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DEPARTMENT NEWS

NOTES FROM THE CHAIR

2013 was a banner year for placement for UIC's graduate program. Six of our Ph.D.s began in tenure track positions this fall and a seventh began a two-year post-doc.

We are pleased to welcome a number of new faculty to the Department of History. Two new tenure track hires, **Marina Mogilner** and **Junaid Quadri**, bring geographical strengths in Russia and Eastern Europe and the Middle East respectively, as well as expertise on various aspects of the shift from imperial formations to modern national polities. Visiting Assistant Professor **Elif Akçetin** adds depth to graduate training in Qing Imperial History as well as breadth to our undergraduate course offerings in East Asian history. Visiting Assistant Professor, **Amy Schneidhorst** brings expertise in gender and U.S. women's history to bear at all levels of the undergraduate curriculum.

In the realm of student support, we were pleased to be able to award the first annual **Peter D'Agostino Award** for graduate research this year, and we are in the process of establishing a **James F. Searing Memorial Fund** in honor of our late colleague and former Department Chair.

Finally, we are delighted to welcome two new babies into the UIC History community. Natalie Juanita Breland, born June 23rd, and Toni Sofia Quinne Capers, born September 30. Congratulations to Elizabeth Todd-Breland and Corey Capers respectively.

FACULTY NEWS

Corey Capers presented a talk on October 12th entitled: "Following Bobalition: Toward a Carnavalesque History of Print and Power in the Early American Republic" at Textual Studies and the History of Books in American Literature at Loyola University.

Joaquín Chávez was invited to teach the seminar "Civil War and Peace Negotiations in El Salvador, 1980-1992" at the Universidad de la República, Centro de Estudios Multidisciplinarios Latinoamericanos and Espacio de Estudios sobre Estados Unidos de América in Montevideo, Uruguay, between June 3 and June 17, 2013. He recently published a book chapter entitled "The Construction of the Internal Enemy: Pondering the Legacies of U.S. Anticommunism, Counterinsurgency, and Authoritarianism in El Salvador, 1952-1981" in *Hearts and Minds*, a volume edited by Hannah Gurman (New York: The New Press, 2013).

To commemorate the 150th anniversary of the US Civil War and in conjunction with the Terra Foundation for American Art, affiliated faculty member **Daniel Green** co-curated *Home Front: Daily Life in the Civil War North*, an exhibition of more than 100 items that focuses on the enormous, and costly, effect the war had on civilians. He also edited an accompanying volume of essays, also called

Home Front: Daily Life in the Civil War North, published in September by the University of Chicago Press. The exhibition will be on view at the Newberry through March 24, 2014.

Robert D. Johnston has been named as a Co-Editor for The Journal of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era (JGAPE). This appointment follows a national search for a successor to Alan Lessoff of Illinois State University. Johnston's engagement with JGAPE dates from the inaugural issue of 2002, which included his essay "Re-Democratizing the Progressive Era: The Politics of Progressive Era Political Historiography." Johnston's first monograph engaged a wide variety of issues in the literature on Progressivism. *The Radical Middle Class: Popular Democracy and the Question of Capitalism in Progressive Era Portland, Oregon* (Princeton University Press, 2003) sought to revise -- and redeem -- the political legacy of middling folks throughout American history, but especially during the early twentieth century. Through an exploration of the politics of direct democracy in Portland (in many ways its birthplace), Johnston sought to demonstrate the deep strains of populist democracy that informed an electoral idea that a century later has come to represent, to many, primar-

ily an outlet for bigotry and xenophobia. Johnston more recently has published the essay on the Gilded Age and Progressive Era for Eric Foner and Lisa McGirr, eds., *American History Now*.

Professor Emeritus John J. Kulczycki participated in a panel discussion at the annual Salon of the Remy Bumpo Theatre Company at the Greenhouse Theater Center in Chicago on September 9, 2013. Chaired by Alison Cuddy, arts and culture reporter and host at WBEZ Chicago Public Radio, the panel discussed the three plays of the coming season, with John leading the discussion of "Our Class" by Tadeusz Slobodzienek, which will be performed in the spring of 2014.

Fidelis Malgorzata is the co-recipient of a research grant from the Polish government: The National Program for the Development of the Humanities, Ministry of Higher Education, to write an academic textbook, in Polish, on women and gender in post 1945 Poland (co-authored with three other Polish scholars). She is especially excited, since Gender History is a new field in Poland, that has rarely been supported by the wider academic community or by government funds. She will be writing a chapter on theory, as well as chapters on work and consumer culture.

INTRODUCING NEW FACULTY



Marina B. Mogilner, Edward and Marianna Thaden Chair in Russian and East European Intellectual History

Marina Mogilner is a global scholar who has studied, taught, and conducted research in Russia, the United States, and a number of European countries. She earned her M.A. degree in Budapest before going on to complete her Ph.D. in Russian History at Rutgers University in 2000. She has authored two monographs, *Mythology of the "Underground Man:" Russian Radical Microcosm in the Early Twentieth Century as an Object of Semiotic Analysis* (Moscow, 1999) and *Homo Imperii: A History of Physical Anthropology in Russia* (Moscow, 2008; Revised and Expanded, Lincoln Nebraska, 2013). She is currently working on a book project on Jewish race scientists and intellectuals who, for different reasons and in different contexts, insisted that Jewishness was based on race. She is also a founding editor of the international journal *Ab Imperio*.



Junaid Quadri, Assistant Professor

Junaid Quadri joins us from the Institute of Islamic Studies of McGill University where he recently defended his dissertation. Quadri's research focuses on the modern practice of Islamic Law. His dissertation explored the nature of substantial transformations that Islamic law has undergone over the last several centuries. More specifically he demonstrates how modern ways of thinking about time, science, and secularism found their way into the intellectual outlook of "traditionalist" scholars and clerics in the nineteenth century, who found themselves adopting them in an effort to preserve the position they had enjoyed in the pre-modern social and political hierarchy. These changes in their thinking would also have profound effects in the legal realm.



Elif Akçetin, Visting Assistant Professor

Elif Akçetin received her Ph.D. in August 2007 from the Department of History of the University of Washington where she worked under the direction of eminent Qing historian R. Kent Guy. After holding a one-year postdoctoral position at Yale, she moved to Durham University (UK) where she was a member of the faculty. Akçetin's research explores Qing connections to the early modern world through the culture of commerce; examines the rhetoric of wealth vs. frugality in relation to political legitimacy; tackles the thorny issue of corruption in the context of a growing consumer culture; and explores the significance of Qing objects of material culture through their contextualization in society. A native speaker of Turkish, she is fluent in English, French, and Chinese and is one of only a handful of Qing historians with reading competency in Manchu language.



Amy Schneidhorst, Visting Assistant Professor

Amy Schneidhorst, joins us this year as Visiting Assistant Professor. She is author of *Building a Just and Secure World: Popular Front Women's Struggle for Peace and Justice in Chicago during the 1960s*. Since finishing her PhD at UIC in 2006 under the direction of John D'Emilio, she has held positions as Eastern Illinois, Alma College, and the University of Texas Brownsville. We are happy to have her back in Chicago.

ALUMNI & STUDENT NEWS

Jochen Arndt won a 2012 Army Historical Foundation Distinguished Writing Awards for his article, "The True Napoleon of the West: General Winfield Scott's Mexico City Campaign and the Origins of the U.S. Army's Combined-Arms Combat Division," published in "The Journal Military History, July 2012."

Sarah Rose and Josh Salzmann had an op-Ed published in the Chicago Tribune, titled "Our Nation of Bionic Workers" in which they argue that Alex Rodriguez's personal shortcomings have let Major League Baseball and teams like A-Rod's Yankees - who have profited from players' steroid-enhanced bodies off the hook.

Catherine Jacquet is currently Berg Wallin Postdoctoral Fellow at Macalester College where she is teaching courses on gender and the history of sexuality.

Nick McCormick tapped the Field Museum of Natural History (FMNH) Archives for research on Chicago museums. Throughout August and September Nick conducted research using material from the Museum Library Archives for his dissertation project tentatively entitled "Dusty Bones and Dead Zoos: The Changing Representations of Ecology, Evolution, and Science in Chicago's Natural History Museums, 1890-1940." The archival collections are a critical primary source base for this project.

Allison Orton recipient of the Robert V. Remini Award, has spent the last few months, going through collections of various breweries from the Milwaukee and Chicago areas. At the moment, she is planning the Czech and Austrian portions of her research, to be completed in the next academic year.

Amy Sullivan has been hired as fixed-term, full time faculty in the Gender & Women's Studies department at Minnesota State University-Mankato for the academic year. She will be teaching Intro to Gender, Coming of Age: Gender & Culture, and Feminist Thought.

Benn Williams collaborated in the publication of "Dealing with wars and dictatorship: Legal concepts and categories in action" by translating half the book and editing the rest.

Fariba Zarinebaf received a senior Fulbright research Fellowship in Turkey, Istanbul this coming year.

Neici Zeller's Spanish version of her dissertation, which was published in the Dominican Republic won the Cultural Ministry's prize for best non-fiction of the year 2012-13.

Congratulations to our graduates who began tenure track positions this fall

Katie Batza, Gettysburg College

"Before AIDS: Gay and Lesbian Community Health Activism in the 1970s"

Michael Goode, Utah Valley University

"Gospel Order among Friends: Colonial Violence and the Peace Testimony in Quaker Pennsylvania, 1681-1722"

Karen Johnson, Wheaton College

"The Universal Church in the Segregated City: Catholic Interracialism in Chicago, 1915-1963"

Lara Kelland, University of Louisville

"Clio's Foot Soldiers: Twentieth-Century U.S. Social Movements and the Uses of Collective Memory"

Stephanie B. Opperman, Georgia College and State University

"Salud Colectiva: The Role of Public Health Campaigns in Building a Modern Mexican Nation, 1940s-1960s"

Anne Parsons, UNC-Greensboro

"Re-institutionalizing America: The Politics of Mental Health and Incarceration, 1945-1985"

UPCOMING EVENTS

November

2

9AM-6PM

UIC Student Center East
Sixth Floor

TEXT and CONTEXT: History in Print and Culture
The Sixth Annual Windy City Graduate Student History Conference

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: Dr. Kristin Hoganson

Professor of History and Women's Studies at University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

PRESENTING: "Unpacking Midwestern Pork: From Anglo-Saxonist Pigs to the Modern American Empire"

November

18+19

6PM

The Institute for
the Humanities

Ab Imperio-workshop
"Postimperial and Postcolonial Crossroads:
The Scandal of the City"

**EVERY THIRD
WEDNESDAY
of a MONTH**

6 PM

The Institute for
the Humanities

SEE NEXT

**SEMINAR: EAST EUROPEAN AND NORTHERN
EURASIAN CROSSTALK**

A WORKING GROUP AT THE UIC INSTITUTE FOR THE HUMANITIES

DEPARTMENT SPOTLIGHT

SEE NEXT is founded to discuss innovative scholarship on managing, producing, and making sense of diversity; on race, gender, civilizational, national, and other types of hierarchies; on imperial, national, and other types of social imagination and narratives; on the politics of comparison in Northern Eurasia and Eastern Europe including dealing with imperial legacies; on specific regional languages of self-description and self-representation; and on the contextual and situational nature of regional identities. These topics are as relevant for studies of historical empires, imperial cultures, and societies, as they are for the analysis of nation-states, seemingly homogeneous cultures, and societies, and they allow us to put our specific regional cases on the larger map of current methodological debates in history, anthropology, literary studies, political theory, and so on. The assumption that we study complex phenomena characterized by internal dynamism and diversity underlines our common pursuit, and makes our studies relevant beyond our narrow geographically defined fields.

Once a month, the multidisciplinary community of students of the region of East and Central Europe, the former Russian Empire, and the USSR from Chicagoland (and beyond) will meet to discuss a new case study. Open to scholars from the

social sciences and humanities alike, SEE NEXT has only one requirement: presenters must be prepared to discuss their particular cases within broader methodological, disciplinary, and geographical contexts suggested by other participants. While any national, regional, or cultural experience is unique, there should be some meta-language (a middle-range theory, an explanatory model, a discursive strategy) that makes someone's unique case relevant to the interests of the rest. This will help us to strengthen the community (and hence the field) of Russian, East- and Central European Studies, as well as to relativize the existing powerful inclination toward all sorts of Sonderweg histories, cultural exclusiveness, and implicit politicization of research. Without compromising the political sovereignty and cultural ingenuity of all peoples of the region, the point of departure for SEE NEXT relies on acknowledging the fundamental interconnectedness and mutual influences of lands, countries, and cultures. The seminar concerns the multidimensional and multivalent diversity (and the many attempts to rationalize it or wipe it out) that perhaps constitutes the most distinctive feature of the region over the past millennium.

As another step toward acknowledging the importance of (academic) diversity and relativizing its direct politi-

cal implications, SEE NEXT invites graduate students to take active part in our sessions, including in the key role of Graduate Student Inquirer. After each presentation, a Graduate Student Inquirer (GSI) will have the floor to ask questions and comment on the presentation.

SEE NEXT format:

An invited speaker will be asked to precirculate theses of two–three pages on the topic of the future talk. The talk itself will be structured as follows:

- Presentation, 30–35 minutes;
- Graduate Student Inquirer, 5–10 minutes;
- General discussion and response of the presenter, 30–40 minutes.

SEE NEXT Venue:

University of Illinois at Chicago

Institute for the Humanities (MC206)

701 South Morgan, Lower Level / Stevenson Hall

Chicago, IL 60607-7040

SEE NEXT invites presenters from Chicagoland and all over the country to suggest topics and speakers to the co-organizers (the seminar will cover a presenter's trip and accommodation). Please send your suggestion to Marina Mogilner at mmogilne@uic.edu

SEE NEXT: A WORKING GROUP

Dear colleagues, dear friends,
Thank you all who came to the first meeting of the SEE NEXT. This was a lively seminar thanks to Professor Steven Seegel's extremely interesting and masterful presentation as well as the pointed questions and constructive comments from the audience. The tone of the discussion was set by Alison Orton, the UIC graduate student inquirer, who asked the presenter about his methodology (feminist geography); the connections between the East- and Central European geographers under discussion and the American geographer Isaiah Bowman; the reasons for setting the upper chronological limit of his project in the 1950s, and some other factual issues. The questions and comments from the audience concerned mostly the problem of what made the six geographers selected by Steven Seegel -- Albrecht Penck (1858-1945) of

Germany, Eugeniusz Romer (1871-1954) of Poland, Stepan Rudnyts'kyi (1877-1937) of Ukraine, Count Pál Teleki (1879-1941) of Hungary, Arkadz Smolich (1891-1938) of Belarus, and Isaiah Bowman -- a cohort rather than simply a group of personally connected people. Responding to those questions, Seegel pointed out the commonality of their educational and social experiences and the trauma of WWI (he described their geographies as "the geographies of loss"). However, both during his presentation and the Q&A session, Seegel talked at length about the differences in his six protagonists' biographies and the contexts in which they had acted; he also highlighted the importance of biographical reading of the structuralist "language" of interwar European cartography.

Seegel's presentation, accompanied by an exceptional-

ly diverse selection of images, was rich in individual stories and biographic details. His sophisticated theoretical discussion of the method of "special prosopography" was balanced by an engaging narrative of lives, communications, conflicts, friendships, betrayals, and, eventually, his protagonists' from the interwar Europe deaths. Everyone in the audience -- students and professors; historians, literary scholars, and social scientists; a Russianist, a Europeanist, a student from Latin America, and a historian of China -- speaking of the actual "geography" of specializations of those present at the talk -- could relate to the presentation. The entire experience left everyone pleased and satisfied.

Thank you for this great beginning!

See you at our next meeting in November.

Marina Mogilner



INTRODUCING NEW GRADUATE STUDENTS



Jennifer Ash (PhD program)

Jennifer will be joining the Department in January of 2014. She is currently an Instructor of History at Bennett College, in Greensboro, North Carolina, where she has worked since 2008. Her research interests include the intersections of race, gender, class, and sexuality at HBCUs (Historically Black Colleges and Universities) in the latter half of the twentieth century.



Boguslaw Balata (MAT program)

Bogey received his BS at the University of Chicago. His previous studies focused on Economics. Bogey has worked as a broker at the CME and taught English overseas. He intends to focus on World History in pursuit of his MAT.



Cary Bolnick (MAT program)

Cary graduated from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign where he studied Sport Management and minored in Business Administration. After graduating he worked abroad in England, Australia and recently finished serving in Ukraine with the Peace Corps. He is in his first semester of the MAT program and would like to teach high school history in Chicago.



Monte Carpenter (MAT program)

After spending 12 years on active duty in the US Air Force as a Space and Missile Operations Officer, Monte decided to make a career change by joining the MAT program. His goal is to become a high school History teacher in the Chicago area. In addition to going to school full time at UIC, he is also an active Reservist with the U.S. Air Force.



Richard Elliott (PhD program)

Rick is a first year student in the doctoral program (WRGUW). Originally from Cleveland, OH, he is coming to UIC from Buffalo, NY, where he earned his M.A. in History at the University at Buffalo. Here he will be working with Jeff Sklansky and studying the cultural history of capitalism in the 19th century United States.



Andrew Ginsberg (MAT program)

Andrew returned to school this year after a 13 year hiatus (graduated with an Anthropology degree from University of Chicago, 2000), which he spent as a community and labor organizer for ACORN and SEIU respectively. He is interested in the history of progressive movement and the Left in general and inserting ordinary people back into history. When he is not working he enjoys spending time with his son, playing tennis, and travelling.



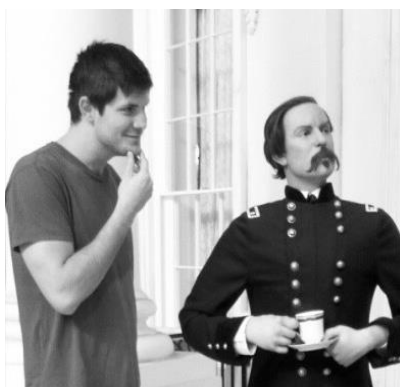
Noah Glaser (MA/PhD program)

Noah grew up in Ann Arbor, Michigan, but has lived in Chicago for the past five years and doesn't see any reason to leave. He earned a BA in history from the University of Chicago and is interested in the economic history of the colonial Americas and the dynamics of anti-colonial revolutions. In his free time, he enjoys boxing and listening to books on tape.



Nicolas Gordon (PhD program)

Born and raised in New Orleans, Nicolas earned his Master's in History at the University of Oklahoma, where he investigated the nature of U.S sponsored railroad development in Mexico during the mid-Nineteenth Century. In tandem with Dr. Chris Boyer, Nicolas will pursue a dissertation dealing with the politics of disease in either Cuba or Mexico in the second half of the Twentieth Century.



Brennan Lazzaretto (MAT program)

Brennan completed his BA at University of Iowa and is a social studies teacher at Downers Grove South High School. He is interested in pursuing information about effective strategies for teaching history and expanding his background knowledge on various topics that can be taught at the high school level. His passion is to make history relevant for his students and to help prepare future generations for a constantly changing world.



Jerome Meites (PhD program)

Jerry continues in the PhD program, having completed his MA at UIC. A JD and practicing attorney, he is researching the history of state constitutions.



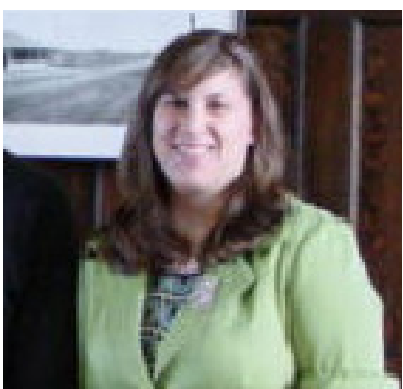
Joshua Mullen (MAT program)

Joshua grew up in the southwest suburbs, where he attended Carl Sandburg High School from 1996 to 2000. In the years since, he earned bachelor's and master's degrees in U.S. history from UIC and Illinois State University respectively, worked in the admissions department at a large for-profit college, and traveled.



Heather Welborn (PhD program)

Heather Welborn is a native of North Carolina, she received her Bachelors Degree in History from the University of Virginia with high distinction. After working in the labor movement for two years as an organizer with SEIU, she received a Masters Degree from the University of Chicago. Heather's research focuses on the history of the social sciences in Progressive Era Chicago.



Tiffany Wilson (PhD program)

Tiffany Wilson received her BA and MA at the University of Wyoming. Her previous studies focused on both material culture and public history. Tiffany has worked as an adjunct instructor and as director of Carbon County Museum in Rawlins, Wyoming. She intends to study questions of material culture and identity in Habsburg East Central Europe.

CONGRATULATIONS to Barbara Ransby whose book, *Eslanda: The Large and Unconventional Life and of Mrs. Paul Robeson*, has been chosen as the 2013 winner of the Letitia Brown book Award.

