History Majors Grab Awards For Research

BY DUNCAN STOUTNER

History majors walked off with the greatest number of Special Projects for Undergraduate Research and Creative Project (SPUR) awards of any department in the social sciences and humanities at the presentation ceremony held at the end of Fall quarter.

Nine History majors received awards ranging from $500 to $1,000 to support undergraduate research. The College of Letters and Science awards, which come from public and private funds, allow students to purchase the necessary resources to complete their project. Judging was based on proposals submitted by students earlier in the quarter.

Eight of the nine winners are members of the Department’s Senior Honors Seminar, directed by Prof. Albert Lindemann.

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When Samurai Go Bad

"The Life of a Dissolute Samurai" will be the subject of the next UCSB History Associates luncheon-lecture at the Radisson Hotel, 1111 E. Cabrillo Blvd., on Tuesday, Jan. 23.

Asst. Prof. Luke Roberts will use the diary of a 17th-century samurai to illustrate the gap that could exist between the official moral code of behavior and what an individual member of the class actually did.

Prof. Roberts, who came to UCSB to teach Japanese history in 1991, first learned of the diary of Asahi Monzaemon when a student he was tutoring in Japan gave him a popular book about it.

"The book was fun and interesting, but it made no mention of the source or where it could be found," Prof. Roberts recalled.

"About 10 years later, I was in the stacks of the Princeton library, and I found it."

The diary turned out to be a huge work—more than 400 pages, recording events in Asahi’s life from the time he was 17 years old until his death almost 30 years later.

"He was not a model samurai," Prof. Roberts said. "He gambled and drank, even though his diary shows he knew it was wrong."

Although it has led to an article, the diary is incidental to Prof. Roberts’ current project, which is a book-length study of mercantilism in the 18th century domain of Tosa. He spent last year in Japan on a Japan Foundation fellowship reading samurai diaries of the period for indications of the relationship of...
Around the Department

HAL DRAKE chaired a panel on "Crossing Cultural Frontiers in Roman Historiography" at the AHA convention in Atlanta. The panelists included two present and former UCSB ancient history grad students: Bob Frakes (PhD 1991), on leave from Clarion University this year with an Alexander Von Humboldt Fellowship to the Leopold Wenger Institute in Munich, delivered a paper on "Ammianus Marcellinus and His Audience," and Beth Digeser, who is completing her PhD dissertation on an NEH Doctoral Fellowship, spoke on "Christians and Romans: The Audience of Lactantius."

History was also well-represented at the American Philological Association Convention in San Diego. Lisa Kallet-Marx chaired a session on "Pre-Socratic and Hellenistic Philosophy," and Robert Kallet-Marx chaired one on "Roman Rhetoric and Politics."

Anita Guerrini has been appointed to a 50 per cent tenure track position, in Environmental Studies, soon to be shared jointly with History.

Lindsey Reed was presented an award to mark completion of 15 years as Managing Editor of The Public Historian.

Tom Guglielmo (Glickstein) will present a paper on "The Forgotten Enemy: War-time Depictions of Italians in American Popular Culture, 1941-1945," at a conference on "World War II and Ethnic America," which will be held at the University of Maryland.

Peter Neushul (PhD '93, Badash) has moved from Pepperdine University, where he didn't even know he was until placed there in the October 1995 Historia, to Caltech, where he has been happily employed all the time.

Monica Orozco (Cline) will have two articles published in the Encyclopedia of Mexican History, Society and Culture (Fitzroy Dearborn Publishers).

Scopas Poggo (Collins) will publish a chapter entitled "Azande Resistance to Foreign Penetration in the Southern Sudan, 1860-1890" in Conflict Along the Nile Corridor throughout the Milena.

Thomas Scarborough (Harris) will be presenting a paper, "Natchez Nabobs in South Louisiana: A Study in Antebellum Diversification" at the Second Biennial Historic Natchez Conference (Jan. 28-Feb. 4), and will publish an article entitled, "The Bislords of Natchez: Sugar, Secession, and Strategies of Survival" in the Winter 1996 issue of the Journal of Mississippi History.

Lane Simonian (PhD '92, Nash) has published Defending the Land of the Jaguar: A History of Conservation in Mexico (Austin: University of Texas Press, 1995).

Edward Wilson (Friesen), who has been wondering if he is really supposed to be here, is a new graduate student who entered in the fall of 1995, along with all the others whose names weren't inadvertently deleted from the November, 1995 issue.

Badash Commemorates 100 Years of Radiation

THE HUNDREDTH anniversary of the discovery of radioactivity will be the subject of the Department's History of Science Colloquium on Friday, Jan. 26 at noon in Ellison 4824.

Prof. Larry Badash, author of several books on aspects of the atomic age, will deliver an illustrated lecture on "Becquerel's (un)-Inspired Discovery of Radioactivity," to mark the centennial of the discovery by French scientist Henri Becquerel in Paris in early 1896.

Prof. Badash, whose article on the discovery will appear in the February issue of Physics Today, maintains that the discovery was not a single event but a process spanning several months.

"In both talk and article, I argue that the likelihood of nuclear war (and even proliferation) has diminished, and

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An Edition Fit For A Prince

BY LINDA AND MARSHA FREY

It has finally happened! Paul Sonnino, whose modest and retiring character has habitually inspired him to avoid the spotlight of controversy, has finally said “enough is enough” and provided the world with what he considers to be the correct interpretation of Machiavelli’s Prince.

This interpretation is found in the introduction to his new translation of The Prince, which along with maps, annotations and index, has just been published in both paper and hardback editions by the prestigious Humanities Press, internationally renowned for its independence and leadership in the world of ideas.

What is this new interpretation?

“I am sick and tired of hearing that Machiavelli was the inventor of dirty politics, the first modern thinker, the founder of political science, and all that claptrap,” Prof. Sonnino said.

“There is so much self-serving propaganda surrounding Machiavelli, largely designed to push somebody’s male-oriented, European-dominated, secular humanist, or ultra-nationalistic party line, that it is time to cut the malarkey, see Machiavelli purely and simply as a man of his own time—the later Middle Ages—and get all this gobbledygook about the so-called ‘Renaissance’ out of our system!”

“Of course,” adds Sonnino open mindedly, “I have designed the edition so that anyone is free to come to a different conclusion. I make no bones about where I stand in the introduction, but I also document the different opposing views, and readers can then go on to the translation and to the annotations and decide for themselves who is right and who is wrong.”

Needless to say, this edition is ideal as a discussion starter, whether at cocktail parties or in Western Civilization courses, and, in case you were wondering, the ISBN number of the paperback is 0-391-03940-7.

Linda and Marsha Frey are identical twins who are identically professors of Early Modern European history, one at the University of Montana at Missoula and the other at Kansas State University in Manhattan. They are identically admired by Professor Sonnino, and their identically eminent publications include their jointly written, though not identical, Women in Western European History and Leopold I and the War of the Spanish Succession.

Facing the Inevitable

Balkans Professor Sees ‘Glimmer of Hope’
For Former Yugoslavia In Nascent Peace Process

In retrospect, the dissolution of Yugoslavia was inevitable, visiting Serbian historian Dragoljub Zivojinovic told the November meeting of the UCSB History Associates, but the same forces that initially led to creation of the modern state might well lead to its restoration.

The author of a dozen books on modern European history, Prof. Zivojinovic dissected the history of his homeland in a luncheon lecture that he characterized as “perhaps unorthodox.”

What made dissolution inevitable was neither the death of Tito nor the collapse of Communism, he said. Rather, it was absence of the foreign threats that had led to creation of Yugoslavia in the first place.

The nationalities that are now at war with each other lived together for more than 70 years because “numerically small nations saw Yugoslavia as a shield against dangerous neighbors or their own radical nationalists,” he said.

Now that they have broken apart, these same states are beginning to realize that the same countries that encouraged them to do so are not keeping their promises.

“The disappearance of Yugoslavia exposed these new states to pressures they had not experienced before,” he said. “They see now that Yugoslavia was their protector, but they are not yet ready to admit it.”

Prof. Zivojinovic saw the peace process that was just beginning when he spoke as a “glimmer of hope” because for the first time the United States was taking the lead instead of leaving the problem to European powers that “have played political and military games for centuries” in the Balkans.

But he cautioned that even with American leadership the peace settlement will not last if it is perceived as unfair.

Using the examples of Egypt’s Anwar Sadat and Israel’s Yitzak Rabin, Prof. Zivojinovic pointed to the dangers that Balkan leaders face as they try to achieve peace, since like their late Middle Eastern counterparts these leaders must also live with the threat posed by groups that are strongly opposed to peace.

Prof. Zivojinovic received his MA and PhD degrees from the University of Pennsylvania after taking a BA at the University of Belgrade.

How’re We Doing?

Matching donations to the Van Gelderen challenge grant as of Jan. 10 came to $4,035!

$6,000!

-$4,000

-$2,000
What Good Is a History Degree?—Part II

To the Editor:
I graduated from UCSB with a degree in History in June, 1994. I'm not necessarily trying to get a hold of an old classmate, nor do I have an article or story to contribute. My inspiration for writing is the "Doing History" article (Nov. 1995).
In one and a half year's time, I have held three jobs.

Always a motivated and directed student, I never thought that I'd be one (of the many) dissatisfied with my initial (two) career choice(s). But there I was, after 10 months as a medical assistant at Planned Parenthood, certain that I no longer wanted to pursue a Masters in Social Work. I missed writing too much.

Then I had the opportunity to work in an entry level position in a public relations agency. The transition from the public to the private sector was more difficult than I'd originally imagined, and I did not fit in well in that specific office environment.

I then set out for the third time to find another job—one that would suit my interests, academic background, thirst for greater intellectual stimulation and social needs. I remained in PR, but was selective in my third job search. Though I am again working in an entry level PR position, I have a constant work load—work that complements my studies as a history student. I write, research, and each day learn how to communicate just a little better with the editors and clients with whom I speak on the phone.
The history degree prepared me for the need to be disciplined, discerning and creative. Facing a lot of reading is not daunting. Research is not dreaded. And writing is an exercise in improvement with each press release, rather than fear.

At each interview I've attended since June 1994, I've been asked the inevitable: "Why did you major in history and what bearing does your degree have on your career choice?"

I always gave the same truthfull response: The history curriculum emphasizes the ability to communicate in a variety of fashions and stresses the need to write, read and research effectively and with an eye for detail.

Thank you, UCSB History Department. Once I chose my major as a sophomore, I never questioned my choice. Nor do I today. Many career options are for those of us with an academic background in history. It may just take a while.

Jenn Director
(Class of '94)

President's Corner

Now Is The Time...

If ever the need for historians in American society was evident, it's now.

Is anyone else as tired as I am of all the references to "historic" agendas, "history-making" legislation (or lack of it), "historic" roles, ad nauseum occurring in sound bites emanating from the current crop of non-legislators during the present political debacle? It's enough to make one ill.

If you are as tired as I am of such nonsense, how about starting the New Year by adding a line item for the Associates' Fellowship Fund to your own personal budget, to help assure future generations an abundant supply of REAL historians who can distinguish a political revolution from political game-playing?

It's quite simple, really. Each edition of Historia contains an easy to clip "coupon" for donating to any of several Associates-sponsored scholarship funds—or a check made out to the UCSB History Associates and sent to the Office of Community Relations, University of California, Santa Barbara CA 93106, will accomplish the same purpose.

Just be sure to identify the fund you wish your donation to go to. And have a sane, happy, prosperous (but not historic) 1996!

Cathy Rudolph
President

Radioactivity

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the sales of nuclear reactors have plummeted," says Prof. Badash, whose popular course on "The Atomic Age" is one of the Department's staples.

"So the centennial of Becquerel's discovery of radioactivity may mark the demise of its controversial applications."

Prof. Badash has been invited to speak on the same topic at the annual meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science next month in Baltimore.

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
History Undergrads Take Top Awards In College Competition

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“The strong showing by History majors is a tribute to the quality of the students in this seminar and the skill with which Prof. Lindemann guides them,” according to History Chair Sarah Cline.

Leading the list was Tracy L. DeRienzo, who received the Provost’s Circle Award for the best overall proposal in the Division of Humanities and Fine Arts for her project on The Political and Social Context of Service, which is being supervised by Prof. Sears McGee.

The other award winners and their projects are:


- President’s Undergraduate Fellowships: Shawn A. Howard (mentor J. E. Talbott), A Reason of War: Final Campaigns and the Atomic Decision. Loris Mullins (mentor Carol Lansing), Separated by Birth: Mary and Florentine Women. Joseph Torbik (mentor Robert Mueller), The Role of Sir Ralph Sadler in Anglo-Scottish Relations.


Naphtali Lewis Teaches Course

Prof. Naphtali Lewis, one of the world’s most distinguished papyrologists, is teaching a preseminar on the Res Gestae of the first Roman emperor, Augustus, this term. He is the author of some 20 books, including the two-volume Roman Civilization, which has been a standard text for more than 40 years.

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'West Side Story'
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musical. He will use the occasion to reflect on the nature and meaning of "gangs."

A special package that includes dinner, the talk and tickets to the musical is available to members for $42 a person and non-members for $45. Prices for those who wish to attend just the dinner and talk will be $16.50 for members, $19.50.

Because of the nature of the arrangement, payment in full must be received for all reservations by Feb. 2.

Reservations can be made by telephoning the UCSB Office of Community Relations at (805) 893-4388.

Make Mine A 'Twofer'!

Thanks, Don and JoBeth! Sure, I'll let you match my contribution dollar for dollar. Here's $ for the:

- History Associates Fellowship Fund

- Dick Cook Scholarship Fund

Name ___________________________
Address _________________________

Phone (___) _______________________

Detach and mail to:
UCSB History Associates
Office of Community Relations
University of California
Santa Barbara, CA 93106

Be Glad for What You DON'T Teach

Prof. Jeffrey Russell, author of several volumes on the history of Satan, sent the following email recently to his colleagues:

"I thought you guys might want to take this opportunity to thank God that your research interests have differed from mine.

"I just got a phone call from somebody in Michigan identifying himself as a Notre Dame graduate and asking me if I wasn't the guy who had published, twenty years ago, an article in the ND Alumni Monthly 'about a bunch of witches having sex with a giant cat.'"

"Then he said he was going to send me a letter asking practical advice.

"What should I reply? 'Use a condom'?"

Internet Philosophy
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free?

If ignorance is bliss, you must be orgasmic.

"Very funny, Scotty. Now beam down my clothes."

Puritanism: The haunting fear that someone, somewhere may be happy.

Consciousness: that annoying time between naps.

Oops. My brain just hit a bad sector.

I used to have a handle on life, then it broke.

Don't take life too seriously, you won't get out alive.

I don't suffer from insanity, I enjoy every minute of it.

Better to understand a little than to misunderstand a lot.

The gene pool could use a little chlorine.

Where there's a will, I want to be in it.

Okay, who put a "stop payment" on my reality check?

Few women admit their age. Few men act theirs.

We have enough youth, how about a fountain of SMART?

Change is inevitable, except from a vending machine.

The University of Chicago: "Where fun comes to die."

Historia
NEWSLETTER OF THE UCSB HISTORY ASSOCIATES
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
SANTA BARBARA, CA 93106