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James Searing
Memorial
Research
Fund

VOLUME 5 no. 1

HISTORY MATTERS

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT CHICAGO

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UIC

DEPARTMENT NEWS

NOTES FROM THE CHAIR

I arrived to UIC in fall of 2001, a year that Arthur C. Clarke had once predicted would see humanity's first manned trip to Jupiter. As it turned out, the expeditions to the barely-habitable International Space Station had only just begun. It was a historical moment when the headlines suggested the exsanguination of the "dot com economy" represented the United States's greatest threat, and UIC was a commuter university whose dean of Liberal Arts and Sciences was an irrepressible academic provocateur and administrative spendthrift who had reputedly served as the model for the protagonist of a trio of novels by David Lodge.

The Department of History has had three successful chairs since 2001: Eric Arnesen, Jim Searing, and Laura Hostetler. I feel both excited and humbled to sit in what still feels like their office in 901 University Hall. Over that thirteen year span, the department has seen the growing success of its original graduate concentration (Work, Race, and Gender in the Urban World), whose alumni have notched an enviable record of publication and professional success. A second graduate specialty (Encounters, Ethnographies, and Empires) has been established, whose first graduates have likewise had success in braving the choppy waters of the academic job market. Our undergraduate enrollments remain strong, and we continue to attract talented majors.

We are not simply resting on our laurels, however. We have embarked on two major projects to increase the department's scholarly profile in African history and to ensure its continued success among undergraduates. We will enhance our presence in African history by raising funds for the James Searing Memorial Research Fellowship, described below. In the Spring, we will hold a gala dinner and fundraiser to put that effort on a healthy footing. And we are making a thorough housecleaning of our undergraduate curriculum to ensure that we offer classes that students find meaningful and that correspond to our faculty's scholarly interests and the best practices of our discipline.

If it has been a few years since you have visited campus and you are curious about what's happening in the department, I encourage you to drop by to see us. I am always happy to see the faces of friends, former students, and colleagues passing through the doorway of what I will eventually begin to think of as my office as well.

Chris Boyer

FACULTY NEWS

Susan Levine received Planned Parenthood of Central North Carolina's inaugural Janet Colm Award for Transformative Leadership recognizes three distinguished individuals in appreciation of their leadership to help ensure increased access to comprehensive health care for women, men and teens.

Jennifer Brier was one of 15 people selected for induction into the Chicago Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame. The hall of fame is overseen by the non-profit Friends of the Chicago Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame in partnership with the City of Chicago.

Jonathan Daly's book *Historians Debate the Rise of the West* was released this summer by Routledge in London with a publication date of 2015.

Kirk Hoppe presented a paper on colonial masculinities at a conference on northern masculinities in Reykjavik, Iceland in June.

Rick Fried gave the brownbag talk, "At Sword's Point: Joe McCarthy's Long Vendetta Against the Army."

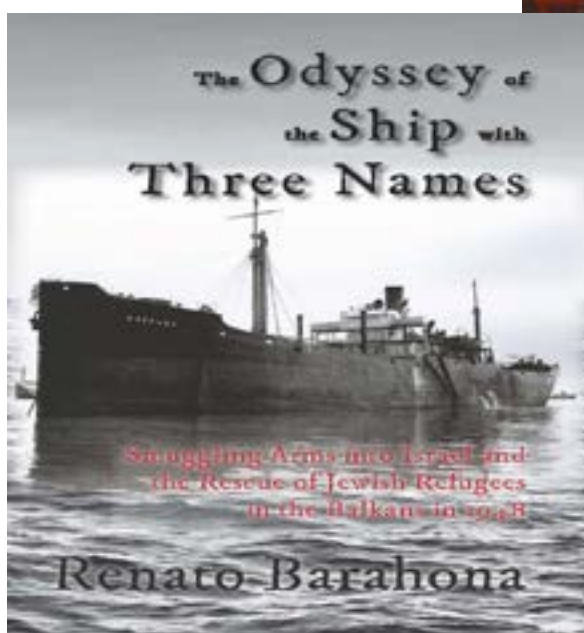
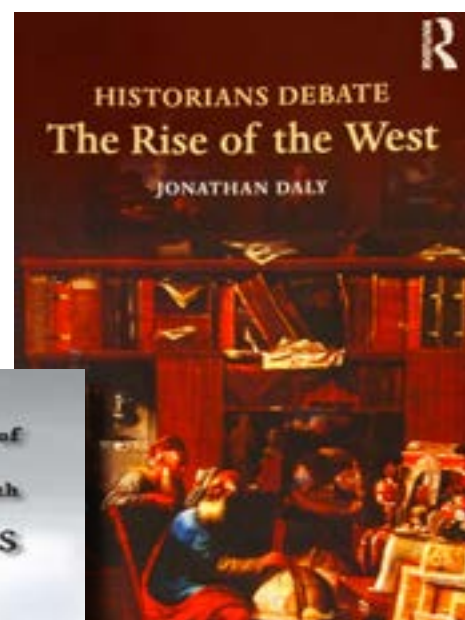
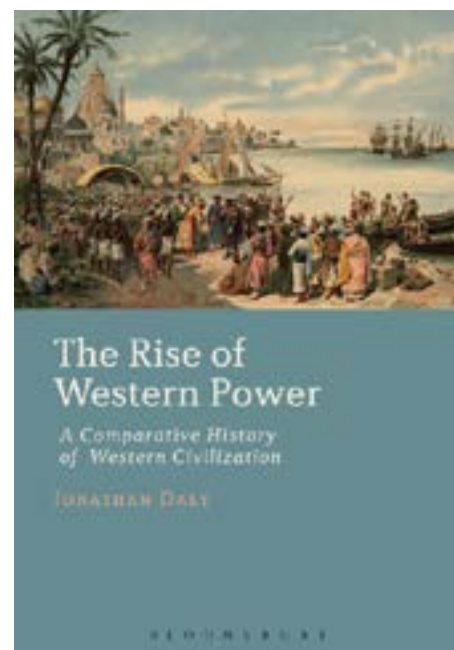
In September the Department of History co-sponsored a two-day symposium on the life's work of our recently retired Professor **John D'Emilio**. Stanford University's Estelle Freedman gave the keynote lecture. The following day was filled with panel discussions honoring and evaluating

D'Emilio's contributions and reflecting on the state of the fields he labored so hard in, most especially LGBT History and the History of Sexuality.

Leon Fink won the 2014 Sol Steitin Award for Labor History conferred by the Sidney Hillman Foundation. Granted annually since 2007, the award recognizes exemplary scholarship in labor history. It is named in honor of the legendary president of the Textile Workers Union of America who led a seventeen-year campaign to organize workers at the J. P. Stevens & Co. textile mills.

Deirdre McCloskey embarked on a lecture tour highlighted by the Schumpeter Prize Lecture in Stockholm.

Renato Barahona's book *The Odyssey of the Ship with Three Names* is now available from Basque Books.



INTRODUCING NEW FACULTY



Lynn Hudson, Associate Professor

Lynn M. Hudson is a scholar of race and gender in the U.S. She specializes in African American history and the study of the US West. Before joining UIC, she taught at Macalester College in Saint Paul, Minnesota, and at California State University, San Luis Obispo. She earned her M.A. from University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill and her Ph. D. from Indiana University. She is the author of *The Making of "Mammy Pleasant": A Black Entrepreneur in Nineteenth-Century San Francisco* (Illinois, 2003). Currently, she is working on a book project about segregation in California.



Javier Villa Flores, Associate Professor

Javier Villa-Flores's work revolves around issues of religion, colonialism, performance studies, and the social history of language in colonial Mexico. His first book *Carlo Ginzburg: The Historian as Theoretician* (University of Guadalajara, 1995) offered an epistemological discussion of the historian's craft focusing on Carlo Ginzburg's work. His second book, *Dangerous Speech: A Social History of Blasphemy in Colonial Mexico* (University of Arizona Press, 2006) analyzes the representation, prosecution and punishment of blasphemous speech in New Spain from 1520 to 1700. He has recently edited with Sonya Lipsett-Rivera, *Emotion and Daily Life in Colonial Mexico* (University of New Mexico Press, 2014). His research has been supported by the National Endowment for the Humanities, the John Carter Brown Library, the Huntington Library, the Newberry Library, and the Institute for the Humanities at UIC.

JAMES SEARING MEMORIAL RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP

The department will honor the memory and intellectual legacy of former chair Jim Searing by establishing the James Searing Memorial Research Fellowship. We intend to raise funds to endow a fellowship open to international and domestic graduate students, faculty, and independent scholars interested in doing research in African/Atlantic World history at UIC. In particular, we hope to encourage study in the Sierra Leone collections in the Special Collections Department of the library.

We are planning to hold a series of events to help launch this initiative, but there is no need to wait. If you would like to donate now please send checks made out to:

University of Illinois Foundation
James Searing Fund
c/o Department of History - MC 198
601 S. Morgan Street
Chicago IL 60607

PAST PERFECT

Jochen Arndt recently received one of 10 University of Illinois Research in Diversity Travel Awards. He presented his paper entitled “The Great Bifurcation: Missionary Linguistics and the Emergence of ‘Xhosa’ and ‘Zulu’ as Ethno-Linguistic Identities, 1820-1870” at the North Eastern Workshop for Southern Africa in Burlington, Vermont.

Alison Orton received a fellowship to attend the Center for German and European Studies Trans-Atlantic Summer Institute. It was an interdisciplinary forum that took place at European University Viadrina in Frankfurt (Oder), Germany last July. The topic was “Dynamics of Inclusion and Exclusion Across Europe and North America: Thinking Beyond Identities.”

During the summer **Jennifer Ash** worked with UIC’s Social Justice Initiative and The Jane Addams Hull-House Museum. At SJI Jennifer helped organize the highly successful Freedom Dreams Freedom Now 2014 conference in May. Over 800 scholars, activists, and community members attended this event that was keynoted by Julian Bond, Angela Davis, and Robin D.G. Kelley. In addition, She also spend some time in the archives at Bennett College collecting primary sources for her research.

Chris Wright published his second book, *Worker Cooperatives and Revolution: History and Possibilities in the United States* (Booklocker.com, 2014) available on Amazon.

Tim Soriano chaired and made a presentation at an international conference on Re/Framing Slavery, Contemporary Child Labor & Rights, & Abolition and Emancipation Across Time and Space at the University of Ghana/Legon-Accra in May. He followed this with research at the National Archives at Fourah Bay College in Freetown, Sierra Leone.

James Mestaz presented a paper “Mayo Oral Histories on the Fuerte River” at the 12th International Conference on New Directions in the Humanities in Madrid, Spain this summer. He was also awarded a very competitive “Graduate Scholar Award” for the Same Conference.

Tyler Miller was awarded a FLAS (Foreign Language and Area Studies) Fellowship during the summer (2014) to study Swahili language at Michigan State University. He spent eight weeks in language immersion in East Lansing.

Every one of our 2014 MAT program graduates has a teaching job:

John Hansen, Providence St. Mel High School, Chicago.

Maureen Kattah, Rosa Parks Middle School, Dixmoor.

Laura Koroski, Evanston Township High School.

Jenna McIntyre, Freedom Middle School, Berwyn.

Luke Staszak, Westinghouse High School, Chicago.

Alex Wilgus, Pedro Albizu Campos High School, Chicago.

Note: Alumni and Student News has been renamed “Past Perfect” in honor of Rick Fried’s email newsletter and he passed the torch on to *History Matters*.

UPCOMING EVENTS

December

4

9AM-4PM

The Institute for
the Humanities

A Diet of Globalization:
The History and Pos-
sible Futures of Mexican
Foodways

March

20

5PM-7PM

The Institute for
the Humanities

Save the Date!

Deirdre McCloskey Festschrift
Conference

Friday Mar 20-Sunday Mar. 22

Every
3rd

Wednesday

6PM

The Institute for
the Humanities

SEE NEXT

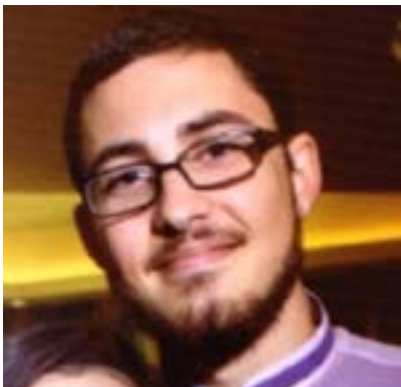
Seminar Series: EAST EUROPE-
AN AND NORTHERN
EURASIAN CROSSTALK

INTRODUCING NEW GRADUATE STUDENTS



Hashim Ali (PhD program)

Hashim entered the Encounters program. He completed his undergraduate degree at University of Wisconsin Madison, majoring in history and Languages and Cultures Asia and a minor in African Studies and Western Culture. He completed an MA in World history at Roosevelt University in 2013. His area of interest is cultural history of Modern Iran specifically visual culture, historical memory and social space.



Joshua Bergeron (PhD program)

Joshua entered the WRGUW concentration working under Dr. Leon Fink. He received his BA in History from California State University where he served as editor-in-chief of the university's peer-reviewed history journal, *The Chico Historian*. His research interests lie in the intersections of race, class, and gender in 20th-21st century American labor radicalism, Marxist social theory, and the history of global capitalism.



Rebecca Burchett (MAT program)

Rebecca writes, "I have conservative northern Illinois roots, and liberal urban friends. I studied marketing and public relations Miami of Ohio and spent the last five years doing educational nonprofit development work in Barcelona, Puerto Vallarta and Chicago. Most recently, I worked for Facing History and Ourselves, which ultimately lead me to where I am now, getting a Masters in the Teaching of History here at UIC."

Deborah Clarke (MA program)

Deborah moved to Chicago from Charlotte, North Carolina this summer and am very excited to begin the program. Since graduating from Davidson College in 2009, Deborah has been teaching high school history in independent schools. She writes, "I chose to pursue a graduate degree in history so I can bring a deeper understanding of the discipline back into the high school classroom."



Marla McMackin (PhD program)

Marla completed an MA in history last spring at Northeastern Illinois University, where she focused on the persistence of maternalistic efforts to conform the behavior of working-class girls via Hull House affiliates in the 1960s. She also earned an MAT from Columbia College Chicago and worked in the Chicago Public Schools until 2012. She continues to work with high school students, teaching a college readiness program through UIC's TRiO Upward Bound program.



Dennis Rogala (MAT program)

Dennis plans on becoming a high school world history teacher. He chose world history because "it gives me the opportunity to open the world (past and present) to my students." He grew up in the Chicago area, and in his spare time enjoys playing tennis.



Elsa Rottenberg (MAT program)

Elsa is a Chicago native but studied ballet at the Nutmeg Conservatory in Connecticut. She moved back to Chicago to dance with the Joffrey Ballet but quickly became disenchanted and started studying anthropology at UIC. "After my undergraduate degree," Elsa says, "I realized that I wanted a career that would make more of an impact and that's how I ended up as an MAT student here!"



John Stauffer (MAT program)

John is a lifelong history buff, and is "enjoying the best mid-life crisis ever," returning to school full time to pursue an MAT in History. In addition to history, his interests include travel, cooking, and transportation. Noreen and John volunteer at Loaves & Fishes food pantry, and he "can't wait to get involved in the Metro History Fair (history fair veteran from 1980 and 1981)."



Jeff Wheeler (PhD program)

Jeff Wheeler studied Religion and Music at Hope College where he developed an interest in labor history. Initially pursuing a graduate degree in Library Science, he worked in libraries over the course of six years. While honing research skills as a librarian, his interest in labor history never faded and he came to UIC's WRGUW program to examine comparative intellectual histories of labor and social movements in the US and Germany in the interwar period.

Welcome New Graduate Students:
Marie Bednarz, Allyson Czadowski, Elizabeth McFayden
(PhD Program)
Charles Kevin Moore (MAT Program)

BROWN BAG SERIES

Fall 2014:

- * October 29: Chris Boyer (UIC), "Pedagogical/Classroom Practices Session: Use of Primary Sources for Writing Undergraduate "Historical" Newspapers"
- * November 5: Timothy Herbert & Marie Rowley (commentary by Robert Johnston) (UIC), "Public Historians in the Age of Fracture: A Dialogue"
- * November 19: Leon Fink and Robert Johnston (UIC), "Evaluating Hipster History: John Green's 'Crash Course U.S. History' and the Gilded Age and Progressive Era"
- * December 3: Courtney Wiersema (Notre Dame), "Natural Divides: Subsistence and Class in Industrial Chicago"

Spring 2015:

- * January 28: Michal Wilczewski (UIC), TBA
- * February 4: Carla Zecher (Newberry), "Music and Travel in the Levant, 1550-1700"
- * February 11: Hashim Ali (UIC), "Journeys to the Other Shore: Reflections on My Homeland"
- * February 18: Nanno Marinatos (UIC), TBA
- * February 25: Jeff Sklansky, Keely Stauter-Halsted and Kirk Hoppe (UIC), "Graduate Student Professional Development Session: Archival Research Abroad"
- * March 11: Robert Johnston (UIC), "Extremist Politics and the Mid-Twentieth Century Anti-Vaccination Movement"
- * March 18: Lynn Hudson (UIC), TBA
- * April 8: Louis Mercer (UIC), "Seeking the Historical Origins of the School-to-Prison Pipeline"
- * April 15: Joaquín Chávez (UIC): TBA
- * April 22: Paris Papamichos Chronakis (UIC): TBA

IMPORTANT DATES

Fall Semester 2014

August 25, Instruction begins.

September 1, Labor Day holiday. No classes.

September 5, Last day to make changes to registration.

November 7, Deadline to Submit Formatted Approved/Defended Dissertation to
The Graduate College (By 4:00 pm)

November 27–28 Thanksgiving holiday. No classes.

December 5, Instruction ends.

December 8–12, Final examinations.

Spring Semester 2015

January 12, Instruction begins.

January 16, Application Deadlines: Language Examination and M.A./M.A.T. and Ph.D. Exams

January 19, Martin Luther King, Jr., Day. No classes.

January 23, Last day to make changes to registration.

January 30, Deadline for Filing for Graduation:

February 2, Deadline for doctoral track students to apply for PhD candidacy

February 13, Language examination

February 27, Application deadline department and college financial awards

March 20, Deadline to Submit Formatted Approved/Defended Dissertation to the
Graduate College (By 4:00 pm)

March 23–27, Spring vacation. No classes. M.A./M.A.T and Ph.D. Exams

May 1, Instruction ends.

May 4–8, Final examinations.