



Taking Time

A NEWSLETTER FOR UNDERGRADUATES
FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

VOL. 18, NO. 1

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

AUTUMN 2012

GREETINGS from the CHAIR

Now that our first autumn semester is well underway, I would like to welcome the class of 2016 to campus as well as our many veteran history majors who are making the transition with us to semesters. For all of you we expect that your intellectual journey through Ohio State will be an exciting one.



Students attending a History Career Night

In the History Department, we have approached conversion to semesters as a grand opportunity to evaluate our curriculum holistically and to ready it to advance the interests of twenty-first century students. Over the last two years, faculty members have labored

thoughtfully and carefully to conceptualize and craft a new curriculum. We began with a broad, intellectual conversation about the fundamental purposes of teaching history, followed by a more intensive analysis of five core issues: the major, the minor, honors instruction, the place of our discipline in General Education, and the graduate program. We consulted pedagogical literature, talked to students, and studied the curricula of peer institutions. We held discussions, sketched out plans, reflected, debated, and revised.

After two years of hard work, we clarified the broad and specific parameters of the new curriculum and we believe that our semesters curriculum will enhance your learning and optimally prepare you for the professional, civic, and personal opportunities and challenges you will face in the years after graduation. We have promoted *student research* and *small class opportunities* by reshaping our one-quarter senior seminar into a two-semester sequence of a reading seminar and a research and writing seminar on related topics. To improve *rigor*, we increased the History major from 10 to

11 courses and enhanced our expectations for developing writing and critical thinking skills. To stimulate *honors* research, we will offer specialized courses and embedded options and devote financial resources to research travel by thesis writers. To add *thematic cohesion* to the major and minor, we identified concentrations of courses linked to our thematic “Constellations” to join the traditional concentrations on geography and chronology. To stimulate *study abroad*, we will launch an overseas experience during the first “Maymester” in 2013. To create *professional opportunity*, we have established a joint BA/MA program in public history.

We hope that you will make the most of the opportunities you will discover in the coming years.

Peter L. Hahn
Professor and Chair

!! HISTORY CAREER NIGHT !!

Be sure to join us on March 21 for the twenty-fifth annual History Career Night. Representatives from private business 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.

Fifty-some students attended the program last April. One student “felt reassured after attending that there are careers for history majors.” And another probably spoke for many in saying: “it helps

to answer those questions about ‘what I’m going to do with my life.’”

“Leading a Double Life”

---by Mark Spigos

(Ed. note: Mark Spigos is a junior history major who is also majoring in biology while completing requirements necessary for admission to dental school.)

“What’s your major?” It’s a question all of us get asked time and time again. When I reply with “History,” it’s all but guaranteed that the next question I will be answering is, “What are you going to do with that?” I always explain that I am also in the Pre-Dental program at Ohio State, an answer that is usually met with a raised eyebrow (or two) and a remark about what an odd combination that is. In all honesty, it’s difficult to find fault in this reaction because I have often wondered why I chose this less-traveled path.

In principle, the history major and pre-health programs seem not to have much compatibility. Completing both requires taking classes with little to no overlap, and spending a lot of late nights in the library. It seems that now, more than ever, students are trying to make sure that none of their credits are put to waste. I came to the Ohio State University as a student in the Exploration Program, without the faintest idea of what I wanted to study. My dad is a physician and my grandpa was a dentist, so naturally I felt a strong pull towards the health sciences. I grew up understanding the rewards of a career with direct patient interaction, but the prospect of being a biology or chemistry major didn’t quite mesh with what I wanted to gain from my college experience.

That's where history came in. I have always had a passion for history, and it's undoubtedly my strongest subject. I would much rather write a paper comparing Athenian democracy in Classical Greece with modern-day democracy in the United States than spend a few hours in the Celeste Laboratory performing a titration. Studying history allows me to stimulate my mind in ways that I can't in a science class. While both courses of study involve a combination of reasoning skills and memorization, history is set apart by the fact that my own traits as a historian play a very active role in the subject matter. History is more than a collection of names, dates, and places--it is an active relationship between the past, the historian, and the world that the historian lives in. It is history that teaches us about Hippocrates, who in 4th Century BCE set forth many of the principles that Western Medicine is based on. It has allowed me a lens through which I can examine contemporary issues, health-related or otherwise. According to the Roman philosopher Cicero, "History is the witness that testifies to the passing of time; it illumines reality, vitalizes memory, provides guidance in daily life and brings us tidings of antiquity."

My double life as a History major and Pre-Dental student has been far from easy, but it has also been extremely enriching. As is the case with any student, consistent contact with my academic advisors has been invaluable to complete successfully both programs and graduate. It seems that I have been able to experience the well-rounded education that is an ideal in scholarship, but isn't always a reality. I'm proud of my decision to stray from the beaten

path, as I've found that my seemingly contrasting interests can coexist in a worthwhile and productive manner.

INTERNING WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

---by Kyle Nappi

(Ed. note: Kyle Nappi is a senior history major.)

I was 17 the first time I entered the Pentagon. My presence had been requested by Secretary of Defense Robert Gates to attend a ceremony in March, 2008 unveiling nine professional portraits of the last surviving veterans of the First World War. I had assisted the photographer by contacting the remaining veterans and documenting their extraordinary lives, the last witnesses of a generation. One of them, Frank Woodruff Buckles, was the last American veteran of the First World War, now attending the ceremony at the age of 107. Today those portraits are on permanent display on the Pentagon's second floor between the 5th-6th corridor apex. Four years later, I would get the chance to see those same portraits in the course of not one, but two internships with the Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD).

I never envisioned working for the Department of Defense (DoD), yet Ohio State's John Glenn School of Public Affairs helped make it a reality. Following acceptance into its Washington Academic Internship Program as a fall 2011 John Glenn Fellow, I was extended the opportunity to intern with the OSD, in the Office of the Director of Administration and Management at the Pentagon. My weekly schedule in Washington D.C. consisted of working Monday through Thursday and attending public policy classes administered by the Glenn School every Friday. So along with the

internship experience, I received 15 credit hours as well.

Throughout the fall, my immediate project consisted of researching and cataloging information for the ultimate goal of constructing an organizational timeline of OSD for public accessibility. With nearly three hundred organizations (that's three hundred acronyms!), the chart captures the evolution of OSD from 1947 and the organizations it spawned over the years. This work required extensive research in the Pentagon library, reading online .pdf files, or contacting people in various offices to learn of their history. As a history major, I felt well prepared in the necessary research methods, and that ability captured the attention of officials within the DoD. At one of my meetings at the OSD Historical Office, I was offered the chance to return to the capital to work within that office.



• Inside the Pentagon Press Briefing Room

Not wanting to pass up such an opportunity, I arranged with my Historical Office contacts to establish a summer 2012 internship. With the assistance from a top official in my fall internship office, and having met the necessary security credentials, I was placed in a salaried position within the DoD. Within the first week of my

internship at the Historical Office, my supervisors were asked to undertake a public affairs project for DoD. I volunteered to assist in constructing a timeline display that captured the evolution of both the military and the role of media since the 1940's. I became a member of the team tasked to design the DoD's new exhibit along the Public Affairs corridor. I learned that the public affairs office I was working in also offers consulting advice to Hollywood filmmakers for military-themed entertainment productions.

I assisted in researching and collecting appropriate photos to be displayed in the exhibit, verifying their historical accuracy and ensuring copyright/caption citations. When producing a section devoted to combat photography, I reached out to retired Major Norman Hatch who had served as a combat photographer with the Marine Corps in the Pacific during World War II. Documenting such battles as Tarawa and Iwo Jima, Mr. Hatch's contributions to combat photography have been exemplary: his film footage used in the Marine Corps-produced *With the Marines at Tarawa* received an Academy Award in 1944. Mr. Hatch kindly provided our team with his photographs for the exhibit.

When needing to compile a list of correspondents who were killed in the line of duty, I contacted the Newseum, which provided the baseline for the list which will appear in the exhibit. Aside from the public affairs project, various administrative and clerical tasks filled my time throughout the Historical Office as they were in the process of relocating in the course of my internship. Additionally, I assisted the officer in

charge of the Pentagon Tours by reviewing and editing the historical accuracy of the tour guide's script to incorporate information regarding the service branches as well as a segment devoted to the aerial aces from the First World War to the Vietnam War. The Pentagon hosts more than 100,000 annual visitors for such tours.

Despite nearly 24,000 individuals working in the Pentagon, I was amazed how "small" it could seem. In my fall internship, I had a career-building meeting with the DoD press secretary. In my summer internship, I helped brief the same press secretary (and now-acting Assistant Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs) regarding the progress of the corridor exhibit. Prior to a meeting with the Under Secretary of the Army, I was approached by a member of the office staff who learned that I was in attendance for the WWI portrait unveiling four years earlier. Even walking throughout the 17.5 miles of hallways, I would recognize familiar faces. Moreover, I had the opportunity to meet with Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta.



• Meeting Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta

In the course of both internships, I managed to arrange one-on-one meetings with some of the most senior

military and civilian leaders engaged in topics ranging from military history to professional career advice, and even to a shared admiration for Ohio State football. Some even extended invitations to join them for lunch, including two 4-star generals, a 3-star admiral, and the current human resources director for the U.S. Army, who happens to be an Ohio State graduate. When meeting with such officials, I saw firsthand how they execute their mission goals and lead effectively. A major general on the Joint Staff told me, "Work hard...cause you never know who's watching." Before retiring in August, the Chief of Staff of the Air Force suggested to me that the most important qualities of a successful person are honesty, integrity, and trustworthiness.

Even outside the office, the capital city never ceases to be eventful. In the fall I attended the Veteran's Day ceremonies at Arlington National Cemetery, having a front row seat for the President's speech. I joined the post-ceremony reception, meeting the directors of numerous veteran organizations as well as the Secretary for Veteran's Affairs, Eric Shinseki. This summer, I returned to Arlington for the ceremonies commemorating the 59th anniversary of the Korean War armistice. Dignitaries present included Secretary Panetta as well as two surviving Korean War Medal of Honor recipients whom I had the honor of meeting afterwards. Even the Naval Historical Foundation extended an invitation for an unveiling of a Cold War gallery at the Washington Navy Yard, featuring many retired flag officers. And how could one go wrong spending the Fourth of July in Washington D.C.?

As a participant in Ohio State's World War II Pacific study abroad trip to the islands of Guam, Saipan, Tinian, and Iwo Jima, a particular highlight for me were the Marine Corps parades at the Marine Corps War Memorial and Marine Barracks Washington. Frequently, I would share my experiences about visiting the famed World War II battlegrounds with Marines, ranging from members of the Silent Drill Platoon to the Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps. At one event I met Hollywood actor Dale Dye who had in March of this year joined other Ohio State students and me on a tour of Second World War battle sites in the Pacific Ocean, where he served as our historian and guide. It is incredible to think who you might run into in Washington. From striking up a conversation with Sen. John McCain at a crosswalk, or sitting a few rows in back of Rep. Ron Paul at a Nationals baseball game, the city is a thriving environment rich with history and heritage. Aside from the Pentagon itself, Arlington National Cemetery remains as one of the highlights of my experiences. I have walked this hallowed ground many times, seeing some of the lesser-visited sites while paying respect to the nation's fallen.

HAFFNER SCHOLARSHIP

Josh Hinderliter, a senior history major, is the recipient this year of the Marjorie Haffner Memorial Scholarship. Marge Haffner was for many years a dedicated and beloved member of the Department of History's staff. The scholarship was established in honor of Marge by her husband, Tom Haffner, in appreciation for the hard work and financial

obligations students take on while completing their degrees. It is a fitting memorial to Marge's life, and one supported by many of her former colleagues in the Department.

SUMMER IN SPAIN

---by Samantha Stemmer

(Ed. note: Samantha Stemmer is a senior history major double majoring in Spanish.)

It's hard to believe that last summer I was in Spain – studying, traveling, and living in a foreign country. The transition back to the United States and OSU was so flawless that this past summer seems almost like a dream. I settled back into life on campus easily, making it like I had never left at all. Studying abroad was a terrifying, exhilarating, whirlwind journey that everyone should experience.

Preparing to go abroad was surprisingly simple. Once I knew where I wanted to go the process was easy. OSU staff members were very helpful, ensuring that I knew about application deadlines, health check-ups, safety information sessions, and financial aid opportunities. The Office of International Affairs in Oxley Hall is incredibly supportive. However, despite all their efforts, nothing sufficiently prepared me for the “culture shock” associated with going overseas. Homesickness was perhaps my biggest issue. As a homebody, it took a while for me to adjust to my new lifestyle halfway across the world.

The best cure for homesickness? Keep busy. And if there is one thing traveling abroad will do, it will keep you busy. My eyes were always wide open, drinking in the sights and searching for the next adventure. The Fundación de Jose Ortega y Gasset in Toledo, where I

studied, provided a number of programs to help exchange students connect with the culture. Classes on flamenco dance, cooking traditional dishes such as paella and tortilla, and a partner program to improve speaking skills filled my time outside of classes. If we weren't involved in a program from school, my friends and I would explore the city, visiting museums, libraries and cathedrals. Toledo is a gorgeous city and it quickly became my new home.



Samantha at the Royal Palace in Madrid

The quaint, winding cobblestone streets of Toledo are a sign of its age and the incredible history it holds. I seized every opportunity to learn about its past. My courses at the Fundación de Ortega y Gasset included the History of Spain from 1936 and the History of Art and Architecture, reflecting my desire to understand the past and its influence on Spain today. Furthermore, I completed a research paper while abroad that allowed me to delve deeper. Although it certainly added more work and pressure to my summer, I learned a lot. It was especially interesting to learn about the history of a country from the perspective of its citizens. The teachers were engaging and I generally looked forward to attending class. These studies provided important baselines for understanding the history,

culture and development of Spain – a country I quickly learned to love.

In addition to doing bookwork, traveling abroad immerses you in a new culture. Not only do you practice your foreign language skills, you also experience an entirely different society. Even the little things like light switches, keyboards for computers, and doorknobs are unusual. Moreover, experiencing and understanding the everyday life of a family who lived halfway across the world taught me more about culture, privilege, and politics than I ever expected. I witnessed political protests, the excitement over the Euro cup, and the importance of environmental issues such as water shortages.

Studying and gaining knowledge about another culture was great, but traveling the country was invaluable. I made every effort to explore a different city on the weekends. My friends and I visited places like Barcelona, Madrid, and Segovia, but my favorites were Granada, Cordoba and (of course, my new home) Toledo. We visited historical monuments, museums, aquariums, beaches, little residential neighborhoods and architectural feats. Whether we were doing random photo shoots in a park, standing in awe before paintings in the Prado, or trying to work a subway system, every day was an adventure.



Samantha at the aqueducts in Segovia

The memories I gained during that summer are enough to fill a lifetime (and probably 3 or 4 scrapbooks). Studying abroad was one of the best decisions I've ever made. I gained new friends, a new faith in myself and my ability to be independent, a lot of learning, an understanding of another culture and an experience I'll never forget. I encourage everybody to consider going abroad – I promise it'll change your life!

DOING HISTORY: UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH

Last year a number of history students took advantage of opportunities to engage in original research projects and become historians themselves.

On May 9, seven history majors displayed summaries of their historical research on posters at the Denman Undergraduate Research Forum in the Recreation and Physical Activity Center. **Daniel Berens** exhibited his findings on “Embodying a German Ethos in Physical Activity: Friedrich Ludwig Jahn and Turnen in the Hasenheide, 1811-19”; **Kristen Clauer** explored “The Success of the Arian Controversy: A Result of Alexandrian Typography”; **Kristen Gaston** researched “Restoration of the

Cuyahoga River”; **Katherine Kleffner**, who remarkably had two projects on display, for history offered “Court Room Howls and Curses: The Differences in Werewolf and Witch Trials in France from the 1500s to the 1700s”; **Laura Moses**, then president of Phi Alpha Theta, studied “The Role of the Women’s Association in the Success of the Columbus Symphony Orchestra”; **Sarah Paxton** examined “The Bloody ‘Ould Sixth Ward: Crime and Society in Five Points, New York”; and **Adam Wanter** displayed “Three Paths to One State: Polish Nationalism under Imperial Occupation after 1863”.

Sponsored by Richard J. and Martha D. Denman, this was the 16th annual forum with more than five hundred students participating. Mr. Denman is a 1996 recipient of the OSU Distinguished Service Award. Congratulations are in order to all of the participants who now have the satisfaction of having created some original history.

ZAHNISER AND EVANS SCHOLARSHIPS

Daniel Myers is this year’s recipient of the Adrienne A. and Marvin R. Zahniser Scholarship. The Zahniser Scholarship is an award that helps to support history majors entering or soon to enter the senior year at Ohio State. Faculty members of the Department of History select the candidate on the basis of superior academic achievement. Marvin Zahniser is a former Chair of the Department of History.

The Lloyd Roberts Evans Scholarship was established in 1999 with gifts from the sister of Lloyd Evans, who received a B.A. degree in history from Ohio State

and who led a distinguished career as a physician. The award goes to a student of junior or senior rank who is majoring in history and who has both excelled academically and exhibited a wide range of interests. This year the recipient of the Evans Scholarship is **Kelli Peters**.

Congratulations to both Daniel and Kelli for compiling the very strong academic records that made them so competitive for these top awards from the Department of History.

WHY JOIN PHI ALPHA THETA and THE HISTORY CLUB?

---by Kyle Ludlow

(Ed. note: Kyle Ludlow, a senior, pre-social studies education history major, is President of the local chapter of Phi Alpha Theta and the History Club.)

Phi Alpha Theta is national academic honorary society for students interested in history. In order to become a member of Phi Alpha, undergraduate students have to meet certain academic requirements: earn credit in a minimum of 12 semester hours (4 courses) in history; achieve a minimum GPA of 3.10 in history; and achieve a GPA of 3.00 or better overall.

So why should one join Phi Alpha Theta? While it is true that it does look good on a resume, students should join Phi Alpha Theta in order to establish a closer relationship with the History Department. Personally, as a history major I did not have much interaction with the History Department at Ohio State. However, after joining Phi Alpha Theta I met more professors in the History Department and thereafter attended more seminars hosted by the History Department and Phi Alpha Theta. With this closer relationship to

the History Department, I became the undergraduate representative for the Advisory Committee for the History Department. A closer relationship with the History Department and the opportunities that arise from that will make students more competitive in the job market, thereby realizing the fullest potential from their history major and minor. Along with a closer relationship with the History Department, Phi Alpha Theta puts on some cool academic and social events as well. Two of the most memorable events were the trip to Wright Patterson Air Force Base with Professor Beyerchen and the book review of Professor Brown's new book, *Cultivating Commons: Joint Ownership of Arable Land in Early Modern Japan*.

While there has in the past been much focus on events pertaining to Phi Alpha Theta, my officers and I want to focus on The History Club. The History Club is this quasi-organization in which people who were interested in joining Phi Alpha Theta, but did not meet the requirements at that time, could participate in the events hosted by Phi Alpha Theta. Phi Alpha Theta's goal this year is to expand the History Club, not just in the number of members, but also in the range of disciplines from which History Club members come. Phi Alpha Theta wants to get more people who are not history major or history minors interested in the learning about history and having fun doing it. This does not mean that Phi Alpha will neglect its regular duties. Nevertheless, Phi Alpha Theta wants to encourage students from all backgrounds to become interested in history.

This year, therefore, the History Club will be revamped as an organization and

will host more social events. With Phi Alpha Theta and the History Club, we want go places, places like the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, the Football Hall of Fame, the Ohio History Center, and the Freedom Center. While Phi Alpha Theta and the History Club might not be able to go to all of these places, by having field trips like these and other social events we want to encourage students to pick up history as a hobby or more. Most importantly, Phi Alpha Theta and the History Club want students to have fun with history!

*The Excellence in
Scholarship Award . . .*

. . . is given each spring by the College of Arts and Sciences to seniors who are recognized for superior performance in scholarship. Recipients not only have high grade point averages but also have completed curricula of exceptional strength. At an award ceremony in the Faculty Club last May 7, five students majoring in history were among those given the Excellence in Scholarship Award. They are: **Daniel Berens, Kristofer Fetterman, Kristen Gaston, Kirk Jones, and Brian Jordan.** We congratulate them all.

GUTHRIE SCHOLARSHIP

Thanks to the generosity of Mrs. Cecile Guthrie, the Department of History was able to award scholarships this year to **Michael Rueger** and **Thomas Szigeti**. The scholarship is a memorial to Mrs. Guthrie's son, Gerry D. Guthrie, who worked for University Libraries at Ohio State, and who had a special interest in

the history of the American Civil War. The scholarship is awarded each year to one or more high school students committed to majoring in history at Ohio State, or to a first- or second-year student who is committed to majoring in history. Mrs. Guthrie died five years ago at age ninety-seven.

**CONGRATULATIONS
TO RECENT
GRADUATES**

Spring Quarter 2012

Christopher Anderson, Maynard Azose, Adam Bacus, Harold Baker, Joshua Behm, Charles Bias, Zachary Black, Eric Blegen, Philip Brandewie, Thompson Buck, Michael Buttrey, Bethany Byrd, Alicia Cautela, Kristen, Clauer, Kylie Conley, Catherine Contino, Michael Cox, Ronald Crist, James Crusham, Jay Dawson, Allison DeVito, Kara Dolan, Yuri Doolan, Jacob Dougherty, John Downing, Rachel Dugan, Derek Egbert, Courtney Eidson, Carleen Emmons, Michael Ferriman, Kristofer Fetterman, Kyle Fout, Brennan Frazier, Danelle Gagliardi, Michael Gast, Kristen Gaston, Smita Gautam, Amanda Gilchrist, Trevor Gill, Ryan Gillespie, Adam Goes, Matthew Golowenski, Nathan Hass, Joseph Hardiman, Jennifer Hart, Josiah Henry, Christopher Hogan, Eric Hora, Jesse Horton, Amber Houry, Joseph Huddle, Corinna Hundley, Jacob Johnston, Justin Jonas, Kirk Jones, Brian Jordan, Gene Kaser, Michael Keith, Erik Kesselem, Andrew Kinsel, Calland

Kluchar, Michael Koelsch, Dannielle Krugh, Justin Labelle, Joseph Langley, Gretchen Lawrenz, Darek Leimeister, Zachary Lemaster, Michael Lester, Lee Martin, Michael Matthews, Daniel Maynard, Zachary McManus, Kevin McNamara, Matthew McPheron, Irene Meadows, Dustin Meier, Monika Mijic, Chelsea Mitchell, Henry Moller, Kyle Montgomery, John Morgan, Laura Moses, Mitchell Moximchalk, Brendan Mulcahy, Nicole Nadro, Michael Neuhart, Patrick O’Dea, Daniel Olix, John Oyer, Collin Palmer, Kimberly Parker, Sarah Paxton, Anne Payne, Christian Payne, Victoria Penno, Gregory Peper, Carter Pilbeam, Sean Porter, Theodore Preztak, Brandon Pyshora, Andrew Randol, Daniel Redmon, Eric Renfroe, Justin Roos, Abigail Rorapaugh, Ariana Sanders, Richard Schaffer, Tara Schoeny, Ross Schwartz, Meridith Seech, David Selway, Scott Shaffer, Cory Sheetz, Ryan Shreves, Nicholas Shubert, James Shurtleff, Andrew Smith, Samantha Smith, Jonathan Sobel, Matthew Somogye, Joseph Sorenson, Nick Stancato, Kelly Stork, Travis Stout, Kate Szweda, Jonathan Tepe, Tristan Thorson, Leah Tingley, Mariah Tilicki, Kevin Tittle, Bailey Todl, Jessica Tolbert, James Touris, Michael Triozzi, Lindsey Trout, Kelsey Tschanen, Adam Wantner, Bryan Watson, Jennifer Watson, Jeremy Welch, William West, Jeffrey Whaley, Anne Wilcheck, Karl Wiley, Gareth Willattt, James Williams, Anthony Winkler, Halim Yousef

Johnson, Ruth Kobert, Nathaniel Mattison, Brittany Pitcher, Rosalie Rodriguez, Patrick Schwartz, Thomas Starr, Matthew Staugler, Jessica Strapko, William Swanek, Tyler Watson, Timmy Young

Summer Session 2012

Timothy Carrier, Hugh Curry, Brian Doty, Lauren Falkenberg, Brendan Faux, Daniel Grible, Jason Jacobs, Aaron