



# Taking Time

A NEWSLETTER FOR UNDERGRADUATES

FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

VOL. 11, NO. 1

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

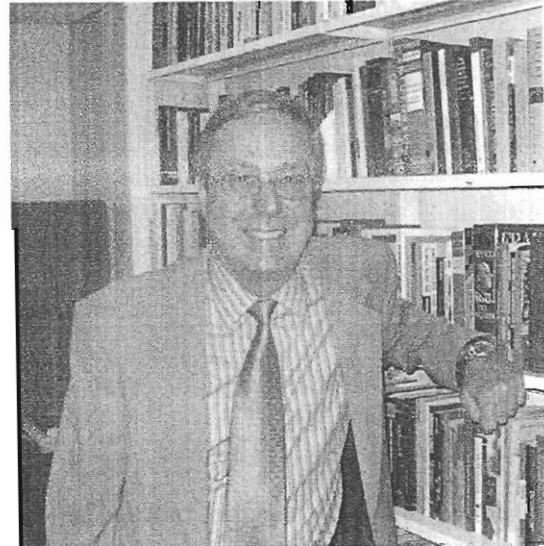
AUTUMN 2005

## GREETINGS

As we begin a new academic year, I wanted to introduce our students to several new faculty members, who have joined our department. Our colleagues in the English Department hired an eminent historian of literacy, **Harvey Graff**, as an Ohio Eminent Scholar, and we were pleased to offer him a place in our department. We are also happy to welcome two distinguished senior scholars, **Alan Gallay**, the Warner Woodring Chair in Early American and Atlantic history, and **Robert McMahon**, the Ralph D. Mershon Distinguished Professor of U.S. Diplomatic History. We also made four key appointments of younger scholars. The department replaced our long-time colleague in Ancient Greek history, Jack M. Balcer, with **Greg Anderson**, who will become our new Honor's Director this year. We also filled two important appointments, one in Early American history with **Kate Haulman**, and a second with **Mytheli Sreenivas**, a specialist in South Asian history and Women's history. Next year, **Lilia Fernández**, who is completing her doctorate at the University of California at San Diego, will join us to teach Latino/a history. Next year we will continue our hiring efforts by searching for a senior scholar in Women's history and three junior appointments--in African history, Modern British history, and Western European Medieval history. It will be yet another

busy year at Ohio State!

As always, members of the department won a wide range of awards this year, including honorary degrees, fellowships and grants, and publication prizes. Of particular note to our undergraduates was **Alan Beyerchen's** selection as the winner of the CLIO Award for Distinguished Teaching from the Phi Alpha Theta history honorary.



*Kenneth J. Andrien  
Chair of the Department of History*

Our Coordinator of the Undergraduate History Office, **Maria Mazon**, also won a highly competitive University Distinguished Staff Award; she will be honored along with the other winners in a half-time ceremony at

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the Michigan State home football game this autumn, so please give her a warm round of applause at Ohio Stadium!

The department also made progress in advancing our teaching and outreach programs. Our Harvey Goldberg Program for Teaching Excellence now oversees three grants from the U.S. Department of Education to provide continuing education for public school teachers in Columbus and in the sixty school districts surrounding our four regional campuses. We received funding from the University to establish a **Museum of Classical Archaeology** (in collaboration with the Departments of Greek and Latin and Art History) in Dulles Hall, which will serve not only as a museum of artifacts, but also as teaching laboratory for courses in all three departments dealing with archaeology. Finally, we are opening an **Undergraduate Lounge** on the third floor of Dulles Hall this autumn, so please stop by to chat with faculty and friends in your own room in our building.

Despite these many accomplishments, we will miss three excellent teachers through retirement this year: Michael Les Benedict, John A. M. Rothney, and Allan R. Millett. Each of these colleagues rendered many years of distinguished service to the department, and we will miss their many contributions to the scholarly, teaching, and service missions of the university.

Kenneth J. Andrien  
Professor and Chair

### **MARIA MAZON WINS DISTINGUISHED STAFF AWARD**

Maria Mazon, director of the Department's Undergraduate History Office (UHO), is the recipient of the University's most prestigious award for staff, the Distinguished Staff Award. Of the many thousands of staff serving at Ohio State, only twelve people win this award each

year. It is truly a great honor, and one Maria well deserved. As one of her nominator's said: Maria is "bright, hard working, supremely dedicated and unfailingly helpful!"



**Maria Mazon**

Many of you already have been to the UHO in 110 Dulles Hall to take advantage of Maria's expertise. Her many duties include advising students about the major and minor, assigning students to faculty advisers, entering major programs into the degree audit system, evaluating transfer credit, and compiling quarterly course description booklets. She also is responsible for History Career Night, one of the most successful of such programs on campus.

Maria's takes particular satisfaction in the piece of mind students have when they leave her office, knowing they are doing what is necessary to complete the major in history.

The UHO is open by appointment Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Maria recommends that students make an appointment ([mazon.1@osu.edu](mailto:mazon.1@osu.edu); 292-6793), especially if the conference is for transfer credit, help in scheduling classes, or filing for graduation. If you are thinking about a history major and have not yet talked with Maria, do so. She will be happy to see you.

## !! HISTORY CAREER NIGHT !!

The Department held another successful Career Night last spring on May 5. Several speakers discussed with students opportunities in a variety of occupational fields and gave guidance on preparing for graduate school and law school. Students evaluated the program highly. One found it useful because "this is a great reminder of all that we can do." Another student no doubt spoke for many in saying "I feel that my degree is more useful and I have a bit more confidence in the future."

Be sure to join us next spring in May 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 feel free to invite friends.

### THREE DISTINGUISHED PROFESSORS RETIRE

More than one hundred years of combined service leave the Department this year with the retirement of three distinguished professors.

**Michael Les Benedict** ended his thirty-four year career at Ohio State with his retirement on December 31, 2004. Prof. Benedict has an international reputation as a legal and constitutional historian and as a historian of the Civil War and Reconstruction era. His *Impeachment and Trial of Andrew Johnson* (1973) reversed decades of historical interpretation by arguing that President Johnson's abuses of power after the Civil War forced the impeachment upon a reluctant Congress. His *A Compromise of Principle* (1974) had a profound influence upon Reconstruction historiography. Prof. Benedict's teaching specialty was American legal and constitutional history. His knowledge of the history of impeachment

led to many radio and television appearances during the Watergate Scandal and the impeachment of President Bill Clinton. He was also known as an expert on late-19<sup>th</sup> century constitutional law and is the author of, *The Blessings of Liberty* (1996), one of the standard American constitutional history textbooks.

**Allan Millett** has taught at Ohio State since 1969. He will retire on December 31<sup>st</sup> as the Major General Raymond L. Mason Jr. Professor in Military History, and will then assume leadership of the Eisenhower Center for American Studies in New Orleans in January. At Ohio State he helped produce the number one military history program in the country, advising sixty students to completion of their Ph.D. degrees. Prof. Millett taught courses in American military history, including the popular course on World War II. He is the author or co-author of fourteen books, notably *A War to Be Won: Fighting World War II*, which *The Washington Post* declared one of twenty-five notable non-fiction books of 2000, the award winning *Semper Fidelis: The History of the U.S. Marine Corps*, and *For the Common Defense*, a military history of the United States. He currently is writing a two-volume history of the Korean War.

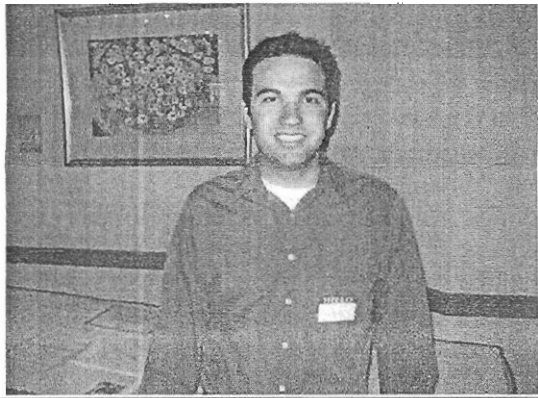
**John Rothney**, a specialist in French history, retired at the end of winter quarter 2005. He was one of the originators of History 597, and his text for the course, *The Twentieth-Century World*, written with the Department's Carter Findley, first appeared in 1986 and now is in its 5<sup>th</sup> edition (Houghton Mifflin). This benchmark textbook is the second oldest and the leading seller among twentieth-century world history texts. His major work is *Bonapartism After Sedan* (1969) an innovative study of political history in the early Third French Republic, which an authority in the field has called "the best account of the transition to the practice of Bonapartism after the end of the Second Empire."

## **Congratulations . . .**

. . . to history major Christopher Griffith who won an award in the Spring 2005 Undergraduate Research Scholarship competition. The funds will be used to support research for his Senior Honors Thesis. Chris is writing on "Japanese Americans in the Midwest: Resettlement and Community Building in Chicago and Cleveland, 1946-1952" with Prof. Wu as adviser.

The History Department applauds Chris 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 research award winner – Chris Griffith**



### **BECOMING A HISTORIAN: UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FORUMS**

Last year a number of students in history took advantage of opportunities to engage in original research projects. After studying history for years, they became historians themselves. Three history students made public presentations of their research at the College of Humanities Tenth Annual Undergraduate Research Colloquium on May 4. They were Alana Shockey, who gave an oral presentation on her research, "A Study of Three Ohio Religious Communities: The Shakers, Zoarites and

Mormons," and Laura Murphy and Tiffany Preston, who both gave poster presentations, Laura on her archaeological study, "Data Collection and Methodological Consistency in Intensive Survey: A Case Study from the Eastern Korinthia," and Tiffany on her investigation of "Silencing the Soldiers: The Role of Women in the Black Panther Party."

On May 18, six history majors displayed their research findings at the Denman Undergraduate Research Forum in the French Field House. Sponsored by Richard J. and Martha D. Denman, this was the tenth annual forum and a record number of more than 300 students participated this year. Mr. Denman is a 1996 recipient of the OSU Distinguished Service Award.

At the Denman Forum, Alana and Laura were joined in poster displays by Michael Hissam, who wrote on "C. William O'Neill and the 'Right-to-Work' Amendment," Christopher Griffith, who presented "'Mr. Ezaki's Story': An Oral History Documentary," John Kent Hansan, who studied "Gentrification in the Short North: From Run Down to Downtown," and Adrienne Johnson, who investigated "Taiping Pipe Dreams: The Role of Women in the Taiping Rebellion vs. That of the Qing Dynasty." Michael Hissam's presentation won a second place award in the Humanities. Congratulations are in order to all of the participants who now have the satisfaction of having created some original history.



Alana Shockey

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## FACING THE FUTURE WITH HISTORY

---by Laura Herbert

(ed. note: *Laura Herbert is a junior in history and Spanish. She can be reached for comment at herbert.1851@osu.edu.*

In today's increasingly competitive, globalized market, the choice of a college degree is often a financial decision. All too often students are encouraged to study not what they are passionate about, but rather what might lead to a lucrative career. While this is good news for engineering and business colleges, it is unfortunate not only for the students but also for society as a whole. As current events illustrate, a history degree is highly relevant and much more than a one way ticket to law school or a teaching career. The present and future are rooted in the past and in order to move forward as a society, we must first look back to our past for a sense of understanding, identity and direction.

This summer the world observed the sixtieth anniversary of the dropping of the atomic bomb on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The legacy of these bombs is not limited to the end of WWII. Long after the bombs were dropped, their radiation continued to make the survivors sick. Memory of their use played a role in foreign policy because their potency and potential to be used again fueled international fear during the Cold War. No event is isolated; historical ramifications reach far into the future. Consequently, in order to progress, we cannot forget the past, but have to explore it and understand it.

During a speech given in Latvia this spring, President Bush said, in regards to the allied victory over Germany in WWII, "For much of Germany, defeat led to freedom. For much of Eastern and Central Europe, victory brought the iron rule of another empire. V-E marked the end of fascism, but not the end of oppression." Offended by the suggestion that it was a burdensome occupier, the

Russian government issued statements insisting that it was not an occupying country, but rather was invited into the region. Although the President's words reached back to the 1940s, they still clearly sparked international controversy and conflict. Our identities are indisputably intertwined with our history. We cannot possibly understand our present global, national or even individual identities without first knowing and understanding where we come from.



Laura Herbert

On the other side of the globe, the Central American Free Trade Agreement was signed into effect this August. This agreement, which will increase U.S. trade relationships with five Central American countries and the Dominican Republic, is controversial, largely because of the mixed feelings surrounding its predecessor, NAFTA. NAFTA, the 1994 free trade agreement between the United States, Canada and Mexico, has received evaluations ranging from wild success to dismal failure. While both sides of the CAFTA debate see NAFTA as being a predictor for the destiny of CAFTA, the incomplete historical analysis of NAFTA is fueling further conflict. Indeed we can only anticipate the

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future based on past patterns. Historical analysis is our tool to try and plan for what might happen.

In this age of economic globalization and a worldwide crusade against terrorism, historical context is vital. While we find ourselves constantly trying to merge on the international level, our past and its role in shaping our identities and present realities cannot be ignored. As the American poet Robert Penn Warren said, "History cannot give us a program for the future, but it can give us a fuller understanding of ourselves, and of our common humanity, so that we can better face the future."

## Awards and Prizes

### EVANS SCHOLARSHIP and FISHER PRIZE

This year's recipient of the Lloyd Roberts Evans Scholarship in History is senior Christopher Griffith. The Evans Scholarship was established in 1999 with gifts from the sister of Lloyd Evans, who received a B.A. in history from Ohio State and who led a distinguished career as a physician specializing in internal medicine. 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.

The Sidney Fisher Prize for the best paper written by a history major was awarded this year to Abby Davids, who wrote "Epidemic Disease in 18<sup>th</sup> Century America," for Prof. Margaret Newell's History 557.01 class. The Prize, co-sponsored by Phi Alpha Theta, honors Prof. Fisher, a former faculty member of the Department who specialized

in Islamic civilization and the Ottoman Empire.

### GUTHRIE SCHOLARSHIP

Thanks to the generosity of Mrs. Cecile Guthrie, the Department of History this year was able to award scholarships to Nicholas Linkenhoker, from Bellevue Senior High School, and to Adele Vergis, from Hoover High School in North Canton, both of whom entered Ohio State this autumn quarter. 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 American Civil War history. The scholarship is awarded each year to 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. Unfortunately, Mrs. Guthrie died this year at age ninety-seven.

### HAFFNER SCHOLARSHIP

Phillip Bullimore 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, who knew how much she appreciated the hard work and financial obligations students take on while completing their degrees. It is a fitting memorial to Marge's life.

### K. AUSTIN KERR PRIZE

Josh Pike, a senior, is the recipient of the first K. Austin Kerr Award, given to an undergraduate history major for the best internet-related project during an academic year. Josh's project was "Letters from Josiah Williard," which he wrote for Prof. Margaret Newell in History 557.01. The \$500 prize in honor of Prof. Austin Kerr, who retired last year, comes from the

generosity of Mr. Scott Laidig, a department benefactor who also donated ehistory.com to the Department.

### THOMPSON PUBLISHING AWARD

Leanna Packard, who entered Ohio State this autumn, received the Thompson Publishing Award (publisher of the Department's *Exploring the European Past*) for her potential to excel at Ohio State as a history major.

### ZAHNISER SCHOLARSHIP

David Messerschmitt is this year's recipient of the Adrienne A. and Marvin R. Zahniser Scholarship, 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 in consultation with the Director of the ASC Honors Office select the candidate on the basis of superior academic achievement. Marvin Zahniser is a former Chair of the Department of History.

### *The Excellence in Scholarship Award. . .*

... is given each spring by the Colleges of the 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 Blackwell Hotel last April 19, fourteen students majoring in history were among those given the Excellence in Scholarship Award. They are: Cary Eclebery, John Kent Hansan, Michael Hissam, Celia James, Daniel Jones, Huma Khan, Joshua Michael, Sarah Parrott, Andrew Pfister, Tyler Seiple, Michael Soroka, Matthew Stiff, Joel Thomas, and Peter Watson. We congratulate them all.

### CONGRATULATIONS TO RECENT GRADUATES

#### *Winter 2005*

Christopher Alwine, Michael Antonas, Myles Beeman, Louise Bond-Williams, Allen Carter, Jessica Curtis, Matthew Douds, Morgan Fox, Brett Friedman, Charles Grafton, Laura Orłowski, Amie Parker, Joseph Pugliese, Patrick Quinn, Tanya Rambo, Seth Ramsey, Madison Ratliff, Heather Rennie, Sean Ryckman, Kenneth Smith, Phillip Spangler, Joel Spitzer, William Sturkey, Christopher Tolar, Adam Webb, Jason Weese, Michelle Wilken, Cordelia Wreathall

#### *Spring 2005*

Christopher Adams, John Allen, Rachel Ashbrook, Derek Ault, Brent Bauman, Matthew Bell, Jillian Blunt, Andrew Bolton, Andrew Bremer, Sara Caley, Desiree Clemons, Ryan Collins, Ashley Conkle, Elizabeth Conn, Gordon Cromley, Christopher Darzins, Dustin Davis, Matthew Deal, Nicolas Derrien, Anthony DiAngelis, Leslie Eisenstodt, Nicole Ferguson, Darren Geen, Mark Gribbell, Benjamin Grindstaff, Frank Guadagnino, Matthew Hahn, Benjamin Hammond, John Kent Hansan, Dennis Hill, Michael Hissam, Amy Hix, Azadeh Honarmand, Megan Hoover, Evan Hughes, Daniel Huls, Celia James, Christopher Jensen, Michael Johnson, Brian Jones, Daniel Jones, Benjamin Katz, Ellen Keim, Huma Khan, William Kristoff, Emily Kuhfeld, Jonathan Layman, Christopher Lee, Evan LuBlime, Caitlin Matter, Timothy Mercer, Griffin Merrill, Aaron Middleton, Gabriel Mitchell, Thomas Mullenniex, Laura Murphy, Paul Myers, Justin Neuman, Jeremy Neville, Hank Osborne, Alan Overholser, Crystal Overturf, Nicholas Owen, Matthew Owens, Sarah Parrott, Andrew Paxton, Brian Peters, Joshua Petru, Andrew Pfister, Joshua Pike, Appollo Poth, Tiffany Preston, Kristi Pyke, Margaret Redmond, Jeremy Rine, James Rinto, Kristy Rodriguez, Byron Roush, Carl Schaffer, Anne Schamaun, Nathan Schroeder, John Skulski, Rachel Stafford, John Stanley, Matthew Stiff, Erin Stone, Scott Thacker, Joel Thomas, Trevor Thompson, Amanda Tilson, Kelli Triplott, An Truong, Karen Waeltz, Jeffery Wallace, Lindsey Wallace, Eliot Walters, Douglas Warfield, Clarence Warner, Peter Watson, Rachael Williams, Brice Wolverton

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