Report from the Department Chair

At the end of this academic year, I will be stepping down as History Department Chair. I was first appointed in 2006, and I have considered it a privilege to work with the faculty, students, and supporters of the department over the past 9 years. In that time, we have both shored up long-standing strengths in the history of technology, science, and the environment, and also expanded our expertise into new areas, such as Jewish history, Latino-American history, and South Asian history. With the inaugural visit of Robin Kelley, we started the annual Ubbelohde lecture program. Our faculty have kept up an impressive rate of publication—every year seems to bring one or two new books, a pace not matched by a lot of larger programs. And despite this research productivity, the department faculty have made the time to lead in a number of university initiatives, and teach at award-winning levels. Each year, when I read the activity reports, I am astounded by how much our faculty does.

A number of challenges remain. In particular, despite the energetic efforts of History Associates, our graduate program remains poorly funded. This has remained a problem even as, in recent years, current students have been very active in scholarship, and alumni of the program have been placed in new academic positions, promoted in old ones, and have authored prize-winning books. This is a problem that must be addressed if the department is to reach its immense potential.

These are challenging times for the humanities in higher education. It is a source of strength to be part of a department that excels in providing the historical perspective that is so urgently needed in so many areas of public discussion.

History Department Welcomes Dr. Cookie Woolner

Dr. Cookie Woolner is the 2014-15 Postdoctoral Fellow in African-American studies at Case Western Reserve University. She recently completed her PhD in the History and Women’s Studies joint program at the University of Michigan. Dr. Woolner is currently revising her dissertation, “‘The Famous Lady Lovers:’ African American Women and Same-Sex Desire from Reconstruction to World War II,” which is the first in-depth examination of African American women who loved women in the nineteenth and early-twentieth centuries. It looks at performing women and everyday women, the queer social networks they created in the urban North, and the discourse that circulated about the emerging conception of lesbianism in the larger black community.

Dr. Woolner completed her B.A. at Hampshire College in Gender Studies and Cultural Studies and received an M.A. in the Humanities from San Francisco State University. For 2013-14 she served as a Graduate Fellow at the Institute for the Humanities at the University of Michigan. Her dissertation research has been supported by an African American Collections Fellowship from the Manuscript, Archive, and Rare Book Library at Emory University, a Black Metropolis Research Consortium Short-Term Fellowship from the University of Chicago, and in 2011 she served as a Martin Duberman Visiting Scholar at the New York Public Library.
Faculty News ...

Alan Rocke

Jonathan Sadowsky

Dan Cohen

David Hammack
During 2014, David Hammack gave invited talks on his work on the history of philanthropic foundations at the Free University in Berlin and at the University of Pittsburgh, led and responded to sessions on his book A VERSATILE AMERICAN INSTITUTION, at a meeting of the International Society for Third Sector Research at the University of Muenster in Germany and at the annual conference of the Association for Research on Nonprofit and Voluntary Associations, and participated in a conference of the "Next Generation of Philanthropy Scholars" at the Rockefeller Archive Center in Tarrytown, New York. In the last weeks of the year he also spoke at the final session of the Bradley Center on Philanthropy of the Hudson Institute and at an opening discussion of "The Evolution of Philanthropy" at the Council on Foundations, both in Washington, D.C. In April he offered an illustrated talk on "Contributors to Cleveland's Cultural Infrastructure" to a day-long series of presentations for alumni and friends of CWRU at the Cleveland Museum of Art.

Gillian Weiss
Thanks to the French translation of her book, Captifs et Corsaires, by Anacharsis in March 2014, Gillian Weiss enjoyed a mini media blitz in France, appearing in Le Monde among other publications and giving a radio interview on France Culture. Thanks to an ACES+ grant, she also enjoyed summer archival research in Marseille and Paris. Over the course of the academic year, she gave papers in Minneapolis, Toronto, Paris, Chicago and Innsbruck.
Faculty News, Continued …

Miriam Levin
Miriam Levin spoke on "Missionary Science for Women: What Were They Thinking?" in The Harold and Jean Grossman Lectures in Jewish Thought at Arizona State University in February. She was elected a Life Member of Clare Hall, Cambridge University, UK. This summer she spent five weeks in South Africa conducting research in missionary school archives on the Western Cape and in Kwa Zulu-Natal, funded by the History Department's Flora Stone Mather endowment. She is invited to teach a four-week graduate seminar on science and world's fairs in the Department of History and Philosophy of Science, Cambridge University during the Easter Term.

John J. Grabowski
John J. Grabowski, Krieger-Mueller Associate Professor of Applied History was the co-writer, with Tom Ball, of Enduring Trust: The History and Aspirations of the Cleveland Foundation, a documentary produced to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Foundation. He, along with fellow faculty, Rhonda Williams, and David Hammack were on-camera contributors to the production. The program aired on October 20th on WVIZ. In March he traveled to Turkey where he did on-camera narration for a film about the International Children’s Center at Bilkent University. While at Bilkent he met with the University’s international exchange staff to discuss its on-going exchange program with CWRU. In September he served as a review panelist for the National Endowment for the Humanities new Digital Projects for the Public grant program. At the Western Reserve Historical Society he curated, “The Victory of Self: The LGBT Community of Northeast Ohio,” which opened in July. Three students, Erin Law, Daliah Greenwald, and Quinn Winters, enrolled in a summer CWRU course (History Museums: Theory and Reality) were central to the research, design, and installation of the exhibit.

Graduate Student News …

Katie Schaub
Katie presented a paper at the AAHM conference in Chicago based on her thesis research on the medical history of rape.

Jesse Tarbert
Jesse continues work on his dissertation, “When Good Government Meant Big Government: Elite Reformers and the American State in the 'New Era,' 1920–1933.” In Spring 2014, he participated in the Oxford Journals Doctoral Colloquium in Business History, held in conjunction with the Business History Conference annual meeting in Frankfurt, Germany. He was the lone graduate-student participant in the Baker-Nord Center's “Interpreting Capitalism,” faculty seminar. He presented a paper, “Americanism, Localism, and Federalism: The Failed Quest for a Department of Education in the New Era, 1920-1933,” at the 2014 Policy History Conference in Columbus, Ohio. He received research grants from History Associates, the Baker-Nord Center, the History Project (a project of the Joint Centre for History and Economics at Harvard and Cambridge, and the Institute for New Economic Thinking), the Roosevelt Institute (for research at the FDR Presidential Library), and the Friends of the Princeton University Library.

Katie Schroeder
Katie this presented her research in October on cemetery relocation at the Joint Atlantic Seminar for the History of Medicine hosted by Johns Hopkins University.

John Baden
John participated in a panel at the SACRPH National Conference on Planning History in October 2013. He passed comprehensive exams, and was awarded a FLAS (Foreign Language and Area Studies) Fellowship for an intensive Persian Language study summer session (2014) at Indiana University.
HistoryDept. Takes a Non-Traditional Tour of Cleveland

While our department has demonstrated a devotion to mastering history through pouring over endless reading lists, meeting hectic tenure requirement, and teaching courses, it has often overlooked an important component of our field; fun. CWRU historians filled this “historical gap” on October 26th, 2013, by boarding Lolly the Trolley for Professor John Grabowski's historical tour of Cleveland.

The tour featured landmark sites such as Cleveland’s Public Square, and off the beaten path neighborhoods like Fairfax and Slavic Village. Grabowski, an author of several volumes of Cleveland history, shared insights about the city's history, and pointed out many of Cleveland’s unique, but often overlooked, historical sites like the spooky Franklin Castle that was once home to a German socialist organization and the urban Mill Creek Falls waterfall. For lunch, the tour enjoyed a buffet at Seven Roses Polish deli and grocery store.

Grabowski’s tour not only featured eclectic sites and historical landmarks, but also reminders of Cleveland’s wealth inequality, economic struggles, and racial tensions. Participants left with a more in-depth hands-on knowledge of their adopted home town.

Those who missed the tour or want to locate some of the tour’s points of interest can access a tour map at: http://bit.ly/1BOJF6N.
Undergraduates Present Their Capstone Research

In December, several undergraduate students presented their capstone research projects in Mather 100. Below is a list of the presenters and subjects:

Maria Madison, "Sex, Debt, and Marie Antoinette: The Destruction of a Queen’s Reputation"

Emile Katz, "The Roll of the Jewish Mafia: Kosher Nostra in Cleveland"

Andrew Aisen, "A Historical Bomb: Credit and the Thermonuclear Explosive Device"

Abby Assmus, "All Quiet at Western Reserve University: Lack of Student Opinion during WWI at Adelbert College"

Saadia Pervaiz, "Necessary Fraud: The Story of Two Cunning Eurasian Brothers and Breaking Racial Hierarchy"

Dustin Likens, "If You Build It, They Will Come: How Cleveland Has Benefitted From Its Recently Constructed Sports Stadiums"

Kate Manning Author Talk Added to Dittrick Museum Audio Archive

In September, the Dittrick Museum hosted a book launch party featuring Kate Manning, author of the new historical novel, My Notorious Life (Scribner). O, the Oprah Magazine, calls the book “a daring page-turner.” This work is based upon the story of Anne Lohman, also known as Madame Restell, a prominent New York midwife enveloped in scandal, who died by suicide in 1879. (Dittrick Museum visitors will recall that Madame Restell is featured twice in their history of contraception exhibition, most notably for her confrontation by moral reformer Anthony Comstock.) Kate Manning’s tale takes a twist, based upon contemporary rumor, that Lohman staged the suicide to elude persecution, and a gripping story follows. You can hear an audio recording of her lecture online by visiting the Web at: http://artsci.case.edu/dittrick/online-exhibits/audio-archives/

Other Dittrick Museum of Medical History Audio Recordings Available Online:

   **Joel D. Howell, M.D. PhD.** (University of Michigan)  
   *Machines and medicine: tools, technology, and the transformation of patient care*  
   Lecture Nov. 14th, 2013

   **Lindsey Fitzharris Ph.D.**  
   *Medicine’s Dark Secrets*  
   Anton and Rose Zverina Lecture, Oct. 3rd, 2013

   **Brandy Schillace Ph.D.** (Case Western Reserve University)  
   *Re-conceiving Birth: Our Shared Entrance to the World Stage*  
   Exhibit and Lecture, Oct. 3rd, 2013

   **Natasha McEnroe** (Director of The Florence Nightingale Museum, London, UK)  
   *From Personality to Profession: The Florence Nightingale Museum and the history of nursing*  
   Henderson Lecture, 2013
Graduate Degrees Awarded

**PH.D. GRADUATES:**

*Emily Hess (January 2014)*

**M.A. GRADUATES:**

*Benjamin Demko (January 2014)*

*Madison Ivan (Spring 2014)*

*Shilpa Damle (Summer 2014)*

Graduate Prizes and Awards, 2013-2014

**THE UBBELOHDE AWARD** for the best teaching assistant during the last year:

*Corey Hazlett and Dan Belczak*

**THE KRANZBERG PRIZE** goes to the graduate student with the best M.A. thesis:

*Ben Demko*

**Lyman Prize (best PhD diss.):**

*Emily Hess*

**THE FRANK R. BORCHERT, JR. PRIZE IN HISTORY** for the best dissertation or thesis by a student in the History Department, with preference to topics related to education, architecture, music, and U.S. History, 1900-1940:

*No winner*

Undergraduate Prizes and Awards, 2013-2014

**CLARENCE H. CRAMER AWARD** for excellence in research and writing of history:

*Nicholas Poe*

**SIGMA PSI PRIZE IN HONOR OF ELBERT J. BENTON** for excellence in history:

*Hayley Rassuchine and Emerson Bodde*

**JOHN HALL STEWART PRIZE** for excellence in historical studies:

*Rachel Sosnowchik and Dustin Likens*

**THE HISTORY DEPARTMENT AWARD** for exceptional achievement:

*Elizabeth Vitale*
Bayard Rustin the Focus of the Seventh Annual Carl F. Ubbelohde Lecture

An Agitator for Justice: The Life and Times of Bayard Rustin was presented by John D’Emilio in October as part of the Seventh Annual Carl F. Ubbelohde Lecture series. A lifelong agitator for peace, racial equality, and economic democracy, Bayard Rustin was one of the most important U.S. social justice activists of the 20th-Century. Yet, except for his role as organizer of the historic 1963 March on Washington, Rustin’s life and work are known by very few.

October’s lecture by Professor D’Emilio of the University of Chicago-Illinois, presented a broad overview of Rustin’s career and offered some reflections on what we can learn from his life. One of the most important figures of the American civil rights movement, Bayard Rustin taught Martin Luther King Jr. the methods of Gandhi, spearheaded the 1963 March on Washington, and helped bring the struggle of African Americans to the forefront of a nation’s consciousness and agenda. But despite his important role in the movement, the openly gay Rustin does not enjoy the same name recognition of many of his activist contemporaries.

A pioneer in the field of gay and lesbian studies and the history of sexuality, D’Emilio is the author or editor of more than half a dozen books, including Sexual Politics, Sexual Communities: the Making of a Homosexual Minority in the United States; Intimate Matters: A History of Sexuality in America [with Estelle Freedman]; Lost Prophet: The Life and Times of Bayard Rustin; and The World Turned: Essays on Gay History, Politics, and Culture.

History Associates established an endowment fund in honor of Carl W. Ubbelohde, the Henry Eldridge Bourne Professor Emeritus of History, who passed away in December 2004. This fund supports an annual Ubbelohde lecture by a visiting scholar. Topics are selected to have a broad appeal, and each event allows time for audience questions. Post-lecture receptions enable audience members to speak individually with the lecturer as well as with CWRU History Department faculty and fellow History Associates members.
History Day 2014

by John Vacha, District 3 Coordinator

More than 400 intermediate and senior high students from the Cleveland area competed for prizes in the Ohio District 3 History Day contest, which took place March 15 at Case Western Reserve University and the Western Reserve Historical Society.

History Day is an annual event which was begun in 1974 by the late David Van Tassel of the CWRU history department. Within a few years the idea spread to the state and nationwide levels. Ohio District 3, which regards itself as the birthplace of History Dave, covers a five-county area centering on Cleveland. Local winners advance to the state contest in Columbus and then to National History Day in College Park, Maryland.

Perhaps the most coveted prize at National History Day, a full four-year scholarship to CWRU named for founder David Van Tassel, cam home this year. It was won by Sharmika Primm from Cleveland’s John Adams High School.

Other District 3 students made an impressive showing at the nationals, headed by a team from Shaker Heights High School which took second place for its senior group website on “Bad Blood: The Tuskegee Syphilis Study.” Abby White, another Shaker Heights student, placed third with her paper on the Dreyfus Affair. Students from Birchwood School in Cleveland and Christian Community School in Lorain County also placed highly in the nationals.

Students may compete on the senior (grades 9-12) or junior (grades 6-8) levels in one of five categories: papers, websites, performances, documentaries, and exhibits. All except papers may be entered by groups of two to five students as well as by individuals.
Judging of all the entries is done by volunteer historians, teachers, and history buffs from diverse sources. CWRU faculty members who judged included Elizabeth Todd (history), Dave Carrino (biology), and Carl Weitman (psychology). From CWRU History Associates came Catherine Borchert and Tim Connell. Graduate students past and present who judged included David Bernatowicz, Elise Hagesfeld, Jillian Snyder, Emily Sparkes, and Adam Waldinger.

District 3 History Day 2015 is scheduled for March 28, 2015. “Leadership and Legacy in History” will be this year’s theme. It’s a challenging theme, which should yield some fascinating entries. Those interested in serving as judges may contact me at 216-721-5722, x1503 or email to jvacha@wrhs.org
The key to the success of the on-line Encyclopedia of Cleveland History are the endowments that support the staff and editor. The Besse and Friedman funds allow the project to provide full and partial graduate stipends to two students each year who serve as Associate Editors, while the endowed Krieger-Mueller professorship in applied history supports the editorial oversight of the Encyclopedia.

This year Ryan Chamberlain became the new Besse Fellow for the Encyclopedia replacing Jesse Tarbert who had completed two years on the project. John Baden continues as the second Besse Fellow. During the coming year both he and Ryan will concentrate on the transfer of content to a new content management system; the addition of new, non-textual material to the site and, importantly, the “promotion” of the Encyclopedia on various social media platforms.

The transition to the Terminal 4 Content Management system continues. Terminal 4 will replace the existing CMS which was created specifically for the Encyclopedia in the late 1990s. When completed, hopefully by in early 2015, we are planning to create a unique opportunity for historians to research, write, and publish articles on topics related to Northeast Ohio. Our goal is to create a virtual community of peer-reviewed writer-historians who will contribute to the ECH’s growing success. Unlike Wikipedia, which can be a difficult and harsh world for new writers, the ECH hopes to develop Northeast Ohio talent and nurture their abilities through the editing process. Our goal is to maintain and expand the status as the preeminent on-line site for the history of Cleveland and northeastern Ohio.

Part of building this virtual community is having a viable presence in social media. To accomplish this, the Encyclopedia Staff are implementing a new content management strategy this year in an attempt to provide meaningful connections between history and the everyday lives of readers. We encourage you to follow us on Twitter (@EncycloCleve); Instagram (@EncycloCleve) Facebook (The Encyclopedia of Cleveland History); and Pinterest (www.pinterest.com/clevelandencycl/) and participate in the discussion. In addition to information updates and highlights, we are also planning create unique activities to engage our social media followers—so login and check back often.

Statistics for the period July 2013 through June 2014 show a total of 873,327 visits; 3,880,640 page requests; and 9,953,274 “hits.” The site averaged 2,263 visits per day. This traffic to the site was global and from a wide variety of domains. A portion of the traffic derived from linked citations in other on-line resources including Wikipedia. While these statistics show the on-line Encyclopedia to be a popular and robust source, our goal is to continue to build our readership and to continue to create reliable vetted content about Cleveland and northeastern Ohio to a global audience. The initiatives described in that article are key to making that possible.

John J. Grabowski
Krieger-Mueller Associate Professor of Applied History
CWRU
Senior Vice President for Research and Publications
In October, Professor Beth Linker presented “Disabled Doughboys: How the Great War Changed American Medicine,” a talk based upon her acclaimed book *War’s Waste: Rehabilitation in World War I America*. Linker’s work could not be more timely. A century ago, America was on the eve of entering (belatedly) the Great War. At the Dittrick we’re exploring the medical and surgical aspects of the conflict through a series of exhibits, publications, and a website presenting the story of the Lakeside Unit, Cleveland’s military hospital unit that served in France. I will leave it to Jennifer Nieves to further expound on these intriguing projects. You can see her full lecture online at: http://artsci.case.edu/Dittrick/

With all this in play, I invited Beth Linker to come and present the story that she crafted in *War’s Waste*, a widely praised history of how the United States shifted from supporting injured veterans by means of pensions to rehabilitating the disabled for re-entry into society and the workplace. Linker explains how reformers, inspired by the new social and medical sciences, pushed rehabilitation as a means to “rebuild” disabled soldiers. Linker’s narrative moves from the professional development of orthopedic surgeons and physical therapists to the curative workshops, or hospital spaces where disabled soldiers learned how to repair automobiles as well as their own artificial limbs. The story culminates in the postwar establishment of the Veterans Administration, one of the greatest legacies to come out of the First World War. Given the current press focus on the VA, and its trouble effectively serving our veterans, Linker’s presentation was again very timely.

Coincidentally, Beth and I both presented at a symposium on surgical innovation last September at Kansas University Medical Center, and I found her scholarship most impressive. While in Kansas City, we toured the tremendous National World War 1 Museum at Liberty Memorial. It was great fun, and I especially enjoyed seeing the displays of medical equipment and surgical instruments featured prominently in the museum’s presentation of the war experience.

In the main gallery, guest curator Brandy Schillace, Ph.D. and CIA biomedical art student Emily Hromi have crafted “Re-conceiving Birth,” which comprises phase one of our refurbishment of the main gallery to showcase the history of childbirth. This component presents midwifery and obstetrics with a focus on the period c.1700-1820.

The 2015 Henderson Lecture, tentatively scheduled for March, will feature Chris Henry, Director of Heritage at the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh. Mr. Henry will be speaking about The Lister Project, a new initiative by The Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh (RCSEd) that will focus on the College’s heritage and create a new and enhanced public space within the Surgeons’ Hall museum. The project is supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund and will eventually cost around four million pounds. For more information, see: http://www.museum.rcsed.ac.uk/the-lister-project.aspx#sthash.s5n0OyIF.dpuf
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History Associates’ Fourteenth Year ...

The History Associates rang in the New Year with a stimulating panel presentation reflecting on the 50th Anniversary of the Kennedy Assassination. The program featured distinguished jurists Judge C. Ellen Connally, Judge Burt Griffin, and Judge Brendan Sheehan. Held January 15, 2014 at the Cleveland Skating Club the program was preceded by a delicious meal and lively dinner conversation. The highly anticipated Annual History Associates Graduate Student Presentations were given May 7, 2014 and highlighted cutting edge research by Norman Rose, Jesse Tarbert and Corey Hazlett. Funds raised by the History Associates make possible the grants to outstanding graduate students for work on their Ph.D. dissertations, and also support prizes to undergraduates in History.

The seventh annual Ubbelohde Lecture, an endowed series sponsored by the History Associates in memory of Dr. Carl Ubbelohde, a much-admired professor and former chair of the CWRU History Department, was given on Thursday, October 30, 2014. The speaker was Dr. John D’Emilio, Professor of Women’s and Gender Studies at the University of Illinois-Chicago; he is author or editor of more than half a dozen books, and has won fellowships from the Guggenheim Foundation and the National Endowment for the Humanities. Dr. D’Emilio’s talk was entitled “An Agitator for Justice: The Life and Times of Bayard Rustin.”

Other programs are being planned by the History Associates for 2015, including a presentation and dinner at the Cleveland Skating Club in early February.

If you have not already done so, please renew your History Associates membership for 2014-2015. In an era where increasingly courses in history are not required as part of a liberal arts curriculum your support for the historical profession is vital. For more information about membership please contact the Dean’s office in the College of Arts and Sciences at 216.368.0097.

____________________________________________________________________________________

Support History Associates

“The History Associates fellowships provided me with the necessary support to begin my dissertation. I was able to travel to New York City and research the collections of numerous environmental organizations at New York Public Library, all of which significantly contributes to my project.

Corey Hazlett
“I would like to thank the History Associates for my $1,000 Fellowship to explore the founding of the Exploratorium through the Bancroft Archives in Berkeley, California. It was a very successful trip.”

“Doctors Cohen and Levin are already using my acquisition of this material as a teaching moment, improving my research and writing skills as they focus my work with this collection of primary sources.”

— Sanford Clark

Please enroll me as a member of CWRU History Associates, and send me your calendar of events as soon as possible. I am joining at the membership level indicated below:

- [ ] Annual Membership $35-99
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