"The Anatomy Lesson of Dr. Nicolaes Tulp" Rembrandt Harmenszoon van Rijn
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A Word from the Chair

At the end of my first year as Department Chair, there is a great deal to report and a sense of renewed hope and optimism as we prepare for the challenges of the coming academic year. Over the past two semesters the Department was engaged in three major undertakings. First, we reconfigured the manner in which we think of ourselves as a scholarly and teaching community, by adding the category of “clusters” to our existing field divisions. By “clusters” we mean thematic groupings of colleagues that cut across conventional geographical and chronological lines. These “clusters” will bring together members of the Department who have not had the opportunity to work together; they will promote the introduction of new and exciting undergraduate and graduate courses beyond the constraints of traditional fields; and they will enrich our graduate program by opening it up to transnational themes of common interest. As the “clusters” evolve over the next few years, we hope that they will increasingly become an integral part of our scholarly profile and graduate training. For the moment, three such “clusters” have formed, representing a majority of the faculty: “States, Societies, and Politics”; “Science, Religion, and the Body”; and “Empires, Cultures, and Borderlands.”

Second, the Department agreed on a major revision of our graduate teaching. By simplifying and streamlining the program, we will now be able to offer a larger variety of courses divided into two categories: core seminars focused on specific fields, and thematic seminars dealing with either themes within fields or cluster-related themes across fields. In order to facilitate substantial training in research, we have established a two-semester research seminar, at the end of which students will produce a publishable paper. Incoming students will take part in a colloquium introducing them to historical schools, methodologies, and philosophies of history. Students will also take a professionalization seminar that will guide them especially in grant-writing, and following their preliminary examination at the end of the fifth semester, they will participate in a dissertation seminar, setting them on a course to refine their topics and prepare for archival research.

Third, the Department agreed on a hiring plan for the next three years, which, if successfully implemented, will give us a new and truly unique profile, building on our outstanding existing faculty. Our main objective is to seek scholars who can link different regions and areas of research in interesting and innovative ways, even as we must cope with limited resources for further expansion. The main areas in which we hope to hire are Early Medieval Mediterranean, linking the Christian and Muslim worlds, the Classical era and the Middle Ages, and Europe and the Middle East; Eurasian Borderlands in the last two centuries, linking Eastern Europe and Central Asia, the Ottoman Empire and European empires and states, Christianity, Judaism, and Islam; and Latin America and the World from the late 18th to the early 20th century, linking Europe and its former or existing colonies, and focusing on the vast flow of people, goods, and cultures across the oceans that remade an entire continent and much of the rest of the world.

These ambitious plans were forged on the basis of the Department’s great success in recruiting two outstanding scholars. Harold (Hal) J. Cook joins the faculty in the fall of 2010 as John F. Nickoll Professor of History. Hal is an early modern historian with a special interest in the so-called Scientific Revolution as seen through the medical community. Beginning with research on England, where he developed ways...
to understand the impact of the medical marketplace on medical ideas and practices, Hal has more recently focused on the manner in which Dutch commercial interests affected the development of science and medicine. This in turn led him to global history and to writing his most recent prize-winning book, *Matters of Exchange: Commerce, Medicine, and Science in the Dutch Golden Age* (Yale University Press, 2007). His current research questions how medical knowledge could be translated from one cultural language to another (or not).

Adam Teller joins the Department of History and the Program in Judaic Studies as Associate Professor. Adam specializes in the history of the Jews in Poland, with special reference to the social, economic, and cultural history of the Jews in the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth (16th-18th centuries). He is also interested in the history of the Jews in early modern Europe, Jewish economic history and the history of the Jewish family. Adam is the author and editor of many major scholarly books and articles, including *Money, Power, and Influence: The Jews on the Radziwilt Estates in 18th Century Lithuania* (Merkaz Zalman Shazar: Jerusalem 2005, in Hebrew), currently being translated into English. He is also the co-editor of the newly published 22nd volume of *Polin*, the centerpiece publication on Polish Jewish history: *Borders and Boundaries in the History of the Jews in Old Poland* (The Littman Library of Jewish Civilization, 2010). Adam is currently writing on the Hebrew chronicle, “Yavein Metsulah,” composed in the aftermath of the Chmielnicki uprising of 1648 in Ukraine.

We have also suffered some losses. Our much-admired colleagues, Jorge Flores, Deborah Cohen and Mark Swislocki have moved to other universities. While we wish them the very best in their new positions, we all deeply regret their leaving and will miss them greatly, as will their students.

Our accomplishments as a department relied heavily on the full participation of all faculty members. Especially crucial were the members of the ad hoc Chair’s Advisory Executive Committee (CAEC), the Graduate Committee, and the Planning and Priorities Committee (PPC). The outgoing Director of Graduate Studies, Joan Richards, and her replacement, Robert Self, along with the Director of Undergraduate Studies, Nancy Jacobs, the chair of the PPC, Michael Vorenberg, the chair of the Early Modern Jewish History search, Maud Mandel, the coordinator of our newly establish Thursday Lecture Series (TLS), Seth Rockman, and many others, not least Cynthia Brokaw who chaired a preselect committee that, alas, failed to bring in a candidate, deserve special thanks. Finally, the staff of the department, steered with a rare combination of efficiency and good cheer by Cherrie Guerzon, and ably helped by Mary Beth Bryson and Julissa Bautista, constituted the solid foundation without which none of the above would have been possible.

To all of us, best wishes for another year of teaching, learning, research and writing!

— OMER BARTOV

Omer Bartov

John P. Birkelund Distinguished Professor of European History
Chair, Department of History
One of his most famous paintings, “The Anatomy Lesson of Dr Nicolaes Tulp” was commissioned from the young Rembrandt by the doctor in January 1632, showing him in his role as anatomical lecturer to the surgeons’s guild and, thereby, to the whole of the city of Amsterdam. Rembrandt breaks with earlier depictions of anatomy lessons by rejecting the convention of placing his subjects standing quietly next to a memento mori in the form of a skeleton or corpse. Instead, he captures a more complex lesson, and in the action of a moment: Tulp in the midst of showing the muscles and tendons that make it possible to place forefinger and thumb together. The surgeons look on enthralled, their eyes moving from Tulp’s hand, to the corpse, to the famous anatomical atlas of Vesalius opened at the appropriate page, and out to us, meeting our eyes looking back at them. We are included in the commotion of the moment, captured by the revelation of our human nature reduced to the mechanics of the opposable thumb and at the same time something more, one spirit gesturing to another in order to convey meaning. God’s most wonderful creation captured in wondering at itself, on the brink of imagining that we mere mortals can grasp our own nature. Tulp’s anatomy lessons raised grand and universal questions while pointing to the particular fleeting material forms from which they arose.

Tulp made his way in an information economy. Just at that moment, Amsterdam was celebrating the inauguration of its Athenaeum, created for the advanced instruction of the sons of the great merchants of the city (and which in later years would form the nucleus of the University of Amsterdam). One of its first professors, Caspar Barlaeus, gave an opening speech about the marriage of wisdom and commerce, celebrating the wealth and power of a city built from the ingenuity, courage, and honesty of its chief inhabitants, and from their knowledge of the world. Indeed, the Dutch had established one of the greatest seaborne empires of the age, serving as an entrepôt for goods and information from around the globe, while they also furthered the study of nature in their own country. A Frenchman by the name of René Descartes had recently moved to the city and was beginning to put pen to paper while deeply immersed in the study of the new medicine and anatomy of Tulp and many others. His Dutch friends would press on him the importance of building up knowledge from the evidentiary details, while he in turn would formulate a view of how one could explain all the operations of nature, even the human passions—a subject pressed on him by the remarkable Princess Elisabeth of the Palatinate, then living in The Hague—from the interactions of elementary bodies alone. Four years later, when Barlaeus gave another speech, upon the opening of a grand new anatomy theater in the city, from where Tulp would demonstrate his lessons to thousands, he would celebrate the ways in which whole worlds could be discerned from the smallest detail.

We might say that in looking carefully at a context of a painting almost 400 years old, we can recognize not only its unique brilliance, but some of the elements common to our own world as well.
Tulp’s life was itself full of such illustrative detail. Even his name, Dr Tulip (to translate it into English), points to one of the most valued exotic luxury goods of the day, which was in such high demand that it was creating one of the first major financial bubbles. (The crash would come four years after the painting.) He served many years as one of the chief officers of the city council, if one of its most conservative members, while also helping to establish the Amsterdam College of Physicians and to regulate drugs sold by pharmacists. He supported the studies of many others. And he took a keen interest in Dutch enterprises abroad: he signed the fitness reports for the first Dutch settlers of Manhattan, and followed with keen interest the development of the settlement in Recife, Brazil, and Batavia (now Jakarta). One of the contemporary maps of the Guinea coast of Africa is dedicated to him, while in his book on interesting medical cases and natural curiosities he published the first thorough anatomy of a chimpanzee, no doubt brought back from there, suggesting that he was connected with the African trade. This pious patriot and Calvinist, dedicated doctor and promoter of the new science, was therefore probably implicated in the profits of slavery. In his life, then, Tulp embodied the interwoven connections between overseas and domestic commerce, service to the institutions of city and Republic, personal ambition, and the investigation of some, but not all, of the great questions about human nature. We might say that in looking carefully at a context of a painting almost 400 years old, we can recognize not only its unique brilliance, but some of the elements common to our own world as well.

Special Thanks to Karen Bouchard, Scholarly Resources Librarian for Art and Architecture, Brown University.
Recent Faculty Books


*Erased: Vanishing Traces of Jewish Galicia in Present-Day Ukraine* by Omer Bartov (Ukrainian translation, 2010); *Constructing the American Past: A Source Book of a People’s History, Volumes 1 and 2* by Elliott Gorn, Randy Roberts, Terry Bilhartz (Pearson Publishers, 7th edition 2010); *From Woodblocks to the Internet: Chinese Publishing and Print Culture Transition, Circa 1800 to 2008* by Cynthia Brokaw, Christopher A. Reed (Brill Publisher, 2010); *FDR and The New Deal for Beginners* by Paul Buhle (For Beginners Publishers/Random House 2010); *Epic and History (Ancient World)* by David Konstan, Kurt Raaflaub (Wiley-Blackwell Publisher, 2010)
Recent Faculty Books

Documents Collection for Women and the Making of America, Combined Volume by Mari Jo Buhle (Prentice Hall, 2009); A Companion to Russian History by Abbott Gleason (Wiley-Blackwell Publisher, 2009); Brazil: Five Centuries of Change by Thomas E. Skidmore (Oxford University Press, pbk 2009); A Companion to Archaic Greece by Kurt Raaflaub, Hans van Wees (Wiley-Blackwell Publisher, 2009)


New Faculty

**Harold J. (Hal) Cook** joins the faculty in the fall of 2010 as John F. Nickoll Professor of History. He is an early modern historian who has taken a special interest in the so-called Scientific Revolution as seen through the medical community. He began with research on England with interests in comparative history, developing ways to understand how the medical marketplace affected medical ideas and practices. More recently, he has focused on the Dutch and how their commercial interests affected the development of science and medicine; this has introduced him to global history as well, and established the framework for his most recent prize-winning book, *Matters of Exchange: Commerce, Medicine, and Science in the Dutch Golden Age* (Yale University Press, 2007). His current research includes questions about how medical knowledge could be translated from one cultural language to another (or not).

**Adam Teller** will be joining the faculty as an associate professor beginning in fall 2010. An early modern historian, he specializes in the history of the Jews in eastern Europe, with a particular focus on the ways in which they came to form an integral part of society in the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth and the tensions this process aroused. He has examined this question from a variety of angles, including books on living conditions in the Jewish quarter in seventeenth century Poznan and on the role played by the Jews in the magnate economy of eighteenth century Lithuania (both published in Hebrew), as well as a series of articles on the Polish-Lithuanian rabbinate and its relationship with the Crown and noble authorities. He is associate editor of “Gal-Ed”, the journal of Polish-Jewish studies and was, for the last five years, deeply involved in the design of the new Museum for the History of Polish Jews being built in Warsaw. This project has greatly stimulated his interest in the experiential presentation of history beyond the analysis of written texts. His current research examines the Polish-Jewish refugee crisis created in the wake of the 1648 Chmielnicki uprising in the Ukraine, and is an ambitious attempt to reconstruct the social, economic, and personal connections which created the seventeenth century Jewish world, stretching from England to Iran and from Riga to Cairo.
Faculty Activities

Engin Akarlı’s article entitled “The Ruler and Law Making in the Ottoman Empire, 1450-1800” will appear in Empires and Law: Principles, Practices, edited by Jeroen Duindam and Nimrod Hurvitz (Leiden: Brill). He also delivered the Spring 2010 Hamilton Gibb Arabic & Islamic Studies Lectures organized by The Center for Middle Eastern Studies at Harvard University on May 11-13: “What Good is Ottoman Legal History For?” “Custom as Signifier of Consensus, Commonality, and Right,” and “Religious Differences and Trans-religious Commonalities in the Arcades of 18th-Century Istanbul-in Light of Legal Sources.” In addition he participated in an intensive workshop on developing a new agenda for “Multi-disciplinary Research on Modern Middle Eastern History” with a focus on changes in property law and property relations organized at the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study at Harvard University on May 14–15, 2010. He was also the discussant in two panels on “Ottoman Neighborhoods in 17th-19th-Century Court Records” (Part I focusing on Istanbul and Part II on other major cities) in the 43rd Annual Meeting of the Middle East Studies Association of North America in Boston, 21–24 November 2009.

While chairing the department at a particularly challenging time, Omer Bartov also tried to keep up with his own scholarly work. He kept slogging at his monograph on the town of Buczacz, which has recently passed the 400-page mark, covering the period 1290–1848; Bertov has yet to write the larger part, reaching all the way to the post-World War II period. Publication highlights included the Ukrainian translation of his book, Erased: Vanishing Traces of Jewish Galicia in Present-Day Ukraine, an especially pleasing event since the book speaks to a Ukrainian public. The introduction he wrote especially for the Ukrainian edition was also published in Russian in the influential journal Ab Imperio. He was also happy to bring to completion the volume he co-edited with Eric Weitz, Borderlands: Peoples, Nations, and Cultures in the Shatterzone of Empires since 1848, based on papers presented at the “Borderlands Project” he directed at the Watson Institute, and currently under review by Indiana University Press. The essay, “From Buchach to Sheikh Muwannis: Building the Future and Erasing the Past,” which controversially juxtaposes the erasure of Jewish memory in Ukraine with the erasure of Palestinian memory in Israel, was included in a volume that brought together Russian and American scholars, Dilemmas of Diversity After the Cold War, edited by Michele Rivkin-Fish and Elena Trubina; and his essay “September 11 in the Rearview Mirror: Contemporary Policies and Perspectives of the Past,” which historically contextualizes modern terrorism, was published in Power and the Past, edited by Eric Langenbacher and Yossi Shain. Professor Bartov also gave public lectures in such places as Yale, Toronto, Emory, USC, Alberta, Michigan, Clark, Rutgers, NYU, and London. All that time, in order to keep mind and body together, he continued practicing gongfu (kung fu). A summer vacation in England’s gorgeous Lake District provided a glorious setting to rehearse his “form” as he prepared for his orange belt test.

Cynthia Brokaw is a historian of late imperial China, specializing in the study of publishing and book culture. Drawing on field work and archival research done in Sichuan in 2008 and 2009, she is writing a study of the role that woodblock publishing and the spread of book culture played in the integration of frontier regions into the Qing Empire and the early Republican nation. During the course of the 2009-2010 academic year, she presented several papers on this topic at Harvard University, Columbia University, the University of Southern California, and the School of Oriental and African Studies at the University of London.
Paul Buhle remains actively producing histories, mixing text and comic art. His two latest are *Comics in Wisconsin* (Borderlands/UW Press) and *FDR and The New Deal, For Beginners* (For Beginners/Random House). His reviews appear in ZEEK and other on-line sources.


During the academic year 2009-10, Howard Chudacoff continued to travel and lecture in the wake of his recent book, *Children at Play*. His engagements included a lecture at Linkoping University in Sweden and the keynote lecture at the conference on “Children’s Play, Children’s Pleasures” at Hofstra University. He also completed new editions of *The Evolution of American Urban Society* (7th) and *A People and a Nation* (9th). His work continues on his next book on major turning points in the history of intercollegiate athletics.


Douglas Cope is preparing a manuscript on the informal economy in eighteenth-century Mexico City. He presented some of his findings (along with translated source material) in the anthology *Documenting Latin America* (Prentice-Hall, 2010).

Carolyn Dean was promoted to Senior Associate Dean of the Faculty and presented papers in Paris, at Columbia, Wesleyan and various other venues, all in preparation for the publication of *Aversion and Erasure: The Fate of the Victim after the Holocaust*. Dean’s latest book will be published by Cornell University Press in Fall, 2010.

Linford D. Fisher enjoyed teaching courses on Native Americans, material culture, and the history of religion in America during his first year at Brown. In addition to presenting papers at the meetings of the American Society for Ethnohistory and the American Historical Association, he has focused most of his research energy on his book manuscript, titled *The Indian Great Awakening: Religion and the Shaping of Native Cultures in Early America*, which is under contract with Oxford University Press. Linford was also selected as a participant in the Young Scholars in American Religion program at the Center for the Study of American Religion and Culture, IUPUI (2010-2012).
Besides teaching a variety of courses on the early modern European empires, Jorge Flores put up a lecture series in the fall titled “Forty Years After Charles Boxer: Explorations in Imperial History.” He contributed a paper to a conference on Global Encounters organized by the University of British Columbia (March 2010) and just finished editing (in collaboration with Brazilian colleagues) a volume titled “Raízes do Privilégio. Hierarquias sociais no mundo ibérico do Antigo Regime,” which will come out next year. Jorge continues writing his book Between Intelligence and Ethnography: Portuguese Perceptions of the Mughal Empire, ca. 1570-1670.


Mary Gluck continues to be engaged, both in her teaching and research, with the interrelated problems of cities, modernity, and Jews. Her two upper-level seminars explore sequentially the comparative problems of modernity in Paris, Berlin, Vienna, Budapest, Prague and Warsaw. Her current research focuses specifically on Budapest modernity at the fin de siècle, aspects of which she presented at the German Studies Conference in October 2009 and at a colloquium on “Central European Jewish Culture” at The University of Michigan, Ann Arbor in October 2009. During the spring of 2010, she wrote an article, “The Budapest Coffee House and the Making of ‘Jewish Modernity’,” which is forthcoming in The Journal of the History of Ideas as part of a number on “Ideas and the City”. A previous article, “The Cultural Roots of the Bohemian Artist,” has recently been translated into Hungarian and published in the literary journal Korunk in May 2010.

Elliot Gorn received a Fulbright Fellowship to Finland, where he taught at the Renvall Institute, University of Helsinki, during the 2009-2010 academic year.

Iceland’s Vatnajokull glacier draining into the Atlantic at Jokulsarlon.
This academic year James N. Green published We Cannot Remain Silent: Opposition to the Brazilian Military Dictatorship in the United States (Duke University Press) that analyses the emergence of a transnational grassroots movement in the United States and the development of the first significant human rights campaign against torture in Latin America in the early 1970s. At the same time, Duke University Press published A Mother’s Cry: A Memoir of Politics, Prison, and Torture under the Brazilian Military Dictatorship, edited by Green, and written by Lina Penna Sattamini that tells the story of a family’s mobilization to seek the release of Marcos Arruda (a former Brown Visiting Professor), who was arrested in 1970, charged with subversion, and tortured by the Brazilian military regime. During the academic year, Green gave guest lectures at Harvard, Hebrew University in Jerusalem, and the Federal University of Santa Catarina in Brazil. He also presented papers at international conferences organized by the Edgard Leuenroth Archive in Campinas, Brazil; the State Archive in of São Paulo; and the National Archive in Rio de Janeiro; as well as a keynote address at the Brazilian Historical Association. Green served as the President of the New England Council on Latin American Studies and was recently elected to the Executive Committee of the Brazilian Studies Association. During the 2010-11 academic year, he will be on sabbatical with an American Council of Learned Societies fellowship to work on a biography of Herbert Daniel, a former medical student and Brazilian revolutionary who later became one of Brazil’s first AIDS activists. We Cannot Remain Silent received Honorable Mention for Best Book on Brazil from the Latin American Studies Association.

This year Françoise Hamlin became the Hans Rothfels Assistant Professor of History and Africana Studies. She taught her lecture course on African American History and three new classes: The Black Freedom Struggle Since 1945, African American Women’s History and Readings in African American History. Her monograph about the civil rights movement in Mississippi is under contract and her edited anthology about African Americans writing about war and patriotism is under review. This year she also completed 3 book reviews in her field. She presented her research multiple times this year. Of note, she was invited to lecture at the Porter Fortune, Jr. History Symposium/Future of the South Symposium, at the University of Mississippi in February 2010, and the essay will be published by the University of Mississippi Press next year in an anthology titled Civil Rights in Mississippi. She also organized a panel and presented ideas from her new research project at the Organization of American Historians Annual Conference in Washington, D.C. in April 2010. She also presented material on African American twentieth century history in a seminar series hosted by Primary Source in Boston for the advanced training of grade school teachers in July 2009. Hamlin won a Karen T. Romer Undergraduate Teaching and Research Award, a Richard B. Salomon Faculty Research Award and a Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Award to support her teaching and research, and she was also honored to receive nominations for the 2010 Karen T. Romer Award for Excellence in Advising.

Tim Harris has been helping the British government make money, quite literally: he wrote the article for the Royal Mint’s release of a new £5 coin to commemorate the 350th anniversary of the Restoration of monarchy. Although he has mainly been working on his forthcoming study of The Stuart Kings and the Age of Revolutions for Oxford University (civil war has at last broken out – and yes, it did actually happen), he also has an essay on ‘Popular, Plebeian Culture: Historical Definitions’ about to appear in The Oxford History of Popular Print Culture, Volume 1: Beginnings to 1660, ed, Joad Raymond, and an extended book review of Keith Thomas’s The Ends of Life in the Journal of Interdisciplinary History. Over the course of the academic year he gave talks in Boston, Louisville, Nashville, and New Haven in the United States, and Bangor, Cambridge and London in the United Kingdom, and appeared on the small screen in the historical documentary ‘Broadside’. From May through to July in 2011 he will be a visiting research fellow at Trinity College Dublin.
PATRICIA HERLIHY, Professor Emerita, is enjoying a second retirement. Pat lectured on a Brown Alumni Cruise on the Black Sea last August. A collection of her articles on Odessa was published as a book, Evropeiskii gorod Chernomor’ia (A European City on the Black Sea), Optimum Press, Odessa, 2009. She also published a chapter, “Ab Oriente ad Ulteriorem Orientem: Eugene Schuyler, Russia, and Central Asia in Space, Place, and Power in Modern Russia: Essays in the New Spatial History, edited by Mark Bassin, Christopher Ely, and Melissa K. Stockdale. Northern Illinois Press, 2010. The volume is dedicated to Tom (Abbott) Gleason. Two of Pat’s grandchildren, David Herlihy and Anna Herlihy, are students at Brown. Unfortunately, it does not appear that they will be history concentrators! Meanwhile, Pat continues to concentrate on vodka (a book) and Eugene Schuyler (a biography).

EVELYN HU-DEHART continues to tie her work on Asians in Latin American and Caribbean to global history and to disseminate her work transnationally and in international and multi-lingual contexts. In May, she presented three papers in China: 1) “Asian American Literature of the Americas,” at Tsinghua University Dept. of Comparative Literature, Beijing; 2) “New Chinese Immigration to the United States and the Model Minority Revisited,” National Minorities University, Beijing; and 3) at Fuzhou University (Fujian Province) a paper on the “Chinos de Manila” and the Manila Galleon Trade from Acapulco, Mexico, to Manila, Philippines. She presented the same paper again at Wuyi University in Wuyishan, Fujian Province, both times in Chinese. In June, she was invited to an international conference at Hong Kong University on Transnational Interactions between North America and South China, where she presented a paper on “Strategic Transnationalism: Chinese on the U.S.-Mexico Borderlands.” While in Hong Kong, she presented an abbreviated version of the Manila paper to a gathering of Brown Alumni in Hong Kong. In July, she was invited by Hebei University in Shijiazhuang, Hebei Province, to present a paper on “Chinese Migration and Globalization, 1560 to the present,” in Chinese. In May, she was pleasantly surprised to be presented with the Lifetime Achievement Award by the Association for Asian American Studies. Currently, she is co-editing two special journal issues: 1) with Prof. Wang Ning of Tsinghua University, a special issue of Amerasia Journal of UCLA on “Chinese American Writing in the Americas: Historical Contexts and Global Trajectories.” In keeping with the goal of international collaboration, this special issue will be an International Editorial Collaboration among UCLA, Tsinghua University and Brown University; 2) with Prof. Rudy Guevara of Arizona State University, a special issue for the Journal of Asian American Studies on “Asian Latinos.”

NANCY JACOBS served as Director of Watson Scholars of the Environment program, an initiative funded by the Luce Foundation which brought environmental specialists from the global South to Brown for a semester’s study. Nine African environmental professionals spent the fall semester at Brown, where they conducted research and participated in Jacobs’s seminar “African Environmental History” with Brown undergraduate and graduate students (www.watsoninstitute.org/wise). Among her research presentations were a keynote address at the conference “History of Knowledge and Transnational History: theoretical approaches and empirical perspectives” in Basel, Switzerland and a talk “Africa, Europe, and the Birds between Them” at the Bell Gallery on campus at Brown (in conjunction with the installation “Zugunruhe” by the artist Rachel Berwick). She also gave a lecture at Macalester College. This year, she submitted the manuscript for the first volume of “Send Down the Rain: Records of Twentieth-Century Africa” to Cambridge University Press. The volume contains more than 100 primary sources, arranged in a narrative on the history of sub-Saharan Africa from the mid-19th century until 1955. She continues work on the second volume and on her monograph, “Birders of a Feather, Stories of People, Birds, and Other People in Africa.” Brown University’s Office of International Affairs awarded her with a grant to revise the Animated Atlas of African History (www.brown.edu/aaah).
**Karl Jacoby**’s most recent book, *Shadows at Dawn: A Borderlands Massacre and the Violence of History* was released in paperback by Penguin Books in late 2009. During the summer of 2009, he worked with two UTRA students (Brian Miller and Luis Campos) on the book’s companion website, available at: www.brown.edu/aravaipa. Over the past academic year, Professor Jacoby delivered talks at Yale, Princeton, the University of New Mexico, the University of Illinois, and the San Carlos Apache Reservation.

Given the unusual circumstances of the stimulus package plus an assertive Secretary of Education, there have been countless conferences on the federal role in education and its history. Last spring **Carl Kaestle** participated in such meetings at the American Enterprise Institute, the new Roosevelt Institute for Policy Studies at Hunter College, and the Center for Education Equity at Teachers College, Columbia. When Professor Kaestle is not worrying about Secretary Duncan, he continues to work on his book on the federal role in education.

In 2009-2010 **Burr Litchfield** received several positive reviews of his 2008 electronic book: *Florence Ducal Capital, 1530–1630* published by ACLS Humanities E-book in New York. This new type of book format is gaining popularity. He started a new research project on the Medici court in Florence and the Atlantic World in the 16th-17th centuries. As background for this he has been taking beginning Portuguese and Portuguese and Brazilian History in the Portuguese Studies Program at the University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth. He and his partner Gardner Chace were in Italy in May. He commutes to Providence frequently to use the Brown and John Carter Brown Libraries. He and his partner continue to live in Westport Massachusetts.

**Steven Lubar**’s year has focused mostly on programs at the John Nicholas Brown Center for Public Humanities and Cultural Heritage. The Center has worked with the RISD Museum and the department of modern culture and media on a series on contemporary curation; cosponsored the city of Providence’s Connecting Creative Communities conference and the National Trust for Historic Preservation’s conference on African American historic sites; and had a range of visiting public humanists and public artists. Lubar has also been involved with student exhibition projects at the Johnson and Wales Culinary Museum, and has worked with the Brooklyn Navy Yard Development Corporation on interpreting the history of the site. The year ended with a 10-day field school in County Offaly, Ireland, with nine students conducting many oral histories and producing short videos for the county’s heritage office. Next year he will be serving as director of the Haffenreffer Museum of Anthropology, and so has been focused on understanding the potential of university museums in teaching and learning.

In addition to completing several chapters of her book manuscript, *Beyond Antisemitism: Muslims and Jews in Contemporary France*, **Maud Mandel** gave a variety of talks based on that project, including at a Georgetown University conference on multiculturalism in contemporary Europe and at a seminar on religious diversity in France sponsored by the Centre national de la recherche scientifique and the Council for International Educational Exchange in Paris. Her article, “The War Comes Home: Muslim/Jewish Relations in Marseille during the 1991 Gulf War,” appeared in the volume, *The Israeli-Palestinian Conflict in the Francophone World* with Routledge in January.
During the 2009-2010 academic year, **James McClain** continued to move forward with research on his book project, *Tokyo Modern: The Importance of the Middle-class in Twentieth Century Japan*. Professor McClain presented a portion of the research at the School of Oriental and Africa Studies in London when he was invited to deliver the Annual Tsuda Lecture in February and at the Global Cities conference, held at the University of Helsinki in May. In addition, a major press in China published the Chinese translation of McClain’s *Japan: A Modern History*. Here on campus, he once again offered the survey history of Japan course after a hiatus of several years and introduced a new seminar-style course, “Korea: North and South.” To help advance his knowledge and understanding of events on the peninsula, McClain will travel to North Korea in August, 2010. That trip is sponsored by the Pyongyang Project, a non-profit organization founded by two recent graduates in East Asian Studies at Brown (Matt Reichel and Nick Young). Professionally, McClain continues to serve on the Board of Trustees of the Society for Japanese Studies (which publishes the *Journal of Japanese Studies*), and on the Board of Directors for the Kyoto Consortium for Japanese Studies.

Following ten years of teaching at the European University Institute, **Tony Molho** will retire from full time teaching. He published the second volume of his collected essays on Florentine history, and completed the critical edition of Luca da Panzano’s *ricordi*, which will be published this summer by SISME; he also lectured in various Universities in Europe and at Princeton University, continued his service in the selection committee of the European Research Council, as well as his direction of the monthly free seminar on Balkan and Ottoman Jewish history in Thessaloniki (Greece). He was also awarded the Galileo Galilei Prize, an honour that profoundly pleased him because in the past it had been awarded to one of his mentors, Hans Baron, and one of his closest friends and some time colleague at Brown, David Herlihy. As a Tuscan poet of the early fourteenth century wrote in a famous work, with his retirement, Tony Molho *incipit vita nuova*.

**Tara Nummedal** will spend the 2010-11 academic year at the Huntington Library in San Marino, CA, where an ACLS Burckhardt Fellowship will support her book project on the alchemist and prophet Anna Zieglerin, *The Lion's Blood: Alchemy, Gender, and Apocalypse in Reformation Germany*. She gave a talk out of this research in October of 2009 at the Bruce Museum in Greenwich, CT in connection with the opening of an exhibition on “Alchemy: Magic, Myth, or Science?” In addition to her work on the editorial board of the journal Osiris, she has begun a term as the President of the New England Renaissance Conference and joined the Executive Committee of the History of Science Society.

In the summer of 2009 Ethan Pollock lectured on both the history of Russian science and on the cultural significance of the Russian bathhouse [bania] at a Carnegie Corporation sponsored conference in Crimea, Ukraine. He was also a “Festival Scholar” at the Aspen Institutes Ideas Festival in Aspen, Colorado. Thanks to a fellowship from the National Council for East European and Eurasian Research he spent the fall of 2009 semester continuing his research on Russian conceptualizations of health, hygiene, and bathing. His article, ‘Real Men Go to the Bania’ was published in the journal *Kritika* in Winter 2010. He helped to organize a new cluster of faculty in the department interested in Science, Religion and Bodies while continuing to advise the undergraduate Brown Journal of History and to serve as a Faculty Advising Fellow. In 2009 he was promoted to Associate Professor with tenure and granted a courtesy appointment in the Slavic Languages department.

Kurt A. Raaflaub is David Herlihy University Professor and Professor of Classics and History emeritus (since 2009). In terms of research, he has spent his first year in “retirement” on getting a number of articles and companion or conference chapters ready for publication. A few of these are remaining to be done but he hopes to be able to get to his main research projects soon. These include a book on “Early Greek Political Thought in Its Mediterranean Context” and a historical and philological commentary on Julius Caesar’s work on the civil war. The latter project has received a larger dimension by the invitation to edit a “Landmark” translation of this work (with rich notes, many maps, and numerous introductory chapters). Two of the Ancient Studies conference volumes he edited have now appeared: *Epic and History*, and *Geography and Ethnography: Perspectives of the World in Pre-modern Societies*; another is in press, and two others will be ready for submission to the publisher by the end of the calendar year. In addition, Raaflaub has been enjoying his freedom from the constraints of an academic calendar by traveling, participating in conferences and giving lectures in this country, Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Poland, Greece, and as a keynote speaker at the annual meetings of the Australian (together with his wife, Classics professor Deborah Boedeker) and Korean Classical Associations. While in Warsaw, he was stranded by the ash cloud produced by the volcano on Iceland. He also spoke to the Brown Clubs (of alumni and alumnae) in Sydney and Berlin, re-awakening memories of their college experience, telling them about today’s Brown and why ancient history is still important today, and enjoying conversations with a great variety of persons many of whom have had greatly interesting and original careers. Raaflaub has also maintained his commitment to teaching by offering lectures and seminars at summer institutes for high school teachers and a workshop on Latin sight-reading for incoming Classics graduate students. He has now moved into an emeriti office in room 001 in Wilbour Hall (next to Rockefeller Library) and is always reachable on email (Kurt_Raaflaub@Brown.edu).
This was a very busy year for Joan Richards because she served both as the Director of Graduate Studies in the History Department and as the Chair of Brown’s Tenure, Promotion and Appointments Committee (TPAC). As Director of Graduate Studies she worked closely with our comparatively large incoming class of sixteen students. This proved to be a very engaged and exciting group, and their positive energy enlivened the department every day. Throughout the fall, different members of the department shared their work and ideas with the new students in the seminar sessions of the Workshop. In the spring, Jim Green and Richards together taught the two-credit Colloquium course, which is designed to introduce the incoming class to a wide range of historical writing and theory. The first year of graduate school can be difficult for many students, but this class pulled constructively together and negotiated the various challenges with real grace. Working with them was an intense and highly rewarding experience for Richards. Serving as the Chair of TPAC was equally intense. Preparation for the weekly meetings routinely required reading hundreds of pages of faculty dossiers. The committee worked very well together, but that does not mean they always agreed; though members of the committee were admirably respectful of one another, discussions could be heated and meetings often stretched beyond the expected two hours. The positive side of all of this reading and discussion was learning so much about the very diverse kinds of work being done by Brown’s extraordinary faculty. In little bits of time snatched between these commitments, Richards did her best to maintain constructive contact with the family of rationalists that she has been working with for so long. Richards delivered two different papers at two different conferences in the fall term, and polished them for publication this spring. One has been sent off, the other she will finish before the end of this summer. Closure on these projects is important, because next year (2010-2011), Richards will be on sabbatical at Trinity College Cambridge, where she intends to focus entirely on finishing her book: Reason in the Family.

Seth Rockman enjoyed the attention that followed the publication of Scraping By: Wage Labor, Slavery, and Survival in Early Baltimore (Johns Hopkins University Press, 2009). The book was the subject of a symposium at the Library Company of Philadelphia last fall, and in the spring was named the winner of the Philip Taft Labor History Book Award and the co-winner of the Merle Curti Prize from the Organization of American Historians. Over the last year, Rockman organized the department’s new Thursday Lecture Series, bi-weekly talks that allowed faculty and graduate students alike to hear about new research in the discipline. One of the teaching highlights of the past year was offering a graduate seminar in the John Hay Library, whose librarians kindly allowed the class to handle early-nineteenth-century books and manuscripts during each week’s meeting. Rockman’s undergraduates continued to produce impressive scholarship. His two senior thesis students, Jeffrey Martin and Forrest Miller, both won prizes for their studies of early American capitalism. Jonathan Hiles won the Library Undergraduate Research Prize for a paper written for the “Problem of Class in Early American History” seminar, while classmate Etan Newman had his seminar paper published in The Historian. Rockman is spending the current year on research fellowship at the Huntington Library in San Marino, California.

Robert Self continued work on his book manuscript, We Are Family: The Politics of Gender and Sex at the End of the American Century. His research took him to Topeka, Kansas, Wheaton, Illinois, and Simi Valley, California. Self gave scholarly presentations at Oregon State University, the National Advanced Placement (AP) High School Teachers conference, and the Texas Community College Teachers Association annual conference. He wrapped up work with Vassar faculty member Rebecca Edwards and University of Maryland faculty member James Henretta on America’s History, a two-volume history of the United States, which will be published by Bedford/St. Martin’s in January 2011. In July, he was appointed the department’s new Director of Graduate Studies.
**Naoko Shibusawa** published an article in *Gender & History*, “Femininity, Race, and Treachery: How ‘Tokyo Rose’ Became a Traitor to the United States after the Second World War,” and made final revisions on a chapter on “Ideology and Culture” for a Cold War anthology to be published next year by Oxford University Press. She also made progress on her book, *Seduced by the East: The Treason Trial of John David Provoo*, which is under contract to the University of North Carolina Press. She presented a part of her book’s argument to a receptive and helpful audience at the Yale Initiative on the History of Sexualities and at a roundtable on sexuality and foreign relations at the annual meeting of SHAFR (Society of History of American Foreign Relations) in Madison. She served this year as program co-chair for the SHAFR conference, which had the theme: “Crossing Boundaries: Foreign Relations and Transborder Histories.” Deemed a rousing success, the conference program brought many first-timers from other fields to SHAFR by expanding the definition of “foreign relations” beyond traditional diplomatic history. Service this past year at Brown included: freshman advising, sophomore advising, concentration advising, UTRA advising, Priorities Planning Committee, Graduate Committee, Sheridan Faculty Liaison, Sheridan Center board, and Honorary Degree Committee.

**Kerry Smith** spent the past year in California, working on a book about earthquakes (and the 1923 Great Kanto earthquake in particular), disasters and popular science in modern Japan. He will begin his second term as chair of the Department of East Asian Studies this coming fall.

**Tracy Steffes**, assistant professor of Education and History, has worked this past year on her book project, *School, Society, and State: A New Education to Govern Modern America, 1890-1940* which will be published by University of Chicago Press. She has received a postdoctoral fellowship from the National Academy of Education/Spencer Foundation to complete the project this coming year and will visit at the American Academy of Arts and Sciences during her leave. In addition to her major project, Steffes worked on a study of high school history teacher training for a project sponsored by the National History Center and National History Education Clearinghouse and funded by the U.S. Department of Education. She was also invited to join the National Forum on the Future of Liberal Education, a series of meetings over the next three years sponsored by the Teagle Foundation to promote discussion of higher education goals and policy.

**Mark Swislocki** was awarded an ACLS Fellowship for Humanistic Research in China to conduct research for his book, *Classifiers, Hunters, and Collectors: Natural History and Human-Animal Relations in 19th and 20th Century China*.

**Michael Vorenberg** delivered talks at Georgetown Law School and at the American University in Paris, among other places. His book with Bedford/St. Martin’s, *The Emancipation Proclamation: A Brief History with Documents*, was published in early 2010.
Gordon Wood in October 2009 published *Empire of Liberty: A History of the Early Republic, 1789-1815*, in the Oxford History of the United States series. As a consequence, he presented book talks in various places, including the Redwood Library, the John Carter Brown Library, Cambridge, New York, Philadelphia, Washington, Richmond, Atlanta, and Des Moines. During the course of the academic year he participated in a conference in London on Thomas Paine, spoke at Chautauqua, Saint Anselm College, the Massachusetts Historical Society, Utah Valley University, Penn State, Boston University, the New York Historical Society, the University of Texas at El Paso, and the American Antiquarian Society. He led seminars for teachers at Brown, Malden, and New York, and conducted seminars for judges at Tucson, Chicago, and Boston. He was awarded the American History Prize by the New York Historical Society and received honorary degrees from Washington and Lee, Tufts, and Brown. He served as chair of the Faculty Liaison Committee of the John Carter Brown Library and served on the Scholarly Council of the Kluge Center of the Library of Congress.

Since the publication of her book, *The Long Partition*, in 2007, Vazira Zamindar has been focusing almost entirely on her next book project: it is a history of archaeological practices on the Indo-Afghan borderlands. After a grueling and hot spring and summer in Delhi in 2009, mitigated only by the air conditioned National Archives of India, Professor Zamindar returned to Providence for a year on leave on a National Endowment of Humanities Fellowship. During this leave she travelled twice to Pakistan and conducted research in six different archives in different parts of the country, with support from the Brown Salomon Research Grant. Zamindar also began writing and presenting parts of this larger project. While research and travel have been exciting Professor Zamindar is very much looking forward to going back to teaching this fall.

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**Visiting and affiliated faculty**

Shiva Balaghi, Postdoctoral Fellow in International Humanities at Cogut Center for the Humanities

Kelly Ricciardi Colvin, Visiting Assistant Professor

Konstantinos Kornetis, Visiting Assistant Professor

Jane Lancaster, Visiting Assistant Professor

Stephen Lassonde, Deputy Dean of the College and Adjunct Assistant Professor

Elizabeth (Lisa) Meloy, Visiting Instructor

Mo Moulton, Visiting Assistant Professor

Leela Sami, Visiting Lecturer

Nathaniel Taylor, Visiting Assistant Professor

Dan Wewers, Postdoctoral Research Associate in the Political Theory Project

THANK YOU!
Undergraduate Program

Now approaching the end of my term as Director of Undergraduate Studies, I’m writing my last report for the newsletter. Much about the Undergraduate Program (and my reports) remains unchanged from year to year. Every year we wish the best to our graduates (98 of them in 2010); we congratulate those who have achieved honors (18 this year); and we admire the yearly production of the Brown Journal of History, a publication edited by undergraduates. The undergraduate program remains the centerpiece of the department, as evidenced by the number of courses, the close advising partnerships, and the number of research collaborations, many funded by the Dean of the College UTRA program. (Please see our website for more information on our honors theses, the Journal, and our UTRA recipients.)

Yet, a decade into the new millennium, some things are changing. The Brown University History Department is better networked than ever! In February four alumni from the 1970s and 1980s returned to Brown to participate on a panel: “The Road Taken: Career Options with a Brown History Degree (or What to Tell Your Parents You’re Going To Do with Your Life after Brown).” The program, sponsored by the Dean of the College Office, was a great success. Students appreciated hearing how professionals in education, medicine, and the media drew upon their undergraduate study of history. We look forward to cultivating a network with department alumni, and to hosting another panel discussion. I cordially invite graduates to contact me for information about participating. It’s a great way to reconnect with the University and to inspire current students.

The department has also moved into electronic social networking, with its own Facebook page! It’s a place for current undergraduate and graduate students, faculty, and alumni to connect and we’ll also use it to share news from the department. With the click of a button, you can express your liking for us. As a fan, you can make your own posts to the page. See you on the web.

— Nancy Jacobs

History Department Alumni and Friends...

Please send in your stories, research, news and photographs. We all look forward to hearing about your life after Brown.

Our newsletter is only as good as its contributors!
Honors Recipients

Susana Aho
*Breaking the Silence: The 1979 OAS Human Rights Commission Visit to Argentina and the Problem of the Disappeared*
Advisor: James Green

Benjamin Asher
*Re-Thinking Music and Politics: The Legacy of the Congress for Cultural Freedom*
Advisor: Naoko Shibusawa

Amanda Bauer
*Defending Elizabeth: Mary, Queen of Scots, The Armada and the ‘Monarchical Republic’ Crisis of 1584-88*
Advisor: Tim Harris

Jason Bertoldi
*Conquering Spirits: Temperance, Nativism and the Know-Nothing Party in Antebellum Rhode Island*
Advisor: Michael Voorenberg

Sam Bollier
*Fruitful Failure: Mountaineers, Volunteers, and Federally-Sponsored Community Action in Eastern Kentucky, 1960-1970*
Advisor: Luther Spoehr

Alexander Campbell
*Black Citizenship, Black Sovereignty: The Haitian Emigration Movement and Black American Politics, 1804-1865*
Advisor: Francoise Hamlin

Sophie Elsner
*Big Dreams Versus Small Actions: The Argentine Response to the Jewish Refugee Crisis in the 1930s*
Advisor: James Green

Jonathan Hiles
*Justice, Justice, Seek ye Always Justice; The Radical Legal Theories of the English Levellers*
Advisor: Tim Harris

Zachary Leonard
*A Church on Trial: The Role of the Anglican Clergy in Deterring Revolution*
Advisor: Tim Harris

Jeffrey Martin
*‘A Despotism in our Midst’: Railroad Politics and Corporate Power in Antebellum America*
Advisor: Seth Rockman

William Martin
*Franco’s Vanguard: Spanish Fascism and Its Impact, 1933-1945*
Advisor: Konstantinos Kornetis

Brian Miller
*The (Re)creation of Class: The Middle Class, Leisure, and the Spectacle of Tourism at Newport, Narragansett Pier, and the Bowery, 1870-1910*
Advisor: Karl Jacoby

Forrest Miller
*The Floating Agents: Supercargoes in the Globalization of American Trade, 1785-1835*
Advisor: Seth Rockman

Hannah Mintz
*A Prism of Defeat: The Shifting Impact of the 1967 War in Shaping the Memory of Gamal Abd al-Nasser in Egypt*
Advisor: Konstantinos Kornetis

Joy Neumeyer
*Public Discourse, Private Lives: Love, Sex, and Family in Late Soviet Russia*
Advisor: Ethan Pollock

Rebecca Rattner
*The Formation of the Spartacus League: A Radical Alternative to Social Democracy and Bolshevism, 1900-1919*
Advisor: Mary Gluck

Jason St. John
*Arguing for the End of the World: Wolfgang Aytinger’s Commentary on Pseudo Methodius’ Apocalypse*
Advisor: Tara Nummedal

Linda Zang
*“Nurseries of Patriotism”: Brown University and the Making of Citizens and Soldiers in the Civil War*
Advisor: Luther Spoehr
Award Recipients

Samuel C. Lamport Prize in International Understanding
best paper in international understanding with an emphasis on cooperation and tolerance

Susana Aho
Breaking the Silence: The 1979 OAS Human Rights Commission Visit to Argentina and the Problem of the Disappeared
Advisor: James Green

Sophie Elsner
Big Dreams Versus Small Actions: The Argentine Response to the Jewish Refugee Crisis in the 1930s
Advisor: James Green

Marjorie Harris Weiss Memorial Premium in History
outstanding undergraduate woman majoring in History

Joy Neumeyer
Public Discourse, Private Lives: Love, Sex, and Family in Late Soviet Russia
Advisor: Ethan Pollock

Pell Medal Award
excellence in United States History

Jeffrey Martin
“A Despotism in our Midst”: Railroad Politics and Corporate Power in Antebellum America
Advisor: Seth Rockman

The John Thomas Memorial Award
best History Department thesis

Sam Bollier
Advisor: Luther Spoehr

The David Herlihy Memorial Prize
best student in Medieval or Renaissance History

Jonathan Hiles
Justice, Justice, Seek ye Always Justice; The Radical Legal Theories of the English Levellers
Advisor: Tim Harris

The Christian Yegen History Thesis Prize
outstanding Honors thesis in History

Jonathan Hiles
Justice, Justice, Seek ye Always Justice; The Radical Legal Theories of the English Levellers
Advisor: Tim Harris

Jeffrey Martin
“A Despotism in our Midst”: Railroad Politics and Corporate Power in Antebellum America
Advisor: Seth Rockman

Joy Neumeyer
Public Discourse, Private Lives: Love, Sex, and Family in Late Soviet Russia
Advisor: Ethan Pollock

The Gaspee Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution Prize
woman student who presents the best paper written as a class assignment in an American history course

Susan Beaty
The Problems of Class and Gender: Elite Women of the Providence Employment Society
Graduate Program

We are embarking on a year of multiple transitions in the History Graduate Program, and I am delighted, though also humbled, to succeed Professor Joan Richards as the new Director of Graduate Studies. Joan has left a large pair of shoes to fill, and I count myself lucky that she has been so gracious and helpful while handing over the DGS duties to me. Many thanks, Joan.

While the department gets used to a new graduate director, we will also welcome a new Dean of the Graduate School in 2010-2011. Professor Peter Weber, former chair of the Department of Chemistry, assumed his duties on July 1, replacing Professor Sheila Bonde, who will return to her faculty position in the Joukowsky Institute for Archaeology and the Ancient World. We wish her well and extend a warm greeting to Peter.

Finally, the department’s graduate program itself is undergoing a transition. After a year of thoughtful review by the graduate committee and the full faculty, the department voted in the spring of 2010 to adopt several key new practices. A thorough explanation of the revised program is available on the department’s web site, so let me highlight just one of the most significant changes here.

It has long been a challenge for students to write a significant research paper in the space of a single semester. Archives are often overseas. Identifying and framing a topic can sometimes take many weeks. The rush of a single semester has rarely allowed students sufficient time to both survey the secondary literature on a given topic and do substantial archival research, much less to write an accomplished paper.

We have addressed this issue in the revised program by requiring only a single research paper from PhD students but spreading the work of that paper over an entire year. Students will begin in the spring semester of their first year by taking a thematic seminar—a course that addresses a theme or topic across both geography and time. They will identify a specific topic and conduct research during the summer. When they return in the fall, all students from the first-year (now second-year) cohort will write papers in the context of a common Writing Workshop, where they will receive feedback from both faculty and their peers.

We feel that this new practice more closely mirrors the kind of work required of a dissertation and has the advantage of allowing students time to write an article-quality paper prior to taking their general exams. We look forward to launching the revised program in 2010-2011 and invite interested readers to visit the department’s web site for more details.

Last spring, 9 promising PhD students, from among the top 10% of 171 applicants, accepted our offer to pursue the PhD in our graduate program.
Our students overall have continued to do outstanding work as scholars and teaching assistants. For the academic year 2010-2011 they won university travel and dissertation fellowships, a Cogut Center for the Humanities fellowship, and Tinker Field Research Grants from the Watson Institute, as well as grants and fellowships from external agencies and foundations. The latter included the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, the Auschwitz Jewish Center, the University of Miami Cuban Heritage Research Fellowship, the Huntington Library, Wellesley College (Edna V. Moffett fellowship), and the American Association of University Women.

Our revised program will continue to provide the first- and second-year students with a rigorous training in the mechanics of the profession—including teaching, grant and fellowship application writing, professional conference preparation, and journal article writing—as well as a thorough understanding of the theoretically oriented debates that preoccupy historians in general. The professionalization and prospectus writing seminars have benefited from input from former students and for two years have flourished under Professors Nummedal and Jacoby. We look forward to new faculty rotating through these courses in the coming years.

Last year the department successfully inaugurated its new Thursday Lecture Series (TLS), an initiative of first-year chair, Omer Bartov. This provided a twice monthly forum for our graduate students and faculty, along with members of the larger Brown community, to come together to hear talks by historians and other scholars in the humanities and social sciences. From relatively new doctoral graduates to well-established senior scholars, the TLS speakers injected lively new research, analysis, and thought-provoking arguments into the intellectual life of the department. It was especially rewarding to see our relatively large first-year cohort of 16 doctoral students so actively engaged with the TLS speakers. We expect this program to have a long life as a cornerstone of department culture.

More than ever, academic careers in the humanities are challenging. But so, too, are we daily made aware of how necessary a part of global life is first-class instruction in contextual, analytical, and synthetic thinking, precisely the kind of education provided by scholars in the humanities. As the department sustains its ambition to be one of the very best places in the United States to do doctoral work in History, I am inspired by our students—by their creativity, their optimism, their deep engagement with ideas, and their continuing commitment to the best research and teaching practices.

The ultimate goal of all of our efforts remains helping our students to become exceptional and enthusiastic historians who can impart their knowledge, understanding, and love of history to their readers as well as students. Our revised program continues to provide us the foundation, and our amazing faculty the expertise, to accomplish this goal.

Robert O. Self
Doctor of Philosophy, 2009–2010

**Erik Anderson**  
*Feral Bodies, Feral Nature: Wild Men in America*  
Director: Karl Jacoby

**Jessica L. Foley**  
Director: Mari Jo Buhle

**Shih-Chieh Lo**  
*The Order of Local Things: Popular Politics and Religion in Wenzhou, 1840–1940*  
Director: Richard Davis

**Paige L. Meltzer**  
*Maternal Citizens: Gender and Women’s Activism in the United States, 1945–1960*  
Director: Mari Jo Buhle

**Mo Moulton**  
*Private Irelands: the Legacies of the Anglo-Irish War in Interwar England*  
Director: Deborah Cohen

**Erica Jean Ryan**  
*‘Red War on the Family’: Sex, Gender, and Americanism, 1919–1929*  
Director: Mari Jo Buhle

**Derek Seidman**  
*The Unquiet Americans: GI Dissent during the Vietnam War*  
Director: Robert Self

**Stacie Taranto**  
Co-Directors: Mari Jo Buhle and Robert Self
Master of Arts, 2009–2010

Zohar Atkins

Anna Maria Borejsza-Wysocka

Terah A. Crews

Emma E. Goldsmith

Eunsun Han

Wanda Sanville Henry

Benjamin Holtzman

Bryan V. Knapp

Jospeh J. Kurz

Alexis C. Liesman

Laura A. Perille

Michael Pierpoint

Daniel A. Polifka

Sayema Rawof

John M. Rosenberg

Lindsay Schakenbach

Elizabeth E. Searcy

Stephen J. Theodore

David J. Thomas
2009 Holiday Party
Keeping Up

It has now been five years since Philip Benedict left Brown for a position teaching and researching at the University of Geneva’s Institute for Reformation History. He would like to send warm greetings to all his former students and colleagues. Since moving to Geneva, he has written a book on the use of graphic media to report on current events in the sixteenth century, Graphic History: The ‘Wars, Massacres and Troubles’ of Tortorel and Perrissin (Geneva: Droz, 2007).

He has organized major conferences on the influence of John Calvin over five centuries to mark the 500th anniversary of the reformer’s birth and on history, memory and identity among France’s Huguenot minority from the sixteenth to the twentieth century. He continues to advance on his big project on the critical years of the French Reformation and the origins of the Wars of Religion. Last year he was a visiting professor at the Humboldt University in Berlin for a month and gave the inaugural Haifa University Lectures in History and Historiography. For those who would like to contact him, his email is philip.benedict@unige.ch.

Tony Molho has been awarded the Galileo Galilei International Prize for Economic History. The prize is awarded once every ten years to a non-Italian scholar who has made a notable contribution to the study of Italian Economic History. The award ceremony will be held at the University of Pisa on Saturday 2 October. It should be noted that Molho is the second member of the Brown History Department to be so honoured. The late David Herlihy received the Prize in 1990. Herlihy’s acceptance speech on that occasion was published posthumously in his collection of articles edited by Tony Molho.

I have already told some of you that I finally had to put Tom Skidmore in a nursing home the week before Thanksgiving. His mind-body connection had become so tenuous - from the combination of a previous spinal cord injury complicated by advancing Alzheimer’s - that I had been unable to manage him alone for several months and by November the situation was actually getting physically dangerous for both of us. He is well settled into a reassuringly wonderful place only 10 minutes from our house, and is busy charming all the staff on every shift! He says he does not want a phone and would rather his emails and US mails come through me. He loves to hear from people, though, and to dictate responses. So if you feel like getting in touch, please feel free to send email to Thomas_Skidmore@brown.edu or regular mail to 470 Atlantic Avenue, Westerly, RI 02891.

He sends love and best wishes, as do I.

Felicity Skidmore

James Fichter ‘01 has written a very important study of America’s early engagement with Asian markets entitled “So Great a Profit”: How the East Indies Trade Transformed Anglo-American Capitalism (see http://www.hup.harvard.edu/catalog.php.isbn=9780674050570)

Rebecca S. More, Brown AM ’86, PhD ’98. Visiting Scholar. Becky retired this year from serving the Brown teaching community as Director of the Harriet W. Sheridan Center for Teaching & Learning. She began working with Harriet Sheridan while still a graduate student in 1987. She continues to teach Early Modern European History part-time in the RISD Division of Liberal Arts (since 1995). Her current research continues a study of Virtue as a social value in Early Modern England. She is also working on the early history of New Hampshire and the Appalachian White Mountains Forest Act, the Weeks Act of 1911. She has been lecturing around New England on the Weeks Act in conjunction with the upcoming Centennial in 2011.
Second Generation

I came to history after a brief flirtation with medicine and a longer relationship with gender studies, German, and radical politics. This was a rather unconventional beginning, perhaps. But I didn’t want to just do what my father did—he too is a historian. And I desired a career that was both relevant and that helped people, elements I did not immediately identify in the work of the professional historian. These interests are reflected in both the subject matter and methodology of my research. The historical actors of interest to me are unconventional, mostly down-and-outs. For that reason, they are often ignored, sometimes even in histories that purport to write about them. I focus on the categories of experience, the body and socioeconomic status—concepts that have been relatively off limits ever since post-structuralism took us to the realms of discourse and subjectivity.

My PhD project explored the sex trade in Germany during the first half of the twentieth century. Central to its analysis are the voices and experiences of prostitute women and the milieu of which they were a part. In my research I employed low-level, often highly personal, sources, including lengthy testimonies from police and medical records. Doing so allowed me to displace a series of pervasive myths about the sex trade; grant agency to historical actors most often thought of as merely victims or villains; and challenge a feminist historiography which, through its attempt to liberate women in the present, has all too often imposed inaccurate categories upon those in the past. The project also explored the relationships between prostitutes and wider society, as well as their often fraught interactions with the state bureaucrats charged with controlling them. Throughout, I discussed theories of deviance and criminality, the often complicated relationship between gender and class, developments in medicine and social work, and the meaning and use of the concept of citizenship and belonging in a given society. Focusing on Germany made it possible to analyse these themes across an extremely wide variety of governmental types—the result of Germany’s fraught twentieth century experience. The resultant book was published this year as Selling Sex in the Reich: Prostitutes in German Society, 1914-1945 (Oxford University Press).

The central themes of that first project have informed my subsequent work. After finishing my PhD, I was lucky enough to secure a four-year Research Fellowship at King’s College, Cambridge, which has given me time to work on a variety of new projects. I have recently published several articles, one examining prostitutes’ experiences in the Nazi system of concentration camps during the early years of the Third Reich, and another, more theoretical piece, exploring recent scholarship in the history of gender and sexuality. I am currently editing an English translation of a collection of letters from ordinary German citizens to Hitler, beginning with his rise to power in the 1920s and continuing until the fall of his Reich in 1945. I’m also writing a second book, which will be a social history of intoxication in Germany from 1871-1990. Again, I am centering my analysis on the practices of ordinary Germans, investigating their changing relationships with drugs and alcohol, and asking what this might tell us about German society and culture more widely.

I like to think my work is a little bit radical. And I hope that it helps people—in granting a voice to historical actors all too often rendered silent, and in making history accessible by showing readers and students that it is, after all, the study of real people. Many of the debates about prostitution and drug policy that I find in my archival sources appear almost verbatim in today’s newspapers. So I also like to think my work is relevant. And, despite the different chronological and geographical focus, the themes...
of my work often overlap with my father’s. The ability to have so many fruitful conversations with him, and understand what makes him tick intellectually, makes my work worthwhile in a way I never imagined possible.

**Victoria Harris**

Victoria Harris completed her undergraduate honours degree in modern European history at Brown University and her MPhil and PhD degrees at Selwyn College, Cambridge under the supervision of Professor Richard J. Evans. Having spent a year as Research Fellow at Wolfson College, Harris is currently a Research Fellow at King’s College.

For the past two decades, as an independent scholar, I have been researching bicycle history, tapping both public and private holdings in the United States and Europe, making use of my language skills in French and Italian. Apart from numerous articles that have appeared in general and specialized reviews, I have produced two books so far. The first, *Bicycle: The History*, was published by Yale University Press in 2004. My focus was on the key technological developments that led to the modern bicycle and the great boom of the 1890s. In particular, thanks in large part to my extensive research in France, it contains much new information about the origins of the basic bicycle in the mid-1860s.

My second book, *The Lost Cyclist* (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, 2010) recounts the story of Frank Lenz, who left his home in Pittsburgh at the age of twenty-five to circle the globe on a new fangled “safety” bicycle (the prototype of the modern machine), only to disappear mysteriously in Turkey two years into his epic journey. This line of research has been a highly gratifying experience, not only because it has led me to many interesting people, places, and institutions, but also because the subject matter has such important technological and social implications, yet it has been relatively unexplored. With regard to the research itself, the most striking development I’ve noticed in recent years has been the growth of electronic resources. When I began this pursuit, the Internet was barely “on line” and it did not play a significant role in my data collection. Today, however, it has become not only an essential tool for me, but also one that regularly uncovers previously inaccessible data. I will close by citing two examples relating to *The Lost Cyclist*, a book, I’m convinced, that could not have been written in such historical detail, ten—perhaps even five—years ago. In the book’s opening scene, eighty-six year old William Sachtleben (the man who went looking for Lenz) returns to his hometown of Alton, Illinois, after an absence of nearly sixty years, and chats with the local newspaper editor, revealing previously unpublished information about the Lenz case. It is based on an actual incident, recounted in an issue of the Alton Telegraph published in 1953. Naturally, I had mined that paper the old-fashioned way (scrolling through microfilm), but only in the period most relevant to my story (1890-93). I would never have found this gem of an article without the help of an online newspaper archives service.
I also uncovered an interesting “nugget,” thanks to Google Books, embedded in an obscure dental journal from the 1940s. Lenz, it turns out, had asked a buddy, Ned Friesell, to go with him on his world tour; suggesting that Lenz was perhaps not quite as foolhardy as previously believed. Fortunately, Ned became a famous dental surgeon, and in a retrospective speech published in that journal, he revealed that he had had a hard time as a young man deciding whether to go to dental school or around the world with Frank. “I still want to go around the world,” quipped Friesell, “but have given up the idea of going by bicycle.”

David V. Herlihy

David V. Herlihy is the author of Bicycle: The History, winner of the 2004 Award for Excellence in the History of Science. A leading authority in his field, he has been interviewed by numerous television, radio, and newspaper personalities in the United States and abroad, and his work has appeared in a wide variety of general-interest and specialty magazines. He is responsible for the naming of a bicycle path in Boston after Pierre Lallement, the original bicycle patentee, and for the installation of a plaque by the New Haven green where the Frenchman introduced Americans to the art of cycling in 1866.

Although I now teach and work in the History department at Illinois State University, my training was not exclusively in history. I did my graduate work in American Studies, with interests in the history and culture of the U.S. South, the histories of photography and film, and popular religious history. My research focuses on the cultural turbulence and transformations of the late nineteenth century and early twentieth century.

In particular, I have been concerned with the perpetration of racial violence in this period and its cultural manifestations nationwide. My book Lynching and Spectacle: Witnessing Racial Violence in America, 1890-1940 (University of North Carolina Press) attempts to make sense of the over 3,000 lynchings committed against African Americans in the Jim Crow era, many of which were gruesome spectacles. Why did lynching take the particular forms that it did: why the exaggerated tortures, the extended rituals, the photographs and souvenirs? And how did so many otherwise law-abiding citizens come to participate in and derive pleasure from these acts of sadistic violence? To answer these questions, I look at how the violence overlapped with and drew from other cultural practices, including public executions, religious rituals, photography, and motion pictures. I argue that lynching was more than a political act that operated alongside systematic disenfranchisement and segregation to enforce white supremacy — to keep African Americans “in their place” in the absence of slavery; it was a cultural act that conveyed meaning to its participants and witnesses. Because of its inherent sensationalism, lynching was able to construct and perpetuate white supremacy as an ideology in particular ways, in visual terms. In this respect, I do not see these kinds of extreme acts violence as senseless or beyond comprehension. Instead, I see them as extraordinary expressions of ordinary sentiment. The book, however, also pays attention to the ways in which, over time, the sensationalism of lynching worked to mobilize the anti-lynching movement and hasten the decline of lynching. I examine the ways in which anti-lynching activists were able to use lynching photographs and even Hollywood film to campaign against lynching, successfully framing it as a depraved and backward practice out of step with American ideals.
In addition to the book, I have co-edited a special issue of *Mississippi Quarterly* (Spring 2008) on lynching, representation, and memory in America, and I am currently editing the volume on violence for the *New Encyclopedia of Southern Culture* (University of North Carolina Press).

**Amy Louise Wood**

In addition to being a finalist for the *LA Times* award, Professor Wood’s book recently won the *Lillian Smith Book Award* - which honors books about the South and/or civil rights.

**As an undergraduate at Harvard** I majored in History and Literature, with a focus on seventeenth- and eighteenth-century England and France. Then I spent a year in Munich studying art history and shifting backwards to the late medieval and Renaissance field. I returned to pursue a PhD in Fine Arts at Harvard. At that point, in the early to mid-1980s, it was difficult to conceive of art history as anything other than a kind of cultural history or history of mentalities done with pictures rather than texts. I eventually came to believe that the work of art is not only a document but also something like a portal that takes us out of the realm of human culture altogether. Art’s susceptibility to historical analysis is limited. That is what makes the discipline of art history so interesting.

I have worked mostly on northern European art, although more recently on Italian art as well. I wrote a dissertation on the origins of landscape painting in the German Renaissance. My last two books are about the ways time, history, and the historical imagination are figured in late medieval and Renaissance art. Most of my work is involved with the emergence of a secular, author-driven art against the foil of cultic or magical concepts of art. I have written on art and witchcraft; drawings and authorship; the medial revolution of the printed image; and early archeology and antiquarianism. I have also written about the history and the methodological principles of the discipline of art history. [https://webspace.yale.edu/wood/](https://webspace.yale.edu/wood/)

**Christopher Wood**

Christopher Wood has taught at Yale since 1992. He has received Harvard’s Jacob Wendell Scholarship and Sheldon Fellowship, a Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst Fellowship, and a Morse Junior Faculty Fellowship from Yale. Professor Wood was a Junior Fellow of the Harvard Society of Fellows. In 2002 he was awarded a John Simon Guggenheim Fellowship and a NEH Rome Prize Fellowship to the American Academy in Rome.

In fall 2004 he was Ellen Maria Gorrissen Fellow at the American Academy in Berlin. Forgery Replica Fiction: Temporalities of German Renaissance Art was awarded the 2009 Susanne M. Glasscock Humanities Book Prize for Interdisciplinary Scholarship.