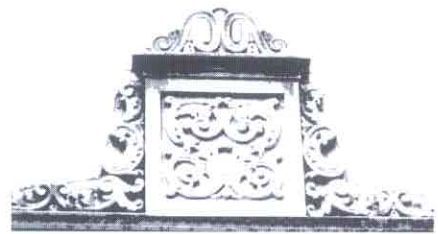


NEWS



of the History Department at Boston University

May 2007

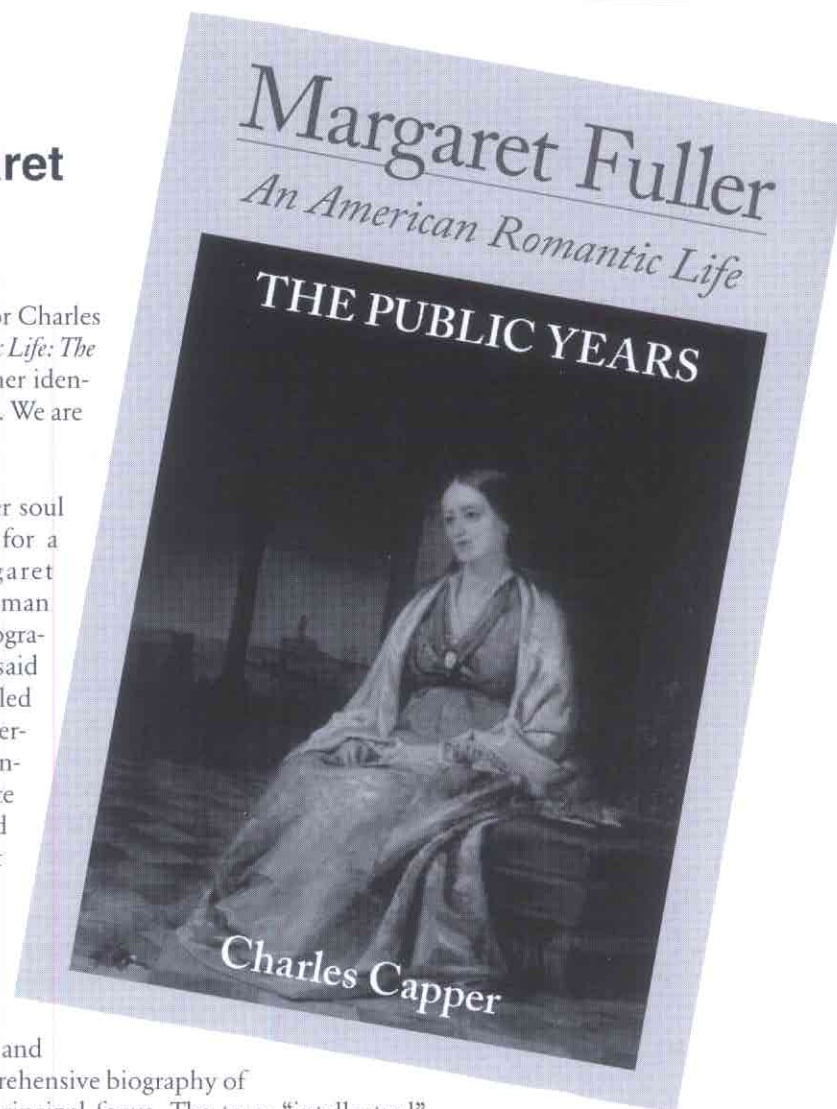
Second volume of Charles Capper's biography of Margaret Fuller published

Oxford University Press has published Volume II of Professor Charles Capper's biography of Margaret Fuller, *An American Romantic Life: The Public Years*, which focuses on Fuller's struggles to establish her identity as an influential intellectual woman in the Romantic Age. We are pleased to reprint a section of the Preface:

"Margaret had so many aspects to her soul that she might furnish material for a hundred biographers," Margaret Fuller's close friend James Freeman Clarke remarked to her early biographer Thomas Wentworth Higginson, "and all could not be said even then." Surely, this is right. Indeed, Fuller's friends compiled a long list of paradoxical psychological traits: sarcastic and reverent, serious and droll, self-regarding and self-sacrificing, alienated and engaged, full of broad good sense and of passionate temperament, and, perhaps most often cited, "masculine" and "feminine." "This alternation perplexes the biographer, as it did the observer," Ralph Waldo Emerson recalled. "We contradict on the second page what we affirm on the first."

Yet every life, however multitudinous, has a distinctive shape. As in the first volume, my intention in this second one is to present a modern biography of a woman's thoughts and actions as they were embedded in the public and private discourses of her time. Although this is the first comprehensive biography of Fuller, her life and identity as an intellectual remains my principal focus. The term "intellectual" would not come into common usage until the end of her century, but she and her Romantic compatriots fully understood that was who she and they were. They were "thinkers" (to use Fuller's term) whose self-reflective ideas gave meaning to their lives, established their cultural authority, and mediated between their experiences and their expressions. I use the qualifier Romantic advisedly: to denote her embodiment of that movement's central proposition—that the life of the subjective mind contains infinite depths of meaning and value. I also seek the right tone to retain yet bridge the distance between Fuller's time and ours. However much Fuller's relentless quest for authenticity prefigured a "modern" sensibility in American intellectual life, as I believe it did, her Romantic language and transcendent spiritual hopes belong to a previous century and leave a gulf that only ironic empathy can fill.

The two volumes of this biography divide at 1840, a year that also marked the great divide in her life. Some changes were subtle. While her older female friends and followers and her Transcendentalist colleagues in and around Boston remained her



social strongholds, they were joined by newer circles of admiring young women whom she tutored and befriended as well as by wealthy radical reform families to whose homes she often retreated. As her career as a writer took off, she drew closer than ever to her mother, with whom she shared houses but also the confidences she had sorely missed in her childhood. Boston's Unitarian Whig establishment continued to regard her as an arrogant *outré* bluestocking, but they counted for less as Boston itself became more ideologically *outré* in the 1840s and as Fuller emerged as a literary celebrity.

After she settled and resettled in Boston, Cambridge, New York, London, Paris, Rome, Florence, and elsewhere, Fuller's list of famous associates grew exponentially: Nathaniel Hawthorne, Horace Greeley, Lydia Maria Child, Evert A. Duyckinck, Edgar Allan Poe, Thomas Carlyle, George Sand, Adam Mickiewicz, Giuseppe Mazzini, Cristina Belgioioso, Robert and Elizabeth Browning, and countless lesser notables. More dramatically, within two years (1844-46), she published two books and over 250 articles. All of this adds enormously to the biographer's challenge of maintaining her social embeddedness along with an ongoing focus on the protagonist's "self," especially one as self-contested as Fuller's.

The biggest challenge, though, is a narrative one: to bridge the pre- and post-1840 halves of her life that my sub-

titles "private" and "public" broadly denote. For the first thirty years, Fuller's life could be described as outwardly provincial: growing up in a small university town, attending school for a few years, traveling but once briefly outside of New England, living under the family roof, followed by three years of private teaching and a modicum of anonymous magazine writing. Then, virtually overnight, Fuller became America's first female highbrow journal editor, first intellectual surveyor of the new West, author of the first philosophical American book on the woman question, first literary editor of a major metropolitan newspaper, first important foreign correspondent, and first famous American European revolutionist since Thomas Paine. How did she do it?

One answer is to say it was "fated," a term Fuller applied to herself with regularity in her last years. At moments both her rhetoric and her realities tempted me to suspend disbelief about the possibility. Certainly, Fuller's leap from the private and provincial to the public and cosmopolitan *would* seem to have sprung from something almost preternaturally congenital. Emerson captured the quotidian side of that "fate" exactly: "She excels other intellectual persons in this, that her sentiments are more blended with her life; so the expression of them has greater steadiness & greater character." Less sympathetically, Poe famously wrote: "Her acts are bookish, and her books are less thoughts than acts." A biographer, however, wants to know the changing sources, contours, and character of such (in Carlyle's phrase) a "predetermination" to live a life commensurate with "the universe."

Twentieth-century biographers have confidently located these changes in a variety of liberating escapes. She got away from her Transcendentalist circle's contemplativeness, or her marital singleness, or America's innocence, its sexism, and its racism—all blocks to her "real" life happily removed. There is something to many of these claims, but like most ideological constructs, to borrow from Emerson, they skip no fact but one: life, which is lived in the flux of time, inward and outward.... ♦



On April 23 **François Lalonde** passed his qualifying oral examination. Examiners in the major field of American history were Professors Jon Roberts, Bruce Schulman, and Nina Silber; examiner in the minor field of international relations was Professor William Keylor.

Andrew Black's dissertation prospectus was accepted: "The Whig in *Swallow Barn*: The Political Culture of John Pendleton Kennedy." The first reader will be Professor Nina Silber, and the second will be Professor Jon Roberts.

Melissa Graboyes had two research papers approved for credit toward her degree:

"British Beliefs and Patient Preferences: Food in the Zanzibar Lunatic Asylum, 1930-1939"

"The Abeokuta Women's Union of Nigeria: A Reappraisal"

Christopher Seely, who entered the graduate program as an MA candidate, has been accepted into the post-master's PhD program.

Department's tenure cases

In early May the tenured faculty of the History Department will vote on the tenure applications of Assistant Professors Betty Anderson and Jonathan Zatlin. After that step, their materials (covering research, teaching, and service) move to the College, where the next level of the review takes place in the fall. For the final stage the dossiers are sent to the Provost's office, where the review of the University-wide tenure and promotion committee occurs. Final decisions are due by August 2008.

NEWS

of the History Department at Boston University

is published monthly September through May at the department office, 226 Bay State Road, Boston, MA 02215, telephone: 617-353-2551, E-mail: history@bu.edu, Website: www.bu.edu/history.

Editor: James T. Dutton, Department Administrator

Items of interest for publication and changes of address should be sent to the editor.



Summer Plans

FACULTY

Betty Anderson

In the last week of May, I'm attending the Third Istanbul Conference, "Absent Spheres, Silent Voices: Recovering Untold Histories," organized by Israel Gershoni and Amy Singer. My paper analyzes student politics at the American University of Beirut (AUB) in terms of the issues identified for the international student movement of the late 1960s. I'm going from there to Beirut so that I can finish the research for my book on AUB. Barring another war, I'll be there until the middle of July.

Anna Geifman

Summer plans (it feels good just to be writing the word "summer"—both words, actually): During the first summer session I will be teaching my new course on modern terrorism, focusing on its psychohistorical aspects. Then, exhausted from a six-week venture into the world of aggression, hostility, murder, and the like, I will begin my sabbatical in one of the most peaceful places one can find today: Israel. If I understand the situation correctly, everyone there is too relaxed and oblivious of what it is like to live under the constant threat of violence. So, as part of my ongoing effort to take academic history out of the ivory tower and connect it with, well, reality, I am looking forward to telling the Israelis a thing or two about terrorism, while on a fellowship at the Hebrew University and teaching at the University of Bar-Ilan. I will be living in the center of Jerusalem; everyone is welcome to visit!

James McCann

In July I will pack rubber boots, quinine, and dry socks to return to a field site in southwestern Ethiopia to gather evidence on maize farming and its links to malaria transmission, a project supported by the Rockefeller Foundation that includes participation from the Harvard School of Public Health, the World Health Organization, the Ethiopian Institute of Agricultural Research, and the Ethiopian Ministry of Health. The project will also hold a research workshop in the field to report on results. The workshop will include two BU undergraduate students, one a history/pre-med major and the other a photojournalism student, who will assist with lab work and produce a photographic record of the project. An Ethiopian MA student in history is also working on the landscape history of the project area.

Nina Silber

As I have done for the past few years, I'll start my summer with a few days in Gettysburg—where all Civil War historians go for rest and renewal. Actually, I'm going to participate in a consultant's meeting for the new museum and visitor center which is slated to open next year. Otherwise, my work over the summer will consist of two main writing projects: working on the lecture I gave in Richmond on memories of emancipation so that I can submit it to Louisiana State University Press for publication and developing the three lectures I presented at Penn State last fall so that I can submit those to the University of North Carolina Press, which will publish them as a volume on "Gender and the Sectional Conflict." I

hope, too, to map out a research plan for my new project on twentieth-century stories told about slavery. In terms of genuine rest and renewal, I will be going with my family to Northern California and to Maui in late June and early July. We'll also make our annual trek to remote, coastal Maine in late August.

GRADUATE STUDENTS

Stephen Arguetta

After (hopefully) passing my Qualifying Examination, I will spend the summer teaching HI 350 and working on my dissertation prospectus. Sometime in August I'll be heading to Europe for some much-needed R & R.

David Atkinson

I'll be spending the summer working through the archival material I've spent the last eight months collecting. Hopefully I can make some progress in actually writing something as well. My wife and I are also going to go to Coney Island before the developers move in.

Andrew Black

I will be attending a one-week seminar at the American Antiquarian Society in Worcester, Massachusetts. The seminar is called "Re-reading the Early Republic: From Crèvecoeur to Cooper." I am hoping the seminar will help provide some needed background for the literature of my dissertation subject, John Pendleton Kennedy. Much of Kennedy's earliest writing is in the holdings of the society, and I have

spent considerable time going through it there. The balance of my summer will be spent writing my dissertation down in Chatham. Fortunately, the local library has a excellent microfilm reader to help me through my 27 reels of the Kennedy papers (130 written volumes). Kennedy is a challenging subject because of his dual career as a novelist of the Early Republic and as a mainstay of the old Whig Party. Late in the summer, I will travel to Annapolis to examine Kennedy's record in the Maryland House of Delegates.

Kathryn Brownell

I will be on Nantucket taking a much-needed break from the weekly commute. However, I will not get much of a break from the books as I will start studying for my oral exams. Even so, I am sure I will find some time for the beach and a margarita on our new porch.

Dane Cash

This summer (June 2, to be precise) I will be marrying my beautiful fiancée Wendy in a ceremony on the beach in the Dominican Republic. Thereafter, I will either be doing dissertation research or in the classroom teaching HI 152 during the Summer II session.

Samuel Deese

I will be teaching summer courses in World History and U.S. History at Northeastern University, as well as teaching the first half of the American History survey at Boston University. I will also travel to Los Angeles to visit family and continue my research at UCLA and the Huntington Library.

Beth Forrest

This summer, I will be on horseback, following bison across the plains of South Dakota and attending the International Bison Conference. I will be writing a short piece on the trip for *Gastronomica: The Journal of Food and Culture*. Giddyup.

Katherine Jewell

I plan to teach the Summer I course

HI 365 ("United States Since 1968"). Other than that I'm looking forward to a trip to Tennessee in August for research and a good long visit with family and friends. Other than researching and visiting, I'll visit the botanical gardens at Cheekwood and the world's best barbecue joint, Snow White's, in Lebanon, Tennessee. Seriously, it's the best.

Linda Killian

I have been awarded a three-month public policy scholar appointment for this summer at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars in Washington. I will be using the fellowship to conduct research for a book on the contemporary history of the Democratic Party.

Kathryn Lamontagne

I will be spending this summer serving clam cakes and lobster rolls. Please feel free to visit me at the Boathouse Restaurant in Tiverton, Rhode Island (and tip exorbitantly). I will also be traveling to Galway, Ireland, and London for bridesmaid duties. If anyone finds themselves at Horseneck Beach in Westport this summer, they are encouraged to stop in.

Eliana Lipsky

I am going on a road trip over the month of July which will take me home and then to some of the national parks in the Southwest. My road trip ends in LA, where I will meet up with my brother. We will fly to Vancouver for a week and plan on kayaking between the islands and doing a lot of hiking. After that, we will join the rest of our family on a cruise to Alaska, where we will go ice climbing, sea kayaking, and hiking.

Gillian Skow

This summer should be an interesting one. In May I'll leave BU with my master's degree, and I'm expecting my second child that same month. In June my family will be relocating to Ketchikan, Alaska, thanks to my husband, Erik's, Coast Guard career. I can't say I'm making any other significant

plans until I've negotiated the feat of moving across North America with a preschooler and a newborn in tow. Please think of me in lovely Ketchikan, where I gather the weather forecast for the entire summer is 60 degrees and raining. I'm going to save a fortune on sunscreen.

STAFF

James Dutton

Since I write about my tomato obsession practically every year, I shouldn't disappoint our readers. I had thought I might tame this (for someone living in New England) frustrating quest for good tomatoes when this winter I heard about the new "Backyard" tomatoes. If I could get them year round, perhaps the obsession would subside. These are grown in Maine, ripened on the vine, and shipped only to New England stores; the *Globe's* food writers raved about them. I recalled that Julia Child once said that we could have real tomatoes all year if we were willing to pay enough for them. So I found these tomatoes at Whole Foods, admired their very red color and authentic smell, steadfastly ignored the posted price (always a necessity at Whole Foods), and took them home with anticipation (perhaps there really could be BLTs in February). They were in fact the best winter tomatoes I have ever had, but unfortunately that's not saying very much. I'm afraid our friends in Maine have mastered the color but not the taste or texture. So my obsession will continue, and I will be off to farmers' markets once the season finally begins and then in August to Virginia, where my mother will raise them again this year (forgive the blatant hint aimed at the newsletter's only Staunton reader). Aside from this summer activity, I will complete preparation of the tenure dossiers of Professors Anderson and Zatlin, rewrite the undergraduate and graduate guides and revise the website to reflect the changes in both programs, compose guides for faculty advisors who will have to explain the new majors to students in the

fall, and perhaps—if all else fails—even clean off my desk.

Amanda Scobie

This summer I will begin working on my EdM in Policy, Planning, and Administration at Boston University's School of Education. Aside from school and work, I'm hoping to have some time for beach trips and patio lunches on Newbury with friends!

Danielle Caramico

For the summer of 2007 I will be working full-time at MidLantic Marketing Inc., a sales and marketing agency in my hometown of Hawthorne, New Jersey. This will be my second year working as Sales Coordinator for the company. Additionally, I will be planning and hosting special events with my family's up-and-coming event planning company, Gracie's Girls.

Andrew Naramore

This summer I will be taking classes in Washington, D.C., and interning with a branch of the National Defense University. After completing the summer semester, I will return to Vermont for a month and try (in vain) to get a job.

Brandi Rees

This summer I am staying in Boston to take classes to count towards my International Relations major and Environmental Policy and Analysis minor. I will also be working at the Old State House as a Museum Associate giving tours, selling admissions tickets, and providing a general history of the building to visitors as well as working at the JFK Presidential Museum and Library.

Keith Ryon

I will be graduating in May and heading out to the west coast to pursue a career in Los Angeles. I'd like to thank Jim and all of the professors for making my stay at the History Department an enjoyable one. ♦

in brief

EVENTS OF NOTE!



Professor **Barbara Diefendorf** delivered a paper entitled "From the Heretic Navarre to Catholic King: Henry IV's Publicists Reshape His Image" at the Renaissance Studies Association annual meeting in Miami in March. In April she participated in a symposium on "French Social History: New Directions and Influences" at Emory University. She has received a residential fellowship from the Camargo Foundation in Cassis, France, to spend spring semester 2008 doing research in Aix-en-Provence and Marseilles for a book on Catholic activism in the seventeenth century.

On April 20 Professor **Jon Roberts** provided a commentary on presentations by Ronald L. Numbers, Donald Yerxa, and Karl Giberson on the subject of Intelligent Design at the Origins Roundtable sponsored by the Polkinghorne Society at Eastern Nazarene College. On April 28 he presented a paper on "American Liberal Protestants and the Idea of Progress, 1870-1930" at a conference in London on "British Abolitionism, Moral Progress, and Big Questions in History," co-sponsored by the John Templeton Foundation and the Historical Society.

Professor **Linda Heywood** gave two lectures at University College London as part of the commemoration of the 200th anniversary of the abolition of the Atlantic slave trade by Britain in March 1807. In March she presented a paper entitled "History and Slavery in the Kingdom" at the Symposium on Archaeological and Historical Dimensions of Slavery in East and West Africa in Comparative Perspectives, Institute of Archaeology, University College London. Also in March she made a public presentation on "Kongos and Ethnic Identity in the Americas: The Culture Makers" at Abolition 2007: Archaeology and Heritage of Africans in the New World.

Professor **Thomas Glick** was invited by the science office of the municipality of Barcelona to deliver a public lecture on "The Medieval Islamic World as an Axis for the Diffusion of Science and Technology" on April 11. The lecture was adjunct to a scholarly symposium, "A Shared Legacy: Islamic Science East and West," at the University of Barcelona. On April 14 he participated in a session on the historian of science, José Millás Vallicrosa, with whom he studied in 1960-61. In addition, Glick was recently awarded the Academic Medal of the Mexican Society for the History of Science for lifetime achievement in the history of science.

The Organization of American Historians has reappointed Professor **Bruce Schulman** to a second three-year term in its Distinguished Lectureship Program. His meditation on the phenomenon of flip-flopping in American national politics, "Beware the Politician Who Won't Flip-Flop," appeared in the April 1 edition of the *Los Angeles Times*. Schulman was also featured speaker at "Looking Back and Looking Ahead," a conference organized by the Center for Social Policy at UMass-Boston; he spoke on the subject of "Bold, Persistent Experimentation": The New Deal and the Great Society in American Social Policy."

On March 16 Professor **James Johnson** spoke as commentator on the panel "Reimagining Religion, Music, and Art in Post-Revolutionary France" at the Society

See *EVENTS OF NOTE*, page 7



Approaches to the core course

Since 1984 the concentration in history has included a "core course," an introduction to the historical discipline required of all students, now numbered HI 301, to be renumbered HI 200 next fall, when its title will change from "Critical Reading in History" to "The Historian's Craft." Intended to introduce majors to "how historians do history," the course varies with every instructor. With her first offering of the course this spring (class members are shown above gathered in the fifth-floor seminar room), new faculty member Arianne Chernock has taken a unique approach.

The theme of her HI 301 section has been "Evidence and History." During the first half of the semester, students examined how historians use evidence to construct histories and explored the relationship more generally between

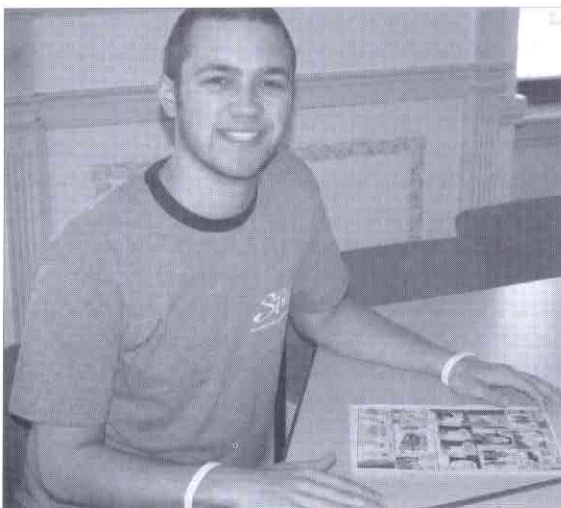
evidence, analysis, and narration. During the second half, the class has gained first-hand experience with "evidence" at the Howard Gotlieb Archival Research Center at Boston University. Each student has been working towards producing what Professor Chernock calls a "Research Guide."

As explained in the assignment handout for the class, "The research guide will introduce readers to an archival collection of your choice, located at the Howard Gotlieb Archives at Boston University. The goals of the guide are twofold: (1) to catalogue (in detail) the kinds of documents/materials/sources included in the archival collection and (2) to evaluate the potential significance of the archival collection. In other words, what light (if any) does the collection shed on a particular topic or subject? Why, how, and to whom might the collection be of interest? What are the strengths and weaknesses of the collection?"

Professor Chernock says she was

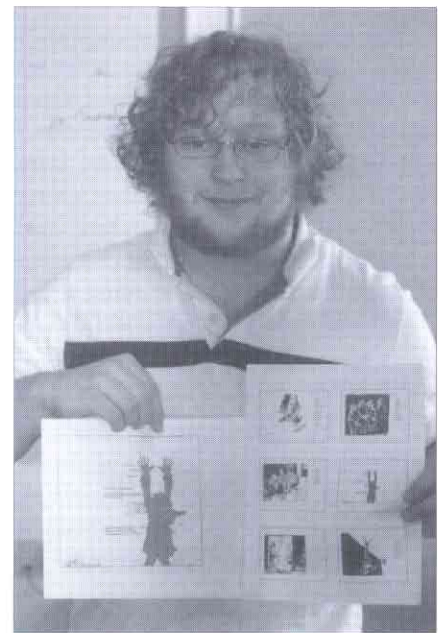
motivated to create this assignment because she felt that students would really benefit from working directly with archival materials. The Gotlieb Archive contains some rich sources—George Washington's letters, Emma Goldman's speeches, Robert Frost's notebooks. In the process of working through these materials, she says, "my students have gained an appreciation for the historical process and for the challenges of 'doing' history. They have learned that there is a recursive relationship between primary and secondary research. They have also learned that historians are active interpreters of archival material."

The research guides will be compiled and kept in the History Department main office, to be used as a resource for faculty and students.



At left: Paul Delavardac has been studying cartoonist Mort Walker, the creator of Beetle Bailey.

At right: James Sappenfield has been working with the Paul Szep collection. Szep is an award-winning political cartoonist.



for French Historical Studies annual conference in Houston. On March 31 at the annual meeting of the Association for Core Texts and Courses, held in Williamsburg, Virginia, he delivered the paper "Social Sciences in the Core. Teaching Classic and Contemporary Works." On April 9 he spoke about his book *Listening in Paris* in the graduate seminar "Looking and Listening in 19th-Century France" at the University of Chicago. Professor Johnson has announced that this semester ends his sixth and final year as Dean of BU's Core Curriculum. "I am looking forward to returning to civilian life and spending more time with colleagues and students in the History Department."

On March 30 Professor **Marilyn Halter** was the luncheon speaker with co-author Professor Violet Johnson (Chair, Department of History, Agnes Scott College) at BU's African American Studies Conference on Community Building and Identity Formation in the African Diaspora, delivering their paper, "Young, Gifted and West African: Transnational Migrants Growing Up in America." They also presented a version of this paper at the April 26 meeting of the Massachusetts Historical Society's Immigration and Urban History Seminar. On April 11 Professor Halter gave a lecture and workshop on "The Newest African Americans" for the Weymouth Public Schools Teaching American History Program. She will travel to St. Louis, Missouri, in early May to give another teaching workshop and the keynote address, "American Kaleidoscope: Immigration and Adaptation in a Multiethnic Society," at a gathering of educators in conjunction with her role as the Project Historian for the Oasis Institute national education curriculum for older adults.

Professor **James McCann** was one of two American scholars invited by the Royal Swedish Academy of Letters, History, and Antiquities to address an April conference on environmental history at the University of Stockholm. The meeting marked the endpoint of a

five-year program of research on People, Land, and Time in Africa. The meeting took place on the site of the Royal Swedish Academy in Stockholm. McCann will join a workshop on the topic "Eating and Drinking in Culture and Politics" at the University of Edinburgh in June organized by the British Academy and the African Studies Centre of the University and including scholars from Scotland, England, and other European Union countries. He will present a paper and lead discussion on an 1887 imperial feast translated from an Ethiopian imperial chronicle and lead a wider discussion based on his forthcoming book "Cuisines in Africa: The Tastes and Textures of Global Change." For there he will travel to Trondheim, Norway, to attend the International Conference on Ethiopian Studies, a gathering of scholars from Europe, America, Asia, and Africa. That venerable conference is in its 47th year.

On April 13 Professor **Charles Capper** delivered the 2007 Harvard Square Lecture at First Parish in Cambridge. Presented by the Unitarian Universalist Historical Society, his talk, "Margaret Fuller's Transnational Odyssey," was based on his new book, *Margaret Fuller: An American Romantic Life, Volume II* (see page 1 of this newsletter). On April 17 Capper was a panelist in a symposium on "American Transcendentalism—Regional, National, Transnational" at Harvard University.

On March 23-24 Professor **Nina Silber** attended a conference at the American Civil War Center in Richmond, Virginia, on "How the Civil War Redefined American Ideals." As part of that event, she delivered a paper on "The Union Victory and the Legacy of Emancipation." Her presentation, along with the other conference papers, will appear as an essay in a volume to be published next year by Louisiana State University Press. On April 26 Silber led a "faculty forum" at Mugar Library on Northern Women and the Civil War. And on May 2 she will be the keynote speaker at the Boston University Women's Guild luncheon, where she will again speak about women's experiences during the Civil War.

Graduate student **Melissa Graboyes** reports on news from African Studies: On March 9-10 the graduate students affiliated with the African Studies Center held the 15th annual conference, an interdisciplinary event attracting graduate students from around the country and even internationally. **Brian Casady** chaired one of the panels entitled "Beyond Famine and Counting Calories: What's Cooking in African Cuisine?" The panel was one of the results of Professor James McCann's fall seminar focusing on food and cuisine in Africa.

Professor **Julian Zelizer** appeared in The News Hour (PBS), CN-8, the *New York Times*, the *New York Daily News*, the *Los Angeles Times*, the *Christian Science Monitor*, the *International Herald Tribune*, the *San Francisco Chronicle*, the *Boston Globe*, the *Salt Lake Tribune*, *Politico*, the *Concord Monitor*, Agence France-Presse, the *Toledo Blade*, KUOW Radio, and WILM News Radio.

Graduate student **Beth Forrest** is presenting the paper "Montezuma's Revenge?: Chocolate and Identity in Early Modern Spain" at the annual conference of the Association for the Study of Food and Society June 1-4 in Vancouver, British Columbia. She is also co-guest editor (with Professor Thomas Glick) of a special issue of the journal *Food and Foodways*, which will be published in June. The papers are part of the proceedings of "Chocolate Culture: A Symposium" organized by Beth Forrest and held at Boston University. Included papers are: "Slave Labor and Cacao Plantations in Bahia, Brazil, 17th-19th Centuries" by BU History alumnus **Timothy Walker** and "Is Sipping Sin Breaking Fast? The Catholic Chocolate Controversy and the Changing World of Early Modern Spain," co-written by Beth Forrest and BU History alumna **April Najaj**.

At the end of March Professor **James Schmidt** was invited to give a lecture to mark the 60th anniversary of the publication of Max Horkheimer's book *Eclipse of Reason*, which was originally delivered as a series of lectures at Columbia. A copy of the lecture, "Max Horkheimer and the Theological Rumage Sale," is available on Professor

Schmidt's website: <http://people.bu.edu/jschmidt>. Another article he has written on Horkheimer, "The Eclipse of Reason and the End of the Frankfurt School in America," has just appeared in *New German Critique*, #100 (2007). Schmidt has been invited to give the George Havens Lecture at Ohio State University in early May; the topic will be "Misunderstanding the Question: What is Enlightenment?" Later in May he will be presenting work on the history of the concept of "Enlightenment" at a workshop on "Theory and Practice in Eighteenth-Century Philosophy" sponsored by the Peter Wall Institute for Advanced Studies at the University of British Columbia. And he has been selected to participate in the faculty exchange program that Boston University runs with the Università degli Studi di Padova.

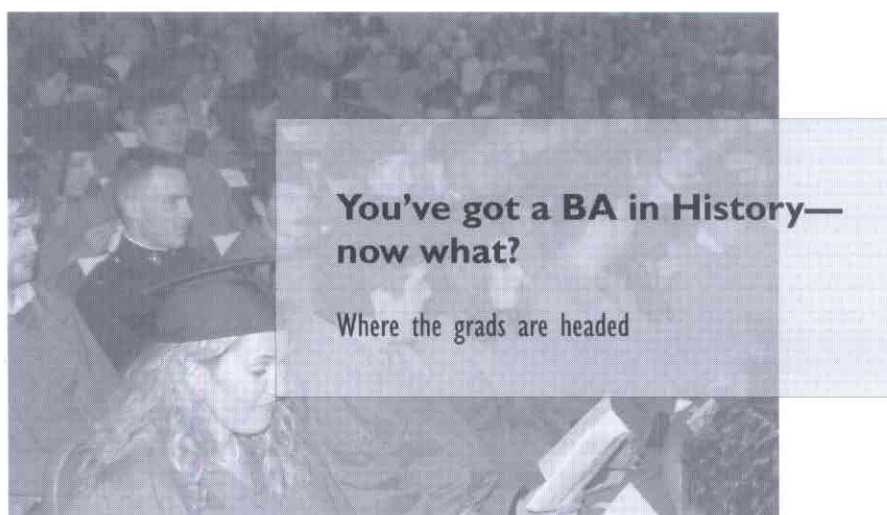
David Goss, an American Studies graduate student and graduate assistant in the History Department this past academic year, has written a casebook text (aimed at high school and lower-level undergraduate college students) examining the Salem witchcraft trials of 1692, to be published by Greenwood Press in early 2008. The book offers an extensive appendix of research materials—a selection of witchcraft trial documents, chronology, annotated bibliography, and prints and illustrations of relevant persons and locations. ♦

Commencement Update

As was announced previously, this year's History Department convocation for commencement will be held in the College of General Studies, 871 Commonwealth Avenue. The reception begins at 1 p.m. in the lobby of the building, with the awarding of diplomas to take place in Jacob Sleeper Hall nearby.

All graduates are urged to call the department office (617-353-2551) to indicate whether or not they are attending the departmental convocation.

Students may check the status of their graduation on the departmental website: click on "Shortcuts," then on "Commencement."



We asked May 2007 graduates to let us know their plans after commencement, and their responses are interesting—from the usual large number headed for law school and teaching to a significant number planning to work for nonprofits to the more unusual (an advanced degree in music, a position in the craft brewing industry, a career in acting).

Joshua Addison: After graduation, I will spend the following year in preparation for graduate studies; I plan to apply to several schools for entrance into the fall 2008 semester and hope to pursue a master's degree in violin performance.

Henry Allen, Jr.: I am going to enroll in the University of Massachusetts MA History Graduate Program in the fall of 2007.

Suzanne Brown: I'll be working as an administrative professional in the Boston area for a year before turning my attention towards PhD programs in American cultural history. I hope to begin a long and illustrious career as an outrageous feminist academic in the fall of 2008.

Laura Byerly: I will be working at the Boston University School of Medicine as a clinical research assistant for the Alzheimer's Disease Center. My projects will include a new study involving brain and cardiac imaging as it relates to dementia in older adults with cognitive impairment. I will also be starting a new program that pairs first-year medical students with early-stage Alzheimer's patients in order to foster better communication skills between future doctors and the elderly population. I will also be undergoing the long and arduous process of applying to medical school for the fall of 2008. It will hopefully end successfully.

Christopher Cassani: I plan to move to Washington, D.C., and start working in a government-related job.

Elizabeth Cayton: I am moving to New Orleans in August to attend Tulane Law School.

James Christensen: As of right now, I have no idea, but I will at least be staying in Boston. I am currently looking for work, but nothing specific.

Leilani Collins: As of yet I have no long-term plans, only plans for the summer. I'll be staying in Boston at least until the fall and I will be working with WBOS on their new high-definition radio station, Radio You. I also want to do some extensive traveling throughout Europe during the late summer or early fall. It would only make sense to head over to Europe after four years studying its history! And as for the distant future... I still have to do a little soul-searching before I know what path is right for me.

Alice Daly: I am looking at non-profit organizations in Boston and would like to pursue something in that direction.

Stephany Elmore: I am planning on staying in Boston and working for a year before hopefully leaving for the Peace Corps.

Rhiannon Gill: On May 19 I will be commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the United States Air Force and will report in July to Goodfellow AFB near San Angelo, Texas, to begin training as an Intelligence Officer.

James Hodge: After graduation I am moving to New Zealand to work for eight months, then traveling for three months, and then going to either law school or graduate school.

Carolyn Hodler: I will be interning this summer in New York for the fashion designer Phillip Lim. After that, I hope to work in a media company.

Benjamin Howe: After graduation I will be waiting tables at a brewpub in Northampton, Mass., and interning at Paper City Brewing Co. in Holyoke, Mass. In the fall, I'll be returning to Boston to wait tables, bar tend, or something similar and hopefully to get my foot in the craft brewing industry's door.

Brian Ignatowicz: After graduation, I will be going to work for "The Hartford," an insurance and investment company located in Hartford, Conn. I will be working in their Technology Leadership Development Program, as a Business Technology Analyst.

Cory Kalanick: I plan to move back home to Montana. I am getting married in August and will work in politics for a year before attending law school to focus on environment and natural resources law.

Matthew Kessler: I will be working as a Preparation and Placement Assistant with the Steppingstone Foundation in Boston, a non-profit organization that develops and implements programs that prepare urban schoolchildren for educational opportunities that lead to college.

Sergio Magaña: I recently got into graduate school. I am very excited, I will be attending the University of Texas at El Paso for a master's in Latin American and Border Studies.

Gabriela McQuade: I will be attending Duke Law School. As a student in the JD/LLM program, my classes

start at the beginning of June.

Christina Mihos: I am applying to law school and working at Lynn City Hall in the Office of Community Development.

Sally Moy: My tentative plan is to work as a paralegal for two/three years before applying for law school.

Joseph Mroszczyk: I will be staying here at Boston University to pursue an MA in political science starting in the fall.

Joseph Mudd: I'm going to graduate school in computer science at Emory University next year.

Charles Owens: My immediate post-graduate plans are to travel for a month in Europe, starting in Paris and then making my way to Germany and Italy. After that escape from reality, I will return to Boston. This summer I will be working at Wellesley College as a teaching assistant with the Upward Bound Program. I will be living with the students, while gaining valuable classroom experience. As that ends in mid-August, I plan on starting the job hunt. Even though I want to eventually teach history, for next year only I hope to find a secure job that pays enough to allow me to live in the Boston area. After that, I want to enter into the academic profession by finding a job teaching at the high school level. For now, though, I am just focusing on finishing off this semester on a strong note and writing my final papers.

Blake Porter: I plan on going to law school in the fall, but I have not made a decision on where yet. It will be in California though.

Jesse Rodgers: Immediately after graduation I will be moving to London, England, to work for BU British Programs in their Student Life Department, and in fall 2008 I will be starting law school at Seton Hall University in New Jersey.

Kevin Scheitrum: I'm moving to New York to write "on a smile and shoe-shine."

Priscilla Singer: I'm going to be attending law school within the next year.

Elizabeth Spellman: I'm nominated to be a Peace Corps Volunteer in sub-Saharan Africa. I'll primarily be doing health education work.

Sean Sullivan: I will be acting full time and living in Cambridge, Mass., next year.

Cristina Tobar: After graduation I will be attending BU's School of Education for the Master of Arts in Teaching for Secondary Social Studies Education, and I will be working as a research assistant for Dr. Paratore in the Language and Literacy Department and as an adult literacy teacher in BU's Intergenerational Literacy Project in Chelsea.

Marc Weber: I will be attending Hofstra University School of Law in the fall. I will also be clerking for a New York State Supreme Court judge. ♦

Summer Courses

History courses offered in Summer Term are listed on the departmental website: www.bu.edu. Click on "Shortcuts," then on "Summer Term."

Notes on Fall 2007 Courses

Professor Bruce Schulman's HI 751 ("Recent American History") will in the fall be a readings seminar organized around the theme "Politics and Popular Culture in Twentieth-Century America." The time of this seminar has recently been changed to Thursdays 9 a.m.-12 noon.

The topic for Professor Charles Capper's HI 763 ("American Intellectual History") will be "Romantic to Modern in American Intellectual Culture." It will center on the "long nineteenth-century" origins of modernism in the United States. Topics will include democratic culture, transatlantic Romanticism, Transcendentalism, environmentalism, liberal spirituality, realism, pragmatism, anti-modernism, bohemia, and "high" and vernacular modernism in the 1920s. The course meets on Tuesdays 2-5 p.m.

As this issue went to the printer, the search for a faculty member in Armenian history was not complete, but the department hopes to offer at least two courses in that field during the 2007-08 academic year. See the website for updates in the coming months.

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Patricia Peknik wins Teaching Fellow Prize

The Graduate School has named Patricia Peknik the recipient of this year's Teaching Fellow Prize for the Department of History. The award is given each year to the student the department (represented by the Graduate Studies Committee) deems to have "demonstrated the greatest skill, enthusiasm, and dedication in his or her teaching during the current academic year."

In fall 2006 Patricia was TF for HI 151 (the U.S. survey) and in the spring for HI 365 (U.S. history since 1968). She also teaches at Berklee College of Music.

Patricia is studying American intellectual history with Professor Jon Roberts.

