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half year program that would require participants would like to expand their education while still working
social studies teachers in the Effingham ROE who
Undergraduate Advisor Michael Shirley, is to develop a masters degree program in History expressly for
students in the Effingham ROE who would like to expand their education while still working full-time as teachers. We are proposing a two-and-one-half year program that would require participants in a cohort to take one graduate class per semester, fall and spring, and two classes in the summer. Most of the courses are labeled as "hybrids," that is, these classes are delivered remotely via web, but still retain several opportunities for face-to-face meetings and discussion as well. Completion of the program would qualify these individuals to teach "dual-credit" courses that will count for both high school and college-level credit. We are hoping to begin this program as soon as the fall semester, 2009. I am very excited at this opportunity to expand History’s contributions to the university’s mission as a regional comprehensive institution of higher education. I think our Effingham cohort program will be academically challenging, personally broadening, and pragmatically useful to those who participate.

Another project we have been developing for several years in the History Department is the James Jones Chair in World War II Studies. This project began four or five years ago when the James Jones Literary Society approached EIU with a proposal to create a James Jones Chair in Literary Studies in the English Department. James Jones is, as you may remember, the author of such fine World War II novels as From Here to Eternity and The Thin Red Line. The initial idea quickly expanded to include History together with English to share in the project and develop it as a chair for World War II Studies. Since then, we have hosted a series of excellent speakers, and are organizing a symposium for this fall, on November 5-6, focusing on the theme of “War and Memory.” Tim O’Brien, author of the Vietnam war classic, The Things They Carried, and an admirer of James Jones’ work, will be the keynote speaker. The symposium will also include a panel on memory of World War II in Asia organized by Professor Jinhiee Lee, a writing workshop for students with Kaylie Jones, daughter of James Jones and author of the memoir, Lies My Mother Never Told Me, and a film festival. The symposium is free and open to the public, so you are all invited. Building an endowment is a major challenge, so should any of you feel moved to contribute to it, we would be deeply appreciative. Contributions can be sent directly to the EIU Foundation, with “James Jones Endowment” written on the memo line.

As I sit at my computer today, we have a guest in the department who, in addition to being the spouse of one of the faculty, is a senior vice president for a major international corporation in New York. Angie Scallietto has come to give a workshop for those of our history majors who are not seeking teacher certification. The goal will be to show them how to optimize their college preparation for employment—and for life. It is just one more way we are trying our best to provide our majors with every advantage we can as they move beyond our campus.

As ever, I want to acknowledge everyone who has contributed to the History Department this year. As you know, we use the money for student scholarships, fieldtrips, speakers and other enhancements to our basic curriculum and programming. In fact, as I think about it now, there are contributions from you, our community of alumni and emeriti, as much as anything help us to achieve our goals in integrative learning for our current students. For this we thank you.
Graduate Programs

Historical Administration

Nora Pat Small

The Historical Administration class of 2008-2009 has had a busy year. The fall study trip took them to Springfield, Illinois, for behind-the-scenes at the Lincoln Home National Historic Site, the Illinois State Museum, the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum, and the Dana-Thomas House. In October, the class went to the Association of Midwest Museums conference held in Kansas City, and ended the month by presenting a cemetery walk in Charleston and a children’s Halloween program at the Ganaway House in Mattoon.

Each year the students work with local and regional cultural institutions to apply for grants for those institutions from various granting agencies. This year, the students secured over $6000 for projects at area historical societies and museums.

The annual exhibit this year is “From Fiber to Fabric”, which opened at Lincoln Log Cabin State Historic Site on May 9. The exhibit will remain up for one year, and portions of it will travel after that.

As of this writing, most of the students have secured internships. Those internships will take them to the McLean County Historical Museum, Missouri Historical Society, the David Davis mansion, Naper Settlement, Wagner Farm, the Oriental Institute, the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum, the Oriental Institute, and the Smithsonian Institution, among others.

The spring study trip will take us to various sites in Indiana, where we will meet with alumni and friends of the program for insider tours of New Harmony, Angel Mounds, and the Lanier Mansion and Sugdletree Factory in Madison.

History

Edmund Wehrle

I remain a proud graduate coordinator. Our graduate students have busied themselves this year attending and giving papers at conferences around the country, greatly contributing to our annual departmental journal Historia, and winning awards from our graduate school—all this in addition to their demanding coursework. Two of our students, Ryan D’Arcy and Erin Crawley, won Graduate School Research and Creative Activities Awards. The award allowed Erin to travel to London in February to research her thesis, entitled “The lower class of ‘Traitors have also their Architects of Plot’: The London Irish, the United Irish in London, and the Creation of Irish Identities, 1780-1800.” Additionally our graduate students gave papers at the Loyola University of Chicago History Graduate-Student Conference, Northeastern University World History conference in Boston, and Southern Illinois University Phi Alpha Theta Conference—where Erin Crawley won first place for graduate student papers. I’m also delighted with the success of the second annual Indiana State-EIU Graduate History Symposium—this year hosted by our colleagues in Terre Haute. Michael Swinford and Erin Crawley (Erin had a busy year!) presented fine papers as did two of their counterparts from ISU.

Even in this troubled economy we have some good news to report from the placement front. Two of our graduates have found tenure-track jobs teaching at community colleges: Joshua Fulton (2007) at Moraine Valley Community College in the Chicago area and Michael Sparks (2007) at Ivy Tech, in Indianapolis, IN. Also the Abraham Lincoln Papers project hired Andrew Roling (2006) as a research specialist. He now works out of the Washington, DC area. Several recent graduates have been accepted into History PhD programs. Patrick Harris began last fall at Western Michigan University. Jeff Cutright will begin this fall at Loyola University Chicago and Rachel Kleinschmidt begins at Iowa State. Krishna Thomas will begin a doctorate in education in the fall up the road at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.

I would also like to acknowledge our thesis writers:

Annie Tock, “I see by this woman’s features, that she is capable of any wickedness”: Murderous Women, Public Justice, and Social Order in London, 1674-1799 [The Graduate School awarded Ms. Tock its 2009 A&H Distinguished Thesis Award]


Erin Crawley, “The lower class of ‘Traitors have also their Architects of Plot’: The London Irish, the United Irish in London, and the Creation of Irish Identities, 1780-1800.”

Finally, congratulations to our graduates this year: Erin Crawley, Krystal Rose, James Hysell, Eric Orr, Rachel Kleinschmidt, Selena Hood, Michele Lashley.
James Jones Lecture on World War II Studies

The Third Annual James Jones Lecture on World War II Studies occurred on October 31, 2008, at the newly opened Downdale Fine Arts Center. The speaker was Tatsuhiko Hasegawa, a Professor of History and former Director of the Institute for Cold War Studies at UC Santa Barbara. Hasegawa, the author of, among many other works, Racing the Enemy; Stalin, Truman and the Surrender of Japan, Harvard University Press, 2005, spoke on “Justifying the Use of the Atomic Bomb: a Challenge.” Aware that the end of World War II in the Pacific has been told as three separate and disparate stories in the history books of the three countries in question, Hasegawa researched and wrote his book to synthesize the three stories into one single coherent account. In doing so, he challenged the national myths of all three states. Fluent in Japanese, English and Russian, Hasegawa is the first historian to have been able to make direct use of the archives of Japan, the United States and the Soviet Union in his work. His talk drew a full house, and the audience, drawn from the university and the surrounding community, showed its engagement with the issues by asking a multitude of questions.

Barry D. Riccio Lecture

Our fifth Barry D. Riccio lecture took a different form this year. In honor of the 50th Anniversary of the New Deal, the department organized a New Deal mini-conference designed to overlap with the annual History Teacher’s Conference. Dr. Margaret Rung, director of Roosevelt University’s Center for New Deal Studies ran a morning workshop for teachers, then provided a luncheon talk entitled “Roosevelt and the New Deal in Illinois.” Panelists included Gregory Pratt of UIC, Michael Swinford of EIU, and Dr. Cecilia Stiles Cornell of UI-Springfield. That evening, Dr. Donald Ritchie, associate historian of the U.S. Senate and author of the recent book Electing FDR, provided our keynote lecture entitled “Learning for FDR: The Long Impact of the 1932 Election.” Our thanks for the continuing support of the Riccio family and donors to the Riccio Fund.

Brook’s World: Department Colloquium and Public Lecture with Noted Scholar and Author Timothy Brook

What do Beijing, Vancouver, Oxford, and Charleston have in common? This year, the answer included Dr. Timothy Brook. In November, Dr. Brook, a professor at both the University of British Columbia, Vancouver and at the University of Oxford (where he is the Run Run Shaw Professor of Chinese), spoke on "Vermeer’s World: the Dutch, the Chinese, and the birth of modernity," before a capacity crowd at the Terbile Arts Center. (His Charleston stop was part of a fortnight’s travel which included Oxford, Princeton, Vancouver, and Beijing.)

Brook’s expertise on Chinese history encompasses many centuries from the modern period (Quelling the People: The Military Suppression of the Beijing Democracy Movement), back to the Ming dynasty and earlier (The Confusions of Pleasure: Commerce and Culture in Ming China). He has been awarded one prize by the Association for Asian Studies in 2006, and a medal by the Canadian Historian Association in 2005. Brook is both a world traveler and a true world historian, and is equally at home in the worlds of early modern Dutch achievement, Chinese production and expertise, and maritime trade. Newton Key met Dr. Brook by chance in New York this past spring, began reading a copy of his new book, Vermeer’s Hat: The Seventeenth Century and the Dawn of the Global World (2006), and immediately asked if he would consider giving a talk at Eastern Illinois. Brook replied “sure, you are near Chicago right?”

Regardless of his knowledge of mid-west geography, the department was delighted Tim Brook made the journey, and his stimulating and accessible talk was well-attended by professors and students from history, art, and English, as well as alumni and the local public. Professor Brook also lunched and discussed world history with our graduate students and spoke with the history professors at a teaching world history colloquium, and stayed after his lecture until late in the evening to answer questions at a reception. The public lecture included slides of 17th-century Dutch and Chinese art, showing world maps and the products of world trade (China, gold, Black Africans) incorporated in both.

"Vermeer’s World" was truly an interdisciplinary experience, and history was at the center. Local journalist and EIU History MA Herb Meeker not only wrote up Dr. Brook’s talk in the Charleston Times-Courier, he also ran a review of Vermeer’s Hat.
This summer undergraduate James Buckwalter, a History and History Education major, spent a month in England conducting research for his Eastern Illinois Honors Thesis, on shipboard slave insurrections and British Government reaction in the early-18th century. James was a bit jet-lagged, having gone without sleep for 36 hours, when he met his Eastern Illinois thesis advisor Charles Foy at the entrance to the U.K. National Archives in Kew. (Dr. Foy had arranged a brief archival trip of his own to coincide with James’s first trip outside the U.S.A.) But James quickly found his bearings and was soon able to track down dusty eighteenth-century colonial records in the National Archives, the British Library and the National Maritime Museum in order to uncover why the British Government spent little time or effort attempting to understand or control slave ship insurrections.

While in the United Kingdom, James attended an Anti-Slavery Workshop at the National Maritime Museum where he heard leading British historians discuss new research into British anti-slavery. James had the opportunity to discuss his project with both doctoral students and prominent historians such as David Arbon, a creator of the Trans-Atlantic Slave Data base.

Not all of James’s time abroad was spent hunting archives or attending academic conferences. His first weekend, James he and Dr. Foy took a boat ride down the Thames to Greenwich and saw a number of eighteenth-century sites, including Execution Dock where the pirate William Kidd was hanged, and the Royal Observatory. On his own James went to Windsor Castle, other London museums, and even to the ancient city of Bath. As James has noted, his travels through “the English countryside [was] a refreshing break from the flat terrain and corn fields I’m used to!”

James’s trip was made possible through the generous support of an Honors College Undergraduate Research Award. He returned to Illinois to finish his thesis, and has already published a related paper in Historia. A few months before James traveled across the Atlantic, in February, M.A. in History student Erin Crawley also was able to research in London, thanks to an E.I.U. Creative Research and Activity Award. She worked mainly in the British Library, finding United Irish trial transcripts and related works. In her down-time, she attended a play at the Apollo, visited the delightful Sir John Soane’s Museum, viewed an exhibit on the conjunction of art and medicine at University College London, and watched a rugby game with vocal supporters at the Euston Flyer pub.

At the beginning of Erin’s brief research stay in London she was able to meet with her advisor, Newton Key, who was teaching abroad at Harlaxton College, the British campus of the University of Evansville (of which Eastern Illinois is a partner institution and regularly sends students and professors for the semester). Dr. Key took the train down to London, met Erin at the British Library, and helped her get started there and at the Institute of Historical Research (where they both met with Matthew Davies, Director of the Centre for Metropolitan History). They then embarked on an ambitious walking tour (shin splints anyone?) of the metropolis of the 18th-century London Irish, including Seven Dials in Soho, Old Bailey, Fleet Street, the Tower, Wapping, and the site of Furnivall’s Inn (where plotters congregated in 1798).

Ms. Crawley also met with Mary J. Hickman, Director of the Institute for the Study of European Transformations (which includes and Irish Studies Centre). She later incorporated her London research into her M.A. thesis, “The lower class of traitors have also their Architects of Plot.”

The London Irish, the United Irish in London, and the Creation of Irish Identities, 1780-1800,” which she completed this Summer. (Erin speaks about her study in front on the British Library on a brief podcast available at <http://tinyurl.com/mjaflt>.)

Finally, another Erin, undergraduate History major Erin Wise, was among those Eastern Illinois students at Harlaxton in the Spring semester. Not only did she do a first-rate job in history classes there, she also witnessed their historic snowfall which brought most of the country to a standstill. The Eastern Illinois University history community looks forward to future reports from far-flung student researchers. As historian R. H. Tawney noted, the best tool for a historian is “a good pair of boots”!
Faculty News

Terry A. Barnhart completed his fifteenth year of service in the History Department. He was nominated for Distinguished Honors Faculty, Eastern Illinois University, in the Spring of 2009. Dr. Barnhart teaches courses in both the M. A. in Historical Administration program and the M. A. in History program (primarily the former), and the U.S. history surveys and the historical research and writing course to undergraduates. His article “The Partisan: William Davis Gallagher and the Cause of Western Corrections, presenting a paper at the Dublin Seminar for New England History, at the University of San Marcos, Lima, Peru. Finally, he was a director of an international conference at the New-York Historical Society, which is to appear next year with The University of Michigan Press. This year Dr. Elder served as chair of the Women’s History and Awareness Month Committee, and this year she is the University’s most recent history MA program, she is currently developing a new graduate seminar on the Japanese empire to be offered this coming spring. While in Japan, which ended with the announcement of her teaching the theme “Women and War” and which is already at work with the committee planning for next year. She also continues to coordinate the department’s honors program, chairs the awards committee, and serves on the departmental graduate committee. She was awarded an Achievement and Contribution Award for service in Fall 2008. In 2008-2009, Dr. Elder found especially enjoyable her courses in modern German history (graduate and undergraduate), modern European women’s history, and modern world history. She is looking forward to teaching for the second time the history of the First World War in the fall. That fall, Dr. Elder is teaching a writing-intensive undergraduate course for first-year representatives which took place in April.

Sage Elder has been promoted to the position of Associate Professor, with tenure, effective Fall 2009. She is busily preparing for publication her book, Murder Scene: Normality, Deviance, and Criminal Violence in Weimar Berlin, which is to appear next year with the Committee for Next Year. She also continues to serve on the departmental graduate committee. She conducted a teaching seminar in Colonial America, US History to 1877, Revolution and Civil Wars before Mass Politics, 1810-1910, organized by the Department of History and the Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, which took place in April.

Jinhong Zhao, who teaches on Korea, modern East Asia, narratives of collective violence, global interactions, and several independent studies during 2008-2009. She enjoyed talking her Two Koreas class on a field trip to the Korean War Museum in Rantoul, IL, and also teaching abroad an international summer course on East Asia at Anyou University, one of EIU’s sister schools in China, which she is teaching again in July, 2010. Dr. Zhao has been working on a dissertation about early Modern Chinese women’s experiences in Shanghai. This research was funded by a proposal from the National Science Foundation. She is also working on a book chapter on women’s experiences in the Chinese Exclusion Act era, which is forthcoming in a volume on the history of childhood in Latin America. His translations have already appeared in a volume in The Cambridge History of Latin America: 1492–1800, edited by Martin G. Puchala, and in the forthcoming volume in the Cambridge History of Latin America, edited by Michael Zorza. Dr. Barnhart’s work is also forthcoming in a volume on the history of childhood in Latin America. This research was supported by a grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

Newton Key enjoyed Spring Semester teaching students from Eastern Illinois. Evansville, Baker, Western Kentucky, Texas Women’s, and Marion at Harlaxton College, a huge fault—Elizabethan manor house in the vale of Belvoir, Leicestershire. He was glad to mentor students who worked on the London Irish before 1800 (graduate) and the London-based slave trade about 1700 (undergraduate). He has been working on a long-term research project that will be submitted to a London-based research council. He has been working on a long-term research project that will be submitted to a London-based research council.

The following is a partial list of the Department’s activities over the past year.

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Study Abroad experience. The field school co-organized this year with a special trip for the American Friends of the Walloon Heritage Committee (chaired by Dr. Herbert Lasky) which I helped the Walloon Heritage Institute (IPW) organize, and which helped the IPW successfully complete negotiations to gain ownership of this important and very threatened medieval monument and begin to take steps for its preservation. The scholarly side of this activity was also represented by a co-authored paper on our work presented at the World Archaeology Congress in Dublin (also not by me, but by my collaborators: Dr. Bill Woods of Kansas U and Dr. Laurent Verslype of UCL), as well as by a summary report published in the annual Walloon Archaeology. Our site excavation was also a featured segment on a nationwide Belgian cultural TV program broadcast in August.

Teaching the History and Archaeology of Early Europe (4700) for the second time has been a most enjoyable challenge. I also conducted an ELI Reads seminar at the start of the Fall Semester; and was guest seminar leader on the topic of funerary archaeology in a graduate course taught by Classics professor Donata Sharzer at ELI-Urbana. I collaborated with Dr. Lynne Sullivan, Archaeological Curator of McClung Museum (University of Tennessee, Knoxville) on a paper given at 20th Annual Meeting of AFAM (Merovingian Archaeological Association), held in Marle, France, 28-29 September 2008: “Approches théoriques et expérimentales pour la reconstitution architecturale pour la période mésoaméricaine prinçée dans l’Est de l’Amérique du Nord et la période du Haut Moyen âge en Europe de l’Ouest.” I continue to serve as Co-Ordinator of the Phi Beta Kappa Task Force to pursue charter application and serve on sub-committees to raise funds for the Frank McCormick Study Abroad PBR Scholarship. I am Chair of Medieval Studies Committee which oversees the minor, and was responsible for organizing the ‘08-09 Distinguished Medieval Speaker, Dr. Harry Titus, Professor of History at the University of Pennsylvania.

An Appeal to Alumni (not about money)

Next year’s History at Eastern staff hopes to include a story about favorite, colorful, and memorable professors. We cannot do it without your help. If you have a story or anecdote, we want to read it. Please send it or them to:

Dr. Michael Shirley
History Department
Eastern Illinois University
600 Lincoln Avenue
Charleston, Illinois, 61920.

or by e-mail to mshirley@eiu.edu.

History Department Honors Banquet, April 24, 2009

Dr. Sace Elder and Lucy Blank

Phi Alpha Theta initiate at History Honors Banquet L-R: Nicholas Czokrak, Ian Neth, James Shailer, James Back-walter, Kathleen Ebeling, Elizabeth Giles

The guest speaker at the Phi Alpha Theta Banquet this year was the department’s own Anita Shelton, an historian of Russia and East Europe. Her talk, entitled “Remembering the Future: Imagining the Past, The Power of History.” June 4, 1989 in Poland” commemorated the twentieth anniversary of the Democratic Revolutions of 1989 in Eastern Europe that led, ultimately, to the downfall of the Soviet Union in 1991. In her talk, Dr. Shelton mingled her personal recollections of events in Poland, where she lived for two years in the early 1980’s while working on her dissertation, with an historian’s perspective on the larger context. Her argument was that each of the east European revolutions was unique and reflected its own nation’s history, a thesis she elaborated using Poland as a case study.
History Donors, 2008-9

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Richard Wood 1963
William Yocum 1975
Carol Young 1970
Gary Zum Mallen 1969

Lincoln Bicentennial Lecture

On February twentieth, the History Department, with the support of donors Robert and Nancy Hennings, welcomed Dr. Jennifer Weber of Kansas University to deliver ELH’s Lincoln Bicentennial Lecture. Dr. Weber’s lecture entitled “The Civil War at Home: Abraham Lincoln and the Copperheads” focused upon wartime dissent on the Northern Home Front and Lincoln’s reaction to their actions. Pictured above, left to right, are Dr. Weber, Dr. Robert Hennings, Nancy Hennings, Dr. Anita Shelton, and Dr. Mark Hubbard.

Eastern Illinois University in general, and the History Department in particular, would like to extend our gratitude to the generous souls at left who have helped us in our work. In tough economic times, it takes particular generosity of spirit to give, and we want you to know that we are truly grateful.
Alumni Information Update

The History Department and your classmates want to hear from you. Please let us know what you have been doing since graduation by mail (use the enclosed envelope), phone (217-581-3310), fax (217-581-7233), or e-mail (mshirley@eiu.edu).

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I would like information about giving money to the History Department's general and/or scholarship funds: ___Yes ___No

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