

# History Grads Rank High With UC President

HISTORY GRADUATE STUDENTS walked off with the lion's share of prestigious UC President's Dissertation Fellowships in a recent special competition sponsored by Graduate Division.

Five of the ten awards, which provide a year of funding to students who are writing their dissertations, went to historians.

The grants, described by Graduate Division as a "premiere fellowship" that comes directly from the Office of the President, is awarded on the basis of "research program, overall credentials, and potential for academic careers in teaching and research."

"History grads have done well this year," Department Chair Jack Talbott said. "We are proud of them all."

The winners and their dissertation topics are:

John Baranski (Furner), "The Making of Public Housing in San Francisco: Social Activism, Social Prejudice and Liberalism, 1938-1998."

Sarah Case (De Hart), "Women's

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

## *Van Gelderens Renew Challenge to Associates*

ONCE AGAIN, JO Beth and Don Van Gelderen have dared UCSB History Associates to put their money where their mouths are, with an offer to match up to \$8,000 in donations to the scholarship fund dollar for dollar.

"This is a remendous opportunity," Associates President Patrick O'Dowd said. "It really lets us leverage our resources."

Contributions to the Fellowship Fund or the Dick Cook Memorial Scholarship Fund are eligible.

To take advantage of the offer, mail your contribution to: UCSB History Associates, c/o Office of Community Relations, University of California, Santa Barbara, CA 93106.



## Ibsen's 'Doll's House' Unites Two Favorites

A LANDMARK DRAMA in the liberation of European women takes center stage as UCSB History Associates present a special program centered on Henrik Ibsen's "A Doll's House" on Sunday, March 11.

The special program brings together two favorites from previous History Associates events — Prof. Erika Rappaport and director Peter Lackner.

Prof. Rappaport, who will put the play into its historical context in a luncheon lecture preceding the matinee performance, spoke to Associates in 1998 on the introduction of the American-style department store to England at the turn of the 20th century.

Her book, *Shopping for Pleasure: Gender, Commerce and Public Life in London's West End, 1860-1914*, has been critically praised for its innovative approach.

This lecture is entitled "Breaking out of the Doll's House: The 'New Woman' and Fin-de-Siècle Culture."

Associates will also remember director Lackner, a member of the UCSB Drama Department, whose insightful comments about his staging of Shakespeare's "The Tempest" in 1997 were extremely well received.

Ibsen's play, which is being performed by Santa Barbara's Ensemble Theatre Company from a Tony Award-winning adaptation by Frank McGuinness, is the story of a housewife, Nora Helmer, who is forced to realize how completely dependent she is on her husband.

This realization makes her a "new woman," according to Prof. Rappaport.

A phenomenon of the late 19th century, "new women" rejected their traditional marriage roles and took to working and

living on their own.

Ibsen's play was path-breaking in its sympathetic portrayal of Nora's decision to enter a lifestyle that was not considered "respectable" by contemporary society.

Lunch and lecture will begin at noon at Andersen's Restaurant, 1106 State St., followed by a 2 p.m. performance at the nearby Alhecama Theater, 914 Santa Barbara St.

A special package price of \$30 has been set for lunch, lecture and performance (\$40 for non-members).

Reservations for lunch and lecture only are \$15 (\$18 for non-members), while tickets for the performance only are \$20 (\$25).

Reservations can be made through the



Karen Stapleton stars as Nora in Ibsen's 'Doll's House.'

# Mass. Society Names Cohen To Special Chair

HISTORY PROF. Patricia Cohen has been invited to be the fourth Mellon Distinguished Scholar-in-Residence at the American Antiquarian Society (AAS) in Worcester, Massachusetts, in 2001-2002.

The AAS is the premier research library for early American imprints in the U.S.

The appointment, funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, allows the AAS to invite a distinguished senior scholar to take up long-term residence at the Society, to do research and writing on a major project, to engage fully in the collegial life of the Society, and to serve as an anchor for the AAS fellowship program as a whole.

There is no application process for the appointment. The Mellon scholar is especially

## New Year Brings New Bloopers

BLOOPMEISTER AL Lindemann ended a long silence this month with a list of entries that he had accidentally misplaced, "appropriately enough, in my copy of Gertrude Himmelfarb's *On Looking into the Abyss: Untimely Thoughts on Culture and Society*."

The winner (with his own response in parentheses):

"David Ben-Grunion was a Christmatic leader of Israel." (Sounds fishy to me.)

Matt DeFraga gave Al a run for his money with the following gems:

"The British were interested in banning the aerobic slave trade." Matt's comment: "Vi-

selected to serve as a mentor to the younger scholars in residence.

Prof. Cohen will use the time to pursue research on her project on Thomas and Mary Gove Nichols, two sex reformers who championed marriage reform and sexual autonomy for women in the

## History Faculty Garner Prizes

1840s-1850s JAMES BROOKS, THE department's new professor of U. S. Borderlands history, has received the Arrell Morgan Gibson Award for best essay in Native American history from the Western History Association for his essay on "Violence, Justice, and State Power in the New Mexico Borderlands, 1780-1880," published in Richard White and John Findlay eds., *Power and Place in the North American West* (Seattle, 1999).

Prof. Brooks is currently on research leave at the School of American Research in Santa Fe, New Mexico, where he is an NEH Resident Scholar.

Prof. Jane De Hart presented a paper on "The AFDC Mother and Welfare Reform: Constructing a New Political History of Multiple Layered Narratives" at the American Historical Association annual meeting in January.

She then flew to Washington to do three hours of taping for a documentary film on the Federal Theatre, the subject of her first book, *The Federal Theatre, 1935-1939: Plays, Relief, and Politics* (Princeton, 1967).

Prof. Anita Guerrini gave the keynote address at the DeBartolo Conference in Eighteenth Century Studies

## President's Corner

### Looking Forward and Backwards

I HOPE YOU WILL INDULGE ME as I reflect on what my education in the History Department has meant to me. Recently, I left my job as Chief Curator for the Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation. By the grace of God and the mysteries of fate, I had the opportunity to restore the Casa de la Guerra adobe and develop educational programs and historical exhibits while interacting with the many wonderful Santa Barbara cultural institutions and even city government. It was a terrific experience. But now it is over. Yes, I leave with sadness but also with a feeling of accomplishment. Yet finding myself suddenly naked and again *out there in the world* is stressful and leads to deep reflection.

My History Department experience once again comes to my spiritual rescue as it always has. I want to explain what it taught me by virtue of iconography. I take as my sign, the Roman god, *Janus*. This two-faced god of beginnings, doorways, and the meaning of history, who looks forward and backwards at the



same time and combines the wisdom of the past and the knowledge of the future, is my emblem. So in my newly found state of material nakedness and spiritual exposure, I find myself reflecting on the past, just as the department taught me to do. By now, it is an old and useful habit bred

into my bones.

In my mind's eye, when I peeled away my present reality to reveal what I wanted to think about, I discovered, as odd as this may sound to you, that what I wanted to do was to think about John Quincy Adams.

Since my days in the department, I have always wanted to study this American President. Long ago, I was diverted from this interest because of the reality of having to put bread on the table, but with all the controversy about the recent presidential election and all the rest, I find myself again wanting to complete my research about this man more than I want to do anything else. I guess the old maxim is true that "*History is what I can't help thinking about.*"

Let me mention a few reasons why this man is interesting. If you believe in the idea that good Presidents can be trained and are not just accidents, then consider the case of John Quincy Adams. Son of a President, trained at the University of Leyden and Harvard, graduating second in his class and speaking many languages (his father, John Adams, thought he spoke French better than English), he was the father of German studies in America, and translator of Wieland's *Oberon*.

He was Harvard professor of Rhetoric and Oratory, famed diplomat, and America's greatest Secretary of State. He was also a man deeply interested in science who wrote a magnificent treatise on weights and measures, made the Smithsonian institution possible, and was the first President to consider a federal science policy and to practice astronomy. His life is a test case of whether or not great education and background can make great Presidents.

# History Grads Sweep Fellowship

CONTINUED FROM P. 1  
Education in the South, 1880-1925.”

Rick Fogarty (Talbot/Mouré), “The French Use of Indigenous Troops in the First World War.”

Justin Stephens (Drake), “The Political Thought of John Chrysostom: Defining Religious and Secular Authority in the Christian Empire.”

José Valente (Dutra), “The Knights Templar in Portugal, 1128-1319.”

## Grads Write, Speak, Publish

THERE WAS GOOD news for our grads as well.

**Matt Racine** (Dutra) has written an article on “Service and Honor in Early Sixteenth-Century Portuguese North Africa: Yahya-u-Taftu and Portuguese Noble Culture” for the *Sixteenth Century Journal*.

**Scopas Poggo** (PhD Collins, 1999) has received a research grant from Ohio State University to spend six months in Uganda doing research on his next book, tentatively entitled “The Oral History of the Kuku People of the Southern Sudan, 1860-1960: Political, Economic, and Social Institutions.”



istoria

Vol. 14, No. 3 March • 2001

Editor

Hal Drake

Graduate Editor

Tom Sizgorich

Published by the UCSB  
History Associates

**Dennis Ventry** (Brownlee) has published two articles. “The Collision of Tax and Welfare Politics: The Political History of the Earned Income Tax Credit, 1969-1999” appeared in the December issue of *National Tax Journal*, and “Straight Talk About the ‘Death’ Tax: Politics, Economics, and Morality” in the November issue of *Tax Notes*.

**Matthew Sutton** (De Hart) will present papers at two conferences in March. He will read “Complicating the Fundamental-Pentecostal Dichotomy: Aimee Semple McPherson and the Convergence of Religious Identities” at the Spring meeting of the American Society of Church History at Yale, and “Appropriating History: The Subversion of Fundamentalist Gender Orthodoxy in the Early 20th Century” at a meeting of the American Academy of Religion/Western Region at Claremont.

## Bloopers

CONTINUED FROM P. 2  
sions of Richard Simmons with a whip- ‘Let’s go girls! Pick those leg irons up!’”

Also from Matt: “Mussolini drove the Italian coupe.” (What kind? A Maserati? A Ferrari?)

Tryntje Helfferich submits a “profound” entry: “Yahweh is the sole creator, fulfilling a plan of his own demise.” (“Might make a good Religious Studies major.”)

Not officially a blooper but too good to pass up is the following from Luke Roberts:

“When President Clinton attended the Okinawa Summit, Prime Minister Mori prepared for English conversation, mainly ‘How are you?’ and his response.

“But he mistakenly said ‘Who are you?’ to Clinton,



Native Americans in New England, circa 1950.

## Plane Tells Identity Struggle Of New England

NATIVE AMERICANS in New England have had more difficulty preserving their identity than their cousins in the Western United States because of the way whites defined ethnicity, History Prof. Ann Plane told UCSB History Associates at their December meeting.

“The definition of ethnicity used by the United States is biological, while the Native American standard is cultural,” Prof. Plane explained.

Because of this different standard, she explained, New England states started removing legal protections for Indians in the second half of the 19th century.

“The Indian past in New England was presented as dead and over with,” she said. “The only ‘real’ Indians were in the West.”

For this reason, she said, when New England Indians started to reassert their identity in the 20th century they adopted the regalia and customs associated with Western Indians.

Newer scholarship has assisted this revival by learning to

“read through” the values and moral viewpoints in documents produced by European settlers for the information they contain about Native Americans.

“Even in 1668, missionaries already were rewriting Native American history to suit their ideas,” she said.

What emerges is the story of a people who “went through terribly traumatic experiences” while learning to survive in a world that “changed from Algonquian to one replicating English life.”

The result is a new willingness to incorporate Native American ideas into the reconstruction of those early centuries of European colonization.

Even Plymouth Plantation, where Prof. Plane herself lived for several years, “has now been able to draw in native activists, leading to a reinterpretation of the life being reconstructed there to tell the stories of both peoples,” she reported.

Prof. Plane first spoke to the History Associates when she arrived in 1994 on the subject of the first Thanksgiving.



*Japanese fisherman 'in stitches'*

## Roberts Curates Museum Exhibit Of Japanese Coats

HISTORY PROF. LUKE Roberts is co-curator of an exhibit of embroidered coats used by Japanese fishermen until the early 20th century that opens at the University Art Museum in March.

"These coats are stitched in various geometric patterns, and quilted together from bits of old cloth, an art born of poverty like Appalachian quilts," Prof. Roberts explained.

"They are really beautiful, and are only worn for ceremonial reasons now," he said. "I hope people will take advantage of this chance to see them."

The exhibit, which opens at UCSB on March 24, will be in this country about a year and a half.

After it closes at UCSB on May 20, it will open at the Textile Museum in Washington, DC, in June and the University of Michigan Museum of Art in October.

The exhibit will then return to the West Coast for a run at

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

# O'DOWD

CONTINUED FROM P. 2

It is marvelous the way my History Department education has helped me in my struggle to find my future and make my life interesting and meaningful. What brings this about? I can explain it to you by just making a few comments on incredibly important concepts that I received through my student experience.

When I first encountered the department, I was a science-oriented, ill-informed, middle class suburban boob who understood very little. Yet a few history encounters with the right people and *voilà*—I came to understand that history can teach you how to live.

The most important person in my experience was Prof. Harold Kirker. In the course of my studies, I remember encountering all those big time philosophical thinkers and studying them, but it was Harold Kirker who told me, on walks around the campus lagoon, that I shouldn't be so concerned with the philosophy, but to study each man and see how all that deep thinking had helped him learn how to live.

This was a good insight for me. And I was able to apply this idea right away to an analysis of professors to follow in the

## History Faculty

CONTINUED FROM P. 2 this month. Her topic was "Duverney's Skeletons: The Invention of Intellectual Property in the Eighteenth Century." Earlier in the month, Prof. Guerrini spoke on "Animals and Public Anatomy in the Early Eighteenth Century" at the Boston Colloquium for the Philosophy of Science.

Prof. Mary Furner delivered a paper on "The Enlightenment Ideal, the Social Sciences,

department. High on my list of faculty whose *life/idea integrities* were outstanding were Harold Kirker, George Dangerfield, and Roger Williams. They all had ideas that taught one about what it is to be a *gentleman* and why good manners are important.

What's more, Harold taught me about hierarchies and their natural and inevitable importance (despite all the American leveling rhetoric); in his class on American Cultural History we considered high culture, the best of painting, architecture, and literature, not an analysis of *pop* culture, *Leave It to Beaver*, and pornography.

He also taught me that American history can only be understood as a branch of European history and that it was always important to think about character. It wasn't far from this thought to coming to the conclusion that a deep understanding of American character could make you a civilized American. Yes, one needs to think about hierarchies to learn to be a gentleperson and to have a good character.

Lastly, these gentlemen-scholars in the department were concerned with civilization. Civilization is a word to ponder and an ideal to pursue. Does the department still teach that thought? Harold Kirker taught American civilization. Roger Williams taught French civilization. Leonard Marsak

and Governance" at a meeting of the History of Science Society in Vancouver.

Frank Frost gave a paper to the Classics Department of the University of Texas on sausages and meat preservation in antiquity that include a tasting of sausages that he made himself using an ancient recipe. The talk was entitled, appropriately enough, "Links to the Past."

Robert Collins published a paper on "Slavery in the Sudan in History" in the December

taught us the history of civilization through the history of ethical ideas. All of them were teaching us how to live. That was important.

Now all these gentlemen-scholars in the department who so affected my life (and undoubtedly some of you, too), might not have been the greatest career publishers of papers and books with all the apparatus of professionalism, but what they did was a greater good: to help us become culturally sophisticated and aware of the importance of civilization and our duty to it and ourselves. I have tried to follow their teachings. My debt to them is infinite and beyond measure since they gave meaning to my life.

I hope the department is still teaching the young how to live. It is so much more important than some of the courses I see listed in the campus catalog. Teaching how to live and the importance of the idea of civilization answers the question: what use is a history education?

Anyway, my friends, for me it is onward to John Quincy Adams. Thanks for listening. See you at the *Doll's House*.

*Patrick O'Dowd, President  
UCSB History Associates*

# LET US HEAR FROM

# Public History Programs Feature Professional Speakers,

BY ANN MARIE PLANE

*Ed. Note: With this issue, Historia inaugurates a column of updates on the department's flagship program in Public History.*

STUDENTS, FACULTY AND staff in the Public Historical Studies program have been having *too much fun* this year!! The monthly "First Thursday" get togethers have been lively and regular, despite having never yet been held on the actual first Thursday of the month!

Whatever the schedule, the flexibility has allowed for an "inspired" set of programs—including a wide range of presentations, one field trip, and (most important) *free food!*

In November we heard from first-year graduate student Katie Wollan about her work with Historic LA on organizing and analyzing the results of volunteer assessments of historically significant buildings in Santa Barbara's West Beach neighborhood, on contract to the City of Santa Barbara.

In December grad student Anne Petersen rose from her sick bed just long enough to tour everyone through an exhibit she helped to curate at the Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation.

The works displayed were amazing examples of fancy braided rawhide artistry, representing the life and work of Jose Ortega, an important Santa Barbara folk artist, descended from one of the earliest Presidio families.

January saw not one but two events. The first was a

*Ann Marie Plane is Associate Professor of History and Director of Public Historical Studies.*

visit from Patrick O'Bannon, of HRA Gray and Pape, LLC, Cincinnati. Patrick is a high-level officer in the National Council on Public History (NCPH) the major scholarly/professional organization for public historians working in the United States.

Patrick talked with us about the development of his career as a contract historian and the vagaries of doing contract work.

He offered a lot of great practical advice to students on how to develop a business plan, how to set an appropriate fee schedule, how historical research under contract for clients may differ from university-based inquiries, and the vicissitudes of doing historical assessments of a wide range of structures, including a WW II-era dance hall in New Jersey!

Our second January visitor was Prof. Chris Castaneda, director of the Public History MA program at CSU Sacramento and co-director of the joint UCSB-CSUS Ph.D. program in Public Historical Studies.

Chris brought along David Byrd, president of the California Council for the Promotion of History and a first-year PhD student in the joint program, in residence this year at CSUS.

Chris spoke to a large group of students, staff, faculty, and friends of the program about two of his ongoing research projects.

Given our recent power crisis, Chris's talk was particularly timely. He primarily does business and economic history, specializing in regulation and the natural gas industry in the west.

He is the author of *Gas Pipelines and the Emergence of America's Regulatory State: A History of Panhandle Eastern Corporation, 1928-1995* (Cambridge, 1996).

His most recent book is *Invisible Fuel: Manufactured And Natural Gas In America, 1800-2000* (New York, 1999).

So we all learned a lot about section 106 requirements for assessment and documentation of historically valuable properties and sites, even those located underground(!) where they are slowly rusting away.

Ah, the benefits of government regulation!

Chris is also launching a new oral history of the glory days at CALPERS, the California Public Employees Retirement fund,

and so we ended with a great clip of two former employees remembering what it was like to be a female office worker in the late 1940s.

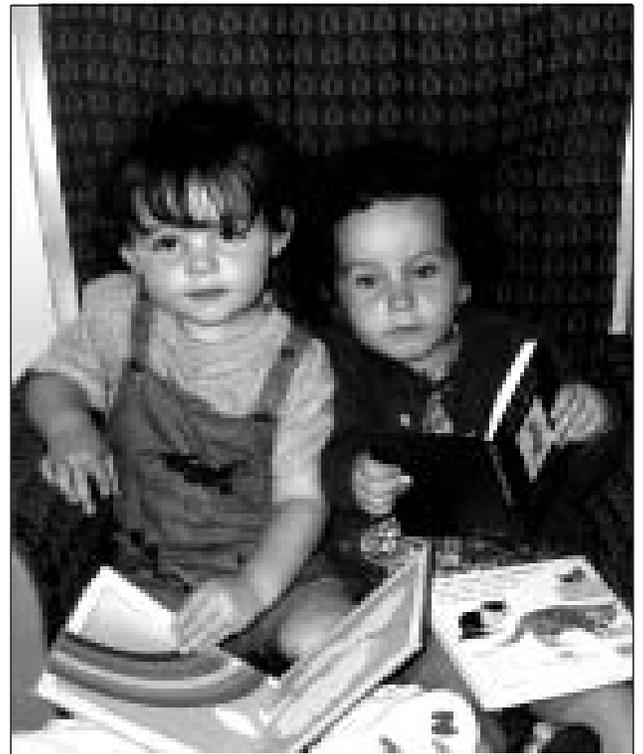
In February, University of Wisconsin (Oshkosh) Prof. Edward Linenthal, a UCSB graduate, was scheduled to talk on his new book on the creation of the memorial to victims of the Oklahoma City bomb attack.

He planned to feature some of the unsolicited memorial designs that *didn't* get chosen.

"It's quite stunning stuff," he says, "really revealing of an American memorial vocabulary, and stuff that no one has seen."

Stay tuned!

## *It's Never Too Early!*



*Andy Witt (20 months), son of Erika Rappaport and Jordan Witt, and 2-year-old Antigone Fogel, daughter of Josh Fogel and Joan Judge, seem to have decided it's time to begin their scholarly careers. According to Erika, the paper they are jointly researching in this photo is on gender and British-Chinese relations in the early 20th century.*

# Ready to Join?

Another great year of UCSB History Associates' events is under way. You'll want to keep posted about events in the History Department as well. To renew your membership or join for the first time, just fill out this form and mail it with your check or money order (payable to UCSB History Associates).

Enclosed are my annual membership dues of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

- Active \$30
- Corresponding 15

*(Available to residents outside of Santa Barbara County only)*



**In addition to my membership dues, enclosed is:**

- \$25 to obtain a UCSB Library card
- \$ \_\_\_\_\_ gift to the History Associates Graduate Fellowship Fund.
- \$ \_\_\_\_\_ gift to the History Associates Dick Cook Fund.

*Gifts of \$1,000 or more qualify for membership in the Chancellor's Council.*



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/Zip/State: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership dues are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. Gifts to the scholarship fund are considered a charitable donation.

Please make your check payable to the UCSB History Associates and return it to:

UCSB Office of Community Relations  
University of California, Santa Barbara  
Santa Barbara, CA 93106-2100

# Where in the World?



PAUL SONNINO HAS come up with another poser for this year's "Where in the World" contest.

The globe-trotting historian offers two clues: (1) Jesse Jackson was also there; (2) it has nothing to do with his recent surgery.

Same deal as always: a bag of Paul Sonnino avocados to the winner.

If you can get over the shock of seeing Prof. Sonnino in evening wear, please submit your entry to: Editor, *Historia*, Department of History, University of California, Santa Barbara, CA 93106-9410.

## Roberts Meets 'Men in Stitches'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4  
the UCLA Fowler Museum of Cultural History from April to July, 2002.

As part of his duties, Prof. Roberts wrote a chapter on "Fishing Villages of Northern Awaji" for a book being published by the Fowler Museum.

The book's title will be the same as that for the exhibit: "Fishing Villages of Northern Awaji."

(Prof. Roberts own proposed title, 'Men in Stitches,' was vetoed.)

While the exhibit is at UCSB, Prof. Roberts will give a talk at 5 p.m. on April

10 (location to be announced). His talk is entitled "In the Days of Oar and Sail: Fishing Villages and Fishermen's Coats in Northern Awaji."

To prepare, he made two trips to tiny Awaji island off the west coast of Japan for research and interviews.

"It was very fun and I ate weird and tasty fish," he reported. "I also met lots of great people."

One particular dish that Prof. Roberts recalled was miniature octopi naturally stuffed with eggs.

"They were a surprise," he said.



# istoria

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

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Santa Barbara  
California  
Permit No. 104