

NEWS



of the History Department at Boston University

September 2007

2007-08 academic year opens with significant changes

The 2007-08 academic year begins with the departure of one full-time faculty member and the arrival of another. After only three years on the Boston University faculty, Professor Julian Zelizer resigned at the beginning of July to accept a position as Professor of History and Public Affairs at Princeton University. Taking up a new position as Associate Professor of Armenian History, specifically the Kenosian Chair in Armenian Studies, is Simon Payaslian, who in the fall semester will teach a lecture course in Armenian history and a colloquium on the Armenian holocaust. See page 4 for an introduction to Professor Payaslian.

To replace Professor Zelizer for the new academic year, the department has hired Dr. Kathleen Dalton, currently on the faculty of Phillips Academy in Andover, Mass. She will teach the large lecture course on the history of the presidency as well as a colloquium in twentieth-century US history, and in the spring will offer the second half of the American survey and another American colloquium.

To bolster the American side of the department, Dr. Samuel Deese (PhD from Boston University in May) has been appointed to teach a colloquium in the fall and a lecture course in the spring. Graduate student David Atkinson will teach HI 349 (History of International Relations I) in the first semester.

Other visitors to the department include Clemens Häusler of Cambridge University, who is in the exchange program between that institution and BU sponsored by the Institute for American Political History; he will be in residence during the fall semester, with another student taking his place in the spring. Kathryn Brownell will be the BU student in residence at Cambridge during Semester 2.

A substantial number of faculty will be on leave during all or part of the academic year: Allison Blakely (full year), Barbara Diefendorf (spring), Anna Geifman (full year), Linda Heywood (spring), James Johnson (spring), William Keylor (fall), and Jeffrey Rubin (full year). Meanwhile Professor James Johnson will return to the history building, having completed his term as director of the Core Curriculum.

The department has requested three faculty searches during 2007-08: modern US political history (Zelizer replacement), Japanese history, and modern European Jewish history.

The new academic year also opens with major revisions of the undergraduate concentration and the graduate program. Details on both are available on the departmental website and in printed brochures in the department office; in addition, the graduate revisions are explained in detail on page 3 of this newsletter.

And finally, Professor Charles Dellheim, who was the influence behind the curricular revisions that have been in process since his appointment as chair in 2001, begins another term as chairman this September. Professor Bruce Schulman will act as Director of Graduate Studies and Professor Jonathan Zatin as Director of Undergraduate Studies.



John Gagliardo

John Gagliardo dies after long illness

On August 2, a short time before his 74th birthday, Professor Emeritus John Gagliardo, specialist in early modern German history, died at his home in Boston. For more than ten years he had suffered from two different types of cancer and from Parkinson's disease; it was the latter disease that weakened his muscles and—most importantly for someone for whom teaching was his life—his voice as well. The legendary Sidney Burrell brought him to the faculty of Boston University in 1968 (one of four new hires that year). John's last year of full-time teaching was 1995-96, and he continued to teach part-time through fall

1998, when the rigors of the job became too much for him. Maintaining his independence almost until the end, he recently suffered several severe falls and was under hospice care when he died. Boston University will hold a memorial service for him in Marsh Chapel on Wednesday, October 10, at 4 p.m.

We are pleased to publish a reminiscence of John Gagliardo from someone who knew him well, Jay Corrin, a scholar of British history who received his PhD from the department in 1976 and now serves as chair of social sciences at Boston University's College of General Studies:

John Gagliardo was the very first person I met when arriving as a graduate student at Boston University in the autumn of 1970. Needless to say, the impression he made was a powerful one, and I knew from the outset that he would be strong brew for any fledgling graduate student. Yet, at the same time he seemed to me rather young and inexperienced, someone just out of graduate school who was hell bent on impressing students with his intellectual prowess. However, I soon realized that this was a superficial judgment after attending his first class, which, as I distinctly remember, was a masterful introduction to early modern European history. His lectures

and carefully honed discussions of books assigned for the course were paradigms of clarity and insight. In fact, he became for me as a teacher a model to emulate in terms of the care he gave to preparing lectures and the highly engaging way in which he delivered his ideas. Another aspect of his pedagogy that impressed me was the singular openness and non-ideological way in which he presented his lectures and discussions. John, of course, was very conservative. Although he was fond of calling himself a "rock-rib" Republican from "fly-over country," while I was given the label of "yellow dog" and knee-jerk Democrat, John was actually more of an eighteenth-century monarchist. His appreciation of sagacious kingship was highlighted in his first and most captivating book, *Enlightened Despotism*, published in 1967 and up to his death still earning royalties. He most admired Frederick the Great of Prussia, who, much like John himself, was noted for his intellectual tenacity and political steadfastness. In fact, John jested (I think) that he probably was himself Frederick in an earlier life.

Although John was an intellectual of the right, his reading list always included voices from the other side (plenty of Christopher Hill, George Rude, and fellow travelers). I found his openness in the classroom rather astounding given his personal and seemingly reactionary political views. One of his former students, Jeremy Heep, who was himself a left-leaning social democrat, recalls debating politics and current events with John for hours at a time. John would become so agitated at Jeremy's political views that he would hyperventilate, culminating in a bout of hiccups that could be cured only by blowing in and out of a paper bag. Yet in the classroom, where he held enormous power and influence over his audience, John Gagliardo always carefully and fairly offered up both sides of the issues.

John was certainly an outstanding classroom teacher and administrator. The University recognized his pedagogy with the Metcalf Cup and Prize for Teaching Excellence in 1984. John

pioneered the creation of the University's popular International Relations program (now a department of its own) and was regularly recruited to take on a variety of important committee assignments. For example, he not only served on the College of Liberal Arts Appointments, Promotions, and Tenure Committee a total of eight times but was chair of that body for a period of five years. Those of us who have had the experience of serving even one or two years on such committees can appreciate the time and effort it requires.

Although he will be most remembered by his colleagues for his teaching, scholarship, and administrative skills, it is in the hidden and unappreciated area of undergraduate advising and mentoring that John made his most enduring mark. I have not known anyone in my thirty years of teaching at Boston University who gave more of his time and energy to students than John Gagliardo. Many of these students have told me that their lives were forever transformed by knowing and working with him. Larry Metzger, a good friend during my graduate school days who had been John's advisee as an undergraduate history major, actually left a generous PhD program at Yale after one year so that he could return to Boston University and work with John Gagliardo for his doctorate. Another former student, Ian Wilcken (now a Boston businessman), considered John not only an inspiring and gifted educator but his "best friend." John Gagliardo, he has written, was "most often a thoughtful, witty, compassionate man who always enjoyed life and made the lives of those around him all the better for it." Jeremy Heep, currently a practicing lawyer in Washington, D.C., has written that John was a major force in his life. Coming from a small town, Jeremy was initially lost in the large and often impersonal environment of an urban university, but John extended himself as a parent and provided Jeremy some needed focus to his academic and personal life. The political debates waned over the years, but their close per-

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sonal relationship forged in those fledgling undergraduate years grew richer and more meaningful. Many of John's former students whom I personally know (even those who encountered John during his years at Amherst College) have remained close friends over the years and continued to benefit from his collegiality and wise advice concerning all matters of life.

John Gagliardo over the years became a major part of my professional and personal life. His demanding standards of scholarship in the areas of research, critical thinking, and writing set standards that I've worked diligently though not always successfully to meet. And to this day he remains for me the model of a classroom teacher. John and I met once a week for over thirty years initially to play tennis (he had a formidable backhand) and then to talk about unlimited and sundry things. John, of course, was a man of strong opinions who seldom suffered fools gladly. Yet in his declining years, when he suffered the terrible blows of cancer and Parkinson's disease, not once did he behave like the poet Edwin Arlington Robinson's Miniver Cheevy, who grew lean assailing the seasons with their fickle winds of chance. To the very end John maintained his dignity and grace, and this is yet another reason why he will always remain a model for me to emulate. As Ian Wilcken has written, John for him "was an inspiration in health and even more so in sickness. John will be missed by all those whose lives he touched." ♦

Revisions to the graduate program introduced

For several years History Department faculty have been working on revisions to the graduate program, and after the approval of the changes by the CAS/GRS faculty in late spring, they are now in effect. This September's en-

tering students, who applied to the program with the previous requirements in place, have been grandfathered insofar as this is possible. Below are the changes in the master's and doctoral programs, with rationales for each change:

■ Changes in Required Courses and Research Papers

Previously a student had two required courses: HI 700 (originally introduced as "Problems in Historical Analysis") and a seminar in the student's chosen field. In the new program, all students must take the following four courses: GRS HI 700 (European Historiography), HI 750 (American Historiography), HI 770 (African Historiography), and HI 701 (The Historian's Craft). HI 700, 750, and 770 are reading courses focusing on historiographical issues and approaches in the areas where the department has special strengths and a sizable array of courses. HI 701 is a course intended to provide students with the necessary range of analytical, research, and expository skills and methods that are associated with the historian's craft. Toward that end, the course is designed to move from the original conception of a problem to a publishable article. Within the context of this course students will write a major research paper, which (for MA students) will be separately certified by the Graduate Studies Committee as the student's capstone experience. For PhD students, the paper completed in HI 701 counts as one of the required research papers; students entering the program with a bachelor's degree must complete a second paper. At least one of the reading courses (HI 700, 750, or 770) must be taken prior to taking HI 701, which will be offered every year in the spring semester.

Rationale for change: The four courses listed above will provide graduate students with the kind of international and cross-cultural perspectives that are appropriate for a discipline that has become increasingly globally oriented. In addition, they will give students the breadth of knowledge and the methodological sophistication that they need to produce a paper that will

conform to the highest standards of rigorous scholarship. Finally, the orientation and breadth of the courses will do much to enrich students' scholarship and to maximize their competitiveness in their search for employment, not only in the academy but also in museum work, government service, consulting, and business.

■ Limitations on the 800-Level (Piggyback) Courses

Candidates for the MA may count only two courses designed primarily for undergraduates (these courses are offered at the 800 level and ordinarily have 300-level equivalents) for the degree. PhD students may take only four such courses.

Rationale for change: Members of the Department of History have concluded that while there are occasions when students who have not been sufficiently exposed to a field might profit from "piggyback" courses, these courses are generally inferior to seminars, directed research, and directed study in meeting the goals of graduate education.

■ Changes in Number of Required Courses (PhD students only)

Previously post-bachelor's PhD students had to take 16 courses (64 credits); post-master's students had to take eight (32 credits). Post-BA students still take 64 credits, but only 56 are taken in seminars, lecture courses, directed research, and directed study prior to taking the qualifying oral examination. Students entering with an approved master's degree take 24 credits prior to taking the oral examination. See below under "Dissertation Workshop" for more on what this change entails.

Rationale for change: Reducing the requirement for students prior to taking the qualifying examination by eight credits will place the departmental requirement more in step with that of other research universities. It will also enable students to devote more time to reading for the qualifying oral examination.

■ Required Courses Outside History (PhD students only)

Under ordinary circumstances PhD students are required to take two graduate-level courses in a single discipline other than history that is related to their interests. These courses must be selected in consultation with the student's advisor.

Rationale for change: Students need to receive training in areas that are germane to the areas in which they intend to do research. For example, students who intend to become political historians need to be aware of current developments in political science, would-be economic historians should be familiar with the methodology and substance of contemporary economics, and historians of religious thought should be aware of developments occurring within the field of Religious Studies.

■ Dissertation Workshop (PhD students only)

After completing all other course requirements and the qualifying oral examination, every doctoral student is required to complete four semesters of a two-credit Dissertation Workshop course (GRS HI 900). The eight credits count toward the 64-credit requirement for post-BA PhD students and the 32-credit requirement for post-MA doctoral students. Enrolling in the Dissertation Workshop replaces the requirement that students register for continuing study for those four semesters.

Rationale for change: The Dissertation Workshop course requirement will provide students with guidance, support, and a source of intellectual community while they are writing their dissertations, as well as a forum for presenting their research.

Graduate students are welcome to express their views of the revised program to the Graduate Studies Committee, and, needless to say, after it has been in effect for a reasonable time, the department will evaluate its effectiveness. ♦



Simon Payaslian

Introduction to New Faculty

Specialist in Armenian history Simon Payaslian joins faculty

This fall the department welcomes Associate Professor Simon Payaslian to its faculty. He will teach courses in Armenian history and literature, a seminar in the Writing Program, and a more general lecture course on the history of the Caucasus. We are happy to have him introduce himself to our readers:

It is a great pleasure to have this opportunity to join the History Department at BU as the Charles K. and Elisabeth M. Kenosian Professor of Modern Armenian History and Literature. I received my BA in English Literature and Political Science from Wayne State University in Detroit, Michigan, in the mid-1980s. As an English lit. major, I was particularly fascinated by Thomas Hardy's novels perhaps (as a colleague once pointed out) because of the similarities between Hardy's and Armenian sense of fatalism. Nevertheless, I gradually gravitated to Political Science and focused on international

political economy, conflict resolution, peace studies, human rights, and US foreign policy. Need I emphasize "fatalism" here? Since the Political Science department generously offered a TA-ship, I stayed at Wayne State to complete my MA and PhD. My MA thesis, written under the supervision of Professor Chen Pi-chao (who a few years later went to Taiwan to serve as National Security Adviser under President Lee Teng-hui), examined the Truman administration's policy toward China and General George C. Marshall's mission (1946-1947) to end the Kuomintang-Communist hostilities there. An abridged and revised version of this thesis was published as an article in 1994.

For my PhD in Political Science, my principal areas of concentration included International Relations, Comparative Politics, American Government, and Public Policy. I wrote my Political Science dissertation under the supervision of Professor Maurice Waters. Titled "Human Rights and U.S. Distribution of Foreign Economic and Military Assistance," it examined the main objectives of US foreign economic and military assistance during the Reagan and Bush administrations and the domestic and international determinants of the distribution of foreign aid. This dissertation, with revisions, was published as a book in 1996, *U.S. Foreign Economic and Military Aid: The Reagan and Bush Administrations*. This study, employing quantitative methods (found in the wonderful world of pooled time series, probit analyses), examined the extent to which a number of key variables—including the aid recipient's economic needs, human rights performance and news coverage of human rights violations, budgetary considerations, geopolitical importance to and ideological alignment with the United States, and its accessibility to US trade interests—influenced US foreign aid policy. During the early phases of my research, I was surprised to discover that no quantitatively based study on the topic had included domestic factors among its independent variables, although studies of public policy clearly indicate that domestic ac-

tors and their political and economic considerations shape not only domestic but also foreign policies. Not surprisingly, the principal findings in this study confirmed the contention that news coverage of human rights violations, ideological alignments, and geopolitical considerations had greater influence than human rights on the foreign aid policies of the two administrations.

Soon after I prepared the first book for publication, I began to work, with Frederic S. Pearson, Director of Peace and Conflict Studies at Wayne State, on our book, *International Political Economy: Conflict and Cooperation in the Global System*, which was published by McGraw Hill in 1999 and, I am pleased to add, was also published in Chinese translation by Peking University Press in 2006.

While I was completing my dissertation in Political Science in 1991-92, the Soviet Union collapsed and the former Soviet republic of Armenia, which had been under Soviet rule for seven decades, regained its independence in 1991. Armenia's independence revived in me my interest in Armenian history and literature, an area that I had continued to cultivate on my own ever since my parents, siblings, and I immigrated to the United States (more precisely, to Whitinsville, MA) from Aleppo, Syria, back in 1971. I felt, however, the necessity of establishing professional competence on the subject in order to engage in research on matters related to Armenian history and literature. After serious soul searching, I began to work on my second PhD in 1996, this time in modern Armenian history at UCLA under the supervision of the world-renowned historian, Professor Richard G. Hovannisian. At UCLA, my areas of concentration included Armenian History, US Diplomatic History, the British Empire, and the Middle East. My PhD dissertation, titled "U.S. Foreign Policy toward the Armenian Question and the Armenian Genocide," examined the political economy of US foreign policy toward the Ottoman Empire and the US responses to the Armenian Question and the Genocide from the 1890s to the 1920s, particularly dur-

ing the Wilson administration. Focusing on the Armenian Genocide, the study analyzed three levels of US responses to the calamitous events in Ottoman Armenia beginning in 1915: US consuls and missionaries at the local level, the US ambassadors in Constantinople, and policymakers in Washington. This study, which was published as a book, *United States Policy toward the Armenian Question and the Armenian Genocide*, by Palgrave Macmillan in 2005, concludes that the Wilson administration's domestic and international political, economic, and geopolitical priorities, rather than humanitarian considerations, determined the course of US policy toward the Armenian question. The study clearly challenges the dominant view since World War I that the US response to the Armenian Genocide was shaped largely by humanitarian considerations. Fortunately, in recent years a handful of historians have moved away from that humanitarian paradigm and have presented a more accurate assessment of US foreign policy.

While at UCLA, in addition to completing the IPE book in 1999, I also completed a textbook, *The Armenian Genocide, 1915-1923: A Handbook for Students and Teachers* (2001), which was published as instructional material for teachers and students (K-12) for California's updated standardized tests. I am glad to add that from the fall semester of 2002 to the spring semester of 2007, I was holder of the Robert Aram and Marianne Kaloosdian and Stephen and Marian Mugar Chair in Armenian Genocide Studies and Modern Armenian History at Clark University, Worcester, MA.

My upcoming book, *History of the Armenians: From the Origins to the Present*, surveys a number of major themes in Armenian history, including East-West geopolitical competitions, political leadership and institutions, Armenian cultural reawakening and nationalism, European diplomacy and the Armenian question in the nineteenth century, the causes and consequences of the genocide during World War I, the first Republic of Armenia and Sovietization, and the domestic and interna-

tional determinants of the current republic's foreign policy.

My future research projects include studies of diaspora-homeland relations, with special focus on the Armenian communities in the United States, Canada, England, and France, and the extent to which these communities have influenced the foreign policies of their host countries. I would also like to expand my research to examine the relationship between Armenian history and literature, a topic that I have worked on in recent years for my article on two of the literary giants in Soviet Armenia, Hovannes Shiraz and Paruyr Sevak, and that I will encourage students in my HI 277: "Modern Armenian History and Literature" to explore and evaluate.

I am honored to join the History Department at BU as the Kenosian Professor of Modern Armenian History and Literature. My wife, Arpi Payaslian, and I are thrilled to be a part of the BU community. ♦

Ira Katznelson and the "Long New Deal"

BY ANDREW J. BALLOU

On May 3, Professor Ira Katznelson of Columbia University spoke at Boston University as the History Department's Bacon Lecturer for 2007. Professor Katznelson is the Ruggles Professor of Political Science and History at Columbia, and his recent books include *Desolation and Enlightenment: Political Knowledge after the Holocaust, Totalitarianism, and Total War* and *Liberalism's Crooked Circle: Letters to Adam Michnik*, which was awarded the American Political Science Association's Michael Harrington Prize. Katznelson's lecture was entitled "The Long New Deal," and was based on his forthcoming book, tentatively called *A Liberalism of Fear: The New Deal and the Origins of Our Time*.

Katznelson opened his lecture by addressing the most obvious questions



Ira Katznelson

about his topic: why write another book about the New Deal? What is left to portray? The speaker answered his own questions by arguing that his focus on the 1930s and 1940s could deepen the historian's imagination about better and worse possibilities during these decades. Specifically, he argued that his perspective contains four key shifts when compared to other analyses of the New Deal. Katznelson's first reinterpretation was chronological; while most other histories of the New Deal stop at the beginning or the end of World War II, Katznelson included the entire administrations of Presidents Franklin Roosevelt and Harry Truman. This is what he referred to as the "Long New Deal." Second, Katznelson refused to separate domestic and foreign affairs. Challenges to capitalism and liberal democracy came from all fronts.

If one considers the entire Long New Deal the period can be seen not only as Roosevelt's efforts to triumph over fear—as David Kennedy suggested in his book about the Great Depression and World War II, *Freedom From Fear*—but as a time of deepening crises which became permanent conditions during the Cold War. This third point is made explicit in the title of Katznelson's forthcoming book, *A Liberalism of Fear*. What stands out in the story of the New Deal, he argued, is the ability of liberal democracy to govern effectively and

confront the dangers of totalitarianism. Liberal leaders, however, accomplished these goals by pushing constitutional processes to the edge (and sometimes over the edge) of the limits of rights and democracy. Furthermore, in Katznelson's words, "the South was America's wild card." While struggling to uphold the values of liberal democracy, New Deal leaders simultaneously depended on the support of Southern politicians who maintained a racially oppressive government in their region. This was a central contradiction of New Deal politics.

The last reinterpretation that Professor Katznelson offered was to move away from a focus on the presidency and instead present Congress as the center of New Deal policy. To this end, the core evidence of Katznelson's book will be the data set of every roll call in the Senate and House of Representatives during the 1930s and 1940s.

To further support his concept of a "Liberalism of Fear," Professor Katznelson offered three vignettes from the draft of his new book. First, he told the story of Italian fascist aviator Italo Balbo, who flew a column of aircraft from Italy to Chicago in 1933. When he reached America, Balbo was warmly welcomed by Franklin Roosevelt and leaders of the city of Chicago. Second, Katznelson pointed to Truman's support of a Soviet judge who led the post-World War II human rights trials. This same judge presided over the Soviet Supreme Court during Stalin's Political purges in the 1930s. The last example concerns Governor Theodore Bilbo of Mississippi. Bilbo was a staunch supporter of segregation and white supremacy in Mississippi; at the same time, President Roosevelt relied on his support for New Deal programs. All three of these men were anti-liberal servants of totalitarian regimes but were also allies of Roosevelt and Truman. It would be a mistake, Katznelson argued, to define the period as a white/black

Andrew (A.J.) Ballou is a second-year graduate student studying American religious history with Professor Jon Roberts.

distinction between liberal democracy and totalitarianism.

In closing, Katznelson offered some "proposals" that could be taken from his interpretation of New Deal liberalism. In his interpretation, the New Deal served as a critical juncture between danger and opportunity. Presidents Roosevelt and Truman were relatively indifferent about what policies they enacted as long as the legislation solved problems and gave political benefits. Congress, by contrast, adjudicated more closely between available options and struggled to find coalitions among those who supported the New Deal. The critical bloc within Congress was the Jim Crow Democrats, who were overrepresented in numbers and seniority, and who opposed civil rights legislation. Similarly, New Deal leaders formed situational coalitions with fascists and communists to support liberal goals abroad. In Katznelson's view, the struggle to create a strong liberal state during the Roosevelt and Truman administrations was shaped and limited by illiberal features both domestically and abroad. He suggested that it might be useful for contemporary observers to reflect on how the New Deal navigated danger, uncertainty, and moral ambiguity, and shaped the boundaries of liberalism in the twentieth century.

Those students and faculty who attended the Bacon Lecture seemed to find Professor Katznelson's analysis stimulating. Given the perennial interest among historians in studying the course and consequences of the New Deal, it will be interesting to see how Katznelson's book will redirect debates about the period. ♦

Major Lectures Announced

Each year the department holds two important events, the Merle Goldman Lecture and the Gaspar Bacon Lecture. This year's speakers are as follows:

- Goldman Lecture, November 15: Niall Ferguson of Harvard University
- Bacon Lecture, May 5: Stephen Pitti of Yale University

Fall Class Schedule Notes

Several courses have been added to the class schedule since the registration period in the spring. Both are open to both undergraduates and graduate students.

CAS HI 570. American Social Thought. This course will survey the history of environmental activism in the United States from the conservationist and preservationist movements of the late nineteenth century through the rise of popular environmentalism in the twentieth century. It will consider the tension between the utilitarian and pastoral approaches to nature that has consistently divided environmentalist movements in the United States and analyze the rise of twentieth-century environmentalism within the larger historical context of Progressivism, the New Deal, the Cold War, and the growth of post-World War II consumer culture. Primary readings to include George Perkins Marsh, Mary Austin, John Muir, Aldo Leopold, Rachel Carson, and Bill McKibben. Secondary readings to include Samuel P. Hays, Sarah T. Phillips, Lawrence Buell, and J.R. McNeill. *Samuel Deese*. Tuesday and Thursday 2-3:30.

CAS HI 594. The Armenian Genocide. Examines the emergence of the Armenian Question in the Ottoman Empire as a national and international issue. Analysis of Armenian-Turkish relations after the Young Turk revolution in 1908. Focuses on the processes of the genocide, survivor memory, and international responses. *Simon Payaslian*. Monday 12-3.

First-year grad student wins prize



In the spring the Graduate Studies Committee established a prize for the best research paper written by a first-year graduate student.

The winner was David Mislin (in photo above), a post-master's doctoral student, who won for his paper "Self, Family, and Belief For Sale: Advertising a New American Catholicism, 1910-1925." The prize was a check for \$500.

David, who came to Boston University with a BA from Oberlin College and an MTS from Harvard Divinity School, is studying American religious history with Professor Jon Roberts.



On May 4, Professor Betty Anderson (third from the left in the photo above), advisor to the Boston University chapter of Phi Alpha Theta, the history honorary society, conducted the initiation ceremony for new members and hosted a lunch for them in the department. New members present were: Suzanne Brown, Stephen Henrick, Eli Korer, Molly McInerney, Charles Owens, Charles Pollack, and Marc Weber. Initiates who could not be at the ceremony were: Joshua Addison, Elizabeth Cayton, Michelle Mann, Elizabeth Marshall, Claire McGregor, Megan Rigo, Adina Rosenthal, Jana Sico, Jorge Vela, and Frances Wade.

The BU chapter has higher standards for admission than does the national organization: members must have an overall GPA of 3.3 or above and a GPA of 3.5 or above for history courses taken at Boston University. Members must have completed four history courses at BU, and they are expected to be active in the Undergraduate History Association.



Commencement 2007



The winners of departmental prizes: at left, Laura Byerly (Ault Prize) and at right, Joshua Addison (College Prize)



At left, Professors Nina Silber and Brooke Blower enjoying refreshments before the convocation began

At right, Professors Betty Anderson and Barbara Diefendorf and, in the background, Professor Louis Ferleger





Three Master of Arts recipients enjoy the fruit of their labors: from the left, Suzanne Brown, Christopher Seely, and Robyn Metcalfe. The latter two students are now enrolled in the PhD program.

Commencement Address

BY JOSHUA ADDISON

I am a violinist. This past December, I spent ten days traveling throughout the West Bank, performing with a Baroque orchestra. This was at the very height of the Fatah-Hamas conflict: each day a few Palestinians were made victims of the infighting, even as the vast majority of Palestinians called for an end to the bloodletting, many of them congregating in the streets and rallying for peace. From this powerful experience there are so many moments that remain overwhelmingly vivid for me—when I first went through an Israeli checkpoint, when I first saw the bombed-out buildings of a war-torn city, when I first heard the sounds of a small-arms gunfight—but there is one occasion that

stands out, that frequently finds its way into my thoughts, that overcomes me with a bittersweet nostalgia. The orchestra gave one concert in a church in Nablus, a city that has been especially afflicted by the violence of warring Palestinian militias and the brutality of Israeli military operations. We ended the first half of the program with a performance of the *Larghetto* from Mozart's Clarinet Quintet. It is hard to convey to you the wonderfully simple beauty of this piece of music. Its sweet melody is ethereal; the otherworldly tranquility of the clarinet line floats above the sonorous clouds of the strings; there are sorrowful moments, and there are instances when one perceives a distant but tangible hope. And when we finished playing there was a long silence. All of a sudden, the guns, the bombs, the killing, and the dying—it all gave way to a peacefulness that pervaded the church. The horrors of the present gave new meaning to this *Larghetto*—to this two-hundred-year-old musical gem. For most of our audience was entirely unfamiliar with the Western classics; but this music was powerfully peaceful, calm, serene—here was a beauty that

transcended time and cultural difference to give hope to a people in need.

Music is art, but it is also history. It is the creative achievement of an epoch; it becomes the encapsulation of a bygone world, and our perception of its meaning is reshaped by each generation. So, hundreds of years and thousands of miles from Mozart's Vienna, his music still matters because its artistic value is not singular or absolute. The moments preserved in the lyrical passages of the *Larghetto*—those phrases that are a history of one man's thoughts, emotions, his *humanity*—these historical presences enter into a dialogue with the contemporary from which we may abstract profound truths perhaps unforeseen by that remarkable musical genius.

Music is history. Literature and philosophy are history. The canon of the humanities—and I know it well, thanks to the Core Curriculum—is history. The wisdom of great minds is never independent of historical context or divorced from the trends of the present. Brilliant ideas are never static; the dynamism of history forces us to constantly re-examine them and this maintains their vitality. An exceptional piece

We are pleased to reprint the talk given by Joshua Addison at the department's commencement convocation; Josh was winner of the College Prize for History.

of music merits a plurality of interpretations, each veracious in its own right. In much the same way, uncommon creativity and philosophical insight will, over time, produce a variety of meanings and explanations.

Four years of study under the tutelage of academic historians—wonderful teachers like Eugenio Menegon, James Johnson, and my father—have allowed me to appreciate *history* in its broadest sense. History goes beyond historiography; all of the arts and humanities must be approached in light of its implications. And how often those other arts and humanities have found their way into my history classes! Yes, it's true, for there is history in the intoxicating haze of a Monet painting. There is history in the expansive, overwhelming exaltations of a Walt Whitman poem. There are two histories in history books; one is the subject of the historian's discussion, the other evidences a certain manner of thinking, a particular worldview, it is a history of the historian and his times. There is history in the pastoral festivity of Beethoven's Sixth; there is history in the tragic lament of Gorecki's Third; there is history in that poignant Mozart *Larghetto*; there is history in every note I hear, and in every note I play.

And so please believe me when I tell you that studying history at Boston University has done much to prepare me for a career in music. For as I progress as a violinist, I seek to ground my playing in a strong musicianship—in an understanding of music as greater than pitch, rhythm, harmonic progression; for true music is to place one's expression within a composer's framework, to seek individual creativity but to value the composer's manuscript, to play with the passions of one's heart but to remain true to the *history* embedded in the notes on the page—by all this, to find meaning in the music. Oh how that meaning is especially needed today! Violence rages again in Palestine, in Darfur, and in Virginia. But there is so much hope, so much compassion in that *Larghetto*! That is why we must play, we must sing, we must make music; and in between the notes we create, in those instances of silence, we must reflect, and we must seek change. ♦



The following students received the Master of Arts in history in May:

Suzanne Brown
Oyëshiku Carr
Christopher Seely
Gillian Skow

On May 2 Zachary Smith passed his qualifying oral examination. Examiners in the major field of United States history were Professors Jon Roberts, Bruce Schulman, and Nina Silber; examiner in the minor field of international relations was Professor William Keylor.

Katherine Jewell's dissertation prospectus was approved: "The Southern States Industrial Council and the Transformation of the Southern Economy, 1933-1972"

The following students had research papers accepted:

Suzanne Brown: "Debunking the Warfare Thesis: Religion in American Science Fiction from Mark Twain to Joss Whedon"

Kathryn Brownell: "Hollywood for Roosevelt: Franklin D. Roosevelt and the Politicization of Celebrity"

David Mislin, "Church and Marketplace Unite: John Ireland, American Catholicism, and the New Economic Reality, 1885-1910"

The following students fulfilled foreign language requirements through graduate reading courses:

David Mislin: Spanish
Darcy Pratt: French

Christopher Seely has been admitted to the post-master's PhD program.



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Universal History from Counter-Reformation to Enlightenment
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Empire and the Languages of Character and Virtue in Later Victorian and Edwardian Britain
Peter J. Cain

Caste or Colony? Indianizing Race in the United States
Daniel Immerwahr

Between Liberalism and Jewish Nationalism: Young Isaiah Berlin on the Road towards Diaspora Zionism
Arie Dubnov

Essay

Elite Culture in Early Nineteenth-Century France: Salons, Sociability, and the Self
K. Steven Vincent

Review Essays

The Strange Death of the Liberal Intelligentsia
Anna Vaninskaya

Ideas, Institutions, and *Wissenschaft*: Accounting for the Research University
Steven Turner

Which World? Which Work? Which Melville?
Maurice S. Lee

Emplotting Analysis
Joel Isaac

Professor Charles Capper of the History Department is co-editor of this journal, published by Cambridge University Press.



On June 2 in Punta Cana in the Dominican Republic, graduate student D.J. Cash was married to Wendy Lyons.



Andrew Bacevich to deliver this year's University Lecture

For two years in a row, a historian has been selected to deliver the University Lecture (Barbara Diefendorf was the 2006 speaker). On Tuesday, October 9, Professor

of History and International Relations Andrew Bacevich will deliver a lecture entitled "Illusions of Managing History: The Enduring Relevance of Reinhold Niebuhr."

The event is free and open to the Boston University community.

David Atkinson awarded Engelbourg Travel Fellowship

Graduate student David Atkinson was the winner of an award from the Engelbourg travel fund this past spring which he used for research on his dissertation, a project exploring the international impact of racial Anglo-Saxonism and whiteness among Great Britain, its Dominions, and the United States. He will focus on three fundamental aspects of international relations: war, peace, and immigration regulation. His study of the period 1897-1924—beginning with Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee and ending with the 1924 Johnson-Reed Act in the US—is intended to demonstrate that there existed only a thin veneer of Anglo-Saxon brotherhood, which tended to manifest itself most vociferously in times of crisis and facilitated only an ephemeral feeling of unity and cooperation.

Specifically the travel award will enable David to visit Library and Archives Canada (an amalgamation of the former National Library and National Archives of Canada) in Ottawa. The Archives contain the papers of Albert Henry George Grey, Governor General of Canada from 1904 to 1911, which will be especially instructive regarding Canadian relations with Great Britain and, by extension, the rest of the British Dominions. This collection also contains correspondence with the British Ambassador in Washington, James Bryce, regarding British-Canadian-American relations. The papers of Sir Wilfrid Laurier and Sir Robert Borden, the Prime Ministers of Canada during the period 1897-1919, are also relevant since the correspondence of these two men with prominent Canadians and various government departments, as well as with British and American officials, promises to yield valuable insights into Canadian responses to the Anglo-Boer War, the Spanish-American War, and World War I, as well as insights into Canadian immigration policy during this period. Finally the records of the Department of the Interior, especially those of the Immigration Branch, will enable David to assess the domestic and international significance of racial Anglo-Saxonism in Canadian immigration policies, both vis-à-vis the restriction of Asian immigration and with regard to British immigrants.

British Studies Group formed

Professor Arianne Chernock has announced the creation of a Boston Area British Studies Reading Group, which will be meeting at Boston University two or three times each semester. Interested faculty and graduate students should contact her directly at chernock@bu.edu for a schedule and further information.



Jon Roberts

Jon Roberts named to endowed chair

Effective September 1, Professor Jon Roberts will hold the Tomorrow Foundation Chair in American Intellectual History (in addition to his existing appointment as Professor of History). An endowed position, the chair will carry a generous research allowance for Professor Roberts.

Jon Roberts earned his doctorate in American intellectual history at Harvard University and taught there as an assistant professor for six years before taking a tenured position at the University of Wisconsin–Stevens Point. His first book, *Darwinism and the Divine in America: Protestant Intellectuals and Organic Evolution, 1859-1900* (1988), examined the impact of Darwinism on the American Protestant intellectual community, focusing on how certain Protestant thinkers attempted to reconcile evolution with Christianity while others rejected Darwinism because it flew in the face of Biblical revelation. Roberts's second major contribution to American intellectual history was *The Sacred and the Secular University* (2000), co-authored with James Turner, which takes up the conventional claim that during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, a "revolution" took place in American higher education, culminating in the secularization of the sciences and humanities. The

book shows that the process of secularization within the academy was considerably more complicated than scholars previously believed.

Roberts's current project, "Mind, Spirit, and the Inward Turn in American Protestant Thought, 1870-1940," argues that the "inward turn" taken by Protestantism in the period under consideration helped valorize selfhood and the idea that individuals should focus on realizing their full potential. The inward turn signaled a shift in religion's primary focus from the public to the private arena. The project also illuminates the relationship between science and religion since 1870.

The Tomorrow Foundation owes its origin to media force Robert F. X. Sillerman, who founded the SFX Entertainment organization, later sold to Clear Channel Communications. Beginning in 1993 Sillerman served as chancellor of Southampton College, part of Long Island University. In 1999, the 25th anniversary of his marriage to Laura Baudo, he gave his wife \$100 million to launch the Tomorrow Foundation, a charity to be run by her. Sillerman is now chairman and CEO of CKX, an organization involved in the development of entertainment content (among its properties: the name and image of Elvis Presley and the "American Idol" franchise).



Professor Emeritus **Dietrich Orlow** reports that the sixth edition of his textbook, *A History of Modern Germany, 1871-Present*, was published on July 15 by Prentice Hall.

Professor Emerita **Merle Goldman**'s book *From Comrade to Citizen: The Struggle for Political Rights in China* recently appeared in paperback (see also the back page of this newsletter).

Professor Emeritus **Norman Bennett** has published "Joseph J. For-

rester's Viagem para o Douro (1854)" in *Douro: Estudos & Documentos* (2007).

Professor Emeritus **Fred Leventhal**'s essay "Leslie Howard and Douglas Fairbanks, Jr.: Promoting the Anglo-American Alliance in Wartime, 1939-43" has been published as a chapter in the book *Anglo-American Media Interactions, 1850-2000*, Joel H. Wiener and Mark Hampton, eds. (Palgrave Macmillan).

Professor **John Thornton** will give an International History Institute faculty talk on African military history in late September. Date and time are to be announced; check the IHI website for updates: www.bu.edu/ibi.

Professor **Clifford Backman** reports: "I finished revising my *Worlds of Medieval Europe* text for Oxford, which will put out the new edition next year, and finished correcting the Italian translation of my *Decline and Fall of Medieval Sicily* for Cambridge. I also wrote the final version of my contribution to the Palermo conference held last June in conjunction with the Italian translation's publication; these Proceedings will be published in 2008 by the *Officina di studi medievali*."

Professor **David Mayers** presented a paper to the annual meeting of the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations, which met in Chantilly, Virginia, June 21-23. His paper was "Joseph Grew and U.S.-Japan Relations, 1937-1941."

Graduate student **Robyn Metcalfe** presented her paper "American Livestock Improvers and Urban Markets in the 19th Century" at the Agricultural History conference in Ames, Iowa, in early June and "Enlightened American Livestock Improvers: 1600 to 1815" at the Twelfth International Congress for the Enlightenment in Montpellier, France, in July. She adds, as a footnote, that in August she crossed the Atacama Desert in Chile on foot.

Over the summer, Professor **Bruce Schulman** gave two new papers. The first, "1976: Localism and Privatism in That Dismal Bicentennial Era," formed part of a week-long workshop on "The Sprit of '76" sponsored by the organization Using Essex History (the other talks covered 1676, 1776, and 1876).

Schulman also spoke on the subject of “God versus Baseball: The Struggle Over Sunday Baseball in Turn-of-the-Century America” at *Proof Magazine’s* session on sports and society held at the Cornelia Street Café, a historic underground jazz venue in New York’s Greenwich Village. Finally, Schulman also “relocated” in July, leaving the second floor of 226 Bay State Road for a deluxe apartment in the sky or, at least, a new office on the fourth floor.

Professor **Eugenio Menegon** is happy to announce that BU’s Humanities Foundation has granted a \$13,000 three-year grant for the purchase of books in Chinese history and culture at Mugar Library. Together with Mugar’s History Bibliographer Donald Altshiller and the library personnel, Professor Menegon and his colleagues in Chinese Studies at BU are recommending and obtaining old and new titles in Western languages to strengthen the collection, which is in need of updating and broadening. A first phase of retrospective acquisitions is under way, based on the American Historical Association’s list of works on pre-modern and modern Chinese history published before the 1990s. The next phase will be to acquire works published in the last decade. This fall, Professor Menegon will also continue to coordinate with Professor William Grimes (International Relations) the Asia Faculty Lunch Series, open to BU faculty in Asian Studies. The first talk by Dr. Sunil Sharma (Modern Languages and Comparative Literature) on his recent research about Mughal literature in India is planned for September 27.

Professor **Betty Anderson** gave a talk entitled “Political Development and Ideologies of the Middle East” at Primary Source in Watertown as part of the outreach program at Harvard’s Middle East Center. She also delivered the paper “‘Guerrilla U’: The American University of Beirut (AUB) and the International Student Movement of the 1960s” at a conference in Istanbul entitled “Absent Spheres, Silent Voices: Recovering Untold Histories” sponsored by the Institute for Advanced Studies at the Hebrew University, Tel Aviv University, and Sabanci University. ♦

Alumni **Jonathan Reynolds** (PhD 1995) and **Erik Gilbert** (PhD 1997) reported in late spring: In 2004 they published *Africa in World History* with Prentice Hall. In 2006 they did a second book for Prentice Hall called *Trading Tastes: Cross-cultural Trade in World History*. They are now reading proofs of a second edition of *Africa in World History*, which should be available in July 2007

with an ’08 copyright. They are also closing in on the halfway point of the manuscript of a world history text (also with Prentice Hall) called *The World in Motion*. In addition, they have done a number of panels at the World History Association and African Studies Association on Africa’s place in the larger world history narrative. Erik added: “I hope all is well in Boston. The only TV show I try to watch regularly is ‘Boston Legal,’ which I do in part just to catch the occasional glimpse of familiar settings.” Erik is Professor of History at Arkansas State University, and Jonathan is Assistant Professor of History at Northern Kentucky University.



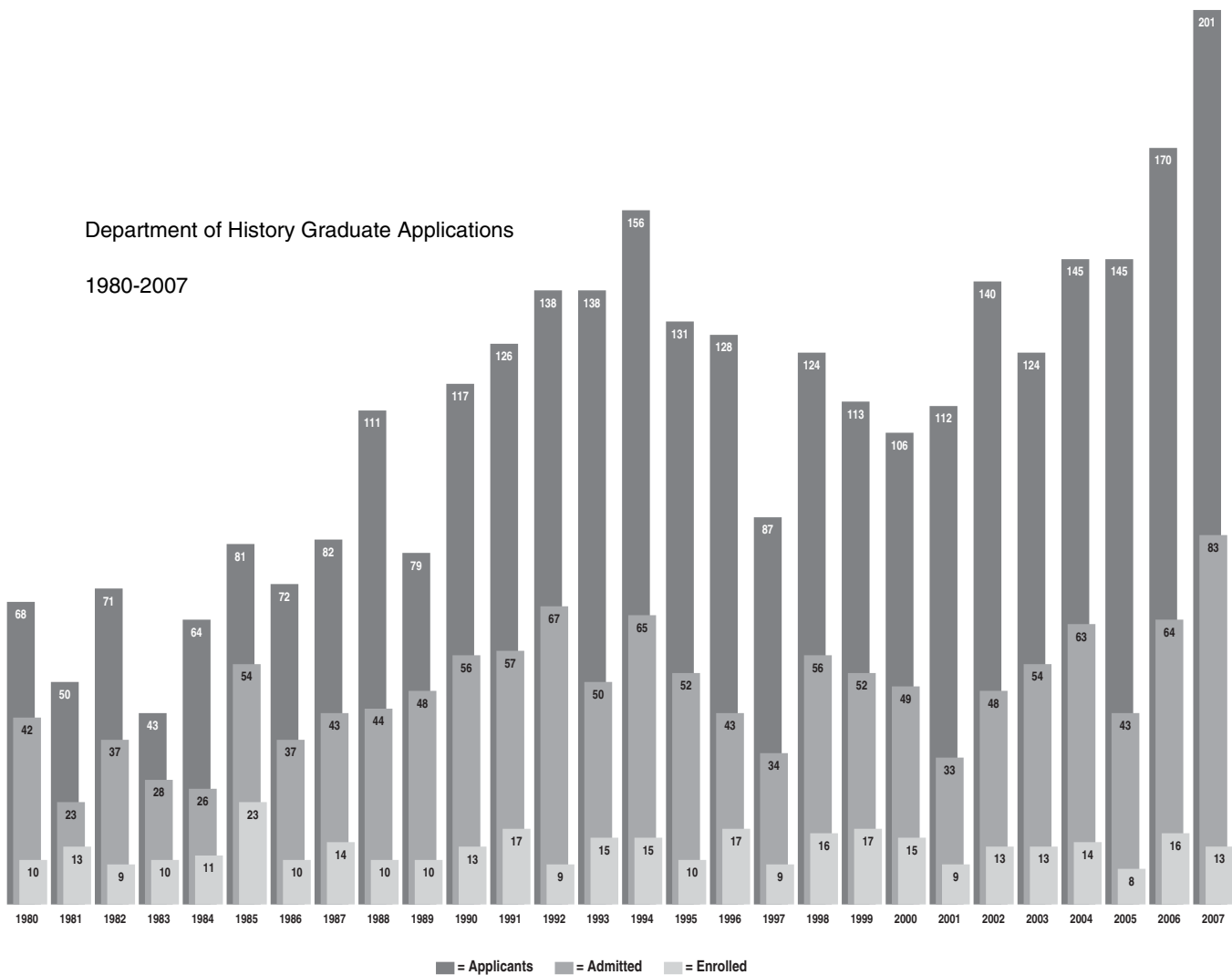
The Boston University American Political History Seminar reconvenes this semester on Wednesdays at noon in the History Department seminar room, 226 Bay State Road, Room 504.

- ☛ The seminar begins on September 26 with a paper by Professor Bonnie Miller from the American Studies Department at UMass–Boston. She will speak on the subject “The Early Weeks of the Spanish-American War: Visual Depictions of Hawaiian Annexation and the Attraction of Empire.”
- ☛ On October 10, Cathie Martin of the Political Science Department at BU will present her research on “The Political Origins of Coordinated Capitalism: Business Organizations, Party Systems, and State Structures in the Age of Innocence.”
- ☛ On November 14, Kathleen Dalton, author of the landmark biography, *Theodore Roosevelt: A Strenuous Life*, and Visiting Professor of History this year, will speak on the subject “Nighthawks in 1942: Eleanor and Franklin Roosevelt and Their Friends William and Caroline Phillips.”
- ☛ The fall schedule concludes on December 5 with Clemens Häusler of Cambridge University, the second visitor to BU under the auspices of the History Department’s graduate student exchange with Clare College, Cambridge University. He will speak on the subject of his doctoral research, “Atlantic Conversations in a Confident Age: Social Policy Exchanges Between American Liberals, British Labourites, and German Social Democrats in the 1960s and Early 1970s.”

The spring 2008 schedule—with papers by Robert Self, Cathal Nolan, Charlotte Carrington, and others—will be announced at a later date.

Department of History Graduate Applications

1980-2007



The graph above will prove a painful reminder for the four members of the 2006-07 Graduate Studies Committee. Not only did it seem like a lot of applications; it was a lot. In fact, it was the most the department had ever received. No one is sure of the cause for the surge; the usual “it’s the economy” explanation does not appear to apply (though it has never been clear exactly how the decision to spend \$35,000 on tuition is tied to the economy).

The 13 students who accepted the department’s offer of admission will introduce themselves in the October newsletter.

If this year’s admissions committee needs consolation, it is anticipated that an earlier deadline (January 15, 2008) will diminish the number of applications for fall 2008. At least that’s the theory.

Humanities Foundation Awards

2007

At a ceremony held at the Castle on May 15, four students from the History Department won awards from the Humanities Foundation: Undergraduates Christine Bertoglio and Stephen Henrick each received an Alice M. Brennan Humanities Award; graduate student Samuel Deese won the Angela J. and James J. Rallis Memorial Award, and graduate student Carla Lovett received the Edwin S. and Ruth M. White Prize.



Christine Bertoglio has long been interested in the mechanisms of religious change and evolution and is drawn to the study of medieval Europe, with particular attention to "how the material remains from the medieval era reflect the evolving religious views of the European population." The spread of Islam also interests her as perhaps an intriguing contrast to the spread of European Christianity. In preparation for graduate study, Christine has completed four semesters of Italian and has taught herself Latin.

From the age of eleven, Stephen Henrick knew he wanted to be a lawyer; the law, he says, has been his "primary academic interest and personal passion." He sees law and history as intricately intertwined, and in the study of the latter, he has focused on twentieth-century US history, particularly the Cold War and the McCarthy era. "History," he says, "is in large part studying the evolution of the law and its impact on critical human events." Stephen plans to study abroad in London during his junior year.

Already a published writer, Samuel Deese recently completed a dissertation under the direction of Professor Capper on Julian and Aldous Huxley in America, 1913-1963. His central theme is the brothers' attempts to meet the crisis created by Darwinian science in the nineteenth century. The dissertation has been described as "a remarkable picture of the construction of a liberal and scientific yet profoundly religious worldview that resonates with some of the most important ethical dilemmas of the twentieth century."

Carla Lovett, associate professor of history at Eastern Nazarene College, is writing a dissertation on the socioeconomic conditions of working-class Vienna and the Catholic Church's response to them in the early twentieth century. Rapid urbanization severely taxed a church hierarchy with limited resources available, and distressing religious conditions resulted from the church's inability to provide for its burgeoning flock. The thesis will help answer the question of why the great European cities secularized more rapidly than their American counterparts.

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During the summer Professor James Schmidt spent close to a month at the University of Padua as part of the BU exchange with that institution; he used the time to look at representations of virtues and vices in various public buildings in the Veneto and general environs.

Pictured above is the palatial home of Padua's History Department, complete with forbidding gate and sign ("admittance limited exclusively to personnel of the Department of History"). It is unclear whether the gate is intended to keep visitors out or to make sure the historians are locked inside.



A recent Harvard University Press catalogue felicitously displayed the works of two Boston University historians on a single page: Professor James McCann's *Maize and Grace: Africa's Encounter with a New World, Crop, 1500-2000* and Professor Emerita Merle Goldman's *From Comrade to Citizen: The Struggle for Political Rights in China*.