

# Department of History Undergraduate Newsletter



Fall 2008

Issue 2

## Inside this issue:

Message from the Director	1
Events for the 2008-09 Academic Year	1
Department of History's Honors Program	2
Historic Prophetstown by Professor Dawn Marsh	2
Undergraduates engage with Indiana Veterans' Home Project	3
History Department is on the move—Study Abroad Spring 2009	3
Trivia: Art Imitates Life	4
BARD-CEU Study and Intern Abroad Programs	4
Welcome First-Year History Majors	5
New Student Profile: Katrina Galt, First-Year History Major	5
Student Organizations	6

*"The Future for me is already a thing of the past." Bob Dylan*

I want to welcome back our continuing history undergraduates and extend a warm hello on behalf of the department to our first-year majors. The 2008-09 academic year promises to be an exciting one in and out of the classroom. The fall semester marks the commencement of the new requirements for our undergraduate majors. We have three exciting and fully subscribed History 395 Junior Research Seminar courses: "Comparative Indian Policies: Spanish and Anglo America" taught by Professor Charles Cutter; "Nineteenth Century Native America" Professor Dawn Marsh; and "The Cold War in Space" Professor Michael Smith. There are also a variety of writing intensive courses covering topics as diverse as the History of Women in Modern Europe, Europe in the Reformation, Creation of American Legal Culture, Emergence of Modern America, Women in African History, and Occupied Europe. The department is very excited about the proposed

History 395 courses that are to be offered in the spring 2009 term: Professor William Gray's "Divided Germany, 1945-1990", Professor Stacy Holden's "Modern Iraq"; and Professor Darren Dochuk's "American Society in the 1970s."

The department's honors program directed by Professors Robert May, Whitney Walton, and Melinda Zook continues to build on last year's momentum when five history majors qualified for honors certification after having successfully completed History 421 and 422. Professor Zook has nine honors students enrolled in Honors Historical Methods for the fall term. Moreover there are three other honors only or honors option courses this semester, each of which has very robust enrollments.

While I am on the subject of the excellent new courses being offered, let me segue to the related topic of excellence in teaching. It is with great pleasure that I write that Professors Nancy Gabin, Robert May, Gordon Young, and Victor Lin-

coln Albjerg (posthumous) have been inducted into Purdue University's "Book of Great Teachers." This brings the number of History Department faculty in the university's "Book of Great Teachers" to fifteen.

In the best of all worlds (and this is it for better or worse), excellence in teaching issues in undergraduates that excel. Thus I am pleased to report that Emily Dawes, a senior in History, has received the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs' Critical Language Scholarship to study Arabic in Jordan. And to show that a degree in history pays off in many different ways after graduation, the College of Liberal Arts has selected Ron Carpinella (BA History 1991) as a recipient of the 2008 CLA Emerging Voice Awards. Ron is the Director of Sales for VEHO Networks, Inc. (There is a cheesy pun in there somewhere, but I cannot lay my finger on it

**(Continued on Page 4)**

## Events for the 2008-09 Academic Year

**October 7th—"Popular Culture in WWII"** presented by History Professor Randy Roberts of Purdue University.

**October 8th—"The Censorship Files: Latin American Writers and Franco's Spain"** presented by Professor Alejandro Herrero-Olaizola of University of Michigan.

**October 22nd—"Problematising Thomas Jefferson's Role in the Enlightenment"** presented by American History Professor Wilson Jeremiah Moses-Ferree of Penn State University.

For more info. on History Events, please see our webpage calendar or [www.cla.purdue.edu/experience](http://www.cla.purdue.edu/experience)



Superior Achievement  
Award Recipients

## 2008 Spring Awards Banquet Recipients

At the April 10th, 2008 Annual Department of History's Spring Awards Banquet, the department recognized many talented students. 28 undergraduates received a certificate of Superior Achievement and 61 undergraduates received a certificate of Achievement. Additional award recipients included: Department of History Study Abroad Scholarship to Jordan R. Bailey; Outstanding Senior Award to Todd R. Allen; James J. Shevlin Study Abroad Scholarship to Adam R. Doerr and

Corrina A. Smith; Stover Undergraduate Scholarship to Andrew P. Oloffson, and the Waltmann Award to Adam R. Doerr. Also recognized were: Phi Alpha Theta Initiates - Katherine J. Allison, Edward L. Del Beccaro, Daniel A. Dixon, Meredith J. Horn, Emma C. Meyer, Maureen A. Mullen, Rachel M. Smederovac, Kyle G. Sweeney, Natalie I. Tobey, Dustin W. White and Lance A. Yoder; and, Phi Beta Kappa Initiates—Adam R. Doerr, Sean M. Eddington, Mark A. Johnson and Samuel W.

Needham. Congratulations to all recipients and best of luck with all your endeavors during this upcoming academic year.



Honors students at

## Department of History's Honors Program

As the director of the History Honors Program, I would like to invite all history majors to access the program through the Department's web page (click Undergraduate Program), for information on eligibility, requirements and the purposes behind our Honors curriculum.

The program had a successful year, and anticipates even greater accomplishments in 2008-09. Of the six students

who enrolled in the program in the fall of 2007, five successfully completed their requirements in the spring of 2008 and were able to get a notation about honors in history on their transcripts. We already have more students enrolled in the program for this year.

The department sponsored a forum at the end of the spring semester, in which students presented the results of their

undergraduate thesis research to faculty and students. Also, several students completing the program have posted synopses on our Honors webpage—a great way to disseminate their projects.

[Robert E. May](#)

Professor of History

Director of Honors Program

[Click Here for Honors Website](#)



Professor Dawn Marsh and students inside the replica of the Prophetstown lodge.

## Historic Prophetstown by Dawn Marsh

Last spring I embarked on a collaborative journey with seven students. The goal—to develop a service-learning course that would combine indigenous history, local historic resources and expose students to careers and opportunities in public history and nonprofit venues. The students committed to flexible schedules and a willingness to invest some sweat equity in

their final grade. Two docents from Historic Prophetstown audited the course providing invaluable insight. Grad. student Patrick Pospisek observed my experiment and provided me with observations and suggestions.

During the semester, students developed a "Three Sisters" garden, an indigenous medicine

garden and several display components for the site. They also developed activities for children that focus on teaching about Native American trade and community life along the Wabash River. There were some bumps in the roads, but the final result was a positive learning experience for everyone.

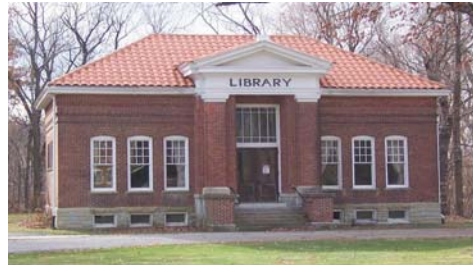
[Dawn G. Marsh](#), Asst. Professor

## Undergraduates Engage with Indiana Veterans' Home project

Earning a history degree from Purdue does not mean just sitting through lectures. It can mean getting involved in the preservation of local history. For decades, artist Alexander Lawrie's portraits of Revolutionary and Civil War officers were displayed in the Indiana Veterans' Home library. With the changes that took place at the "Home" the portraits were placed in storage nearly to be forgotten. However, History student members of Phi Alpha Theta and the Purdue History

Organization, along with Professors Michael Morrison and Susan Curtis conducted research on the officers featured in the Lawrie collection. This research resulted in the development of museum-quality placards to accompany six of the portraits and a PowerPoint presentation. Both will be showcased at the October 12, 2008 "A Salute to Veterans" which is being organized by the Wabash Valley Trust for Historic Preservation. The Trust will hold this event at the Indiana Veterans'

Home in order to raise consciousness about the needs and history of Indiana's veterans and to raise awareness of the plight and preservation needs of the historic buildings.



Library at Indiana Veterans' Home. Home to A. Lawrie's portraits of Revolutionary and Civil War officers. It was built in 1895-1896.

## History Department is on the move—Study Abroad Spring 2009

**ISTANBUL**—Interested in the history of Constantinople and Istanbul from antiquity until early modernity? Then you want to be apart of Prof. Michael Ryan's 2009 Maymester Study Abroad class. Financial aid may be available to qualified students. For more info., watch for call-out announcements later this fall or contact Prof. Ryan at [ryan6@purdue.edu](mailto:ryan6@purdue.edu).

**GERMANY and FRANCE**— Want some history adventure during Spring Break? Visit Paris, the Normandy beaches and other World War I and II battlefields, Dachau concentration camp and Munich. HIST 104 (The Modern World) and HIST 302 (Understanding the Age of the World Wars) will be taught spring semester 2009, centering on a study-tour of Europe over spring break. Professors Randy Roberts and Gordon Mork will lead the group. The estimated cost (including air fare, ground transportation, hotels, and most meals) will be \$2500. To take either course, please contact Prof. Roberts ([rroberts@purdue.edu](mailto:rroberts@purdue.edu)) or Prof. Mork ([gmork@purdue.edu](mailto:gmork@purdue.edu)) before registration.

**BERLIN, GERMANY**— How would you like to spend spring semester in Berlin? The Free University of Berlin (FU-BEST) has invited Purdue to join the consortium of about 90 universities to participate in a new exciting initiative. Dr. William Gray will

be offering two courses at the FU-BEST in spring 2009. This will be an opportunity to study with a Purdue history professor and receive European history credits (one 300-level and one 400-level course) in one of Europe's most dynamic and historic cities. In conjunction with the other course offerings at FU-BEST, you will be able to earn 13-15 credits for the semester. No prior experience in German is required and courses are taught in English. To orient you and your parents to the program offerings, go to the short web-based presentation at: <http://web.ics.purdue.edu/~wggray/Berlin-2009/index.html>, or contact Prof. Gray at [wggray@purdue.edu](mailto:wggray@purdue.edu). The application deadline is September 15th.

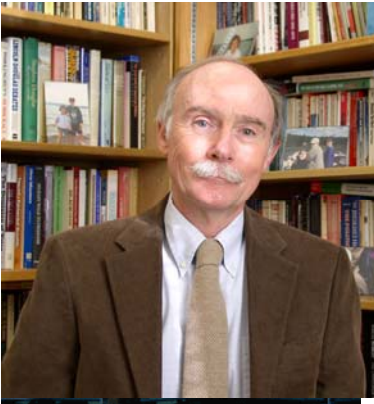
### New History 395-495 Course Offerings for Spring 2009

Prof. Stacy Holden will offer "**The History of Modern Iraq**" (writing intensive). The course examines the history of Iraq and draws comparisons between the Vietnam War and the current war in Iraq. It will analyze "history in the making" and try to view the Iraq war from the perspective of historians 100 years from now. E-mail [sholden@purdue.edu](mailto:sholden@purdue.edu) for more info.

Prof. William Gray will offer "**Divided Ger-**

**many, 1945-1990.**" Cleft in two by the Cold War, Germany served as a kind of microcosm of the broader clash between capitalism and communism in Europe. Examples of research papers include: the U.S. and British occupations; the Nuremberg Trials; the shadow of the Holocaust; the Berlin Blockade and Airlift; German participation in NATO and the Warsaw Pact; the role of the secret police in East Germany; student revolts in East and West; the collapse of communism. E-mail [wgray@purdue.edu](mailto:wgray@purdue.edu) for more info.

Prof. Darren Dochuk will offer "**American Society in the 1970s**". The 1970s is a decade now coming alive through fresh and engaging historical study of politics, economy, and culture. Together we will think (and write) about the fates of liberalism and conservatism in post-1960s America, the rise of ethnic identity and the rights revolution, busing and education, gender and the politics of sexuality, religion and the South, Nixon and Watergate, Carter and the culture of malaise, deindustrialization and urban decay, serial killers and terrorism, and environmentalism. For more info. E-mail [ddochuk@purdue.edu](mailto:ddochuk@purdue.edu) for more info.



Professor Michael A. Morrison  
Director of Undergraduate Studies

## BARD-CEU Study and Intern Abroad Programs

The Bard-CEU program is now accepting applications from exceptional undergrads looking to spend the Spring '09 semester studying abroad.

Located in beautiful Budapest, Hungary, Central European University (CEU) is a graduate school that specializes in the humanities and social sciences. All credits transfer as undergrad credits and transcripts are issued by Bard College. Students part of our study abroad program have the opportunity to take courses in any of CEU's various departments which now include International Relations and European Studies, Political Science, History, Economics, Mathematics and Statistics, Religious Studies, Jewish Studies, Medieval Studies, Business, Environmental Studies, Sociology and Social Anthropology, Gender and Women's Studies, Public Policy, Media Studies, Nationalism Studies, Philosophy and Legal Studies in the area of Human Rights.

To download application forms or to contact past participants, visit the website by [clicking here](#). For more info. e-mail local contact Professor [Rebekah Klein-Pejšová](#), Department of History.

## Continued from Pg. 1 (Message from the Director)

Phi Alpha Theta (PAT)—the History Honors Society—has a new advisor: Professor Stacy Holden. She will be working with the society members on new initiatives, one of which involves public history and engagement. Professor Zook continues on in her role as advisor to the Purdue History Organization (PHO), an undergraduate student group dedicated to learning about history outside of the classroom. Phi Alpha Theta and PHO members will contribute their time, talent, and research to “A Salute to Veterans” to be held at the Indiana Veterans Home on October 12, 2008. Professors Holden and Zook are also at work planning other activities (public history presentations, movie nights, etc.) for PAT and PHO, and each intends

to have a call-out in September for interested History undergraduates.

Our study abroad initiatives for undergraduate students continue to multiply and spread geographically. Professor Gray has proposed and is recruiting students for a spring term course taught in English at the Free University of Berlin. Professors Gordon Mork and Randy Roberts are coordinating a spring break trip to France and Germany. Finally Professor Michael Ryan is organizing a study abroad initiative in Istanbul, Turkey, that will be offered in Maymester 2009.

This fall the department will sponsor or co-sponsor three events in the “Experience Liberal Arts” celebration during

October that will be of interest to students, faculty, and the general public.

New, dynamic undergraduate courses; recognized excellence in teaching and among our graduates and undergraduates; expanding honors and study abroad programs; scholarly and public service activities by PAT and PHO; and department-sponsored public events in the “Experience Liberal Arts” celebration separately and together make a prima facie case for a department that is engaged with its students, the College, the University, and Greater Lafayette. It is indeed a great time to be a history major—and the future looks as promising as the present is exciting.

## Trivia: Art Imitates Life (continued on pg. 5)

This is taken from the autobiography of a living, notable American (which of course means s/he is not a historian). You are all familiar with the author; any guess whom it is? The identity of this famous American is at the end of the newsletter: no peeking.

*I couldn't exactly put in words what I was looking for, but I began searching in principle for it, over at the New York Public Library, a monumental building with marble floors and walls, vacuous and spacious caverns, vaulted ceiling. A building that radiates triumph and glory when you walk inside. In one of the upstairs reading rooms I started reading articles in newspapers on microfilm from 1855 to about 1865 to see what daily life was like. I wasn't so much interested in the issues as intrigued by the language and rhetoric of the*

*times. Newspapers like the Chicago Tribune, the Brooklyn Daily Times and the Pennsylvania Freeman. Others, too, like the Memphis Daily Eagle, the Savannah Daily Herald and the Cincinnati Enquirer. It wasn't like it was another world, but the same one with more urgency, and the issue of slavery wasn't the only concern. There were news items about reform movements, anti-gambling leagues, rising crime, child labor, temperance, slave-wage factories, loyalty oaths, and religious revivals...Everybody uses the same God, quotes the same Bible and law and literature. Plantation slavecrats of Virginia are accused of breeding and selling their own children. In the Northern cities, there's a lot of discontent and debt is piled high and seems out of control. The plantation aristocracy run their planta-*

*tions like city-states. They are like the Roman republic where an elite group of characters rule supposedly for the good of all...There are riots in Memphis and in New Orleans. There's a riot in New York where two hundred people are killed outside the Metropolitan Opera House because an English actor has taken the place of an American one. Anti-slave labor advocates inflaming crowds in Cincinnati, Buffalo, and Cleveland, that if the Southern states are allowed to rule, the Northern factory owners would then be forced to use slaves as free laborers. This causes riots too...After a while you become aware of nothing but a culture of feeling, of black days, of schism, evil for evil, the common destiny of the human being getting thrown off course. It's all*

## Continued from Pg. 4 (Trivia: Art Imitates Life)

one long funeral song, but there's a certain imperfection in the themes, an ideology of high abstraction, a lot of epic, bearded characters, exalted men who are not necessarily good. No one single idea keeps you contented for too long. It's hard to find any of the neoclassical virtues, either. All that rhetoric about chivalry and honor-that must have been

added later. Even the Southern womanhood thing. It's s shame what happened to women. Most of them were abandoned to starve on farms with their children, unprotected and left to fend for themselves as victims to the elements. The suffering is endless, and the punishment is going to be forever. It's all so unrealistic, grandiose and sanctimonious

at the same time...Back there, America was put on the cross, died and resurrected. There was nothing synthetic about it. The godawful truth of that would be the all-encompassing template behind everything I would write.

## Welcome First-Year Majors

Patrick Stephen Amoroso  
George Max Biddlecome  
Michael Christopher Cunningham  
Kyle Curran Dowd  
Evan Dean Eikenberry  
Katrina Ann Galt  
Samantha Marie Gillespie  
Neil Allen Heck  
Christian Earl George Hinrichs  
Amelia Rae Hitchcock  
Francisca Louise Hoffmann

Hannah Elizabeth Jones  
Peter Karl Kalmbach  
Sarena Korn Korn  
Bhimsupa Kulthanan  
Maura Anne Lally  
James Thomas Lang  
Antonia Cerone Lazzaroni  
Michael James Lotz  
Logan Forrest Miller  
Brittini Elizabeth Morris  
David Arrington Mosley-Biggerstaff

William Joseph Palguta  
Kayla Dawn Perry  
Katelyn Marie Provo  
Bruce Robert Ruhmann  
Emily Catherine Scalise  
Jacob Martin Sordelet  
Kaitlyn Jane Swindle  
Zachary Jeremiah Urevig  
Kirk Simon Villasenor  
Michael Christian Weed  
Keegan James Wisheart

## New Student Profile: Katrina Galt, First-Year History Major

**Hometown:** Valparaiso, IN

**High School:** Wheeler H.S.

**Parents:** Michael and Ann Galt

**Why I chose Purdue:** I'm third generation Purdue, so I've been around it my whole life. I really never considered anywhere else, I filled out one college application, and I don't regret it at all!

**Why I'm a History major:** I'm on my way to med school, and I've been encouraged to pick an undergrad major I'm really passionate about. As much as I want to be a doctor, I love history more than any other subject. Medicine is my future career, but History is one of my passions.

**Favorite area of History:** My

favorite areas of history are probably the Middle Ages and Colonial America. I also really like the Civil War and early twentieth century England. It's a wide range, but I love things about all of those periods!

**Extracurricular Interests:** I'm in the University Honors program at Purdue. In high school I was in concert and show choirs and was in musicals. Otherwise, I love singing (obviously), playing piano and guitar, working out, and watching various sports.

**Career/Future Plans:** After Purdue, I plan to attend medical school, hopefully in Chicago, since I'm more familiar with the area. After that, I'd love to remain in Chicago to work and

raise my family.



Katrina Galt and R. Douglas Hurt  
New History Major and Department Head

Department of History  
Purdue University  
University Hall  
672 Oval Drive  
West Lafayette, IN 47907

Phone: 765-494-4122  
Fax: 765-496-1755  
E-mail: [history@purdue.edu](mailto:history@purdue.edu)

<http://www.cla.purdue.edu/history/>



The Trivia Quiz Answer: The passage is taken from Bob Dylan, *Chronicles: Volume 1* (New York, 2004), 84-86.

## Student Organizations

**Phi Alpha Theta (PAT)** is the International Honor Society in History. PAT was established at the University of Arkansas on March 17, 1921 by N. Andrew N. Clevon.

We are a professional society whose mission is to promote the study of history through the encouragement of research, good teaching, publication and the exchange of learning and ideas among historians. We seek to bring students, teachers and writers of history together for intellectual and social exchanges, which promote and assist in historical research and publication by our members in a variety of ways.

Membership in PAT is open to

all students, History Majors/Minors or otherwise. The requirements are that you have completed 12 hours of History courses, with a 3.0 grade average in those classes. Local chapter membership dues are a one-time payment of \$10 and National membership dues are \$40 for a life time membership. National membership is a requisite for local membership.

<http://www.cla.purdue.edu/academic/history/Undergrad/PhiAlphaThetaInfo.htm>

The **Purdue History Organization (PHO)** is an undergraduate student group dedicated to learning about history outside of the classroom. By hosting a variety of activities, including lectures

and film viewings, the members of PHO hope to engage interested Purdue students in meaningful interactions with history. Members of PHO also enjoy meeting with history professors in more informal settings to discuss a variety of topics relating to history.

Membership in PHO is free and is open to all undergraduate students who are interested in learning more about history. To become a member, simple contact any of our officers.

<http://www.cla.purdue.edu/academic/history/Undergrad/HistoryOrganizationInfo.htm>