

Taking Time

A NEWSLETTER FOR UNDERGRADUATES

FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

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THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

SPRING 2006

GREETINGS

This spring quarter will be my last as Department Chair, and I wanted to take this opportunity to share our collective accomplishments over the last four years in hiring, scholarship, and teaching. Every year we have hired exciting new colleagues to replace those who have retired or moved on to other institutions, and our strong commitment to diversity has guided our choices for these new additions to the faculty. To date, since 2002 we have added eighteen members to the faculty, and eight have been women and four people of color. This raises the percentage of women in our faculty to nearly 40%, well over the average for most top ranked history departments of between 20% and 25%. Each of these new hires also teaches a new range of courses for our undergraduate and graduate students. We have also added eight new staff members, four men and four women, and three of these are people of color. These new staff members particularly facilitate the outreach efforts that are the hallmark of a great public university, such as Ohio State.

Every year members of our department win a wide range of prestigious awards, fellowships, and grants. Since 2002 the faculty have published an astounding 121 books, 132 journal articles, 103 book chapters, and received over 170 grants and fellowships, and 52 awards for teaching and

scholarship. Just to give three notable examples, Kevin Boyle in Modern U.S. history won the prestigious National Book Award (for *Arc of Justice: A Saga of Race, Civil Rights, and Murder in the Jazz Age*),



Chair of the History Department, Prof. Kenneth Andrien, at the reception for the opening of the Museum of Classical Archaeology

one of our most distinguished scholars, Geoffrey Parker, won the Alumni Award for Distinguished Teaching, and the Coordinator of our Undergraduate History Office, Maria Mazon, won a University Distinguished Staff Award. The department also sponsored four eminent scholars who received honorary degrees at Ohio State, Arthur Schlesinger Jr., David McCullough, Edward J. Larson, and our former president, William "Britt" Kirwan. At the same time,

history courses have never been more popular on this campus. This past year our department taught 18,155 undergraduate and graduate students, and we now have nearly 750 history majors!

The department also began a series of new initiatives to advance our teaching, outreach, and scholarly programs. Recently we opened our **Undergraduate Lounge** on the third floor where our various student organizations can meet, and where our majors can feel free to drop by to rest, chat, and socialize. We also began a series of new initiatives in **Public History**, offering new courses and practical internships for our majors. Moreover, this winter our department also opened a **Museum of Classical Archaeology** (in collaboration with the departments of Art History and Greek and Latin) as a museum of ancient Mediterranean artifacts, but also as a teaching laboratory for courses in all three departments dealing with archaeology. Finally, we received funding this year to begin an exciting new initiative, the **Center for Historical Research**, which will invite distinguished senior and junior scholars from outside the university to join the department for up to one year, in order to conduct research projects, offer special courses, and participate in a year-long series of workshops, and an annual conference. The Center will invite distinguished outside speakers to discuss their current research and participate in the other scholarly programs of the Center. All of the new Center's activities welcome the participation of our graduate and undergraduate students.

While the last four years of my tenure as Chair have been active and productive ones, the years ahead under the leadership of my successor, Professor Peter Hahn, promise to be equally exciting for our faculty, graduate students, and our undergraduates.

Kenneth J. Andrien
Professor and Chair

!! HISTORY CAREER NIGHT !!

Be sure to join us on Thursday, May 11, at 7:00 p.m. in EA 160 for the eighteenth annual History Career Night. Representatives from the private sector and various campus offices will discuss a range of topics and opportunities for you. You don't have to be a history major to attend, so bring your friends.

OPENING A WORLD: THE JOHN GLENN PROGRAM

By Alana Shockey

(editor's note: Alana Shockey is a senior history major at Ohio State.)

During autumn quarter, 2005, I had the opportunity to complete an academic internship in Washington D.C. through the John Glenn Program. This program attracts students from across disciplines to complete substantive internships in fields relating to their major. As a history major my ability to research, critically analyze, and effectively communicate allowed me to choose from a variety of internship areas. I chose to be placed in Ohio Congressman Ted Strickland's office because I knew working on Capitol Hill would give me a uniquely Washington, D.C. experience. Four days a week I rode the metro from the Foggy Bottom/George Washington University area to the Cannon U.S. Congressional Office Building to work from nine o'clock until six o'clock in Ted Strickland's office.

During that time I opened, recorded, and distributed mail and answered numerous constituent phone calls. I also did daily research for the legislative assistants, ranging from finding current statistics to be used in speeches to doing research that would help determine how the Congressman would vote on an upcoming bill.

My favorite part of being on Capitol Hill, however, was attending hearings and

briefings when the legislative assistants could not attend. In these briefings I learned first hand from the experts about the progress of the drafting of the constitution in Iraq, how manufacturing and transportation were faring in the Katrina devastated region, why there are vastly different standardized testing requirements from state to state, and how the administration was proceeding in developing a plan to protect the American people against the Avian Flu.



Alana Shockey (2nd from right) and other John Glenn fellows discussing deep thoughts.

Another aspect of my job was giving tours of the Capitol building. The history of the building is quite amazing. There are many legends about the building, and many extraordinary events have occurred within its walls. During each tour my guests were shown the rotunda, original Supreme Court chambers, original Senate and House chambers, and the current House chambers. Working on Capitol Hill was an exciting experience, one that I will remember always.

On Wednesdays the John Glenn Fellows went to class seminar for the full day. During seminar we discussed the book that we were assigned to read for the week. Often before or after class we took study tours. During these study tours we went to the World Bank, National Academy of Sciences, the National Art Museum, the

Pentagon, and various other places. We went on one weekend study tour to the Gettysburg Civil War battlefield. Often speakers such as former Ohio House Speaker, Jo Ann Davidson, and other prominent leaders, came to our class to tell us about their life path and encourage us in our own paths. Senator John Glenn and his wife Annie came and had a special two-hour lunch with our class once. They also returned to meet with us at our end-of-term reception.

Washington D.C. and the John Glenn Program opened a world of policy based discussion to me, and helped me to realize the vast number of opportunities available to young people interested in public policy and public service. I encourage any history major, no matter his/her end goal, to spend a quarter in Washington D.C. through the John Glenn Program. The experience has enriched my understanding, created memories that will last a lifetime, and taught me the importance of public policy and service.

Congratulations . . .

. . . to history major Phillip Bullimore who won an award in the Autumn 2005 Undergraduate Research Scholarship competition. The funds will be used to support research for his Senior Honors Thesis. The title of his project is, "Conduct Unbecoming": Gay and Lesbian Student Activism at The Ohio State University and its Impact on Policies, from the 1960's to 2000." He is working with Prof. Susan Hartmann as adviser.

The History Department applauds Phillip for the hard work that brought him to this point. The Senior Honors Thesis is an educational opportunity that many outstanding history majors should consider.

. . . to an award winner.

HISTORY 489 and "DOING" HISTORY

(editor's note: while history majors have long been able to take advantage of the internships offered through the Arts and Sciences Office of Career Services in Brown Hall, last fall the history department inaugurated its own internship program with the first offering of History 489, "Historical Internships," taught by Prof. Steven Conn. Two students from that class, Benjamin Leland and Stephen Agricola, write about their experiences.)

---by Benjamin Leland

For my History 489 class, I was placed at WOSU, a nearby public broadcast television station. I worked as a research assistant under Kevin Theessen, a producer/director of documentary films. Though Mr. Theessen was working on a number of projects at the time, he had me collect information specifically for a project on Olentangy Park, a Columbus amusement park which operated from 1893 to 1937.



Benjamin Leland

Each week consisted of roughly six hours of work: five hours of personal research, supplemented by a one hour meeting with Mr. Theessen each Monday. I spent a great deal of time at the Ohio Historical Society, where I viewed the death certificates and wills of the former owners of the park, as well as the Society's large collection of

Olentangy Park photographic negatives. My work with OHS not only familiarized me with how to conduct research, but it also provided the project with invaluable leads for further research. For example, the wills contained the names of many of the owner's descendants, who Kevin and I could then attempt to find and contact. I also researched information on other amusement parks and world's fairs at the public library, as well as general information about the time period to provide context for my work. I was even able to set up an interview with an elderly man who grew up in Columbus and shared an invaluable number of personal accounts and stories about attending Olentangy Park as a child.

Professor Conn required us to submit a short account of our activities each week via email, but the class portion of History 489 only met once a month. In addition to giving a presentation on our experiences, Professor Conn had us collect and read a number of books related to the themes explored in our respective internships, and write a paper synthesizing our experiences with the information found in the secondary sources. I collected a number of books on other amusement parks (Coney Island, the Chicago World's fair), a few on social and moral themes regarding amusement (prohibition, gender roles, segregation), and one on urban development.

While I learned a great deal of historical information throughout this internship, the most valuable skill I obtained was the ability to use the resources of the local historical community.

---by Stephen Agricola

In the autumn of 2005, I had the opportunity to take an internship class with Professor Conn, History 489. The in-class involvement was minimal, as can be expected, as the bulk of the "class" was spent in an actual internship. We spent time each week writing up a journal entry, as well as a final bibliographic paper. I was assigned to the Rare Books and Manuscripts

Department contained within the Ohio State University Main Library.

There, Professor Geoffrey Smith was cordial enough to help me with my principal assignment--the transcription of Civil War correspondence by a riverboat captain named William Anderson. I discovered a whole new world I could delve into myself every Friday afternoon for around eight hours. I was transported to 19th century America, and I felt like a principal character in Ohio River Valley life as I transcribed for a website every word that Anderson wrote to his wife from 1862-1864. Some of the descriptions were quite mundane; however other incidents provided a glimpse into Anderson's importance as a troop transport captain. One such incident he describes occurred when his boat is involved in thick action in Augusta, while another describes Irish riots on the wharfs of Cincinnati.

Overall, the work spent on the project required a large degree of patience and interest in the subject matter, but I enjoyed seeing the final results and the eventual collection of letters being placed on the Rare Books and Manuscripts website. I hope that the letters will be of some use to future scholars and that the website will provide convenient access to the life of a Civil War riverboat captain on the Ohio River.

A MUSEUM IN DULLES HALL

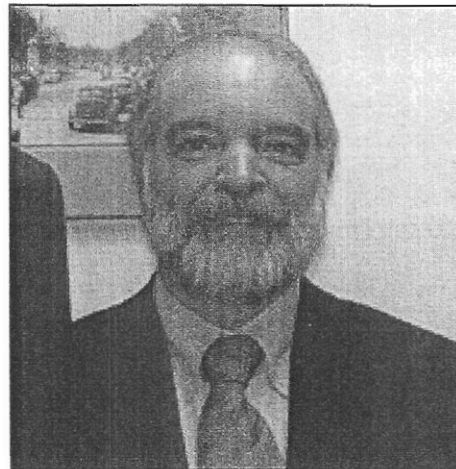
In 028 Dulles Hall you will find the new Ohio State University Museum of Classical Archaeology, which opened on March 8. It contains a collection of antiquities, and its primary purpose is to contribute to the teaching and research missions of the University, with a special focus of communicating between the OSU Excavations at Isthmia (in Greece) and students and teachers on the Columbus campus. To facilitate this, the Museum is equipped with sophisticated communication and display equipment that will allow us to study material in Greece, almost first-hand while still in Ohio. The Museum will be

open to the public and it will provide tours and "hands-on" opportunities to OSU classes and to school groups from throughout Ohio.

NEW FACULTY

The dynamism of the department of history comes in no small part from the influx of notable faculty that we see year after year. This year four new scholars joined our ranks and will enrich our program.

Alan Gallay was recruited from Western Washington University to be the first holder of the Warner Woodring Chair in Early American and Atlantic History. He is the author and editor of four books, including *The Indian Slave Trade: the Rise of the English Empire in the American South, 1670-1717*, which won the prestigious Bancroft Prize. He now is at work on "Raleigh and the Origins of English Colonialism," a study of the intersection of various mindsets in Elizabethan England, and how through Sir Walter Raleigh they converged in England's drive to build a New World Empire.

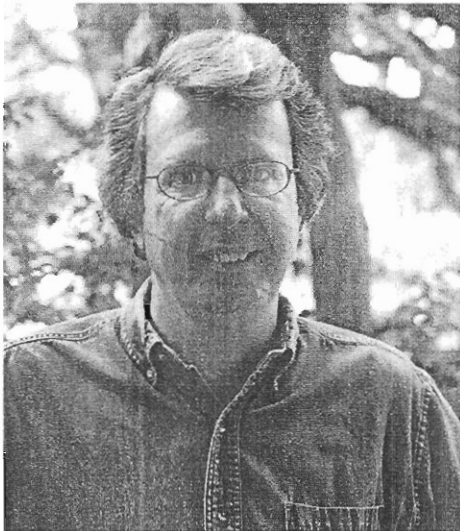


Prof. Alan Gallay

"When I think of the study of history," says Prof. Gallay, "I think of small worlds, and the joy of pulling away the curtains to reveal the past. To do so we have to scour

the documents keeping an eye peeled for that which doesn't make sense--and when we find ourselves befuddled hone in on the problem, seek dark pathways that at their opening appear unrelated but offer a glimmer of connectedness. Then steadily enlarge the focus, so that small worlds become large, as the humanity of one--or of one place--becomes understandable in the humanity of others, and other places."

Robert McMahon comes to Ohio State from the University of Florida. As the Ralph D. Mershon Distinguished Professor, he will hold a joint appointment with the Department of History and the Mershon Center (a "think-tank" at Ohio State that focuses on issue of international and national security). He is the author of several books in diplomatic history including *The Limits of Empire: The United States and Southeast Asia since World War II*, and is editor of *Major Problems in the History of the Vietnam War*.



Prof. Robert McMahon

His current book project focuses on Dean Acheson and is tentatively titled, "Architect of the American Century." He is also writing essays on the national security policies of Eisenhower and Kennedy, and on the Nixon administration and the India-Pakistan War of 1971. Prof. McMahon believes "the great benefit of a history major

is that it helps students learn how to think analytically and conceptually, to read critically, and to examine evidence carefully."



Prof. Kate Haulman

Kate Haulman taught at the University of Alabama before coming to Ohio State this year to contribute to our flourishing program in early American and U.S. cultural history. The author of articles, "Fashion and the Culture Wars in Revolutionary Philadelphia," and "Room in Back: Before and Beyond the Nation in Women's and Gender History," Prof. Haulman is currently writing a book on "Political Modes: The Politics of Fashion in Eighteenth-Century America," which demonstrates that fashion's cultural politics—in particular its power to perform and yet undermine systems of hierarchy and categories of identity in colonial British America—made it an essential means of exercising political power.

She is drawn to teaching because she thinks "the study of the past is one of the best, and most politically important, ways to hone the critical thinking skills so essential to being an informed and active citizen of the world, as well as to success in a variety of occupations."

Mytheli Sreenivas holds an appointment in the Department of Women's Studies along with history. She is a specialist in South Asian history and taught at the University of Connecticut where she was director of the women's studies program. She is the author

of "Emotion, Identity, and the Female Subject: Tamil Women's Magazines in Colonial India" and "Conjugality and Capital: Gender, Families, and Property under Colonial Law in India." She is now working on a book, "Conjugality and Capital: Family and Colonial Modernity in Tamil India, 1880-1950," which suggests that ideas about the family were critical to historical transformations in late colonial south India.



Prof. Mytheli Sreenivas

What she most likes about teaching in the classroom is that moment when a new idea is crystallized in the minds of students. "After working through various readings, listening to lecture, and engaging in class discussions," she says, "you can see students develop new ideas and link together concepts in exciting new ways. When an entire class is engaged in this process, I often think there's no limit to what we can achieve together."

Come See and Use . . .

**the new Undergraduate Student
Lounge for History Majors in Dulles
Hall 339.**

[From the elevators, take the right hand (south) corridor and go toward the end of the hall (east end of Dulles)].

CONGRATULATIONS TO RECENT GRADUATES

Summer 2005

Robert Belliveau, Samuel Bond,
Andrew Burcham, Robert
Claypool, Matthew DeChicco,
Aaron Geissing, Joseph Gerber,
Mark Goodman, Bryce Gorman,
Tommy Hall, Joseph Helm III,
Justin Leeson, Joshua
Montgomery, Michael Oakley,
Jonathan Ryder, Chester Stewart,
Levi Thompson, Stephen Williams

Autumn 2005

Sean Barnet, Robin Bellomy, Ryan
Bentley, Benjamin Boehnlein,
Richard Bornheim, Justin Clift,
Christian Dahlstrom, Michael
Downey, Cary Eclebery, Kevin
Fryman, Chad George, Rodney
Hampton, Bernard Harris, Erik
Henry, Steven Huber, Catherine
Jorge, Peter Kimmel, Neil Kivlin,
Erica Krouskop, Christine
Lonergan, Michael McMahon,
Amanda McNeil, Jeffrey Meyer,
Austin Pevler, Drew Poulos, Eric
Schnittke, James Stinson, Jessica
Szymanski, Michael Thornton,
Rachael Trew, Kerry Tyo, Michael
Virgil, Jr., Sarah Wakefield, Laura
Wingler, Daniel Wolf, Joanna
Wolfe, Russell Zamostny, Jordan
Zybala

AN INVITATION ...

--TO BECOME A "FRIEND OF THE HISTORY DEPARTMENT." YOUR CONTRIBUTION HELPS THE TEACHING MISSION OF THE DEPARTMENT. BECAUSE YOU ARE NOT RECEIVING ANY GOODS OR SERVICES IN EXCHANGE FOR YOUR GIFT, IT IS ENTIRELY TAX DUDUCTIBLE . YOUR CHECK SHOULD BE PAYABLE TO "THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY" AND MAY BE SENT TO MS. GAIL SUMMERHILL, 130 DULLES HALL, 230 W. 17TH AVE. 43210. PLEASE NOTE FUND #532765 ON YOUR CHECK. THANK YOU!

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--RECENT CAREER ACCOMPLISHMENTS: _____

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--TO LET US KNOW YOUR REACTION TO *TAKING TIME*, AND WHAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO SEE IN FUTURF ISSUES. WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU WHATEVER YOUR PLANS MAY BE FOR BECOMING A FRIEND OF THE DEPARTMENT. SEND YOUR COMMENTS TO *TAKING TIME* EDITOR, DR. RICHARD UGLAND, 132 DULLES HALL, 230 W. 17TH AVE. 43210.

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