholarship fund has been established in her name. Donations may be made to the Sharon Sievers Scholars Fund, c/o Department of History, CSULB, 1250 Bellflower Blvd., Long Beach, CA 90840-1601.



Dr. Albie Burke passed away on December 24, 2011, after a short illness. A native of North Dakota and a talented pianist, Dr. Burke earned a B.F.A. from the University of Chicago. His passion for constitutional and legal history led him to pursue a doctorate in History. He joined the History Department at Long Beach State College in 1965; at the time of his retirement in August 2011, he was one of the longest-serving members of the campus community. His enthusiasm for American legal history and the founding of the U.S. inspired dozens of students to pursue studies of the law and history upon graduation from the University. He directed the Legal Studies Program, was a founding member of the University Honors Program, editor of *The History Teacher*, and a member of innumerable College and University committees. A voracious reader, he was always delighted to share book recommendations with students and colleagues. Dr. Burke is survived by two daughters, a son, and a granddaughter, as well as many colleagues and former students around the world. Donations for a student scholarship in his honor may be made to the Department of History, CSULB, 1250 Bellflower Blvd., Long Beach, CA 90840-1601.



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