

HISTORY NOTES

Editor: John Grabowski



Report from the Department Chair

The Department of History continued to prosper in 2017 and 2018, as faculty and students continued their outstanding work of research and teaching of history.

In February 2017 Ted Steinberg received the Faculty Distinguished Research Award, the first such honor bestowed upon a humanist. And since the last *History Notes*, John Broich, Renée Sentilles, and John Flores all published books, whose titles are listed elsewhere, while Jay Geller has a book in press to appear in early 2019. All of the faculty in the Department continue their scholarly activity with

conference papers, articles, review articles, and book reviews as each maintains and expands her or his national and international reputation.

The Department also experienced a number of faculty life-cycle milestones. In mid-2017, both John Flores and Jonathan Sadowsky received promotion, in John's case to Associate Professor with grant of tenure, and for Jonathan to Professor. After the Department received permission in late 2017 for two searches for Assistant Professors, in History of Science and in African-American History, we succeeded admirably in History of Science and will be joined on July 1, 2018 by Prof. Aviva Rothman, who received her doctoral degree from Princeton, has taught at the University of Chicago and is already author of her first book on Johannes Kepler. The Department intends to search again in 2018-19 in African-American History, and also to request permission to replace other gaps in our regional and methodological coverage.

In the rhythm of academic life, we bade farewell in 2017 to Prof. Molly Berger upon her retirement and assumption of Emerita status, as we will likewise bid farewell in 2018 to Prof. David Hammack as Emeritus Professor upon his retirement. And we extend to both our deepest gratitude for their years of outstanding scholarship, teaching, service, and friendship.

Since Spring 2017, six students defended their dissertations: Jonathan Kinser (March 2017), Elise Hagesfeld, (September 2017), Nathan Delaney and Michael Metsner (February 2018), Stephanie Liscio (March 2018), and John Baden (April 2018). And three students have defended their MA theses: Daliah Greenwald (December 2017), Emily Sparks (March 2018), and Halle Bauer (March 2018).

Perhaps the most unexpected news came in March 2018, when the Department learned that the incoming Provost of the University will be Prof. Ben Vinson, III, a distinguished historian of colonial Mexico, the African diaspora, and Latin American history. A prolific scholar and skilled administrator, he will join the University and our Department on July 1, coming from his service as Dean of the Columbian College of Arts & Sciences at the George Washington University. We welcome Ben as he joins a Department that is flourishing and productive and as we together look forward to new ventures and successes in the coming year.

Faculty News

Kenneth F. Ledford

Since the last History Notes, Ledford has commented on a panel at the German Studies Association Annual Meeting and presented papers at the Annual Meetings of the American Society for Legal History and the American Historical Association. He has published book reviews in *Holocaust and Genocide Studies* and the *American Historical Review* and an article in *Central European History*. He serves on the Council of the American Historical Association as Parliamentarian, on the Boards of Directors of Ohio Humanities and the Friends of the German Historical Institute, Washington, D.C., and as a Faculty Senator from the College and Chair of the Faculty Senate Bylaws Committee. He continues to work on his book manuscript on Prussian judges.

Alan Rocke

Publications and invited papers: I have two papers in press in *Isis* (the journal of the History of Science Society), both of which will appear in 2018; I am co-editing a collection of papers on a global comparative examination of graduate education and research ca. 1900, across all academic fields; I am co-general editor of the six-volume *Cultural History of Chemistry*, in production at Bloomsbury Press; and in the fall of 2017 I gave invited keynote lectures at conferences in Groningen (Netherlands), and Durham (England). I also continue my research on the work of 19th-century scientists Lothar Meyer and Emil Erlenmeyer.

Teaching: I taught a course for Senior Scholars in the spring of 2018. University service: I continue to serve on the Executive Committee of the Emeriti Academy, on the University's DUP Council, and on the advisory committee for KSL's Department of Special Collections. Outside scholarly activities: I am associate editor of the journal *Ambix*; I am chair of the committee in charge of designating National Historic Chemical Landmarks for the American Chemical Society; and I am a member of the editorial board of the "Synthesis" book series for the University of Chicago Press.

Maddalena Rumor

Published: "The 'AŠ' section' of Uruanna III in Partitur" in *Le Journal des Médecines Cunéiformes*. Her article "There's No Fool Like an Old Fool: The Mesopotamian aluzinnu and its Relationship to the Greek alazôn" will appear in *Kaskal* 14 (2017) in the next few weeks, and her magazine piece "Alchemy Between the Two Rivers?" will come out next month (May 2018) in *The Ancient Near East Today*.

Two additional articles of hers are in press and should be published by the end of the year, one in *Ancient Magic and Divination* 14, and the other in the *Proceedings of the Workshop Held at the 61st Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale*.

Besides working on her publications, Maddalena gave talks in Toronto (AIA-SCS), and was invited to speak for the "Cleveland Archaeological Society" and for the "Friends of the Hiram College Library & The Robert Sawyer Classics Fund."

Einav Rabinovitch-Fox

Nominated as a Faculty Affiliate by the Baker-Nord Institute for the Humanities. As part of the fellowship, she gave in March 2018 a public lecture on her research: "Designing Power: The Women of The Fashion Group and the Promotion of Feminist Style During the 1930s and 1940s." In addition, Einav was asked to be part of the Program Committee for the "Big Berks" conference of Women Historians, one of the most prominent conferences in the field of women's and gender history, to be held in 2020 in Baltimore, MD.

Jonathan Sadowsky

Was promoted to Professor of History. Received a contract from Polity Books for next book, "Depression: A History."

Renée Sentilles

During the past year I wrote two book reviews: Heather S. Nathan, *Hideous Characters & Beautiful Pagans: Performing Jewish Identity on the Antebellum American Stage* in *American Jewish History* (forthcoming winter 2018) and Ryan K. Anderson, *Frank Merriwell and the Fiction of All-American Boyhood: The Progressive Era Creation of the School boy Sports Story* in *Journal of the History of Childhood and Youth*, vol 10, number 1, Winter 2017, 135-36. Additionally, one book review essay: "Race and Girlhood in the United States," *Journal of Women's History*. (vo. 30, no 4, Winter 2018). And gave two talks: *Tomboys and Juvenile Fiction*, CWRU Special Collections, March 2018. *Smith College Alumnae of Cleveland*, "American Tomboys," November 2017.

John Grabowski

Completed work on two-long standing book projects this past year. The Western Reserve Historical Society published his *Cleveland A to Z: Historical Essentials for Newcomers and Residents in Northeastern Ohio* in November. In April, Bilkent University in Ankara, Turkey, published *Bilkent: Thirty Years in Historical Perspective* which examines the history of Bilkent, the first private, foundation funded not-for-profit university in Turkey.

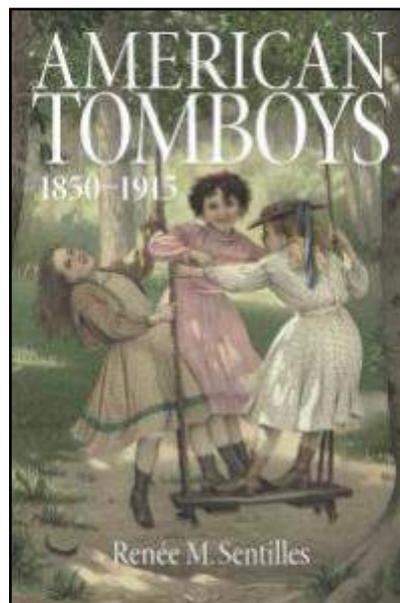
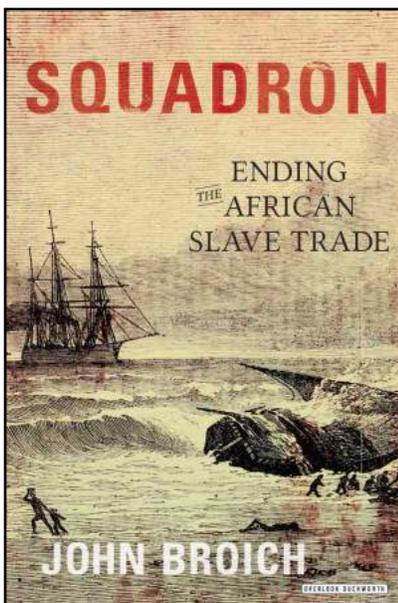
History Faculty Books Published January 2017-May 2018 and Forthcoming

John Broich, *Squadron: Ending the African Slave Trade* (Overlook/Duckworth, November 2017)

Renée Sentilles, *American Tomboys, 1850-1915* (University of Massachusetts, February 2018)

John Flores, *The Mexican Revolution in Chicago: Immigration Politics from the Early Twentieth Century to the Cold War* (University of Illinois, March 2018)

Jay Howard Geller, *The Scholems: A Story of the German-Jewish Bourgeoisie from Emancipation to Destruction* (Cornell, 2019)



Student Milestones

PhD Dissertation Defenses

Elise Hagesfeld, “Saving the World by Saving Its Children: The Birth of the Modern Child Welfare Agency and the Children’s Homes of the National Benevolent Association of the Disciples of Christ, 1887-1974,” June 2, 2017

Nathan Delaney, “Copper Capitalism: The Making of a Transatlantic Market in Metals, 1870-1930,” February 23, 2018

Michael Metsner, “Grassroots Diplomacy: American Cold War Travelers and the Making of a Popular Détente, 1958-1972,” February 26, 2018

Stephanie Liscio, “If You Build It, Where Will They Go? Sports Stadiums, Civic Pride, and Neighborhood Displacement, 1930-1970,” March 9, 2018

John Baden, “Through Disconnection and Revival: Afghan-American Relations with Afghanistan, 1900-2016,” April 23, 2018

MA Thesis Defenses

Daliah Greenwald, “The Middle East, Zionism, and Freya Stark,” November 15, 2017

Emily Sparks, “The ‘Dangerous Chance of Being a Flapper’: The Black Flapper’s Challenge of Respectability in the Chicago *Defender*, 1920-1929,” March 29, 2018

Halle Bauer, “From ‘Self-Dedicated Culture’ to ‘True Community’: The Lesbian Gay Community Center of Cleveland’s Strategies of Visibility, Representation, and Autonomy from 1980 to 1988,” April 4, 2018

Comprehensive Exams

Meghan Schill, April 10, 2018

Sherri Bolcevic, May 7, 2018

Student News

Tiffany Walker

On November 3, 2017, Tiffany Walker presented her paper "Fannie Lewis and the Struggle for Citizen Participation in Cleveland’s Model Cities Program, 1968-1972" at the 10th Annual History Graduate Student Conference at Northern Illinois University.

Katie Schroeder

Katie Schroeder was awarded the College of Arts & Sciences Dissertation Fellowship and the Department of Bioethics' Medical Humanities and Social Medicine Research Grant. She was the recipient of the Best Poster Award at the 2018 conference of the American Society for Environmental History in Riverside, CA. She was granted scholarships to participate in two upcoming workshops: "Environmental Humanities in the Public Realm" at Memorial University in St. Johns, Newfoundland, and "Public Health Humanities: Audience, Engagement and Social Justice," at the Hiram College Center for Literature and Medicine. This summer she will present her research on nineteenth-century quarantine at the Cultural Studies Association's annual conference at Carnegie Mellon as part of the Environment, Space & Place workgroup. In June she will travel to archives in Albany, Manhattan, and Staten Island to continue her dissertation research.

Spring Graduate and Undergraduate Awards 2018

The Melvin Kranzberg Prize to the best MA thesis defended during the last year
“From ‘Self-Dedicated Culture’ to ‘True Community’: The Lesbian Gay Community Center of Cleveland’s Strategies of Visibility, Representation, and Autonomy from 1980 to 1988,”
Halle Bauer

The Marion Siney Prize to the best performance/qualifying exams during the last year
Meghan Schill

The Carl W. Ubbelohde Prize to the best teaching assistant during the last year
Naomi Rendina
Corey Hazlett

The Jane and Cecil Lyman Prize best PhD dissertation defended during the last year
“Grassroots Diplomacy: American Cold War Travelers and the Making of a Popular Détente, 1958-1972”
Micheal Metsner

The Frank R. Bochert, Jr Prize to the best PhD dissertation of a student in the History department with a preference given to topics which exemplify education, architecture, music, and United States History *“Copper Capitalism: The Making of a Transatlantic Market in Metals, 1870-1930”*
Nathan Delaney

The Annie Spencer Cutter Prize to a senior for outstanding achievement in history
Tasha Jhangiani

The Clarence H. Cramer Award for excellence in research and writing of history
Jordan Liff
Hannah Pomerantz

The Donald Grove Barnes Award to a senior for excellence in history
Rebecca Trickey

The John Hall Stewart Prize for excellence in historical studies
Liam LeBlanc

The Sigma Psi Prize in honor of Elbert J. Benton for excellence in history
Claire Howard
Anna (Riley) Simko

The History Department Award for outstanding achievement in history
Rebecca Trickey

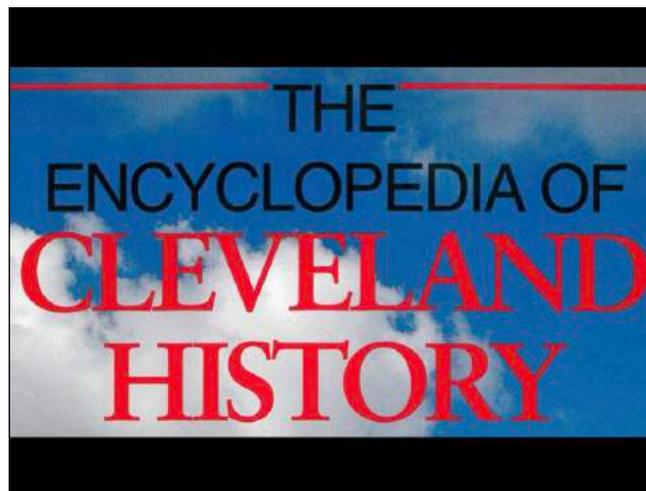


Encyclopedia of Cleveland History

The past academic year saw major changes take place in the Encyclopedia of Cleveland History project. Once again it has changed content management systems. Just as staff completed the cleanup of issues attendant to its move to the Terminal 4 CMS, the University began a process of shifting all CWRU websites to Drupal. Given the issues that occurred in the switch to Terminal 4, staff had concerns about the pending move. It took place in late May and fortunately was absent major problems. At this point Drupal seems to be a good, flexible system for the ECH (which is averaging over 2,500 page views per day).

The ECH is also returning to its roots. When Professor David Van Tassel began the project in 1980 he solicited ideas and content from scholars and the community. A series of “task forces” led by people with expertise and interest in particular topics both suggested and wrote content (which was carefully vetted) for the first published edition. In May the ECH project announced a return to the same protocol— asking scholars and community members to voluntarily assist in suggesting, creating, and updating content. Whereas the 1980s task forces met at various locales, the current groups will engage with the project via email and the ever growing ECH social media platforms (as of this writing the ECH has 3,776 Facebook followers; 5,197 Twitter followers, and 1,248 followers on Instagram). This new system will be “rolled out” slowly so staff can work out issues relating to communication and work load. As with the first system all new content will need to be edited and vetted before it is published.

There was one aspect of the project that did not change this past year. Meghan Schill and Ryan Chamberlain continued to serve as Besse Fellow Associate Editors. Meghan did so while preparing for (and passing) her comprehensive exams and Ryan did so while creating a prospectus for his doctoral thesis (which will focus on the complex history of encyclopedias and scholarly authority). Both Meghan and Ryan will be continuing in their positions during the coming year.



2018 Region 3 Ohio History Day Competition

By Mary Manning, Region 3 Ohio History Day Associate, and Lori Smith, Region 3 Ohio History Day Coordinator

On March 3, 2018, the Cleveland History Center of the Western Reserve Historical Society (CHC) and Case Western Reserve University welcomed nearly 500 students from 23 schools to University Circle to compete in the Region 3 Ohio History Day contest. This year's theme was *Conflict and Compromise in History*. Created in 1974 by the late Dr. David Van Tassel of the CWRU Department of History, History Day quickly expanded into a statewide and then a national competition, but the dominance of students in Northeast Ohio has stayed strong over 44 years of competition.

NATIONAL HISTORY DAY 2018



Local teachers reported that, between the beginning of the school year and the contest in March, over 1,000 students in five Northeast Ohio counties participated in National History Day curricula at their schools. Those 500 students who chose to come to the regional contest displayed incredible expertise in their topics – as one teacher put it, “It allows students to be true historians in order to refine their skills of inquiry and analysis.” When they came to CHC or CWRU to display their hard work, they dazzled the 115 judges who volunteered to evaluate their projects. Judges, a number of whom are members of the CWRU community, reported again and again how inspiring they found the students. The winning Region 3 students then competed in the state-wide Ohio History Day contest at Ohio Wesleyan University on April 21, 2018. 16 projects qualified for National History Day, to be held in June 2018, and Region 3 students won 15 of the 25 Special Prize awards offered at the state level.

As the competition grows and changes, the support of the CWRU Department of History and the Baker-Nord Center for the Humanities continues to prove indispensable. With their assistance, the Awards Ceremony, having finally outgrown Amasa Stone Chapel for good, moved into the Maltz Performing Arts Center in 2018. Not only were parents and teachers delighted to have guaranteed seating in this much larger space, but they found the building an exquisite location for such an event.



Another exciting addition this year was a History@Work panel, organized by CWRU History professor Peter Shulman in collaboration with the Baker-Nord Center. This event allowed four CWRU History alumni to discuss how studying history has influenced their careers, and eager History Day students packed Clark Hall 206 to hear them speak! With such a positive response to the event, we hope to repeat it in 2019. In addition, the CWRU History Associates again awarded the David Van Tassel Award for Outstanding Contributions to History Day, and our recipient was Dave Ressler, a history

teacher at Lutheran West High School in Rocky River who incorporates History Day and a focus on primary sources into all of his classes.

In recent months, the History Day staff members at the Cleveland History Center have been working to process and safeguard files from past competitions, including names and topics from student entry forms between 1998 and 2013. As we have examined these records, we have become even more convinced of the impact that History Day has on the lives of the students who participate, even if they do not grow up to be professional historians. We've found numerous instances of students who researched medical history topics as middle-schoolers that chose to become doctors and a number of other similar situations where History Day indulged long-standing interests that eventually developed into successful careers. Many CWRU alumni from Northeast Ohio, as well as children of CWRU staff and professors, had also participated as students. National History Day has truly been a gem of this community since its beginning, and community is what the History Day staff has prioritized moving forward.

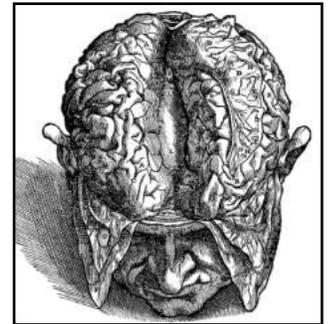


Our goals for the near future are to re-engage local schools that had once participated widely, especially those in the Cleveland Metropolitan School District, and to increase local outreach programming related to History Day. We strive to communicate how National History Day is more than a one-day academic program or humanities initiative; it's a year-long curriculum designed to improve student performance and mold outstanding citizens. Through the format it has always employed and the learning objectives of its teachers, History Day provides essential training to its participants in 21st century college and career readiness skills, especially critical thinking, communication, collaboration, and creativity. We look forward to 2019, and to encouraging students to make the past relevant to the present and the future. We hope that you will join us in this important work. Inquiries regarding judging and sponsorship may be directed to historyday@wrhs.org.

From the Dittrick

Dittrick to host International Society for the History of Neurosciences in June

On June 19-23, 2018 the Dittrick will host the 23rd Congress of the of the International Society for the History of Neurosciences (ISHN; est. 1995). This came about through the current ISHN President, Douglas Lanska, who did his neurology residency and fellowship in Cleveland in the 1980s. Doug and his wife Mary Jo cherish fond memories of their time in Cleveland; he also valued the impactful mentoring received from Peter Whitehouse, Robert Daroff, and Joe Foley. As President, Doug chose Cleveland as the venue for the 2018 ISHN Congress, and we are very pleased to welcome Doug and his colleagues to our city.



During his residency, Doug and I co-authored an article in the *Archives of Neurology* on the therapeutic fad of suspension therapy for tabes dorsalis. The fate of suspension therapy for syphilis care proved to be a cautionary tale, of initial uncritical enthusiasm and meteoric rise, followed by star-studded endorsements by Charcot and de la Tourette, succeeded by more clear-eyed and level-headed assessments that discredited the practice. The unexpected positive spin-off was that Doug and I became friends, and he delved into medical history while pursuing a career in neurology.

The ISHN meeting brings together individuals from across the world to discuss the history of the neurosciences. In his invitation to ISHN members, Doug referenced the “many outstanding clinicians and neuroscientists who have expanded our understanding of neurological disorders” in Cleveland. He has also woven the meeting around the strengths of the Dittrick and tapped local talent for some presentations. For the Frank Clifford Rose Memorial Lecture I’ll be discussing the neurology instruments in the Dittrick collections, and composing a guide to collections at other museums where such instruments may be seen and studied. Doug will present “new” discoveries among images in Vesalius’s *Fabrica* (1543 and 1555 editions) for the Christopher U.M. Smith Presidential Lecture, and Peter Whitehouse has been asked to give the Oliver Sacks Memorial Lecture, in which he will explore the work of Theodor Meyner on the nucleus basalis. Additionally, an exhibition tentatively entitled “Re-imagining Dementia” drawing upon many of these themes is taking shape, and will be installed in the Castele temporary exhibition gallery at the Dittrick when the ISHN Congress opens in June.



Rare book catalogue update: Mystery donor of the Pol collection solved

The Nicolaus Pol Collection of early medical books comprises a true gem of the Rare Book Collection of the Cleveland Medical Library Association. But the purchase of the Pol Collection long remained shrouded in mystery. Who bought it, and why? Research on the forthcoming select catalogue of the CMLA Rare Books by Catherine Osborn (Ph.D. candidate in Anthropology) has finally solved this mystery, and I thought I’d share this intriguing tale with CMLA Newsletter readers.

The Pol collection originally belonged to Nicolaus Pol (c1470-1532), a physician employed by Maximilian I, Holy Roman Emperor. He amassed a huge book collection, mainly works on religion, ethics, and philosophy and most of it remains at a monastery in San Candido, Italy. However, in 1907 some of Pol's medical books surfaced in Munich. A young book dealer there, Maurice Ettinghausen, sold them to Edward Clark Streeter, M.D., a Boston bibliophile and medical humanist, for \$800. But personal financial reverses compelled their resale in 1928. Ettinghausen, then of Maggs Bros. in London, bought the Pol books for \$5000 and issued a catalogue offering the entire collection for sale in 1929.

A copy of the Maggs Bros. catalogue ended in the hands of Edward Harvey (Pat) Cushing, a trustee of the CMLA. It may have been intended for his bibliophile uncle, the distinguished neurosurgeon Harvey Cushing. But Ettinghausen didn't know that there were *two* Drs. Cushing with links to the CMLA. (Harvey had given the dedicatory address, "The Doctor and His Books," when the Allen opened in 1926.) Pat Cushing shared his famous uncle's passion for rare books, and leapt at the chance to buy the Pol collection. He didn't have the \$12,500 that Maggs Bros asked, but President Robert Vinson of Western Reserve University authorized a cash advance, bringing the Pol books safely to Cleveland. (This cooperation is all the more remarkable since the two institutions had no formal ties at that time.) Soon after, an anonymous donation in honor of Charles W. Bingham reimbursed Western Reserve. Renowned anatomist T. Wingate Todd formally announced this landmark addition to the CMLA on October 29, 1929 and he observed that "the donor forbids the mention of a name save only that of Charles William Bingham, whose memory is enshrined in this great gift."

So, who was this anonymous benefactor? Local philanthropists and CMLA Honorary Members Perry W. Harvey and his wife Kate Hanna Harvey are most certainly the anonymous donors for the Pol Collection. Perry was cousin, college roommate and best man to Harvey Cushing and, before his marriage to Kate, lived with his cousin Pat Cushing. Perry was a longtime friend of Bingham, who had died four months before the Pol Collection was purchased. The two men collected rare books (Perry Harvey favored Baskerville editions) and both belonged to Cleveland's Rowfant Club. When Perry Harvey died in 1932, the CMLA honored him at their annual meeting, citing the "many treasures which [the library] would have been unable to purchase" and that "it was in keeping with his charming modesty that he permitted no public acknowledgement" (CMLA Minutes, Vol. 6, Jan. 20, 1933, p. 427). Thus generous local philanthropist played a pivotal, if anonymous, role in the growth of the CMLA

