



# ROCHESTER • HISTORY

The 2019 Newsletter of the Department of History  
at the University of Rochester

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## A WORD FROM THE CHAIR

### PROFESSOR LAURA SMOLLER

It's been a year of changes in the department of history! After two terms of dedicated service as department chair, Matt Lenoe has been enjoying a well-deserved sabbatical year in Germany, working on his book on the experience of Soviet soldiers during the Second World War. Stewart Weaver graciously served as interim chair through December, and I began my term as department chair in January.

It's an exciting time to take over the leadership of this department, with its long and distinguished tradition of excellence, as we will welcome three new colleagues in the fall: Mical Raz, who will hold the Charles E. and Dale L. Phelps Chair in Public Policy and Health, and who specializes in the history of medicine and U.S. public health policy; Ruben Flores, a distinguished intellectual and cultural historian of the US and Mexico, who comes to us as an associate professor from the University of Kansas; and Jonathan Greenwood, who will join us for the academic year 2019-20 as visiting assistant professor, with a research focus on miracles in the early modern Hispanic world. We look forward to the exciting new courses these professors will offer for our undergraduate and graduate students, as well as to the intellectual stimulation of new perspectives and new ideas. And the office will have a new look, as well, as we are joined by Chelsea Kuhn, a former history major from Nazareth College, as our new department secretary and graduate coordinator.

And what a year of accomplishments for our faculty! Stewart Weaver was granted a prestigious \$200,000 Andrew Carnegie Fellowship to continue work on his study of climate change in the Himalayas. Tom Devaney received a Fulbright Finland grant for a year's leave researching and writing his second book, which deals with pilgrimage and the emotions in early modern Spain. Dick Kaeuper was granted the Gladys I. and Franklin W. Clark Chair in History, in recognition of his distinguished scholarly career. Tanya Bakhmetyeva (PhD 2006) received the 2018 Harry C. Koenig Book Prize for her study of Sophia Svechina. Mike Jarvis won the university's 2018 Goergen Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching, which was granted at a moving ceremony this past fall. Professors Emeriti Dorinda Outram and Ted Brown are both out with new books, while

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## A WORD FROM THE CHAIR CONTINUED...

Brianna Theobald and Molly Ball both have their first books in press. Tom Slaughter's Seward Family Digital Archive topped the million-dollar mark in terms of external grant funding, as he received a grant from the Robert Lion Gardiner Foundation. And several of our colleagues were active as public intellectuals, offering their commentaries on current events in the Washington Post (Mical Raz and Matt Lenoe) and The New Republic (Robb Westbrook).

Our undergraduate and graduate programs are thriving. We've been working with the Greene Career Center and our fabulous alumni network to get the word out about the many exciting career options open to history majors, and we've increased the number of social and recruiting events we hold for undergraduates in order to increase History's visibility. Our efforts are paying off: enrollments have continued to climb steadily upwards, with a 6% increase over figures from 2014, when I first arrived in Rochester. Our majors have



made us proud, too, winning prizes, fellowships, and awards for their research, as you will learn from the column by Pablo Sierra, our new Director of Undergraduate Studies. Our graduate students, too, as you can read in Tom Devaney's contribution, have been racking in the honors—travel fellowships, research prizes, teaching awards, and post docs—and we look forward to welcoming a new crop in the fall.

We hope to greet many alums and friends over Meliora Weekend, when the department will host a lecture by Mical Raz, an open house, and a panel on careers for history students. Please stop by or drop us a line! We love hearing from former colleagues and students: you are our history.

**THE DEPARTMENT OF  
HISTORY WISHES TO  
THANK THE FOLLOWING  
ALUMNI, PARENTS, AND  
FRIENDS FOR THEIR  
GENEROUS SUPPORT  
THIS YEAR**

Craig Wesley Abbey

Deborah Anne Abbott

Robert L. Baker

Heidi Baumer

David A. Berry

Lowell L. Blaisdell

Paul Stuart Brady

Alexandria Brown

Rosalind R. Bullen

Barry Gerald Cohen

Paul Joseph Colatrella

Stephen Lee Collins

Cynthia A. Crosby

Christina Jannette Fricker

Carol Lynn Ferguson

Margery Ann Ganz

Robert D.L. Gardiner Foundation

Peter George Gillett

Rodrigo Francesco Gobitz Pescetto

Robert Harris

Marc Edward Henderson

Margaret O'Leary Henderson

Babette Solon Hollister

Peter John Howell

Suzanne J. Hunsicker

Timothy A. Hunsicker

# NEWS FROM THE UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM

## PROFESSOR PABLO SIERRA, DIRECTOR OF UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES

This academic year featured not one, but two directors of undergraduate studies, with Professor Laura Smoller leading the way in fall 2018 and yours truly (Professor Sierra) stepping into the role in spring 2019. I am thrilled to be taking over this exciting job, and I look forward to working with our undergraduate students in the future.

We had an extremely busy academic year with a slate of wonderful, new course offerings. In "Sports in US History," Brianna Theobald reminded us of the multiple historical dimensions of sport in relation to politics, culture, and society. Tom Fleischman also debuted an innovative new course, "The Global History of Food," that addressed everything from subsistence farming and food geographies to the histories of sugar, corn, pork, and ice cream! Molly Ball's new seminar, "Racial Democracies: Mexico vs. Brazil," asked students to consider the creation of distinctly Latin American ideologies of race and statehood in the region's two largest countries. "George Orwell and the 20th Century" was the focus of Stewart Weaver's immersion into the life of the great English novelist and critic. Robb Westbrook's seminar, "America and the Holocaust," asked students to consider the place of the Holocaust in postwar culture through seminal readings and films. Elias Mandala challenged our students to consider the significance of global perspectives in "Africa Welcomes China in a New Global Economy." In a timely addition to our course offerings, Larry Hudson offered an ideological examination of the "History of White Supremacy" in the United States.

On the digital front, Elya Zhang tackled two digital history courses. The first, "Empire on Railways," delved into digital mapmaking and modern empire building in China, the US, and Great Britain, while the second, "The Silk Road, Old and New" analyzed Beijing's ambitious "One Belt, One Road" initiative using ArcGIS software. Students interested in the development of Rochester's own immigrant communities were also able to develop an ArcGIS research project in Molly Ball's "Immigration and the Americas" course. Their final projects resulted in an interactive, digital display featured on three large-format, high-resolution screens in Evans Lam



*Professor Sierra (left) and a few Phi Alpha Theta members from the class of 2019*

## 2019 HONORS IN HISTORY

### Samuel Schacht

Playing in Vulgar Comapny: Class and the Birth of International Football in Victorian England (1872-1902)

### Daria Lynch

Gardeners into Germans: The Cultural Politics of the *Schrebergarten*, 1864-1939

### Thomas Borchert

Taxpayers and Schoolchildren: How California's Proposition 187 debate explored the intersection of Immigration Policy, Education Policy, and Political Rhetoric

### Ling Yang

Toward a Social Broadening Pyramid of Privacy

# NEWS FROM THE UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM CONTINUED...

Square (Rush Rhees Library). Finally, Tom Slaughter offered students a hands-on introduction to digital studies through the examination of the Seward family's private correspondence during the 1830s. During this process, students encountered narratives of romantic love, the household economy, and the cholera epidemic of 1832.

On May 19th, we celebrated the graduation of an outstanding class of 24 history majors and 17 minors. Our graduates demonstrated a stunning array of interests from environmental to cultural and intellectual history, spanning the globe. Over half of our majors also completed second majors in fields such as Computer Science, International Relations, English, Geological Sciences, Anthropology, and Environmental Humanities, to say nothing of their wide-ranging majors and language specializations in Turkish, Spanish, and French. These interests were reflected in their worldly research and study abroad experiences in Germany, South Africa, England, Hong Kong, Azerbaijan, and Wales, to name but a few. Our graduates include 3 Phi Beta Kappans, a Fulbright finalist, and an Oxford-Swire Graduate Scholar. Four also participated in UR's Undergraduate Research Exposition in April, with two winning a Dean's Award for a symposium presentation and one winning a Professors' Choice Award for a poster. Our graduates are now ready to set off on a variety of career paths as investment bankers, immigration activists, and software engineers. One of our majors has also received a Take 5 scholarship to pursue an additional, tuition-free year of study on Islamic Culture. Three of our majors will pursue MA degrees in Victorian Studies, European History, and Medieval History, while others are preparing for advanced study at Columbia Law School and Suffolk Law School. As they venture forth, we hope they take to heart one graduating senior's suggestion that in the end only two questions matter: "says who?" and "so what?". With that inquisitive spirit in mind, congratulations to the class of 2019!



## 2019 PHI ALPHA THETA HISTORICAL HONOR SOCIETY INDUCTEES

Daria Lynch '18 (T5 '19)

Monica Morgan '20

Ada Wightman '21

THANK YOU TO  
OUR ALUMNI  
ADVISORY  
COMMITTEE

Carl Angeloff '53  
Barbara Berg '65  
David Berry '67  
Dana Bradley '83  
James Capua '71  
Barry Cohen '66  
Joy Getnick  
Jon Getz '89

Francis Grebe  
Adam Konowe '90  
Jeffery S. Leonard '67  
Marion Maneker '86  
Jeffrey Reznick '92  
Nancy Rice '58  
Bill Robinson '72  
James Shedel, PhD '78

Peter S. Szabo '85  
Curtis Vock '87  
Randall B. Whitestone '83  
G. Robert Witmer, Jr. '59  
Mark S. Zaid '89  
Arthur Zapesochny '05  
Mitchell Zuckerman '68

# NEWS FROM THE GRADUATE PROGRAM

## PROFESSOR THOMAS DEVANEY, DIRECTOR OF GRADUATE STUDIES

We've had a great year, in which we've welcomed five new graduate students, seen others move on to new adventures, and had the pleasure of seeing all of our students contribute to intellectual debates both on campus and beyond.

Camden Burd, for instance, published several articles, including "Scrolling Through Nature: Reflections on the Digital Humanities and Michigan's Environmental History" in the *Michigan Review*. Andrew Kless, meanwhile, has a chapter titled "Dangerous Duality: Experiencing and Remembering Civil-Military Conflict during Germany's Occupation of Poland, 1914-1918" in a collection of essays on *German-Occupied Europe in the Second World War* (Routledge, 2019). Michelle Furlano wrote "From Suffragist Shrine to Reformer's Home: The Evolving Interpretation of the Susan B. Anthony Museum and House," which will soon appear in *Collections: A Journal for Museum and Archives Professionals*.

We're looking forward to welcoming an incoming class of one MA student, Ling Yang (BA '19), and two PhD students, Jeffrey Baron and Justin Grossman. Their interests range from origins of ideas of privacy to the role of the past in the Middle Ages to fraught questions about environmental degradation and Native American land rights. But we must also say *au revoir* to some of our students. John Portlock recently defended his dissertation, "America Will Be! Black Anti-War Voices and the Modern Civil Rights Movement." Camden Burd, who also recently defended, earned a Mellon postdoctoral fellowship at the New York Botanical Garden. And Corinna Hill has accepted a lecturer position at RIT's National Technical Institute for the Deaf, a singular achievement for someone at her stage of graduate studies. She will teach there while completing her dissertation.

While it's impossible to list here all that our students have accomplished, a few examples might suggest the range of their activities. Carrie Knight was Scholar-In-Residence at the New Bedford Whaling Museum in March; Marianne Kupin-Lisbin participated in the Rochester Prison Education Project, while Daniel Gorman was a National History Day judge and served on the Student Advisory Committee for the University's presidential search. Gregory Wiker spent the year in Bermuda, where, while working on his dissertation, he contributed an article to *MARITimes*, the magazine of the National Museum of Bermuda, and wrote the teacher's resources section for *Prudent Rebels*, a forthcoming National Museum of Bermuda book. Lauren Davis and Michelle Furlano co-managed the Seward Family Archive Digital Humanities project, while Carrie Knight and Shellie Clark ran the community-engaged arm of the project. Corinna Hill managed the digitization and metadata on this same project and organized our annual "Seward Stories" event.

It's hardly surprising, then, that our students had another impressive showing in the University's award competitions. Camden Burd won the Edward Peck Curtis Award for Excellence in Teaching, making this the third (!) year in a row that a history student has won this prestigious honor. Adam Stauffer won the Outstanding Dissertation Award for his project, "Is there any such thing as a California Literature? Literary Culture and Regional Identity in Nineteenth-Century California." Both Rohma Khan and Marianne Kupin-Lisbin will hold the Dean's Dissertation Fellowship in 2019-2020. Rohma also received the Susan B. Anthony Institute teaching fellowship. Andrew Russo was offered a Fulbright fellowship to Morocco, Daniel Gorman won several grants, and Justin Ramsey has a summer fellowship at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. Please see our graduate student news section on pages 24-27 to read even more about our students' accomplishments. Congratulations to all!

# SEWARD FAMILY ARCHIVE PROJECT TOPS \$1 MILLION IN GRANT MONEY

SANDRA KNISPEL, VIA @ROCHESTERNEWSCENTER

The Seward Family Digital Archive, a digital humanities project that fuses object-based learning and community-engaged teaching, has received more than \$1 million in external grant funding to date. The latest grant comes from the Robert David Lion Gardiner Foundation for \$289,100 to be paid out over two years.

The project, a collaboration between the University's Department of History, the River Campus Libraries' Department of Rare Books, Special Collections, and Preservation, and the Digital Scholarship Lab, brings together students in the humanities and computer science, residents of retirement communities, and retired volunteers from the greater Rochester area to help transcribe the thousands of Seward family letters, all written in Victorian-era cursive handwriting.

"Citizen archivists" is how Thomas Slaughter, the project's principal investigator and the University's Arthur R. Miller Professor of History, describes his team of students and retirees who transcribe, annotate, and tag personal letters of President Abraham Lincoln's Secretary of State, William H. Seward, his wife, Frances Miller Seward, their immediate and extended family members, and friends from about 1820 to 1873.

According to Slaughter, the new funding will be used to expand the project's geographical reach, while enhancing teaching and learning opportunities for students and volunteers.

"The generous new grant from the Gardiner Foundation will enable students to train and support additional volunteers beyond the 20 now working with us, to enhance this community-engaged collaboration, and to increase the productivity of the project while maintaining the high standards for documentary editing set by the National Historical Publications and Records Commission, which supported the volunteer arm of the project through December 2018," says Slaughter.

Besides continuing the collaboration with volunteers from the Highlands at Pittsford retirement community, Penfield Recreation's DEAR program, and retired University staff and librarians, the effort will soon include another off-campus site for volunteers in Brockport who will be working alongside Slaughter's students. In addition, a student videographer will be trained to make short films about how to collaborate on public history projects.

"The addition of a videographer under the Gardiner Foundation grant will allow us to visualize our training and project standards available on our website for others just starting public history collaborations between college students and volunteers," Slaughter says.

The archive project was launched and has been sustained over the last five years through the support of the Fred L. Emerson Foundation, which helped secure additional grants from the National Historical Publications and Records



Margaret Becket (left), a retired UR librarian, transcribes Seward papers with history PhD student and project co-manager Lauren Davis. The reproduction poster behind them features Secretary of State William Henry Seward (seated at front right) as President Lincoln discusses the Emancipation Proclamation (University of Rochester photo / J. Adam Fenster)

# SEWARD FAMILY ARCHIVE PROJECT CONTINUED...

Commission (NHPRC), and most recently the Gardiner Foundation.

Seward, who lived from 1801 to 1872, was a trial attorney, a New York State senator (1831-1838), governor of New York (1838-1842), US senator (1849-1860), and secretary of state (1860-1869). He was the frontrunner for the Republican nomination for president in 1860, only to be sidelined in favor of someone more moderate in his support of abolition: Abraham Lincoln.

Seward is arguably best remembered for his decision to purchase Alaska—at the time, called "Seward's Folly." He was also attacked in the assassination plot that killed Lincoln.

The collection of his papers, both professional and personal, includes 230 linear feet of materials, 150,000 items, and 375,000 pages.

"The Seward family papers are among the largest and most widely used of our manuscript holdings," says Jessica Lacher-Feldman, assistant dean and the Joseph N. Lambert and Harold B. Schleifer Director of Rare Books, Special Collections, and Preservation (RBSCP). "We are very pleased to be the stewards of this vast, complex, and important collection, and to work collaboratively on making these materials available to the world in both traditional and innovative ways."

RBSCP has been the repository of the Seward papers since 1951.



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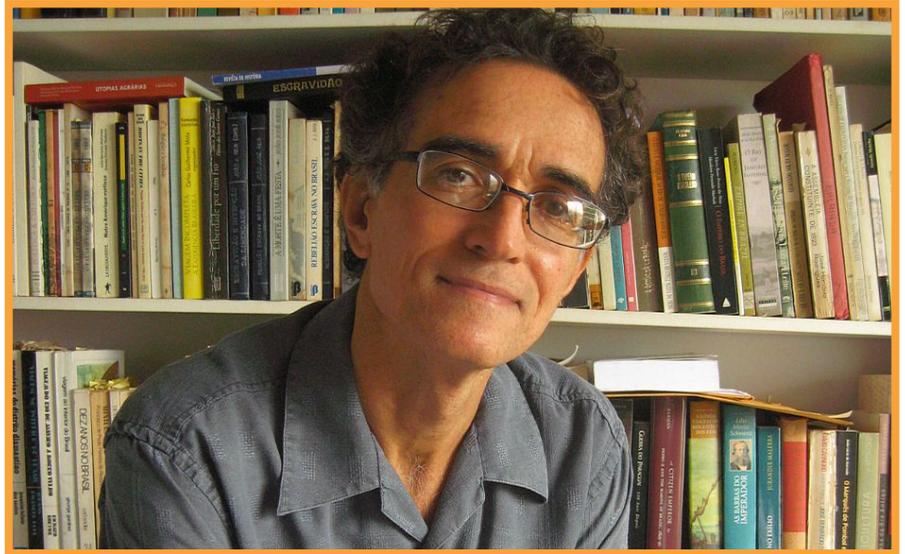
Melvin Irwin Hyman  
Frank A. Interlichia  
Sheila Knopke  
Adam D. Konowe  
Yael R. Konowe  
Mark William Kreib  
Jonathan David Licht  
Douglas Leon Lowell  
Marianne McCormack  
Joslyn Allen McGuire  
Michael B. McShea  
Arthur Raphael Miller  
Ronald Lee Nurnberg

Margaret O'Leary Henderson  
Stanley C. Pelkey  
Willard J. Peterson  
Mary Susan Redd Magnotta  
Nancy K. Rice  
L. Gerald Rigby  
Kathy Rigby  
William Gridley Robinson  
Samuel M. Roth  
Martin Edward Schloss  
Susan Helene Silverstein  
Stephen Robert Silverstein  
Laura Smoller

# 2018 VERNE MOORE LECTURE

## PROFESSOR MOLLY BALL

João Jose Reis, distinguished professor of slavery and the African diaspora in 19th century Brazil, visited UR and participated in several events between October 31st and November 2nd, 2018. Reis is a professor of history at the Universidade Federal da Bahia in Salvador, Brazil, but his impact in the field stretches to scholars of the African continent, of migration, and of the African diaspora. He received Brazil's highest literary honor, the Machado de Assis Prize, in 2017 for a lifetime of contributions. During his visit, he generously shared that knowledge and those contributions with faculty and students.



His visit was part of the History Department's Verne Moore lecture series and was generously co-sponsored by the Humanities Center and the Frederick Douglass Institute.

On Thursday, November 1st, Reis presented his work on the Alufa, Rufino José Maria. His talk was entitled "Alufa Rufino, a Man of Faith and Sorcery on the Periphery of Islam in 19th-Century Brazil." The lecture stemmed from his forthcoming book with Oxford (2019), a co-written project on Rufino José Maria, a former slave and devout Muslim who, after working on a slaving ship and spending time in Sierra Leone, returned to Recife, Brazil and practiced Islam that embraced divination and other unorthodox practices. The room was at capacity, and attendees included faculty and students primarily from the Frederick Douglass Institute, the program of Visual and Cultural Studies (VCS), and History, but there was also representation from other disciplines, like anthropology. Some of the main questions generated by his talk focused on disentangling the elements of Muslim, Africa, and Catholic/Christian religious practices in 19th-century Brazil and on the value of using exceptional individuals to speak to more typical experiences.

On November 1st, Reis also went to lunch with several History Department graduate students, professor Cilas Kemedjio (Frederick Douglass Institute, Modern Languages and Cultures), and professor Elias Mandala (History). Students had the opportunity to share their dissertation and research projects and to receive valuable feedback from Professor Reis.

Reis also spoke to graduate and undergraduate students at a lunch on November 2nd. 10 people attended, including 8 graduate students from History, VCS, and the Warner School of Education. As a historian, Reis brings silenced or little-known narratives to light, using a micro-historical approach to events and individuals. He spoke about his use of developing microbiographies as a historical tool and approached topics such as aiming for broader readership (beyond the academy), navigating silences in the archives (especially relevant for his expertise in slavery in 19th-century Brazil), and having to fill in the gaps in the record of slavery within the Brazilian context.

Faculty members also had the chance to speak with Professor Reis about a variety of topics specific to their individual research interests.

## FACULTY PROFILE: MICAL RAZ



Mical Raz will join the History Department at UR in July 2019. She teaches courses on US health care policy and politics and will also be in the undergraduate Program in Public Health.

Raz completed her medical training at Tel Aviv University, from which she also received a PhD in the history of medicine. Before moving to the US for a postdoctoral fellowship at Yale, she worked at the Tel Aviv Medical Center and volunteered with Physicians for Human Rights. She completed her residency in Internal Medicine at Yale New Haven Hospital in 2015, followed by a Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholars Fellowship at the University of Pennsylvania, and she is board-certified in internal medicine. Dr. Raz is moving to Rochester from Virginia, where she worked as a hospitalist and worked on completing her latest book manuscript. Her current research project is a history of child abuse policy in the United States from the 1970s onwards. The book, tentatively titled *Abusive Policies: Race, Poverty and the*

*Making of American Child Abuse*, is under contract with UNC Press.

She is also the author of *The Lobotomy Letters: The Making of American Psychosurgery* (University of Rochester Press, 2013), which was awarded the Pressman-Burroughs Wellcome Career Development Award. Her second book, *What's Wrong with the Poor? Race, Psychiatry and the War on Poverty* (UNC Press, 2013), was a 2015 Choice Outstanding Academic Title.

A historian of American health policy, Raz is committed to using historical study to inform current-day policymaking.

Raz was born in Iowa to Israeli parents and moved to Israel in her childhood. She spent most of her youth practicing to become a concert cellist and surprised herself and her family when she went first to medical school, and then, seeking to broaden her perspective on medicine, completed a PhD in the history of medicine as part of an MD/PhD program at Tel Aviv University. She still enjoys playing the cello, though lately she mostly plays with or for her three young children.

She is excited about joining the History Department faculty.



## PROFESSOR RAZ'S READING FOR A RAINY DAY

- *No Apparent Distress: A Doctor's Coming-of-Age on the Front Lines of American Medicine* by Rachel Pearson
- *French Lessons: A Memoir* by Alice Kaplan
- *One Nation Under God : How Corporate America Invented Christian America* by Kevin M. Kruse
- *The Sense of an Ending* by Julian Barnes
- *The Unknown Bridesmaid* by Margaret Forrester

# MY TIME IN ICELAND

LAURA CERNIK, MA '18

This past August, I had the opportunity to study Icelandic in Iceland thanks to the Dorothy Rosenberg-Passer Fellowship, which supports a graduate student pursuing a master's degree.

My journey began in the early spring when I applied to the three-week intensive Icelandic course at the University Westfjords. Following my acceptance, I prepared for my trip and arrived at the end of July. The class was hosted at the university's main building in the Icelandic town of Ísafjörður. With a population of about three thousand, it is the largest town in the West Fjords. Historically, Ísafjörður was the location of several early modern witch trials as well as the only early modern Danish trading post in the West Fjords. Despite these claims to fame, Ísafjörður today is a small, friendly fishing town that sees occasional cruise ships in port and an assortment of enthusiastic hikers.

My main reason for attending was of course to learn the language, but I also got my first introduction to Icelandic culture. Our courses were divided between morning instruction, which consisted of grammar, speaking, and writing, and our afternoon and evening classes broken down into fun culture and vocabulary courses that changed on a daily basis. These were meant to engage students and teach concepts while pulling us away from the classroom setting—for example, we learned pronunciation by singing traditional Icelandic songs in a choir.

My participation in the course allowed me to learn the language, but also to network with others in my field and to make new friends. It was a unique and exciting opportunity, and I am very thankful for the support I received from the Dorothy Rosenberg-Passer Fellowship that allowed me to complete the course,



*The author at Faxe Bay in Reykjavik. The name Reykjavik comes from the Old Norse words "reykr" (smoke) and "vik" (bay). The name means "Bay of Smoke," a reference to the vast quantities of geothermal steam surrounding the bay.*



*The beautiful town of Ísafjörður, where the author completed an intensive Icelandic course at the University Westfjords. This is the view from a hiking trail on one of Ísafjörður's mountains.*



*Pingvellir National Park is said to be the location of the first Alþingi in 930 CE, which evolved into the modern Icelandic parliament. According to the Icelandic government, this makes theirs the longest-running parliament in the world, and Icelanders use this historical event to mark the beginning of their national identity as a sovereign nation.*

# TANYA BAKHMETYEVA AWARDED PRIZE FOR BEST CATHOLIC BIOGRAPHY

SUSAN ZIEGLER, VIA @ROCHESTERNEWSCENTER

Tanya Bakhmetyeva, an associate professor of instruction in History and in Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies, has received the 2018 Harry C. Koenig Book Prize for best Catholic biography. Bakhmetyeva's winning book, *Mother of the Church: Sophia Svechina, the Salon, and the Politics of Catholicism in Nineteenth-Century Russia and France* (University of Illinois Press, 2017), details the life of the Russian émigré and Catholic convert, whose Parisian salon became a social epicenter for the French intellectual elite.

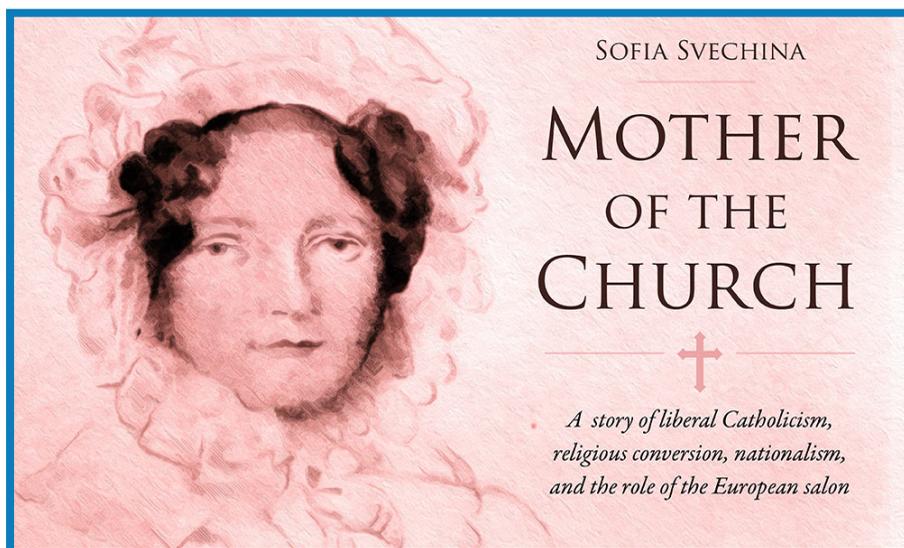
"The research was connected to my own experience as a young woman living in post-Soviet Russia," explains Bakhmetyeva, who is also the associate director of UR's Susan B. Anthony Institute for Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies. "I developed an interest in all things Catholic, only to discover that there is a long and fascinating history of Russian Catholicism—a complicated identity in a largely [Russian] Orthodox country."

Bakhmetyeva delves into Svechina's life as a noblewoman during a time with few occupational opportunities for women and within the context of liberal Catholicism, religious conversion, nationalism, and the role of the European salon.

"The prize was particularly gratifying to me," adds Bakhmetyeva, "because I consider myself primarily a historian of women in Catholicism, so this prize recognizes both my work and the importance of the subject."

The Koenig Award, granted by the American Catholic Historical Association, is awarded to a monograph that focuses on the life of a Catholic personage of any age or time. The \$1500 prize was presented to Bakhmetyeva in January at the association's annual meeting.

To learn more about Bakhmetyeva's book and Sofia Svechina, listen to the July 2017 episode of the University's Quadcast: <https://www.rochester.edu/newsletter/quadcast-mother-church/>



# PHOTOGRAPHING POST-SOVIET RUSSIA

JAMES STEINCAMP, BA '94

*One day this past year, a former student stopped by and noticed that photographs he had taken were hanging in the department. He kindly provided us with this description of the circumstances that led to his taking of these photos.*

The four photographs on display in the History Department were taken during a ten-day backpacking trip in Altai Krai, Russia in 1993. I spent that summer studying Russian language and culture at the Russian State Humanities University (RGGU) in Moscow with about fifteen other UR students. In addition to classes at RGGU, we all came prepared with personal research projects to take us in unique directions.

My original intention was to travel to Ukraine to photograph synagogues which had been seized by the state and converted into workers' halls during the Russian Revolution. Unfortunately, those plans fell through, as I was unable to obtain a visa without paying a substantial 'administrative fee.' Instead, I was fortunate to join a small group of graduate students from RGGU and Moscow State University headed to Siberia for an oral history project based on interviews with local residents about their experiences during the Second World War.

The four-hour flight from Moscow to Barnaul covers only half the distance across the country and provides an illustration of the scale of the Russian Federation. It also offered plenty of time to contemplate the dilapidated state of our Soviet-made jet airliner. Once in Barnaul, we met a few students from Altai State University and headed south via public bus to Biysk and onto the farmlands at the foothills of the Altai Mountains. As the villages grew smaller and more remote, we alternated between hitchhiking and backpacking to make progress through the countryside.

Unfortunately, I have since misplaced my notebook from the trip, but I distinctly remember hiking along the Peschanaya River—or perhaps one of its tributaries—to the point that it became a mere stream. Many of the villages we visited consisted of just a few dozen (or fewer) households and were so small that their names do not appear on maps. Many

of the homes did not have indoor plumbing and relied on manual water pumps and outhouses; one resident recalled that his village had been connected to the electrical grid in his youth (presumably in the mid-60s).

The photograph of the man in the blue jacket with his medals brings back several memories. Although a highly-decorated veteran of the Great Patriotic War, he lived in an extraordinarily modest house with his wife and granddaughter. His experience in the war had translated into neither wealth nor status, yet he was outgoing and eager to share his experiences. When I mentioned that I was a Navy veteran, he nodded, smiled, and gave me that look that veterans tend to give each other.

Our experience at his home was entirely different than what we encountered earlier that day at the house of the former local Party boss. He, too, was a veteran of the war, and although he had fewer medals and much less to tell, his house was filled with imported German appliances, and he had his black luxury sedan (a Chaika, I believe) parked out in front for everyone to see. During our interview, my



*"Born in 1917, Alexi served in The Great Patriotic War... He is talkative and carries on in a lively manner, but his limp betrays his age. After the interview with Oleg, Alexi brought out his uniform from the war, laden with an assortment of brightly colored medals and orders. He took this ceremony very seriously and asked that I send a copy of the picture to him... Alexi was eager to hear my opinions on a variety of topics and provided his own opinions in return. He projected a strong sense of dignity and good humor." ("Alexi, Veteran of the Patriotic War" / James Steincamp)*

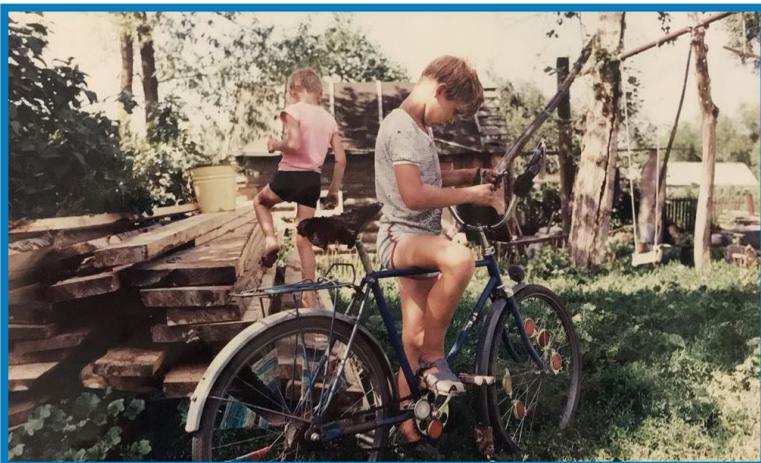
# PHOTOGRAPHING POST-SOVIET RUSSIA CONTINUED...

JAMES STEINCAMP, BA '94

hiking boots caught his attention, and he began asking questions about my gear. My limited Russian prompted more questions, and once he established that I was American, the conversation drifted toward the surreal. He insisted that the current troubles were only a temporary setback, that the only news worth reading was Pravda and Izvestia, that Yeltsin (derogatorily pronounced as Eltsin) would soon be removed, and that Russia would quickly recover its proper place in the world. He was embarrassed by the collapse of the Soviet Union, and yet simultaneously dismissive of American culture and society. One of the students helping with translation asked me, in English, "Where did they dig up this fossil?"

The man's son, daughter-in-law, and granddaughter arrived and rescued us from the conversation by asking endless questions about the costs of various items in America: milk, shoes, jeans, radios, televisions, cars, houses, etc. His son spoke German, and as my German was substantially better than my Russian, we were able to speak without the help of an interpreter or comical gestures. His attitude was much more pragmatic, and he was genuinely interested in what life in America was like.

The boy in the picture with his bike reminds me of



*"Interviewing families meant that Oleg and I were required to walk miles from house to house, especially in the last two villages, which were quite small. Most children used bicycles to get around, and many were decorated with reflectors and colored string like this one is." ("Child & Bicycle" / James Steincamp)*

how happy I was to be in the countryside after a month and a half in Moscow. Vegetables, fruit, meat, and milk were both plentiful and fresh—unlike in Moscow, where the currency was in the process of collapsing and where sometimes even the potatoes at the market were spoiled. While Moscow felt like it was descending into chaos, these villages seemed entirely removed from these concerns.

The boy's parents and neighbors invited us to an ad hoc feast and piled the table high with all kinds of food. I believe that was the second lunch we had that day. While the villagers were initially excited to hear about life in Moscow from the graduate students, once they learned that I was an American it was as if they had a visitor from another universe. Their curiosity was contagious and their generosity overwhelming. That evening, the mayor arranged dinner at the home of the local English teacher, who immediately related that she had never met a native English speaker. The whole evening felt as if I were having a conversation with the Queen of England; her English was flawless, and it left me feeling a bit self-conscious about the general state of colloquial American English. Her husband was annoyed that his wife was the center of the evening's attention, and he proceeded to drink to the point that he became a bit of an embarrassment.

When I returned to Moscow, I learned that all of my Soviet-era rubles would be retired from circulation in favor of the new Russian ruble that following Monday, and I had just Sunday to spend them all before they became worthless. Just a few weeks after we returned to the States, there was a coup against President Yeltsin, complete with tanks in the streets and an attack on the house of parliament. It was a particularly interesting time to visit Russia.

I returned to UR in the fall of 1993 to take classes in Jewish studies as part of the Take Five program. After developing the film for these photographs and printing contact sheets, I shared them with professors Jeffrey Burds and Brenda Meehan with the idea of putting together a student exhibition. With their help, the History Department sponsored an exhibition of about twenty prints from the trip in the Hartnett Gallery the following spring semester.

## MICHAEL JARVIS WINS GOERGEN AWARD

At a ceremony on October 18, 2018, the Goergen Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching was presented to three UR professors, including Associate Professor of History Michael Jarvis, who is also Director of the Digital Media Studies Program.

Michael Jarvis earned a BA at Rutgers College and his MA and PhD at the College of William and Mary. He came to Rochester in 2001 after a two-year NEH postdoctoral fellowship and a year teaching maritime history on a schooner. He has taught courses in early American, Atlantic, maritime, and digital history and has supervised more than 40 undergraduate public history internships based in area museums and archives. He also offers courses and workshops in the Archaeology, Technology, and Historic Structures program. Jarvis was the director of the University's new Digital Media Studies major for several years and guided its curricular development to keep pace with a dynamically changing field. He is especially proud of the enhancements made to Rettner Hall that enable students to create amazing new digital things.

Jarvis is a strong proponent of experiential learning and engaging students in field research. Since 2010, he has directed the Smiths Island Archaeology project in Bermuda, running summer academic field schools. In 2014, he launched the Virtual St. George's project, which involves students in researching and digitally reconstructing Bermuda's former capital in the year 1774. In 2016, he co-led a small student team studying surviving Roman graffiti at sites in and around Pompeii, Italy.

Most recently, Jarvis joined the joint University of Rochester-University of Ghana Digital Archaeology field school based in Elmina Castle, where he guides students in data collecting and grappling with the dark history of a notorious Atlantic slave trade site. He is currently exploring ways to develop augmented reality heritage tours and uses video game engines to facilitate 'virtual visits' to historic sites as they are today and as they were in past centuries.

The generous support of University Trustee Robert Goergen and his wife, Pamela, enables the College to recognize, reward, and encourage strong and innovative undergraduate teaching.

The Goergen Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching recognizes the distinctive teaching accomplishments and skills of faculty in Arts, Sciences, and Engineering. The award aims to



*Michael Jarvis explores a dungeon in Elmina Castle using an Oculus Rift virtual reality headset (University of Rochester photo)*

acknowledge the full scope of work that contributes to excellence in undergraduate education. It can be given for distinguished teaching in large introductory courses or advanced seminars. In addition to being given for superior classroom performance, it can recognize innovation in course design or teaching methods, the creative use of educational technology, the integration of research and teaching, the capacity to elicit superior work from students, or the mentoring of students in independent study projects and senior essays.

Please join the History Department in congratulating Professor Jarvis!

# REMEMBERING SCHOLAR JOHN WATERS, A 'PROTO-DIGITAL HISTORIAN'

SANDRA KNISPEL (VIA @ROCHESTERNEWSCENTER)

Fellow historians, faculty, staff, and students are remembering John Waters, a professor emeritus of history, for his inspired teaching, enthusiasm, and trailblazing approach to the history of ordinary people. Waters, an expert on American colonial history, the American Revolution, and the Civil War and Reconstruction, died September 14, at the age of 83.

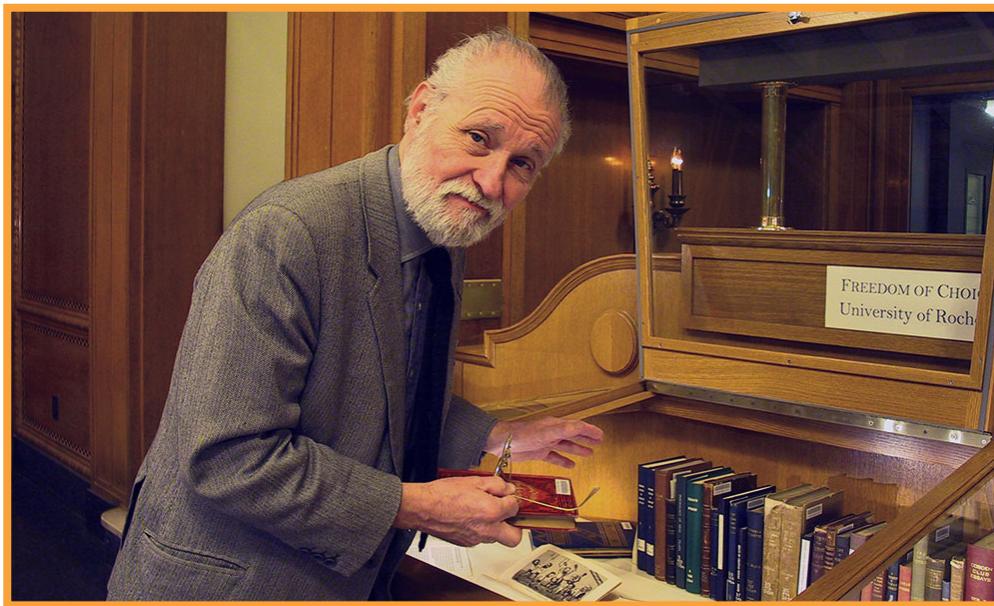
"John was a passionate and imaginative member of the history department for over 30 years, from his arrival in 1965 to his retirement in 1998," says Stewart Weaver, a history professor. "A pioneering scholar of colonial American history, he was also a dedicated and unforgettable teacher with a keen sense of historical humor. No one could tell a story quite like John. He was as erudite as he was funny—a winning combination that made for a remarkable classroom presence."

After earning his PhD from Columbia University in 1964, Waters began a 33-year career at Rochester, earning wide recognition as a leader in "new social history"—an approach that examines the lives of average people—and for his pioneering work in cliometrics, a method that uses computer and statistical analyses to understand historical data. He was named emeritus in 1998.

Waters' well-received book, *The Otis Family in Provincial and Revolutionary Massachusetts*, was considered at the cutting edge of both new social history and cliometrics when it was published in 1968, says fellow Rochesterian Michael Jarvis, an associate professor of history.

Waters stood out as "one of the most memorable colleagues in my first years here," says Jarvis, who was born the year that Waters published the Otis book. In the book, which won the Jamestown Prize from the Institute of Early American History and Culture in Williamsburg, Virginia, Waters located the root causes of the American Revolution in a local community setting by looking at a family central to the history of early America.

"John remained committed to finding hidden patterns and historical revolutions in mundane documents, teased out through closed analysis," making him perhaps a "proto-digital historian," says Jarvis.



*Professor emeritus John Waters works on the exhibit "Freedom of Choice and Academic Change: University of Rochester Innovations, 1850-1920" in Rush Rhees Library for the first Meliora Weekend event in 2001. In his 33-year career at the University, Waters earned wide recognition as a leader in new social history (University of Rochester photo / University Archives).*

## REMEMBERING SCHOLAR JOHN WATERS CONTINUED...

The lives of ordinary people fascinated Waters. A 1993 *Campus Times* article about his American Classical period class recounts Waters asking students to write a letter home to their parents telling them about the class. Former student Marcelo Aranda, who took Waters' class in the spring semester of 1992, wrote about the experience for the student newspaper. According to Aranda, the letter became the first assignment in lieu of an essay: an exercise in "scribbling" something down, as Waters put it, for posterity—so that future historians had something to work with. Something left behind by regular folks, not luminaries, leaders, or legends.

Through analysis of demographic information, culled from property ownership records in the New England coastal town East Guilford, Connecticut, Waters discovered that almost 40 percent of all residents in the mid-1700s were interrelated, often closely so. One out of every four families, he found, had a child who married his or her first cousin—commonly referred to as "kissing cousins." Waters' findings were not just interesting to historians, but were also reported on by national media outlets such as the *Atlanta Constitution*, Cleveland's *The Plain Dealer*, and the *Jackson Citizen Patriot* in Michigan.

Waters also compiled a list of popular baby names in East Guilford between 1693 and 1759. He found, again widely reported in US media, that the people who came originally from the English counties of Surrey and Kent had abandoned English royal and papal names in favor of biblical ones, such as Jesse, Asa, Levi, David, Samuel, John, Nathaniel, Daniel, and Josiah—in what Waters called a new "chosen-people-in-the-promised-land mentality."

Waters was part of a pioneering group of historians to use computers in research, and he was an early practitioner of what is now known as big data research. In a 1977 article in the former Rochester *Times-Union*, Waters describes "his favorite language—Fortran." No longer widely used the computer language was thoroughly new in the 1970s.

What did Waters find with his approach?

"We have tax assessment lists in the computer, cattle, land, pigs, et cetera for the entire town," Waters told the *Times-Union*. Ultimately, he asked himself whether there was anything on these lists which would correlate somehow to marriages—a near-impossible task before the advent of computers. Waters found the needle in the proverbial haystack. Ultimately, it all came down to cattle.

"That makes sense when you think about it. Dowries are paid in cattle," Waters said. "Once you see their way of doing things, you get a picture of their life. This was suspected before, but now it is a confirmed fact."

Waters is preceded in death by his twin brother, Fr. James Waters, and his ex-wife Brenda Meehan, who was also a history professor at UR and with whom he maintained a lifelong friendship. He is survived by their two daughters, Megan and Karen Waters, and their families.

A funeral was held on Saturday, September 22, 2018 at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Rochester.

**THE DEPARTMENT OF  
HISTORY WISHES TO THANK  
THE FOLLOWING ALUMNI,  
PARENTS, AND FRIENDS FOR  
THEIR GENEROUS SUPPORT  
THIS YEAR**

Richard Sherman Sorrell

Kayleigh Rae Stampfler

Joshua Stampfler

Matthew Neal Starr

David Alan Stein

Peter Stuart Szabo

Kathryn Tracy

Robert F. Wesser

Jessica Morgaine Willumson

David Wyman

Ling Yang

Mark Steven Zaid

Zian Zhu

# THE DEPARTMENT WORKSHOP SERIES

## PROFESSOR ROBERT WESTBROOK

Although a life of historical scholarship is often a solitary, even lonely, vocation, the crafting of our work is not done until it is shared—not only by means of publication, but also in anticipation of publication, by way of circulating our work in manuscript to critical readers who more often than not make it better.

In our own intellectual community, the History Department has established a forum, the Department Workshop, in which faculty and graduate students can share their work-in-progress with each other. Every month (save May) of the academic year, one of us places before the rest of us a manuscript for critical evaluation. This might be a chapter of a book or dissertation, a paper soon to be delivered, or an article or essay en route to submission to a journal or magazine. The manuscript is circulated to all of the faculty and graduate students in the department prior to the workshop session. At each session, the author of the manuscript briefly puts it in the necessary context, but the bulk of the gathering is spent considering questions and comments offered by the audience.

Although the Department Workshop has been in place for several years, it has often sputtered due to poor attendance, particularly by faculty. Given all of the other commitments, both professional and private, that we have, it has proven difficult to find a time and place that would be convenient for as many potential participants as possible. After some trial and error, we have hit upon a schedule that seems to work pretty well. The workshop is held early on a Friday afternoon (when few classes are offered) in the well-appointed Gamble Room on the third floor of Rush Rhees Library or a lovely seminar room in the Humanities Center on the second floor. Finding the right sort of food for the event has proven difficult as well—something more than the usual pizza and soda but something less than a budget-busting meal. Here, too, we seem to have come to a satisfying resolution: substantial sandwiches combined with some of the best potato chips on the planet.

One of the most appealing features of the Department Workshop is the opportunity it provides participants to often consider intriguing work in an area of history distant from their own. The sessions for 2018-2019 have certainly been diverse. They have ranged from Thomas Devaney's article on religious experience in early modern Spain, to Camden Burd's article on nineteenth-century American nurserymen, to Elya Zhang's book chapter on American loans to twentieth-century China, to Andrew Kless' dissertation chapter on German occupation policy in Eastern Europe in World War I, to Katherine Elena's dissertation chapter on feminism and professional psychology in the 1970s, to Joan Rubin's paper considering the challenges of writing the cultural history of music.

Although the Department Workshop is targeted principally at faculty and graduate students within the department, we advertise it widely in the university community, and anyone inside or even outside that community is welcome to participate. Those wishing to be put on the email list for the workshop need only contact the department.



*Tom Slaughter makes a suggestion to Joan Rubin at the Department Workshop on April 12*

# HEAR UR: BRIDGING HISTORY AND ENGINEERING

STEPHEN ROESSNER, LECTURER, UR AUDIO AND MUSIC ENGINEERING

Here at UR, and I suspect at many educational institutions across the world, departments within a university may operate within their own bubbles for a majority of the time. Tom Fleischman [Assistant Professor of History] and I met in 2017 when he asked me to come to his in-progress podcasting course to give a lecture on audio. Of course, I tried to fit in all I could in a scant hour and a half, but after the class, I conveyed my interest in helping out the next time Tom decided to offer the course. And here we are, at the end of the first semester of co-teaching a course in podcasting. Frankly, it's been a blast.

You may be thinking that Audio and Music Engineering and History is an odd pairing of departments. However, it is not so peculiar. Since the turn of the 20th century and the advent of radio and audio recording, history has been largely defined by sound.

"Ask not what your country can do for you—ask what you can do for your country." Just reading those words, even without the audio, many of us can hear the inflection and timing of JFK's voice.

Immediately upon reading the words, "*I have a dream...*," Martin Luther King, Jr. appears in your mind, along with the soaring and booming texture of his voice on that warm August day.

There are countless others. FDR's fireside chats. The Hindenburg disaster. Hillary Clinton's "Women's rights are human rights" speech before the UN. I could go on and on, but the fact remains that history and audio do not exist in separate vacuums—so why shouldn't they be brought together in a college course?

With "Podcasting History: Hear UR," the goal is for students to produce an effective, well-researched, and compelling story around a central topic. Tom's passion for history and the research process is palpable, and in turn, students get excited about their topics and the stories they want to tell. My zeal for sound design and audio production hopefully excited the students into thinking about how sound design works with the story, from setting the scene to the intimacy of the voiceover.

Many of the students have openly expressed their passion for the course and the opportunity it presents to make something tangible. They have traveled to New York City, Chicago, and Boston to gather interviews

and record soundscapes of museums. We have taken the students on field trips and brought in several podcasting experts, such as Lillian Cunningham (*Presidential/Constitutional/The Washington Post*), Jim Briggs (*Reveal*), Max Linsky (*Longform*), and Rob Byers (*American Public Media*) to advise our students on their endeavors.

Producing a history podcast is not a simple venture. Research must be conducted and sourced for the script. Sound effects and music must be appropriate for the tone of each episode. Interviews with those more knowledgeable must be booked and recorded, then edited down to the key points. Students are tasked with choosing the logo, website design, episode order, music and sound effects, and overall structure of the podcast. They are in control—which is exactly what Tom and I want.

The twenty students enrolled in the spring 2019 course were placed into six groups of three people,



*Stephen Roessner is a Grammy Award winning audio engineer and lecturer at the University of Rochester.*

## HEAR UR CONTINUED...

with the remaining two students acting as coordinating producers to keep an ear on how each episode ties together. Each group has a Lead Researcher, a Producer, and an Audio Engineer who worked together to create an episode for this season of *Hear UR*, entitled "Nature Reconstructed."

If you are unfamiliar with *Hear UR*, it is a podcast that tackles topics of history around the Rochester area. And since the course is also cross-listed with Environmental Humanities, we choose subjects that deal with the environment and our relationship to it. This season, we traverse the topic of taxidermy, and through that lens, the themes of race, colonialism, and environmental anxiety, among other issues. We visit the stories of luminaries such as P.T. Barnum and Jumbo the elephant, George Eastman, William Hornaday, Osa Johnson, Delia Akeley, and Carl Akeley—the taxidermist who built Akeley Hall of African Mammals at the American Museum of Natural History. It is an adventurous, compelling, and largely untold story that everyone should tune in to hear.

*Hear UR* Season Two: "Nature Reconstructed" debuted on April 30. It is available to stream via your favorite podcast app or at [www.hearur.com](http://www.hearur.com).



## STEWART WEAVER NAMED ANDREW CARNEGIE FELLOW

SANDRA KNISPEL (VIA @ROCHESTERNEWSCENTER)

*"On August 5, 2010, a violent cloudburst dumped fourteen inches of rain on Ladakh, a mountain region in the far north of India accustomed to getting just three inches of rain a year. In the principal town of Leh especially, the results were catastrophic: 255 people killed, over 800 injured, and thousands left homeless. Five years later, flooding recurred on a wider scale, destroying buildings, roads, fields, and orchards all over Ladakh and provoking a wide-ranging discussion among locals about changing weather patterns and the causes of climate catastrophe. For even as it suffers from too much water, Ladakh also suffers from too little. Declining snowfall and glacial recession have diminished its water reserves and created unprecedented conditions of agricultural scarcity."*



Stewart Weaver, left, forages for medicinal plants with Michael Dorjee, a student at the Central Institute of Buddhist Studies in Leh, India. (photo courtesy Tanya Bakhmetyeva)

So writes Stewart Weaver, a professor of history at the University of Rochester, describing the devastation of an Indian mountain region that he and a team have observed for the past two summers. Now, Weaver has been selected as a 2019 Andrew Carnegie Fellow to continue work on the project "Climate Witness: Voices from Ladakh"—an effort to preserve the rich culture and history of the locale and its people before it's too late.

The Carnegie Fellowship, among the most prestigious awards in the social sciences and humanities, provides up to \$200,000 in support for research toward "the publication of a book or major study that offers a fresh

## ANDREW CARNEGIE FELLOW CONTINUED...

perspective on a pressing challenge of our time,” according to the Carnegie Corporation’s website. Weaver’s was one of 32 successful nominations out of nearly 300.

Laura Smoller, a professor of history and chair of the department at Rochester, says Weaver has long excelled in fostering “informed engagement with the pressing issues of the day, whether they be labor reform and the problems of industrialization in 19th- and early 20th-century Britain, or the challenges of climate change in our own era. The Carnegie Fellowship is a fitting next step and a recognition of the true distinction he has achieved as a historian.”

Gloria Culver, dean of the School of Arts & Sciences, describes Weaver’s project and work as “broad sweeping, incredibly timely, and relevant. The Carnegie Fellowship recognition is a strong indication of the project’s significance with potential findings that could provide support for a region under duress.”

Mountain environments are particularly susceptible to climate change, placing Ladakh—which translates roughly to “land of high passes”—on the front lines of global warming. “Looking closely at Ladakh,” Weaver says, “allows us to draw larger conclusions about the challenges of climate change at high altitude, and the ways in which mountain communities are both struggling with and successfully adapting to them.”

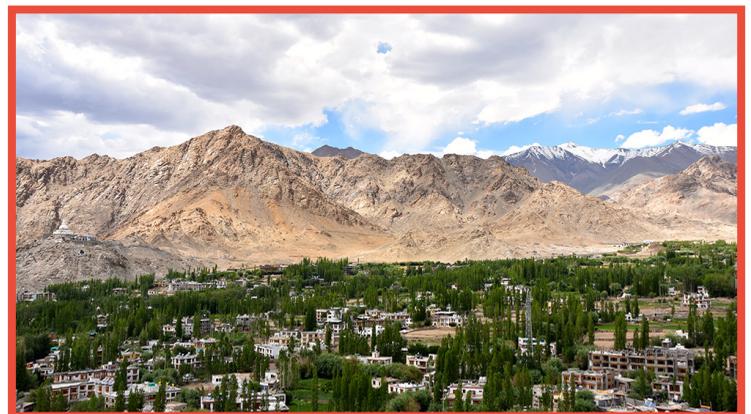
An ongoing research collaboration between the University of Rochester, the Himalayan Cultural Heritage Foundation, and the Central Institute for Buddhist Studies in Leh, the Climate Witness project has taken several Rochester students to the region, along with Weaver and his wife and project partner Tatyana Bakhmetyeva, an associate professor of history and gender, sexuality, and women’s studies at Rochester, and anthropologist Nancy Chin, an associate professor of public health sciences who has been conducting field research in Ladakh for many years. Over the course of two summers, the team has collected and recorded a wide array of Ladakhi testimonies about the struggle and resilience in this high trans-Himalayan land.

Their challenges are urgent. As Weaver writes, “The Himalaya is the Water Tower of Asia. The snow fields and glaciers on which 700 million people depend for their water are melting fast and calling the sustainability of life in the entire Himalayan watershed into very real question. Out-migration is imminent, and in Ladakh it has begun.”

In Ladakh, many local men, unable to support their families in the villages any longer, have already begun migrating to Leh to work in the burgeoning tourist and service industries. In many ways, Weaver notes, the region is an example of global trends in the age of climate change: weather disturbances, water scarcity, out-migration from rural communities, and the consequent erosion of traditional village life. But it is all happening much faster there, warns Weaver, rendering the collection of oral histories so urgent.

Hearing from local voices may be especially important in the context of climate change. Weaver argues that too many Western scholars still indulge “the romantic tendency to see the trans-Himalaya as an isolated realm away, apart, and above the world at large.”

But while today’s pace of global warming is unprecedented, Ladakhis have always had to meet the challenges of a harsh environment and develop strategies of resilience and adaptation, he notes. Now Weaver is hoping to be able to “recover some of these adaptive strategies and bring local knowledge to bear on the greatest global challenge of our time.”



*Professor Weaver conducts his research in Ladakh, India, a mountain community in the far north of the country. (Photo courtesy Tanya Bakhmetyeva)*

## IN MEMORIAM

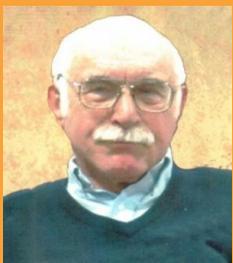
**James Friguglietti** was an assistant professor of history at UR from 1967 to 1969. He died of complications from a stroke on March 5, 2018, in Billings, Montana. A student of John Hall Stewart at Case Western Reserve and Crane Brinton at Harvard, he specialized in the French Revolution. After Rochester, he taught at Case Western and for many years at Montana State University Billings, where he became a beloved campus figure. As an only child whose parents predeceased him, Friguglietti is survived by loving cousins in the Cleveland area, especially Joseph and Rosemarie De Luca and their descendants.

**Dean A. Miller**, professor of history at UR from 1971 to 1993, died at his home in Chicago on January 28, 2019. He was 87 years old. An active scholar throughout his life, he published his last book, *The Epic Hero* (Johns Hopkins University Press, 2000), seven years after his retirement and continued to pen scholarly papers, co-edit a *festschrift*, and attend academic conferences. In November, he traveled to the University of Edinburgh to participate in the “Thinking About Mythology in the 21st Century” colloquium, organized by the Celtic/Scottish and Scandinavian Studies programs. He presented what turned out to be his final paper on the myths of authoritarians.

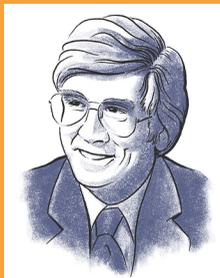
**Morton “Mickey” Keller**, BA ‘50, passed away on July 5, 2018, at the age of 89. A veteran of the US Navy, he was the Spector Professor of History Emeritus at Brandeis University, where he taught as a full professor for over 40 years. He was a groundbreaking author of books on American political and institutional history of the late 19th and early 20th century, including *Affairs of State: Public Life in Late Nineteenth Century America* (Lawbook Exchange, 2000), *Regulating a New Economy* (Harvard University Press, 1990), and *The Unbearable Heaviness of Governing: The Obama Administration in Historical Perspective* (Hoover Press, 2013). He co-authored *Making Harvard Modern: The Rise of America’s University* (Oxford University Press, 2001) with his wife Phyllis Keller, a retired associate dean at Harvard.

**Hayden V. White**, Professor of History at UR from 1958 to 1968, died on March 5, 2018, at his home in Santa Cruz, California. He was 89 years old. He was an intellectual and theoretical historian whose magnum opus *Metahistory* (Johns Hopkins University Press, 1973) helped pioneer the linguistic turn in modern historiography. White taught at several institutions during his career, including Stanford University, UC Berkeley, UCLA, UC Santa Cruz, and UR. In addition to his wife, whom he married in the early 1970s, White is survived by a daughter, Juliana Sarah Brose White, two sons, Adam and David, and a grandson. He also leaves behind a vibrant legacy about the ways historians tell stories about the past.

**Edward C. Atwater**, BA ‘50, passed away on April 27, 2019, at the age of 93. After serving in World War II as a combat infantryman and graduating from UR with a history major, he went on to receive an MD from Harvard Medical School. He served as intern, assistant resident, and chief resident in medicine at Strong Memorial Hospital and remained thereafter on the faculty of the medical school, ultimately as associate professor of medicine and of the history of medicine. After retiring he built two collections, one of books and ephemera related to American popular medicine and health reform and one of AIDS education posters, both now at UR. He is survived by his children, Rebecca and Ned, and two grandsons, Peter and Nicholas.



James Friguglietti



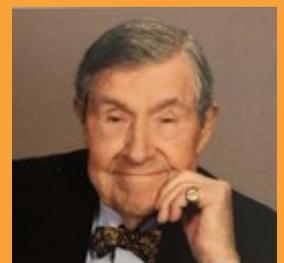
Dean A. Miller  
(University Illustration /  
Michael Osadciw)



Morton "Mickey" Keller



Hayden V. White  
(Wesleyan University  
photo / William van Saun)



Edward C. Atwater

# DIGITAL ARCHAEOLOGY IN GHANA: CAPTURING AND ANALYZING EUROPEAN SLAVE TRADE CASTLES

## PROFESSOR MICHAEL JARVIS

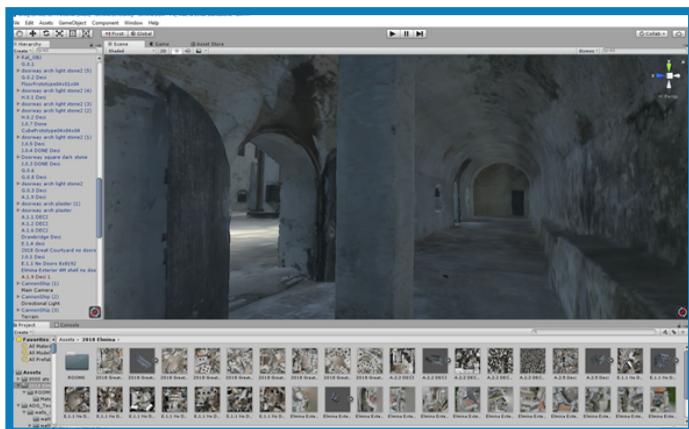
I love puzzles—the challenge of fitting together pieces, using tiny details to make connections until a broader picture emerges. As part of a multi-disciplinary, multi-national collaborative team, I have brought this love to tackling Elmina Castle, a UNESCO World Heritage Site in coastal Ghana built by the Portuguese before Columbus voyaged to America. For the past two years, Archaeology, Technology, and Historical Structures Director Renato Perucchio has led a joint UR/University of Ghana field school focused on digitally recording this sprawling 140-room fortification, figuring out how it evolved and changed across five centuries, and assessing its structural integrity with an eye toward future preservation. I've traded in my trowel for a camera, laser scanner, and drone as I teach students digital archaeology techniques for creating a very precise virtual version of Elmina that can be used and studied in many different ways.



*The 2018 field school cohort outside Fort Amsterdam—photo shot with a drone! (Michael Jarvis)*

To date, our team has taken more than 51,000 photos and used photogrammetry software to create digital models of 82 rooms within Elmina, as well as the whole castle exterior and its surrounding landscape using drone-mounted cameras. Students worked everywhere from the top of the tallest tower to the depth of an ancient water cistern to document Portuguese and Dutch parts of the fort. The recording drove home stark historical realities: rooms ranged from the airy splendor of the governor's bedroom to the oppressive stifling darkness of former slave dungeons.

Using a FARO laser scanner, we have also taken nearly 300 scans to create the first recorded floorplan of Elmina since 1940, with sub-centimeter accuracy. The resulting six billion point 3D model helps us study Elmina's construction off-season in Rochester, since Virtual Reality headsets enable us to stand in and examine any of the rooms we've scanned. Ultimately, I hope to work with students to construct a website portal enabling scholars and the general public to virtually explore Elmina Castle from their desktops anywhere in the world, and provide Augmented Reality content (such as historical maps, photographs, and documents) for those visiting the physical castle.



*3D model inside Slave Dungeon J.0.5 (Michael Jarvis)*

Working with American, Ghanaian, and international students has been thrilling. Whether interviewing local shipbuilders, exploring sprawling Kumasi markets, or sampling kola nuts and palm wine, I've enjoyed learning alongside the field school participants—fellow puzzle-solving kindred spirits. I look forward to our third season this summer, when we will team up with Syracuse University to add “dirt” archaeology alongside our digital approach and dig into how Elmina and other slave trade forts were built and used.

# HISTORY'S LIFE LESSONS

LOU ROPER, PHD '92

The consideration of the topic of "History's Life Lessons" necessarily obliges me to peer through the mists of time, as it was 27 years ago this May when I received my PhD from UR. "We do what we do with care"—I still remember Professor John Waters, who became my mentor-in-chief, had written in the department's graduate studies brochure I received (pre-internet) when I began the PhD application process. I have tried to employ that "care" as a watchword both in my classrooms at the State University of New York at New Paltz and in my scholarship.

For instance, just last month, my seminar pupils embarked on a discussion of "revolution" that automatically transported my mind back to Professor Zagorin's "Early Modern Revolutions" seminar. My "United States History to 1865" students have just been introduced to the Beecher family, whose careers' importance first became apparent to me as I listened to Professor Young's lectures on these "improvers" while serving as her teaching assistant. Accordingly, I have always striven to apply this combination of rigor, patience, and encouragement that I received at UR along with a sense of appreciation for the circumstances in which historical actors operated and a corresponding suspicion (scorn?) for teleological approaches that make facile connections between past and present, and for the tricks that documents can play on unwitting readers.

I hope that I have lived up to the example that was set for me. I do take immense gratification in the decision of the number of my former pupils to pursue their own PhDs. The first defended her dissertation (on slavery in nineteenth-century Arkansas-Indian Territory-Texas with a special focus on Native owners) at the University of Texas at Austin in April, and she will embark on her career at Michigan State next fall. Another is working up his dissertation topic at Harvard, and yet another is finishing his coursework at Clark. Still others have made their mark as educators and librarians in their own right, and I regard all of them in a way as the "academic grandchildren" of my UR models. My students are the most satisfactory means of returning the unrepayable favors my mentors have bestowed upon me.



*Lou Roper is a professor of history at the State University of New York at New Paltz*



*The Department of History would like to specially recognize Professor Roper for delivering the annual Mary Young Alumni Lecture on April 5, 2019. Professor Roper, a scholar of early modern England and its empire, is primarily interested in the development of early American societies and the expansion of early modern European trading and colonization interests. He gave a talk entitled, "Global Pursuits: English Overseas Initiatives of the Long Seventeenth Century." The talk was followed by a dialogue with history faculty and graduate students. Thank you for coming back to speak at your alma mater, Professor Roper!*

# NEWS FROM FACULTY AND GRADUATE STUDENTS

**Ted Brown**, professor emeritus of history, published *The World Health Organization: A History* (Cambridge University Press, 2019), which he co-authored with Marcos Cueto (Casa de Oswaldo Cruz, Fiocruz, Rio de Janeiro) and Elizabeth Fee (National Library of Medicine, Bethesda, Maryland). The book seeks to answer the question: how consistently and how well has the WHO pursued its mission of "the attainment by all peoples of the highest possible level of health" since 1946? The authors' account spans the WHO's aspirational postwar beginnings, the tensions and turnarounds of the Cold War period, and the embattled area of private encroachment on WHO turf.

**Camden Burd**, August PhD recipient, received the 2019 Edward Peck Curtis Ward for Excellence in Teaching by a Graduate Student by the UR Graduate Studies Office. He defended his dissertation, "The Ornament of Empire: Nurserymen and the Making of the American Landscape," in May.

**Marcia Esteves Agostinho**, MA student, is a professor of engineering in her home country of Brazil. Having been brought to Rochester for family reasons, she is taking this 'forced' sabbatical as an opportunity to change her career. She has just completed her first year as a master's student in the History Department, and she has already presented research papers at three conferences: the Milton Plesur Graduate History Conference at the University at Buffalo, the Annual Graduate Conference of the Department of History of Syracuse University, and the History Graduate Student Association's 14th Annual Student Conference at University of Maryland, College Park. Her research focuses on Brazilian history during the country's transition from monarchy to republic.

**Daniel Gorman, Jr.**, PhD candidate, traveled with a delegation of UR and Nazareth College students to the Parliament of the World's Religions in Toronto in November 2018. While there, he co-facilitated three workshops about interfaith relations. Dan also presented papers at the 2019 University at Buffalo and University of Michigan graduate history conferences. He received a CIRTL (UR's Center for the Integration of Research, Teaching, and Learning) Teaching-as-Research fellowship and was invited to join the HASTAC Scholars Program for digital

humanities training. Here at UR, Dan was selected to teach a summer 2019 course, "Cults, Chakras, and Crunchy Granola: New Age Religions in America," and he continues researching his dissertation on Spiritualism. Outside of his research work, Dan was elected as a Graduate Student Association officer for 2018–19 and served on the student advisory committee for the University's presidential search.

**Joseph E. Inikori**, professor of history, organized a 10-member panel, "British Imperialism and Globalization, 1650-1960," during the 28th World Economic History Congress held in Boston from July 29th-August 3rd, 2018. In the panel, he presented a paper entitled "British Imperialism and Globalization: British West Africa, 1821-1900." He hosted a pre-Congress meeting of the panel at UR with generous sponsorships from the Deans' Office and the History Department. The papers presented in the panel, plus three additional papers he solicited, are being edited for publication in a volume entitled *British Imperialism and Globalization: Essays in Honor of Patrick K. O'Brien*, edited by Joseph E. Inikori (forthcoming). He also produced a paper, "Euro-African Trade Relations and Socioeconomic Development in Nineteenth-Century West Africa," commissioned by Oxford University Press for publication in the peer-reviewed online journal *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of African History* (accepted). He attended (by invitation) a Wenner-Gren Symposium on 'Atlantic Slavery and the Making of the Modern World,' held in Lisbon, Portugal, from October 12-18, 2018, and presented a paper, "Atlantic Slavery and the Rise of the Capitalist Global Economy," which has been revised and submitted for publication in a special conference issue of the University of Chicago journal *Current Anthropology*. His paper, "The First Capitalist Nation: The Development of Capitalism in England," has been accepted for publication in Kaveh Yazdani and Dilip Menon (eds.), *Historical Capitalism: A Global Perspective* (Oxford University Press, forthcoming). He was part of a small group of experts invited to a workshop (International Institute for Social History, Amsterdam, March 28-19-, 2019) to critically review before publication the outcome of a project by a group of Dutch scholars on 'The Impact of Atlantic Slavery on the Dutch Republic's Economy,' funded by the Netherlands Science Foundation. As part of

## NEWS FROM FACULTY AND GRADUATE STUDENTS

his commitment to sharing knowledge produced by professionals in the academy with as many people as possible, he delivered a lecture, "African-Americans and the United States Economy: A Historical Perspective," at SUNY Finger Lakes Community College, Canandaigua, NY, February 9, 2018 (Black History Month event). Joseph continues to work on his labor-intensive project, *Transatlantic Slaving and Socioeconomic Development in the Atlantic World: Western Africa, 1450-1900*.

**Richard Kaeuper**, professor of history, continues as Medieval European editor for the forthcoming *Cambridge World History of Violence* with the able assistance of Sam Claussen (PhD '15). He has completed an article on sermon exempla as crusading propaganda to be published in a forthcoming Festschrift honoring a colleague in medieval history. To complete the latter study, he worked in the British Library during a short research trip to London between academic terms. A longer-term project in progress takes as its focus Louis de la Trémoille, a Burgundian knight who died on a battlefield in 1525 and was the subject of an early humanist treatise. A book review for the *American Historical Review* is also forthcoming.

**Rohma Khan**, PhD candidate, was awarded the Samuel and Marion Merrill Graduate Student Travel Grant from the Organization of American Historians (OAH) for her presentation during the 2019 OAH annual meeting in Philadelphia, PA. Her presentation, entitled "Driven by Freedom: South Asian Cabbies and Working-Class Identities," shed light on the economic struggles of immigrant cab drivers to reveal how South Asian cab drivers in particular were able to look past ethnic disparities amongst themselves to collectively protest the taxi industry. Her talk will also explore taxi drivers' contemporary struggles with ride-sharing vehicles and how the gig economy has led to a significant number of driver suicides in the past year. Her research reveals how, historically and to this day, taxi drivers protest unfair labor practices in order to uplift the industry.

**Carrie Knight**, PhD candidate, traveled in March 2019 to the New Bedford Whaling Museum in New Bedford, Massachusetts, where she was the recipient of a scholar-in-residence award. Carrie

spent her time conducting research for her dissertation on nineteenth-century American women. During her trip, Carrie had the opportunity to present a paper at the Deerfield-Wellesley Symposium in Deerfield, Massachusetts, entitled "'Visited All the Family': The Travelling Ministry of Susan Howland, 1858." Her trip was aided by a departmental travel grant.

**Tucker Million**, PhD candidate, completed his third year in the program in 2018-19. During this time, he passed his language and comprehensive exams, presented at several conferences, wrote a couple of book reviews, and continued his research on chivalry and violence in medieval Naples. He received a Rolf and Ursula Schneider-Stiftung Research Fellowship at the Herzog August Bibliothek in Wolfenbüttel, Germany for summer 2019. At the library, he will explore the motivations behind and justifications of violence within the knightly class while also looking to gauge the impact of this violence on non-elite populations.

**Dorinda Outram**, professor emerita of history, published *Four Fools in the Age of Reason: Laughter, Cruelty, and Power in Early Modern Germany* (University of Virginia Press, 2019). Her book is the first study to compile the lives of four famous jesters in post-Renaissance Germany.

**Katrina Ponti**, PhD candidate, has spent the last year diligently researching her dissertation, "Agents of Exchange: Diplomatic Operatives in the Early Republic." During her research trips, she also presented papers at the Society for Historians of the Early Republic Annual Meeting and was invited to present at the Washington Early American Seminar at the University of Maryland. She even managed to get a byline in *Passport: The Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations Review* with a historiographic article entitled "The Diplomatic Character(s) of the Early Republic."

**Joan Shelley Rubin**, professor of history, presented a paper titled "Cultural Hierarchy in Literature and Music" in February at the Bucerius Kunst Forum symposium "Disney, Rockwell, Pollock, Warhol: America's Icons" in Hamburg, Germany. The paper is part of her research project on the role of print culture in the popularization of classical music in the United

# NEWS FROM FACULTY AND GRADUATE STUDENTS

States during the mid-twentieth century. Rubin served as Ani and Mark Gabrellian Director of the UR Humanities Center during the 2019-20 academic year.

**James Rankine**, PhD candidate, has continued to work on his dissertation on the history of pirates and piracy in the Atlantic world. As an Andrew W. Mellon Fellow in the Digital Humanities, he has acted as a teaching assistant for the Department of Anthropology's class celebrating Lewis Henry Morgan's bicentennial and as a research assistant for the ReEnvisioning Japan Project. He continues to improve his digital pirate database and has extended his digital humanities work into an exploration of digital representations of interpersonal networks within the Bartholomew Roberts crew. In June 2019, he will be attending "The Problem of Piracy," a conference hosted by the University of Strathclyde in Glasgow, to present a paper drawn from both projects. In Spring 2019, he designed and taught "Violence in Colonial North America," an original undergraduate course for the Department of History.

**Daniel Rinn**, PhD candidate, is completing his dissertation on American environmentalism. In addition to his research, he has also been an active public humanist. Over the summer of 2018, he assisted Stewart Weaver and Tatyana Bakhmetyeva in recording oral histories about climate change in Ladakh, India. He is building a digital archive to make these interviews available to the public. He is also working with Joan Rubin in the development of a summer seminar in the humanities for students at Rochester's East High School. Titled "Experiencing Civic Life," the two-week program will begin in July 2019. Beyond UR, he has also collaborated with the Museum Association of New York on the Smithsonian exhibit *Water/Ways*, which will open in several New York State cities in 2019. He will give a public lecture (tentatively titled "What is a Waterway Anyway?") at the opening of each exhibit. Additionally, he has published several essays and reviews. His article on the environmental costs of marijuana production appeared in the *Washington Post*. He published two peer-reviewed essays: "Liberty Hyde Bailey: Pragmatic Naturalism in the Garden" and "Deep Ecology in Humboldt County: Bill Devall and a Philosophy for Action." He has also

written two book reviews and is currently co-authoring an essay on Liberty Hyde Bailey for inclusion in a book about Midwestern intellectual history.

**Pablo Miguel Sierra Silva**, assistant professor of history, is thrilled to say that academic year 2018-2019 turned out to be one of the most fulfilling years of his career. During fall 2018, he completed a National Endowment for the Humanities research fellowship for his second book project, *Mexican Atlantic: Freedom, Captivity, and the 1683 Raid on Veracruz*. The project ties the history of seventeenth-century Mexico, (South) Carolina and Saint-Domingue (modern-day Haiti) through an African diaspora lens. In particular, it challenges us to read through and against imperial historiographies (Spanish, English, and French) to focus on the lived experiences of the women, children, and men caught in the mindset of racial slavery, colonial struggles, and pirate literature. Without a doubt, this project has been influenced by the coursework and research of his colleague, Mike Jarvis (thank you, Mike!). He was able to present some preliminary ideas on this matter at the UC Davis Latin American History Workshop. 2019 got off to a very fast start as he became the director of undergraduate studies for history and got back to teaching. Before the semester kicked off, however, he presented new research at the Conference on Latin American History and at the American Historical Association Annual Meeting in Chicago. While at the AHA book exhibit, he was thrilled to walk towards the Cambridge University Press stand, where (for the first time in his career) he found a copy of his very own book, *Urban Slavery in Colonial Mexico: Puebla de los Angeles, 1531-1706*, for sale (if you are reading this, you should buy it!). In late January, he presented "Pirates, Captives, and the Digital Archive: Researching Afro-Mexican History in the 21st Century" at the Phelps Colloquium. In April, he presented a new iteration of this research at the University of Pittsburgh's Representation of Afro-Latinidad conference, which is being organized by Professor Michele Reid-Vazquez. This summer, he looks forward to his first research trip to Haiti and to catching a few Red Wings games.

**Thomas Slaughter**, professor of history, is proud to announce that the Robert D. L. Gardiner Foundation

## NEWS FROM FACULTY AND GRADUATE STUDENTS

awarded a grant of \$290,000 to extend the Seward Family Archive digital humanities project for an additional two years, through 2020. The grant will fund the students who are expanding the volunteer program that brings senior citizens into the project to transcribe and annotate the Seward family's (family of William H. Seward, Governor of New York, U. S. Senator, and Secretary of State during the Civil War) correspondence, c.1820-1873, along with undergraduates and graduate students trained in documentary editing and digital humanities technology. They are now working with volunteers at two off-campus sites, The Penfield Community Center and the Highlands at Pittsford retirement community, and are establishing a third site in Brockport aiming to increase the number of volunteers from about 20 to 25. This brings the total for external grants supporting the project to over \$1 million, and for the next two years the project will continue to pay about 15 students annually to work in our lab in Rush Rhees Library and in the field with volunteers. The students digitize, transcribe, annotate, and edit each other's work before coding and posting it on the website ([sewardproject.org](http://sewardproject.org)) that they and their predecessors designed and created in collaboration with library staff from the Department of Rare Books, Special Collections, and Preservation and the Digital Scholarship Lab, which will maintain the website when we complete the project. To date, they have over 3,000 letters on the website, databases for the people mentioned in the letters, as well as places and full citations for all the books and authors mentioned in the correspondence. They also have the pedagogy, how to do what they've done and are doing, the standards, and instructions for establishing standards and training students and volunteers posted on the website. Their goal is to provide a model that will assist others with public history and digital humanities projects, object-based learning, and community-engaged teaching. With Gardiner Foundation funds they will also be scripting, filming, editing, and posting on the website videos illustrating the workflow. The volunteer arm of the project was funded for the past two years by the National Historic Preservation and Records Commission (National Archives), and the core project has been funded by the Fred L. Emerson Foundation for the past five years and through this year,

including our annual "Seward Stories" event, which was most recently presented April 2019 in the Hawkins-Carlson Room in Rush Rhees Library. The project is managed by Michelle Furlano, Lauren Davis, Carrie Knight, Camden Burd, Corinna Hill, and Shellie Clark.

**Laura Smoller**, professor of history, had a busy year in 2018-19, most notably assuming the role of department chair in January, but also in terms of her research activities. Juggling her twin interests in saints and apocalyptic thought, she published two articles arising from her work on Saint Vincent Ferrer ("Power and the Holy: Political and Religious Interests in the Canonization of Vincent Ferrer," in *Anuario de Estudios Medievales*; and "Dominicans and Demons: Possession, Temptation, and Reform in the Cult of Vincent Ferrer," in *Speculum*, the journal of the Medieval Academy of America, whose editorial board she joined in March). She also published a book chapter: "Preacher, Pope, King, and Emperor: Remembering Vincent Ferrer and Perpignan," in Nikolas Jaspert, et al., eds., *Perpignan 1415: Un sommet européen à l'époque du Grand Schisme d'Occident* (LIT Verlag, 2018). Invitations to speak at Northwestern University and at a colloquium in Tours, France, gave her the chance to plumb a new angle of her eschatological research, with talks entitled "Looking for the End in Late Medieval Germany: Wolfgang Aytinger's Commentary on Pseudo-Methodius" and "Turks, Church Reform, and Messianic Emperor: Wolfgang Aytinger's 1496 Commentary on Pseudo-Methodius." July 2018 saw her in the UK, speaking on "Inquisition, Memory, and Miracle in the Fifteenth Century: Examples from the Canonizations of Bernardino of Siena and Vincent Ferrer" at the International Medieval Congress in Leeds. And the highlight of the year was a presentation (in Castilian) at an international congress in Valencia, Spain, honoring the 600th anniversary of the death of their home-town saint Vincent Ferrer. In between, for fun, she performed (flute) with the University of Rochester Symphony Orchestra, the Finger Lakes Chorale, and Cordancia Chamber Orchestra.

**Stewart Weaver**, professor of history, has won an Andrew Carnegie Fellowship to continue work on an ongoing collaborative oral history of climate change in the trans-Himalayan region of Ladakh, India.

# ALUMNI NEWS AND REMINISCENCES

**Joseph A. Amato**, PhD '70, recently published *Buffalo Man: Life of a Boy Giant on the Minnesota River*.

**Robert Leonard Berkowitz**, MA '70, published "The Long Damn Summer of '42: An Untold Story of Stolen Dreams" on Medium.com. Weaving together historical research and family remembrances, his article illuminates the events of the summer of 1942, when more Jews were murdered than at any other time during the Holocaust.

**Dan Browning**, BA '16, finished his law degree at Duke and has been accepted to the PhD program in history at the University of Texas at Austin. Dan will begin their top-ranked program for Latin American history in fall 2019.

**Antoinette Emch-Dériaz**, BA '78, PhD '84, published an article entitled "Mozart et Tissot—vraiment?" in *Annales de la Société Suisse pour l'étude du XVIIIe siècle*, vol. 8, 2017, pp. 73-92.

**Dan Fiedler**, BA '17, published an article entitled "Unpleasant Strife" in the *New York Archives* magazine. His article, which focuses on the construction of the Erie Canal, relates a mill owner's tale that epitomizes tension between the state and landowners.

**Jane Peterson Ganz**, BA '75, lives with her husband and 17 animals on a 20-acre horse farm in Wisconsin, and she runs her own tutoring business from her home. They have 4 grandchildren, all of whom live nearby.

**Gregory S. Kealy**, PhD '77, was named a member of the Order of Canada in 2017. He is Professor Emeritus at the University of New Brunswick. His most recent publication is *Spying on Canadians: The Royal Canadian Mounted Police Security*

*Service and the Origins of the Long Cold War* (University of Toronto Press, 2017).

**Corinne E. Lax**, BA '71, retired after a long career as a government attorney with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. For several years now, she has had the pleasure of volunteering at the National Archives at Boston, where she has been reading and putting together an extensive index of cases from the US District Court and Circuit Court of Appeals (Maine), covering the period 1790-1870. The aim is to facilitate research of these judicial records and this period of New England history.

**John Marciano**, BA '62, published *The Russians Are Coming, Again: The First Cold War as Tragedy, the Second as Farce* (Monthly Review Press, 2018), which he co-authored with Jeremy Kuzmarov.

**Tara McCarthy**, PhD '05, published *Respectability and Reform: Irish American Women's Activism, 1880-1920* (Syracuse University Press, 2018).

**Stan Pelkey**, MA '06, joined the faculty at the University of Kentucky as director of the School of Music. He remains active as a scholar, writing and publishing in the areas of film studies and musicology.

**David L. Rosenbloom**, BA '68, received a successful kidney transplant nearly 10 years ago and decided to devote his remaining years to helping others cope with kidney disease and its life-changing effects. Applying over 40 years of professional communications and marketing management experience, he attends medical conferences speaking on a variety of patient-centered subjects, participates actively in social media kidney patient support groups, writes articles for medical journals, does peer mentoring,



## ALUMNI NEWS AND REMINISCENCES CONTINUED...

and serves on the Board of Directors for the End Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) Network 18 in Southern California.

**Jamie C. Saucier**, PhD '12, resides in College Station, Texas, but is otherwise well. He occupies himself variously with editing, tutoring, writing, and teaching. He is most proud to be the father of Clara and Malcolm as well as the spouse of Jessica E. Light, an accomplished evolutionary biologist. Jamie is active online and has a modest yet not insignificant following on Twitter, where you can follow his dad jokes and acerbic observations on the United States' declension into a quasi-fascist, authoritarian ethno-state @beardedstoner.

**Peter Sposato**, PhD '14, signed a contract for publication with Cornell University Press. His book is entitled *When Courtesy and Valor Lived There still: Chivalric Culture in Late Medieval Florence*.

**Melissa P. Upton**, BA '71, graduated with her MD from Northwestern University Medical School in 1978. She entered academic pathology practice and has worked at Tufts University Medical School, Boston University Medical School, Harvard Medical School, and the University of Washington, where she is now Emeritus Professor of Pathology. She continues part-time practice and is currently serving a one-year term as president of the American Society for Clinical Pathology. Even though she is in medicine, she still reads history and is convinced that having a historical perspective is immensely helpful when facing any challenge. She sends her thanks to all her teachers and fellow students from UR.

**Randall Whitestone**, BA '83, wrote two posts for the New York History Blog: "Ogden Reid: A Link to Another Era in New York Politics" and "Rockefeller, Harriman and 1958's Battle of the Millionaires."



## ALUMNI CAREER CONNECTIONS

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to our Career Connections website! It is a huge help to our history majors. You can view the career connections on the department website under "Alumni."

If you are interested in becoming a career connection for our undergraduate students, please fill out this brief form so we can add your information to our portal: <https://tinyurl.com/y8crCb2f>

# COMMENCEMENT 2019

**Majors (24):** Joe Azar-Williams, Thomas Borchert, Amanda Cabal, Daniel Jacob Cancelmo, Jackie Capita, Ruth Dan, Jose Fernandez, Sean Fischer, Mahwish Hamayun, Matthew Hoffner, Farren Hurwitz, Farida Ibrahim, Tian Lan, Hana Letic, Daria Lynch, Sophia McRae, Courtney Otto, Anthony Pane, Samuel Roth, Bruno Sacatucua, Samuel Schacht, Katie Turi, Daniel Willis, Ling Yang

**Minors (17):** Ian Brodka, Aidan Connelly, Griffin Cunningham, Alexis Delgado, Matthew DelSordo, Sarah Gallagher, Scott Giles, Eleanor Haase, Andrew Lee, John Martinez, Stephanie Mendez, Stephen Morton, Hunter Phinney, Juan Puerto, Kit Tracy, Jack Zhang, Emily Zhu

The following graduate students received **master's degrees** this academic year: Shellie Clark, Rachel Marie Cox, Rhianna M. Gordon, Annika S. Peterson, and Alice Elizabeth Wynd.

John Portlock and Camden Burd each successfully defended their dissertations this year and will receive their PhDs in August.

## UNDERGRADUATE PRIZES

The Coates Senior Honors Essay Award, to the senior student who has written the best senior essay in the department, was awarded this year to **Daria Lynch**.

The N.B. Ellison Prize, to the member of the senior class concentrating in history who has done the best work in the department, was awarded this year to **Daria Lynch**.

The History Seminar Prize, to the history major who has written the best HIS 300W-level seminar paper, was awarded this year to **Samuel Schacht**.

The Eugene H. Webb Prize, to the undergraduate student who has done the best work in a course dealing with the Black experience in America, was awarded this year to **Sharline Rojo Reyes**.

The Herbert Lawrence Sadinsky Memorial Prize, to the undergraduate or graduate student who has written the best history paper on an aspect of World War II, was awarded this year to **Miranda Vasso**.

The Hugh Mackenzie Memorial Prize, to the first-year woman or women showing the highest achievement and interest in a history course, and to the first-year woman or women showing the greatest improvement in a history course, was awarded this year to **Kathleen Love**, **Atalanta Ritter**, and **Niharika Thakur**.

The Lina and A. William Salomone Prize, to the undergraduate student who has done outstanding work in Modern European History, was awarded this year to **Ling Yang**.

The Christopher Lasch Fellowship in American History is an opportunity offered to students who have shown strong work in their time as a history major. Students register for one or two semesters of graduate-level work in their senior year. This year, four students were Christopher Lasch Fellows: **Joe Azar-Williams**, **Daria Lynch**, **Courtney Otto**, and **Katie Turi**.

## GRADUATE PRIZES

The Sanford Elwitt Memorial Prize, to a graduate student in European History for research and travel in memory of Professor Sanford Elwitt, was awarded this year to **Marissa Crannell-Ash**.

The Harkins Prize, a prize in memory of William F. Harkins, Jr, to a graduate student who has written the best seminar paper, was awarded this year to **Shellie Clark**.

The Donald Marks "Dexter Perkins" Prize, to encourage and assist a worthy graduate student in his/her cultural and intellectual development in the name of Dexter Perkins, was awarded this year to **Shellie Clark** and **Sheila Foster**.

The Meyers Graduate Teaching Award, to a graduate student who has excelled in teaching, was awarded this year to **Rohma Khan**.

The David Bruce Parker Memorial Prize, to the graduate student who best represents the dedication and courage which characterized David's participation in the graduate program, was awarded this year to **Daniel Gorman, Jr**.

The Glyndon VanDeusen Award, to support travel and dissertation research for a fourth-year history graduate student, was awarded this year to **Corinna Hill**.

The Dorothy Rosenberg-Passer Graduate Fellowship, for the support of a graduate student or graduate students pursuing a master's degree, was awarded this year to **Rachel Marie Cox** and **Marcia Esteves Agostinho**.

The Willson Havelock Coates Book Award, to the graduate student having, among other qualifications, a conspicuous gift for historical imagination and the capacity for sustained and accurate research (in British history, European intellectual history, or the philosophy of history), was awarded this year to **Jonathan Strassfeld**.

The Aida DiPace Donald Fellowship, to support a graduate fellowship in American History, was awarded this year to **Carrie Knight**.

***Congratulations and good luck to our 2019 graduates and prize winners!***

# NEWSLETTER UPDATES

## GOING GREEN

Our new online format is our way of going green in line with the University of Rochester initiative. If you received a paper copy of this newsletter and would prefer to receive electronic ones in the future, please update your e-mail address with us by sending an e-mail to [history.department@rochester.edu](mailto:history.department@rochester.edu)

## MELIORA WEEKEND

### ABUSIVE POLICIES: THE MAKING OF AMERICAN CHILD ABUSE

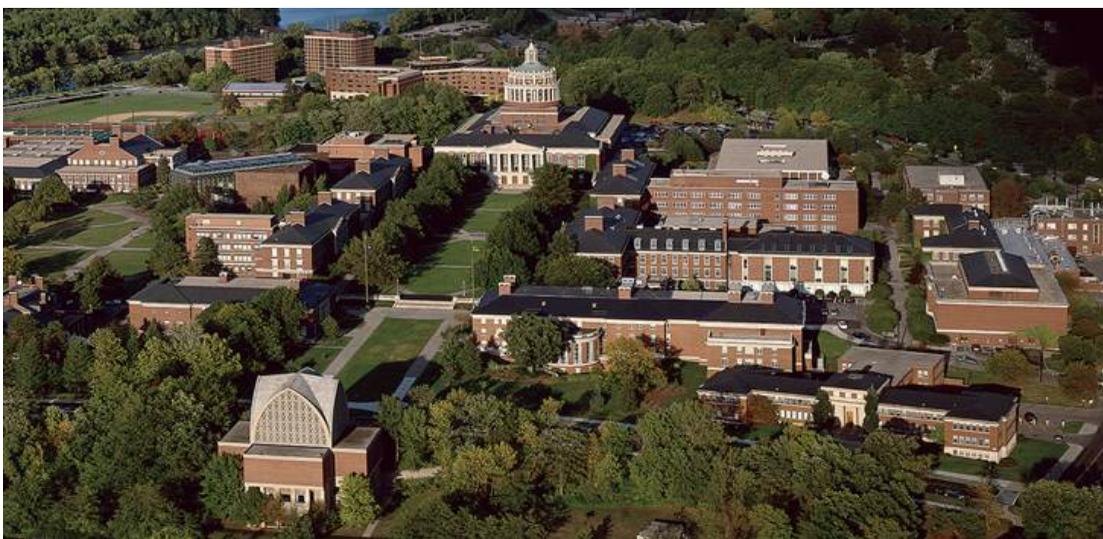
10.4.19, 4:30-6:00PM

Associate Professor Mical Raz will give a talk about her research. A reception with refreshments for alumni, students, faculty, and friends will follow.

### HISTORY WORKS: CAREER PATHS FOR HISTORY STUDENTS

10.5.19, 1:00-2:30PM

This interactive session will feature UR history alumni panelists who will share their stories, experiences, and advice as well as opportunities for one-on-one networking.



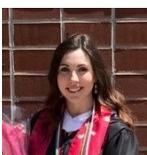
### PROFESSOR ELIAS MANDALA

Faculty Editor, Professor of History, Department of History



### JACQUILYN RIZZO

Staff Editor, Administrative Assistant, Department of History



### CHELSEA KUHN

Staff Editor, Secretary and Graduate Coordinator, Department of History



### SARAH MURPHY

Student Editor, Office Assistant, Department of History

## DO YOU HAVE NEWS FOR US?

We always welcome news from our alumni for future issues! E-mail us at [history.department@rochester.edu](mailto:history.department@rochester.edu)

