



College of Letters & Science

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

# The Past in The Present

News for Alumni and Friends from the **Department of History**



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- Historians at Work • Kaplan Gift / Fred Harvey Harrington Chair • History-Making Gifts
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### Photo Credits:

Front cover: Professor Elizabeth Hennessy welcomes Bucky to History 200: Animals in World History. The Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies, UW-Madison

Back cover: Bascon Hall photo by Bryce Richter, UW-Madison

## Chair's Welcome



Jim Sweet, Department Chair 2013-present

For anyone reading the newspapers or following the blogosphere over the past year, the University of Wisconsin appears to be on the ropes—a once-proud beacon of liberal arts education battered by massive budget cuts and politicians “hostile” to the university. “How is the situation at UW? Are things as bad as they sound in the media? How is the morale of the faculty?” These are questions I have heard dozens of times—from non-academic friends, from colleagues at other universities, and from many of our loyal alums. My answers may surprise you. To be sure, the university faces significant challenges, but from our little corner of Mosse Humanities Building, things are not nearly as bad as they may seem. Indeed, if you lift the veil just a bit, you will find a department that is not simply surviving these tough times; it is thriving.

Since 2010, the History Department has hired sixteen new faculty members. These hires took place in the wake of the financial crisis when most of our peer institutions encountered lengthy hiring freezes and shed positions. This year, we again welcome three new members to the department, Amos Bitzan (modern European Jewish), April Haynes (US Women's and

## Save the Date!

### American Historical Association Conference, Atlanta, GA

- American Historical Association Conference, January 7-10, 2016, Atlanta
- UW History Department Reception, Thursday January 7, 2016, 5:00-7:00 p.m., Rí Rá Irish Pub, 1080 Peachtree St. NE Suite 1, Atlanta

### 2016 Spring Reception, Madison, WI

- Annual Spring Reception, Friday May 6, 2016, 3:00-5:00 p.m., Alumni Lounge, Pyle Center

Gender), and Gloria Whiting (US Colonial). The energy and dynamism that these new colleagues bring to the department has strengthened us in countless ways. In terms of sheer quantity, the department now boasts a workforce of 57 faculty, more than at any other time since the mid-1990s. The department's quality can be measured, in part, by our surge in the world university rankings. According to the QS World University Rankings (2015), UW is the 12th ranked History program in world, up from 17th in 2014, 20th in 2013, and 25th in 2011. Clearly, our reputation is on the rise.

If numbers and rankings aren't impressive enough, the department's qualitative achievements are equally outstanding. Despite lagging enrollments, the History Department continues to offer more faculty-taught credit hours than any other department in the university, save Mathematics. As a result of this long-standing commitment to undergraduate teaching, ten of our current colleagues have won university Distinguished Teaching Awards, including John Hall and Finn Enke, each in the last two years. The History Department also boasts three Vilas Research Professors, the highest academic honor offered by the university. Bill Reese was the department's most recent inductee into this distinguished intellectual fraternity in spring 2015, the fruits of a career devoted to cutting-edge research on the history of American education.

At the national and international levels, History faculty continue to rack up fellowships and book awards at a remarkable pace. In the past year, Emily Callaci won a prestigious American Council for Learned Societies (ACLS) fellowship to complete her book on urban youth culture in Tanzania. Viren Murthy won a fellowship from the Institute for Advanced Study in Nantes, France, to continue work on his book on the history of Pan-Asianism. Mary Louise Roberts won the American Historical Association's George Louis Beer Award for outstanding historical writing in European international history for her book *What Soldiers Do*. Karl Shoemaker won the John Nicholas Brown Award for distinguished first book for his *Sanctuary and Crime in the Middle Ages*. Mitra Sharafi won the Law and Society Association's J. Willard Hurst Prize for best book on socio-legal history for her *Law and Identity in Colonial South Asia*.

None of these achievements would be possible without alumni support. Indeed, History alums offered their time, money, and inspiration in a variety of ways over the past year. Some of you wrote letters to legislators and newspaper editors in support of Wisconsin's university system. Others of you traveled to Madison to take part in our undergraduate career panels. Some of you sponsored or attended History Department events in Los Angeles and New York City. Others of you made financial gifts that sustained our research and teaching missions. I cannot emphasize enough how crucial your support has been. You are our most articulate and forceful political advocates; you are also the lifeblood of our financial survival.

Altogether, History friends and alums pledged more than \$5 million to existing professorships and endowed chairs in 2014-15. Thanks to the generosity of John and Tashia Morgridge's "matching" gifts, the History Department was able to increase its endowment by more than \$10 million. In addition, our alums again set a giving record for our Annual Fund, contributing more than \$130,000. As a result of these

remarkable gifts, we will be able to retain the world-class teachers and researchers that make our department great. You can learn more about some of our benefactors in this newsletter. You will also learn more about our newly-established Board of Visitors, which will help provide us with a vision for alumni relations well into the future.

As I enter my final year as chair, the department is poised to maintain the greatness that has defined it for more than 120 years. More than ever before, we depend on the generosity and good will of our alums to retain our position of prominence on the world stage. As in the past, the Department of History, (and the university more generally), is not defined by political whirlwinds but by the people who make the institution. Our strength resides in our students, our faculty, and our 16,000 living History alums. Together, we have defied the odds and made the History Department stronger during one of the most turbulent times in the university's history. If this is the "bottom," I can't wait to see our rise into the future. Thank you for all that you do for this great department and great university.

On Wisconsin!

## Stay Connected

We'd like to hear from you. Please send any news we can include in future newsletters or any changes in your contact information to:

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Wisconsin "forward" motto and an iconic image of a badger. Photo by Jeff Miller/UW-Madison

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# Professor Commissioner



David McDonald and Bud Selig with History 600 Students in the Wisconsin State Historical Society Reading Room. Photo by Andy Manis.

In January 2015, Allan H. “Bud” Selig retired after twenty-two years as Commissioner of Major League Baseball, the longest tenure in the history of the position. Nine months later, he has embarked on a new adventure, teaching history to UW-Madison undergraduates. This semester, Selig is leading a senior seminar entitled “Baseball and American Society since World War II,” in partnership with Prof. David McDonald, Alice D. Mortenson/Petrovich Distinguished Chair in Russian History. This topic stems from his understanding that big-league sports represent more than the proverbial “Toy Department” in American culture. Rather, they inevitably reflect and often affect the deeper-running currents that continually produce change in American society. Thus, even those uninterested in pennant-races or the “hot stove league” will know Jackie Robinson’s role in the story of civil rights. They will also be aware of the labor conflicts, political upheaval and drug abuse that have figured in baseball and its host society over the last forty years. Indeed, the sheer popularity of sports, and baseball in particular, makes them excellent mediums to illustrate the causal relationship between particular events and their broader contexts.

Selig’s move into the classroom has allowed him to realize his long-held aspiration to teach college-level history, the major with which he graduated from UW-Madison in 1956. Instead, persuaded otherwise by perhaps more practical considerations, he entered the family auto business, but soon discovered what turned out to be his true calling: leadership in Major League Baseball. He began by becoming a minority owner of the Milwaukee Braves by the early 1960s. When they left for Atlanta in 1965, he quickly assembled a group to find another team for his hometown. After several years of court cases and close calls, he and his partners finally succeeded in 1970, purchasing the bankrupt Seattle Pilots and bringing them to Milwaukee, where they have resided ever since. In the following years, he emerged as a respected figure among a changing cast of owners, heading several important committees under four successive commissioners. By 1992, the esteem and authority he enjoyed among his colleagues compelled them to appoint him interim Commissioner as a replacement from the recently-dismissed Fay Vincent. In 1998, the owners voted to remove the “interim” from his title.

Over the last fifty years, Selig has gained a unique perspective on the evolution of the “national pastime” during a time of sweeping social and political change in America. Franchises have sprung up in the new urban centers of the Sun Belt, agents and union leaders are as prominent as owners and players, and a game that once reached Americans through the radio now commands audiences on broadcast and cable television, live-streaming over the internet and telecasts on the sport’s MLB Network, offsetting the rising cost of attending live games. The construction of new generations of stadiums has been merely the most visible symbol in ongoing debates over the meanings and costs of urban transformation. In fact, the urbanization of a game once associated with rural America, traces the larger relocation of American society and culture since 1945. At the same time, a world once populated by players and managers drawn from the farms and urban sandlots of white, Jim Crow America now reflects the ongoing diversification of American society and the globalization of labor markets in tandem with American popular culture. Even the recruitment and advancement of young talent, once the province of veteran “baseball men,” now belongs to a rising generation of “Moneyball” and Sabermetrics devotees, in the sport’s version of the digital revolution that has marked the last two decades.

The students in this seminar are enjoying a rare opportunity to interact with a living primary source who played a part in virtually all the events discussed in weekly meetings. Armed with a prodigious store of memories and experience, Selig engages assigned readings by academic historians, while raising evidence or insights that enrich or complicate interpretations of longstanding controversies. Indeed, as he often reminds audiences on campus and around the country, Selig credits his study of history as the indispensable lens through which he weighed the many challenges and opportunities he encountered as Commissioner. As he prepares for weekly classes, he still consults the voluminous personal archives he keeps in his office, much as he did when in office. What comes through most of all, though, is his true pleasure and excitement at interacting with students and sharing with them the passion for history that inspired his original aspiration to teach. Students are thrilled at the chance to share that passion, drawing upon his depth of perspective to get past balls, strikes and statistics to the broader contexts of a most American sport which radiates constancy and tradition, even as it changes along with our society.



Bud Selig, Chancellor Rebecca Blank, John Sharpless. Photo by Andy Manis.

## WISCONSIN 101 OUR HISTORY IN OBJECTS

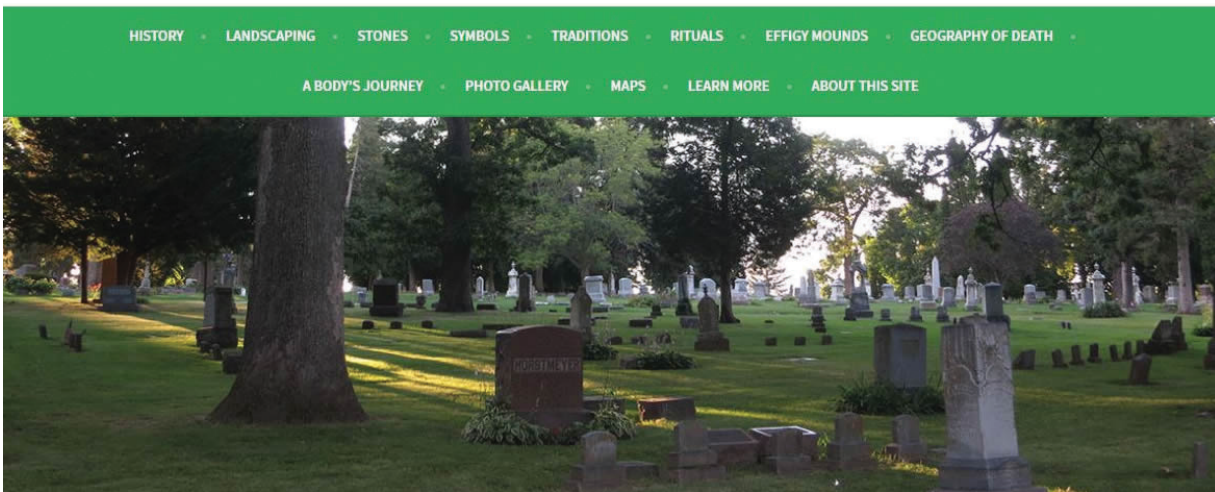


In last fall's Newsletter, we introduced you to a new project on the material history of Wisconsin. *Wisconsin 101: Our History in Objects* is a collaborative public history project that includes both an interactive online exhibit and programming on Wisconsin Public Radio (WPR). Students, amateur historians, and other Wisconsin residents nominate objects of interest or importance to their communities, then research, write, and illustrate histories of those objects for publication on the project website and segments of WPR's Wisconsin Life. Please visit [www.wi101.org](http://www.wi101.org) to learn more! Follow on Facebook [www.facebook.com/wisconsin101](http://www.facebook.com/wisconsin101) and Twitter @Wi101objects

# “Are Mosse and Goldberg really buried next to one another?”

## FOREST HILL CEMETERY: A GUIDE

A ROMANTIC LANDSCAPE IN MADISON, WISCONSIN



Two years ago, History chair Jim Sweet received an email from a curious alum asking if legendary UW History professors George Mosse and Harvey Goldberg are buried next to one another. Rumors had spread suggesting that the graves were side-by-side, allowing the two professors to carry on their intellectual dialogue for all of eternity. Indeed, former partisans of each professor were alleged to be moving stones between the two head stones in order to fortify one against the other!

While the History Department cannot confirm the continuing Mosse/Goldberg dialectic, nor the vandalism of their former students, we can put to rest the “rumors” on the location of their graves. Mosse and Goldberg are buried adjacent to one another at Forest Hill Cemetery on Madison’s west side, the final resting place for numerous academic, political, and cultural luminaries—from Frederick Jackson Turner, to Robert “Fighting Bob” LaFollette, to Chris Farley.

Last spring, Bill Cronon’s Environmental Studies methods seminar produced a web site chronicling the natural history of Forest Hill Cemetery. The cemetery tells a fascinating history of Madison, not only of its human inhabitants, but also of its natural environment and the changes to the land as Madison expanded westward from the isthmus. The Newsletter sat down with one

of the web site’s architects, History graduate student Kevin Walters, to ask a few questions about the project.

### **Tell us about Cronon’s course. Why Forest Hill? What questions were you asking?**

Beginning with our very first meeting, Bill asked us to think about a group project that would meet the goals of the course but also be tailored to our interests as scholars. The seminar serves as a graduate-level introduction to UW-Madison’s Center for Culture, History and the Environment (CHE), which brings together faculty, students, and community members interested in the study of environmental change and its connections to human history and culture. So, as you can imagine, the students came from a wide range of disciplinary backgrounds from every corner of campus. After a couple weeks of brainstorming, we decided that Forest Hill offered a perfect opportunity to explore everything from urban planning and landscape management to the history of art, geology, and religion. We decided to publish our research on a website so that we could develop our writing and technical skills while also providing a useful resource to the community.

**The web site emphasizes the cemetery as a “Romantic rural cemetery.” Romantic is not usually the term that comes to**

**mind when people think of cemeteries. Can you explain a bit more about the cemetery as a romantic environmental and ecological site? Sacred landscape?**

Anyone who visits Forest Hill Cemetery will realize it’s a beautiful space of old growth trees and rolling hills. Walking among hundreds of memorials, including the graves of more than a century of Madisonians as well as Native American burial mounds, only heightens the emotional resonance. But, of course, when we say Romantic (with a capital “R”) we’re referring to a more specific historical development. First laid out in 1857-8, Forest Hill began as part of a mid-nineteenth century movement to design cemeteries as picturesque, rural retreats. This trend also included the famous Mount Auburn Cemetery in Cambridge, MA. Central Park in New York City, completed in 1857, incorporated many of the same aesthetic principles.

**Can you summarize the history of the cemetery in a nutshell? Who is buried there and what histories do those burials tell?**

As time passed, Forest Hill transformed from a rural space surrounded by farms into part of the Madison suburbs and then became fully enveloped by the city limits. The overall Romantic design still persists, but

as the population grew more diverse, so did the cemetery. Newer generations brought gravesites of different artistic styles representing a widening array of religious and cultural traditions. For instance, Jewish and Hmong families chose graves within their own distinct groupings, which now take up several entire sections. The cemetery also has three different military lots: one run by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs; a second managed by the city's Parks Division, as is the rest of Forest Hill; and a third known as Confederate Rest. The latter holds the bodies of prisoners who died at Camp Randall during the Civil War, which makes it the northernmost Confederate graveyard.

We considered adding a list of “notable graves” to the website, before the task proved too daunting. You’ll have no trouble finding prominent Wisconsin names at Forest Hill, and each grave, by its very nature, carries a compelling human story. As for UW-Madison History connections, besides Mosse and Goldberg you can find William Francis Allen and Frederick Jackson Turner, who also happen to be buried quite close to one another. In addition, you might recognize the namesakes for familiar campus buildings, such as Babcock, Van Hise, and Vilas Halls, the Elvehjem Building, and, of course, our very own Mosse Humanities Building.

For more on Forest Hill and the student research project that emerged out of Cronon’s Environmental Studies seminar, see <http://foresthill.williamcronon.net/>



## Historians at Work: Recent Alums Join the Job Force



### Luca Brilli (History, '15)

**Tell us about your job. What are you doing now? What are your responsibilities at Google?**

I am working at Google as a Support Specialist working on Google Analytics. I perform technical troubleshooting on behalf of our Analytics customers.

**How do you feel your history major has prepared you? (Professionally, personally...feel free to elaborate and get specific).**

I feel that my history degree fostered my curiosity and prepared me to be analytical. Historians are curious. They are constantly

challenging explanations of the past by reanalyzing sources with a fresh perspective and incorporating new discoveries. Professionally, this means channeling my curiosity to create a deep understanding for my role. It also means analyzing how I do it and whether or not there is a better way. Personally, this means constantly learning new things through research about the most random of thoughts and connecting with people just by being genuinely curious about them.

**What advice would you give younger history majors just getting started with the major and on the UW-Madison campus?**

Take classes that have topics that you are truly passionate about. This may seem obvious, but many of my peers focused on which classes seemed to be easiest. I found that many of those “easy” classes were not all that easy—after all, we attend a high-caliber educational institution. Realizing this was the positive turning point in my college career. UW-Madison is so big that there are always classes that will satisfy a particular requirement while keeping you interested. You just have to find them.

**What were some of the things that you**

**did to prepare for your job at Google?**

I spent a ton of time preparing for the Google hiring process. I did a ton of research about the company itself, their core values, and what their culture was like. I quickly found that they really embodied what I was looking for in a company. This was great because the best people for a company to hire are the ones who are genuinely interested in upholding a company’s values and becoming a part of their culture. Once I landed on Google as an option, I began to talk to my network of people and anyone that could help. I realized there was a Google connection I might be able to talk to, so I reached out and learned more. I spent countless hours picking the exact right job to apply for based on what my skills are and what I would be interested in doing. Once I applied, I did mock interviews with the history career counselor, Lindsay Williamson. She is a tremendous resource and extremely helpful. I did these mock interviews at every single step, just to be sure I was prepared. I did research on what questions I could be asked, and tried to brainstorm and answer any question I thought they could ask. It paid off and I felt ready for my interviews each time.

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**What are your thoughts on the value of the liberal arts in today's world?**

To me, the value of liberal arts lies in fostering the creative mind. I believe that creativity is one of the most important skills in today's world for both professional and personal reasons. Professionally, it is important to channel creativity to find new and better ways of performing or changing in our work. In a personal sense, applying creativity to difficulties helps us to handle whatever life throws at us.



**David Meyerson (History, '15)**

**Tell us about yourself. What are your career plans now that you are a graduate?**

I'm a 2015 grad and "Jeopardy!" enthusiast working as a Software Engineer at Microsoft and plotting for grad school.

**How do you feel your history major has prepared you for life after UW?**

History humbled me. I was a nineteen-year-old freshman who thought he had the world figured out (or at least mostly). The history major began to show me how complex the world really is, how inequality pervades in our society, and how we need infinite attention to understand it all.

**What advice would you give younger history majors just getting started with the major and on the UW-Madison campus?**

Take the hard classes—in the History Department and outside of it. The most fulfilling, interesting experiences

I had in undergrad came from courses RateMyProfessor said would be tough.

**What were some of the things that you did as a student to prepare you for your job at Microsoft?**

I did a second major in computer science. It taught me a set of skills that I love using and that qualified me for the job. But I would not be nearly as good at that job without history. Studying history made me a more well-rounded thinker, a better communicator, and a more people-conscious coworker.

**What job interview advice would you give students interested in working for a tech company like Microsoft?**

In software engineering interviews they ask you to design a computer program to solve some sort of hypothetical problem. I've done more than a dozen of these now and every time I get something wrong. But sometimes they expect you to make mistakes. What they really want is to hear your thought process and see how well you recover from your mistakes. My best advice is don't be afraid to mess up in an interview; you can convince them you're smart and capable even if you do.

**What are your thoughts on the value of the liberal arts in today's world?**

They're indispensable. The liberal arts are about telling stories and painting pictures. They're essential to art, architecture, pop culture and literature, things we will always need as a society. The liberal arts are also about understanding people, and are thus essential to social progress. For example gay rights: I don't think they would be as widely supported in the US without the gay writers who've published their stories and gay people who've been on TV. Science has told us for a long time that being gay is natural and normal, but science alone did not convince a majority of Americans to support gay marriage. That took people spreading understanding by telling stories.

**What is your favorite memory as a student at UW-Madison?**

The first day of Bill Cronon's American Environmental History class, when he lectured

about Kennecott, Alaska. I was totally in awe of this remote, deserted mining town I'd never heard of and how it was intricately connected to the rest of the world.



**Bryant Plano (History, History of Science '13)**

**Tell us about yourself. What are your career plans now that you are a graduate?**

Born and raised in Wisconsin, I'm a pretty simple guy. I enjoy reading, working out, playing video games and hanging out with friends. I had several majors while at UW-Madison, but my background in British naval history in high school really pushed me toward adopting my History major. I also have a passion for technology, and so my History of Science degree fits me too! As far as the career plan goes...that's a pretty big question. For myself—and many others—it isn't so much a "plan" as it is a path that you find and carve out for yourself. It's about finding the right opportunity to get you started and rolling with it.

**Tell us about your current job.**

I am currently working as a Support Engineer for Zendesk. Zendesk is a company which sells customer service software, and my main job duty is to ensure the product works well for our customers. To do this, I work to ensure that customer needs are met and bug fixes are completed by our developers. Most of this communication is done through our ticketing software (also called Zendesk) and email.

In terms of my movement here at Zendesk, I



started out as a Tier 2 Support Advocate just after I graduated from UW. The team grew pretty quickly, and management had been impressed with my work, so I was offered a Team Lead position about six months after I started. I was a Team Lead for roughly one year, and then I decided to interview for the Support Engineering position. I actually just got another promotion, to Mobile Engineer, a little more than two years after I started here!

### **What advice would you give younger history majors just getting started with the major and on the UW-Madison campus?**

Be adventurous! Don't be afraid to try some "odd" classes—there are some really interesting topics in the department! I took courses on the origins of human history, the Middle East and the coming of Islam, early English history (to roughly 1700), and even the nuclear era of the late 50s/early 60s. One other suggestion: take notes in a way that helps you the most. I actually did voice recordings of most of my lectures so I could play them back and get more details into my notes. Helped a lot when it came time to study for an exam.

### **What were some of the things that you did as a student to prepare you for your recent job acceptance at Zendesk?**

They often talk about college being a place where people discover themselves, or things about themselves. That's definitely true regarding learning and working too, and it's something you should identify before you graduate. For example, I found out that I was most productive by taking detailed notes and having a checklist of to-dos every day. I even voice-recorded some of my lectures so I could review them later and increase the quality of my notes. That translates into similar skills on the job—I'm extremely productive on a day-to-day basis because I have a full list of to-dos outside of my usual routine. Beyond that, I'm often asked to take notes in meetings because I've become a great note taker.

### **What are your thoughts on the value of the liberal arts in today's world?**

Absolutely essential. Communication is the bread and butter of the information society,

and liberal arts majors are primed for taking advantage of it. I don't really understand why some people say that liberal arts majors can't get jobs or have trouble in the real world, because in my opinion, they're best suited for taking on most of life's real challenges. Being proactive and asking for help when you need it is definitely important too, but there are opportunities out there for everyone—it's just a matter of finding the one you want and knowing your own skills.

### **What is your favorite memory as a student at UW-Madison?**

That is a tough one. I had four great years at UW! I must say that the football team did really well those years—I've been a fan of them since I was little. They had three Rose Bowl appearances during my tenure at UW, and I also got to watch them beat #1 Ohio State from the front row of the student section at Camp Randall. That was awesome! I also met my future fiancée at the Memorial Union when I was a sophomore...only to propose to her at the Allen Centennial Gardens a year after we graduated!



### **Alex Tucker (History, Journalism '15)**

#### **Tell us about yourself. What are you doing professionally now?**

I recently graduated with a history degree from the University of Wisconsin. I recently moved to Chicago to pursue a career in the automotive industry with Volkswagen of America as a Regional Operations Analyst.

#### **How do you feel your history major/liberal arts degree has prepared you?**

My history major is the reason I'm employed in the first place! My junior year, I was lucky enough to take a Globalization seminar with Professor Colleen Dunlavy and spent the whole semester digging up as much about the history of Volkswagen's marketing strategy from 1949 to 1955 as I could find. By the end of the class, I was an expert in the subject and was able to translate that into my new career.

### **What advice would you give younger history majors just getting started with the major and on the UW-Madison campus?**

History is extremely writing intensive, and that is a good thing. I had no idea how true the statement "every job is a writing job" was until I began as an "analyst" for a car company! I communicate all of my findings into writing every day; if my abilities weren't up to par, I would be extremely unsuccessful in earning respect in my field. Take advantage of writing opportunities and work closely with willing professors and TAs to hone your skills to become the best you can be.

The history major also provides plenty of opportunities to practice presenting in front of groups. I cannot stress how beneficial it is to have a certain level of comfort speaking in front of peers and supervisors. It may seem like a pain, but learning how to become an effective public speaker will take you further than any business class ever could.

I would especially encourage young UW students (history majors especially) to begin exploring other ways of building their resumes in any way most enjoyable to them. "Relevant Experience" can come from anywhere! The best two decisions I made on campus were getting involved with *The Daily Cardinal*, which provided both an incredible social circle and a wealth of writing experience, and getting a job at Sex Out Loud, where I learned how to engage an audience while having a ton of fun learning about...stuff.

Find what excites your passion and can also look great to a future employer. This school offers so many opportunities to get involved...DO THEM!

# Sifting and Winnowing: Chris Borland Reflects on His Time as a History Major and Student Athlete



Chris Borland and Sean Dinces in History 249, Spring 2015

In April 2015, Chris Borland, former History major, UW Student-Athlete of the Year, and NFL standout, delivered a packed-house lecture to Professor Sean Dinces' History 249 course. In his lecture, Borland explained the deliberate process by which he arrived at his decision to leave the NFL. After suffering a mild concussion in 49ers training camp in summer 2014, Borland began researching athletic head trauma and neurological

function. He also reached out to former NFL players for advice and counseling, including pioneering football critic, Dave Meggyesy. Meggyesy was a guest speaker in Dinces' class when Borland was a student two years ago. Only after thorough "sifting and winnowing" of the evidence did Borland decide to walk away from his dream of an NFL career. Since that time, Borland has become a strong advocate for education and transparency on the issue of athletic head trauma.

Last summer, Borland embarked on a six-week journey across Europe, partly to escape the scrutiny surrounding his decision to quit football, and partly to explore the history that inspired him as a student at UW. Borland traveled alone, with only a backpack and a Kindle full of books. He began his journey in Ireland, and then moved on to Scotland, the Czech Republic, Italy, Germany, Denmark, Sweden, and Croatia. We caught up with him in a bus station in Dubrovnik, where he generously agreed to answer a few questions about his time as a History student at UW.

## What made you decide to major in History at UW?

I have always been interested in History, but wasn't sure what I was going to major in when I got to Wisconsin. The deadline to declare a major coincided with me taking Will Jones' American History class in the spring semester of 2011. Professor Jones' class sealed a decision that I had been leaning towards my first few semesters at Wisconsin. There are two reasons I decided to become a history major. Chiefly, I found studying history thoroughly fascinating. Secondly, I felt the major would provide me with valuable skills in critical thinking, reading and writing, and big picture thinking. Obtaining these specific skills while having the freedom to study a breadth of topics satisfied an important need and fostered my curiosity.

## What was your favorite History class? Favorite professor? Why?

I never took a history class I didn't enjoy while at Wisconsin. From Neil

Kodesh's African history to Brian Goldstein's history of the suburbs, there was so much interesting information to absorb. However, when I reflect on my time in school, one class and one professor stand out. I took the history of American labor my junior year. The late Camille Guérin-Gonzales was my professor. I'll never forget Camille's passion in presenting a topic that I hadn't heard much about to that point in my life. I felt like with every class I was introduced to something I had been previously unaware of. Camille was a leading expert in the field of labor history, had personal experience working on contemporary issues, and structured class in an interactive way. It made for an unforgettable semester.

## How was your academic experience at UW different than what you had imagined before you came to Madison?

Entering the University of Wisconsin from a small high school, I anticipated a highly impersonal experience. I was pleasantly surprised to find a community in the history department where, within the greater campus environment, you could develop relationships with professors and peers. I enjoyed the anonymity and autonomy a larger university can offer for general courses, but the intimacy with experts in the history department spurred the greatest personal growth for me.

## What kinds of challenges did you face as a student because of your athletic responsibilities and how did you manage those challenges?

There are steep challenges facing all athletes working for the NCAA. College football is an around-the-clock job where you can never watch enough film, work on your fitness too much, or neglect taking care of your health. I learned time management immediately in my first semester as a freshman student starting college and an athlete competing in the Big Ten. Dealing with injuries, engaging with the media, and doing community service are just a few of the time consuming responsibilities that are added on top of course load, practice, workouts, film study, travel, fan, alumni, and booster functions. The only way to do it all is managing your time wisely and working efficiently.



Chris Borland and friends in Murter, Croatia, Summer 2015

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## Graduate Research

# Philip Janzen: Caribbean Colonizers and Racial Thought in the Atlantic World



My dissertation is focused on the lives and ideas of “Caribbean colonizers,” a group of people from the French and British Caribbean who began working as colonial administrators in West and Central Africa in the early-twentieth century. They were typically the grandchildren or great-grandchildren of freed slaves, and they joined the colonial service in order to leave the Caribbean. They grew up believing that they belonged within the larger French and British empires and considered themselves to be “French” and “British.” They perceived Africans, on the other hand, as backward savages in need of redemption.

Once in Africa, however, Caribbean administrators did not fit neatly into the colonial categories of “European” and “Native.” Instead, they were left in an ambiguous middle position, excluded by their white colleagues as well as by the Africans they were responsible for subjugating. While some of these Caribbean administrators remained genuinely committed to their work, many began to change how they thought about their roles within imperial systems and how they thought about Africa and Africans. Some even became involved with anti-colonial movements in Africa and Europe and began to work for unity between black people worldwide.

My aim with the stories of these Caribbean colonizers is not just to advance scholarship on the tensions and contradictions of colonialism, but also to examine the intellectual impact of factors such as assimilation, migration, and racism. These factors have affected and continue to affect millions of people around the world, yet they are frequently glossed over with the language of multiculturalism. My research will illuminate how Caribbean colonizers reckoned with these factors and found ways to imagine and work toward alternative futures.

I am currently conducting dissertation research and it has taken me/will take me to archives in Africa, Europe, and the Caribbean. In addition to the archival material, simply following the paths of my research subjects has given me insight into their experiences. Thanks to airplanes and email, however, I have (thus far) been spared some of the more harrowing aspects of their lives, such as being stranded, caught in shipwrecks, imprisoned, and separated from family for years at a time. I’ve also benefited from the constant support of the History Department.

### **Bio:**

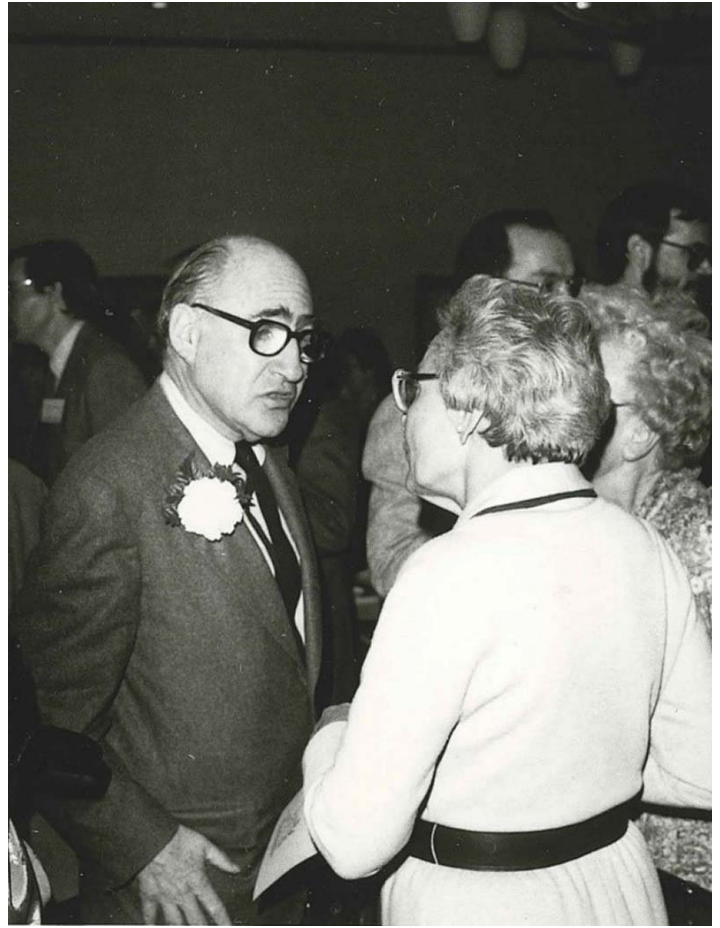
Philip Janzen is a Ph.D. candidate in the History Department. He was born and raised in Ottawa, Canada, apart from two years in Egypt. He received a BA in history from the University of Ottawa in 2010 and an MA from UW-Madison in African history in 2013. He was awarded the 2013 A. C. Jordan prize for the best graduate student paper on Africa at UW-Madison, and he has received support from the History Department, the Social Science Research Council, and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada. In an ideal world he would spend all of his time canoeing and playing hockey on the outdoor rink, but studying history is not such a bad alternative.

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# Kaplan Gift Creates New Endowed Professorship



Louis and Esther Kaplan. Submitted



George Mosse and Esther Kaplan. Submitted

Thanks to the exceedingly generous bequest of Esther and Louis Kaplan, Professor Al McCoy is the new Fred Harvey Harrington Professor of History beginning in fall 2015. Esther Alk Kaplan and Louis Kaplan lived the Wisconsin Idea in practice. Few people did more to enrich the University and the State of Wisconsin. Esther Alk Kaplan (BA '36) graduated from UW-Madison Phi Beta Kappa with a degree in economics. Louis Kaplan came to Madison in 1936 following the lead of his undergraduate mentor, UW History Prof. William Hesselstine, who had inspired his passion for history at the University of Chattanooga. Louis was appointed director of the UW libraries Reference Department in 1937; he and Esther married in 1939. Louis Kaplan earned his Ph.D. in American History from Ohio State University. He became director of UW Libraries in 1958 and spearheaded the library's rapid expansion. Working closely with noted historian and UW President Fred Harvey Harrington, he inaugurated the first program of area bibliographers at UW libraries, sending them around the world collecting materials that helped build one of the premier research library collections in the United States. He also was responsible for planning and overseeing the building and expansion of Memorial Library and establishing the network of associate subject libraries on the UW campus.

Like most women of her generation Esther Kaplan was not able to run for political office, yet she did much of the behind-the-scenes "heavy lifting" that is so essential in politics; organizing and administering campaigns, writing letters, canvassing voters, and acting as treasurer for countless campaigns over the course of sixty years, including that of her dear friend Chief Justice Shirley Abrahamson. For many years, Esther worked in Wisconsin State government, first as a secretary in the state legislature. Her extraordinary administrative skills were immediately apparent—she once said "I don't know why they need all these staff people today; I ran the offices of ten legislators by myself!" No one who knew Esther doubted this was indeed the case. In 1958, she went to work for Gaylord Nelson, and ran his office for the four years he was governor of Wisconsin. Her ability to run an efficient and productive office was a great asset to the Governor. As historian George Mosse once said, "no one saw Gaylord Nelson without first seeing Esther—she was his "secret weapon." Over the years, she also volunteered to serve on numerous state oversight boards, where her scrupulous attention to detail and impeccable memory were legendary.

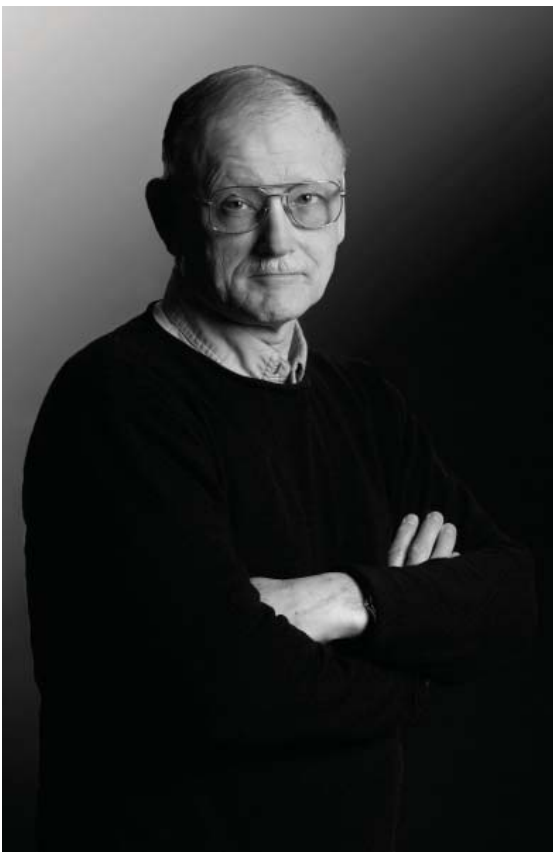
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Together, Esther and Louis shared a strong commitment to social justice, and were instrumental in the revival of the Democratic Party of Wisconsin after WWII, working closely with Gaylord Nelson, William Proxmire, Ruth and James Doyle, and others to revive and transform the progressive tradition in Wisconsin politics. They understood the essential connection between campus libraries, teaching, and scholarship, and they employed their excellent political skills on and off campus to help provide UW-Madison Libraries and the Dept. of History with the resources needed to assure the continued excellence of the institution to which they devoted their professional and personal lives.

Over the years, Esther and Louis established close working relationships, and friendships with History Dept. faculty and staff. They were noted for attending department lectures, and hosting elegant dinner parties at their beautiful west side home. Their life-long dedication to UW-Madison and to the Department of History continues with the extraordinary gift of their estate to honor their dear friend and colleague Fred Harvey Harrington.

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## Alfred W. McCoy Fred Harvey Harrington Chair



Submitted

Alfred W. McCoy earned his Ph.D. in Southeast Asian history at Yale University in 1977. His research and writing have focused on two topics—the political history of the modern Philippines and the covert netherworld of illicit drugs, syndicate crime, and state security. His first book, *The Politics of Heroin in Southeast Asia* (New York, 1972), sparked controversy over the CIA's attempt to block its publication. It is now regarded as the "classic" study of global drug trafficking, remaining in print for over 40 years and translated into nine languages, most recently Thai and German. His book *A Question of Torture: CIA Interrogation, From the Cold War to the War on Terror* (New York, 2006), also available in Italian and German editions, provided the historical dimension for the film *Taxi to the Darkside* (New York, 2007) which won the Oscar in 2008 for "Best Documentary Feature." A subsequent study, *Torture and Impunity: The U.S. Doctrine of Coercive Interrogation* (Madison, 2012), explores the dynamics of impunity in America.

His recent book *Policing America's Empire: The United States, the Philippines, and the Rise of the Surveillance State* (Madison, 2009), winner of the Kahin Prize from the Association for Asian Studies, draws together two strands, covert operations and modern Philippine history, to explore the transformative power of police, information, and scandal in shaping both the modern Philippine state and the U.S. internal security apparatus.

Drawing upon his research into the century of Philippine-American colonial and post-colonial relations, he has produced a series of essays on the changing patterns of geopolitical power, probing the ongoing imperial transition from a half-century of U.S. hegemony to a more multi-polar world. These essays will serve as foundation for a book that will be published in 2016 under the title *Ending the American Century: The Rise & Decline of U.S. Global Power*.

Building upon his social history of elite Filipino families, he has completed a history of the once-famous Piel Brothers brewery of Brooklyn, which will explore German-American acculturation, brewing history, and the impact of pervasive U.S. state surveillance upon two generations of the Piel family. The book will be published by SUNY Press in September 2016 under the title *Beer of Broadway Fame: The Piel Family and Their Brooklyn Brewery*.

His books on the Philippines have won that country's National Book Award three times (1985, 1995, 2001), as well as the Goodman Prize (2001) from the Association for Asian Studies. His scholarship has been recognized by the Wilbur Cross Medal from Yale University and the Hilldale Award for Arts & Humanities from the University of Wisconsin-Madison (2012).

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# History-Making Gifts

## History Alums, Morgridges Set Giving Records

The 2014-15 academic year represents a high-water mark in the history of fundraising in the History Department and across the university. Altogether, History friends and alums pledged nearly \$5.2 million to existing professorships and endowed chairs. Thanks to the generosity of John and Tashia Morgridge's "matching" gifts, the History Department increased its endowment by \$10.4 million. These new endowed professorships and distinguished chairs will generate nearly a half million dollars in yearly income. This income will provide budgetary salary relief for the department in the midst of continuing budget challenges. The income will also provide each new holder of a chair or professorship with a yearly discretionary fund to pursue path-breaking research and innovative teaching.

In addition to these remarkable new endowments, the department enjoyed other important gifts in 2014-15, particularly in support of our graduate program. Graduate students are the lifeblood of our program, working in synergy with our professors on novel research projects, even as they train to become the next generation of life-changing classroom teachers in universities across the world. Even though Wisconsin's Graduate History Program ranks 12th in the world (and even higher in fields like Africa, Latin America, and Gender and Women's History), our graduate stipends remain dead last among our peer universities. Julie and Peter Weil graciously increased the principal on the department's most prestigious graduate fellowship, The Peter and Julie Weil Distinguished Graduate Fellowship. Meanwhile, Stanley and Linda Sher created the Abo Sher Teaching Fellowships, which will support three graduate teaching fellowships, allowing our best and brightest Ph.D. students to create their own innovative courses and teach them to our undergraduates.

Finally, to round off our banner year of fundraising, alums and friends gave more than \$130,000 to our Annual Fund. The Annual Fund is the department's discretionary "checking account." It allows us to support projects like Wisconsin 101: Wisconsin's History in Objects, the Epinal Project, events in partnership with the Wisconsin Veterans Museum, as well as many other history projects promoting the "Wisconsin Idea." The Annual Fund also allows us to support faculty and student research trips, conference participation, and our undergraduate honors society, Phi Alpha Theta. Without your involvement and support, we simply could not do the great work that we do.

## DONORS FOR NEW ENDOWED PROFESSORSHIPS

### Anonymous

James Heegeman, Washington, DC

Alice D. Mortenson, Minneapolis, MN

John W. Rowe, Chicago, IL

Stanley Sher, Washington, DC

Allan H. Selig, Milwaukee, WI

## Annual Fund Challenge

Over the last two years, History alums have transformed the department with record-setting gifts to the Annual Fund. Though giving levels have increased, the number of donors has risen only marginally. The History Department counts more than 16,000 alums; yet we have never seen more than 350 donors in a given year. In short, just two percent of History graduates give back to the department.

This year, we would like to pose a direct challenge. Rather than concentrate on the dollar figure, we want to build the number of engaged alums. If you have given in the past, please give again. If you have thought about giving, get out your checkbook or credit card and give NOW! Your donation need not be large. Even a \$10 gift would signal your interest and commitment. More important, it would send a signal to our rivals at places like Michigan, where giving rates trend above ten percent, that Wisconsin History alums are devoted to their alma mater.

Thank you for all that you do for UW History!

## Supporting Excellence

**Gifts of any size make a difference for our faculty, staff and students. Alumni and friends of the Department of History contribute to our excellence and ensure the value of a History degree for current and future Badgers.**

### *Giving Options*

#### **By Mail (use attached envelope)**

Send a check made payable to the UW Foundation (indicate "Department of History" or your choice of specific fund) to:

University of Wisconsin Foundation

U.S. Bank Lockbox 78807

Milwaukee, WI 53278-0807

#### **Online Giving**

Make a gift online through the UW Foundation at:

<http://go.wisc.edu/415ku0>

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# Board of Visitors Makes History

The first ever meeting of the History Department's Board of Visitors took place in Madison on September 24-26, 2015. The inaugural board consists of eighteen distinguished UW History alums from across the United States. The Board of Visitors volunteers its time, performing three critical functions for the Department. First, the Board facilitates career, internship, and other professional opportunities for History majors. Second, the Board provides an external relations and advocacy network for the department, promoting the Department's cutting-edge research and award-winning teaching in cities across the country. Finally, the Board supports the Department's development and fundraising initiatives. Board members, who serve three-year terms, are History alumni who have excelled in a wide variety of careers and life pursuits. Together, our goal is to expand the intellectual community beyond the boundaries of the university, inviting alums back into the fold of History learners and generating new excitement around the work of History.



In recognition of the inaugural Board of Visitors meeting and in honor of Commissioner Emeritus Bud Selig, Brewers COO Rick Schlesinger announced that the Milwaukee Brewers will be donating \$10,000 to the History Department Annual Fund. Thank you Rick, Commissioner Selig, and the Milwaukee Brewers!

Thom Gilligan, Rick Kalson, Tina Mead, Harry Handler, Philip Levy, Barry Medintz, Patty Kaeding, Sherry Kaiman, Tom Burney, David Meissner, Dean Pagedas



Tina Mead, Tom Dubbs, Philip Levy



David McDonald, Rick Schlesinger

## Faculty Honors and Awards



**Margaret Bogue** won the Frederick Jackson Turner Award for lifetime service to Midwest history. The award was announced at the annual meeting of the Midwestern History Association in St. Louis in April 2015. The president of the association, Jon Lauck, hailed Bogue as “a long-time leader in studying the American Midwest, especially its deeply agrarian character and the decisive role of the Great Lakes in the region’s development.” Bogue is the author

of four books, including the path-breaking *Fishing the Great Lakes: An Environmental History, 1783-1933*.



**Emily Callaci** won a prestigious American Council of Learned Societies fellowship for her research on the history of urban life in 20th century Tanzania. ACLS fellowships allow scholars to spend six to twelve months on full-time research and writing. ACLS received over 1,000 applications in the 2014-15 cycle, making the program one of the most competitive in the country.



**Finn Enke** won a 2015 Chancellor’s Distinguished Teaching Award, the highest honor offered by the university for excellence in teaching. Enke’s approach to teaching the history of sexuality and gender includes a focus on critical thinking, creating a classroom experience in which students say they are transformed, respected and educated. During 13 years of service, Enke has introduced trans scholarship to UW-Madison, teaching 14 different courses, including one of the nation’s first courses focused on transgender

history. The only faculty member with a formal appointment in LGBTQ studies, and more recently, as the only openly trans faculty member on campus, Enke is also a respected and invaluable mentor for students from departments across campus.



**John Hall** won the 2015 Phillip R. Certain-Gary Sandefur Letters and Science Distinguished Faculty Award. The award is given annually to an outstanding newly-tenured professor in the College of Letters and Science. Nominees are chosen by the associate deans, and the final selection is made by the dean.

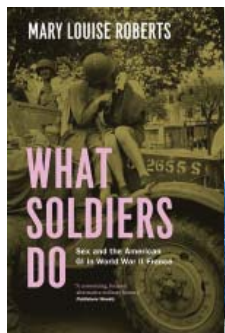


**Viren Murthy** won a fellowship from the Institut d’Etudes Avancées de Nantes. Murthy will take up residence in France during the spring semester 2016. There, he will continue research and writing on his next book project, “Pan-Asianism and the Conundrums of Postcolonial Modernity.”



**William Reese** became the History Department’s third Vilas Professor in May 2015. Reese, one of the country’s premier authorities on the history of education, is the author of eight books and numerous prestigious grants, most recently from the Spencer Foundation. The Vilas Professorship is one of the highest academic honors bestowed by UW-Madison. Selection criteria demand that candidates “possess unusual qualifications and promise. The individual

must have contributed significantly to the research mission of the university and be widely recognized both nationally and internationally for the quality of research.” Reese joins Bill Cronon and Gregg Mitman as holders of the prestigious Vilas professorship.



**Mary Louise Roberts** won the American Historical Association’s 2015 George Louis Beer Prize for her book *What Soldiers Do: Sex and the American GI in World War II France*. The Beer Prize is awarded in recognition

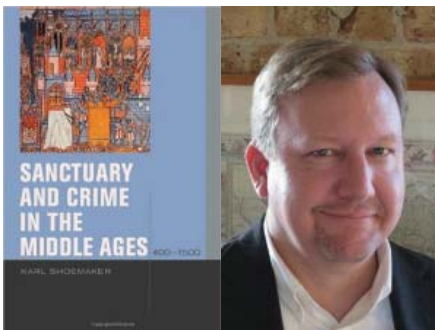
of outstanding historical writing in European international history since the year 1895. The prize committee’s citation summarized: “This beautifully written book revises our understanding of the American invasion and liberation of France. Gender and sexuality are the windows onto this international history: Americans’ attitudes about their role in a postwar world were forged not only at Yalta and Tehran, Roberts argues, but also on the ground in relationships between soldiers and European women. Roberts writes with courage and nuance about an ambivalent and sometimes violent relationship long hidden by celebratory historiographies.”





**Mitra Sharafi** won the Law and Society Association's 2015 J. Willard Hurst Award for her book *Law and Identity in Colonial South Asia: Parsi Legal Culture, 1772-1947*. The Hurst Award is given to the best book in socio-legal history

published within the past two years. The prize committee wrote that "Sharafi's book is a compelling study of Parsi legal culture in India and Burma from the late 18th century to India's independence from British rule. The book is based on impressive and extensive use of archival resources. These are carefully mined to produce a rich and detailed portrait of this ethnoreligious community's deep interactions with colonial law, the legal system, and the legal profession. As Sharafi demonstrates, these interactions helped create a legal culture and community that was surprisingly invested in the formal legal system under colonial rule. This, in turn, helped shape both Parsi law and community identity."



**Karl Shoemaker** won the Medieval Academy's 2015 John Nicholas Brown Prize, awarded for a distinguished first book in the field of medieval studies. The award is for Shoemaker's book *Sanctuary and Crime in the Middle Ages,*

400-1500. Until the sixteenth century, every major medieval legal tradition afforded protections to fugitive criminals who took sanctuary

in churches. Shoemaker's book "traces convincingly, with nuance and acuity, the institution of sanctuary for well over a thousand years—from late pagan Rome to Henry VIII. He successfully challenges the prevailing assumption that sanctuary was primarily a necessary societal response to weak political order, as well as the erroneous impression that its demise in early modern England reflected the era's anti-papism. Shoemaker's sweeping overview is richly embellished with engaging narrative detail and provides an original, compelling, and above all convincing account of the evolution of criminal justice in the Western legal tradition over the entire medieval period."



**Jan Vansina**, one of the world's foremost historians of Africa, won the American Historical Association's Award for Scholarly Distinction, in recognition of outstanding lifetime achievement in the field of history. Vansina is widely considered one of the founders of African history in the 1950s and 1960s. He is the author of eight books including *Oral Tradition as History* and *Paths in the Rainforests*. Most recently, he published a memoir of his youth, *Through*

*the Day, Through the Night: A Flemish Belgian Boyhood and World War II* (UW Press, 2014). The AHA prize committee wrote: "Jan Vansina's cross-disciplinary experience in medieval European history and anthropology enabled him to provide a methodological paradigm for studying the pre-colonial African past. Vansina has published numerous monographs on Central Africa, continuing to innovate methodologically. We honor him here as a creative scholar, an institution-builder, and a mentor."



**ARCHIVE is UW-Madison's undergraduate journal of history. The newest edition of ARCHIVE is now available to read online. Here's a look at the contents:**

- Molly Coleman, "Means to an End: A Study of Women in Weimar Germany"
- Robert Yee (Vanderbilt University), "Corporate Governance and the Rise of Big Business: Gentlemen's Clubs Among the Social Elite, 1899-1914"
- Whit Morely, "The Arguments For and Against the Religious Oaths in the Debates of the 1820-21 Massachusetts Constitutional Convention"
- Preston Schmitt, "Exploring the Autobahn in the Nazi Era: Aesthetics, Conservation, and Practicality"
- Curt Strek, "Bowling Lanes and Assembly Lines: Bowling and Economic Development in 21st Century Milwaukee"

<https://uwarchive.wordpress.com/>

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# Faculty and Emeriti Profiles

**John W. Barker** has now relocated to Capitol Lakes retirement center in Madison. Barker gives frequent lectures and programs to residents there. In November, he will give a lecture on Byzantine humanism to a group in Chicago. He is currently writing a book on the history of the Pro Arte Quartet of the UW Music School. He is classical music critic for *Isthmus*, and still writes record reviews after nearly 60 years.

**Florence Bernault** has been happy to come back from the Netherlands Institute for Advanced Studies, where she spent a year in 2013-2014, and to resume her teaching and writing in Madison. She sent her new book manuscript on the history of spiritual and material agency in Africa to Duke University Press, and published three articles in 2015. One is a co-written introduction to a guest-edited section of Africa on "Histories of Violence in Africa" (*Journal of the International African Institute*, July 2014). The second reflects on the obstacles and opportunities encountered by African researchers for the period after 1960: "Suitcases and the Politics of Oddities: Writing History with Disorderly Archives" (*History in Africa*, June 2015). A third article summarizes some of Florence's new forays in the history and anthropology of visual culture. Entitled "Aesthetics of Acquisition: Notes on the Transactional Life of Persons and Things in Gabon," it appeared in *Comparative Studies in Society and History*, July 2015.

**Amos Bitzan** was a research fellow at the Katz Center for Advanced Judaic Studies at the University of Pennsylvania for the academic year 2014-2015. He began and completed an article there that challenges current understandings of the origins of academic Jewish studies in 19th-century Germany and has recently been accepted for publication by the *Journal of the History of Ideas*. Amos presented papers at the University of Pennsylvania's Gruss Colloquium on "Doing Wissenschaft: The Academic Study of Judaism as Practice 1818-2018" and at a conference on The Rise of Nationalism and the Nineteenth-Century Jewish Literary Imagination at Yale.

**Bill Courtenay**, professor emeritus, continued to divide his year between Madison and Paris. Most of the time in Paris was spent in research at the Archives nationales and the Sorbonne, and professional activities, such as the meeting of the editorial board of the *Archives d'Histoire doctrinale et littéraire du moyen âge* and a gathering at Fontainebleau on Nov. 29 to commemorate the 700th anniversary of the death there of King Phillippe le Bel. Time was also devoted to bike trips along the canals of the Île-de-France. The winter and spring were filled with lectures, the first in February at the Medieval Intellectual History Workshop in Chicago, followed by a paper at the Medieval Academy of America meeting at Notre Dame, the opening paper at a conference in Paris on *principia* (a new genre of scholastic production in the 14th century), and a seminar at the Ecole des hautes études in Paris. The body and spirit were restored in summer with sailing on Mendota and along the shores of Door County.

**Joe Dennis** has had a busy year. He is one of two inaugural recipients of the Fetzer Fellowships, which are designed to strengthen UW faculty teaching and research related to China. They were made possible by a generous donation from UW alums Wade and Bev Fetzer. Dennis will use the fellowship to develop a new course on Chinese economic and business history. In the summer of 2015, Dennis taught a two-week course on Ming dynasty history to 160 Sichuan University students and spent several weeks collecting materials from Sichuan local archives for his research on Chinese schools, libraries, and legal education. Dennis' book, *Writing, Publishing, and Reading Local Gazetteers in Imperial China, 1100-1700*, came out from Harvard University Press in 2015.

**John Hall** was recently promoted to associate professor with tenure ("with merit"). He is on sabbatical in the fall of 2015 as he develops new course offerings and—with Mary Louise Roberts and other colleagues—a graduate program in military history. This past spring he taught an innovative undergraduate research seminar that examines the history of Wisconsin through material culture artifacts and allows students to contribute to the statewide project "Wisconsin 101." Hall recently became the lead historian in the UW's MIA Recovery and Identification Project, an interdisciplinary effort to recover the remains of missing American servicemembers from Europe and Asia. In May, Hall received an Army Historical Foundation Distinguished Writing Award for his essay, "An Irregular Reconsideration of George Washington and the American Military Tradition," *Journal of Military History* (July 2014). Oxford University Press will soon publish his essay, "To Starve an Army: How Great Power Armies Respond to Austerity" in the edited volume *Sustainable Security*. He continues, also, work on his current book project: *Dishonorable Duty: The U.S. Army and the Removal of the Southeastern Indians*.

**Rogers Hollingsworth** presented two lectures at the Kauffman Foundation about his research on major scientific discoveries in American universities in the twentieth century. The Wisconsin Institute for Discovery published online his paper about "The Emergence of a New Epistemology." Oxford University Press published his paper (with Ellen Jane Hollingsworth) "The Nobel Prize in American Science and Medicine," in Hugh Richard Slotten, ed., *The Oxford Encyclopedia of the History of American Science, Medicine, and Technology*. During the past academic year Hollingsworth was a senior fellow of the Kauffman Foundation and a visiting scholar at the BioCircuits Institute of the University of California San Diego. Anyone interested in learning more about his scholarly activities may consult his CV on his website at <http://faculty.history.wisc.edu/hollingsworth>.

**Stephen Kantrowitz** spent his sabbatical year developing a long-term research and teaching project on Wisconsin's Ho-chunk people during the nineteenth century. Two initial articles, focusing on the Ho-chunk during the post-Civil War decades, have just been published. He also began work on a long-term digital/archival project, The Wisconsin Native Petitions Project, which aims to identify, digitize, and virtually "publish" all the petitions Wisconsin's Native people sent to nineteenth-century governments. This year he was also named a Vilas

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Distinguished Achievement Professor. He looks forward to returning to the classroom this year, offering courses for first-years, Ph.D. students, and everyone in between.

**Kemal H. Karpat** published *The Short History of Turkey, 1800-2014* (in Turkish) in 2014. In May, he received a Honoris Causa doctorate (the 16th distinction) in a solemn ceremony from the Babes-Bolyai University in Cluj-Napoca, Romania. Established in 1579 as a Jesuit School, the University is one of the oldest in Central Europe. The founding diploma was issued by Stephen Bathory, the ruling prince of Transylvania and jure uxoris King of Poland and Grand Duke of Lithuania. In July, Karpat, in association with his brother, published memoirs of their years in Dobruja under the communist regime. Karpat's second round of his own memoirs of about 500 pages, consisting of portraits of nationally and internationally known personalities with whom he interacted, will be available in Turkish in October, 2015.

**Elizabeth Lapina** published her first monograph, *Warfare and the Miraculous in the Chronicles of the First Crusade*, with Penn State University Press. She is currently busy working on her second monograph, *Depicting the Holy War: Crusader Imagery in Programs of Mural Paintings in France and England in the Twelfth and Thirteenth Centuries*. She is also updating her course on the crusades to incorporate a "Reacting to the Past" role-playing game.

**Florencia E. Mallon** was on sabbatical in 2014-15. During that time, she began a research project on a genealogy of the concept of "America." In addition to presenting a first draft of an essay on the subject to the History department's "Works in Progress" seminar, she gave a more developed Spanish-language version of the paper, entitled "Utopia, Hemisphere, or Country? A Genealogy of America," as the invited "Norbert Lechner" Lecturer at the Faculty of Social Sciences and History at the Universidad Diego Portales in Santiago, Chile. In October, she presented a more revised version as the Edward N. Peterson Lecture in UW-River Falls. She is also developing a new undergraduate course on the same topic for the History Department.

**Gregg Mitman** was filming in Liberia when the first ebola cases appeared in the capital city of Monrovia in June 2014. He returned to the U.S., disheartened by the Western media coverage of the outbreak. In response, he wrote an article, "Ebola in a Stew of Fear," published in the *New England Journal of Medicine* (November 6, 2014) that offered a historical and cultural perspective on the crisis. He also, in collaboration with Sarita Siegel, directed and produced a short documentary, *In the Shadow of Ebola*, which offers an intimate portrait of a Liberian family and a nation torn apart by the Ebola outbreak. The film aired online on PBS/Independent Lens in June of 2015 and has been adopted by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention as part of its mandatory training program for incoming Epidemic Intelligence Service officers. In March of 2015, he delivered his outgoing presidential address, "Forgotten Paths of Empire," to the American Society for Environmental History in Washington, D.C., based on his work in Liberia.

**David Morgan** published a new, expanded edition of *Medieval Persia 1040-1797* with Taylor & Francis. To his utter astonishment, he will also receive a Festschrift in March 2016.

**Brenda Gayle Plummer** published a chapter "Brown Babies: Race, Gender, and Policy in the Postwar Era," in Emily S. Rosenberg and Shanon Fitzpatrick's collection of essays, *Healthy Bodies/Healthy Nation: The Global Realms of U.S. Body Politics in the Twentieth Century*, published by Duke University Press. Plummer delivered the keynote address for the German Historical Institute's conference "The U.S. South in the Black Atlantic: Transnational Histories of the Jim Crow South since 1875," held in June in Washington, D.C. Later that month she delivered a paper at the biannual conference of the Collegium for African American Research, convened this year in Liverpool, United Kingdom.

**Bill Reese** continues to teach classes on progressive reform and the history of education. He is in the beginning stages of a research project funded by the Spencer Foundation on the history of the Washington, D.C., public schools. He is also working on a biography of Zerah Colburn, a math prodigy who lived in the early 19th century and became America's first child celebrity. He recently became a Vilas Research Professor.

**Mary Louise Roberts** became the Plaenert Bascom Professor of History in July. Her most recent book, published in 2014, is *D-Day Through French Eyes*, a collection of French memoirs of the Normandy invasion. Her book *What Soldiers Do: Sex and the American G.I. in World War II France, 1944-1945* won the American Historical Association's George Louis Beer Prize in International History, and was a subject of a scholarly forum in the *Journal of Women's History* in the fall of 2014. A documentary film based on *What Soldiers Do*, produced by Maha Productions in Paris, aired on French television in June 2015. Last summer she delivered a paper at the Hamburg Institute for Social Research and the keynote address for a "Historicizing Rape" conference at Cardiff University. She shared her work on the Epinal Project at the meeting of the French Historical Studies in Colorado Springs. The presentation is available at <http://www.h-france.net/Salon>. She continues to serve on the Executive Council of the American Historical Association.

**Mitra Sharafi** won the Law and Society Association's 2015 J. Willard Hurst Prize for best book on socio-legal history for her *Law and Identity in Colonial South Asia*.

**Karl Shoemaker** won the John Nicholas Brown Book Prize from the Medieval Academy of America for his book *Sanctuary and Crime in the Middle Ages, 400-1500* (Fordham University Press, 2011). He continues to publish on the devil's medieval legal career, and has begun a new project that examines the place of Islam and Islamic law within the development of International Law in late medieval Europe through the modern age.

**Thomas Spear** has recently been appointed the founding Editor-in-Chief of the Oxford Research Encyclopedia in African History. This web-based resource will ultimately consist of some 500 long-form

articles that will be able to be continually updated online. He also continues to edit Oxford Bibliographies in African Studies, another online series that is now nearing the completion of 200 up-to-date critical reviews of the literature, including a new article on Kenya authored jointly with Godfrey Muriuki, as well as the UW Press series, *Africa and the Diaspora*, which recently published *Early African Entertainments Abroad: From the Hottentot Venus to Africa's First Olympians* by Bernth Lindfors; *Cubans in Angola: South-South Cooperation and Transfer of Knowledge, 1976-1991* by Christine Hatzky; *Education as Politics: Colonial Schooling and Political Debate in Senegal, 1850s-1914* by Kelly Duke-Bryant; and *The Kingdom of Kongo, 1860-1914: The Breakdown of a Moral Order* by Jelmer Vos.

**Sarah Thal** published a chapter on the modernization of Japanese pilgrimage in a new, Japanese-language series on the modern transformation of religion in Japan. She continues to research the development of bushido (the Way of the Samurai) and to co-direct the online public history project, "Wisconsin 101: Our History in Objects" ([www.wi101.org](http://www.wi101.org)). Her Historian's Craft course on conspiracy theories has also attracted considerable student interest.

**Lee Wandel** taught a new course on the history of Christianity in the West in Spring 2015. She was the co-organizer of three conferences at Emory University on the theme of the doctrine of the Incarnation and theories of images in the early modern world, the volume of which has been published. Her book, *Reading Catechisms, Teaching Religion*, in which she argues for a transformation in Europeans' understanding of "religion," will appear this fall.

**Louise Young** enjoyed the second year of her senior fellowship at the Institute for Research on Humanities, where she is working on a book about the idea of class in Japan. She also reengaged with an earlier research interest in Japanese imperialism, completing an essay "Rethinking Empire in the Twentieth Century: Lessons from Imperial and Post-Imperial Japan" (forthcoming in the *Oxford Handbook of the Ends of Empire*) and on "Japan's New International History" (which opened an AHR forum on this theme published in October 2014). Together with History Department colleagues Emily Callaci and Sean Dinces, Young spoke on "Tokyo-centrism" at an April workshop on *City/State/Nation: Historians on Twentieth Century Urbanism*.



Left: An iconic W flag is held high as members of the UW marching band play at Camp Randall Stadium at the University of Wisconsin-Madison where the Badgers played a Homecoming game against the Purdue Boilermakers on Oct. 17, 2015. Photo by Bryce Richter/ UW-Madison

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# Archdeacon Retires, Requests To Be Stuffed



Submitted

Professor Tom Archdeacon retired from the University of Wisconsin in January 2015. Over the course of his 42-year career, Archdeacon established himself as a leading authority on American immigration history. During that time, he published three books, numerous articles, and served as general editor of two prestigious book series. His *Becoming American: An Ethnic History* was widely regarded as the best single-volume synthesis of the American immigration experience when it was published in 1983. In the 1990s, Archdeacon became a leading authority on quantitative methods, publishing *Correlation and Regression Analysis: A Historian's Guide* in 1994. More recently, Archdeacon concentrated on the history of Irish immigration, publishing several influential journal articles and book chapters.

As a teacher and responsible citizen, Archdeacon provided exemplary service to the university. He frequently taught large, introductory survey courses that ranged across the spectrum of American history—from the American Revolution to the present. In addition, he taught courses in his specialty of immigration history, including “Immigration, Ethnicity, and Assimilation in American History,” “Ethnicity in 20th

Century American History,” and “Scottish and Irish Migrations Worldwide.” Finally, Archdeacon was one of our department’s innovators in developing online courses. Across all of his undergraduate teaching, Archdeacon earned exceptional praise from students and colleagues alike. Archdeacon also proved to be a sought-after mentor for graduate students, advising fourteen Ph.D. students over the course of his career. Finally, Archdeacon compiled an extraordinary record of professional and administrative service during his time at UW. He served on the College of Letters and Science (L&S) Social Studies Divisional Committee, the L&S Curriculum Committee, and the UW Press Committee. He also earned the highest esteem and respect of his colleagues, who elected him to be their chair between 1998 and 2001.

During his long and distinguished career at UW-Madison, Tom Archdeacon built a stellar record as a highly-respected researcher, teacher and mentor, and institutional citizen. The Department of History benefited tremendously from his collegial good will, as well as his intellectual leadership. Perhaps most of all, we will miss Archdeacon’s self-deprecation and mordant sense of humor, which were on full display right up through the moment of his retirement announcement:

Dear Jim:

Please accept this letter as a formal statement of my plan to retire. I intend for my final day of employment to be 1 January 2015. I am asking for the status of emeritus professor and hope the members of the department will vote to approve it for me.

The Department of History has been my intellectual home since September 1972. I am grateful for the support and friendship I have received over the years. Indeed, I would like to stay around. My final words will probably be, “I wish I spent more time at the office.” Therefore, I request that, when the time comes, the department have my remains processed by a taxidermist and kept in a suitable location within the space allocated to it by the university. Using my current office for that purpose would be an excellent choice. The University of London’s treatment of Jeremy Bentham can serve as a precedent for this action, although I hope that the job done with my head will be better than the one done with his. In addition, at the conclusion of each academic year, the department chair shall be responsible for escorting my simulacrum to the end-of-semester party, where the members can offer a toast and sing a chorus of “For He’s a Jolly Stuffed Fellow.”

Thank you.

Yours truly,

Thomas J. Archdeacon  
Professor

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# Camille Guérin-Gonzales

## (1945-2015)



Camille Guérin-Gonzales died on Tuesday, February 24, 2015, at Agrace Hospice in Madison, Wisconsin, after fourteen months of living exuberantly, purposefully, and consciously with a cancer diagnosis that she never let define her. She was born on July 20, 1945, in Las Vegas, New Mexico, the first child of Estella María Gonzales and Benedict Frederick Guérin. Because her father worked in the nuclear weapons industry, she did part of her growing up in Los Alamos, New Mexico; near the Nevada Test Grounds; and in Livermore, California. But she also lived in Las Vegas with her grandparents, who helped to raise her—Johanna and Gilberto Guérin, and Elenita and Adelaido Gonzales. Some parts of her family had roots in northern New Mexico going back seventeen generations; they migrated there from what is now Mexico. Some parts of her family were indigenous to the land. Still others arrived later from France, Germany, and New England. Camille attended both Catholic and public schools growing up, rarely spending more than a year in any one place. When she entered community college in Riverside, California, she lived with her Aunt Angie (Guérin) Kramer and her cousins Karen, Joan, and Anita. An early marriage produced three handsome and spirited children, Kerrie Anne, Ronald Wayne, and Michael James Lester. When the children were small, Camille went back to school, earning her B.A. at University of California, Riverside, in 1978. By then, she was hooked on the study of history, and she went on to receive her M.A. in 1980. Now on her own, she took a brave leap into a Ph.D. program while raising three children. She earned her doctorate at UC-Riverside in 1985, writing the dissertation that eventually appeared in book form, *Mexican Workers and American Dreams: Immigration, Repatriation, and California Farm Labor, 1900-1939*. She published in the areas of U.S. labor,

immigration, and Latino history, co-editing with European historian Carl Strikwerda *The Politics of Immigrant Workers: Essays on Labor Activism and Migration in the World Economy since 1830*. She left behind an unfinished book manuscript on coal mining communities, "Mapping Working-Class Struggle in Appalachia, South Wales, and the American Southwest," from which she published the essay "From Ludlow to Camp Solidarity: Women, Men, and Cultures of Solidarity in U.S. Coal Communities, 1912-1990," in *Mining Women: Gender, Labor, Capital and Community in Global Perspective, 1670 to the Present*, edited by Jaclyn Gier Viskovatoff and Laurie Mercier. Her real love was teaching, which she did at University of Colorado-Boulder, Oberlin College, University of Michigan, UCLA, and University of Wisconsin-Madison. At UCLA, she was among six founding faculty members of the César Chávez Department of Chicana/o Studies. She joined the faculty at UW-Madison in 2001, retiring in 2014. She directed UW's Chicana/o Studies Program, which became the Chican@ and Latin@ Studies Program under her leadership, and she also served as Associate Chair and Director of Undergraduate Studies in the History Department. She was a founding member of both the Labor and Working-Class History Association (LAWCHA) and *Mujeres Activas en Letras y Cambio Social* (MALCS), and the latter organization honored her at their annual meeting, held this year in July in Albuquerque. She found her greatest joy in teaching labor history and in promoting justice for working people in the present. Camille is survived by her spouse and life partner of twenty-three years, Professor Susan Lee Johnson; by her three children; and by her daughters-in-law, Sally and Caryn. She is also survived by seven beloved grandchildren and one prized great-grandchild—Casey, Mason, Courtney, Michael, Blake, Kelcey, Emma, and Aiden. She is survived as well by her brothers Dennis, Daniel, Paul, and Carl, and by her nieces, nephews, and cousins. She was preceded in death by her parents and grandparents, her aunts and uncles, and her brother Clark. In the last days of her life, Camille danced in the kitchen and worked out at the gym; she devoured mystery novels and walked in the snow; she jolted her loved ones out of anticipatory grief ("I'm here now," she'd say); and she pondered the playlist for her self-planned Rock-n-Roll Wake, which was held on March 7, following a funeral service at Luther Memorial Church in Madison. On July 25, her family scattered her ashes atop the highest hill in Santa Fe, New Mexico, encircled by the Sangre de Cristo, Sandia, and Jemez mountains, in a service that ended with Louis Armstrong singing a favorite tune, "We Have All the Time in the World."

**By Susan Johnson**

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# Stanley I. Kutler

## (1934-2015)



Professor emeritus Stanley I. Kutler, a distinguished American constitutional and legal historian, endearing professor, and beloved colleague, passed away peacefully on April 7, 2015, in Madison. A member of the UW-Madison faculty for 32 years until his retirement in 1996, Kutler was also a public intellectual and a highly acclaimed teacher. Generations of students, both from the Department and from the Law School, where he also had an appointment, admired his dynamic and stimulating teaching. In his courses, he challenged his students to critically question the real-life enactment of the Constitution and to view it, not as a paradigm, but as an unfinished and deliberative democratic experiment. Many of those students continued to be his lifelong friends, seeking his sage advice and enlightening perspectives on history and current affairs decades after graduation.

Based on patient archival research, brilliant analysis, and elegant argumentation, Kutler's scholarship cut a wide swath through American legal and constitutional history. His monographs tackled such subjects as the Dred Scott case (*The Dred Scott Decision: Law or Politics?*, 1967), the judiciary during Reconstruction (*Judicial Power and Reconstruction Politics*, 1968), the Supreme Court on property rights (*Privilege and Creative Destruction: The Charles River Bridge Case*, 1971), political trials (*American Inquisition: Justice and Injustice in the Cold War*, 1982), and the Watergate scandal (*The Wars of Watergate: The Last Crisis of Richard Nixon*, 1990). To supplement his scholarship, he performed valuable service to the profession as author and editor of valuable sourcebooks and encyclopedias, and as the founding editor of the influential journal *Reviews in American History*.

Despite this variety of research themes and scholarly activities, Kutler's

name would forever be associated with the Watergate affair and the figure of Richard Nixon. *The Wars of Watergate*, the definitive account, to date, of the affair that culminated in Nixon's resignation, narrated the causes, contexts, and consequences of the worst scandal in American political history. It did not, however, end Kutler's involvement; in many ways, it launched a new phase. In 1992, he joined Public Citizen, a consumer advocacy group, in a lawsuit against the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) for the release of the majority of conversations recorded in the Oval Office, which had not been made public during the Watergate hearings and prosecutions. Four years later, Kutler and his co-litigants won the release of more than 3,000 hours of the Oval Office recordings, some of which he transcribed with commentary in a highly praised book, *Abuse of Power* (1997).

Thus, despite the prodigious range of Kutler's work on American legal and constitutional history, many came to associate him primarily with Watergate and Nixon. "I guess it's my lot in life to be identified with Nixon," he acknowledged in a 1998 interview. After retirement, he wrote a play, *I Nixon*, that enacts portions of the transcripts, exploring with them the former president's personality and political missteps. He also collaborated with comedian Harry Shearer on a television program, "Nixon's the One," a series of vignettes based on the recordings.

Born in Cleveland on August 10, 1934, Kutler went to college at Bowling Green and graduate school at Ohio State, where he obtained his doctorate in 1960. As an undergraduate he had the good fortune to meet Sandra Sachs, a Cincinnati native who would be his life companion (the couple married in 1956). They had four children (three surviving). After short stints at Penn State and San Diego State, the family arrived in UW-Madison in 1964. There, Kutler found a stimulating environment for his work in legal and constitutional history, a field that already had a long and distinguished history in Madison. At the time, the Department cultivated other critical traditions in American history, such as the Wisconsin School of Diplomatic History, which stimulated cognate specialties like his. The Law School, his second home at the University, also complemented the Department in significant ways. It had a well-deserved reputation for the study of law and society, a standing Kutler's work enhanced. Throughout his career at UW, he took advantage of the synergy between these and other academic communities. He always thought it was his good fortune to have worked in such an intellectually stimulating History department, Law School, and University.

Among his many endearing qualities, Kutler was a supportive and caring colleague. He took an interest in the younger members of the Department, providing valuable mentoring and support. He became a close friend to many. Those of us who had the good fortune of receiving his kindness will forever miss him.

**By Francisco Scarano**

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## 2014-2015 Ph.D.s Awarded

- **Melissa Anderson:** "'The Love of Order': Race, Violence, and the French Colonial Police in Vietnam, 1860s-1920s" (May 2015)
- **Simon Balto:** "'The Law Has a Bad Opinion of Me': Policing and Politics in Twentieth-Century Black Chicago" (August 2015)
- **Sean Bloch:** "When Time Stopped: Violence, History, and the Political Imaginary in the Kenya-Somali Borderlands" (May 2015)
- **Roberto Carmack:** "'A Fortress of the Soviet Home Front': Mobilization and Nationality in Kazakhstan during World War II" (August 2015)
- **Vaneesa Cook:** "Thy Kingdom Community: Spiritual Socialists and Local to Global Activism, 1920-1970" (May 2015)
- **Geneviève Dorais:** "Indo-America and the Politics of APRA Exile, 1918-1945" (December 2014)
- **Ariel Eisenberg:** "'Save Our Streets and Shelter Our Homeless': The Homeless Crisis in New York City in the 1980s" (December 2014)
- **Katherine Guenoun:** "'Between Synagogue and Society': Jewish Women in Nineteenth-Century France" (August 2015)
- **Anne Giblin:** "From the Inside-Out: Social Networks of Migration from Japan's Tohoku Region, 1872-1937" (May 2015)
- **Ariana Horn:** "Paved with Good Intentions: The Rise and Fall of the 'Human Relations' Movement in Milwaukee, 1934-1980" (May 2015)
- **Sinae Hyun:** "Indigenizing the Cold War: Nation-Building by the Border Patrol Police of Thailand, 1945-1980" (December 2014)
- **James McKay:** "Crusading for Capitalism: Christian Capitalists and the Ideological Roots of the Conservative Movement" (May 2015)
- **Jessica Moore:** "Procopius of Caesarea and Historical Memory in the Sixth Century" (December 2014)
- **Terrance Peterson:** "Counterinsurgent Bodies: Social Welfare and Psychological Warfare in French Algeria, 1956-1962" (August 2015)
- **Camarin Porter:** "De subiecto theologiae: Gerardus Odonis and the Nature of Theological Knowledge and Theological Authority in the Early Fourteenth Century" (August 2015)
- **Javier Samper-Vendrell:** "Youthful Perversity: Adolescence and Homosexuality in the Weimar Republic" (August 2015)
- **Jenna Schultz:** "Erasing the Border: National Identity and the Anglo-Scottish Borderlands, 1552-1660" (August 2015)
- **Casey Stark:** "Vesta, her Virgins and the Worship of her Cult during the Roman Imperial Period" (December 2014)
- **Irina Tamarkina:** "Memories of Authority and Community in Miaphysite & Chalcedonian Narratives of the 5-6th Centuries" (August 2015)



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## Graduate Job Placements and Post-Doctoral Fellowships for 2014-2015

- **Melissa Anderson**, editorial associate, Paris Muse
- **Simon Balto**, assistant professor, Ball State University
- **Vaneesa Cook**, postdoctoral fellow, Queen's University
- **Geneviève Dorais**, assistant professor, Université du Québec à Montréal
- **Ariel Eisenberg**, assistant professor, Kennesaw State University
- **Katherine Guenoun**, trainer, Epic Systems
- **Ariana Horn**, special events assistant, Kellogg School of Management
- **Sinae Hyun**, postdoctoral fellow, Nanyang Technical University
- **James McKay**, learning technology and distance education associate, UW-Madison
- **Terrence Peterson**, postdoctoral fellow, Stanford University
- **Camarin Porter**, assistant professor, Northern Arizona University
- **Javier Samper-Vendrell**, assistant professor, Grinnell College
- **Jenna Schultz**, instructor, Marian University

## Departmental Graduate Student Teaching Awards

- **Athan Biss**, Capstone Award
- **Jillian Slaight**, Capstone Award
- **Monica Ledesma**, Capstone Award
- **Vaneesa Cook**, Exceptional Service Award
- **Billy Noseworthy**, Exceptional Service Award
- **Siobhan McGurk**, Early Excellence Award
- **Kate Turner**, Early Excellence Award
- **Dan Guadagnolo**, Phi Alpha Theta Undergrad Teaching Award

## Baensch Prize

- **Sergio Gonzalez**

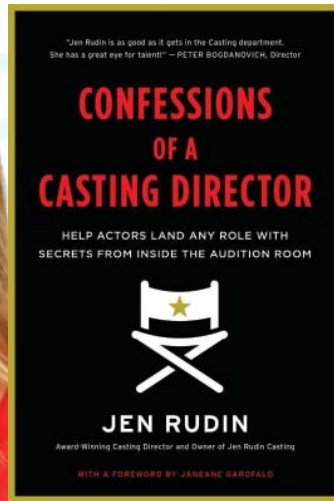
## Graduate Fellowship Awards

- Mellon-CES Fellowship: **David Harrisville**
- Social Science Research Council Fellowship: **Phil Janzen**
- Blakemore Fellowship in Japanese History: **Evan Wells**



Top row: Skye Doney, Simon Balto, Vaneesa Cook, James McKay, Dan Hummel  
Bottom Row: Roberto Carmack, Jessica Moore, Ariana Horn, Terry Peterson, Sean Bloch

# Historians at Work: Confessions of a History and Women's Studies Major



Submitted

Twenty-five years ago this fall, I arrived to start my freshman year in Madison. A native New Yorker and professional child actress, I showed up to Sellery Hall desperate for a change from the competitive world of auditioning and the pressures of my professional acting career. I knew right away that I would major in history because I possessed a photographic memory, helpful for learning lines and historical facts. I was also interested in women's studies. I had identified as a feminist since the age of eight, but my mind and body were in a personal war. When I showed up in Madison, I was ninety-three pounds, still reeling from an eating disorder as a result of my acting career and the pressure to be thin.

First semester freshman year, I jumped into History 251, Kenneth Sacks' extremely challenging class "Jews, Greeks, and Romans: Contacts and Conflicts in Civilization." I remember Sacks' first lecture in Humanities 3650. I sat in the front row and watched Sacks pull down the three connected blackboards filled with very detailed notes. This history class was no joke! I'm pretty sure I knew then that I was in over my head, and chalked it up to my competitive nature from years of auditioning. Luckily I made friends with some upper classmen who invited me to join their study groups, and helped me along in the course. I also began to take some women's studies classes, including women's history courses taught by Linda Gordon and Jeanne Boydston. I was passionate about Madison. And I started to eat again.

When I graduated in 1994, a healthy twenty pounds heavier, with degrees in history and women's studies, I moved back to New York City. I was certain the world had changed and that women had equal rights in all areas. But when I started auditioning again and then quit acting a few years later to begin work as a Casting Director, I saw that images of women, especially those in Hollywood, still adhered to a world obsessed with celebrity culture, a fascination and devotion to being young and skinny. The obsession with an actress' outward appearance often dictated one actress getting hired for a role over another. I knew I could not change this obsession on any macro level,

but aimed to cast a diverse world of actors if it worked for the project I was casting.

Over the past fifteen years as a Casting Director, I have used my skills from both my degrees. As a Casting Executive at The Walt Disney Company from 2002 until 2009, I was often the only woman in meetings with men and needed to make sure my opinions were heard among a room filled with male executives. Since 2009, I have owned my own company, Jen Rudin Casting, and many times working with my directors and producers, I am often a mediator, weighing the creative visions of the writers and director with the studio and TV networks casting needs. My job as a Casting Director is often an everyday practice in diplomacy and treaty skills in an effort to reach a reasonable consensus for who to hire for the role.

In 2014, Harper Collins published my book *Confessions of a Casting Director: Help Actors Land Any Role with Secrets from Inside the Audition Room*. And the hours spent writing the book brought me back to my younger self, that college student in Memorial Library, trying to make sense of the historical facts and theories from my history classes. The book is my proudest success to date, and I was thrilled to share the book with current UW students when I returned to Madison in September 2014 for an informal twenty year reunion. The campus has changed, but Madison is still magical, and a place I think about at least once a day. While drinking a beer on Memorial Terrace last fall, I closed my eyes for a moment and saw my freshman self, studying history at the edge of Lake Mendota, the ducks at my side. If I could whisper to my younger self, I would tell her that life will work out just fine. You'll be successful, happy and you'll thrive. And yes, you will indeed pass Professor Sacks' class!

*Jen Rudin, class of 1994, is an award-winning casting director and author of "Confessions of a Casting Director: Help Actors Land Any Role with Secrets from Inside the Audition Room." (Harper Collins/It Books, 2013). Backstage Magazine recently named Jen one of the top 25 Casting Directors to follow on Twitter. Visit [www.jenrudin.com](http://www.jenrudin.com) and follow @RudinJen*



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## Living the Wisconsin Idea: History Major Joins Peace Corps in Uganda



George Petrilli, History & Special Education, '15. Photo provided by Peace Corps Midwest Region

Studying history develops a greater consciousness of the world and one's place in it. While our majors leave equipped with the tools to succeed in any number of fields, many choose to dedicate their time and talent to serving communities both near and abroad. There's no better example of this than our majors who pursue opportunities in the Peace Corps. UW-Madison is consistently one of the nation's top producers of Peace Corps volunteers, ranking second among all universities in 2015. Joining this illustrious group is George Petrilli. Originally from Richfield Wisconsin, George graduated this spring with a degree in History and Special Education. George will spend the next two years in Uganda as a literacy specialist volunteer.

As a Peace Corps volunteer, George will work in Ugandan primary schools to develop teaching practices and spearhead reading intervention programs. This new role will bring him into cooperation with local people and partner organizations to build sustainable and community-based development projects. When he lands in Entebbe, George will enter a 51 year history of Peace Corps in Uganda that began when 15 secondary school teachers arrived in 1964. A trained educator himself, Petrilli will join the 154 Peace Corps volunteers already in country, who engage in projects ranging from agriculture and health to English education.

Petrilli expects to enjoy his time in Uganda, but this is hardly a vacation. Petrilli looks forward to "a more meaningful experience for cross-cultural exchange." Through his time abroad Petrilli hopes to become, in his words, "a citizen of the world." Reflecting on his undergraduate experiences working with special needs students, George recalled his own unawareness of "the struggles people experience as outsiders in their own culture." The seven thousand miles separating Wisconsin from Uganda represent more than just space. For Petrilli they present an unparalleled opportunity to experience life from new perspectives.

As he faces the challenges of improving teaching practices in Ugandan schools, Petrilli does so empowered by the skills instilled here in the History Department and at UW-Madison. Loucine Hayes, Country Director for the Peace Corps in Uganda notes that "quite often when I mention Peace Corps, our Ugandan partners will proudly say, 'Oh yes, Peace Corps! I had this amazing Volunteer and this is what they taught me...' and so goes the story." We are thrilled that George has decided to contribute his talents in this tremendous act of service and wish him the best as he shares all he's learned in Madison with our global community.



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Red and white banners featuring the iconic W and the phrase “All Ways Forward” adorn the exterior of Bascom Hall on a fall day at the University of Wisconsin-Madison on Oct. 15, 2015. The banners are part of a new comprehensive fundraising campaign.

Photo by Bryce Richter / UW-Madison