

History at Eastern

Summer 2010



Letter From the Chair

Dr. Anita Shelton



I wish I could write that EIU has somehow been immune from the budget catastrophe in the state of Illinois. I cannot. Cuts to our budget this year promise to be followed by more next year, with the year after that anticipated to be the worst yet. Already, EIU and other state supported universities in Illinois

have wondered how they will make payroll from one month to the next. As I write, the state is still millions of dollars behind in its payments to the universities just weeks from the end of the fiscal year. In History we were given no equipment budget this year, and our operating funds were cut. Our adjunct faculty feared for the renewal of their contracts. One of our tenure-track faculty announced that he would be leaving at the end of this year to pursue another opportunity (best wishes to Ali Yaycioglu, by the way), and our prospects for being able to search for a replacement for him are uncertain at best due to a hiring freeze. While EIU's administration has done an admirable job so far of steering our ship through these troubled waters, the challenges are unprecedented, and the possibility of serious, long-term damage to our academic mission is all too real. Now, more than ever, we are grateful for the help and support we receive from our community of emeriti and alumni. Thanks to your generosity we have been able to maintain our scholarships, field trips, symposia and conferences that add immeasurably to the educational experience of our students. I would ask that you also help us by sending a message to Springfield that support for education must be a top priority of our state government.

Despite the rainy days, faculty and students have kept a clear focus on our jobs of teaching and learning. Just a few examples: Mark Voss-Hubbard taught the inaugural semester of the Lasky Undergraduate Seminar in Early American history in the fall to an outstanding group of ten history majors who heatedly discussed, debated and competed for the Best Paper award (which went to Dan Rebbe - well done, Dan!). Dr. Lasky and Allen Corzine, whose gift created the seminar (and allows for the student award as well as the purchase of all books for the enrolled students), visited the class and declared themselves to be very impressed with the quality of the intellectual discourse. Jinhee Lee organized two symposia this year: one on World War II in Asia in the fall semester for students from EIU and other state universities as part of the annual James Jones Symposium, and a second this spring for both students and faculty

under the aegis of EIU's new Interdisciplinary Center for Global Diversity. Our new Ancient historian and classicist, Lee Patterson, introduced two new courses on Greek and Roman History into our catalog. Bailey Young got together with Cameron Crowe in Geography and developed an interdisciplinary course on the Environmental History of Europe. Ed Wehrle organized a graduate symposium with students from EIU, University of Illinois-Springfield and both Illinois and Indiana State Universities, at which we had the opportunity to hear and discuss excellent papers on topics ranging from whether Westfield, Illinois was a "Sundown Town" to "Hoboes, Tramps and Bums" during the Depression to Zeppelins over Britain in World War I! The Historical Administration class created the exhibit "From Prairie Grass to Cornstalks; a History of Farming in Central Illinois" at the Lincoln Log Cabin historic site. No fewer than four of our M.A. students were accepted into PhD programs and awarded teaching assistantships. The pages of this year's Newsletter will have more on these and other examples of initiatives and achievements on the part of both faculty and students.

I would like also to draw your attention to an exciting interdisciplinary development this year that involves the History Department: a proposal for a Center for Translational Humanities here at EIU. As we have described it in a grant proposal we submitted to the National Endowment for the Humanities in May: "This center will explore the translation between local understandings of culture and global investigations by researchers in the humanities. A common mission among faculty, students, and visitors in a Translational Humanities Center will be to mediate between popular and academic understandings of the humanities in order to draw larger circles of conversation and discovery." The NEH Grant for which we applied creates a matching challenge - that is, for every dollar the NEH would give us, we would need to come up with three dollars in matching gifts. Since History is playing a central role in the Center for the Translational Humanities and will participate in and benefit from its programs and activities, and the university is currently working to raise the matching funds, I would like to ask you to consider making such a gift - I promise that the dividends for our students in terms of access and enrichment will be great.

With warm appreciation for all you have done and continue to do for the newest generations of historians, Anita Shelton, Chair
History Department

History Department Awards

DISTINCTIONS OUTSIDE THE HISTORY DEPARTMENT

Livingston C. Lord Scholarship

Erin Wise

Distinguished Graduate Student Award

Chad Cussen

Anne Coats

Williams Travel Awards, 2009-2010

Chad Cussen

Amanda Evans

Tristan Sodergren-Barr

Mitsumi Takei

The Errett and Mazie Warner History Award

A.J. Denman

Jerry Payne

Erin Wise

Charles H. and Dorothee Coleman Scholarship

Robert Wallace

DEPARTMENTAL WRITING AWARDS

The Alexander Hamilton Paper Award in American History

Patrick Doggett

The Anne Frank Award

Emily Evans

The Lavern M. Hamand Graduate Writing Award

Jason Miller (Fall)

Chad Cussen (Spring)

The Dr. Herbert Lasky Undergraduate Seminar in Early American History Best Paper Award

Dan Rebbe

Council on Undergraduate Research, Scholarship and Creative Activity Award

Summer 2010

Benjamin Ill

Mentors: Dr. Charles Foy and Dr. Newton Key

Summer 2009

James Buckwalter

Mentor: Dr. Charles Foy

Honors Thesis

James Buckwalter

Dr. Charles Foy, thesis advisor

DEPARTMENTAL SCHOLARSHIPS

The Leften Stavrianos World History Award

Graduate: Chady Hosin

Undergraduate: Benjamin Ill

History Study Abroad Scholarship

Chady Hosin

Patrick Doggett

The Elisha H. and Estella Ziegler Baumgartner Scholarship

Timothy Aberle

Lawrence and Emily Nichols Memorial Scholarship

Caitlyn Buchanan

The William B. Reid, Jr. History Education Scholarship

James Buckwalter

The Rex Syndergaard Scholarship

Jacob Craig

Chady Hosin

The Wolfgang and Barbara Schlauch European History Scholarship

Chad Cussen

The Stephan M. Horak Memoiral Scholarship

Dan Rebbe

Robert and Julie Sterling History Education in Social Science Scholarship

Nick Crnocrak

The Fogelsanger History Scholarship

Julie Cole

Jeanne and Donald Tingley Memorial Scholarship

Patrick Doggett

Cathy Hunter Memorial Study Abroad Scholarship

Robert Wallace

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Graduate Programs

Historical Administration

Nora Pat Small

As we approach the end of another academic year, it is always a pleasure for me to look back over the year and contemplate our journey. We had ten full-time students and one part-time student in the class of 2009-2010. All of our full-time students this year had graduate assistantships, which provided them with tuition waivers and monthly stipends. In addition to the five departmental assistantships, HA students held a presidential assistantship, an assistantship with the Coles County Historical Society, an IRAD internship, a Tarble Arts Center assistantship, and an assistantship sponsored by the Lincoln-Sargent Farm Foundation. In their various assistantship roles, they learned the ins and outs of the MOMCC's treasurer's job, organized fifth-grade live-in experiences at Lincoln Log Cabin, built and improved websites, organized interview weekend for next year's applicants, assisted with the annual History Teachers conference, worked on collections at the Coles County Historical Society, answered the public's queries about IRAD holdings, implemented innovative ideas on the Past Tracker website for Illinois history, assisted with programs and exhibits at Tarble, and much more. Their contributions went beyond their duties as graduate assistants and beyond the university as the students once again wrote successful grants for area historical societies and cultural institutions, produced excellent public programs for Lincoln Log Cabin's fall celebration, and designed a superb exhibit on the history of corn and farming in Coles County for Lincoln Log

Cabin. You can check out their exhibit work at <http://www.eiu.edu/~history/ha/exhibits.htm>.

Practicum Week, held the week before the official start of classes, immersed the HA students in the intricacies of history research and writing, the proposed exhibit, collections care, and conflict resolution. We then all took time off from the first week of classes for behind-the-scenes tours at Conner Prairie in Fishers, Indiana, and of the Indiana State Museum before attending the American Association for State and Local History annual meeting for two days. HA students volunteered their time to help out at the conference, and so earned registration waivers. The HA class of

09-10 will round out their program of study in Kentucky the week after final exams, visiting with Ralph Ward (HA 84) at Shaker Village at Pleasant Hill and Andy Stupperich (HA 00) at the Kentucky Historical Society, among others. They will observe museum school programs, discuss living history interpretation and living collections stewardship, examine historic landscapes and buildings, consider administrative issues at an historic house museum, and review an informal learning model.

In October the HA faculty gathered in Champaign for a program review retreat. We were joined by Linda Norbut Suits (HA 87) and Beth Sandore, University of Illinois Associate Librarian for Information Technology Planning and Policy. Over the course of the day we had wide-ranging discussions about the strengths and weaknesses of the program, and possible future directions we might take. We all recognize that staying abreast of technological developments and of the implications of the digital humanities field is essential. We will be exploring the possibility of a digital humanities hire in the history department, and making some revisions to the curriculum over the next couple of years in order to continue to provide well-rounded, well-trained young professionals to the museum field.

The HA faculty continue to be involved in the museum field in various ways. I offer just a few highlights here. Pat Miller continues to do docent training for museums participating in the Museums on Main Street program; she's a member of the Preservation Working Group at University of Illinois, which plans Preservation Emporium and monitors art works in U of I departments; and she is chair of the AAM conference session "Statewide Planning Can Help Preserve Collections/Plan for Disasters" at the end of May, 2010 in Los Angeles. Rick Riccio is a board member of the Illinois Association of Museums, a member of the Depot Committee for the Coles County Historical Society, and has numerous exhibit projects in the pipeline. Terry Barnhart serves on the editorial board for the Journal of the Illinois State Historical Society and continues to review manuscripts for them. His *Albert Taylor Bledsoe: Metaphysician and Political Theorist of the Old South* will appear in late 2010 or early 2011 under the auspices of Louisiana State University Press's Southern Biography Se-



ries. Debra Reid serves on the board of the Coles County Historical Society, advises Friends of Chrisholm (Ohio) as well as the Illinois Mennonite Historical and Genealogical Society. She is the treasurer for the Midwest Open Air Museums Coordinating Council, and serves as the U.S. alternate to the board of the International Association for Agricultural Museums (an ICOM affiliate). Nora Pat Small still serves on the Charleston Historic Preservation Commission and on the Lincoln-Sargent Farm Foundation Board, and is still the Coordinator for the HA program. She will begin a term as board member on the American Association of Museum's Committee for Museum Professional Training at the AAM Los Angeles meeting in May.

History

Edmund Wehrle

Our graduate students have given us a lot to cheer about this year. They've given delivered papers at conferences including the Society for French Historical Studies in Tempe Arizona (Chad Cussen), the Midwest Conference on Asian Affairs in Oxford, Ohio (Amanda Evans, Tristan Sodergren-Baar, and Mitsumi Takei), and the Annual Loyola University of Chicago Graduate Student Conference (Lori Henderson), and the Conference on Illinois History (Jason Miller).

Funded in part by a grant from the EIU graduate school, Chad Cussen journeyed to France this spring to research his MA thesis. Next semester, Chady Hosin will study and research in Japan.

Our graduate students are also getting published. Over the summer The Journal of the Illinois State Historical Society will publish Derek Shildler's "A Tale of Two Cities: The 1918 Influenza." Robert Wallace will be co-authoring a review of Lise Hull's Understanding the Castle Ruins of England and Wales to be published in Speculum: A Journal of Medieval Studies.

Special congratulations to three of our recent graduates and one current student who have been accepted into History Ph.D. programs with full funding. This Fall, Michael Swinford and Erin Crawley will attend the University of Illinois Chicago, Annie Tock is going to the University of Maine, and Chad Cussen is heading west to Arizona State. Good luck and keep us informed as you begin your exciting careers!

New Faculty

Lee E. Patterson grew up mainly in Memphis, Tennessee, and finished high school in Rutherford, New Jersey. Among his degrees is a Ph.D. in Classical Studies from the University of Missouri-Columbia. He also did brief graduate work on ancient Mesopotamia at the Oriental Institute at the University of Chicago. He previously served on the classics faculties of Ole Miss, UC Davis, College of Charleston, Centre College, and Howard University. His book *Kinship Myth in Ancient Greece* is under contract at the University of Texas Press and deals with communities (and sometimes kings like Alex-



ander the Great) that invoked shared putative ancestors to justify diplomatic ventures. He also researches authors' attitudes toward myth and has published articles on Pausanias and Alcman. He has two forthcoming pieces on the Greek geographer Strabo and one on the Roman poet Virgil. His future plans are to return to his other great interest, the Roman Near East. He has published on Roman dealings with Armenia and the Caucasus and plans to write a book on these areas. Here at Eastern he has introduced upper-division elective courses on Ancient Greece and Ancient Rome, and is working on proposals for courses on Ancient Egypt and Ancient Mesopotamia. When off the clock (and sometimes on!), he enjoys science fiction enormously and students often wonder at (for good or ill) how readily he will quote Star Wars or something else for a pearl of wisdom to give life meaning.

Faculty News

Dr. Terry A. Barnhart completed his sixteenth year of service with the History Department this year. Dr. Barnhart's manuscript "Albert Taylor Bledsoe: Defender of the Old South and Architect of the Lost Cause" will appear as a title in the Southern Biography Series published by the Louisiana State University Press sometime in 2010 or early '11. He was an invited speaker at the symposium entitled "Old Questions, New Science: Reinterpreting Native American Origins in Light of Modern Methods and Technology" held at the Johnson-Humrickhouse Museum in Coshocton, Ohio in April 2009. His paper—"In the Beginning: The Early Search for Human Origins in the New World"—is among the published symposium papers. Dr. Barnhart also conducted a "Teaching American History" workshop at the Ohio State University, Marion Campus on March 7, 2009. "Cultural Identities and Interactions: Mediation and Conflict between Native Americans, Europeans, and Euro-Americans in the Ohio Country, ca. 1650 to 1843," The "Teaching American History" initiative is funded by the U. S. Department of Education. The Teaching History Institute of the Ohio State University and the Ohio Historical Society coordinated and hosted the workshop as part of its "History in the Heartland, Explore History" initiative. **Roger Beck** continues to work on a four volume collection of world history documents for Facts on File. He is also beginning revisions for the ninth edition of his co-authored world history text, *A History of World Societies*. Dr. Beck's service activities have included membership on the Council for University Planning and Budget, and on the Steering Committee for the 2010 EIU Master Plan. He is also finishing his first year as a member of the University of Evansville Board of Trustees. In October 2009 Dr. Beck traveled to the University of Aarhus, Denmark where he gave a series of presentations to the faculty and public, and was also a guest lecturer for a first year world history class. In his spare time he can be found continuing his study of the confectioner's art at Flesor's Candy Kitchen in Tuscola, Illinois.

Jonathan Coit In addition to teaching courses on the Constitution, the post-1877 U.S. survey, immigration, and American intellectual history, Jonathan Coit received feedback on and revised his article "Our Changed Attitude: Making the New Negro in the 1919 Chicago Race Riot." He is enjoying a brief respite from taking minutes as Faculty Senate recorder, and is looking forward to adopting a new curriculum in the U.S. survey this fall, from a series of extended role-playing exercises called "Reacting to the Past."

Lynne Curry organized and chaired two panels for a conference on constitutional rights history held at San Francisco State University in September 2009. She published an essay, "Beyond 'Choice': Roe v. Wade as U. S. Constitutional History," in the June 2010 issue of the *Journal of Women's History* as well as contributing book reviews to *History: Reviews of New Books* and *H-Law*. Her chapter, entitled "'Special Relationships': The State, Social Workers, and Abused Children in the United States, 1950-1990" will appear in a volume, *Raising Citizens in the "Century of the Child": Child-rearing and Education in the United States and Europe in the 20 Century*, forthcoming from Berghahn Books.

Jose R. Deustua spent the Fall Semester in a sabbatical and traveled to Lima, Peru, where he was a Visiting Scholar at the Uni-

versidad Catolica (Catholic University). He gave a public lecture, a class as a guest speaker, and spent a good amount of time researching in the university library and documents collection archive. He also spent time interacting with Peruvian colleagues and friends (historians, sociologists, economists etc/). During his stay in Lima he was interviewed by a television channel ATVPeru (channel 7) and a radio station (Radio Programas del Peru) on his work and career as a historian. The Peruvian edition of *The Bewitchment of Silver: The Social Economy of Mining in 19th-century Peru* ("El Embrujo de la Plata. La Economia Social de la Mineria en el Peru del siglo XIX") came out in December published by the Central Bank of Peru and a research institute ("Instituto de Estudios Peruanos"). Likewise his article on domestic muleteering trade and routes of the Peruvian silver commerce in the 19th-century, 1820-1870, appeared in the historical research journal, "*Uku Pacha*" (*This Land in Quechua*). He also published a book review in the journal *Interdisciplinary Studies of Latin America and the Caribbean* and prepared a paper for CLADHE (Latin American Congress on Economic History) which will have its next meeting in Mexico City.

Sace Elder completed the final preparations of her book, *Murder Scenes: Normality, Deviance, and Criminal Violence in Weimar Berlin*, which will appear this June with the University of Michigan Press in its series "Social History, Popular Culture, and Politics in Germany." She continues work on her next project, a study of child abuse and the campaign against cruelty to children in Germany from 1890 to 1945. The German Studies Association has accepted a paper that she will present at its annual conference in October. She has also been accepted, with funding, to the German American Exchange Program (DAAD) Faculty Summer Seminar at Cornell, which will take place this June and July with the theme "Violence and German Cultures of Modernity."

In addition to teaching modern world history and the history of the First World War, she enjoyed teaching two courses new to her this year: the Women's Studies core course, "Men, Women, and Culture" (WST 2309G) and Historical Research and Writing (HIS 2500). In the latter she drew on her current research interests in developing the theme of children and childhood in the modern period. Student projects ranged from consumer protests over G.I. Joe to children in World War II Hawaii to the Civil War as a coming-of-age experience for Illinois farm boys.

Dr. Elder served again as chair of the Women's History and Awareness Month committee, which arranged programming this year around the theme "Women and Economic Justice." In addition, she continues to serve on the department's graduate committee, as chair of the department's awards committee, and as the departmental honors coordinator. In the Spring she served as an appointed Arts and Humanities representative to the Council on Graduate Studies.

Charles R. Foy During the past academic year Charles Foy has continued working on his manuscript *Prize Negroes in the Age of Sail* and further development of his colored mariner database. His article on Prize Negroes, "Found on Board," is to be published later this year in a special maritime slavery issue of *Slavery & Abolition*. Dr. Foy presented a paper on Prize Negroes at the American Historical Association's annual conference and had chapters on black mariners published in *Proceedings of the 2007 Naval History Symposium* and *Gender, Race, Ethnicity, and Power in Maritime*

America. Dr. Foy's book reviews appeared in *Journal of the Early Republic*, *Journal of Maritime History*, *Pennsylvania History*, and *Common-Place*. He received an Achievement and Contribution award in the Research category. In addition to supervising James Buckwalter's award-winning Honors Thesis on slave ship insurrections, Dr. Foy developed and taught a graduate seminar in *The Atlantic World*. He will spend this summer supervising Ben Ill's research project on clubbing in colonial America, for which Ben received an Honors College Undergraduate Research grant, and using his Council for Faculty Research grant to travel to England to complete research for an article on Scarborough seamen during the Seven Years War.

Newton Key continues to be excited teaching about early modern England and world, and modern Britain and Ireland to undergraduates. This year he had the students at both the lower and upper division level incorporate research into their course papers and classroom presentations using the online databases recently purchased by Booth Library. He also had fun teaching the revamped, required graduate seminar on Historiography to the MA students (and he extends his thanks to the many guest facilitators among his colleagues that also participated). He continues to work to get an advisory sheet of opportunities in British studies at Eastern Illinois up on the web for interested future graduate students. He is co-advising a successful undergraduate research award for an undergraduate student who will be writing a thesis on Anglo-American drinking, clubbing, and identity next year. His research includes talks on the use of history by clergy in Scotland, Ireland, and the American colonies to explain the Glorious Revolution: in July at the Bangor Conference on the Restoration in Wales and in September at the Eastern Illinois History Colloquium. He continues work on patrician-plebeian relations in the London metropolis during the late Stuart-early Hanoverian period. A paper on such interactions in Restoration political culture has been accepted for the forthcoming Restoration London Conference in, naturally, London. He served on departmental graduate, computer, and other committees, as well as two scholarship committees for the university, and the university-wide Academic Technology Advisory Committee (ATAC), for which he chaired the Coordination of Technology Resources Subcommittee. He continues to serve as webmaster/board member of the American Friends of the Institute of Historical Research (London).

Jinhee Lee was promoted to Associate Professor, with tenure, effective fall 2010. The highlights of her year include field trips to Japan House in Champaign, teaching abroad at Ajou University, one of EIU's sister schools in South Korea, organizing interdisciplinary symposia and diversity workshop on WWII memories, Asian politics and religions, and racial discourse in relation to Asian Americans. Dr. Leementored several undergraduate and graduate independent study projects while serving as the coordinator for Asian studies and as advisor for student organizations such as the Asian American Association and the Asian Cinema Organization. In spring 2010, she was recognized as one of the most influential faculty at the Senior Presidential Scholars banquet in Honors College. The first EIU exchange program in Japan was established under her leadership with Kansai Gaidai University in Osaka. She also continued to organize the 5th annual Asian Heritage Month celebration and the Asian Film Series. She was a

recipient of the research grants and travel grants provided by the National Museum of Japanese History and the National Institute for the Humanities, the EIU Faculty Development Office, and the Interdisciplinary Center for Global Diversity during the past year. Dr. Lee's dream for the summer of 2010 is to finish up her book projects, including her monograph on the Kanto earthquake in Japan as a social disaster, edited volumes on colonial legacies in modern Japan and Korea, while conducting research for her new book project on children's narratives of historical trauma in twentieth-century Japanese history. In the midst of reviewing manuscripts for various academic publisher and preparing for upcoming invited talks at the University of Southern California, Ohio State University, the National Museum of Japanese History, and the EIU School of Continuing Education later this year, she still hopes to play tennis and ping pong for the summer league in Urbana.

Lee E. Patterson has enjoyed his first year at Eastern. Having taught in classics departments throughout his career, he relishes the opportunities afforded by a history program. This year, in addition to a class on Alexander the Great, he has taught for the first time world history and a course on ancient Mesopotamia and Egypt. He also decided to accept the department's invitation to serve as webmaster, also a new experience for him. Patterson has a number of projects making their way to publication. His book *Kinship Myth in Ancient Greece* is scheduled to be published by the University of Texas Press in December of 2010. Two forthcoming articles are "Strabo, Local Myth, and Kinship Diplomacy," which will appear in the journal *Hermes*, and "Geographers as Mythographers: the Case of Strabo," which has been accepted for inclusion in a book titled *Writing Greek and Roman Myth: Mythography in the Ancient World*. He also finished entries on Parthia, Armenia, and the Caucasus for the *Blackwell Encyclopedia of Virgil*.

Debra A. Reid enjoyed teaching a new course, HIS 3810: Rural U.S. History, for the first time during summer 2009. She also taught women's history, material culture and collections care during fall 2009 and assisted the Historical Administration students and faculty with their exhibit before starting her year-long sabbatical. She finished her eighth entry for *The World of a Slave: Encyclopedia of Material Slave Life in the United States* (Greenwood Press) and played the first game of the 2010 vintage base ball season on March 20. She plays base ball with the Rock Springs Ground Squirrels in Decatur and the Brown Stockings of St. Louis, Missouri. The St. Louis connections facilitates her research for an article that will appear in a collection of essays she is co-editing and which is under advance contract with University Press of Florida, "Beyond Forty Acres and a Mule: African American Farmers Since Reconstruction." Her submission to that collection, "Wheat Tenancy in a Border State: African American Farmers near St. Louis, Missouri," began with the help of a Council on Faculty Research Grant for AY 2008-2009. She has another article, "The Whitest of Occupations: African Americans in the Rural Midwest Since World War II," in progress for *The Rural Midwest Since World War II*, edited by Joe L. Anderson (DeKalb: Northern Illinois University Press, under contract). Another collection she edited, *Seeking Inalienable Rights: Texans and their Quests for Justice* (Texas A&M University Press) appeared in October 2009. She received a Special Studies Stipend from Lambda State

of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International during 2010. **Anita Shelton** spent much of the year focused on chairing the interdisciplinary and collaborative Humanities Center Development Committee. The results: a new (annual) Lecture Series in the Humanities; an application submitted for a National Endowment for the Humanities Challenge Grant to support the creation of a Center for the Translational Humanities (translating between popular and academic, and local and global, understandings of the human endeavor) at EIU (results to be announced in December); and inclusion of the Humanities Center among prominent fund-raising priorities for EIU. She was also invited to conduct an external review of the history department at SUNY-New Paltz (where there are many more and much better restaurants than Charleston has).

Nora Small has continued to serve as Historical Administration Program Coordinator. This year she and Dr. Debra Reid co-curated the HA student exhibit, "From Prairie Grass to Corn Stalks," which is now installed at Lincoln Log Cabin State Historic Site and can be viewed there until April 2011. Her Historic Preservation students have broken ground on what will probably be a multi-year study of Farmington, Illinois, in anticipation of the sesquicentennial of Abraham Lincoln's last visit to his stepmother and other friends and family there. She still serves on the board of the Lincoln-Sargent Farm Foundation and on the Charleston Historic Preservation Commission, and is looking forward to getting back into the garden this spring.

David Smith continues to serve as Editor-in-Chief of H-France, which now published four scholarly journals. He also was invited to give a plenary talk at the 2010 meeting of the Society for French Historical Studies and has received a grant to spend a few weeks in Paris this summer conducting research.

Charles Titus teaches Illinois History, US Military History and Social Science teaching methods classes in the History Department. He also serves as coordinator of the Social Science Studies Program, a secondary teacher certification program with approximately sixty Social Science majors. He is a member of the Dean's Advisory Committee for the College of Education and Professional Studies and of the University's NCATE Accreditation Steering Committee. His review of Carrie Meyer's book *Days on the Family Farm From the Golden Age Through the Great Depression* was recently published in the *Bulletin of the Illinois Geographic Society*. His article "Coles County, Illinois" appeared in the *Illinois Geographic Alliance Reporter*. Dr. Titus recently completed a three-year term as a member of the Advisory Board of the Illinois State Historical Society.

Edmund Wehrle enjoyed a fall sabbatical in 2009 devoted to completing a textbook entitled *America and the World: Ideas, Trade and Warfare* (co-authored with Lawrence Peskin), under contract with Johns Hopkins University Press. He is also been preparing a commentary to be published as part of a special issue of *Diplomatic History* devoted to the intersections between labor and international history. Meanwhile he continues as department graduate coordinator.

Bailey K. Young published two articles on Merovingian archaeology: "The Imagery of Personal Objects: Hints of 'Do-It-Yourself' Christianity in Merovingian Gaul?" in *The Power of Religion, Andrew Cain & Noel Lenski* (eds.) (Ashgate, 2009) 339-354 and "Auguste Moutié and the Pioneering Days of Merovingian Archae-

ology" chapter co-authored with Barbara Oelschlager-Garvey, in *Barbarians and Romans*, Ralph Mathiesen & Danuta Shanzer (eds.) (Ashgate 2010), as well as reviews in major journals (*Speculum*, *The Journal of Late Antiquity*, *The Medieval Review*). He presented papers at the Late Antiquity in Illinois conference at UIUC ("Dust to Data: Resurrecting a Late Antique Royal Lady") and the 45th International Conference of Medieval Studies at Western Michigan University (Kalamazoo). He chaired the interdisciplinary Medieval Studies Committee and the History Department Personnel Committee, and continued to serve as Co-Ordinator of the Phi Beta Kappa Task Force, attending the PBK Triennial Council in Austin, TX as EIU's delegate. With Cameron Craig of the Geology Department he developed a new interdisciplinary course in Climate and History which they plan to team teach in Fall 2010. He recruited a student team (including EIU History grads Adam Correll and Robbie Wallace) to resume excavation of Walhain Castle in July, 2010, and works with emeritus History professor Herbert Lasky to help the Walloon Heritage Institute, which now owns the site of Walhain castle, to raise resources to assure its long-term conservation and public access.

Notes from Emeriti

Wolfgang Schlauch writes, "Barbara has been playing the violin assiduously as well as the viola in a local orchestra. Unfortunately, due to many years of the same arm movement, she has been forced to discontinue her beloved hobby, hopefully, at least temporarily. In a couple of months she will have to undergo shoulder surgery. She has been teaching English as a foreign language (voluntary) at the local community college, and was very active during the Obama campaign helping him to get elected in NM. During the summer, Barbara and our daughter Martina did an exciting safari tour through Tanzania while I was present at the lovely baptism of Kristjan in Reykjavik. We usually stay 8-10 weeks at our vacation home in Southern Germany, about 30 km from Rothenburg, from where we take tours through central Europe and Italy.

Over the last few years, I had a couple of books published and edited, two in Germany, one by the Univ. of New Mexico Press, neither of them very scholarly, but highly satisfying. Also, during the last five years I have been invited by Volkshochschulen to give lectures mostly on US foreign policy, the elections and German POWs in US POW camps (one of my books), a very rewarding experience. You can imagine that the German audience was most interested in the 1998 campaign and the Obama phenomenon 4 weeks prior to the 2008 elections. For recreation, I do a lot of biking along the Rio Grande. We live only a couple of miles from the not so grande river, which, however, offers great bike and hiking trails. I also do some hiking in the nearby mountains to refresh soul and body. Las Cruces is a lively multicultural city with many artists hailing from all over the US, at least four theaters, a superb university orchestra, and the Academy for Learning for the 1000s of senior citizens who have moved here from the cold climes of the Midwest and East. And, we live in a green area outside of the city close to an old Mexican town Mesilla where Billy the Kid escaped from prison and Pancho Villa watered his horses in the local La Posta.

Alumni News

Shannon Bailey (BA 2007), who teaches at Joliet West High School, married Aaron Hubbart on June 5, 2009, in Orland Park, Illinois. **Melissa Brown** (HA 1997) has been appointed executive director of the Buffalo and Erie County Historical Society Museum. She was the subject of a feature story in *The Buffalo News* on October 4, 2009.

Megan Davis (BA 2010) has accepted a position teaching History and English at Sullivan High School in Sullivan, Illinois.

Andy Ehrlich (BA 2006) married Ashtyn Millburg on June 12, 2010, at Sacred Heart Church in Effingham, Illinois. They reside in Champaign, Illinois.

Jeff Flaxman (BA 2008) teaches social studies at Minooka Junior High School, in Minooka, Illinois.

Nicole Hurley Garner (BA, 2006) has completed her schooling (J.D. and LL.M. in Taxation) and is an attorney at Smith NMTC, LL.M Associates in St. Louis. She is a member of the Missouri Bar Association. She and her husband Mike are also expecting their first child.

Brian Hackett (HA 1985) has joined the public history faculty at Northern Kentucky University, in Highland Heights, KY.

James Hysell (BA, MA 2009) is teaching introduction to world history at Purdue Westville

Leo Landis (HA 1989) is the Education Director and Curator at Salisbury House & Gardens in Des Moines, IA.

Mary Kate Lobough (BA, 2005), who works for VHT Visual Marketing in Des Plaines, Illinois. writes "We mainly do visual marketing for the real estate industry. It is an interesting industry to be in. I am also working on finishing my thesis for the College Student Affairs Program at EIU. I currently serve as an Alumnae Advisor for Sigma Sigma Sigma at Northern Illinois University and as the House Corporation President for Sigma Sigma Sigma at EIU. Recently I have been asked to help with a start up opportunity called SureSister which is working with Greek Life Communities and the sorority recruitment process nationwide."

Lynne Mickle Smaczny (HA 1994) is now the Assistant to the Director of the Glessner House Museum, in Chicago, IL.

John Van Uytven (BA 2010) is teaching English in Gyeongju, South Korea.

Cover Story

Annabel Johnson, whose portrait appears on our cover, taught history and German at Eastern from 1907 to 1940. A graduate of Elmira College, she studied German in Berlin, before returning to New York to enroll at Columbia University, where she earned her MA in History, and was a student of Henry Johnson, who had earlier taught at Eastern, and by whose recommendation she came to Charleston to teach. Dubbed "the most traveled teacher at the college" by the *Teachers College News* (forerunner of the *Daily Eastern News*), she traveled throughout Europe and the United States, including periods of study at Harvard, the University of Chicago, the School of Languages at Middlebury College, the University of Berlin, and the Sorbonne. She also made one trip to Alaska, with fellow Eastern Instructor Dr. Annie Weller, about which she spoke to students on her return. She said she met only two interesting people there, both women, and predicted that Alaska would not have a future "until they build good roads." Granted Emerita status in 1938, she finally retired from teaching in 1940 and died in 1945.

Bruce Janu returns to Eastern for Humanities Lecture



A documentary screening and talk with award-winning director, teacher, and EIU alumnus Bruce David Janu was a featured speaker of the Humanities Lecture Series this year. Janu's recent film, *Crayons and Paper: War Through the Eyes of Children*, examines the

work of Dr. Jerry Ehrlich, a pediatrician working with the international relief organization, Doctors Without Borders. Ehrlich has collected hundreds of drawings that tell the stories of countless children devastated by the horrors of war. *Crayons and Paper* continues Janu's work on the Sudan, which began with his 2007 film, *Facing Sudan*. In addition to his film work, Janu teaches Social Science and English at John Hersey High School in Arlington Heights, Illinois.

The Humanities Lecture Series is sponsored by the university's humanities departments.

History Teachers Conference: Pathways to Excellence

The 30th annual History Teachers Conference met on October 22, 2009, with the theme "Pathways to Excellence: New Directions in History and Social Studies Teaching. The day-long conference, attended by teachers from across the state, featured workshops by Mt. Zion High School teacher Ray Aikman, on student research projects that use computer technology; Effingham High School's Jim Hammer, on improving students' reading comprehension in social studies classes; and Rich East High School teacher Rob Grigsby, who presented this year's Swap Shop. Other presentations included a panel discussion on research, featuring EIU education professor Joy Russell, and Neoga High School teacher Jennifer Bridges and Mt. Zion High School teacher Rich Hansen; a session on Abraham Lincoln by Ron Keller of the Lincoln Heritage Museum at Lincoln College; and a discussion of technology by Tom Grissom, Assistant to the Dean of CEPS for Academic Computing and Director of the Instructional Technology Center. This year's opening speaker was EIU President Dr. William Perry, who spoke about "History from an Imperfect Perspective."



Letter from an Alumna to Dr. Terry Barnhart Jennifer Carroll-Plante, HA 1999

Laconia is working out very well. I moved on from the larger institution of Canterbury Shaker Village, where I was curator, to directing a tiny little historical society in the Lakes Region of NH. It's a very beautiful area and I'm having a blast as the only employee. I've never been more happy turning a sleepy little organization into a regional destination. Last year I won \$25,000 in a state-wide challenge to increase my membership the most. I increased it by 217%!!!! I love the idea of a small guy winning out against the big boys~ it's the competitive nature in me.

My schedule is flexible enough that I also get a chance to volunteer in my community a lot. Dan and I started volunteering with refugees about 2 1/2 years ago after watching a documentary about Sudan and one about Uganda. It's been very rewarding for us. The first year we worked with mainly Africans from a little country called Burundi who escaped genocide into Tanzania—they were in camps for about 30 years before being resettled here about 3 yrs ago. It allowed us an opportunity to practice our French and one man now tutors Dan once a week. The last 1 1/2 years has been families from Bhutan- who escaped persecution into Nepal 18 years ago and are now being resettled by the US Govt. here.

It's actually so fun to teach people about American culture and to learn about their culture- I'm now learning to speak Nepali and you wouldn't believe my ping pong game (I teach one man driving in exchange for lessons!). We mainly teach families how to use modern appliances, how to open bank accounts, how to pay bills, etc... and we spend a lot of time teaching driving and assisting with job searches. But the best part is learning something about our own culture through the eyes of these new Americans. Example--- Halloween decorations--- "you mean you guys celebrate your festival by displaying vegetables outside of your house for everyone to look at?" Dan and I laugh a lot. My name is all over the place now... for some reason. Bhutanese refugees in other states know of me and I receive gifts from families when they arrive here because they heard of me in Nepal. I'm referred to as "Didi" which means older sister. Last year we assisted 52 families and most have become like family to us (that's a hell of a lot of Christmas gifts we bought, you know). Another volunteer jokes with us, "you two don't have children.... You have whole families!" I now have a posse of about 10 Nepalese volunteers and one part-time employee at the historical society which is great. I'm starting to actively collect immigrant/refugee stories for the archives last year for an exhibit and the Humanities Council saw it and contacted me to ask that I apply for one of their new grants to create a documentary about refugees in NH. I partnered with Red River Theater- a non-profit independent theater- and a local TV station to do a documentary with accompanying television series about the Bhutanese/Nepalese population in NH since it will soon be the largest refugee population in history to resettle into our state. I want to relate it to immigration history in the state, especially the French-Canadians. We received the planning grant and will be applying for the implementation grant this summer. Fingers crossed.

Ooooh I just realized I wrote a lot about these things. Sorry. Once I start, I can't stop sometimes.

Cheers,
Jenna

Jennifer Carroll-Plante is Executive Director of the Laconia Historical & Museum Society in Laconia, New Hampshire

The Finer Points of Archaeology



In their portion of the Five Mile House educational program, held in late April, Professors Bailey Young and Nora Pat Small teach Charleston fourth graders from Jefferson Elementary School what archaeology and the house can reveal about the people who lived there.



Japan House Field Trip

Dr. Jinhee Lee's students in the garden of Champaign's Japan House. Left to right: Bryant McCrate, Hillary Rains, Katelyn Andres, Greg Harrell. Ms. Andres is posing in Dr. Lee's kimono, which Dr. Lee insisted she wear. "It was," Ms. Andres said, "lovely, but it was a lot of work to put on."

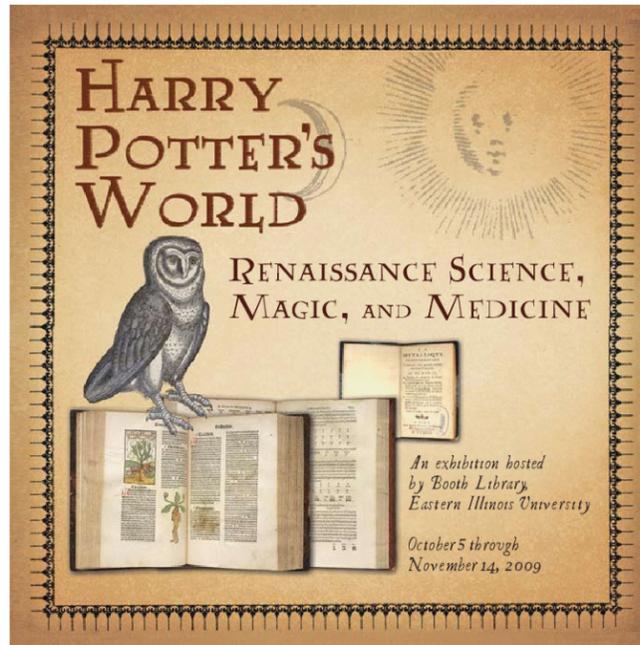
A Little Bit of Magic

History majors tend to be passionate about libraries, and one EIU senior brought that passion to elementary school students with the help of a little magic. In the fall of 2009, Booth Library hosted the “Harry Potter’s World Renaissance Science, Magic, and Medicine” traveling exhibit from the National Library of Medicine. The heart of the exhibit consisted of six-banners created to discover the link between Harry Potter and the history of science, but one of the most popular events during the exhibition was that of Muggle Children’s Day, developed and instructed by Sable Harp, a senior history major and library student intern.

Harp, who plans to seek a Master’s Degree in Library Science after graduating from Eastern, said, “The library can be a fun place for children as well as adults. The library holds so many people’s ideas wither its fiction or non-fiction, from different time spans, the history and knowledge that can flow from the pages of a book is astounding. When a book series that is simple and complex and can hold the attention to millions of readers at the same time like Harry Potter does, it would be a shame not to use it to teach real things in a fun way.”

In fact, Harry Potter helped her decide to major in history, and inspired her continuing curiosity of Renaissance and Medieval Europe. “Like most students, I have changed my major plenty of times, but after reading a new Harry Potter book I would always find myself afterwards looking up information about different things that I would find in the books and surprisingly finding out how Rowling would mix so much of history, myth, and legions in the books that I wanted to learn more about the subjects. Thus here I am today.”

After weeks of preparation for the one-day event, the children were escorted to a room that seemed like they themselves had passed through their own platform 9 $\frac{3}{4}$. The room, designed to represent a Hogwarts classroom, was decorated from top to bottom with magical books and objects representing all the subjects covered by the fictional school, including history graduate student

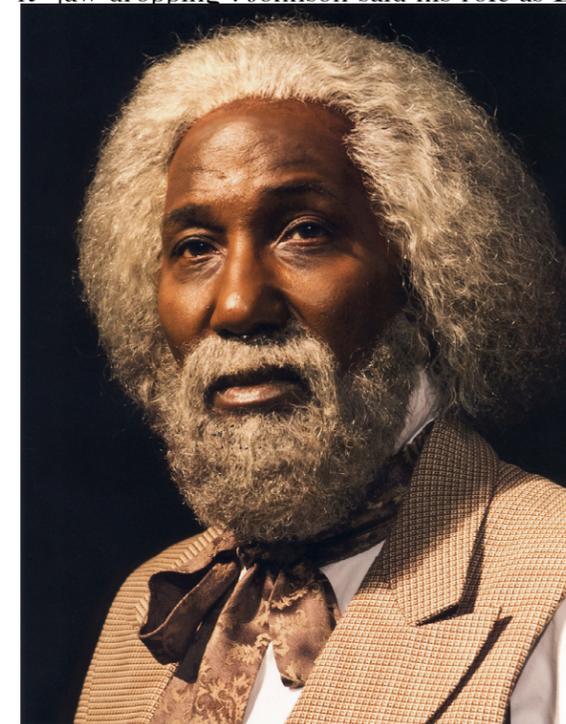


Tristan Sodergren-Baar dressed as the world’s tallest Professor Dumbledore. As more children arrived the students are sorted into one of four houses; Gryffindor, Hufflepuff, Ravenclaw and Slytherin where the kids can compete for points and house honors. To sort the children in their houses a sorting hat is placed on the student’s head and the hat will decide where to place the students. The students were able to work on their own *Monster Book of Monsters*, make their own Marauders Map, listing to Wizard Wrock (music rock bands that create songs dedicated to the book series), and a Quidditch match at the end of the day. Jacob Shirley, son of EIU history professor Michael Shirley, said afterwards, “This whole thing was cool, but Quidditch was the best!” Harp was delighted with the day. “Knowing that you have just made

not only the children happy but parents as well,” she said, “is one of the best rewards that I can ever ask for.”

Frederick Douglass visits Eastern

Playwright Tom Dugan and his longtime collaborator Mel Johnson Jr. came to Eastern Illinois University to showcase their one man show, *Frederick Douglass: In the Shadow of Slavery*. This performance is part of a four year tour of universities and art centers. The play was written and directed by Dugan and performed by Johnson. Both men expressed praise for the College of Arts and Humanities, citing the high level of interaction between departments that they observed. Johnson particularly commended the new Doudna Fine Arts building, calling it “jaw dropping”. Johnson said his role as Dugan’s Frederick Douglass as the most significant role of his career, though he gave mention to several other career highlights, particularly his supporting role in the 1990 film *Total Recall*. Johnson said that he particularly relished the role of Frederick Douglass beyond the man’s social and historical importance, because it was a challenging role that, due to the schedule of the play’s four year tour, he only has the opportunity to repeat a few times a year.



Actor Mel Johnson, Jr., as Frederick Douglass

Johnson cited the lack of broad public knowledge about the life and works of Frederick Douglass as an advantage when creating the character onstage. “People know the name Frederick Douglas, but most people don’t know the man. It was great to find out about his life. (I learned that) Frederick Douglas was a man who insisted on working within the system to effect change.”

In preparing for a role, Johnson indicated that his first step is to always start with the script. “I really liked to work with the script. If I had any questions about Frederick Douglas I would ask Tom, because I wanted to become the character Tom had created.” Johnson supplemented the information provided by the script by reading Douglass’s autobiography. “All we know about Frederick Douglas is the way he looks... it is how he is known.

It was easier to play him because no one really knows the real Frederick Douglass. This allows the audience to accept Mel Johnson as Frederick Douglas.”

Frederick Douglass. This allows the audience to accept Mel Johnson as Frederick Douglas.”

In order to do justice to the subject, Dugan did extensive research while crafting his play. “The book *Frederick Douglass* by William S. McFealy was the anchor for the project,” Dugan said. He also consulted sixteen other books, documentaries and other works. Dugan went on to point out that he searched for a broad swath of information on Douglass life, even works that cast him in a negative light “I tried to find books that cast Douglass in an unfavorable light so that he could make him appear more human to the audience.”

When asked what could be done to improve historical education, both men offered suggestions. Dugan said, “I enjoyed history when it was taught well. Energetic and engaging teachers made all the difference. Teachers need to teach to their audience, to put themselves in the students shoes and figure out what it is they want to learn about. For example, to teach about an important historical figure such as George Washington, figure out how he is relevant to students today. Boil history down to reality, to what the true motivation was for these true historical figures. This will make history more exciting.”

Johnson said, “Teachers need to bring creativity to the classroom. Bringing history to life at an early age will help students want to go deeper later on in life. When I was in school I remember learning about Lincoln freeing the slaves, and then we would jump all the way to Martin Luther King. There is not a lot of information in school about black American history. I think it is very important for minority history to be taught.” There’s a line in the play, he said, that says a lot about the play and about history education: “To understand the freedom of today you must value the past.” “That,” he said, “is what we’ve tried to do here.”

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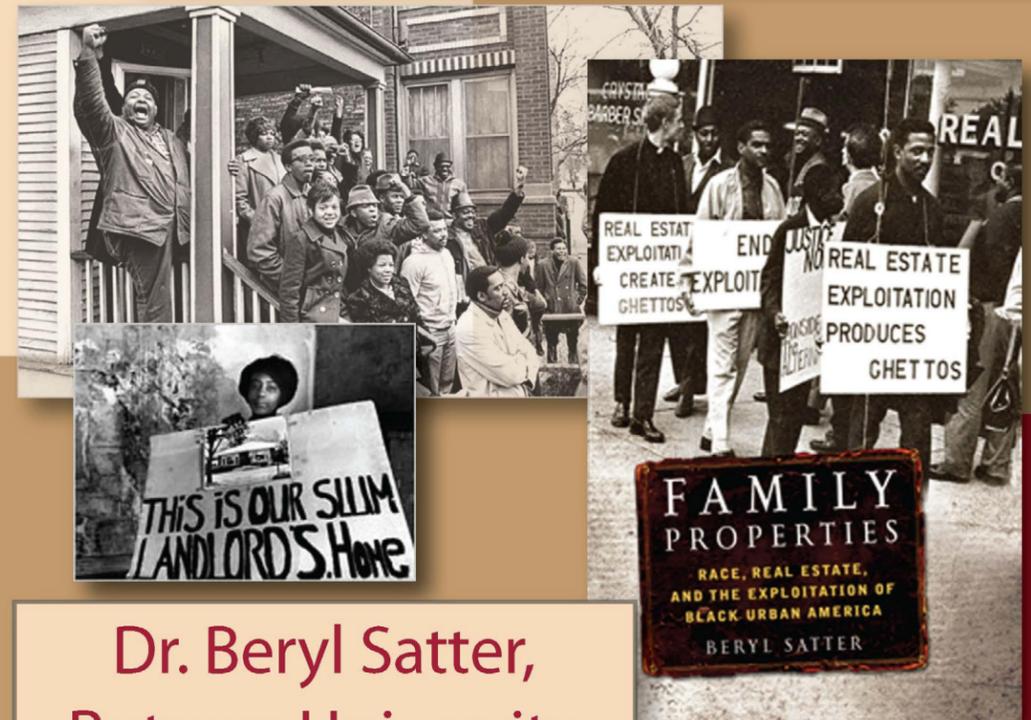
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