A Message from the Editor

Dear Friends of the History Department,

Welcome to another edition of the History Department’s electronic newsletter. As some of you may have noticed, the newsletter has been on sabbatical for the past few years. I am happy to report that it has returned and will be an ongoing enterprise for the foreseeable future. In this and subsequent editions we will pass along news about new and retiring faculty, student projects, and alumni updates. One exciting development I can share here is the creation of “The Distinguished Professor Geraldine Forbes Research Award.” Established in spring 2014, this award honors our recently retired and esteemed colleague Dr. Geraldine Forbes by supporting undergraduate and graduate student research. This fund will enable our students to visit archives, museums, and other sites that will enhance their scholarship and experience at Oswego. As an eminent historian of Indian History as well as an award-winning teacher, naming this award after Dr. Forbes is very appropriate. Few faculty members at our university have done more to bring scholarship into the classroom.

As always, your feedback is very much appreciated. If there is particular news you would to read or questions you may have please do not hesitate to contact me at frank.byrne@oswego.edu. Happy Holidays!

Sincerely, Frank Byrne
Dr. Lyn Blanchfield  Over the past couple of years I have been working on a project about the effects of wandering pigs in late medieval Italian city-states. It started out as a project solely on the use of “pig” as a public insult in medieval Florence but it has expanded to include the presence of real pigs on city streets and how various medieval Italian communes responded to these supposedly disorderly animals. I have also become fascinated with the history of Portugal and have been learning Portuguese with Prof. Tracy Lewis. These two interests came together in February 2014 when I went to Lisbon, Portugal to present a paper at an academic conference at the Faculty of Letters at the University of Lisbon. The paper, entitled “The Problem of the Urban Pig: Violence and Civic Order in the Late Medieval Italian City-State,” was well received and has been accepted for publication by the University. I hope to travel to Portugal again and perhaps take students with me to explore the beautiful city of Lisbon.

Dr. Gwen Kay  I spent much of this past year, when not in class, engaged in research and writing. I am co-editing a volume, "Remaking Home Economics: Resourcefulness and Innovation in Changing Times" with a colleague so we edited, re-edited, worked together to rewrite our sections and shorten others. It's been an exhausting but interesting process, and the volume should be out early next year. The highlight was a morning's editing side by side, listening to one of our contributors on the Diane Rehm show (NPR) touting her new book. In January I made a trip to Israel to develop a course on gender and Israel, to serve as a world awareness course for our students. The trip was successful and I have a great itinerary planned! I also continue to wade through archival materials, excited anew that a dean in 1961 said exactly what I was hoping she would say! I have just been named director of the Honors program, which is a challenge and a great opportunity afforded by the department's support of interdisciplinary programs.

Dr. Uyilawa Usuanlele  I took two students to present their papers at the New York State African Studies Association Conference at SUNY Cortland in April. The students and their paper titles are Owen Klaus, "War and Poverty in Northern Uganda since 1986" and Jackie Hardin, "Poverty, Development and Rural Yoruba Women in the Development Decade."

This past April I delivered a paper titled "Tracing the African origins of Obeah: Etymological inferences and Historical evidence from Benin Kingdom, Nigeria" at the International Colloquium on "Towards a new Pan-Africanism: Deploying Anthropology, Archaeology, History and Philosophy in the service of Africa and the Diaspora" held at University of West Indies, Kingston, Jamaica as well as a paper titled "Oba Akenzua II and Colonial Development Policy, 1940-1955" at the Conference on "African Monarchies, Development and the Future" held at University of Benin, Benin City, Nigeria 9-10 July, 2014.


Dr. Murat Yasar  I joined the History Department at SUNY Oswego in 2013. My specialty is the history of the Middle East, with a focus on the history of the Ottoman Empire, Islamic borderlands, and the North Caucasian peoples from the mid-sixteenth century through the nineteenth. I am an avid Lord of the Rings & Star Wars fan and enjoy listening to indie rock and watching thriller movies."
Dr. Mark Kulikowski I have continued my research on neo-Fascism in the Russian Federation, source problems dealing the period March to November 1917 in Russia, and the treatment Ho Chi Minh in Soviet/Russian publications since 1990. Additionally I am completing an article on the use of technology as a political tool in the Soviet Union during the 1930s. When not conducting research and writing, I am an active consultant to the European and Rare Book Divisions of the Library of Congress, the photographic division and library of the Naval History and Heritage Command in Washington and The New York Public Library for the Performing Arts at Lincoln Center, among others. I have also begun his 21st year as a Contributing Editor to the American Bibliography of Slavic and East European Studies.

Dr. Ming-te Pan I published one article and delivered a paper at an international conference on Ming-Qing history. My article “The Classics of Whoring in the Ming” was published by Mingdai yanjiu (The Ming Studies) no. 21, Dec. 2013, pp.99-143. Based on an etiquette and manner instruction menu this article discusses the relationship between men and women in the Late Ming (16th-17th centuries) entertaining quarter. In addition to the publication, I organized a penal titled “The representation and practice of renqing (human feeling) in the Ming-Qing adjudication” and delivered a paper titled The Representation of “Human Feeling” in the Qing Criminal Justice: Based on the Cases Found in Conspectus of Legal Cases” (Dec. 5-6, 2013, Taipei, Academia Sinica).

I enjoyed some sightseeing while visiting Beijing in August.

Dr. William Murphy I have been a member of the history department since 2004, and a Visiting Assistant Professor since 2006. In addition to teaching both halves of the U.S. history survey, classes I have taught include “America in the Gilded Age and Progressive Era”, “The Constitution and Conflict in American History”, “the History of American Political Parties”, and “Conspiracy Theories in American History”. My research focuses on American politics in the Progressive Era, as well as constitutional and legal history; I recently published “Presidential Politics and the Election of 1912,” in Blackwell’s Companion to Woodrow Wilson (2013) and am currently working on a volume on U.S. Constitutional history in the Issues and Controversies in American History series published by Facts on File.

Dr. Mary McCune I have been invited to participate in a symposium to be held at Utica College commemorating the centennial of World War I. I will talk about the impact of the war on the American Jewish population, women in particular, and also explore how the Great Migration of African Americans re-shaped the largely Jewish neighborhood of the Hill District in Pittsburgh. I have also been invited to contribute a chapter on the history of Jewish women's organized activism in Cleveland to a volume dedicated to the history of that city's Jewish community. Finally, I continue to serve as the Director of the Gender & Women's Studies Program.
Dr. Richard Weyhing: I have acted as faculty advisor for two history majors—Mary Kate Clerkin and Megan Winnick—who successfully presented papers at the fourth annual War of 1812 Symposium held at the new Lake Ontario Event and Conference Center downtown April 4th-6th. Both students spent two months researching their topics while serving as interns at Fort Ontario State Historic Site under the supervision of the Fort’s director, Paul Lear, and joined a lineup of scholarly specialists who convened in Oswego for the symposium. Congratulations to Mary Kate Clerkin who received an award for best student presentation at the symposium!

I have also delivered a public lecture at Fort Ontario in July, entitled “New France and its Indian Allies: Myth and History”, concerning his own ongoing research on the “French and Indian Wars” which took place in and around Oswego during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. The lecture was part of Fort Ontario’s French and Indian War Encampment which brought re-enactors, researchers, and the broader public from throughout the region to Oswego to commemorate the conflicts. Both events—the student presentations at the 1812 Symposium and his lecture at the fort—are part of My overarching goal of connecting both faculty and students from the department with the extensive resources and ongoing events held at Fort Ontario—one of the richest historical sites in New York State and the country at large.

Dr. Kenneth Marshall: On Saturday, November 1, 2014, Professors Kenneth Marshall and Alison Parker (Department of History, SUNY Brockport) discussed their recent books at the Barnes & Noble on the University of Rochester campus. The event commemorated the 25th anniversary of the University of Rochester Press, which published their works. Dr. Marshall’s book is titled *Manhood Enslaved: Bondmen in Eighteenth- and Early Nineteenth-Century New Jersey* (December 2011). Dr. Marshall and Parker’s presentations were followed by a book signing.
History
Department
Award Winners
Virginia L. Radley Fellowship
Ryan Peters
Mahar Memorial History Award
Jason Snider
Jean Evans History Scholarship
Alissa Garufi
PHI ALPHA THETA Inductees
Luke Carbonaro
Jordan Dietterich
Katelyn Dittes
Shannon Donahue
Alyssa Estus
Katherine Falise
Owen Klaus
Alicia Madonna
Emily Markstein
Christopher McCallops
Kyle McIntyre
Luke Parsnow
Ryan Peters
Benjamin Rebeor
Stephanie Redmond
Gabrielle Reimann
Kathryn Weiner
First Year Outstanding Achievement in History
Megan Bortz
Elise Briedis
Alissa Garufi
Ty Goldthwait
Ethan Thummler

SUNY OSWEGO
HISTORY CLUB
MEETS
Tuesdays 8:30-9:30pm
211 Marano Campus Center

What the History Club is up to:
We meet every Tuesday night from 8:30-9:30pm to discuss historical topics, hold historical debates, watch historical documentaries, play historical games/trivia. We are planning on going to Williamsburg VA in the Spring for our overnight trip and Niagara Falls this fall semester for our day trip. We also are planning on buying apparel for the club such as T-shirts and sweaters.

Officers
Co-presidents: Gabbi Reimann and Jackie Giotta
Vice President: Kate Cardone
Secretary: Luke Parsnow
Treasurer: Marc Gummerson
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Lyn Blanchfield

JOB OPPORTUNITIES IN THE HISTORY DEPARTMENT
Graduate Assistantships
Federal Work Study
Positions Available
Spring 2015

On Saturday November 1, 2014 a group of SUNY Oswego students, faculty and staff traveled to New York City to visit the Metropolitan Museum of Art, co-organized by Professor Lyn Blanchfield and Professor Michael Quinn of the History Department. The trip was sponsored by the generosity of the History Department, the Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Career Services. The one-day trip included a guided tour of Renaissance paintings and a discussion with the tour guides about possible careers in museums and career preparation. The group also toured various galleries including the Greek and Roman Wings, the Egyptian Wing, the American Wing, Arms and Armor, and the Asian Wings.

In Memoriam

Dr. Luther Peterson died on January 29, 2014, at age 74. A proud son of Iowa, Luther earned his doctorate from the University of Wisconsin—Madison in 1974 and taught history at SUNY Oswego for 40 years. A scholar of the Reformation, he published several articles and reviews in academic journals and frequently presented at academic conferences both in the United States and Europe. Of course those of us who knew him in the history department will remember Luther most for the passion he brought to the classroom. Generations of students benefited from his wit and wisdom. Around Oswego he could often be seen cycling to campus or perfecting his stroke on the golf course. A lover of good conversation and travel with his many friends, Luther will long be missed and certainly not forgotten.
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