Christianity in Latin America

Sarah Cline To Speak On Revolutionary Changes

Woodcut of Franciscan missionary teaching Indians

Once almost uniformly dominated by traditional Catholicism, Latin America in recent decades has been feeling the impact of the Catholic social movement of Liberation Theology and evangelical Protestantism. Both movements have experienced rapid growth among the poor.

Prof. Cline will concentrate on the political effect of these changes, discussing in particular the role these developments have played in the rebellion of Mexico's southern state of Chiapas.

A specialist in Mexico's colonial period, Prof. Cline became interested in the role of Christianity when she decided to add some lectures on the subject to her undergraduate courses and discovered there was no reliable modern book devoted to the social and economic role of the Church in Latin America.

"There are plenty of religious studies of the Church in Latin America, but academic and secular Latin American scholars simply have not attempted a 'big sweep book' on the relation of Church and State since the late 1930s," she said.

According to Prof. Cline, a history of Latin America that does not include the role Christianity plays in everyday life is bound to be incomplete.

"Except for old-line Marxists who were also atheists, religion has always been mixed with politics in Latin America," she said. "That goes for the Left as well as the Right."

Now writing her own book on the subject, Prof. Cline said Liberation Theology is an outgrowth of the Second Vatican Council in the early 1960s, while evangelical Protestantism started moving into Latin America after China was closed to missionaries about a decade earlier.

A member of the UCSB faculty since 1985, Prof. Cline is the author of Colonial Culhuacan, 1580-1600: A Social History of an Aztec Town and The Book of Tributes: Sixteenth-Century Nahuaal Censuses from Morelos.

Mural Room Lecture by Gebhart Will Close Associates' Season

The UCSB History Associates will close out the 1994-95 lecture program on Tuesday, May 9 with a special lecture in the Mural Room of the Santa Barbara County Courthouse.

Guest speaker will be Prof. David Gebhart of the Department of the History of Art and Architecture.

A noted authority on California architecture, Prof. Gebhart will speak on the design and construction of the Santa Barbara Courthouse. His talk, co-sponsored by the UCSB Art Affiliates, is titled "Public Architecture—Design by Committee."

A member of the City of Santa Barbara Landmarks Committee, Prof. Gebhart is the author of the best-selling Guide to the Architecture of Los Angeles and Southern California and Guide to the Architecture of San Francisco and Northern California.

A member of the UCSB faculty since 1961, Prof. Gebhart was one of the first scholars to recognize the significance of California to American architecture. He

was Director of the University Art Museum until 1981, when he became Curator of the Museum's Architectural Drawing Collection.

The talk, which will begin at 5:15 p.m., will be followed by an optional dinner at the nearby Acapulco restaurant. Tickets for the talk only are $5 for members and $7 for non-members. Cost of dinner and talk will be $13 for members and $15 for non-members.

Reservations may be made by phoning the UCSB Community Relations office at (805) 893-4388.
Life on the Lecture Circuit

DON'T TELL HISTORY emeriti that retirement means you stop working.

Prof. Joachim Remak, who retired from teaching modern German history in 1991 after 25 years at UCSB, and ancient Greek historian Frank Frost, who took early retirement in 1990, are both on the lecture circuit.

The Swiss Consulate in Los Angeles has arranged for Prof. Remak to speak on "Henry Dunant and the Invention of the International Red Cross." He has spoken so far at the Swiss Embassy in Washington, D.C., the Swiss Cultural Institute in New York, the Max Cade Institute at USC and at Cal State Long Beach. Next month he travels to the Italian Cultural Institute in San Francisco and Oregon State University in Corvallis.

Prof. Remak's interest in Dunant—who spelled his first name “Henry” instead of “Henri” after his grandmother— grew out of his study of the Swiss Sonderbund War of 1847, A Very Civil War, published in 1993.

Prof. Frost spent the month of March in Israel as Maurice Hatter Visiting Scholar at the Centre for Maritime Studies of the University of Haifa. He lectured every Tuesday afternoon to graduate students and interested faculty, and spent Sunday evenings assisting grad students with their research papers.

"They were all well prepared to discuss ancient Mediterranean maritime archaeology," Prof. Frost reported. "But for many of my lectures on Columbus, Magellan and Drake were literally terra incognita."

Of course, the emeriti aren't the only ones making news.

Prof. Mary Furner is spending Spring quarter in Washington, D.C. as director of UCSB's UC-DC program. She reports that the cherry blossoms are in full bloom, and "Mr. Jefferson would be pleased."

Prof. Stephen Humphreys contributed an article on "Historiography" to the just published Oxford Encyclopaedia of the Modern Islamic World. In addition, his article on "Women as Patrons of Religious Architecture in Ayyubid Damascus," appeared in the 1994 volume of MUQARNAS, an annual of Islamic art and architecture.

Prof. Ann Plane has been awarded a six-month research fellowship by the National Endowment for the Humanities. Prof. Plane will spend January-June 1996 at the John Carter Brown Library in Providence, Rhode Island, working on her book on family life and racial dif.

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Lessons of the Hermitage

BY JUSTIN STEPHENS

"THERE IS NO cookie-cutter model for a historical preservation project," Santa Barbara Historical Society Executive Director George Anderjack told a gathering of the UCSB History Associates in March.

Anderjack learned this lesson as executive director of Andrew Jackson’s plantation, The Hermitage, in Nashville.

Anderjack was faced with the task of deciding which Hermitage to preserve, since the original wooden structure built around the turn of the nineteenth century was modified several times over the next hundred years.

Eventually, Anderjack said, the Hermitage group decided to restore the plantation to the period between Jackson’s retirement from the Presidency in 1837 and his death in 1845.

Using slides, Anderjack showed how his committee attempted to determine the smallest details of the Hermitage's condition at that time. Researchers used receipts of purchases, photographs and letters describing the Hermitage to establish its condition during this period.

Although his image is that of a rude frontiersman, research showed that Jackson was a very cultured individual who "understood the power of trappings," Anderjack said. Jackson was in tune with the cultural trends of his day, and even furnished the White House with its first set of fine China.

According to Anderjack, "Jackson grew as a statesmen throughout his Presidency, and these changes were reflected in his expansion of the Hermitage upon his retirement."

The primary obstacle facing the restorers was the multiple changes that followed the death of Jackson.

The Hermitage suffered considerable damage during the Civil War, he said, and when Jackson's descendants moved out of the building in 1893, they took all the original furnishings with them.

Anderjack also noted various attempts to eliminate modern problems which faced the preservation of the Hermitage.

"The air conditioning unit, which had originally been installed in the basement, was moved outside to eliminate the damage it was causing to the infrastructure of the building," he said.

Anderjack also discussed the "over-restoration which had caused problems at the Hermitage."

One example was Jackson's carriage which had been restored with new materials.

According to Anderjack, this recreation was not necessary, because the original materials could have been preserved.

He concluded that by "doing nothing until one is absolutely sure, and by only using accepted methods which can be reversed," the interpreter can ensure that future generations will be able to continue the work of historical preservation.
Welcome and Thanks

The winter storms appear to be over, thank goodness, and the spring quarter has begun. Two of this year's three searches are now complete, and an appointment in the third is pending.

John Majewski, who received his Ph.D. last year from UCLA, will be joining us next year to teach courses in the history of sectionalism and the civil war in the United States.

Alice O'Connor (Ph.D., Johns Hopkins, 1991) will be on leave as a fellow of the Russell Sage Foundation next year, but she will then join us to teach the history of the twentieth century in the United States (with an emphasis on public policy issues).

We are delighted that these fine young scholars have accepted our offers and look forward to their presence among us. You will be learning more about them and their work in future issues of this newsletter.

This is the time of year when we begin to prepare for the coming season of awards and graduation. We will miss a good many folks who will be graduating this year, but one in particular who will not be forgotten for a long time is Radha Patel.

Radha has put a tremendous amount of energy and imagination into her task as president of our chapter of Phi Alpha Theta, the international honor society for history students. Under her leadership, recruitment of new members jumped from three last year to seventeen this year.

She organized a "rap session" about careers for history majors, invited an Alumni Association spokesperson over to talk about that group's services to students and brought two UCSB librarians to talk to students about library skills for research in history (including using e-mail and the Internet).

As if this wasn't enough, Radha also laid on a field trip to the Holocaust Museum and held round-table discussions in the weeks before the elections in which graduate students participated with undergraduates. Amazingly, Radha also found time to work as a volunteer disk jockey at KCSB (where she has a weekly program), as a volunteer tutor for an English as Second Language (ESL) student for Isla Vista Youth, as a collector and distributor of aid to earthquake victims, as a writer for the Daily Nexus, etc. The "etc." includes a lot more items but I'm running out of space.

By the time this appears Radha will probably have done a lot more service projects while also posting a 3.5 GPA in history.

Radha, our deepest thanks for all you've done for UCSB and the History Department!

Avoiding Animal 'Suffrage'

The end of winter quarter produced a bumper crop of bloopers from student exams and papers. The Syndics of the Trust observe that the graders' comments are getting funnier than the bloopers.

After prolonged deliberation and several trips to Fowler's Modern English Usage, the Syndics chose Rebecca Bridges to be the guest of the Associates Board for the following (both from papers on the history of animal experimentation and animal rights):

"Wrapped neatly in plastic, human bodies of a very slight frame were given little idea of the life of the slaughtered animal."

"Humans have a natural tendency to avert their eyes from the sight of animal suffering."

Runners-up:

From Walter Grunden: "Because of the economic difficulties Japan was having and the arrival of Commodore Perry, Japan was interested and eager to participate in foreign relations. Just as it gets tiresome and old after you have been alone for a long time, a country could only stand so much isolation and monotonousness."

Wrote Walter, "Kinda makes ya feel all warm an' fuzzy don't it?"

From Douglas Lumaden: "She [Lydia, from Acts 16] was already a 'worshiper of God' who followed Jewish tradition but could not join the Jewish faith because rituals, such as circumcision, were not open to a Gentile woman such as herself."

Wrote Doug: "My only comment was that circumcision was not open to Jewish women, either."

From David Schmidt: "In the late 17c Isaac Newton became responsible for gravity." Writes David: "I guess my burden is light in comparison."

From past winner Alicia Rodriguez (History 17B): "J.P. Morgan was a businessman who started a bank in New York and used a system of currency different from the rest, called the 'cross of gold.'"

And from another past winner, Christie Gulish: "The goal of salvation was very important to medieval people..."

Faculty contributions:

From Warren Hollister: "The readers of the essay exams in the ETS AP test have the custom of privately circulating a list of bloopers. One of my favorite essay passages was: 'During the Renaissance, Western Man awakened and began to explore himself.'"

From Robert Collins: "Louis the 14th recommended that Napoleon take action and attempt to conquer Egypt. They knew the important of Egypt and instantly occupied Malta."

From Stephen Humphreys comes news of "the Venetian Dodge... "A matchless combination of Italian design and American marketing," he opines.

From Larry Badash: "Much of Renee Dacchair's [Descartes'] work was done in his own time." Writes Larry: "Wisely, he didn't work much before his birth or after his death."
Keeping the Faith

It seems impossible, but the end of the academic year is fast approaching. And that means our scholarship committee will soon be meeting to select students for the 1995 History Associates awards—which is what UCSB History Associates is all about.

Monies for these awards come from several sources. You, our members, through your donations, are the primary source of funding for the five funds under our administration. This year UCSB’s Development Office assisted us with a very successful drive for the newly-established Robert Kelley Fellowship Fund. In addition, UCSB’s Graduate Division provided matching funds for fellowship awards to graduate students.

The need for financial assistance to university students, as I am sure you know, has never been greater than it is now. For that reason, I would like to ask that each of our members contribute whatever they can to one or more of the Associates’ funds so that we may increase our level of support at least in proportion to the level of need.

The History Associates Graduate Fund was established several years ago to provide support for the History Department’s outstanding graduate students. The Dick Cook Scholarship Fund, as noted in this issue of Historia, was established to honor the founder of the UCSB History Associates and is awarded to the graduate or undergraduate student who best exemplifies service to the university and community.

Three endowed funds, the Philip Powell Prize, the Wilbur R. Jacobs Prize and the Robert Kelley Fellowship Fund were all established as graduate level awards to honor UCSB History professors.

Donations to any of these funds in any amount are welcome; unspecified donations are deposited in the History Associates Graduate Fellowship Fund.

Please make your check payable to UC Regents/History Associates Scholarship Program and mail it to UCSB History Associates, c/o UCSB Office of Community Relations, University of California, Santa Barbara, CA 93106-2100.

Questions may be addressed to the Office of Community Relations at (805)893-4388. Please contribute whatever you can and help us ensure that the UCSB Department of History will continue to attract the best and brightest students. Our support does make a difference! Thank you.

Cathy Rudolph
President

The Dick Cook Fund—Give ’til It Hurts!

BY HAL DRAKE

I was in Philadelphia when I got the call that Dick Cook had died. That was three years ago. It has taken until now for me to feel that I could write something about him without getting sappy.

The call came from Joe Finnegan—another of the little miracles that Dick worked every day. Twenty-five years earlier, Joe and I had worked together in the Los Angeles bureau of United Press International, when he was a Hollywood columnist and I was a fresh-scrubbed rookie just out of college.

Then I went off to graduate school, and Joe went to TV Guide. It was Dick Cook who had brought us back together.

Joe was writing the obituary for Historia.

“You were chair when Dick started the Associates,” he said to me. “Can you say what it was like to work with him?”

I didn’t hesitate for a second.

“He was a pain in the ass,” I said.

Joe, who loved Dick as much as I, said, “I know he was. But we can’t say that in an obituary.”

“But I mean that in a very positive way,” I protested. “Dick had a way of getting everybody to work. Without him, there would be no History Associates!”

“Can’t we say he was a positive pain in the ass?” I learned so much from that man.

Once, when the Associates were just getting started, he and I went to visit then-Vice Chancellor Ed Birch. Dick wanted to get some seed money for the Associates out of him, and to my surprise...

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LET US HEAR FROM YOU

If you are a grad trying to get in touch with an old classmate, or a community member or alum with an article or story, why not drop us a line?

Send your letters to:
Editor, Historia
Department of History
University of California
Santa Barbara, CA 93106
The Little Engine That Could

BY ANNE YORK

Prof. Paul Sonnino, who survived the great Toro Canyon flood of 1971 almost lost his vintage 1976 Pinto in another one of Santa Barbara's natural disasters.

Despite the torrential rains of January 10, Prof. Sonnino set out from his home on Toro Canyon Road to deliver his lecture on "Byzantium and Its Neighbors" before his History 4B class in Campbell Hall. He was driving the Pinto, which he refers to as his "new" car (the "old" car is a 1971 Chevrolet).

As he was driving northbound on Highway 101, a puddle that he was trying to cross suddenly turned into a raging river, and he was forced to abandon his car.

Ever the historian, Prof. Sonnino thought immediately of a parallel to his predicament.

"I remember thinking as I was struggling against the current that this is exactly what must have happened in 1190 to Frederick Barbarossa on the way to the Third Crusade when he inadvertently wandered into the Calycadus River and was drowned," Sonnino reminisced.

"As it turned out, however, I was luckier than Frederick because I came out alive."

Anne York, who drives a Mercedes, is a specialist in Late Seventeenth Century French Jansenism who received her Ph.D in History from UCLA in 1992. She is currently Assistant Professor of History at Youngstown State University in Youngstown, Ohio.

Although, there seemed little hope for Sonnino's Pinto, it was miraculously fished out of the freeway by a tow truck from Colson's garage and returned to him the next day.

"I could hardly recognize it," Prof. Sonnino said. "Everything was waterlogged."

Sonnino and friend Alberto Gomez then took the car apart, washed it out, and put it back together again, with a little help from Dave's Auto Shop on South Milpas.

Prof. Sonnino reports that the Pinto, which had previously passed all of its smog tests with flying colors, is now once again in perfect operating condition.

"This experience has led me to some interesting reflections on the differences between auto repair and history," Sonnino mused.

"In auto repair, if you take a car apart and put it back together again incorrectly, it doesn't start. In history, if you take events apart and put them back together again incorrectly, you get promoted."

Asked why he didn't take this opportunity to get rid of his Pinto and buy a more respectable car, Sonnino bristled:

"I need to hold on to that car in order to continue financing my research trips to Europe during the summer."

Grants, Papers, Books—News of a Busy Department

Continued from p. 2

The Conference in Colonial New England

Maureen McEnroe (Goldin) has received a Fulbright Fellowship to New Zealand, where she will conduct research for her dissertation on the 8,700-mile Pacific Cable from Australia to Canada, which was the longest in the world at the time of its completion in 1901. Christin completed the Canadian side of her research last year.

Jim Lindsay (PhD 1991, Humphreys) gave a paper at the 205th meeting of the American Orientalist Society in Salt Lake City last month. The paper was entitled, "Caliphal and Moral Exemplar: 'Ali Ibn 'Asakir's Portrayal of Yazid b. Mu'awiyah."

Chris Miller (PhD 1981, Jacobs) has written a textbook on US history that will appear soon, and is working on another book on missionaries. He teaches at Pan American University in Texas.


Cheryl Higgins (PhD 1988, Russell) has been given tenure and promoted to associate professor of history at Cal State San Bernardino.

Peter Griffin (PhD 1977, Marsak) is teaching history at Lindenwood College in St. Charles, Missouri.

Paul Friedman hosted a PARTY.
THE DICK COOK FUND

CONTINUED FROM PAGE FOUR

Ed agreed almost at once.

I was just getting comfortable, and so commenced to schmooze. Dick was becoming visibly more upset by the minute. After a while, fearing for his health, I cut things short and we left.

Once outside, Dick turned to me and said, "I always told my salespeople, once you've made the sale, get out of there!"

A good lesson. I've never forgotten it.

Nor have I forgotten how Dick dealt with his blindness. It was gradual at first, and it seemed as if it might be temporary. When he got the news that it would be permanent, he bounced right back.

"No use brooding over things like that," Dick said to me. "There's just too much to be done."

Soon, Dick had turned his guide dog, Laser, into another way of meeting people.

Dick loved students, and students loved him.

Once they got over their shyness at seeing this patriarchal figure in their classes and started talking to him, they never stopped. On sunny days, Dick would hold court on the patio between Ellison and Buchanan halls, telling students how to prepare for job interviews and, invariably, meddling in their love life.

I was thrilled when the Associates Board voted to create the Dick Cook Award.

It's the only Associates award that's not named for a long-time faculty member. It's the only one that recognizes undergraduates as well as graduates. It's the only one not dedicated to a particular field of study. Scholarship counts, of course, but the real marker of this one is to recognize those students who put others ahead of themselves, just as Dick did.

It's also the only award that doesn't have an endowment. If you don't give, it doesn't happen.

By rights, there should be no Dick Cook Award. But then, by rights, there should be no History Associates. All of us owe to the memory of this man.

So here's the bottom line: if you've been holding back, waiting for just the right fund to give to, wait no more. Give now. Give often. Give 'til it hurts.

Dick did.

Department

CONTINUED FROM PAGE FIVE

party at the Washington Hilton for UCSB History alumni, students and faculty attending the OAH/NCPh meetings in Washington, D.C. earlier this month. A member of one of the early Public History classes, Friedman now works for the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.