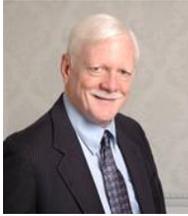


William R. Keylor Retires from IHI



The International History Institute held a retirement dinner on June 6th to honor its Founding Director, William R. Keylor, also Professor of History and International Relations. Bill served four terms as Chairman of the Department of History at Boston University (1988-2000). He was Acting Chair, Department of International Relations (2009). He served as co-founder and Director of the International History Institute from 1999-2018. He shall be missed.

Bill was a superior, award winning teacher who guided literally thousands of students in History, International History, and International Relations from the 1970s through to 2018. He was mentor to undergraduates, graduate students and faculty alike, a Chevalier of France, the author of numerous books on intellectual and international history, and recipient of major research awards over his nearly half-century of service at Boston University.

The IHI was profoundly honored to be associated with him. In gratitude, and in recognition of his invaluable service and devotion to the IHI, and to the University, IHI Fellows hosted Bill and Rheta Keylor at a retirement dinner. It was held on the anniversary of the invasion of Normandy, where he once spoke with his usual native humility to a rapt group of veterans of that “Day of Days.”

Bill was presented by the IHI with a 1:70 scale model of Louis XIV’s flagship, the legendary *Soleil Royal*. Like Bill, the ship had a glorious record over many decades. I think I speak for all who attended in saying that I believe Bill will fare far better in retirement than Louis’ favorite ship: it never made it. Having fought valiantly against a swarm of Anglo-Dutch warships at the Battle of Barfleurl (1692), *Soleil Royal* was beached near Cherbourg then destroyed by an English fireship, packed with oil and tar, powder and double-shotted cannon, and sent in on a lifting night tide. In contrast, William R. Keylor is heading with “all sails set” into a rising dawn of new endeavor and adventure. CJN

