From the Chair:

Arrivals and Departures
I am very happy to share with you the many exciting things that have been happening in the History Department this year, during my first year as department chair. First of all, we are poised to welcome two new faculty members, plus have a third previous hire join us, making a total of seven wonderful new faculty members in just two years!

After three semesters away on research, we look forward to having Awet Weldemichael, a specialist in East African History, begin teaching at the University of Kentucky as an assistant professor in spring 2013. This fall he will be conducting research on piracy in the Horn of Africa, sponsored by a Gerda Henkel Foundation Fellowship.

We are also delighted to welcome two new tenured associate professors; Amy Murrell Taylor, a specialist on the Civil War era, comes to us from the State University of New York at Albany. She will now be much closer to her research sites on the social history of the Civil War’s slave refugee camps, including Camp Nelson in Kentucky.

A specialist on Early Modern History, especially early Modern Spain, Scott Taylor previously taught at Siena College in New York. He has just been awarded an American Council of Learned Societies Fellowship to write a History of Addiction in Early Modern Europe. We are all really looking forward to working with Awet, Amy, and Scott.

But, there have been departures as well. We wish a fond farewell to Daniel Rowland who has retired after 38 years in the History Department of the University of Kentucky. We will especially miss Dan’s dedication to his students, his insights into Early Modern Russian culture, and his mischievous grin.

There have also been some very significant changes to our staff. In January we said goodbye to Carol O’Reilly, our extremely dedicated budget officer of 12 years, who was so very helpful to our faculty in myriad ways. She was last sighted with a suitcase on her way to Florida, so retirement seems to be agreeing with her.

Congratulations to Tina Hagee, our former graduate secretary who has been promoted to the position of Budget Officer. Tina was recognized this spring for 25 years of service at the university, and is an indispensable part of the History Department team. She is always willing to help faculty and students solve problems, and has created a warm atmosphere of goodwill in the History Department.

We would like to extend a warm welcome to Bridget Ash, our new Graduate Secretary. Bridget was previously the assistant to the principal of an elementary school...
The Chair’s Message Continued

in Boise, Idaho; she and her family moved to Kentucky when her husband took a job here. In the short time that she has been with us, Bridget has already impressed everyone with her helpful and friendly demeanor.

And this year we have had new arrivals of a somewhat different sort. Professors Hang Nguyen and Paul Chamberlin welcomed their daughter Leila Nguyen Chamberlin on January 19, 2012. She can be seen frequently around the department, always surrounded by a bevy of adoring fans. On June 17, 2012, Amari Book er Hampton Williams, son of Professor Jakobi and Cassandra Williams, came into the world.

We will all work hard to make Bridget, Scott, Amy, Awet (and Leila and Amari!) comfortable in their “new Kentucky home.”

Achievements:
There is much to be proud of in the History Department this year. I would like to share a few highlights here. Congratulations to Hang Nguyen, who has been promoted to Associate Professor with Tenure. Francie Chassen Lopez was named Provost’s Distinguished Service Professor. Ron Eller served as Arts and Sciences Distinguished Professor and Eric Christianson received a Great Teacher Award from the UK Alumni Association.

Dan Rowland has been named “A Teacher Who Made a Difference.” Jeremy Popkin has been awarded a fellowship at the National Humanities Center, and Sophie Roberts has received a fellowship at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum.

Our faculty have distinguished themselves in their research endeavors this year. Jeremy Popkin published A Concise History of the Haitian Revolution; Ron Formisano’s The Tea Party: A Brief History also came out in 2012; Hang Nguyen has been awarded the Society for Military History’s 2012 Edward M. Coffman Prize for her first book Hanoi’s War: An International History of the War for Peace in Vietnam. Several other books have been accepted for publication and are coming out later in 2012 or in early 2013. We look forward to reading Paul Chamberlin’s The Global Offensive: The United States, the Palestine Liberation Organization, and the Making of the Post-Cold War Order; Jakobi Williams’s From the Bullet to the Ballot: The United States and the Black Panther Party and Racial Coalition Politics in Chicago from Fred Hampton to Barack Obama; and Awet Weldemichael’s Third World Colonialism and Strategies of Liberation Eritrea and East Timor Compared.

Since the last newsletter we have had a bumper-crop of graduates including ten who received Master’s degrees and ten (!) Ph.D.s. Congratulations to the graduates! We are very proud of your accomplishments and look forward to hearing about your future successes.

Many Thanks!

Most of the wonderful things that the department does could not have happened without the support of the History Department staff, our energetic and creative Director of Undergraduate Studies, Phil Harling; our incredibly dedicated and resourceful Director of Graduate Studies, David Hamilton; our executive committee members Kathi Kern and Gerald Smith; and our new Associate Chair, Gretchen Starr-LeBeau. I am indebted to all of you for making the job of the chair much easier.

Clifford and Jane Roy Fellowship

Thanks to the kind generosity of Clifford and Jane Roy of Greenville, South Carolina, the History Department will be able to award a new history scholarship named in their honor. The Roys both received their Bachelor’s Degrees at UK in 1969; Mrs. Roy received a BA in History and Mr. Roy’s BS degree is in Metallurgical Engineering and Materials Science. Mrs. Roy became a high school history teacher and Mr. Roy is CEO of Roy Metal Finishing Company. The scholarship will be awarded to an out-of-state senior or graduate student each year. We are deeply grateful to Mr. and Mrs. Roy for their support. Mr. and Mrs. Roy join a growing list of friends of the department whose contributions sustain both our undergraduate and graduate students.
Our New Faculty

AMY MURRELL TAYLOR

As a prospective Math major at Duke University, Amy Murrell Taylor never thought she’d be a History major. All that changed, though, when, intrigued by the subject, she signed up for a class on the history of women taught by Anne Firor Scott. “I’ve been hooked ever since,” Amy says. As a graduate student at the University of Virginia, she got in on the ground floor of that department’s innovative digital archive, “Valley of the Shadow: Two Communities in the American Civil War.” This project—designed to compile, connect, and make searchable all the primary source document available about one Virginia county and one Pennsylvania county during the Civil War—gave Amy the opportunity to understand the promise digitizing offers for making sense of the past. More recently, she has moved on to the visualization of social and political phenomena, specifically through Geographic Information Systems (GIS). In the past few years, Amy’s worked with the National Park Service to help create a series of maps documenting the migration patterns of men, women, and children who fled slavery during the Civil War. This has connections to her first book, *The Divided Family in Civil War America*, published by the University of North Carolina Press in 2009.

Her National Park Service work also connects to Amy’s current project, a study of the estimated 500,000 people (about one-eighth the enslaved population) who began fleeing slavery starting at the beginning of the war. Amy is helping us understand this critical population by examining who these fugitives were, what they experienced during their flight, and how they managed to co-exist with the military while living in Union-protected Army camps, such as Camp Nelson in Kentucky. This project will help to show how the end of slavery included a prolonged, and chaotic, transition process during the war. Amy has spent a good deal of time in Kentucky researching this project, and she’s looking forward to relocating here permanently.

SCOTT TAYLOR

Scott Taylor, our Associate Professor of early modern European history, hails originally from Minnesota. Most of his family still lives outside Minneapolis, and he looks forward to being closer to them now that he’ll be living in Kentucky.

Scott earned his BA at the University of Chicago, where he majored in medieval studies. He was particularly fascinated by a course on the Crusades taught by Robert Bartlett. That class, which helped students understand the Crusades not only militarily, but as a window into medieval European society and culture, piqued his interest in history, and helped him make the decision to earn a PhD in History. He attended the University of Virginia, intending to study medieval history, but while his prospective advisor was on leave he took several courses in early modern history and found his field of study. Scott’s first book, *Honor and Violence in Golden Age Spain*, was published by Yale University Press in 2008. Currently, he’s working on a book about the history of addiction in early modern western Europe, for which he was awarded a fellowship from the American Council of Learned Societies and an NEH Summer Stipend. About his new project, tentatively titled *A Genealogy of Addiction: Stimulants in Early Modern Europe*, he says, “Tobacco, chocolate, sugar, coffee, tea, distilled spirits like gin and rum, and opium were all new to Europeans in the time period 1550-1800, or widely available for the first time. Other historians have studied these new “soft drugs” as commodities, but I am trying to get at the subjective experience of using them. I am especially interested in how early modern Europeans wrestled with the idea of addiction,” but he also notes that the topic reaches to themes including the morality of using stimulants (since some of them, like sugar, involved coerced labor), and gender and class differences in understanding these products. He’s looking forward to pursuing this research, and teaching students, here in Kentucky, with its own complicated historical ties to bourbon and tobacco.

“Amy Murrell Taylor never thought she’d be a History major. All that changed, though . . .”
History Department Undergraduates Travel the World

History 595, Japanese Visual Culture, Students in Japan

In December 2011, Akiko Takenaka was awarded a grant of $35,790 from the Japan Foundation Center for Global Partnership. The grant enabled her to take her Spring 2012 class HIS 595 “Japanese Visual Culture” to Japan during the spring break. She writes: We spent 7 nights in central Tokyo and one night in Nikko, a beautiful city approximately 75 miles north of Tokyo and a home to numerous shrines and temples. We visited numerous sites both traditional and contemporary including Yasukuni Shrine, the Imperial Palace, the National Diet Building, and Asakusa in Tokyo, and the mausoleum of the first and third Tokugawa shoguns in Nikko. The students, most of whom were traveling abroad for the first time, had a wonderful experience and courageously explored Tokyo on their own during independent research days.

Matthew Burnett spent a semester in Australia. In this excerpt from a letter he wrote to Prof. Albisetti, he says, “It was a truly amazing and unforgettable experience. I traveled extensively and did very well in school. Upon discovering that the Australian National University was ranked among the top 24 best universities in the world (and the 12th best history program), I made it my goal to make a strong showing in honor of the American public school system. I worked my butt off and received very good marks (all the grades transferred back to the U.S. as A’s). I took upper level courses which dealt with the Cold War (from historical and International Relations perspectives), the evolution of terrorism from the French Revolution to the present, the Later Middle Ages, and Post WWI Europe. The honors courses I took at UK definitely prepared me for the more rigorous/different educational system. The classes would break in to tutorial groups which were very small and solely devoted to discussion of the readings. I would like to thank Prof. Albisetti for pushing me in those honors classes. I don’t think I would have done as well had I not been subjected to the higher standards of the honors program. And I actually did bring a didgeridoo home!

That was a challenge getting through American customs.”

Martha Groppo traveled around the world in a Semester at Sea. What follows is an excerpt from her blog about her experiences, www.muliebrousmartha.com. “Ever since I could first manage to lug the family atlas or leaf through the pages of a National Geographic, I’ve wanted to go around the world. Now that my trip is wrapped up, you might expect that I would be hit by a huge let down, but no. Life is an adventure. Running in the jungles of Cambodia barefoot in the rain to catch an elephant ride before sunset is, and so is teaching your little sister how to drive. Getting lost in a Moroccan souk at 1 a.m. is, and so is going down to the basement that terrifies you to let out a dog who is barking excitedly at a dark window at 3 a.m. Rappelling over a waterfall in Costa Rica is, and so is being the maid of honor in your sister’s wedding. My life has been made awesome by some of the adventures I’ve had this past semester—but it wouldn’t be complete without the daily ones I’ve had my whole life. The catch is that you have to let the things that happen in your life be an adventure. Now I’m back to daily adventure of dreaming where life will take me next. Seeing the world made me want to change the sort of person I contribute to it rather than just the things I can get out of it. See, I’ve
come to the conclusion that
traveling can really be quite
selfish. If you don’t do anything
with what you’ve experienced—
let it change you in some way,
create something to share with
others from it—it’s really mean-
ingless. If I forget about
the malnourished children I saw
in Ghana, the impoverished
families I saw in the South Afri-
can townships, the leprous beg-
gars in India—then I’m an abso-
lute fool. I’m missing my shot at
making a positive impact on the
world I just circumnavigated—of
having a life that counts for
more than a passport full of
stamps. But I’m equally stupid if
I fail to notice the unhappy peo-
ple I’ve met on the ship and at
home—people with broken fami-
lies, people insecure despite
absurdly spectacular giftings and
talents and people scared of the
future. People all over the
world hurt. And if I can’t notice
the ones closest to me, I have
little chance of helping the ones
half way across the globe.
I rec-
ommend travel. Of course. I’m
a huge fan and advocate. But if
the stars in the back roads of
Nicholasville, KY don’t make
you catch your breath, the ones
over the Himalayas in Tibet
probably won’t, either. If the
kid hungrily eyeing treats in the
check out line at Wal-
Mart while his mom buys the
necessities with food stamps
doesn’t make you feel a little
ashamed of your full buggy, the
little cutie holding out his hand
then motioning to his empty
mouth in India probably won’t,
either. My new challenge to
myself is to open up my eyes
and heart to the world around
me.”

“See, I’ve come to the
conclusion that traveling
can really be quite selfish
[if] you don’t . . . let it
change you in some way.”

Bluegrass Symposium

The twenty-first annual Blue-
grass symposium was held on
Feb. 24 and 25, 2012. Graduate
students from the University of
Kentucky and fourteen other
institutions presented papers on
historical topics ranging from
orphaned children after World
War II, to nineteenth-
century
US foreign policy, to church-
state relations in Romania. In
addition, on Saturday afternoon
a panel of some of our most
promising undergraduates pre-
sented their research papers in a
special session. Finally, attendees
were treated to two outstanding
plenary addresses: Prof. Jeremi
Suri, Mack Brown Distinguished
Professor at the University of
Texas, Austin, spoke on
“Liberty’s Surest Guardian:
American Nation-Building from
the Founders to Obama” on Friday;
and Prof. Tatiana Seijas of Miami
University of Ohio spoke on “Asian
Slaves and the Racialization of Slav-
ery in Colonial Mexico” on Satur-
day. Many thanks to the work of the Bluegrass Coordinating Com-
mittee: Amanda Boczar
(coordinator), Dana Johnson,
Rachel Dixon, Meredith
Gaffield, and Bethany Sharpe,
ably assisted by Profs. Christian-
son, Herring, Nguyen, and Tina
Hagee and Carol O’Reilly. Many
thanks, too, for the support provid-
ed by the History Graduate Student
Association, the Departments of
History and International Studies,
the College of Arts & Sciences, the
Graduate School, and the Kentucky
Historical Society.

In Memoriam

Emery Vernon Smith, MD.
On Sunday, October 23, 2011,
Vernon Smith, 95, of Cincinnati
died at his home. A 1937 graduate
of the University of Kentucky, in
recent years he provided generous
support to the University in a vari-
ety of ways, including the E.
Vernon and Eloise C. Smith Profes-
sorship in History.
E. Randolph Daniel’s recent publications include the following: *Abbot Joachim of Flore and Joachimism: Selected Articles*. Ashgate Variorum, 2011. This compilation includes four previously unpublished articles including one on Henry of Kirkstede’s *De antichristo et de fine mundi*; E. Randolph Daniel and David Burr, translators. He has also published *Angelo Clareno: A Chronicle or History of the Seven Tribulations of the Order of Brothers Minor*. Franciscan Institute, 2005; "Joachim’s Unnoticed Pattern of History: The Second *Diffinitio*,” to appear in a volume honoring Marjorie Reeves that will be published by Ashgate, edited by Julia Wannenmacher; and "Franciscan Missions,” in *The Cambridge Companion to Francis of Assisi*. Edited by Michael J. P. Robson. Cambridge Univ. Pr. 2012, pp. 240-257.


George Herring and Dottie Leathers enjoy good health, for which we are very grateful, and continue to thrive on retirement. Every year, we retreat to sunny Florida during February and March. Each visit we meet new friends to socialize with.

In February, we spent three delightful days visiting Theda Perdue and Mike Green in Key West. Both retired now also, they camp there each winter. We had a grand time and they seemed to enjoy introducing us to the delightful quirkiness of the southernmost city in the continental US. We were amused with but not the least tempted by the porches with signs “Clothing Optional. Adults Only.”

Dottie continues to enjoy retirement. It has been thirteen years and she has not gotten bored with being lazy. At home, of course, five grandchildren ages 4 to 14 (oldest Andrew is now away at college) help keep us busy.

George has not completely retired from the academic world. He continues to write (short pieces NOT long books) and do some speaking engagements. During the past year, he participated in seminars for secondary school teachers in Minneapolis, Lexington, and most recently at College of the Ozarks near Branson, MO. He was in Branson just two days before the tornado that devastated their downtown area. David Dalton, UK PhD from the 1980s, was a splendid host in Missouri. He and George had great fun reliving old times.

We send warmest greetings to readers of the newsletter.

Bob Olson’s *Blood, Beliefs, and Ballots: The Management of Kurdish Nationalism in Turkey, 2007-2009*, has been translated into Persian. This is the third book of Bob’s to be translated into Persian. Seven of Bob’s books have now been translated fourteen times into five languages: Arabic, French, Kurdish, Persian, and Turkish.

Daniel Blake Smith published *American Betrayal: Cherokee Patriots and the Trail of Tears* (Henry Holt, November 2011), which has won the Oklahoma Book Award for non-fiction.

**Exciting Upcoming Events**

Paul Chamberlin, George Herring and Hang Nguyen are bringing the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations Annual Conference to the University of Kentucky in 2014.
Jim Albisetti finished up three articles during summer 2011, which will appear in the three leading educational history journals either later in 2012 or in 2013. He also did two extensive tenure and promotion reviews for other universities and served on the committee that prepared the celebration of the 50th anniversary of UK’s Honors Program, an event held in early September. This academic year has been extraordinarily busy, including the teaching of an extra course during the fall semester and the belated conversion from slides to Power Point presentations for both his German history and his Honors classes. The Provost tapped him for a two-year term on the Humanities and Arts Area Committee that reviews promotion files at the campus-wide level. In addition, he has served as chair of the Honors Program scholarship committee, on the history graduate committee, and on the University Senate Hearing Panel. Last November, he was elected to the Advisory Board of the Art Museum at UK.

Jane E. Calvert spent the spring 2011 semester at Yale University as a senior research fellow with the MacMillan Center for International and Area Studies and a visiting member of the History Department. There she worked on a collection of Thomas Paine writings, to be published by Yale University Press. Back at UK, she continues work on her John Dickinson Writings Project, this past year travelling to Philadelphia, Delaware, New York, and Rhode Island for research and TEI/XML training. With her small team, she has now identified, collected, and organized almost everything this Founding Father wrote over the course of his lifetime. Transcription and proofreading, though often painstakingly slow, are progressing. In addition to the Dickinson Project, Dr. Calvert is writing an essay on Thomas Paine’s attacks on Quakers during the Revolution, and another on Dickinson’s religion for the volume Faith and the Founders of the American Republic, to be published by Oxford University Press. She was invited to speak by the University of Delaware (twice), the Descendants of the Signers of the Declaration of Independence, Kentucky Historical Society, Quaker Hill Historic Preservation Foundation the Center for Visions and Values, and the American Revolution Round Table of Delaware. She was interviewed on a conservative Jewish talk radio program and she gave the 2011 Constitution Day address at Southern Adventist University in Tennessee.

Tracy Campbell spent a good deal of the year developing a new course for the UK Core, “The Making of Modern Kentucky.” He learned how much he enjoyed thinking of new approaches to teaching freshmen, and also that it is easier to get Moses to add another commandment than it is to get a new course approved by the UK bureaucracy. He is looking forward to a sabbatical in the fall of 2012, when he hopes to finish his book on the Gateway Arch and to develop a new one on the U.S. in the aftermath of Pearl Harbor. Before doing so, he will give a paper on Eero Saarinen in Helsinki, Finland in May.

Paul Chamberlin completed the final work on his book manuscript, The Global Offensive: The United States, the Palestine Liberation Organization, and the Making of the Post-Cold War Order, which will be published with Oxford University Press in October 2012. He has a forthcoming article in Cold War History and chapters in The Routledge Guide to the Cold War and a guide on U.S. foreign relations with Congressional Quarterly.

Francie Chassen-López was named Provost’s Distinguished Service Professor in honor of her outstanding teaching, research, and service to the University of Kentucky.

Other than remaining ambulatory, Eric Howard Christianson is also pleased to report that he received a UK Alumni Association 2012 Great Teacher Award.

Ron Eller was named Arts & Sciences Distinguished Professor for 2011-2012. As part of his recognition he gave a lecture entitled “Seeking the Good Life in America: Lessons from the Appalachian Past.”

“He learned how much he enjoyed thinking of new approaches to teaching freshmen...”
Abigail Firey has been awarded $20,000 in bridge funding by The Office of the Vice President for Research at the University of Kentucky for the Carolingian Canon Law Project. She is also a plenary speaker at the International Congress of Medieval Canon Law in Toronto, Canada.

Ron Formisano has one more semester of teaching to go--Spring 2013, but then will be in residence 2013-2014 and planning a conference on social and political inequality. He had an essay appear in Obama, Palin, and Clinton: Making History in Election 2008, and is giving talks this spring based on his new book. In November he commented on a paper presented by Gordon Wood at an event sponsored by the R.I. Historical Publications Society.

Ellen Furlough is making steady progress on her book project France on Vacation: Tourism and Consumer Cultures and will return to France for two weeks this summer to access recently open archives on both Club Med and Jean Balladur, the Chief Architect of La Grande Motte, a major regional development project on the Mediterranean coast. She will be on sabbatical leave next year and will have the necessary primary source materials, and time, to finish the book. She is also on the editorial board of French Historical Studies (the major journal in French history).

This semester she has been very fortunate to have excellent students in both of her classes. The students in the HIS 499 honors section are superb and have been a delight to teach, as have the motivated and highly intelligent graduate students in HIS 628.

Dan Gargola’s The Romans: From Village to Empire (Oxford University Press) has just appeared in a revised second edition.

Phil Harling continues his work on “An Empire of Troubles,” a book manuscript that focuses on ethical dilemmas in the mid-Victorian British Empire. Within the last year he has presented papers in Hong Kong, Denver, and Terre Haute. He has an article forthcoming in an edited collection, Empire State of Mind, and another article under review on the end of convict transportation to Australia. Phil was recently elected a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society. He currently serves as Director of Undergraduate Studies.

In the last year, Denise Ho published her first article in The China Quarterly. In addition to regular teaching, she has been busy with the University of Kentucky’s Year of China and started teaching in the Gaines Center for the Humanities. She’s been active in the Asian studies community in the Commonwealth, and has just been elected a board member of the Association of Asian Studies Southeastern Conference.


Over the past year, Kathi Kern has kept busy writing, teaching, and directing the University’s CELT (Center for the Enhancement of Learning and Teaching). With her colleague Linda Levstik, Kern published an article on teaching the trial of Susan B. Anthony in the most recent issue of the Journal of the Civil War Era. She also completed three other articles this year. Two of those focus on her new
Professor Francie Chassen-López with her grandson and Professor Hang Nguyen with her daughter

work on religious cosmopolitanism and suffrage. The third, which will appear in an AHA pamphlet, assessed the impact of teaching students using archival collections. Currently, Kern is working on an article on religious opposition to Mountain Top Removal with her colleague Dwight Billings. Kern has been having fun in her undergraduate class, History 404 (US Women 1600-1900), using an augmented reality program called Aurasma. Students were charged with doing archival research on a woman in Lexington, mapping out a walking tour of her life, and creating “Auras”—historic images and maps that are overlayed on a location and geo-tagged. Anyone with a smart phone can take the tour and access the student generated “auras” at each location. She is looking forward to her fall class, History 405, which will be taught with Professor Hélène Quanquin at the Université Sorbonne Nouvelle-Paris 3, France. The two courses will be taught in tandem, synchronously, using distance learning technology. In addition, students will work collaboratively on projects using social media, skype, and other interactive technologies. This year also marks the last of Kern’s engagement with the Teaching American History Grant program. In the summer of 2011, Kern and colleague Gerald Smith, along with colleagues from the Kentucky Historical Society, led a group of Kentucky teachers on a Civil Rights Tour of the South, including a walk across the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma (see photo). Finally, Kern has enjoyed her second year directing the CELT. This year the Center focused on the theme, Re-imaging the Classroom. At this point, Professor Kern hopes to spend the summer re-imaging her tennis game, which has been sorely neglected.

Erik Myrup has kept very busy this last year writing, teaching, and caring for four busy children. In April, he presented a paper on Anglo-Portuguese relations at an international conference in Lisbon, and in October participated in a forum on the history of education in Kentucky. Concerned about the negative consequences of standardized testing in public schools, he helped to found Fayette Advocates for Balance in the Classroom (FayetteABC) and presented the group’s concerns to the local school board in May. Additionally, he is still working on his book manuscript on Portugal’s colonial bureaucracy, and continues to volunteer each week at Glendo- ver Elementary, where he provides first graders with dramatic interpretations of Willie Wonka, Grandpa Joe, Charlie Bucket, and James Henry Trotter.

Hang Nguyen was winner of the Society for Military History’s 2012 Edward M. Coffman Prize for her book, Hanoi’s War: An International History of the War for Peace in Vietnam, an award named in honor of the UK History Department’s noted alumnus (PhD 1959). She has also been promoted to Associate Professor with tenure.

In September, Karen Petrone with Francie Chassen-López co-organized the first symposium of UK’s Working Group on War and Gender, hosting guest speakers Karen Hagemann and Carolyn Nordstrom. Petrone is co-editing a collection entitled Everyday Life in Russia and will debut her new research on the struggles of returning Soviet Afghan veterans in an essay in that collection. She is also participating in a multi-volume project Russia’s Great War and Revolution, 1914-1922: The Centennial Reappraisal. Her 2011 book, The Great War in Russian Memory won the Department of History’s Hallam Book Prize. She looks forward to next year as one of the organizers of the College’s Passport to the World Series; next year the focus of the series will be “Reimagining Russia’s Realms.”

Jeremy Popkin’s book, You Are All Free: The Haitian Revolution and the Abolition of Slavery (Cambridge University Press) won the American Historical Association’s J. Russell Major prize for the best new book in French history. Popkin’s Concise History of the Haitian Revolution (Blackwell/John Wiley) was released in November 2011. Popkin was a member of the

“A Charmed Life: The Autobiography of Dan Rowland”

Professors honor Dan Rowland by donning his personal attire of a sport coat and bicycle helmet.
Sophie Roberts had a great first year in the History department and in Jewish Studies. She taught several new courses and has enjoyed getting to know UK students. She presented at two conferences: the annual meeting of the Association for Jewish Studies as well as an invitation-only conference on New Approaches to Algerian Jewish Studies. The latter presentation will be published in a special volume of The Journal of North African Studies. She has been awarded a U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum Fellowship for the 2012-2013 academic year.

Dan Rowland was awarded the Teacher Who Makes a Difference Award, and celebrated his retirement with a department event which included an autobiographical talk available at https://history.as.uky.edu/video/charmed-life-lecture-history-professor-daniel-rowland

Gerald Smith appeared on the NBC show “Who Do You Think You Are?” He helped NFL player Jerome Bettis investigate his Kentucky roots. Lexington Herald-Leader columnist Merlene Davis also interviewed Prof. Smith about the experience.

Gretchen Starr-LeBeau recently finished up her sabbatical year, funded by a sabbatical fellowship from the American Philosophical Society, just in time to be named Associate Chair and Newsletter Editor. She continues work on the defense strategies of female Judaizers brought beforequisitions in southern Europe and the Americas. As part of this work, she is guest editor of Nashim: A Journal of Jewish Women’s Studies for their special edition, “Women, Jews, Venetians” due out in Spring 2013. She is also co-editing a book with Charles H. Parker of Saint Louis University titled Judging Faith, Punishing Sin: Inquisitions and Consistories in the Early Modern World. This book brings together specialists from four continents to analyze comparatively, for the first time, these Catholic and Calvinist ecclesiastical courts. Her invited essay, “Heretics, Christians, Jews? Jewish Converts and Inquisitors in the Early Modern World” also appeared in print in Cross-Cultural History and the Domestication of Otherness (Palgrave, Macmillan 2011), edited by Michal Jan Rozbicki and George O. Ndege.

Mark Summers writes: I am busy writing a survey of Reconstruction that is already a few thousand pages long and will need to be trimmed; I am still teaching overloads and expect to go on doing so; I haven’t sent Big Tim & the Tiger to a publisher yet, because I doubt whether another big fat book will do society much good; I have given papers on corruption in the Gilded Age, and on paranoia in politics. I am feeling very old in a department of very young people.

Akiko Takenaka won a grant of $36,000 to take students in her Japanese Visual Culture class on a study tour of Japan during Spring Break.

Scott Taylor, who will be joining us in Fall 2012, received an NEH Summer Stipend for the summer of 2012, and an American Council of Learned Societies Research Fellowship for calendar year 2013.

Awet Weldemichael has been awarded a Gerda Henkel Foundation Fellowship in Fall 2012. His manuscript has also been accepted at Cambridge University Press.

Tammy Whitlock continues work on her contribution to the interdisciplinary Oxford Handbook on Gender, Sex, and Crime, edited by Rosemary Gartner and William McCarthy forthcoming in late 2012 or early 2013. She explored similar themes in her presentation “Pretending to be a Man: Retail Assistants, Public Personas and the Undermining of Masculinity” in the North American Victorian Studies Association Conference held November 3-6, 2011 at Vanderbilt University. It was her good fortune to be able to present with one of our graduate students in British history, Jill Abney, as the University of Kentucky hosted the Interdisciplinary Nineteenth-Century Studies Conference, March 22-25, 2012. Her paper, “Professional Thieves? Shoplifting and Property Crime in the Age of Victoria,” is available on the web at http://incs.as.uky.edu/program.

Jakobi Williams’s book, From the Bullet to the Ballot: The Illinois Chapter of the Black Panther Party and Racial Coalition Politics in Chicago, is scheduled to be released during the spring 2013 publication list by the University of North Carolina Press under its prestigious John Hope Franklin Series. He has also published “Nat Turner: The Complexity of His Religious Background,” Journal of Pan-
Jill Abney presented a paper titled “Revelations of British Masculinity in Political Debate: Working Men, Hegemony, and Reform” at the Midwest Conference on British Studies in November 2011. The MCBS was hosted by Indiana State University. She also presented a paper titled “Juvenile Crime in the Courts of London” at the Interdisciplinary Nineteenth Century Studies Conference. The INCS is hosted by the University of Kentucky this year.

Amanda Boczar studied intensive Vietnamese at the 2011 Southeast Asian Studies Summer Institute supported by their institutional tuition scholarship. She delivered a paper entitled “Re-Presenting Agent Orange: The Legacy of War and the Post-Memory Generation in Vietnam” at the University of Bern in Switzerland and another entitled “Foreign Affairs: American Policy and the Making of Love and War in Vietnam, 1965-1968” at the Queen City Colloquium at the University of Cincinnati. She received conference travel grants from the University of Bern, the University of Kentucky Graduate School, and the History Department.

Dana Caldemeyer: I am a first year PhD student and I have an article called “Conditional Conservatism: Evansville, Indiana’s Embrace of the Ku Klux Klan, 1919-1924” that will appear in the Spring 2012 issue of Ohio Valley History, a journal published by the Filson Historical Society. I also have a book review of Hanna’s Town: A Little World We Have Lost published in the Winter 2011 issue of the same journal.

Jonathan Coleman: I was awarded two dissertation research fellowships from the University of Kentucky: The Albisetti Dissertation Research Fellowship from the History Department and the Bonnie Jean Cox Research Award from the Gender and Women’s Studies Department. With this funding I spent the summer of 2011 in various archives throughout London, including the National Archives at Kew, The British Library, and Special Collections at the London School of Economics. This archival work is the basis of my forthcoming dissertation, For Hire: Same-Sex Prostitution in Modern Britain, 1885-1957. I also presented a conference paper, titled “Lambs and Panthers: Same-Sex Prostitution in the British Press,” at the Midwest Conference on British Studies in November 2011. In addition, I have been awarded the 2011-
2012 Harry Ransom Dissertation Research Fellowship from the University of Texas at Austin. This award will allow me to conduct research at the Harry Ransom Center—the world’s largest social and cultural archive—for the summer of 2012.

John Davis presented a paper entitled “Tsarist Physicians’ Perceptions of Minorities during the Revolutionary Movement of 1865: Cultural Uplift or Ethnic Cleansing?” at the 2011 Ohio Valley Conference at Murray State University. He was also awarded a postdoctoral fellowship at the Ohio State University Center for Historical Research.

Krystle Farman presented a paper at the Ohio Valley Historical Conference entitled “‘Like Naked and Very Kinky-Haired Mulattos’: Race and the Devil in the Spiritual Journals of Sor María de San José (1656-1719).”

Joshua Farrington has been awarded the following grants: Harry Middleton Fellowship in Presidential Studies, 2010-2011; Gerald R. Ford Foundation, 2010-2011; Rockefeller Archive Center, 2010-2011; Univ. of Kentucky Dissertation Year Fellowship, 2011-2012. He has a book chapter, “‘Build, Baby, Build’: Conservative Black Nationalists, Free Enterprise, and the Nixon Administration,” forthcoming in Dan Williams and Laura Jane Gifford, eds., The Right Side of the Sixties: Reexamining Conservatism’s Decade of Transformation (NY: Palgrave Macmillan, [August] 2012); an article, “‘Even I Voted Republican: African American Voters and Public Accommodations in Louisville, This year witnessed the retirement of the department’s business officer Carol O’Reilly. We honored her with a party to thank her for her hard work . . .
Awards, Degrees, and Honors—Undergraduates


Jeff Stanley presented a paper at the Ohio Valley Historical Conference entitled “Free Blacks of Haiti: Racism on the French Caribbean Frontier.”

Robert Turpin: I received the George Herring research fellowship. I presented at the International Cycling History Conference in Paris, France, last May. The paper was titled, "‘Our Best Bet is the Boy’: Bicycle Marketing Schemes and American Culture after World War I." I will be officially published (for the first time) sometime around the end of March. It is an encyclopedia entry, "Cycling, USA & Canada," in a four volume set titled Sports Around the World: History, Culture, and Practice; ABC Clio, 2012.

Awards, Degrees, and Honors—Graduates

Dorothy Leathers graduate fellowship:

Joshua Powell

Albissetti Dissertation Research Fellowship:

Jill Abney

Charles P. Roland graduate fellowships:

Robert Murray
James Savage
Kevin Walters
John Wickre

George C. Herring graduate fellowship:

James Savage

Graduate School Dissertation Year Fellowship:

Jonathan Coleman

Graduate School Dissertation Enhancement Award:

Joshua Powell

Graduate School Presidential Fellowship:

Joshua Powell

MA recipients

Terri Blum Crocker
Danielle Dodson
Jordan Dongell
Krystle Farman
Derek Green
Jason Howard

PhD recipients

Carlye Burchett
John Davis
Scott Eidson
Karen Gauthier
Alayna Heinonen
Jeff Keith
Patrick Lewis
Joanna Lile
Sally Powell
Amber Sergent
James Duane Bolin (PhD 1988, MA 1982) is professor of history at Murray State University. He wishes that his biography of Adolph Rupp (under contract with the University Press of Kentucky) was out now that the Wildcats have won national championship number eight. Instead, a long blog post on Rupp’s Kansas years can be found at http://jamesduane-bolin.wordpress.com/. Bolin was named last year to the Kentucky Oral History Commission and he writes a “Kentucky Profiles” column for Kentucky Monthly. Next year will be particularly challenging for Duane and Evelyn with both Wesley and Cammie Jo in college. Prayer is appreciated.


Nicky Durham (1965) retired from Civil Service at Fort Knox in 2001. He is the owner/operator of Hagerlan Farms. He spends lots of time with his five grandchildren, enjoys keeping up with the Wildcats and watching the grandchildren in their sport activities.

William E. Ellis (PhD 1974) I have been busy during the past months owing to the publication of my most recent book, A History of Education in Kentucky, by the University Press of Kentucky. I have given several talks to groups about the subject: “Whither Education in Kentucky.” My wife and I continue to spend a few weeks in Florida as “snow-birds,” travel to foreign places such as Eastern Europe and South America we could not have imagined when I received my Ph.D. in history at UK in 1974, and take part in mission trips. I had intended that my next major project would have been A History of Agriculture in Kentucky but found that two Kentucky Farmers, Richie and Bob, had taken on the task previously (I hope you appreciate the humor). Actually, my next project is to write an academic study of humor with the tentative title, “That’s Not My Dog” From Kentucky Country Humor to Inspector Clouseau to Doc Martin; An Ontological Study of Humor.”

Amanda Fickey (BA 2004) continues to pursue a PhD in the UK Geography Department. She was recently awarded the Phi Kappa Phi 2011 Love of Learning Award, one of only 80 of the 1800 applicants to receive the award.

Carly (Mutterties) Gesin (MA 2008) is teaching in the International Baccalaureate program at Tates Creek High School.

Craig Hammond (PhD 2004) continues to work at Penn State New Kensington in suburban Pittsburgh, where Craig and Hallie live in Hallie’s hometown with their two daughters, Hannah and Addison, ages 5 and 7. Craig’s second book: Contesting Slavery, an edited collection of essays on slavery and politics in the early republic, will be issued in paperback by the University of Virginia Press this summer. An article in The Journal of the Early Republic will appear sometime this spring. Craig is currently working on a third book for the University of Virginia Press, tentatively entitled “Slavery, States, and Empires: The Imperial Struggle for the North American Continent, from the Seven Years War to the American Civil War.” In addition, Craig is working on chapters for two edited collections. The first, “The Expansion and Triumph of a
Slaveholding Republic,” will appear in The World of the Revolutionary American Republic, which will be published by Routledge in 2014. The second article will be presented as a paper at the Fourth Sons of the American Revolution Annual Conference on the American Revolution, in honor of Lance Banning, and will appear in a festschrift for Lance, to be published by the University of Virginia Press in 2015.

Larry Hood (PhD 1980) is a part-time instructor in the History Department at the University of Kentucky, teaching Kentucky history and American Military History. He finds that the Donovan Scholars who enroll bring different perspectives to the courses and enrich the learning experience. Larry brought in three outside-the-university presenters in the last year: one who lectured on frontier Kentucky; one on his latest book, an edited civil war diary of a Kentuckian who fought under John Hunt Morgan, and one who gave a presentation on the Tuskegee Airmen.

James K. Libbey (PhD 1976) is in his seventh year of retirement from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University where he taught Russian-American relations and aviation history. His latest article, “Alexander Kartveli: The Aircraft Designer Who ‘Suffered’ Greatness,” appeared in the Summer 2011 issue of American Aviation Historical Society Journal. He has also begun work on his next book and finished writing a chapter on Russian military aviation for an edited work on the air war during the Great War.

Alan C. Lowe (MA 2008) has been director of the George W. Bush Presidential Library and Museum since 2009. In April, he was the featured speaker at the University of Kentucky Libraries Annual Dinner.

Paul Douglas Newman (PhD 1996) is Professor of History at the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown, and has been promoted recently to the position of Assistant Vice-President for Academic Affairs. He lives in Johnstown with his wife Bethany Winters, two sons Forrest (17) and Leo (12), Bailey (12) their “Heinz 57” terrier mix, and new addition Zoe (2) a rescued Golden Retriever.

David Nichols (PhD 2000) is an associate professor of history at Indiana State University. His first book was Red Gentlemen and White Savages: Indians, Federalists, and the Search for Order on the American Frontier (University Press of Virginia, 2008). His second book, The Engines of Diplomacy: The Rise and Fall of the United States’ Indian Factories, is under review by a university press. He recently began work on his third book, a study of the economic culture of the Chickasaw Indians. He welcomes correspondence via email (danichols@mindspring.com) or Facebook.

A revised version of Jamie Nicholson’s PhD dissertation (2010) has just been published by University Press of Kentucky. It’s called The Kentucky Derby: How the Run for the Roses Became America’s Premier Sporting Event. The book has also been excerpted in the Spring 2012 issue of Kentucky Humanities, a publication of the Kentucky Humanities Council. He is expecting some good news soon about another project on the origins of the global Thoroughbred industry, but nothing official yet.

Nick Sarantakes (MA 1991) is an associate professor of strategy and policy at the Naval War College in Newport, Rhode Island. He has had three books appear in the last four years: Allies Against the Rising Sun: The United States, the British Nations and the Defeat of Imperial Japan appeared in 2009 and placed first on two of Amazon.com’s bestseller lists and third on two others. Dropping the Torch: Jimmy Carter, the Olympic Boycott, and the Cold War came out with Cambridge University Press in 2010. His fifth book overall, The Patton Project: The Making of a Legendary American Film comes out in 2012. He is currently finishing another book on Richard Nixon and sports. He runs a blog “In the Service of Clio” (http://saran-takes.blogspot.com/) which he uses to discuss professional issues in the history business, and it has resulted in conference appearances and media interviews.
“How Kentucky Became Southern:
A Tale of Outlaws, Horse Thieves, Gamblers, and Breeders.”

Professor Dan Rowland and PhD graduate Joanna Lile

He was a member of the AHA’s Paul Birdsall Book Prize Committee from 2007-2010, serving as the chair in his last year. He is also the history book review editor for Presidential Studies Quarterly and always, always, needs reviewers.


Rhonda Smith-Daugherty (PhD 1999) presented a paper at the Ohio Valley History Conference at Murray State University entitled “A Most Unconventional Force: JFK, the Green Berets, and the War in Southeast Asia, 1961-1963.”

Brit Allan Storey (PhD 1968) continues to serve as senior historian of the Bureau of Reclamation in Denver. He is in the process of publishing the second volume of the history of the Bureau of Reclamation—the sixth volume published under his direction since his arrival from the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation in 1988. He also continues to process some 900 hours of oral history interviews with Reclamation employees and people affected by Reclamation’s Newlands Project in eastern California and western Nevada. More information on Reclamation’s history program may be accessed at www.usbr.gov/history where brief histories of Reclamation projects and processed oral histories may be found.


Professor Dan Rowland’s retirement speech: “A Charmed Life.”
History Department Happenings

Every year the history department attends one of the Lexington Legends baseball games . . .

Graduate students Charles Johnson and Paul Glasser

The Annual Chili Cook-off!

Graduate students reclaimed the fish bowl for the chili cookoff. From left to right: Michael Kraemer, Robert Murray, Rachel Dixon, Charles Johnson, Lies Lanckman, Krystle Farmen, Jason Boczar, Amanda Boczar, and Greg Seltzer.

PhD candidate James Savage

Socializing at the cookoff

Professors Francis Musoni, Hang Nguyen, Sophie Roberts, Stephen Davis, and Jim Albisetti

Professor Erik Myrup and his son, Lars
Name ____________________________________________________________
Degree(s) _________________________________________________________
Class Year(s) ______________________________________________________
Current Address _____________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
E-mail Address _______________________________________________________

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Please provide a brief statement of what you are doing and/or any recent changes. We will include your news in an upcoming edition of the History Newsletter. Updating your mailbox and email addresses enables us to communicate with you through future newsletters and other correspondence to History alumni.

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**History Department Development Fund**
Provides discretionary funds for scholarships, enrichment activities, travel, and other needs as determined by the department chair.

**Alice S. Hallam Fund**
Supports yearly awards for best book and best article by department faculty.
Also provides discretionary funds for scholarship, invited lecturers, research travel, and other needs.

**Susan Bushart and Richard L. Cardwell Endowed Fund**
Provides discretionary funds to support a variety of purposes including equipment purchases, lectures, seminars and recruitment of faculty and students.

**Albisetti Dissertation Fellowship Fund**
Supports dissertation research conducted overseas for students with an approved prospectus.

**Lance Banning Graduate Research Fund**
Supports stipends, conference expenses and research-related travel for exceptional graduate students working in early American History.

**George C. Herring Graduate Fellowship Fund**
For recruiting new students or to support current graduate students preparing for their exams, writing a dissertation or undertaking extensive travel research.

**Dorothy “Dottie” Leathers Fellowship Fund**
Award for outstanding graduate students to pursue scholarship.

**Mary Wilma Hargreaves Memorial Fellowship**
Supports conference expenses and research-related travel expenses for graduate students.

**Charles Roland Fellowship**
Provides research and travel support to graduate students in American History.

**Philo Bennett Award**
Established in 1915. Encourages excellence in writing of history through a prize given to the author of the best undergraduate essay in a History course.

**Charles Scott Brent Award**
Established in 1926. Encourages excellence in the study of American History through an award given to the students with the highest GPA who have completed the honors sequence in History.

**Holman Hamilton Scholarship**
Provides tuition assistance for an undergraduate senior who is majoring in American History.
Seeking the Good Life in America: Lessons From the Appalachian Past

What does the future hold for Appalachia? Historian Ronald D. Eller looks to the past for an alternative agenda for this long-struggling region. Along with the rest of America, Appalachia must undergo a deep transformation in values and behavior if we are to bridge the troubled waters of the region’s environmental, social, and economic crisis. Building a broad social movement for transforming Appalachia (and America) in the twenty-first century, Eller argues, is possible if we learn the lessons of our own history.

April 12, 2012
7:30pm at William T. Young Auditorium
Reception immediately following in the William T. Young Gallery