Yatsumi Bridge, No.45 from One Hundred Famous Views of Edo, Utagawa Hiroshige.
From the collections of the Brooklyn Museum, 30.1478.45.
LETTER FROM THE HEAD

The Department of History had a busy, exciting, and intellectually stimulating year in 2007. We are proud that Rear Admiral Carol M. Pottenger (B.A. 1977) received an Honorary Doctorate in Social Studies during commencement in May. The department also gained recognition for excellent teaching and research. The Board of Trustees named Janet Afary a “University Faculty Scholar” and Randy Roberts a “Distinguished Professor.” Robert May won the prestigious Murphy Award for outstanding undergraduate teaching. Darren Dochuk received a fellowship from the Princeton University Center for the Study of Religion, and both Sally Hastings and Juan Wang are spending time abroad on a Fulbright Research Fellowship to Japan and a post-doctoral fellowship from the Academia Sinica in Taiwan, respectively. In the following pages you will learn about the many books, articles, and essays that the faculty published in 2007.

During the past year, we were privileged to host several notable scholars, including Barbara Weinstein, professor of history at New York University and president of the American Historical Association, who lectured on “Academic Freedom in the Age of Homeland Security,” and Dr. Peng Xiaoyu, assistant chair of the Department of History at Peking University, who joined us for a week as a visiting scholar and presented a talk titled “Charity as a Cultural Tradition: Implications of American Catholic Social Thought in the Current Milieu of China.”

Marjorie F. Stover and Charry Stover established the John F. Stover Lecture Series. Many of you will remember Professor Stover who was a respected teacher and scholar in the department. We are grateful for their strong support and trust.

Yvonne Pitts (Ph.D. University of Iowa) joined the department as our specialist in U.S. constitutional history, and Alicia Decker (Ph.D. Emory University) became a member of our faculty with a specialty in sub-Saharan African women’s history. Dawn Marsh (Ph.D. University of California, Riverside) joined the department with a specialization in Native American history. The department also began the search process for a Jewish Studies Assistant Professor of History. I will let you know the result of that search in the next Newsletter. Despite these activities and accomplishments, I regret to report that Jon Teaford retired last spring. We will miss his dynamic presence in the classroom.

On behalf of the Department of History, I want to thank you for your support during the past year. The department has earned a national reputation for teaching and research, and the faculty and undergraduate and graduate students are proud to be an important part of the College of Liberal Arts and Purdue University. If the department can be of service, please do not hesitate to ask. We hope that you will be able to attend the Spring Banquet on April 10 and the Fall Reception on September 18.

R. Douglas Hurt, Head
DEPARTMENT NEWS

STRENGTHENING INTERNATIONAL TIES

Summer 2007 was a banner year for study abroad activity. Due to recent new ties with universities in China and Europe, opportunities for study abroad courses sponsored by the Department of History have grown. Sally Hastings led a group of students to China and Japan for a course on “East Asia and its Historic Traditions,” during which the class was treated to many and myriad cultural sites in Beijing, Kyoto, Osaka, and Tokyo. Juan Wang will direct a similar course in 2008, this time concentrating on the transformation of China, Japan, and Korea since the early nineteenth century. Besides Beijing, Wang’s students will visit four other major Chinese cities spanning north to south, including Xian, Nanjing, and Shanghai.

Gordon Young led a Maymester group to Egypt as part of his course “Egypt: History, Art, and Archeology.” Young has been an active proponent of the study abroad program since 1994, directing ten trips to countries such as Egypt, Greece, and Italy and co-directing three spring break jaunts, along with Gordon Mork, to Munich and Greece. Will Gray led the inaugural group of study abroad students to Université Marc Bloch in Strasbourg for a course titled “Germany and France: War, Peace, and Memory.”

The department is excited about its budding relationships with Peking University and Université Marc Bloch and continues to seek new territories to explore, new avenues for scholarship. In summer 2008 Michael Ryan will lead a departmental team to Turkey to discuss possibilities for developing a student/faculty exchange with Boğaziçi University in Istanbul and Bilkent University in Ankara. Expect to see our presence in other corners of the globe in the near future.

A NEW LOOK FOR UNIVERSITY HALL

After years of planning and months of construction the home of the Department of History finally has an elevator. The project, approved by the University Board of Trustees at a budget of nearly two million dollars, was intended to bring University Hall in full compliance with the American with Disabilities Act. This is the first major work completed on Purdue’s oldest building since the roof was replaced after sustaining extensive damage during a December 1998 storm.

Professor Gordon Mork strongly lobbied for the addition of an elevator during his tenure as department head from 1998-2003 and was pleased to see its fruition during the current headship of R. Douglas Hurt. Nicky Elmore, University Hall’s building deputy, and Rebecca Gwin, the department’s new administrative assistant, were privileged to be the first passengers on the elevator’s inaugural run.

Renovations began in December 2006 with the installation of a new sprinkler system. Summer 2007 marked the height of activity with the addition of an elevator shaft, a wheelchair accessible ramp, and handicap restroom. During this period the department’s base of operation was relocated to three classrooms in Recitation Hall. Construction was complete by the first week of December 2007, and after a big clean-up and a fresh coat of interior paint, the building was open for business in time for the start of the spring semester.
NEW FACULTY

The Department of History welcomed three new faculty members into its fold. All three were featured in a one-day symposium jointly sponsored by the Department of History and the American Studies and Women’s Studies programs titled “Writing Material: New Histories of the Family, State and Private Property.” Alicia Decker presented “Fighting a Dirty War: Gender, Morality, and the Campaign to ‘Keep Uganda Clean’: 1976-1979”; Dawn Marsh presented “Displaced Homelands: Indigenous Identity-Formation under Contemporary Colonialism”; and Yvonne Pitts spoke on “A Rational Disposition: Property and Its Symbolic Values in Nineteenth-Century Kentucky Inheritance Disputes.”

**ALICIA DECKER** has a joint appointment with the Women’s Studies Program and specializes in women and gender histories in twentieth-century Africa. She received her first Master’s degree from Makerere University in Uganda in 2002, and a second Master’s and Doctorate from Emory University in Atlanta in 2006 and 2007, respectively. Her interest in Africa began as an undergraduate at the University of Minnesota where she joined a study abroad program in Tanzania and South Africa. Over the years her experiences in Africa have touched her on a very personal level and forged her commitment to global feminist issues, whereby were she not in academia she could imagine herself working for an international non-government organization (NGO) on conflict-related issues. Currently, Decker is studying the centrality of gender within Idi Amin’s military state in the 1970s and plans to spend part of summer 2008 in Uganda on some follow-up research for a manuscript. In her more carefree moments, she can be found with her beloved dog at the dog park or making improvements to her 1940s home.

**DAWN MARSH** joins us from the sunny shores of southern California, where she earned her M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of California, Riverside, in 1998 and 2003, respectively. Marsh specializes in Native American History, with a particular focus on how dispossessed Native Americans were able to rebuild, create a home, and maintain their unique cultural identity. She developed a love of history from an early age, “from my grandmother’s knee,” she is proud to note, where she found oral renditions of history more interesting than the more conventional accounts she learned in school. This interest in the past transformed into a passion for digging up material culture, archeology, and oral history. It has also led Marsh to head several major projects, including Purdue University’s Tecumseh Initiative, which provides opportunities to Native Americans for graduate research and education, and the Indigenous Earth Sciences Project, via the National Science Foundation. Marsh also was recently appointed liaison for the Purdue Committee for Institutional Cooperation, American Indian Studies Consortium and is organizing the Prophetstown Revisited Conference in April 2008. Despite her busy academic life, she manages to indulge in a few of her favorite pastimes–writing poetry, painting, and whipping up a “mean salsa.”

**YVONNE PITTS** hails from the Motor City but has called Indiana home for several years. Before coming to Purdue she was the Byron K. Tippet Assistant Professor of History at Wabash College. She earned her Doctorate at the University of Iowa in 2006 and her Master’s at Wayne State University in 1998. It was during her years as a Master’s student that Pitts first developed a keen interest in American constitutional history, particularly how different groups mobilized law to effect social change. Her current research explores how the legal conceptions of mental capacity regulate family and property transfers in Kentucky inheritance disputes, and in a related vein she is completing work on an article dealing with the development of the early medical profession in Kentucky, an extension of earlier findings she compiled on national and local medical experts’ opinions on insanity. Had Pitts’s passion for legal studies been channeled in another direction, she could see herself as a constitutional lawyer or, in a perfect world, legal correspondent for NPR à la Nina Totenberg. This department, however, is pleased she chose academia and anticipates the significant contributions she will make in her field of study.
FACULTY NEWS

JANET AFARY coauthored “The Iranian Impasse,” which appeared in a July issue of The Nation, and was interviewed by Jerome McDonnell on the Chicago NPR program “Worldview” on the topic “A Shift in U.S.-Iran Relations.” She received a Purdue University Faculty Scholar Award and was a finalist for a Carnegie Foundation Scholars Program. Afary also was awarded the Keddle/Balzan Fellowship by the International Balzan Prize Foundation and was the first runner-up in the Biennial Association for Humanistic Sociology Book Award for her coauthored book, Foucault and the Iranian Revolution: Gender and the Seduction of Islamism. She spoke on “Sexual Politics in Modern Iran” as part of the College of Liberal Arts presentation by Fellows of the Center for Humanistic Studies and participated in a panel discussion dealing with U.S. foreign policy in the Persian Gulf titled “Iraq, Iran, Next?” sponsored by the university’s Committee on Peace Studies and the Lafayette Area Peace Coalition. Afary also presented “The Women of Iran and Iraq” at the Lafayette YWCA. Currently she is at work on several projects, including monographs on Iranian sexual politics and the art and politics of Mullah Nasreddin.

TITHI BHATTACHARYA published “Tracking the Goddess: Religion, Community and Identity in the Durga Puja Ceremonies of Nineteenth-Century Calcutta” in the Journal of Asian Studies and “In the Name of Culture” in South Asia Research. Another article, “A Very Good Story of a Very Good Girl: Men Writing as and for Women in Nineteenth Century Calcutta,” will appear in a special issue of Comparative Studies of South Asia, Africa, and the Middle East on Gender and Nation-Building: Indian Masculinities in Action. She contributed “Elites: Overview” and “Middle Class in South Asia” to the forthcoming Oxford Encyclopedia of the Modern World. Bhattacharya presented “Mutinous Ghosts” at an Edinburgh conference on the 1857 Mutiny titled “Mutiny at the Margins” and “Haunted Houses, Haunting Histories: Urban Space as a Site for the Supernatural in Colonial Calcutta” at the Annual Conference of the Association for Asian Studies in Boston. She received an incentive grant from the College of Liberal Arts Dean’s Research and Discovery Program, which she used in part to fund research for a monograph on death and the supernatural in colonial Bengal. Bhattacharya is currently in conversation with the history department at Jawaharlal Nehru University to develop a study abroad program.


JOHN CONTRENI, the Justin S. Morrill Dean of the College of Liberal Arts, was presented with the Black Graduate Association’s Engagement Award in recognition of his contributions to diversity and community outreach at Purdue during his tenure as dean of the Graduate School.

SUSAN CURTIS’s book Colored Memories: A Biographer’s Quest for the Elusive Lester A. Walton is currently under contract with the University of Missouri Press. She presented “U.S. Civil War/Anglo-Boer War: A Transnational Perspective on Race, Trauma, and Re-enactment” at the Purdue University American Studies Lecture Series “Nationalism, Citizenship, Immigration and American Studies” and was a commentator on the panel titled “Twentieth-Century Biography: Private Lives, Public Culture” at the Indiana Association of Historians annual meeting in Bloomington, Indiana. Curtis along with Professor Emeritus Harold Woodman spoke on Sinclair Lewis’s It Can’t Happen Here and Philip Roth’s The Plot Against America at the ACLU in West Lafayette, Indiana. She will be the keynote speaker at the 2008 Indiana Association of Historians annual meeting convening at IUPUI, Indianapolis. She continues in her position as the College of Liberal Arts Associate Dean for Interdisciplinary Programs and Engagement.

CHARLES CUTTER contributed a chapter “El imperio ‘no letrado’: En torno al derecho vulgar de la época colonial” to the book Justicia, política y derechos en América Latina, and “Judicial Punishment in Colonial New Mexico” will appear in Plains Tapestries. Currently, Cutter is working on a book-length manuscript on the American Southwest under Spain and another on don Ignacio de Zúñiga and eighteenth-century Mexico.

ALICIA DECKER’s chapter on “Femininity, Morality and Resistance: Ugandan Women’s Experiences under Idi Amin’s Dictatorship” will appear in the forthcoming book Interdisciplinary Transnational Feminist Collection, and she contributed a peer-reviewed essay on “Gender, Feminism, and African Liberation in the Twentieth Century” to the Encyclopedia of Protest and Revolution in World History. She chaired a panel at the African Studies Association’s annual meeting in New York City and

ARIEL DE LA FUENTE published several works in 2007, including a book, Los Hijos de Facundo: Caudillos y Montoneras en la Provincia de La Rioja Durante el Proceso de Formación del Estado Nacional Argentino (1853–1870), and a book chapter, “Borges, la ley y el crimen en la literatura argentina y el Western estadounidense,” in La Ley de los Profanos: ensayos sobre ley, justicia y cultura (Buenos Aires, 1880-1940). He presented “Popular Politics and the State-Formation Process: A Perspective from La Rioja” during a special conference on “The Formation of National Political Systems in Argentina, 1852-1880” at the Central University of the Province of Buenos Aires, and “Mark Twain, Jorge Luis Borges, and the Problem of Authorship in Revista Multicolor” at the University of Iowa Borges Center inaugural conference titled “The Place of Letters: The World in Borges.” De la Fuente was interviewed by Radio Nacional Argentina on his recently published book Los hijos de Facundo and is currently at work on a book-length manuscript on Borges. De la Fuente organized the campus visit and talk by Dr. Barbara Weinstein, President of the American Historical Association.

DARREN DOCHUK is spending the 2007-2008 academic year as a visiting associate research scholar at the Princeton University Center for the Study of Religion. His book From Bible Belt to Sunbelt: Plain Folk Religion and Grassroots Politics in California’s Southland is under contract with W.W. Norton. Also in press are three book chapters, “‘They Locked God Outside the Iron Curtain’: The Politics of Anti-Communism and the Ascendancy of Plain-folk Religion in the Post-World War II Far West” in The Political Legacies of the American West, “Religion in the Early Twentieth Century” in the Blackwell Companion to California History, and “Evangelicalism Becomes Southern, Politics Becomes Evangelical: From FDR to Ronald Reagan” in Religion and Politics in America. He contributed “Religion in Cities and Suburbs” to The Encyclopedia of American Urban History, and his article “Christ and the CIO: The Politics of Grassroots Religion and Labor in the Post-World War II West” was accepted by the journal International Labor and Working-Class History. Dochuk presented “God and Black Gold: The Politics of Evangelicalism, Oil, and the Right in the Sunbelt” at the annual meeting of the Southern Historical Association, “Debating Playboy and Marx: William Banowsky, Pepperdine University, and the Emergence of California’s Conservative Coalition, 1967–1972” at the Organization of American Historians meeting in Minneapolis, “The Miracle of Malibu: Pepperdine University, Evangelical Entrepreneurialism, and the Ascent of Sunbelt Conservativism” at the American Historical Association meeting in Atlanta, and “The Influence of Evangelicalism, Entrepreneurialism, and ‘Populist’ Conservatism in the Post-World War II American Southwest” at the Library Scholars Grant Seminar in West Lafayette, Indiana. Dochuk was selected for the Young Scholars in American Religion Program, sponsored by the IUPUI Center for the Study of Religion and American Culture, and received both a Fletcher Jones Foundation Fellowship from the Huntington Library in San Marino, California, and a Purdue University Faculty Research Incentive Grant. He is the co-coordinator of the symposium titled “Sunbelt Rising: The Politics of Space, Place, and Region in the American South and Southwest,” which will convene at the Huntington Library in 2008. Currently Dochuk is completing work on an article on George Marsden and American religious history.


JENNIFER L. FORAY presented “Indies Lost, Disaster Born? The Imperial Designs of Anton Mussert and the Dutch Nazi Party” at the 28th Biennial Meeting of the Irish Conference of Historians: Empires and Their Contested Pasts Conference, held at Queen’s University in Belfast. She also delivered a talk titled “Beyond the Diary: The History and Legacy of Anne Frank” at the Purdue University Jewish Studies Program Noon Lecture Series. She received a New York University Remarque Institute Fellowship, which accommodates her residency and research at the university’s European studies center during the spring 2008 semester, as well as a Research Foundation Incentive Grant and two travel grants from Purdue. Currently Foray is at work on a book manuscript dealing with German-occupied Netherlands and an article on the Dutch Nazi Party.
NANCY GABIN was a visiting scholar and made presentations on gender, the family, and industrialism at the NEH Landmarks of History and Culture Teachers Workshops on America’s Industrial Revolution, which convened at The Henry Ford Museum in Dearborn, Michigan, in June and July. In October she discussed the influence of World War II on women’s work in a presentation for the Tippecanoe County Public Library titled “When Rosie Ruled” as part of its series “One Great Read.” Gabin also chaired and commented on the session “Taking them to Court: Rethinking Sex Discrimination in the Long 1970s” at the North American Labor History Conference in Detroit in October. She was a fellowship review panelist for the National Endowment for the Humanities and again served on the committee to award the Philip Taft prize, an annual award administered by Cornell University for the best book in American labor history. Gabin currently is completing work on a book-length manuscript on the history of women in Indiana.

WILLIAM G. GRAY published “Adenauer, Erhard, and the Uses of Prosperity” in German Politics & Society and “Floating the System: Germany, the United States, and the Breakdown of Bretton Woods, 1969-1973” in Diplomatic History. Gray has several works on German foreign policy in press, including book chapters on nuclear non-proliferation, European monetary unification, and Germany’s relations with its eastern neighbors since 1945. He is one of five editors of the Encyclopedia of the Cold War, to be published by Routledge in April 2008; aside from overseeing some one hundred contributions, he authored entries on Willy Brandt, the Hallstein Doctrine, West Germany, and Guinea. Gray led the department’s inaugural summer study abroad program to Strasbourg in June 2007, where he and twelve undergraduates studied “Germany and France: War, Peace, and Memory.” On the internet, he continues in his role as an editor of H-German and has also launched a new initiative on H-Diplo called the “International History Spotlight.” Gray continues to forge ahead on his second book project, currently titled “After Adenauer: German Ambitions in a Globalizing Era, 1963-1975.”

SALLY HASTINGS was a visiting professor at Tokyo International University during the 2007 summer session. During Maymester she visited China and Japan as instructor of the study abroad course “East Asia and its Historic Traditions.” She published a book chapter, “Gender and Sexuality in Modern Japan,” in A Companion to Japanese History, and several others are in press, including “The Empress and the Japanese Family State, 1926-1945” in the Handbook of the Emperors of Modern Japan and “Claiming Rights from within the Outer Sphere: Women’s Professional Expertise and Women’s Suffrage, 1868-1952” in Gender, Nation and State in Modern Japan. Hastings contributed an entry on “Ichikawa Fusaie” to the forthcoming Encyclopedia of Women in World History, and her review essay “Urban Japanese at Home and Overseas: Different Forms of Knowledge” will appear in a future issue of Journal of Urban History. She presented “The Empress and the Japanese Family State, 1926-1945” at the International Conference on Japan in Honor of Professor Ben-Ami Shillony at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem; “Gender, East Asia, and Global History” at the conference titled “Japan and the World” in honor of James Huffman at Wittenberg University in Springfield, Ohio; “A Gendered Perspective on Japanese Politics” at Josai International University in Tokyo; she also chaired the panel “Gender and Law in Modern Japan” at a meeting of the Association for Asian Studies in Boston. Hastings continues to serve as chair of Purdue’s Asian Studies Program and coeditor of the U.S.-Japan Women's Journal. She was awarded a 2008 Fulbright Research Fellowship to Japan to complete work on her book manuscript dealing with Japanese women legislators from 1946-1974.


R. DOUGLAS HURT serves as department head and editor of Ohio History. His book manuscript, “The Great Plains During World War II, 1939-1945,” is in press with the University of Nebraska Press, and he is at work on two other manuscripts titled “The Great Plains during the Twentieth Century” and “Agriculture during the Civil War.” He presented “Technological Change in American Agriculture” at the Henry Ford Museum and chaired a session titled “History and the Documentarian” at the annual meeting of the Indiana Association of Historians in Bloomington, Indiana. Hurt completed his second year as a fellow with the University of Nebraska Plains Humanities Alliance. Recently, he consulted for a History Channel documentary on drought and the Dust Bowl.

CHARLES INGRAO presented “Germany’s Early Modern Sonderweg” at the University of Tennessee and “Fixing the Balkans: The Use and Abuse of History” at both Louisiana State University and the University of New Orleans. A new edition of his book The
CAROLINE JANNEY’s book *Burying the Dead but Not the Past: Ladies’ Memorial Associations and the Lost Cause* is under contract with the University of North Carolina Press, and she is beginning work on a second manuscript, *The Civil War in Memory*, which will be part of the University of North Carolina Press series “Littlefield History of the Civil War Era.” She presented “Ladies’ Memorial Associations and the Persistence of Southern Nationalism” at the annual Missouri Conference on History, gave lectures on the Civil War and Constitution at the Bill of Rights Institute for the Fairfax County Virginia School District, and delivered several other talks at the Wintergreen Summer Music Festival, including “‘The First Woman Who Welded Blue and Gray Together’: LaSalle Corbell Pickett’s Pursuit for Reconciliation,” “Remembering Lee: Disputes among Virginia’s Men and Women over the Lee Monument,” and “The Origins of the Lost Cause: Virginia’s Ladies’ Memorial Associations” in Wintergreen, Virginia. Janney is recipient of a Fletcher Jones Foundation Fellowship from the Huntington Library in Pasadena, California, and a Purdue University Research Grant, which she will use to further her research on a book project dealing with Civil War memory from 1861 to the present.


JOHN LARSON, assistant head and director of graduate education, published an article “Speaking of Truth in the Post Modern Era” in *Agora* and contributed several entries to the *Encyclopedia of North American Railroads*, the *Encyclopedia of the Midwest*, and the *Encyclopedia of the American Revolution*. He currently is at work on a book on the market revolution in antebellum America for Cambridge University Press.

DAWN MARSH was recently appointed liaison for the Purdue Committee for Institutional Cooperation, American Indian Studies Consortium and continues to serve on the university’s Tecumseh Project, a partnership for Native Americans in academic programs and research (http://www.purdue.edu/eas/tecumseh). She also is a member of the Steering Committee of the joint SEA and Purdue University 2008 conference “Prophetstown Revisited,” commemorating the bicentennial anniversary of Prophetstown, and cofounder of the university’s Indigenous Earth Sciences Project (http://www.purdue.edu/eas/iesp/contact.shtml) via a grant from the National Science Foundation. Marsh has several works in press, including a journal article, “Penn’s Peaceable Kingdom: Shangri-la Revisited” in *Ethnohistory*, a book chapter, “‘She considered herself queen of the whole neighborhood’: Hannah Freeman, Lenape Sovereignty and Penn’s Peaceable Kingdom” in *Place and Native America Indian History and Culture*, and several encyclopedia entries, “Native Americans” in the second volume of the *Encyclopedia of United States Political History*, and “Lewis Cass,” “Helen Hunt Jackson,” “Pennsylvania Indian Policy,” and “Swedish Indian Policy” in *The Encyclopedia of United States Indian Policy and Law*. Marsh presented “Heart is Where the Home Is: Sovereignty and Homeland Defined by Lenape Culture” at the Society for Historians of the Early American Republic conference in Worcester and chaired the session titled “Shifting Identities: Voluntary and Involuntary Constructions and Representations” at the American Society for Ethnohistory Conference in Tulsa. She was named a fellow in the Diversity in the Classroom Project for her newly proposed graduate course “Native American Women’s History” and is recipients of a Service Learning Faculty Development Grant for 2007-08.

ROBERT MAY, newly appointed director of the department’s honors program, published a book chapter “The United States as Rogue State: Gunboat Persuasion, Citizen Marauders, and the Limits of Antebellum American Imperialism” in *America, War and Power: Defining the State, 1775-2005*. He was recipient of the 2007 Purdue University Outstanding Undergraduate (“Murphy”) Teaching Award.

GORDON MORK published *AP Instructor’s Manual* and served as a member of the College Board Redesign Commission for AP European History. He is a peer reviewer for the North Central Association of Colleges and Universities Higher Learning Commission in the Academic Quality Improvement Program. He presented “The Uses and Misuses of History” as part of the West Lafayette Unitarian Universalist Church’s Adult Forum lecture series.

MICHAEL MORRISON, undergraduate director, presented “Fault Lines: A Reconsideration of Abolitionism and Political Antislavery” at the annual meeting of the Society for Historians of the Early American Republic in Worcester, Massachusetts, and “Majorities Must Rule: Douglas Democrats, the American Revolution, and the Territorial Issue, 1854-60” at the Mid-American History Conference in Tulsa. He also was a featured speaker at the College of Liberal Arts Experience Liberal Arts month, drawing an impressive crowd with his talk, “Loud, Fast, and Out of Control: The Politics of Rock, Race, and Rebellion in the 1950s.” He is at work on a book manuscript on the Mexican-American War for the Cambridge University Press series titled Cambridge Essential Histories and serves as editor of the second volume of the *Encyclopedia of U.S. Political History: The Founding and Early National Periods*. Morrison oversaw the Department of History’s Ad Hoc Review Committee in its efforts to revamp the undergraduate curriculum, and he is collaborating with the College of Liberal Arts Dean’s Office on accreditation. In the spring he will teach a course for the University Honors Program, “The Politics of Popular Culture in the Twentieth-Century United States.”

RANDY ROBERTS was appointed Distinguished Professor of History by Purdue’s Board of Trustees. He published a co-authored textbook, United States History, and “Jews and Boxing” in Shofar: An Interdisciplinary Journal of Jewish Studies. Two other review essays, “Thanks for the Memories: Professional Baseball in Ohio” in Ohio History and “James Dean and Other Hoosiers in Hollywood” in the Indiana Magazine of History, are forthcoming. Several of his co-edited readers are scheduled for reprinting, including volumes one and two of Constructing the American Past, America Past and Present, and American Experiences: Readings in American History. Roberts maintained an impressively full schedule of talks and presentation. Among the most notable are a series of talks titled “The Biographer’s Craft” for the annual meeting of Pearson-Prentice Hall Publishers; the keynote address “John Wayne, Jack Johnson, and Other Biographical Adventures: Writing Biography and Teaching History” at the New Jersey Regional Social Sciences Meeting; “Joe Louis’s America” at the Tennessee Social Sciences workshop; “A Biographer’s Life” at the Purdue University College of Liberal Arts Alumni Reception; “Immigration: Old, New, and Today” at the New York City History Symposium; “The Atomic Bomb, End of World War II, and the Start of the Cold War” at the Tippecanoe County Library; “Imagining World War II” at the Mansfield University North Hall Visitors Program; “Hollywood Goes to War” at the New Jersey Council for the Social Sciences; “Popular Culture Enlists in World War II” at the Tennessee Regional Social Sciences meeting; “American Popular Culture Goes to War: Hollywood, Sports, and Superheroes Fight World War II” at the Hermitage History Lecture Series in New Jersey; and “Popular Culture Goes to War” and “Imagining World War II” as a Distinguished Lecturer for the Organization of American Historians. Roberts was much in the spotlight in 2007, appearing on a taped HBO show on Joe Louis, serving as a North American correspondent for the Australian Radio show “Run Like You Stole Something,” as an on-camera expert on the History Channel series Our Generation for the episode “Death of the Counterculture: Charles Manson” and on-camera expert on the E-TV series Best Evidence episode “Death of John Wayne.” Most recently, he was featured on the History in Focus episode on “Charlie Wilson’s War” for the History Channel. Roberts was appointed series coeditor of Oxford University Press’s Critical Historical Encounters and continues to serve as coeditor of both the Illinois History of Sports and Sports and Society series for the University of Illinois Press, as well as historical consultant for American History Ink, ten history-based comic books. Currently, he is under contract with Yale University Press for a book on Joe Louis.

MICHAEL RYAN published “Sidereal Remedies: Medicine and the Stars in Newberry Library MS Ayer 746” in AVISTA Forum Journal: Medical Science, Technology and Art and contributed a book chapter, “Reckoning the Schism from Outside Christendom: Byzantine and Muslim Perceptions of the Great Western Schism,” to the forthcoming A Companion to the Great Western Schism (1378-1417). Currently Ryan is at work on a monograph tentatively titled “A Kingdom of Stargazers: Astrology, Divination, and Authority in the Late Medieval Crown of Aragon,” a coedited book on popular conceptions of the apocalypse, and articles dealing with King Joan’s ties with the occult, a Catalan Dança de Mort during King Ferdinand’s Spain, secular authority in the pursuit of the fantastic, and the Mudéjars’ Movement in the fourteenth century. He is the organizer of the 2008 International Congress on Medieval Studies panel on “Spain and the Schism: The Iberian Peninsula in a Time of Crisis,” which will convene at Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo. Ryan was recipient of a Purdue Research Fellowship Faculty Summer Grant and traveled to Turkey as part of the university’s delegation to establish study abroad and exchange opportunities for Purdue students at Turkish universities.

MICHAEL SMITH taught a new course in the spring of 2007, “The Kennedy Assassination in Global Perspective,” which investigated the assassination within the comparative contexts of modern political violence and American-Russian competition in the Cold War. The course joined his research and teaching interests in a project to explore the political cultures of the Russian revolutionary movement and state in the twentieth century. He also has a book chapter in press developing these interests, titled “The Tenacity of Forms: Language, Nation, Stalin.” He presented a talk, “How Can Society Benefit from Space Exploration?” at the Pugwash Midwest Regional Conference, “Space and Society: Challenges and Opportunities,” and is completing work on a book manuscript about the origins of the Space Age. His interviews also appeared in the week-long Journal and Courier series on the Space Race (October 2007), introducing the dedication of the Armstrong Hall of Engineering at Purdue.

WHITNEY WALTON has two book chapters in press, “Cultural Internationalism in the Albert Kahn Around-the-World Boursières’ Reports on France and the United States, 1898-1930” in the Proceedings of the Colloque, Les Relations culturelles internationales au vingtième siècle; de la diplomatie culturelle à l’acculturation [International cultural relations in the twentieth century: from cultural diplomacy to acculturation] and “Professional Women and Travel in the Albert Kahn Around-the-World Boursières’ Reports on France and the United States, 1898-1930” in Gender and Travel. She presented “Internationalized Beyond Repair: National Identities and Study Abroad between France and the United States in the Cold War Era” as part of the Purdue American Studies lecture series and participated in the roundtable titled “What Happened to the Middle Ages? A Roundtable Discussion” organized by the Western Society for French History in Albuquerque. She also was a commentator on the panel “The Sex of the
Modern: Gender, Aesthetics, and Imaginings of the Nation in Interwar France” at the American Historical Association meeting in Atlanta and spoke on “A Very Long Revolution: France during the Time of Lafayette” as part of the City of Lafayette’s celebration of the birthday of the renowned historical figure. Walton’s book manuscript dealing with national identities, internationalism, and study abroad between France and the United States is currently under review for publication. She is working on an article on American women studying in France after World War II, which will appear in a special issue of Clio Histoire, Femmes et Sociétés. Walton also is exploring, along with two faculty members in the College of Education, the possibility of a community forum on food politics.

JUAN WANG has two works in press, including a book chapter, “Officialdom Unmasked: Shanghai Tabloid Press, 1897 – 1911,” in Late Imperial China and an entry on “The Cultural Revolution and the Cold War” in the Encyclopedia of the Cold War. She received a Purdue Faculty Research Travel Grant to Taiwan, a Library Scholar Grant, and a 2007 Summer Research Grant, all of which she used to further research on a book project on Shanghai tabloid culture. Wang will spend most of 2008 in Taiwan on a post-doctoral fellowship from the Academia Sinica, the country's most prestigious academic institution, and will direct a study abroad course, “East Asia in the Modern World,” to China during the summer 2008 session.

MELINDA S. ZOOK was a fellow at the Purdue College of Liberal Arts Center for Humanistic Studies during the spring semester and completed her term as president of the Midwest Conference on British Studies. Her book chapter “Religious Nonconformity and the Problem of Dissent in the Works of Aphra Behn and Mary Astell” appeared in Mary Astell: Reason, Gender, Faith. She is currently at work on a book manuscript dealing with women, religion, and politics in Restoration England as well as an article on Mary II and the Church of England. Zook presented “The Plotter’s Principles: Robert Ferguson and the Ancient Constitution in Late Stuart England” at a symposium titled “Intellectual Foundings: J. G. A. Pocock and the Cambridge School” during the International Conference for the Study of Political Thought at Columbia University. In April 2008 she is scheduled to present “Aphra Behn and the Culture of Nonconformity” at the Renaissance Society of America conference in Chicago.

EMERITI NEWS  Contributor, Professor Donald Parmen, Professor Emeritus of History

PROFESSOR DONALD BERTHRONG reports that his grandson, Michael, finished his degree at Virginia Tech and now works for a medical support company. Michael’s sister, Kerry, is a senior at Penn. Another grandson, Sean, is finishing his dissertation at Duke.

Congratulations are very much in order for PROFESSOR LEONARD GORDON. In October 2007, Lexington Books released Confrontation over Taiwan: Nineteenth Century China and the Powers. The study is “a full and detailed account of international relations of Taiwan during the nineteenth century and specifically, the period between 1840 and 1895.” At the latter date, Japan took over the island. Professor Gordon based his study largely on archival records in Taiwan, Japan, the United States, and Great Britain. Professor Gordon continues to work on several other projects, especially a co-authored study of the China-Taiwan unification issue.

In April 2007, PROFESSOR OAKAH JONES and Marjorie attended the joint conference of the New Mexico Historical Society and the Arizona Historical Society held at the Hon-Dah Resort and Casino on the White Mountain Apache reservation. In November the Jones traveled to Sul Ross State University for the annual meeting of the Big Bend Studies Center. Jones also evaluated manuscripts for the University of New Mexico Press.

PROFESSOR DONALD PARMAN completed an entry on Indian removals for an encyclopedia on American politics that MTM Publishing has underway. Professor Michael Morrison is editing the volume where Parman’s entry will appear. Parman also donated the research records used for Navajos and the New Deal to the Center for Southwest Studies at the University of New Mexico. In October 2007, Parman attended the Western History Association Conference in Oklahoma City. There he enjoyed meeting two of his former students, Sherry Smith of SMU and Bonnie Lynn-Sherow of Kansas State.

After a long and distinguished career as a teacher-scholar in the department, PROFESSOR JON TEAFORD joined the ranks of the retirees at the end of the last school year. Clearly he remains very active, and he is frequently spotted researching in the HSSE Library. He remains on several dissertation committees. Teaford’s most recent book is The American Suburb: The Basics. Published by Rutledge Press, the book analyzes contemporary suburban development. Congratulations Jon!
IN MEMORIAM

This year marked the loss of several fine members of the department. All will be missed.

ELEANOR U. GERNs was a secretary in the main office from the 1980s to 1990s. She was an active member of Temple Israel in West Lafayette and volunteered at both Lafayette Home Hospital and the West Lafayette Public Library. Eleanor is survived by her husband, Fred, two sons, and five grandchildren. She was 77.

DR. ROBERT MCDANIEL, professor emeritus of History, joined the department in 1965 and taught at Purdue for thirty-four years, specializing in Middle Eastern and modern Persian history. Before earning his Master's and Doctorate at the University of Illinois in the 1960s, he served as a language specialist in U.S. Military Intelligence and learned Arabic at the Monterey Language School. With his wide-ranging passion for and knowledge of the Middle and Near East and aptitude for a score of languages, including German, Farsi, Russian, Spanish, and to some extent Turkish and Hebrew, McDaniel directed study abroad programs for several universities and participated in archeological digs. In addition to scholarly pursuits, he also enjoyed photography, woodworking, astronomy, and acting. After retiring, he remained in the West Lafayette area. He is survived by his partner Rosalie Golub, former wife Bruce Aldendifer McDaniel, two children Derek and Hilary, and grandson Rollo. He was 74.

GERMAINE S. OESTERLE, for which the Germaine Seelye Oesterle Endowed Chair in History is named, was a New York transplant who married the late Dr. Eric Clark Oesterle, professor emeritus at Purdue University. She was very active in the local community, serving as Pack Mother for the Cub Scouts and a member of both the Lafayette Arts Council and Lafayette Symphony Guild, among others. She designed the house in which she lived and loved to garden. She is survived by five children and thirteen grandchildren. She was 82.

MARGARET “PEGGY” QUIRK was an invaluable member of the department, serving as administrative assistant for eleven years to three different heads. She was a Purdue alumna, earning a Bachelor of Science degree in physical education and health in 1975. Peggy was an active member of the Newtown Community Church, a proud Red Hatter, and strong supporter of the Fountain Central School sports program and Fountain County 4-H. We in the department will always remember her infectious sense of humor, vivacious personality, and welcoming smile. She is survived by her husband Jerry and four children. She was 53.

DR. WARREN E. STICKLE III came to Purdue after earning a Ph.D. from Georgetown University in 1971 and was a faculty member in the department for six years, specializing in twentieth-century U.S. urban politics and publishing three edited books and more than fifty articles. He left academia to work as a U.S. congressional aid to former history faculty and colleague Floyd Fithian, whom he helped to elect. Sometime after his stint on Capitol Hill Sticklle assumed the mantle of President of the Chemical Producers and Distributors Association from 1987 – 2006, and served as President Emeritus until his death. Sticklle led a very full and active life, teaching and lecturing, working as a lobbyist and real estate agent, and traveling the globe. He is survived by his wife of thirty-seven years, Marilyn, and a beloved daughter, Chelsea. He was 64.

DR. JOHN F. STOVER, professor emeritus of History, joined the Purdue family in 1947 and taught courses in U.S. social history and Civil War and Reconstruction until his retirement in 1978. During his tenure in the department, he became a leading historian on U.S. railroads, publishing five books on the subject, as well as an additional two after his retirement, and countless articles, book chapters, and encyclopedia entries. In 1972 Stover was inducted as an honorary member of the Indiana Bicentennial Commission, and in 1983 the Governor of Indiana named him a Sagamore of the Wabash. His home was a showcase for an extensive and impressive model railroad and well as for the beautiful results of his woodworking hobby. He and his wife of nearly seventy years, Marjorie, eventually settled in Lincoln, Nebraska, where he was able to pursue another passion: golf. In 1999 the Stovers established the John Stover Undergraduate Scholarship in the Department of History, which recognizes one outstanding sophomore history major. He is survived by his wife, two children, five grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren. He was 94.

NEW PUBLICATIONS

Confrontation over Taiwan: Nineteenth-Century China and the Powers (Lexington Books) by Leonard H.D. Gordon

The American Suburb: The Basics (Routledge) by Jon C. Teaford

Peggy Quirk
HISTORY GRADUATE STUDENT ASSOCIATION NEWS
Contributors, Carla Fisher, Current President, and Scott Randolph, Former President

The History Graduate Student Association had a busy and productive year in 2007. HGSA planned a variety of educational, professional, and social events, which helped to guide new and continuing graduate students through another academic year. In the spring of 2007, HGSA members organized three Works-in-Progress (WIP) events, held the first annual HGSA Internal Academic Conference, hosted a Prospective Student day, and held an end of the semester gathering to celebrate the success of another year. The WIPs showcased the work of three faculty members and provided a place for lively discussions about article submission, vetting research ideas, and planning for book publications. The HGSA organized a forum, attended by more than half of the current graduate students to address concerns about funding and program policies. HGSA representatives to the Purdue Graduate Student Government and on department committees worked for the interests of their colleagues. However, the most exciting event of the spring was the Internal Academic Conference “Action and Reaction across Time and Place,” held on April 28, 2007, and featuring six panels, twenty papers, and the participation of over thirty graduate students as presenters, chairs, and commentators. The keynote address by Dr. Illicia Sprey, Assistant Professor of History at Saint Joseph’s College, the wonderful luncheon of pizza provided by the Department of History, and the great attendance were all part of a successful first conference.

April 2007 also brought the election of new members to HGSA and plans for the events for the fall. (Thank you to Scott Randolph for three years of superb leadership—HGSA will miss you). HGSA organized another three WIPs during the fall semester, began a three part “Job Search in a Glass House” series, hosted the annual Halloween gathering, and started planning for the Second Annual HGSA Internal Academic Conference to be held in April 2008. The Glass House events were the main contribution to the professional development of graduate students in the fall; graduate student Tyler Johnson, ABD, volunteered to serve as the job search candidate and we were able to follow him through the process of searching for (and hopefully obtaining) employment in academia. And the Halloween gathering was the main contribution to the vibrant social life of the graduate students—thank you Pee Wee and Friends, Three’s Company, the 1980s Prom Attendees, and all the other creative personalities, for adding to our celebration.

HGSA is now looking toward 2008 and hosting several more WIPs, organizing another internal conference, recruiting prospective students, and implementing a mentoring program for new students beginning in the Fall 2008.

GRADUATE STUDENT NEWS

HEATHER AKIN presented “Harlem Riots and the White Press’ Use of the Brute Negro, the Contented Slave, and the Wretched Freeman” at the James A. Rawley Conference in Lincoln, Nebraska. She is preparing two articles on women’s religious movements and capital punishment in Indiana.


MEGAN BIRK published “Land Policy, 1776-1820” in the Encyclopedia of Political History and “Childhood and Child Rearing” in the Encyclopedia of Daily Life in the Civil War. She also is completing work on a journal article titled “In Need of a Good Home: How Privatized Orphan Care Filled the Needs of Rural Communities.” She presented “Filling the Labor Need with Children: Rural Dependent Children on the Farm” at the June meeting of the Society for History of Children and Youth in Norrkoping, Sweden. Megan received the King V. Hostick Award from the Illinois Historical Preservation Society, which she used for research in Illinois archives, and a Graduate School Summer Research Grant, which helped to further her dissertation research.

AMY BOSWORTH received a 2007-08 Purdue Research Foundation grant for her project “Cures, Criminals, and Castigation: Heiric of Auxerre’s Miracula sancti Germani and Ninth-Century Carolingian Hagiography.” She presented “Puella, Presbyter et Princeps: The People of the Carolingian World as Seen through Heiric of Auxerre’s Miracula Sancti Germani” at the
International Congress on Medieval Studies at Western Michigan University and a draft form of the same paper at the Purdue University Medieval and Renaissance Studies (MARS) Monday lecture series.

MICAH CHILDRESS contributed “Treaty of Paris (1783)” to volume one of the Encyclopedia of U. S. Political History and is currently working on an article on the turn-of-the-nineteenth-century circus in the American Midwest. Also, he presented “The Miseries of Competition, Mismanagement of the Business: The Madison and Indianapolis Railroad, 1832-1860” at the Social Science History Association annual meeting in Chicago.

NATHAN CORZINE contributed four entries on the Montreal Expos, the St. Louis Cardinals, the Los Angeles/St. Louis Rams, and athletic endorsements to the Encyclopedia of North American Sport. He presented a paper, “The Unholy Alliance: The Union of Beer and Baseball in St. Louis, 1953-1954,” at the Missouri Conference on History in April as well as at the Atlantic World Conference in October.


AMY DEAN received a Graduate School Summer Research Grant, a Woodman Graduate Research Award, a James J. Shevlin Study Abroad Scholarship, and a scholarship from the Université Marc Bloch in Strasbourg, all of which she used in part to fund travel and research during her stay in France this academic year. In France, Amy commutes between Strasbourg, where she audits a class on politics and culture in early modern France, and Dijon, where she is conducting research on her dissertation project, “Noble Women, Power, and Property in Early Modern France: The Women of the Brulart Family in Burgundy, 1500-1700.”


ELISE DERMINEUR’s paper “Communautes rurales et justices seigneuriales dans la Pays Belfortain aux XVII et XVIIIe siecles” was published in the conference volume Actes du colloque du 19, 20 et 21 octobre 2006, Belfort 1307. She presented “Insult Trials and the Challenge of Patriarchy in the Early Modern French Countryside” at the Western Society for French History conference at the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque. Elise is currently at work on an article on religion and sexual representation in the early modern French countryside.

JOHN ELLIS presented “Idolatrous Christians and God-Fearing Pagans: The Evolving Complex Reactions to Catholic Christianity among the Pueblo Indians, 1598-1681” at the Southwestern Historical Association annual meeting and published a reworked version of the paper in the journal Catholic Southwest.

CARLA FISHER, newly elected president of the HGSA, presented “Oral History as Historical Method: Indiana Extension Homemakers Association, 1920-1940” at the Indiana Association of Historians annual meeting at Indiana University in Bloomington.

JOSHUA FLANERY presented “To the Least of My Brothers: The Evolution of Carolingian Social Justice in the Episcopal Capitularies” at the annual meeting of the International Medieval Congress in Kalamazoo and at the Purdue University Medieval and Renaissance Studies (MARS) Monday lecture series in April.

MARK FURNISH completed work on an article on influential Indiana editor Michael C. Garber for the Indiana Magazine of History. He also received a Graduate School Summer Research Grant.

RONALD GEIER is preparing a paper he presented in late 2006, “What Happened to the Afro-Argentines? An Analysis of the Disappearance and the Ramifications for Latin America,” for publication. He currently serves as the web administrator for the Scholars’ Initiative website, directed by Professor Charles Ingro, and interim graduate coordinator of the Indiana Space Grant Consortium located at Purdue’s Discovery Park.

ANGELA GHIONEA is completing work on an article, “Homo Religiosus: New Insights and Evidence for a Common Origin of All Religions,” and will present “Contributions to the Voynich Manuscript: Mystery: Plants and Magic” at the Purdue University Medieval and Renaissance Mondays 2008 lecture series. Current research interests include those on the Tartaria Tablets and the Egyptian Sphinx.

KEVIN GOODING received a 2007-08 Purdue Research Foundation grant for his project “For the Children’s Souls: Interdenominational Competition and the Religious Education of Children in Indiana, 1801-1850.”
CHRISTIAN GRIGGS presented “Popular Culture, Godly Culture, and the Controversy over the Book of Sports in Early Stuart England” at the Pacific Coast Conference on British Studies in April. He currently is working on an article dealing with the high church party in late Stuart England.


JOSE MARIA HERRERA is a lecturer in social studies methodology at The University of Texas College of Education in El Paso.

SHIRLEY HUNTER SMITH is writing a biography on New Jersey forefather Abraham Clark, which will be posted on the website “Descendants of the Signers of the Declaration.” She presented “From Community Corporation to Centralized Control: State and National Administration of the Prison at Camp Morton” at the Indiana meeting of the Horseshoe Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, and her paper “Enforced Patriotism and Civil Liberties: A Hoosier Response to World War” has been accepted for presentation at the Midwest Scholars Conference, which will convene at Indiana Wesleyan University in February 2008.

RONALD JOHNSON presented “For Such a Time as This: John Dury, Jean-Baptiste Stouppe, and Cromwellian Diplomacy” at the Florida Conference of Historians in Orlando in March.

TYLER JOHNSON presented “Fall in for Mexico: Catholics, Immigrants, and Volunteering in the Mexican-American War” at the Mid-America Conference on History, which convened at Oklahoma State University in September.

ERIN KEMPKER contributed “Women in Politics, 1784-1840” to the forthcoming second volume of the Encyclopedia of U. S. Political History. She presented “To Hell with the ERA: Gender Politics in Indiana, 1960-1980” at the Berkshire Conference on the History of Women in Minnesota and is scheduled to present “Trotskyites, One-Worlders, and Bilderbergers: Gender Politics and Conservatism in Indiana, 1964-1980” at the 2008 American Historical Association Conference in Washington, D.C. Erin also received a Graduate School Summer Research Grant and a Woodman Graduate Research Award.

ROBERT KIRCHUBEL published the final volume in the Operation Barbarossa trilogy and is under contract with Pen & Sword to publish Panzer Armies on the Eastern Front, 1941-45.


ADRIANNA LOZANO is working on articles on eighteenth-century American pornography, Egyptian feminism, and a study of Indian and Japanese prostitute memoirs.

ADAM MAYER is preparing an article on ethnic cleansing in Abyssinia and the German influence.

SARA MORRIS received a Graduate School Summer Research Grant, which she used in Mississippi and Washington D.C. to further her dissertation research. She contributed “Home Appliances” and “Ellen Swallow Richards” to the Encyclopedia of Environmental History.

RICHARD MOSS received a 2007-08 Purdue Research Foundation Grant for his project “Symbolic Ethnicity in Postwar America: Italian-Americans, Jews, and the Negotiation of Identity, 1945-1985” and was named this year’s recipient of the Graduate Student Teaching Award. He published “Creating a Jewish-American Identity in Indianapolis: The Regulation of Leisure, 1920-1940” in the Indiana Magazine of History and “Racial Identity on the Comics Page: Harry Hershfield’s Abie the Agent, 1914-1940” in the Journal of Popular Culture. Richard presented “Is This Any Way for Nice Jewish Boys to Behave?: Radicalism, Confrontation, and New Ethnic Styles in 1960s America” at the Missouri Valley History Conference, which won the conference’s best graduate
paper award. Currently he is completing work on an article on ethnicity in 1970s America.

**JESSICA NELSON** presented “Gender and the Abandonment of Children in Eighteenth-Century Dijon” at the Society for the History of Children and Youth Conference at Linkoping University, Sweden.


### GRADUATES 2007

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Degree</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Advisor</th>
<th>Dissertation</th>
<th>Current Position</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>James Buss</td>
<td>Ph.D.</td>
<td>May 2007</td>
<td>John Larson</td>
<td>“The Winning of the West with Words: Clearing the Middle Ground for American Pioneers”</td>
<td>Currently a visiting assistant professor of history at Bowling Green State University in Bowling Green, Ohio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Micah Childress</td>
<td>M. A.</td>
<td>May 2007</td>
<td>Frank Lambert</td>
<td>U.S. History</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Jeffrey Duvall</td>
<td>Ph.D.</td>
<td>December 2007</td>
<td>Nancy Gabin</td>
<td>“Burley Paid the Bills: Twentieth-Century Tobacco Culture in the Central Ohio River Valley”</td>
<td>Currently a reference librarian at IUPUI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomas Fisher</td>
<td>M. A.</td>
<td>May 2007</td>
<td>Patrick Hearden</td>
<td>U.S. History</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Johnathan Fluitt</td>
<td>M. A.</td>
<td>May 2007</td>
<td>Cornelius Bynum</td>
<td>U.S. History</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ronald Geier</td>
<td>M. A.</td>
<td>December 2007</td>
<td>Ariel de la Fuente</td>
<td>Global History</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kathleen King</td>
<td>M. A.</td>
<td>May 2007</td>
<td>Michael Morrison</td>
<td>U.S. History</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
JAMAL RATCHFORD contributed “Edward Temple,” “Mae Faggs,” and “Edith McGuire” to the African American National Biography. He is scheduled to present a paper based on his research topic on race and sports at the National Council for Black Studies conference at California State University, San Jose.

J. DAVID SCHLOSSER presented “A New City in the West: The City of God in the Periphraseon” at the International Medieval Congress, which convened at Western Michigan University.

ANDREW SMITH presented “The Purchase of Black Folk: Boxing, Race, and Image in the 1920s” at the North American Society for Sport History conference at Texas Tech University and “Harlem: Mecca of the New Negro Boxer? African American Image in the Prize Ring during the Harlem Renaissance” at the Purdue University African American Studies and Research Center Annual Symposium. He also gave a series of lectures titled “Who Was Jim Crow? Legal and Functional History of Racial Segregation in America, 1892-1954” at the Art Institute of Indianapolis.

JOHN SMITH’s journal article, “Breaking the Plane: Integration and Protest in Michigan State University Football during the 1960s,” has been accepted by the Michigan Historical Review, and his entry on “Jack Johnson” will appear in the forthcoming Encyclopedia of Jim Crow. He presented “The Roots of the Revolt on the Black Athlete” at the Popular Culture/American Culture Conference in Boston. John also has completed work on a journal article on noted basketball great Lew Alcindor.

KAREN SONNELITTER presented “Memory and Commemoration in Early Modern Ireland: 23 October 1641” at the Group for Early Modern Cultural Studies Conference in Chicago and at the Temple University Graduate History Conference and “To unite our temporal and eternal interests: Sermons and the Charity School Movement in Ireland, 1689-1740” at the annual meeting of the American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies in Atlanta.

ANDREW THOMAS completed his fellowship year at the Institut für Europäische Geschichte in Mainz, Germany, and is currently teaching at Salem College in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. He presented “Lectissima Femina: The Influence of Renate of Lorraine as Duchess of Bavaria, 1568-1602” at the Sixteenth-Century Society Conference in Minneapolis, and his paper, “Paragons of Piety: The Didactic Element in the Funeral Literature for the Wittelsbach Consorts Louise Juliana of Orange and Elizabeth Renate of Lorraine,” was accepted for presentation at the 2008 International Conference for Frühe Neuzeit Interdisziplinär at Duke University in North Carolina.

GARRETT WASHINGTON was selected by the Social Science Research Council to receive a Japan Society for the Promotion of Science doctoral fellowship, which supports his stay at Keio University in Tokyo during the 2007-2008 academic year as he continues research on his dissertation “Tokyo Protestant Churches as Spaces for Re-imagining Modern Japan.” He also was awarded a Fulbright Fellowship grant to Japan, which he later declined. The Department of History awarded Garrett this year’s Flaningam Award for his paper “Learning to Invent Tradition: Reexamining the Iwakura Embassy in Great Britain, 1872,” a paper he subsequently presented at the Midwest Conference on Asian Affairs. He also spoke on “Missionary Modernity versus Japanese Protestant Modernity” at the Association for Asian Studies national conference.

JOHN WOODS contributed “Rubber Workers” to the forthcoming Encyclopedia of Strikes in American History.

ALEXANDRA YACKOVICH completed a successful and productive year at Université Marc Bloch in Strasbourg, France, as the department’s first exchange student with the institution. She also was awarded the inaugural Paul and Reed Benhamou Graduate Scholarship in History.

2008 HISTORY HONORS FORUM

The Department of History is proud to showcase its Honors Students at the 2008 History Honors Forum. At this forum, the Department’s first departmental honors students will present synopses of their thesis research.

The Honors Program offers students with a record of superior achievement in their initial History courses the opportunity to engage in challenging courses, research, and sustained historical writing beyond the work required of majors in the field. The program’s intent is to broaden and deepen the historical and historiographical understanding, critical thinking, and research abilities of history majors.

Monday, April 21, 2008
5:30-7:30pm
Krannert G002

Light refreshments will be served.
GRADUATE STUDENT EXCHANGE

For the first time, the Department of History is playing host to two exceptional graduate students as part of its exchange with both Université Marc Bloch and Peking University. Last year marked the official beginning of the exchange program, and we sent our own Master’s student, Alexandra Yakovich, to Strasbourg to take courses and serve as a liaison. This year Pierre Schmitt and Zhao Minghao are returning the favor and, one hopes, gaining experiences that will augment their own graduate studies and help build interests for future scholarly visits.

Pierre spent four years at Marc Bloch before making his “historic” trek to Indiana. He has a Bachelor’s degree in both history and social and cultural anthropology. As a Master’s student, he is interested in exploring deaf culture, particularly deaf education during the nineteenth century, through an anthropological and historical lens. When comparing the French university system to that of the United States, Pierre is quick to note that college tuition is much more affordable in his country, which allows more of its people to take advantage of an undergraduate education. “Liberté, égalité—these ideas have real meaning to any French citizen who aspires to broaden his mind.” He also, mentions, however, that there is practically no attendance required in many classes, which can be a real pitfall for students who need more guidance. “Everybody is so nice to me [here]. The Department is really concerned about the success and development of my exchange program.” Pierre is pleased that his year at an American university is helping him master English, “a key for any academic career,” and giving him access to a world of exceptional libraries and scholarly resources, many of which are less available in France. He spent the fall 2007 semester assisting in Whitney Walton’s undergraduate class on modern France and taking graduate courses on the history of western thought and gender in global history. During his off-hours he enjoys watching American football and playing lacrosse with the Purdue team, and he hopes to see a basketball and major league baseball game before he returns to Strasbourg.

Minghao is in the Master’s program at Peking University, familiarly known as “Beida” in the People’s Republic of China, where he specializes in Sino-U.S. relations, particularly during the Nixon-Kissinger era. He has had the (very good) opportunity to sit in on Pat Hearden’s course on U.S. foreign affairs as well as Nancy Gabin’s popular course on America in the 1960s, both of which have pushed his thesis research in new directions. Minghao is inspired by the strength of what he calls the “student voice” here at Purdue and how much more American universities emphasize critical thinking. He also is impressed by the department’s exceptional faculty and student scholarship and the high caliber of teaching. Like Pierre, Minghao is amazed by the Purdue Libraries and the ease with which he is able to access a host of academic sources. Despite suffering from an expected degree of homesickness and a craving for familiar foods (“I totally understand why my American friends in China often complain about how much they miss cheese more than their parents!” he laughingly comments), he has happily embraced the various quirks and nuances of American culture (“I will remember Papa John’s Pizza and the Idaho potato!”) and is especially impressed with the city’s efficient bus system. Minghao considers his time at Purdue an invaluable glimpse of authentic American culture, a much different picture than what the regular Chinese citizen forms from available media. While in the States, he hopes to conduct research at the Nixon Presidential Library and see more of America from an Amtrak train.

Department of History
Annual History Awards Banquet

Thursday, April 10, 2008
6:00 p.m. Reception and 6:30 p.m. Dinner
Purdue Memorial Union – South Ballroom

Alumni, parents, and friends of the department are invited to join the students, faculty, and staff in honoring 2007-2008 student and faculty achievements.

For further banquet details and dinner reservation forms

go to the department’s website and select the Events page. http://www.cla.purdue.edu/history/
GLOBETROTTER UPDATE

Amy Dean and Garrett Washington are spending the 2007-08 academic year abroad, taking advantage of the unique archives and libraries each of their host countries offers. This valuable opportunity has added an extra dimension to their scholarly work and afforded them a rare glimpse into another culture.

AMY DEAN IN DIJON, FRANCE

1. What kind of research are you doing in France?
   My dissertation topic is “Noble Women, Power, and Property in Early Modern France: The Women of the Brulart Family in Burgundy, 1500-1700.” My dissertation will confront the understanding of the authority held by women in seventeenth-century France by demonstrating that women of the noblesse de robe in Burgundy were actively participating in realms closed to them by law and by custom. I’m researching in the Archives Departementales de la Cote-d’Or, the Archives Municipales de Dijon, and the Bibliothèque Municipale de Dijon. I’m also using the libraries at the Université Marc Bloch in Strasbourg.

2. Are you sitting in on any courses?
   This fall semester, I audited one undergraduate history course at UMB, “Institutions et cultures politiques en France, XVle-XVIIe siècle”. I enjoyed going to this class not only because of the topic, but also because it was interesting to observe how the French teach their own history, what they emphasize, etc. Additionally, I found it immensely helpful to my French language skills to sit and listen to French being spoken in a classroom setting again.

3. How does the academic environment in France compare to our program?
   The academic environment is quite different than ours. The undergraduates are specialized from the beginning of their entry into university. Those who specialize in history take mainly history courses all three years. Aside from history courses, they are required to take language courses and some courses from “complimentary” disciplines such as archeology and geography. There was no syllabus given for the course I audited (in speaking with other students this is often the case and left to the discretion of the professor). In this course, there were no outlines, power points, or slides, just a lecture. The lecture took place only once a week for an hour and a half. The students were also required to attend a “TD” once a week, which is similar to a discussion section. Another difference was that when the professor had to cancel class one week, it was rescheduled. University administration also seems less centralized. When I arrived, the people in study abroad told me that I would need to speak with the history department to find out whether or not I would need to register in their department to audit a class, as it varied from department to department.

   The student culture is also quite different. In my class, there was very little chatting during the lecture, rarely did I see anyone eating, chewing, or drinking anything, there were no laptops, and everyone diligently took notes. Outside of class, many of the French students were busy campaigning for changes to the university system and threatening to strike.

4. What are some things you do in your spare time?
   In my spare time, I have taken a few day trips to places like Colmar and Beaune. I also try to see something or at least try something new in Dijon and Strasbourg every week, whether it be a museum, a church, a park, a market, a restaurant, or just a new kind of cheese. Over the holidays I will be heading to England to stay with friends and relish in speaking English for two whole weeks!

5. What do you miss about home?
   There are a few things I miss (other than friends and family, of course). I miss my books. I could only pack about twenty in my suitcases. I miss being able to go to the grocery store on Sundays if I choose to do so. I miss Mexican food. Finally, I miss the ease of speaking in my own language.

6. How do you view the locals and how do they view you?
   For the most part, the locals have been friendly. I always speak French, and they seem to appreciate that I am trying and most are very patient with me. Quite often I have found that many actually want to speak English with me. I’m often looked at as a curiosity at first. Most of the time, I feel at home now, but I do still feel like a tourist when I walk out of my building and discover a parade or flea market that I knew nothing about.
7. What do you absolutely love about France? What confounds you?

I love being surrounded by history. My living room windows open out onto the Palais de Justice building built in the sixteenth century. I enjoy being able to see where the women I am studying walked and lived. In one of the churches in Dijon, there is actually a statue of Marguerite Brulart. I also love handling 350-year-old documents and seeing the signatures of the women I’m studying. I love the magnificent bread, wine, cheese. University subsidized housing and meals (2.80 Euros for a full meal at the cafeterias at UMB) are welcomed. Finally, I love that you don’t need a car here. I can walk almost everywhere, and those places too far away are easily accessed using the train, bus or tram. I have an apartment in “centre ville” in Dijon, just minutes from both of the archives and the municipal library. I travel each week from Dijon to Strasbourg on the train (4 hours each way!). There are a few things that still drive me crazy or confound me. There are no toilet seats on the toilets in the dorms. No one seems to be able to explain this to me. Other things that drive me crazy are the weakness of the dollar coupled with the high cost of living in France, the fact that student reductions usually have age restrictions, and not knowing that SNCF [the transit system] is on strike until you are stuck somewhere.

GARRETT WASHINGTON IN TOKYO, JAPAN

1. What kind of research are you doing in Japan?

I am doing research on the physical space of the Protestant Church in late nineteenth- and early twentieth-century Tokyo and the role that space played in nationalism and national identity. My research has primarily been in the National Diet Library and the Keio University Library, with occasional trips to the library of Shinanomachi Church. In the coming two months, I will be utilizing the libraries of the Hongo, Reinanzaka, Bancho, and Fujimicho churches and also taking photos of the churches as they stand today. My host researcher, Anthropology Professor Nobuto Yamamoto, has been extremely generous, but my historical help has come from Helen Balhatchett (Keio University), Mark Mullins (Sophia University), Akiko Yoshinare (Keisen Jogakuin University), and William M. Steele (International Christian University).

2. Are you sitting in on any courses?

I am sitting in on Professor Yamamoto’s Political Science Research Seminar on Asia. I act both as a commentator on upper-level undergraduate and graduate level papers and as the “historian in the room” when historical questions need some clarification.

3. How does the academic environment in Japan compare to our program?

The academic environment is very different from Purdue. I would say that there are much fewer students than at Purdue, but also my campus is only for the juniors and seniors and also for grad students. The graduate students are not anywhere near as close of a group as at Purdue, but that may just be more because of the anonymity of big city living rather than a difference between the universities. The departments are structured quite differently, though, so that certain types of history fall under the Legal Studies Department (Political Science) and others fall under the Literature Studies Department. One thing that both the Keio and Purdue departments share is the cadre of well-known, publishing professors and the excellent library system, including ILL (yes, they call it ILL). One thing that I find quite interesting is the way that professors at Keio will send current seminar students across campus to recruit for the following year’s class. This has been good for me, because it means that when potential new students come to class for a trial visit, everyone gets some kind of snack, including me. This would never happen at Purdue, although I think that with a little work this could become a topic for discussion. Finally, excellent students publish very often with their professors, and there is a great deal of inter-disciplinary exchange at Keio. I think that at Purdue, being so large, history professors have a more difficult time creating links with other departments in order to co-publish.

4. What are some things you do in your spare time?

In my spare time, I have basically just been trying to re-learn Japanese. I have made friends from both inside and outside of Japan, and we do what grad students and working people around the world do after hours. I also hit a few great underground hip hop clubs in Shibuya because I have friends who both perform and promote those places. My favorite activity is probably playing rugby for the Tokyo Gaijin, the best team in the second division of the Tokyo league. I and a few others were chosen for a select Tokyo League Representative Team to play against the neighboring Saitama League Representative Team; we lost, but it was a lot of fun. Otherwise, I attend academic meetings, like the Modern Japanese History Workshop at Waseda and the Waseda Doctoral Student Network Institute for Asia-Pacific Studies each month. Oddly enough, after those meetings, we also do what grad students and professors do after hours. When Camille [Garrett’s wife] is here, we go see things and take pictures and enjoy being in this amazing and beautiful country. When she’s not here, I don’t.
5. **What do you miss about home?**

The main thing that I miss about West Lafayette is the people, including those in our department, whom I care about. Other than that I sort of miss the closeness of everything in West Lafayette and also the prices of American clothes and fast food. I spend about two hours a day in total traveling on some sort of moving object, and I eat Japanese food and wear slightly-too-small Japanese clothes because the real American stuff costs twice as much than at home.

6. **How do you view the locals and how do they view you?**

I think that Tokyo academics and students are as cool as you’ll find anywhere in the world; both enjoy life and laugh and show up late to class. The average Tokyo-ite, however, is very different. Unlike students, Japanese business people on the metro or in the station stare quite a bit. Since it is not malicious, just a sort of confused curiosity, I have stopped being offended. But I admit to staring purposefully at them when, on a daily basis, they collectively ride the train home inebriated after their post-workday happy hour. I think that we’re about even now.

7. **What do you absolutely love about Tokyo? What confounds you?**

I love that there are so many great universities full of brilliant people who are willing to discuss pretty much anything with me at length. I love that I don’t have to drive my car all the time. I love Japanese music, from their unique rap to their intense anime music. I love the weather, compared to frigid West Lafayette. I love the way that, within the space of three or four blocks, I can see a different Tokyo over and over again. I love HAKATA RAMEN and the fact that I can get it here in Tokyo. I think I’ve made it pretty clear that Japanese people judging me based on the way I look used to really bug me; but I think I’m over that. When I first arrived, I was confused by the fact that on weekends, after 10PM, you can’t withdraw money from a Japanese ATM, that the trains stop running just after midnight, and that people could seem so square and unhappy all week and then party and look sincerely satisfied after 9PM. But now, I’m used to all that. I really wish that I could find my shoe size in something other than a Timberland boot.

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**ALUMNI NEWS**

**RYAN ANDERSON**, Ph.D. 2006, is an assistant professor of late nineteenth/early twentieth-century U.S. history at the University of North Carolina, Pembroke.


**DAVID C. ARNOLD**, B.A. 1989, commands the 22nd Space Ops Squadron, the USAF unit primarily responsible for the worldwide Air Force Satellite.

**JASMINE BURNETT**, B.A. 2003, presented “African American Philanthropic Engagement of HIV/AIDS in the U.S. and Africa” at the Purdue Talkin’ and Testifying’ Works in Progress Series, sponsored by the African American Studies and Research Center. Currently she is completing a Master’s degree in philanthropic studies at the IUPUI Center on Philanthropy.

**FREDERICK CHU**, B.A. 2007, created a searchable database of primary sources for the Northbrook Historical Society in Illinois, which will become an important new feature available on the society’s website. He also updated the Winnetka Historical Society’s rather extensive museum catalog. Frederick is currently researching suitable programs for doctorate studies in history.

**RYAN DEARINGER**, M.A. 2004, is a completing his Ph.D. and working as an instructor in the Department of History at the University of Utah. In the past year, he was awarded research fellowships from the Newberry Library in Chicago, the American Heritage Center at the University of Wyoming, the Western History Association (WHA), the Charles Redd Center for Western Studies at Brigham Young University, and the Tanner Humanities Center at the University of Utah. He is currently completing his dissertation, which focuses on immigrant and native-born “unskilled” canal and railroad workers in three frontier regions of the nineteenth-century American West.
LAURA (LOY) EDWARDS, B.A. 2001, was recognized as one of Tippecanoe County’s “40 Young Professionals Under 40” by the Indiana Lafayette-West Lafayette Chamber of Commerce.

MARK EDWARDS, Ph.D. 2006, received a Princeton Library Research Grant to fund follow-up research to his dissertation. He is an assistant professor of history at Ouachita Baptist University in Arkadelphia, Arkansas.

KITTIE ELLIS, B.A. 1970, is the owner of Cutting Edge Quiltworks in Chandler, Arizona.

ARAM GOUDSOUIZIAN, Ph.D. 2002, was recipient of the Emerging Voice Award, sponsored by the College of Liberal Arts and CLA Alumni Board. The award is given to those deemed “rising stars” in their respective fields. Aram is an assistant professor of history at the University of Memphis.


FRED LASH, B.A. 1966, is a senior advisor in the United States Department of Defense.

MICHAEL LAVER, B.A. 1996, is an assistant professor of history at the University of Wisconsin in Stevens Point, where he teaches East Asian history. Michael completed his doctorate at the University of Pennsylvania, and most recently he presented “The Shogun’s Menagerie: The VOC and Gift-giving in Early Modern Japan” at the Midwest Conference on Asian Affairs.

GRANT MABIE, B.A. 1984, was promoted to director of publications and news media for Phi Delta Kappan, an educational journal published in Bloomington, Indiana.

BRANDON MARIE MILLER, B.A. 1976, published her eighth history title for young readers, George Washington for Kids, His Life and Times. Her previous book, Declaring Independence, Life During the American Revolution, received a New York Public Library Book for the Teen Age award as well as a Best Children’s Book of the Year award by the Bank Street College Children’s Book Committee.

TIMOTHY G. MCVADY, B.A. 1992, and his wife Aimee welcomed a new addition to their family, Catherine Therese, born June 2007. They currently reside in Western Springs, Illinois.

R. RAY ORTENSIE, M.A. 2004, and his wife Robin welcomed their first child, a son, in October 2007. Ray was promoted to Staff Historian at the Air Education and Training Command division at Randolph Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas. In addition to the demands of new fatherhood, Ray is kept busy writing book reviews for several professional military journals and contributing entries to ABC-CLIO’s Encyclopedia of the Spanish-American and Philippine Wars, Academic Version. In the summer of 2007 he was deployed to Qatar in support of the operations “Enduring Freedom” and “Iraqi Freedom” for the USAF history program. While there, Ray was the first adjunct professor for the University of Maryland’s Downrange Education program for military service members. Currently Ray is working on two book manuscripts, one of which focuses on the U.S. Air Force’s role in the war in Afghanistan.

TIMOTHY T. ROGERS, B.A. 1983, is a senior sales consultant with Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation in Fishers, Indiana.

LEON SCHWEIR, B.A. 1974, is the Big Ten Network’s executive producer and vice president of production.

JAMES SEIKEL, B.A. 2004, recently accepted a job with the Utah State Parks and Recreation department as an outreach program specialist at Camp Floyd State Park. His primary duties involve developing, promoting, and coordinating educational programs, such as school group visits and children’s history camps.

VINCENT A. STEFANELLI, B.A. 1988, is a data specialist for the nonprofit agency IN-PACT, which assists individuals with disabilities. He also coaches bowling and baseball teams for the Special Olympics.

MARK E. STEPHAN, B.A. 1999, is owner of the software company Calcedon, headquartered in Istanbul, Turkey.

EMILY STOCK, B.A. 2003, is a senior program specialist for Habitat for Humanity International and is currently assisting the Gulf Coast rebuilding effort.

LESTA VANDERWERT TURCHEN, Ph.D 1972, was recipient of the 2006 University of South Dakota Alumni Achievement Award.

KEVIN M. WALKER, B.A. 1985, is General Counsel for the National Drug Intelligence Center in Johnstown, Pennsylvania.
During the May 2007 commencement ceremonies, Rear Admiral Carol M. Pottenger was awarded an honorary doctoral degree in social studies.

Pottenger, Commander of Expeditionary Strike Group Seven, is the first woman to lead a combat strike group. She received her B.A. in History in 1977 and was commissioned as an Ensign through the NROTC program at Purdue, where she is a member of the NROTC Hall of Fame. She began her career as a communications watch officer. On her next assignment she became one of only a few women selected for sea duty when she reported aboard the USS Yosemite, a destroyer tender, as an Engineering Division Officer and completed a Mediterranean deployment. She was then assigned to Commander Service Group Two as a staff communications officer and deployed to the Atlantic Theatre.

Her leadership earned an assignment to the Surface Warfare Department Head School where she was selected for the Admiral Arleigh Burke Leadership Award. Other assignments and deployments followed, including her first at-sea command of the ammunition ship USS Shasta. She served as the Deputy Chief of Staff for Manpower, during which time she implemented a national automated selection board system for Reserve Unit command positions. She also assumed duties as Commanding Officer of the USS Bridge in support of Operation Enduring Freedom in Iraq, where she had the responsibility to supply ten battle groups, amphibious groups, and dozens of coalition ships.

Upon receiving the rank of Rear Admiral, she reported as Deputy Chief of Naval Reserve. In November 2005 Pottenger became the Commander of Military Support Command, which is part of the U.S. Seventh Fleet. She had the responsibility for approximately forty ships, all of which provide a support system for the Navy’s fighting fleet. From that command she received her current assignment as Commander of Expeditionary Strike Group Seven. Based in Japan, she has the responsibility for the amphibious assault ship Essex, the amphibious transport dock ship Juneau, and the dock landing ships Fort McHenry and Harper’s Ferry.

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SHERRY SMITH ELECTED PRESIDENT OF THE WESTERN HISTORY ASSOCIATION

Sherry L. Smith (B.A. in History, 1972; M.A. in American Studies, 1974) has been named president-elect of the Western History Association. Smith received her Ph.D. from the University of Washington in 1984, working under the tutelage of renowned historian Lewis O. Saum. After seven years at the University of Texas, El Paso, where she met her husband, fellow historian Robert W. Righter, she joined the faculty of the History Department at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, where she also serves as the associate director of the William B. Clements Center for Southwest Studies. She is a prolific scholar and author, publishing four books, including Reimagining Indians: Native Americans Through Anglo Eyes, 1880-1940, which won the 2001 Organization of American Historians’ Rawley Prize for best book on race relations, and the Choice Outstanding Academic Title, The View from Officers’ Row: Army Perceptions of Western Indians; she also has ten journal articles and six book chapters to her name. Smith’s expertise in the American West and Native American history has made her an extremely popular speaker, both in the States and abroad, and she has served as an advisor to the PBS “American Experience” episode titled “Last Stand at Little Bighorn” and consultant for the Discovery Channel series “How the West Was Lost.”

Donald Parman, professor emeritus of history at Purdue and one of Smith’s former advisors, credits her with “being very active in giving women greater prominence in western history.” Smith officially will assume her presidential post in October 2008.

Please join the History Department as it kicks off another exciting and productive academic year.

Thursday, September 18, 2008
4:30 to 6:30 p.m.
Purdue Memorial Union
Room 118

Alumi and friends, faculty and staff, graduate and undergraduate students are invited to the History Department’s Annual History Reception
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