Greetings from the Department of History

Powers Hall has been as busy as ever, and it has been a pleasure to welcome several of you and to receive correspondence from others. We enjoy learning about how you are doing and knowing that we have contributed some small part to your education and preparation for career and life.

The year has been eventful in its own way, beginning with Bill Pretzer’s decision late last summer to accept a new post as Curator of History at the new Museum of African American History and Culture in Washington, D.C., which will be a part of the Smithsonian Institution. We also welcomed two new faculty members. Dr. Benjamin Weinstein (Ph.D., Cambridge University) as Assistant Professor of Modern English History, and Dr. Jonathan Truitt (Ph.D., Tulane University) as Assistant Professor of Colonial Latin American History. This past spring we also conducted a successful search for a new public historian. In August, we will be welcoming Dr. Jay Martin (Ph.D., Bowling Green) as Assistant Professor of Public History and Director of the Museum of Cultural and Natural History. Dr. Martin comes to us from Eastern Louisiana University, where he has served as Instructor in History and Director of the Lake Pontchartrain Basin Maritime Museum. We hired Jennifer Liu (ABD, University of California at Irvine) as our new tenure-track Asian historian. We also expect to welcome three exchange faculty members. Professor Lutz Budrass from Ruhr-University Bochum in Germany to hold courses in German history, and Marja van Tilburg from the University of Groningen will be teaching classes in early modern European cultural, women’s and gender history. In the spring semester, Dr. Anthony Santoro will be coming from Heidelberg University to offer courses in U.S. history and the history of sport.

This year we celebrated a new milestone in our Joint MA/PhD program by welcoming our first exchange student from Benemérita Autonoma Universidad de Puebla, Hugo Zayas. Scott Nehmer became our second student to go to Friedrich Schiller University in Jena, Germany. Graduate students Alyssa Alpe, Jonathan Klauke, and Kelly Wilson traveled to the University of Strathclyde, while Timothy Day and Erik Wright studied at Erasmus University Rotterdam. From Strathclyde we hosted Benedict Docherty and Craig Gallagher, while Oliver Bley and Jonas Janssen came from Jena.

We have enjoyed an excellent slate of speakers this year as well. Our Constitution Day speaker, Todd Estes, gave a well-attended lecture entitled “James Madison’s Reluctant Paternity of the Constitution.” Our second William T. Bulger lecturer in biography was Catherine Allgor, who braved a February snowstorm to give a very engaging talk, “A Perfect Union: Dolley Madison and the Creation of the American Nation.” In April, distinguished historian and Lincoln biographer Jörg Nagler came from Friedrich Schiller University in Jena to deliver an engaging talk on “The Global Lincoln,” the annual George M. Blackburn Endowed Lecture which also served as the keynote address for our third annual graduate student conference.

I continue to be grateful for a first rate office staff. Annette Davis continues to keep the office running, ably assisted by our half-time secretary Roxanne Jordan. This year we have also enjoyed the help of our capable and industrious student workers Katie Bryant, Amanda Gibson, Jessica Kaiser, and Ashley McDonald. Please feel free to stop in and say hello to any one or all of us whenever you visit Mount Pleasant. Also, keep those cards, letters, and e-mails coming. We love to hear from you and are always glad to include your latest activities in our newsletter.

This newsletter is the fifth and last in which I have extended greetings on behalf of the department. I have been term limited out and will be yielding the chair’s office to the capable hands of Dr. Mitchell K. Hall. We began the transition with a trip to CMU’s European partner institutions in May 2010 (we stopped for a photo in Jena). It has been an interesting and exciting ride—much moreso than I dared to hope when I came aboard six years ago. Our excellent faculty has made CMU a stimulating and collegial place to work, learn, and pursue scholarship. The department has a promising future, and I am very proud to be part of it.

Timothy Hall, Department Chair

Enrollment Figures

This past academic year the department had 450 undergraduate majors, 243 undergraduate minors, 2 graduate certificate students, and 34 master students. In addition, the department is home to 3 joint masters students, 13 Ph.D. students, and 5 Ph.D. candidates. We wish each one success as they make the transition from student to professional. May they always remain scholars of history!
Lane Demas published his first book, *Integrating the Gridiron: Black Civil Rights and American College Football* (see page 3).

Kathy Donohue was awarded a Fulbright Senior Scholar Award and is teaching history and American studies at the Ruhr University in Bochum Germany.


Carrie Euler has an article appearing this year in the *Archive for Reformation History* entitled “Does Faith Translate?: Tudor Translations of Martin Luther and the Doctrine of Justification by Faith.”

Michael Federspiel’s *Picturing Hemingway’s Michigan* was published this May by Wayne State University Press (see page 3).


Jennifer R. Green returned to CMU after a semester teaching exchange at the University of Groningen, the Netherlands. This year, she gave papers at the Society for Historians of the Early American Republic (July 2009) and Southern Historical Association (November 2009). She joined the Membership Committee of the Southern Historical Association and will be taking over the duties of the Book Review Editor for the Michigan Historical Review starting this summer.

Mitchell Hall edited *Vietnam War Era: People and Perspectives*, a collection of eleven original essays, published by ABC-CLIO in 2009. During his spring 2010 sabbatical, he worked on a book-length history of rock and roll music. This summer he is stepping down from his second stint as book review editor of the Michigan Historical Review and taking on the role of history department chair. He coached the 8th grade Beal City Aggies’ basketball team to a 9-3 record this past year.

Timothy Hall published *Anne Hutchinson: Puritan Prophet* (see page 3). He also presented a paper at the American Historical Association’s Annual Meeting.

Doina Harsanyi served as chair and commentator on a panel at the Consortium on the Revolutionary Era, February 2010, in Charleston, SC. She also has a book forthcoming book review on H-France. She also published *Lessons from America: Liberal French Nobles in the First Century*, scheduled for 2011 publication by CQ Press.

Stephen Jones taught an online workshop this semester and continues to work on his next book project, *The Presidents and Black America: A Documentary History* (co-author Eric Freedman of MSU), scheduled for 2011 publication by CQ Press.

Tara McCarthy presented at two conferences in 2009. Last spring she organized a panel for the Upstate New York Women’s History Organization’s conference at Hobart and William Smith (March 2009); her paper was entitled, “‘Never Mind If You are Not Lady-like’: Irish-American Women and the Politics of Suffrage.” In October, she presented “The Legacy of the Ladies’ Land League,” at the Conference for Irish Studies Midwestern at the University of Southern Illinois.


John Robertson is helping to spearhead the introduction of a new Middle East and Islamic Studies minor at CMU. Furthermore, the latest edition of co-authored text, *Perspectives from the Past: Primary Sources in Western Civilization* was issued. Dr. Robertson is putting the finishing touches on his forthcoming book, prospectively titled, *Cursed Cradle: Iraq in History*. He is looking forward to his sabbatical next spring, during which he will work on a new book examining the historical and cultural relationships between Mesopotamia/Iraq and Persia/Iran from antiquity to the present. This June, he will travel to China with the CMU Concert Choir, which his wife, Nina, will be conducting (along with a Chinese orchestra) at the 2010 International Exposition in Shanghai.


Greg Smith has two essays forthcoming: “Physics and metaphysics in late antiquity,” in *The Oxford Handbook to Late Antiquity and Demons, Greek and Roman,* in *The Blackwell Encyclopedia of Ancient History*. He also delivered, “The physics and metaphysics of late antique slavery,” at the American Historical Association, in San Diego, January 2010. Revised versions of this paper were subsequently presented at a CMU history department faculty seminar, February 2010, and at a meeting of Phi Alpha Theta, the undergraduate history honor society, on April 15, 2010. His paper, “Demons and thoughts from Tatian to Philoponus,” was presented at the North American Patristics Society, in Chicago, May 2010. He also designed the new department website—check it out!

Jonathan Truitt has two new journal articles; “Adopted Pedagogies: Nahua Incorporation of European Music and Theater in Colonial Mexico City” in the January issue of *The Americas* and “Courting Catholicism: Nahua Women and the Catholic Church in Colonial Mexico City” in the summer issue of *Ethnohistory*.

Ben Weinstein spent the year revising his doctoral dissertation for publication. Revisions were completed in March and the resulting manuscript, *Parliamentary Politics and Local Government in Early-Victorian London*, will be published in early 2011 by the Rochester University Press (US) and by Boydell & Brewer (UK), on behalf of the Royal Historical Society. In November, Dr. Weinstein accepted an invitation to contribute an article on the political cultures of Victorian municipal corporations to a special issue of the journal *Parliamentary History*, due to be published in 2012. Finally, he had the pleasure of chairing a very stimulating panel entitled ‘Bloody Britannia’ at the CMU graduate history conference in April (see page 7).

Thomas Benjamin, William McDaid, Timothy O’Neil, Benjamin Ramirez-shkwengaabi, David Rutherford, and Catherine Tobin continue their work in the department.

[www.cmich.edu/history](http://www.cmich.edu/history)
New Faculty Joins the Team

CHSBS, the CMU Museum of Cultural and Natural History, and the history department made an exciting transition this year. After heading the museum for three years, Bill Pretzer accepted a position as senior curator for history at the Smithsonian Institution’s National Museum of African American History and Culture (scheduled to open in 2015) and left for Washington D.C. early in the Fall 2009 semester. In his tenure, Bill curated 4 exhibitions, created the “distributed museum” (bringing museum cases to buildings throughout CMU and to the Mt. Pleasant Veterans Memorial Library), advised museum studies minors, and continued professionalizing the museum by creating a mission statement, Museum Advancement Board, and Museum Studies Advisory Council. We certainly wish him well.

The department continues its strong connection with the museum and welcomes Dr. Jay Martin into the department as an assistant professor, Curator of Cultural History, and Director of the Museum and of the Museum Studies Program.

Jay, originally from Jonesville, Michigan, holds a B.A. in Public History from Western Michigan University, a M.A. in American Studies, and a Ph.D. in History from Bowling Green State University. In early 2007, he left the National Park Service to become Executive Director of the Lake Pontchartrain Basin Maritime Museum and an instructor at Southeastern Louisiana University. Among his recent efforts are the creation of new programs that combine the study of history and the application of science education techniques with the restoration of the Tchefuncte River Light Station. “The combination of the fantastic Museum Studies Program and a museum staff that is ready to progress to the next level really appealed to me as an exciting opportunity,” said Dr. Martin. “I look forward to joining the Central Michigan University team.”

Jennifer Liu-Demas joined the faculty this year and starts tenur-track in the Fall; she received her B.A. from UCLA in 2002 and her M.A. from the University of California, Irvine (UCI) in 2007. She will obtain her Ph.D. degree from UCI in 2010. The title of her dissertation is “Indoctrinating the Youth: Guomindang Policy on Secondary Education in Wartime China and Postwar Taiwan.” Her fields of interest include Modern China and Taiwan, the history of education, youth mobilization, and military training. She has taught at UCI and CMU, and has offered courses on Traditional China and East Asia.

New Faculty Books

Lane Demas’ book Integrating the Gridiron: Black Civil Rights and American College Football (Rutgers University Press, 2010) examines the history of African Americans on predominately white teams from the nineteenth century through today, comparing the stories of black athletes at institutions throughout the country and contextualizing intercollegiate sport within the larger historiography of the modern Civil Rights Movement.

Randall Doyle’s book, The Roots of War in the 21st Century: Geography, Hegemony, and Politics in Asia-Pacific (University Press of America, 2009) argues that the 21st century will witness a fundamental global shift in economic and military hegemonic power from the U.S.-European sphere to the U.S.-Asia-Pacific region. The rise of China is recognized as the primary reason for the resurgence of the Asia-Pacific in the 21st century, but several other countries, such as Japan, South Korea, and Australia, are also becoming increasingly important geostrategic players within the region.

Michael R. Federspiel’s Picturing Hemingway’s Michigan (Wayne State University Press, 2010) introduces readers to the Hemingway family, who were typical of many that vacationed in the Petosky area. He also paints a picture of life in northern Michigan between 1900 and 1920 and traces the many connections between the area and Hemingway’s body of work. In chapters that incorporate candid family photographs from the Hemingways’ own collection, historical images of the region, and archival excerpts from Hemingway’s letters, journals, and stories, Federspiel shows that the region left an indelible mark on the young writer.

Timothy Hall’s latest book, Anne Hutchinson: Puritan Prophet (Longman, 2010), draws upon current scholarship to paint a picture of Anne Hutchinson as a literate and highly intelligent agent of the militant Protestant vanguard that pressed to extend English influence into Colonial North America.

Doina Harsanyi’s Lessons from America: Liberal French Nobles in Exile, 1793-1798 (Pennsylvania State University Press, 2010) examines an unusual group of refugees from the French Revolution. She looks at the American experience of a group of French liberal aristocrats, early participants in the French Revolution, who found shelter in Philadelphia during the Reign of Terror. The book traces their path from enlightened salons to revolutionary activism to subsequent exile in America and, finally, back to government posts in France—illuminating the ways in which the French experiment in democracy was informed by the American experience.
Alumni / Alumnae Notes

Victoria Baldwin (B.S. 2008) is working for Aztec Archeological Consulting in Aztec, NM.

Bryan W. Beach (B.S. 2003) is an assistant prosecutor for Kalkaska County, MI.

Lawrence M. Boledovich (B.S. Ed. 1967) is presently working as a channel manager for OPENWAVE.

Brad Bow (M.A. 2008) is pursuing his Ph.D. at the University of Edinburgh.

W. David Conwill II (B.S. 2005) handles bankruptcy and creditor’s rights as an associate attorney with the Bay City, MI law firm Smith, Martin, Powers, & Knier, P.C.

Jerry R. Davis (B.A. 2010) has been awarded a fellowship for graduate study supported by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Joseph C. Johnson (B.S. Ed. 2007) serves as legal assistant for the North Country National Scenic Trail in the Rudyard, MI area.

Kurt Wahlgren (M.A. 2007) is teaching Western Civilization and Model United Nations at Pacific American School in Hsinchu, Taiwan.

Kurt G. Doke (M.A. 1992), a teacher at Midland High School, has been selected to attend “Maritime America in the Age of Winslow Homer,” a summer study program supported by the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Douglas D. Fisher (B.A. 1988) is assistant editor of Michigan History magazine.

Catherine (Dunkle) Gatewood (M.A. 1988) has had quite a year; she’s been promoted from Associate Professor of History and Program Coordinator for Secondary Social Studies, to Director of Teacher Education, and then January 4 became Interim Associate Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences and College of Education and Human Services at Lock Haven University (PA).

Bruce Geelhoed (M.A. 1972) is now chair of the History Department at Ball State University.

Robert C. Hill (B.S. Ed. 1993), in his seventeenth year as high school teacher, is currently the English Department chair at the Beecher Community Schools.

Jason Hundy (B.S. Ed. 2003) recently finished an M.A. in Humanities from CMU. Jason is in his seventh year of teaching AP World History and Global Studies at Armada High School, MI.

Amber Innis (B.A. 2010) has been awarded a fellowship for graduate study in medieval history at Western Michigan University.


Joseph C. Johnson (B.S. Ed. 2007) serves as legal assistant for Patrick, Johnson & Mott, P.C. in Southfield, MI.

Elizabeth Koprowski (M.A. 2009) is pursuing her Ph.D. at the University of Strathclyde.

Kay (Marquardt) Kujawa (B.S. 1962, M.A. 1987), a retired Gaylord St. Mary's teacher, is the volunteer Communication Coordinator for the North Country National Scenic Trail in the Rudyard, MI area.


Joel Lewis (Ph.D., 2006), is assistant professor of American history at Dixie State College in St. George, Utah.

Randall Mead (B.A. 1965, M.A. 1968) retired from St. Louis Public Schools after 40 years as a history teacher and guidance counselor. He currently is an associate pastor at St. Louis Church of God.

John Milner (B.S. 1989) is in his fourth year as a high school guidance counselor for the Kerrville, TX Intermediate School District after 16 years of teaching and coaching in Houston and Bandera, TX.

Sebe S. Morgan (B.S. 1948) taught for 15 years before entering the ministry. After retirement in 1988, he continues involvement as a minister in the Community of Christ Church. Married to Shirley (Block) (class of 1949) for 60 years, they have four children and plenty of grand- and great grandchildren.

Hugh Randall (B.S. 1999, M.A. 2002) of Cambridge, MA received a 2009 MIT-Sloan Appreciation Award for work on the BP (British Petroleum) Operation Academy.

Kelly M. Sadowski (B. S. Ed. 1988) has taught for 12 years including stints at Farwell High School, Eisenhower High, Shelby Township, MI (she won the rookie of the year teacher award in 2000) and is currently at Pickering High School in Ajax, Ontario where she also coaches field hockey, volleyball, softball, and rugby.

Jeff Sievert (M.A. 2008) recently accepted a full time position as a park guide with the Independence National Park, Philadelphia, PA.

Heidi (Wing) Sheldon (B.S. 2004) has been curator of the historic Stonewall Jackson House since 2008. She recently married Blackhawk pilot Captain James Sheldon.

Recent Scholarship Recipients

Duane Mark Bouliew Scholarship for 2009-2010 recipient was Lisa Sovereene, Social Studies Major and former History Department student worker from Mount Pleasant.

The Dennis Thavenet Study Abroad Award for 2010-2011 was awarded to Brett Bowers.

The Thavenet History Dept Study Abroad Award for 2010-2011 was awarded to Zac Kaczanowski and Brett Bowers.

Rachel Schofield, BA ’09

“London Docklands in the Nineteenth Century: Labor, Housing, and Living Conditions of Casual Dock Laborers”

Supervisor James Schmiechen

Congratulations 2009 CHSBS Undergraduate Student Paper Competition Winner!!

Michael Shrum, MA ’09

“Syphilis and Early Modern European Medicine”

Supervisor David Rutherford

Congratulations 2009 CHSBS Graduate Student Paper Competition Winner!!

Michael Martin (M.A. 2009) received a Honorable Mention for his paper “The Olympics? What Olympics?” Detroit’s bid to host the 1968 Olympics Games,” Supervisor Lane Demas
Graduate Student News

Thomas Darragh presented two papers this year: “When Chess was King and the Player a Fool: The Media and the Making of Bobby Fischer” at the 3rd Annual Graduate History Conference, CMU, and “A Little Rebellion Now and Then is a Good Thing: Ramparts, The New Left Intelligentsia, Their Meanings of Citizenship, and Their Redefining of Liberalism, 1962-1969” at the Division Street USA Graduate Conference at the University of Texas at Austin. He has also written several books reviews for H-Net and the Michigan Historical Review. Thomas will be attending the University of Strathclyde next year to pursue his Joint Ph.D.

Stephen Gutwald received his Joint MA in 2009 after completing studies at the University of Strathclyde. He presented papers at graduate student conferences at the University of York in Toronto, University of Michigan, and CMU this year and recently had a book review published. He will also be presenting a paper at the annual Eighteenth-Century Scottish Studies Society conference, this June at Princeton Theological Seminary. Finally, Stephen and his wife, Julie, celebrated the birth of a new little historian, James Russell, this year.

Christopher Hagen finished his Joint MA this year and is in the process of writing his Comprehensive Exams and dissertation prospectus. He also presented papers: “The Policy of Financial Ruin: A Perspective on Jacobean Finance” at the Southern Historical Conference on Power & Struggle at the University of Alabama and at the Second Annual Graduate History Conference on European History at the University of Michigan and “Inconsistent Perceptions: English Captivity Narratives and the Changing Views on Muslim Turks between 1577 and 1622” at the 3rd Annual Graduate History Conference, CMU.

Frank Klackle worked on his dissertation prospectus about the development of the tourism industry in Mexico, which he plans to submit at the end of the Spring semester. He is looking forward to spending several weeks this summer in archives in Washington D.C., Mexico City, and Acapulco.

Patrick Kirkwood attended graduate conferences at North Carolina State University and the University of Michigan during Spring semester, along with delivering a paper at CMU’s own conference. He is steadily progressing towards his first comprehensive exam, in American History, which he will take this summer.

Elizabeth LaFray has filed her prospectus and is beginning work on her dissertation, titled “The Air She Breathes: Gendered Psychological Activity in Archaic Greece.” In the fall, she will be teaching a dynamic new course of Western Civilization to 1700 through the First Year Experience Program. In addition, Elizabeth and her family welcomed their second child, Landon William, on May 16, of this year.

Dale Moler presented “‘Be a Patriot and go to the Ballgames’: The Politicization of Cuban Baseball, 1959-1963” at the American Popular Culture Association 2009 Conference in Detroit, MI. He will be studying at the University of Strathclyde in Glasgow next year.

Marko Schubert completed his Joint MA (2008) at Jena, and then entered the Joint Ph.D. program last fall. Marko will be teaching as a history instructor at Friedrich Schiller University, Jena, again this summer.

Bob Borrelli, Michael Carter, Eric Connon, and Michael Rose joined many of their cohorts in presenting papers at the department’s 3rd Annual Graduate History Conference on April 16 (see page 8).

Christopher (CJ) Eno successfully defended his M.A. thesis, “An Historical Perspective of China’s Intellectual Class,” this May. In it he looks at the development of the intelligentsia in China.

Graduate Student Burns Night Supper

This year a group of graduate students and friends decided to have a traditional Burns Night dinner at the Brass Café. It was hosted by Ph.D. students Thomas Darragh and Patrick Kirkwood.

Graduate Students Studying at CMU partner institutions:

Erasmus Universiteit Rotterdam, The Netherlands:
Timothy Day & Erik Wright

Friedrich-Schiller-Universität Jena, Germany:
Scott Nehmer

University of Strathclyde, Scotland:
Alyssa Alpe, Jonathan Klauke, & Kelly Wilson

Visiting CMU from Abroad:
Oliver Bley & Jonas Janssen (Jena)
Benedict Docherty & Craig Gallagher (Strathclyde)
Hugo Zayas (Autónoma de Puebla, Mexico)

Several of the department’s graduate students presented their research at the Student Research & Creative Endeavors Exhibition (SRCEE) on April 23. A wide range of research was on display, including an intellectual history of the Scottish Enlightenment (Gutwald) and a visual history of the use of the “fist of solidarity” within identity politics (Darragh).

In the top photo, Christopher Hagen, in the middle photo, Patrick Kirkwood, in the bottom photo, Elizabeth LaFray and Stephen Gutwald. Also in attendance were Thomas Darragh and Benedict Docherty.
Were you a student who benefited from department scholarships, assistantships, or work-study appointments, or simply enjoyed good teaching, advising, and the fellowship of favorite teachers? If so, you may welcome the opportunity to give something back so that future students can enjoy similar benefits. Here are some opportunities to participate:

**George M. Blackburn Endowment**
The income from this endowment funds an annual lecture on the American Civil War and Reconstruction in honor of George Blackburn, a greatly admired teacher and scholar during his thirty years as a member of CMU’s history faculty.

**William T. Bulger Endowment**
This endowment funds a lecture series in the field of American Biography in honor of Professor Emeritus William T. Bulger who served the CMU history department for 35 years.

**Howard Evans Study Abroad Scholarship**
This endowment will support a junior or senior student studying abroad with a minimum GPA of 3.0. It honors former history professor Evans.

**J. D. Smith Award**
This cash award recognizes one of the department’s outstanding graduate students; it is named for our former colleague, Professor J. D. Smith.

**Dennis Thavenet Study Abroad Awards**
The department, especially Professor Emeritus Dennis Thavenet, has been very active in fostering study abroad. If you enjoyed a period of study overseas, you may enjoy helping the next generation to share similar benefits by contributing to one of these two awards.

**Mae Teeter and Duane Bouliew Scholarships**
These cash awards are given to outstanding undergraduate history students. Requirements include GPAs of 3.25 or higher, letters of recommendation, and, for the Teeter, composition of an outstanding essay in a CMU history seminar.

**Gabriel Chien Memorial Fund Essay Prize**
This fund was created to honor the memory of Gabriel Chien, a former CMU history professor. The $1,000 scholarship is awarded for a written essay that focuses on an aspect of Chinese culture, Sino-American relations, or a comparative study of China.

Enclosed is my (our) gift of

- $25  - $50  - $75  - $100  - Other

This gift is for:
- History Department Development Fund
- Joint MA/PhD Program Development Fund
- Duane Bouliew History Prize
- Mae Teeter History Prize
- Dennis Thavenet Study Abroad Scholarship
- J.D. Smith Graduate Student Award
- William T. Bulger Endowment
- George M. Blackburn Endowment
- Gabriel Chien Memorial Fund
- Other

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Scholars and Conferences at CMU

The generosity of former students and faculty and of Michigan residents allowed the History Department to attract national and international scholars to campus. We were privileged to bring attention to historical issues and thinking into the Mt. Pleasant and CMU community. We hope you’ll join us at next year’s events—keep your eyes on the website!

The William T. Bulger Lecture on American Biography brought University of California, Riverside’s Catherine Allgor to speak on “A Perfect Union: Dolley Madison and the Creation of the American Nation” on February 10, 2010. Prof. Allgor comes as part of the Organization of American Historians Distinguished Lecturer program and is a well-known scholar. Her book, Parlor Politics: In Which the Ladies of Washington Help Build a City and a Government, won the prize for the best first book by the Society for Historians of the Early American Republic.

World War II historian Gerhard Weinberg served as the inaugural speaker for the Dr. Harold Abel Endowed Lecture Series in the Study of Dictatorship, Democracy and Genocide. Prof. Weinberg, the William Rand Kenan, Jr. Professor Emeritus of History at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, presented, “A New Look at Hitler and the Beginning of the Holocaust,” on November 9, 2009 in the Bovee University Center Auditorium. In addition to his personal experience in World War II, Prof. Weinberg has spent a distinguished career studying the era and recording German primary sources for future study; he has authored nine books and numerous articles on the war. A standing-room only crowd honored the memory of Dr. Abel, former CMU president, and his commitment to reaching students.

The George M. Blackburn Endowed Lecture on the Civil War and Reconstruction honored the former CMU history professor’s dedication to his scholarship and to students. Prof. Jörg Nagler traveled from Friedrich Schiller University in Jena, Germany to speak on “The Global Lincoln” on April 15, 2010. Prof. Nagler recognized Dr. Blackburn as the author of French Newspaper Opinion the American Civil War (Greenwood, 1997). Prof. Nagler is himself the author of numerous books and articles on nineteenth- and twentieth-century America and the history of warfare; in 2009, he published a biography of President Abraham Lincoln. Interim CHSBS Dean Pamela Gates introduced the speaker and more than one hundred students, faculty, and former faculty attended the speech in Bovee University Center. The speech also served as the keynote for the 3rd Annual Graduate Student History Conference (see box to right).

As the spring 2010 Olga J. and G. Roland Denison Visiting Professorship of Native American Studies, artist-in-residence Daniel Ramirez (at left) brought attention to Native American art and themes in a course in the art department and his work. Daniel is Dr. Ramirez-shkweng-naabi’s brother.

Thanks to the Icelandic volcanic eruption, Prof. Nagler had an extra five days in the U.S., which he used for a trip to the Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum in Springfield, Illinois. There’s global connectedness for you!

The 2010 Spring Abel Lecture was unfortunately canceled because weather prevented speaker Robert Melson, professor emeritus at Purdue University and former president of the International Association of Genocide Scholars, from speaking on April 6, 2010.

The 3rd Annual Graduate Student History Conference

This year graduate students from Wayne State University joined fourteen of our graduate students for the 3rd Annual Graduate Student History Conference. At the Bovee University Center on April 16, commentators arrived from across Michigan, Minnesota, and international schools. Panels covered the topics:

- The American Revolution, For Good and Bad
- The Cold War Chess Game
- Crusaders and Dominance in Early Modern Europe
- Bloody Britannia
- The Wrath of Totalitarian Aftermath

Patrick Kirkwood, CMU Ph.D. student, won the conference award for best paper with his "Marxist and Post-Colonial Theory in Postwar Belfast and Detroit: George Breitman, James Boggs and Bernadette Devlin.” It represented the best of the transnational focus of our graduate program. Denise Poplawski, CMU M.A. student, won the conference honorable mention award for best use of primary sources for her "The Hidden Genocidal Effects of the 1937 IRA Constitution on the Forest County Potawatomi Indians.”
Alumni Survey 2010

To keep in touch with you, as well as to enable the Department of History to better advise its students and serve their career counseling needs, we ask you to complete the following survey. Send completed survey to:

Department of History
Powers Hall 106
Central Michigan University
Mount Pleasant, MI 48859

Name ______________________________________________

Address ______________________________________________

____________________________________________

Degree ___________________

Year of Graduation __________

News for next Department of History Newsletter __________________________________________________

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