

History Notes

2010-2011

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Editors: John Grabowski, Michael Metsner, and John Baden

News from Jonathan Sadowsky, Department Chair

The History Department at Case Western Reserve University is in the midst of an exciting period of growth. Down to as few as 11 tenure-track faculty members a short time ago, we are now up to 15. This past year was the first for new faculty member John Flores, a specialist in Latino-American history, and this year our new Sinologist, Wendy Fu, is offering her first courses. The department's research productivity is notable; in the past year, new books by Miriam Levin and Alan Rocke appeared, and new ones by Gillian Weiss and Molly Berger were accepted. Professor Weiss was promoted to Associate Professor with tenure this Spring. And the department has had teaching achievements no less notable; Renee Sentilles won not one but two teaching\mentoring awards this year. And the rest of the faculty continue to publish articles, win fellowships, and service the university with critical administrative and governance jobs. This is a great time to be working in this department, and I'm optimistic that the gains of the last few years mark only the beginning of a period of improvement.



The History Department Welcomes Two Visiting Professors



Dr. April R. Haynes earned her Ph.D. at the University of California, Santa Barbara, where her dissertation, "Riotous Flesh: Gender, Physiology, and the Solitary Vice," won the Lancaster Prize for best dissertation in the Humanities and Fine Arts, 2008-2009. She has held major fellowships awarded by the Social Science Research Council, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the American Antiquarian Society. Her manuscript, *Riotous Flesh: Sex, Race, and Popular Physiology in the Early American Republic*, is under review by the University of Chicago Press. She has published articles in the *Journal of the History of Sexuality* and *American History Through Literature*. The Dittrick Museum's contraceptive collection highlights Frederick Hollick, the subject of her *JHS* article. Her most recent article, entitled "'Headquarters of Radicalism' and Hotbeds of 'Amalgamation': Graham Houses, Interracial Intimacy, and the Politics of Space, 1831-1846," is under consideration by the *Journal of the Early Republic*. Dr. Haynes' newest research project explores the changing meanings of a powerful word that was central to politics, literature, and popular culture in the early republic: "licentiousness." She looks forward to teaching the Historiography of Early America and Sexualities in the Modern United States in the spring.



Dr. Stephen G. Hall specializes in African American and American history (19th to mid-20th century) with specific interests in historiography and intellectual, social, and cultural history as well as the African Diaspora. He received his Ph.D. in History from The Ohio State University in 1999 where he worked with Dr. Stephanie Shaw. His book, *A Faithful Account of the Race: African American Historical Writing in Nineteenth Century America*, was published by University of North Carolina Press in 2009. He is currently working on a second book manuscript, "Framing Global Visions: African American Historians Write about the World, 1895-1960." He has published articles in the *William and Mary Quarterly*, *Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography* and *Journal of the Gilded Age and the Progressive Era*. Dr. Hall has taught courses in American and African American history as well as the African Diaspora at Central State University in Xenia, Ohio and The Ohio State University over the past ten years. He is currently teaching an Introduction to Black Studies course and a graduate level independent study on Black Internationalism. In the spring, he will offer a course on Slavery and Emancipation and an upper-level seminar on Black Intellectuals in nineteenth century America.

The History Department Welcomes Zebulon Miletsky as new Postdoctoral Fellow in African American Studies



Dr. Zebulon Miletsky comes to Case Western Reserve University from the University of Nebraska at Omaha where he is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Black Studies. He received his Ph.D. in African American Studies from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. Dr. Miletsky is working on a manuscript based on his dissertation entitled *Mixed Race on Trial: Interracial Marriage, Passing and the Van Houten Case in Boston*, which looks at the controversial case of Anna Van Houten who, passing for white, sued her wealthy white fiancé after he broke off their engagement upon discovery of her black ancestry. The suit resulted in a scandal and “breach of promise” trial in 1894 that was closely followed in Boston and by newspapers around the country. Dr. Miletsky argues that it was in this racially fluid environment that whiteness was being forged in northern urban cities like Boston as a vessel of privilege and property. He is also writing a chapter for a book

edited by G. Reginald Daniel and Hettie V. Williams entitled, *The Myth of Post-Racial America in the Age of Obama* with Cambridge Scholars. Arguing that a new lens is needed to more fully understand President Obama’s multiracial identity, Dr. Miletsky recently presented a draft of the essay entitled “Mutt Like Me: Barack Obama, Biracial Identity and the Mixed Race Experience in Historical Perspective” as part of the History Department’s Work-in-Progress series. In terms of future projects, he is in the research phase of an article on the history of the civil rights and black power movement in his hometown of Boston. Dr. Miletsky is thrilled to have the opportunity to make the necessary revisions and conduct the final research he needs to complete his book manuscript during the fellowship year and is honored to be serving alongside such a distinguished faculty in the Department of History at Case Western Reserve University.

In memoriam: Michael Altschul

Michael Altschul, professor emeritus of history at Case Western Reserve University, died on July 8th of this year, at the age of 73. He had taught at the university since 1967 and his courses on the Middle Ages, medieval England and the British Isles, the Italian Renaissance, and classical antiquity are remembered warmly by hundreds of former students. He was an especially beloved and award-winning teacher. A specialist in medieval Europe, he was the author of two books, *A Baronial Family in Medieval England: the Clares, 1217-1314* and *Anglo-Norman England, 1066-1154*, and wrote dozens of articles and book chapters. He was an important member of our community and will be missed by all who had the privilege to know him.

Prominent Historians Visit Campus

Several historians visited the History Department this year to share their scholarship with faculty and students.

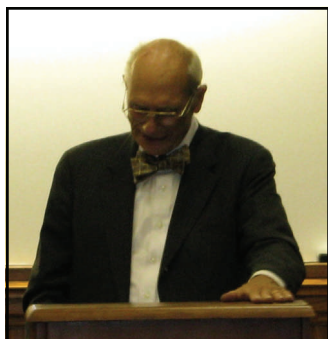
Dr. Mytheli Sreenivas, associate professor at Ohio State University, presented “Reconstructing Wifehood in Madras: Devadasis, Feminist Agency, and the Colonial Archive” on March 18.

The History Department, in collaboration with the Baker-Nord Center and the National Science Foundation, sponsored a symposium, “**Tipping Points in Urban Change: Modern Perspectives on Agents of Urbanization**,” for considering the similarities and differences in the modernization of cities during the 20th century and in global cities now under construction or in the planning stages on March 25. The symposium explored the people responsible for these urban plans, the dynamic role played by rebuilding, expositions and museums in changing cities, and the particular circumstances in which growth or decline occurred. Dr. Miriam Levin directed the symposium.

Dr. Yohuru Williams, associate professor at Fairfield University, gave the 2nd Annual Guest Lecture for the Postdoctoral Fellowship in African American Studies on April 6. His talk, “Six Degrees of Segregation: Lynching, Capital Punishment and Jim Crow Justice in Delaware, 1865-1965,” explored the efforts of Black women associated with the NAACP to win convictions of white men charged with assaulting Black women at the same time that they sought to challenge the unequal application of the death penalty in the First State.

Prominent Historians Visit Campus

Julio Cesar Perez Hernandez, visiting architect and urban planner for the city of Havana, presented “Havana’s Urban Development: Learning from the Past and Aiming for the Future” on May 17. He discussed the Master Plan for 21st Century Havana aimed at preserving the city’s urban legacy, while remaining true to its people and encouraging future development. Dr. Perez Hernandez returned to CWRU on October 18 to give a public lecture, “Havana: From Colonial Town to Cosmopolitan Caribbean City.”



Dr. Bertram Wyatt-Brown

Dr. Bertram Wyatt-Brown, emeritus professor at University of Florida and former professor at CWRU, delivered the 2010 Ubbelohde Lecture, sponsored by the Department of History and History Associates, on September 21. His talk, “‘Murder by Duel,’ Welch, West Virginia, 2009: A Historian’s Experience,” centered on his service as an expert witness in a criminal trial, *State v. Simpson*, in West Virginia in January 2009.

Dr. Paul Gootenberg, professor at the State University of New York, Stony Brook, presented “The Pre-Colombian Era of Drug Trafficking in the Americas: Cocaine, 1945-1973” on September 27. His talk, based on his latest book, *Andean Cocaine: The Making of a Global Drug*, explored a dramatic and hidden chapter in the history of global flows: the invention of illicit cocaine.

Dr. Nina Rattner Gelbart, professor at Occidental College, gave the 2010 Anton and Rose Zverina Lecture at the Dittrick Medical History Center on October 14. Her lecture, “Birthing a Nation: Mme. Du Coudray and the Practice of Midwifery in Enlightenment France,” was based upon her acclaimed biography of Mme. du Coudray, *The King’s Midwife: A History and Mystery of Madame du Coudray*, and was accompanied by a special exhibition “‘La machine’ of Mme. Du Coudray: the obstetric manikin in 18th century midwifery,” curated by Dr. Pam Lieske, professor at Kent State University.

Faculty News.....

Molly Berger presented a paper, “The View from a Burning Hotel’s Window: Hotels and Willa Cather’s ‘Behind the Singer Tower,’” at the July biannual meeting of the Australia New Zealand American Studies Association in Adelaide, Australia. She also published a review of the Dittrick Medical History Center and Museum’s exhibit, “Virtue, Vice, and Contraband: A History of Contraception in America,” in the *Bulletin of the History of Medicine*. Her book, *Hotel Dreams, Luxury, Technology, and Urban Ambition in America, 1829-1929* will be published in April 2011 by Johns Hopkins University Press.

John Broich undertook research in London and Jerusalem, made possible by WP Jones and Baker Nord grants, in the summer of 2010 and had an article accepted by the *Journal of Colonialism and Colonial History*.

Daniel A. Cohen published a long article entitled “Making Hero Strong: Teenage Ambition, Story-Paper Fiction, and the Generational Recasting of American Women’s Authorship” in the Spring 2010 issue of *Journal of the Early Republic*. He also had articles accepted for publication in *Journal of the History of Sexuality* and *Journal of the History of Childhood and Youth*. He is on sabbatical leave for the 2010-11 academic year and will be delivering a paper entitled “Loving Women, Killing Men: ‘Sapphic Slashers’ and the Story-Paper Origins of American Lesbian Identity” at the Annual Meeting of the Organization of American Historians to be held in March 2011 in Houston, Texas.

John Flores presented “Mexican Migration to the Midwest: A Historical and Contemporary Perspective” (keynote address) at the “Rethinking Race: Black, White & Beyond” conference, hosted by The University of Akron, in February 2010 and “In Search of the Mexican Immigrant” at the “Historical Inquiry in the New Century” research conference, sponsored by *The Historical Society* and hosted by George Washington University, in Washington, D.C., in June 2010. He also organized a presentation and a tour, “The Latino Presence in the Midwest,” for The Institute for Secondary School Educators of the U.S. Department of State in Chicago in June 2010.

Faculty News.....

John J. Grabowski continues his work on the history of Bilkent University in Ankara, Turkey, traveling there in December 2009 for research and a series of meetings. In March 2010, he traveled to Washington to serve as a panelist for the National Endowment of Humanities program "Sustaining Cultural Heritage Collections." In April he presented a paper "Doing Well by Doing Right: Museums and Migration History in Late Twentieth Century America" on a panel at the Organization of American Historians annual meeting in Washington. He is currently engaged in preparing the entry on Turkish immigration to the United States for an encyclopedia on immigration being edited by Elliot Barkan of California State University as well as two articles on family history in the Western Reserve for *American Ancestors* magazine.

During the past year, Dr. Grabowski worked with staff at the Kelvin Smith Library and at the Western Reserve Historical Society (where he serves as historian and Vice President for Collections) to create a memorandum of understanding between KSL and WRHS relating to cooperation in the matter of collection digitization and enhanced availability of WRHS collections to CWRU faculty and students.

David C. Hammack edited *American Foundations: Roles and Contributions*, with Helmut Anheier, published by the Brookings Institution Press in March 2010. He served as director of Foundations in America's Regions Research Project, funded by the Aspen Institute, from 2008 until 2010. He also led a national conference on "Foundations in America's Regions" at the Rockefeller Archive Center in Pocantico, New York, last winter.

Marixa Lasso presented the invited talk "Popular Groups and Independence: a new historiographical paradigm?" at the conference "*Les empires du monde atlantique en révolution. Une perspective transnationale (1763-1865)*" at the École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales in June of 2010. She was also a panelist on a roundtable discussion "Independence: A Bicentennial Retrospective," organized by the Gran Colombia section of the Conference on Latin American History during the 2010 meeting of the American Historical Association. She also finished the article "Población y Sociedad" for *América Latina en la Historia Contemporánea: Colombia* (Vol. 1: 1808-1830), edited by Adolfo Meisel Roca and Eduardo Posada Carbó, which will be published by the prestigious Spanish press, MAPRE. She continues to work on her project Colon's history and presented part of her findings in the paper "Defining Modernity: the Panama Canal" at "Tipping Points in Urban Change: Modern Perspectives on Agents of Urbanization," at CWRU. She also organized the visits of Professors John Soluri, from Carnegie Mellon University, who presented the paper "Something Fishy: Blue Revolution, Sustainability, and Environmental History" and Paul Gootenberg, from Stony Brook University, who presented the paper "The Pre-Colombian Era of Drug Trafficking in the Americas: Cocaine, 1945-1973."

Miriam Levin authored *Urban Modernity: Cultural Innovation in the Second Industrial Revolution*, with Sophie Forgan, Martina Hessler, Robert H. Kargon, and Morris Low, published by the MIT Press in May 2010. She organized a symposium, "Tipping Points in Urban Change: Modern Perspectives on Agents of Urbanization," in March with the support of the National Science Foundation, Baker-Nord Center for the Humanities, and the History Department. Dr. Levin also brought Cuban architect and urban planner Julio Cesar Perez Hernandez to CWRU in May and again in October to speak to the Case and Cleveland community about plans for the future of Havana and urban development there. Finally, and perhaps most important, she brought a \$100,000 endowment from the Flora Stone Mather Alumnae to support the research of women faculty in the History Department.

Alan J. Rocke authored *Image and Reality: Kekulé, Kopp, and the Scientific Imagination*, published by the University of Chicago Press in May 2010. He also presented two invited talks at an invitational workshop at the Max Planck Institut fuer Wissenschaftsgeschichte in Berlin in June 2010 and a scientific congress in Karlsruhe in September 2010.

Renée Sentilles received two university awards: the J. Bruce Jackson, MD, award for undergraduate mentoring, and the Jessica Melton Perry award "in recognition of distinguished teaching in disciplinary and professional writing." She also received the first Flora Stone Mather fellowship in women's history. Dr. Sentilles was interviewed by director/producer Maria Agui Carter of Iguana Films for a PBS documentary "Rebel," expected to air in 2011.

Faculty News.....

Ted Steinberg published “Can Capitalism Save the Planet? On the Origins of Green Liberalism” in *Radical History Review* 107 (Spring 2010). He spent the last two years working on his book about the ecological history of the New York metropolitan area and just recently started his new website <http://tedsteinberg.com/>.

Gillian Weiss got tenure, had a baby and finished her book revisions—in that order. Now an associate professor with a newborn son named Hugo, she is beginning a new project on Muslims in early modern France. An article entitled “Infidels at the Oar: A Mediterranean Exception to France’s Free Soil Principle” is forthcoming in the journal *Slavery and Abolition*.

Rhonda Y. Williams serves as the director of the CWRU Social Justice Institute, which publicly launched in fall of 2010. The university-wide Institute supports alliance-based work in the areas of innovative research, curriculum development, and programming. The Institute’s initiatives include a collaborative visioning project with East Cleveland, and its inaugural public event, “Social Justice, Race, and Profiling: An Intergenerational Think Tank,” to be held November 19th and 20th. (Please visit, <http://www.case.edu/socialjustice>, for more details on the Institute’s ongoing initiatives and events.)

Dr. Williams is also co-editor with Heather A. Thompson of the recently launched book series, *Justice, Power and Politics*, at University of North Carolina Press. She continues to serve as the director of CWRU’s Postdoctoral Fellowship in African American Studies, which is in its third year. Her recent publications include an essay entitled “The Pursuit of Audacious Power: Rebel Reformers & Neighborhood Politics in Baltimore, 1966-1968,” in *Neighborhood Rebels: Black Power at the Local Level*, edited by Peniel E. Joseph (Palgrave Macmillan, 2010), and a forthcoming essay entitled, “‘To Challenge the Status Quo By Any Means’: Community Action and Representational Politics in 1960s’ Baltimore,” in *The War on Poverty and Struggles for Racial & Economic Justice: Views from the Grassroots* (University of Georgia Press).

Graduate Students News.....

Tony Andersson successfully defended his master’s thesis, “‘We Are A People of Stone and Mud’: Nationalism, Development, and Nature in Panama’s Darién, 1968-1980.”

Sam Duncan successfully defended his master’s thesis, “‘We Have Drunken Our Water for Money’: The Political Economy of Bottled Water, 1940-1995.” He presented his paper, “A Drink to Health: Toxic Environments, Public Health, and Bottled Water in the age of New Ecology,” at the annual conference of the American Society for Environmental History in March.

Lynne Graziano presented “*The Waverley Magazine and Literary Repository*: The Intersection of Pen, Prayer, and Participation for Northern Civil War Women,” at The University of Akron CROW Graduate Gender Symposium in 2010. She was also part of an i3 (Investment in Innovation) Federal Education grant writing team for funding of collaborative education work between New Schools for New Orleans, the Recovery School District in Louisiana, and the Tennessee Achievement District. The project was one of only 49 successful applications out of 1698 total, and received an award of nearly \$30 million to implement the *New Orleans Charter School Restart Model* in Louisiana, Tennessee, and, eventually, other states.

Elise Hagesfeld continues working on her dissertation, “Between Welfare and Foster Care: The Transformation of Children’s Institutions from the New Deal to the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act, 1935-1974,” with generous support from a History Department Dissertation Fellowship, a History Associates fellowship, and a fellowship from the Rockefeller Archives Center. She presented her research on the Northeast Ohio area at “Foundations and Regions: American Variations,” hosted at the Pocantico Conference Center of the Rockefeller Brothers Fund. Elise has been chosen as an ARNOVA Doctoral Fellow and will be attending the conference of the Association for Research on Nonprofit Organizations and Voluntary Associations in November 2010 where she will be presenting her dissertation research. She is also assisting Dr. David C. Hammack with an upcoming book about American foundations.

Graduate Student News.....

Emily Hess completed her comprehensive exams in March. In June, she was invited to speak by the Ohio Historical Society concerning Ohio's involvement in World War I and World War II. Currently, she is working on her dissertation, "'Wrinkled Radicals': Maggie Kuhn, the Gray Panthers, and the Battle Against Ageism." She continues to teach at Ashland University.

Jim Johnson completed his comprehensive exams in September and is now working on his dissertation "Rockets and the Red Scare: Frank Malina and American Rocketry, 1936-1946." He has been awarded the NASA Fellowship in the History of Space Technology to work on this project during the 2010-2011 academic year.

Stephanie Liscio released her first book, *Integrating Cleveland Baseball: Media Activism, the Integration of the Indians, and the Demise of the Negro League Buckeyes* in August 2010 through McFarland Publishing. Stephanie also wrote the text for a plaque honoring Negro League baseball at Progressive Field that was unveiled in August of 2010. She assisted Dr. Leslie Heaphy of Kent State University with a seminar on incorporating Negro League baseball into U.S. history classrooms, held at the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute in Alabama.

Paul Lubienecki presented his paper, "John Timon: Buffalo's First Bishop. His Forgotten Model for Establishing Catholicism in America" at Ohio University's History Graduate Student Association Conference in May. His articles, "John Timon: Buffalo's First Bishop. His Forgotten Struggle to Assimilate Catholics in Western New York" and "Scholarum Piarum: The Piarist Fathers and Graycliff" are forthcoming in the *New York Historical Review* and the *Western New York Heritage Magazine*, respectively.

Erik Miller completed his comprehensive exams in November and presented his paper, "'Your God is too White': Black Power, Black Evangelicals, and the Rise of Progressive Evangelicalism, 1968-1980," at University of Memphis's Graduate Association of African American History Conference.

Norman Rose took a leave of absence from his graduate studies to work for a year as an advisor to the Iraqi prison system. He is stationed at FOB (forward operating base) Shield on the outskirts of Baghdad.

Elizabeth Salem is beginning her sixth year in the Ph.D. program, and will soon be sitting for her comprehensive exams. During the summer, she served as a grader for the Advanced Placement United States History Exam reading in Louisville, KY.

Jonathan Wlasiuk has continued work on his dissertation, *Refining Nature: Standard Oil and the Development of a Modern Corporate Environmental Policy*. He spent his summer working with materials from the Exxon-Mobil Archive at the Briscoe Center for American History at the University of Texas at Austin.

The History Department welcomes new graduate students

Cheyenne Chambers is seeking a M.A. through CWRU's Integrated Graduate Study (IGS) program.

Nathan Delaney is seeking a Ph.D. in our Social History and Policy program. He comes to CWRU with a B.A. from Wittenberg University and a M.A. from the University of Toledo.

Kathryn Goldberg is seeking a M.A. through CWRU's IGS program—she begins in the spring.

Jon Corey Hazlett is seeking a M.A. and comes to CWRU with a B.A. from the Ohio State University.

Jonathan Kinser is seeking a Ph.D. and comes to CWRU with a B.A. and M.A. from Youngstown State University.

Yuan Liu is seeking a Ph.D. in our Social History and Policy program. She comes to CWRU with a B.A. from Nanjing University and a M.A. from Peking University.

Katie Schroeder is seeking a M.A. and comes to CWRU with a B.A. from Hiram College.

Alumni News.....

Aaron Alcorn is presently writing a book (based on his dissertation) exploring boyhood, consumer culture, and the model airplane hobby. A former AHA/NASA Aerospace History Fellow, he resides in Seattle, Washington.

Robert Bain, associate professor of history education at the University of Michigan, was selected as one of the Distinguished Lecturers by the Organization of American Historians in 2009-2010.

Daniel Kerr, assistant professor of history at James Madison University in Harrisonburg, Virginia, authored *Derelict Paradise: Homelessness and Urban Development in Cleveland, Ohio*, which is scheduled to be published by the University of Massachusetts Press in February 2011.

Jason Krupar transitioned last Spring quarter from the now defunct OMI College of Applied Science to the Department of History, McMicken College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Cincinnati. He has successfully integrated into his new department and now finds himself working with graduate students, writing grant applications, and involved in new committee assignments. His current book project examines race relations and policies in the Manhattan Project and early years of the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission. He recently presented a paper based on his project at the Journal of Policy History Conference held this past June in Columbus, Ohio.

Qiusha Ma, an associate professor at Oberlin College, worked as the field director for Associated Colleges in China last year. She is on research leave this year, writing a book on Rockefeller Foundation and the Western medical education in China, a topic related to her Ph.D. dissertation at CWRU.

Stuart C. Mendel returned to the Maxine Goodman Levin College of Urban Affairs at Cleveland State University as Assistant Dean and Director of the Urban Center after serving as Special Assistant, Chief of Staff to the President, Cleveland State University. As Chief of Staff, Dr. Mendel reorganized the staffing and support of the office of the President during Ronald M. Berkman's first year, and was a key member of two major Presidential initiatives: the development of an International Baccalaureate K-12 School on the campus of the Cleveland State University in collaboration with the Cleveland Municipal School District, and the partnership between Cleveland State University and the Northeastern Ohio Universities College of Medicine. Dr. Mendel also directs the Levin College's Center for Non-profit Policy and Practice.

Benjamin Sperry was awarded his Ph.D. from Case in May 2010. During the academic year 2009-2010, he was a visiting professor of history at Delta State University in Cleveland, Mississippi. For the fall semester of 2010, Dr. Sperry is teaching history at Cleveland State University and Lakeland Community College. His recent publications include an op-ed piece for the *Memphis (Tenn.) Commercial-Appeal*, a book review for the *Journal of Mississippi History*, and an article for the online journal *Mississippi History Now*. In October 2010, Ben presented a paper at a civil rights history conference at the University of Southern Mississippi.



The History Department Awards Party



The Ubbelohde Lecture

History Student Awards



Kelvin Smith Library—Home away from Home for many History students

Graduate Student Prizes and Awards for 2010

The Carl Ubbelohde Award for the best teaching assistant during the last year:

Elise Hagesfeld and Erik Miller

History Associates Fellowship recipients:

Lynne Graziano, Elise Hagesfeld, and Jim Johnson

The Jane and Cecile Lyman History Prize for the best Ph.D. dissertation defended during the previous year:

Liz Bly for “Generation X and the Invention of a Third Feminist Wave”

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:

Ben Sperry for “Caught ‘Between Our Moral and Material Selves’: Mississippi’s Elite White ‘Moderates’ and Their Role in Changing Race Relations, 1945-1956”

The Melvin Kranzberg Prize for the best M.A. thesis:

Michael Metsner for “‘Save the Young People’: The Generational Politics of Racial Solidarity in Black Cleveland, 1906-1911”

The Henri Pell Junod Jr. Fellowship recipient:

Erik Miller

Undergraduate Student Prizes and Awards for 2010

DONALD GROVE BARNES AWARD to a senior for excellence in research and writing of history:

Paul Niebrzydowski and Peter Keirn

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

Evan Cook and Gillian Seaman

ANNIE SPENCER CUTTER PRIZE to a senior for outstanding achievement in history (by custom to a woman):

Victoria Konold and Mirela Turc

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

Elliot Schwartz and Paul Sequiera

JOHN HALL STEWART PRIZE for excellence in historical studies:

Eugene Shippey and Caitlin Cipicchio

THE HISTORY DEPARTMENT AWARD for exceptional achievement:

Andrew Wolf, Laura Ansley, and Gilad Salomon



The Western Reserve Historical Society Library

Staff News.....

Marissa Ross is a full-time MA student in the Global Interactions program at Cleveland State University.

For information about History Department events, please contact **Kalli Vimr** at kallisto.vimr@case.edu.

The Encyclopedia of Cleveland History
by John Grabowski, Editor, *Encyclopedia of Cleveland History*

The on-line edition (<http://ech.case.edu>) of the *Encyclopedia of Cleveland History/Dictionary of Cleveland Biography* continued to expand during the past academic year. Graduate students Michael Metsner and Stephanie Liscio, served as Associate Editors with the support of Besse Fellowships. Both spent considerable time updating entries in several categories. Michael focused on entries relating to African-American history while Stephanie gave her attention to entries relating to Cleveland neighborhoods and to sports. Both Associate Editors also created a number of new entries in areas of their personal topical expertise. Stephanie researched and wrote entries relating to every negro league baseball team to have played in Cleveland. This project attracted local media attention. Michael prepared a series of new entries relating to every African-American Roman Catholic parish in Cleveland. He also substantially reworked the major entry on the Rusyn immigrant community in Cleveland. All staff members, including the editor, Dr. John Grabowski, also responded to comments from readers concerning possible corrections to existing articles and suggesting new entries.

At the end of the academic year, Stephanie completed her two-year tenure as Associate Editor and stepped down, albeit in the formal sense only as she will continue to work on the Encyclopedia on a voluntary basis. John Baden joined the staff as a new Associate Editor in July 2010 and he will be using his considerable technical expertise to enhance the links and “look” of the on-line edition in the coming year.

The Encyclopedia project, which was begun in 1980 by the late Dr. David D. Van Tassel continues to serve as the key scholarly resource for the history of Greater Cleveland. It is now available in two on-line formats, the version maintained on an ITS server at the address given above and an annually archived version maintained at the Digital Case website at <http://library.case.edu/digitalcase>.

News and Events from the Dittrick Medical History Center
by James M. Edmonson, Chief Curator

Blaufox collection prompts balcony gallery overhaul

Our efforts over the past year have been impacted by the M. Donald Blaufox collection of stethoscopes and blood pressure measurement devices. The balcony gallery of diagnostic instruments cried out for an upgrade in light of the Blaufox gift and we are deep into renovations this summer. We have had new cases and panels fabricated, some by Case carpenter extraordinaire Tim Logsdon and others by George Laurence of Museum Acrylics, who crafted the Skuy Gallery. While our timetable is fairly loose, I envision the renovations coming together by the end of the calendar year. For now, we are re-conceptualizing the balcony display and scrutinizing the Blaufox collection to see how its inclusion will transform the diagnostic gallery. Research is an important component of this process, particularly the search for images representing how doctors used the array of diagnostic instruments. We are finding an intriguing visual culture of the physician – patient encounter, residing in the images secreted away in the pages of monographs in the Allen Medical Library. Leading this search is Jim Vendeland, retired ophthalmologist and Dittrick volunteer, and Gillian Seaman, CWRU history undergraduate and very able exhibit research assistant. They are coming up with an amazing body of images that not only explain how to use instruments and what information they yield, but also convey a visual record of the diagnostic encounter between physician and patient. These images of instruments also became coded symbols of professional competence and power, transcending the professional boundaries of medicine and filtering into the domain of popular culture—cartoons, films, and television. We want to explore this aspect in the exhibition as well and present it in a series of slide shows to be incorporated in the display. We will also be adding a new feature: digital picture frames. You have probably seen these digital picture frames loaded with family photos that scroll through continually, the kind of thing people like to give to granddad and grandma as a holiday present. I have seen this simple and inexpensive display technology used to good effect in other museums and we are going to give it a try here. The net effect is fewer words and more images—all to the good for the museum visitor’s experience.

News and Events from the Dittrick Medical History Center

Rare obstetric manikin prompts change

After the September opening of the Skuy Gallery, prompted by the acquisition of Percy Skuy's unique contraceptive collection, I mulled over the state of the rest of the Dittrick's main gallery. Quite honestly, the prospect for a major overhaul had not been on the horizon—that loomed as perhaps too overwhelming, frankly. And yet, the clean, bright look of the Skuy Gallery stood in contrast to the rest of our main gallery. At the very least, a sprucing up seemed in order. Additionally, I thought how interesting it would be to tell the flip side of the contraceptive gallery story—a history of childbirth and related issues on the health of women and children. We certainly have the artifacts and rare books to present this story. It is just a matter of getting started in this direction.

As I pondered such change, and its implications, for the Dittrick, a totemic artifact came on the horizon and set the ball rolling. Just before Thanksgiving, we received a dealer's catalogue featuring a rare obstetric manikin and a 1769 text by Madame du Coudray, the celebrated midwife. I had seen similar manikins in Europe, notably at the Musée Flaubert in Rouen, France, where Mme. du Coudray's most complete midwifery manikin may be found. With funding from the Cleveland Medical Library Association, this rare survivor from the 18th century was acquired for Dittrick. I see the manikin as the key anchor for a new gallery component dealing with childbirth in historical perspective.

To give meaning to this important artifact and place it in historic context, I have invited Professor Nina Gelbart to give the 2010 Zverina Lecture, and we have asked Professor Pam Lieske to serve as guest curator for an exhibit presenting the manikin. Drs. Gelbart and Lieske are distinguished scholars whose work has focused upon this topic from different, yet complementary perspectives. For the Dittrick and our friends, it is a convergence of interest and talent that can only be described as wonderfully fortuitous. On October 14, Professor Gelbart, who teaches at Occidental College, presented *Birthing a Nation: Mme du Coudray and the practice of midwifery in Enlightenment France*. Professor Gelbart's lecture is based upon her acclaimed biography of Mme. du Coudray, *The King's Midwife: A History and Mystery of Madame du Coudray* (1998). Dr. Gelbart's biography of du Coudray also provides essential context for understanding the role played by both the obstetric manikin and the birthing manual by du Coudray, *Abrégé de l'art des accouchemens* (1769). With these tools, du Coudray trained a cadre of some ten thousand persons in midwifery, and aspired to vanquish the tyranny of ignorant tradition. To complement Professor Gelbart's talk, we have invited Professor Pam Lieske of Kent State University to guest-curate a display of the Dittrick's obstetric manikin. The exhibition, in the Castele Gallery, is entitled '*La machine*' of Mme du Coudray : the obstetrical manikin in 18th century midwifery. Professor Lieske brings to this task considerable knowledge of this subject from a British perspective, as well as a thorough conversancy with French experience and writings. She serves as editor of *18th Century British Midwifery*, a 12 volume collection of facsimiles of primary documents—pamphlets, lectures, and treatises on midwifery and childbirth, as well as catalogues of obstetrical appliances and specimens. She therefore brings a long-established interest in the subject of obstetrical manikins to the task of curating the temporary exhibition here at the Dittrick. All this expertise is a great boon to us, as this temporary exhibit can become the first component of a larger permanent gallery presentation of the topic of childbirth and related women's health issues.

Dittrick invited to collaborate with Wellcome Library Images initiative

An emerging partnership with the Wellcome Library comprises yet another development at the Dittrick driven by the acquisition of a notable collection. Over ten years ago, we acquired a collection of dissection portrait images that have been featured in *Dissection: Photographys of a Rite of Passage in American Medicine, 1880-1930* (Blast Books, 2009). Dr. Simon Chaplin, newly appointed director of the Wellcome Library, found these images compelling and has invited the Dittrick to share them via Wellcome Images. He proposed this as just a first step in collaborative sharing of images from the Dittrick collections on Wellcome Images, the online portal for accessing medical images from the incomparable Wellcome historical collections. This invitation emerged in conversations with Dr. Chaplin after he spoke at the annual meeting of the Cleveland Medical Library Association. Dittrick collections considered for sharing on Wellcome Images include the following: Corlett dermatology clinic, 1890-1910; Hartzell smallpox epidemic, 1902-04; Lakeside Unit hospital service in France, 1917-18; and Bruno Gebhard photos of health museum displays, 1925-65.

History Day 2010

by John Vacha, District 3 Coordinator

National History Day was created in 1974 by Dr. David Van Tassel, a professor at Case Western Reserve University. Initially intended as a local competition, it grew to become a national program with about 700,000 participants each year. As the "Birthplace of History Day," CWRU awards a full scholarship at the national contest every year. History Day 2010 reached new levels of achievement, as more than 500 intermediate and senior high school students entered the Ohio District 3 contest at Case Western Reserve University, and eleven local entries went on to win honors at National History Day in College Park, Maryland. Claire Lo, a junior from Shaker Heights High School, received outstanding recognition for her individual exhibit on barbed wire entitled "The Devil's Rope: Pioneering the West." It not only won second place nationally in its category but also won Claire a full scholarship to Hawaii's Chaminade University. Also placing second in the top fifteen in their categories nationally were entries from Shaker Heights and Magnificat High in the senior division and Birchwood School in the junior division. Emily Hirsch and Alexandra Wagner from Shaker High were given the Outstanding State Entry award from Ohio for a group performance on "Barbie and the Feminist Movement."

"Innovation in History" was the theme for History Day 2010. The district contest took place on the CWRU campus on Saturday, March 13, in various venues including Sears Hall, Thwing Ballroom, Ford and Strosacker auditoriums, and Amasa Stone Chapel. A total of 538 students were entered from schools in Cuyahoga, Lake, Lorain, Medina, and Smuntnit counties. Among the eighty volunteer judges for the event were history graduate students Ben Demko, Thomas Hull, Elizabeth Salem, and Alan Waldinger, and History Associates members Judith Cetina, Virginia Dawson, Roger Ingraham, and David Shriver.

"Debate and Diplomacy in History: Successes, Failures, Consequences" is the theme for History Day 2011, which will take place locally on campus and at the Western Reserve Historical Society. Those interested in serving as judges may contact contest coordinator John Vacha at (216) 721-5722, x255 or [jvacha@wrhs.org].

"In exchange for a few hours of your time on a Saturday morning, you'll get a lift from seeing the passion for history displayed by our next generation of historians and history buffs," said Vacha.

News from History Associates of CWRU

by Judith G. Cetina, President

The History Associates began 2010 with energy and enthusiasm and offered its first program on February 18th featuring Dr. John Flores who spoke on "Deporting Dissidence: Examining Transnational Politics, Civic Assimilation, and the Cold War through the Life of Refugio Roman Martinez." The annual History Associates' Graduate Student Fellowship Recipients Presentations held in May marked another successful event as an appreciative audience learned about the research being pursued by Lynne Graziano, Elise Hagesfeld, and James Johnson.

On September 20th Dr. Bertram Wyatt-Brown, former member of the History Department, returned to the University and presented the third annual Ubbelohde lecture entitled "'Murder by Duel,' Welch, West Virginia, 2009: A Historian's Experience." History Associates members and their guests, CWRU faculty, and graduate students/alumni, attended a pre-lecture coffee and dessert reception in the Baker-Nord Center room and had the chance to greet the distinguished scholar and colleague. Your contribution to the Ubbelohde Endowment Fund can help to make the lectureship self-sustaining in the years to come.

The History Associates also encourage you, if you have not already done so, to renew your membership for the 2010-2011 academic year. Remember that funds raised by the History Associates have supported grants to graduate students for Ph.D. dissertation research and prizes for outstanding work by undergraduates. History Associates also offer special member events throughout the year. A dinner and talk is being planned for January 2011, and new faculty member Wendy Fu will be the speaker for a program in February. For more information about membership contact the Dean's office in the College of Arts and Sciences at 216.368.0097.

Support History Associates

Becoming involved with History Associates is an excellent opportunity to meet and work with folks, who, amongst all of their other commitments, are dedicated to providing students in the History Department with more than a valuable classroom experience. They are supporters of scholarship and professional development, encouraging students to "do more," and truly have our best interests at heart.

- Tiffany Wiley, M.A., History

I received a grant from History Associates in December 2003 when I was just starting research for my dissertation. With the History Associates Grant, I was able to fund research-related expenses in the spring and summer of 2004, traveling to key collections in Indiana, Pennsylvania, and Delaware.

- Aaron Alcorn, Ph.D. Candidate, History

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.

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