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VOLUME 6 no. 1

# HISTORY MATTERS

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# DEPARTMENT NEWS

## NOTES FROM THE CHAIR

As you might imagine, some of the talk around the department these days has to do with the vanished state budget. Not “vanished” as in reduced little by little, which has certainly happened, but rather “vanished” as in nonexistent. Our elected officials have failed for many months to negotiate a budget for Illinois. This certainly harms the university in many ways, above all by putting state-funded financial aid for students in check and placing faculty on edge about the future.

Yet the most noteworthy thing about these problems is what they haven’t changed. Students still come to discuss their work with professors, classes still meet, we still have brown bag presentations, visiting lectures, and faculty meetings. Graduate students still teach, research, and write with passion. Are we on the ninth and tenth floors of University Hall just in denial? Are we holding our collective breath just waiting for the other foot to fall? I don’t think so.

The truth is that the department’s central mission is to teach history, and all we need for that are instructors, students, some books, and a classroom with or without whiz-bang technology. Despite its increasing specialization, pedagogical renovation, and historiographical complexity, the actual teaching of history is something we can do under just about any circumstances.

Nevertheless, the budget crisis has made it clearer than ever that we need to do as much as we can to protect ourselves from the political climate in Springfield. This spring, we will launch a fund-raising campaign to commemorate former chair James Searing and buttress our graduate program. I will be reaching out to you in early 2016 to ask for donations to make sure that we will continue to thrive.

Professor Chris Boyer

# FACULTY NEWS

**Elizabeth Todd-Breland** has received a contract to publish *A Political Education: Black Politics and Education Reform in Post-Civil Rights Chicago*, with the University of North Carolina Press. She also, recently published “Control and Independence: Black Alternatives for Urban Education,” in *Using Past as Prologue: Contemporary Perspectives on African American Educational History*.

**Jonathan Daly** attended the Workshop on Totalitarian states at the Hoover Institution at Stanford University in July and conducted research there in the Hoover Institution Archives.

**Malgorzata (Gosia) Fidelis's** book, *Women, Communism, and Industrialization in Postwar Poland*, originally published by Cambridge University Press in 2010, came out in a Polish translation *Kobiety, komunizm i industrializacja w powojennej Polsce*.

**Keely Stauter-Halsted's** new book, *The Devil's Chain: Prostitution and Social Control in Partitioned Poland* was released by Cornell University Press.

**Laura Hostetler** attended an international conference in August entitled “China and the Human Sciences 1600-Present.” It was held at National Chengchi University in Taipei.

**Lynn Hudson** gave an invited lecture at the California Historical Society in April about African Americans and the Panama-Pacific International

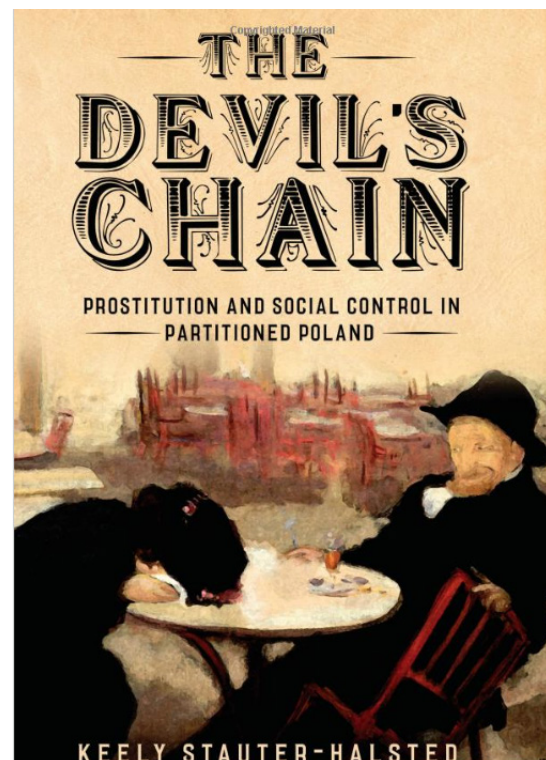
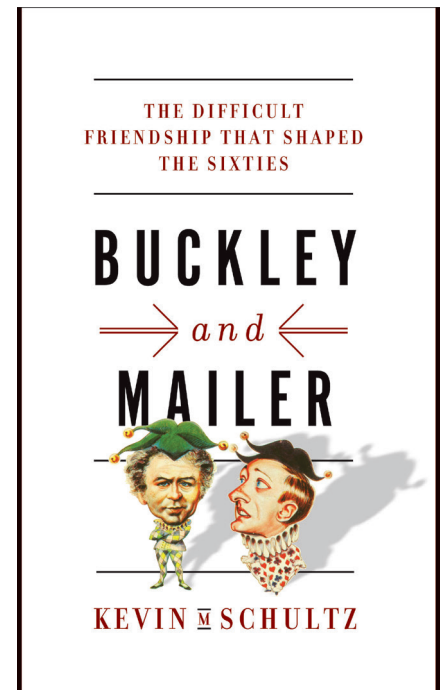
Exposition of 1915. The talk was part of a year-long commemoration of the fair's centennial.

In October **Susan Levine** gave talk entitled “The Moral Challenge of Abundance: Humanitarianism and the Rise of the Food Aid Complex After World War II,” at the University of California, Santa Barbara. The conference was part of their series on Power and Policy Across National Borders.

**Deirdre McCloskey** has retired from teaching but will stay in Chicago and would be delighted to continue to interact with graduate students and faculty informally. In fact, she says, “You won't get rid of me: expect me to drop suddenly into seminars and the like!” She'll be working on books, for instance a book on English medieval open fields and modern enclosure, a topic she drifted away from in the 1980s. The third volume of her massive trilogy on the “bourgeois era,” *Bourgeois Equality: How Ideas, Not Capital or Institutions, Enrich the World* will be published by the University of Chicago Press.

**Kevin Shultz** appeared on MSNBC's June 5 program, “The Cycle” to discuss his new book, *Buckley and Mailer: The Difficult Friendship That Shaped the Sixties*.

**Javier Villa-Flores** has been named a fellow of the National Humanities Center for the 2015-16 academic year.

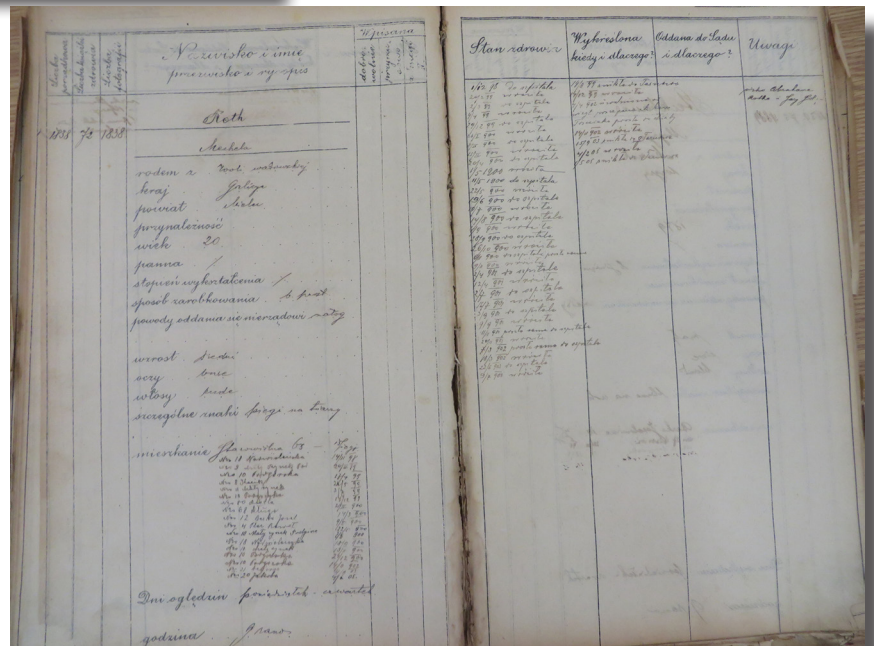


# HISTORIANS IN THE FIELD



A brief look at our faculty at work in the archives and conference table.

Laura Hostetler participates in a panel discussion.



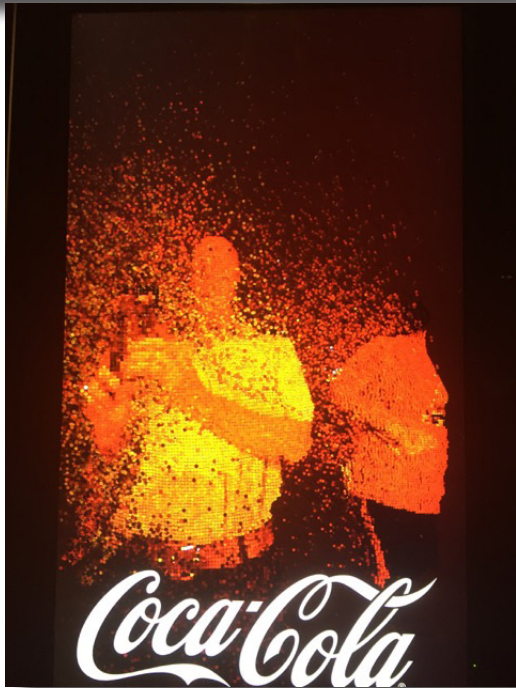
A snapshot of an archival document retrieved by Keely Stauter-Halsted.



Jonathan Daly mining the archives.



# HISTORIANS IN THE FIELD



Chris Boyer explored a Coca-Cola installation in Mexico.



The lighter side of research...



Sue Levine's view from the archives in Rome.

Leon Fink surveys the field.

# PAST PERFECT

In July, **Jochen Arndt** accepted an invitation to serve as Honorary Research Scholar at the University of Cape Town's Archive and Public Culture Research Initiative. He presented two research papers at academic conferences in South Africa: "From UkuKhuluma to IsiZulu: The Emergence of 'Zulu' as a Distinct Language Community in Southeast Africa, 1800-1900," at Southern African Pasts Before the Colonial Era, Their Archives and Their Ongoing Present/Presence Conference, University of Cape Town. Jochen presented "The Zulu Conquest State and the Emergence of Language-based Discourses of Identity in Precolonial Southeast Africa, 1780-1850," at the South African Historical Society Conference, Stellenbosch, South Africa. Jochen obtained a one-year Visiting Instructor position in the Department of History at Florida Atlantic University, teaching African, World and African-American history.

**Jennifer Ash** was awarded two fellowships for research: the Archie K. Davis Fellowship from the North Caroliniana Society, housed at UNC-Chapel Hill; and a fellowship with the Black Metropolis Research Consortium at the University of Chicago. She used both of these fellowships to conduct archival research related to her dissertation topic of Gender, Sexuality, and activism at Historically Black Colleges and Universities in the post-World War II Era. She traveled to North Carolina for this research and also conducted research in archival collections here in Chicago. She also taught an introductory course for Women's and Gender Studies at UIC, and was an invited panelist for a Tracer's Book Club's event: Feminism Then and Now: A Live Reading of "Sentimental," based on the

Declaration of Sentiments and Resolutions at the Defibrillator Performance Art Gallery, in Chicago. She also worked on two grant projects at the Jane Addams Hull-House Museum and collaborated with Museum Educators as a participant observer in their training sessions.

**Katie Batza's** article, "From Sperm Runners to Sperm Banks: Lesbians, Assisted Conception, and the Changing Fertility Industry, 1971 - 1983" will be published in the Summer 2016 issue of the *Journal of Women's History*.

In October, Praeger Press published alumn **Justin Coffey's** book, *Spiro Agnew and the Rise of the Republican Right*. Coffey is Associate Professor of History at Quincy University in Quincy, IL.

**Tom Dorrance** presented a paper "The Labor Question and Community Control in Chicago and Los Angeles" at the conference "Beyond the New Deal Order" sponsored by the University of California, Santa Barbara. Tom is Visiting Assistant Professor in the Department of History at Cleveland State University.

**Rick Elliot** was awarded Best Graduate Student Paper (non-military) at the Missouri Valley History Conference this past Spring. The paper was titled "When the 'Golden Ties of Commerce' Get Sick: Caring for Mariners on the Mississippi in the Early Republic" and it discussed the history of the Natchez Hospital in Natchez, MS, and the dynamic relationship between labor, health, and the state in the early national period.

In September, **Melissa Hibbard** presented a paper entitled, "Child Catholic or Child Pole: Competing Visions of Child Care in the Inter-war Republic" at DePaul University as part of the 8th International Conference for the Society for the Study of Childhood in the Past.

*Continued on Page 8*

# BROWN BAG SERIES

Wednesdays, Noon- 1 PM University Hall, Room 950

## Fall 2015:

- \* September 9: Nick McCormick, "Reconsidering the *Lusitania* at 100"
- \* September 16: Marina Mogilner, "Russian contexts of the racialized Jewishness: the case of Vladimir (Zeev) Jabotinsky".
- \* September 23 : Kevin Schultz, "How to get an Academic Job"
- \* September 30: Enrique Ochoa (Cal State LA), Title TBA
- \* October 7: Leon Fink, "Preparing THE LONG GILDED AGE: The Challenge of America in the World History"
- \* October 14: Tyler Miller, "Promiscuous Humanists: A Discussion of Alternative Academics, Professional Development, and Other Subversive Acts."
- \* October 21: Robert Johnston and Julie Peters, TBA
- \* October 28: Jennifer Brier, "History Moves: Ideas for Building a Collaborative Model of History Making"
- \* November 4: Chris Boyer, "Political Landscapes"
- \* November 11: Kirk Arden Hoppe, "Emin Pasha in the Cultural Crosshairs of Empire"
- \* November 18: Jonathan Daly, TBA
- \* December 2: Rama Mantena, TBA



**Karen Johnson** is assistant professor of history at Wheaton College and has just signed a contract with Oxford University Press to publish her revised dissertation.

Alumn **James E. Kollenbroich**, received a UIC Award of Merit.

**Nick McCormick** wrote a three part web series for the Journal of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era about the sinking of the Lusitania in May 1915. <http://www.shgape.org/launching-the-lusitania/>

**Tyler Miller** attended a summer course on Forced Migration and Refugees at York University in Toronto, Ontario. The course brought together government officials, scholars, and activists for an intensive five days to discuss the contemporary field of forced migration and refugee studies, contemporary challenges to humanitarian relief and resettlement, and new challenges presented by protracted conflicts around the globe. The course was sponsored by York University's Centre for Refugee Studies. The Provost-Deiss award from the UIC Graduate College allowed him to attend. Tyler also attended a three week intensive workshop called Humanities Without Walls. The purpose of the workshop was to facilitate dialogue among humanities Ph.Ds. on alternative academic career opportunities, professionalization, and reform in graduate education that might lead to careers beyond the university.

**Jeff Nichols** commended on the discovery of long lost footage from the Eastland disaster on ABC7 news. The centenary of the disaster was Friday, July 24.

**Dominic Pacyga** published *Slaughterhouse: Chicago's Union Stockyard and the World It Made* (University of Chicago Press).

**Anne Parsons**, who received a Ph.D. from the Department of History in 2013, has been named a Soros Justice Fellow by the Open Society Foundation. Soros Fellows comprise experts, advocates, journalists,

and scholars dedicated to the advancement of restorative justice, to ending mass incarceration, and to challenging dominant concepts of crime, punishment, mental health, and drug policy in the United States. According to Open Society, Parsons will use the award to write a book that explores how the deinstitutionalization of mental hospitals intersected with the rise of mass incarceration, showing how one form of confinement and stigmatization has in effect been replaced by another. Parsons graduated from the UIC Department of History after defending her dissertation titled "'Re-institutionalizing America: The Politics of Mental Health and Incarceration, 1945-1985.'" She is now Assistant Professor of History at University of North Carolina Greensboro.

**Margaret Power** is now Chair of the Department of Humanities at the Illinois Institute of Technology.

**Dennis Rogala** received a grant from the NEH to take a four week class in Rome for teachers.

**Amy Sullivan** is Visiting Assistant Professor in the History Department at Macalester College in St. Paul for 2015-16. She is also an independent contractor for the National Library of Medicine's History of Medicine division as a writer, researcher, and content developer for their exhibitions department. Sullivan and **Catherine Jacquet** presented at the Mid-Atlantic Museum Association's annual conference in Philadelphia on a project entitled: Confronting Violence, Improving Women's Lives. <https://www.nlm.nih.gov/exhibition/confrontingviolence/education/about.html>

**Ben Whisenhunt**, Professor of History, College of DuPage, published his co-edited (with Norman E. Saul) collection *New Perspectives on Russian-American Relations*. It includes 18 articles from scholars from the US, Russia, France, and Italy that cover the history of the relations from the 18th century to the 21st century. He will also be presenting, "Albert Rhys Williams, Religion, and the Russian Revolution," at the National Convention



of the Association for Slavic, Eurasian and East European Studies (ASEEES) in Philadelphia.

**Gloria-Yvonne Williams** published a historiographical essay “African-Americans and the Politics of Race During the New Deal” in *The New Deal and the Great Depression*, edited by Aaron D. Purcell (Kent State University Press).



## Support History

## Important Dates

### **Fall Semester 2015**

August 24 Instruction begins

September 7 Labor Day holiday. No classes.

October 2, Language examination

November 6 Deadline to Submit Formatted Approved/Defended Dissertation to the Graduate College

November 26–27, Thanksgiving holiday. No classes.

December 4, Instruction ends.

December 7–11 Final examinations.

### **Spring Semester 2016**

January 11, Instruction begins.

January 18, Martin Luther King, Jr., Day. No classes.

February 12, Language examination

February 26 Award Application Deadline

March 18 Deadline to Submit Formatted Approved/Defended Dissertation to the Graduate College

March 21-25 Examinations

March 21–25 Spring vacation. No classes.

April 29 Instruction ends.

May 2–6 Final examinations.

### **Summer Session 1 (4-Week Session) 2016**

May 16, Instruction begins.

May 30, Memorial Day holiday. No classes

June 10, Final examinations

### **Summer Session 2 (8-Week Session) 2016**

June 13 Instruction begins.

July 4 Independence Day holiday. No classes.

August 3 Instruction ends for Summer Session 2.