Buchanan Winner Leads Awards

HONORS STUDENT RISA Michelle Katzen has been selected to receive the Buchanan Award, given to the outstanding graduating senior in History.

A History major since she came to UCSB from Danville, Risa says she "fell in love with the storytelling of history" in high school, and became even more enamored when her classes at UCSB taught her to analyze problems and conduct research.

She obviously learned well. Her Senior Honors thesis, written for Profs. Harris and Miescher, shared the History Associates Board Prize for best paper in this year’s seminar with Celine Purcell, who wrote hers for Prof. Bergstrom (see p. 5).

For her thesis, Risa did a comparative study of women’s suffrage movements in the U.S. and South Africa, a topic she got interested in while spending Fall, 2007 on Education Abroad in Capetown.

While studying the topic of History, Memory and Identity, Risa says, she learned the importance of preserving historical materials for the public and now plans to pursue graduate work in museum curatorship.

The Buchanan Award was created by the UCSB Alumni Association in 1973 to honor Prof. A. Russell Buchanan, a founding member of the History department who also served as the first dean of the College of L&S and as Academic Vice Chancellor. He was professor of History from 1936 until his retirement in 1973.

Tested by Fire, 187 Majors to Graduate

There will be no trepidation in the Class of 2009 as they go into their last set of final examinations before graduating.

And for good reason. This is the class that has truly been tested by fire: first the Gap fire in July 2008, followed by the Tea fire in November and, just this month, the Jesusita fire that turned UCSB into an evacuation camp.

"This class has definitely had its mettle tested," said History Chair Ken Mouré. "The campus and our students have responded to crises with great efficiency and calm in a year of unusual stress and disruption."

To celebrate, Prof. Mouré said, the department will host a reception for graduating seniors and their families on Sunday, June 15, from 11 a.m. to noon in the History Conference Room, HSSB 4020. The commencement ceremony will begin at 1 p.m. on the Faculty Club Green.

Of the 187 students receiving degrees this year, 40 completed their coursework at the end of Fall and Winter quarters and another 39 will finish after taking their last courses this Summer.

The total also includes students graduating with degrees in History of Public Policy and Medieval Studies.

Leading this year’s class are 10 students who received Distinction in the Major for completing the Senior Honors seminar.

They are Katyn Evenson, Allison Fischer, Michael Hale, Mathew Hamula, Risa Katzen, Christopher Kindell, Damien Mimnaugh, Adrienne Minor, Craig Nelson and Celine Purcell.

Six History majors were among 119 students campuswide to be selected for Phi Beta Kappa, the nation’s oldest and most prestigious academic honor society.

They are Alexandra Fish, Michael Hale, Mathew Hamula, Ethan Hartsell, Avian Johnson and Damien Mimnaugh.

Historia Readers: Important Notice

Due to changes in Postal Service rules, it will no longer be feasible to distribute Historia by mail, Editor Hal Drake reported.

Starting this Fall, Historia will be sent to subscribers as an email attachment, in pdf format.

“The good news is, this will get the newsletter into the hands of our readers more quickly,” Drake said. “Even better, they’ll be able to see the illustrations in color.”

The bad news, however, is that some subscribers do not have email accounts. If you are one of these, or if you would prefer to receive a hard copy of the newsletter, please notify the editor immediately, c/o History Department, UCSB, Santa Barbara,

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Senior Reception

Sunday, June 15, at 11 a.m.
in HSSB 4020.
Historians Keep Up Winning Streak With Teaching, Research Honors

Laurence Christian Nabs Senate TA Prize

The History department’s dominance of campus teaching awards continued this year, with grad student Laurence Christian (Marcuse) walking off with the Academic Senate’s Outstanding Teaching Assistant award.

The twelfth History graduate student to win this award in the past 11 years, Laurence has taught both History 2 (World History) and History 4 (Western Civ).

He was cited for the care and personal attention he gives all of his students.

Cohen Named Best Grad Mentor, And April Haynes Proves It

History Prof. Patricia Cline Cohen received the Academic Senate’s Outstanding Graduate Mentor award this year, and no sooner was the ink dry on the certificate than her student April Haynes learned she had won the campus Lancaster Prize for best dissertation in the Humanities.

Zarnow Named Wilson Fellow

Grad student Leandra Zarnow (DeHart) has received one of only seven Woodrow Wilson Dissertation Fellowships in Women’s Studies awarded this year in a national competition.

Recipient of both a UCSB History Associates Fellowship and the Stuart Bernath Research Prize in 2008, Zarnow is writing a dissertation on “Bella Abzug and the Promise of Progressive Change in Cold War United States” that will be the first comprehensive biography of this leader of the modern Women’s Rights movement, who served in Congress from 1970-1977.

April is the second Cohen student to win the campus prize. Her dissertation on social health movements in the Antebellum U.S. will now be entered in the national competition sponsored by the Council of Graduate Schools, which was won by Cohen’s other student, Bev Schwartzberg, in 2001.

Prof. Cohen is the third historian to win the Mentor award since it was established four years ago. She was awarded the Outstanding Teacher prize in 2006 and a coveted Guggenheim fellowship for the year 2006-07.

Hämäläinen, Barbieri-Low Add to Awards

The awards just keep coming in for Profs. Tony Barbieri-Low and Pekka Hämäläinen.

Last month, the two History faculty learned that their books had each won one more coveted prize.

Prof. Hämäläinen’s The Imperial Comanches: How the Rise and Fall of an Indigenous Empire Shaped the Course of American History (Yale, 2008) received the Bancroft Prize, awarded by Columbia University for "exceptional merit in the fields of American history, biography and diplomacy."

Prof. Barbieri-Low’s Artisans in Early Imperial China (Washington, 2007) was chosen by the Association for Asian Studies to receive its Joseph Levenson Prize for work on pre-1900 China.

Comanche previously received awards from the Organization of American Historians and the Texas State Historical Assn.

Artisans won awards from the American Historical Assn. and the College Art Assn., only the second China book ever to be recognized by the CAA.
Associates Raise New Record For Awards

Despite the worst economy in decades, the UCSB History Associates gave away a record $67,500 for graduate student support this year, President Monica Orozco reported.

The bulk of the funds went to fund 15 History Associates Fellowships.

Alicia Rivera (Majewski) was selected to receive the Donald Van Gelderen Memorial Award, which supports non-traditional graduate students.

Other recipients are: Megan Barber (Mouré), Peggy Beadle (Plane), Stacy Blackburn (Plane), Megan Bowman (Cohen), Vanessa Crispin-Peralta (Plane), Susan Falck (Jacobsson), Andrea Gill (O’Connor), Paul Hirsch (Yaqub), Tory Inloes (Plane), José Igue (Mendez), John Munro (Lichtenstein), Nicole Pacino (Soto Laveaga), Nathan Perry (McKenna), Nicole Sater (Majewski), John Munro (Lich- tenstein), Nicole Sater (Majewski), and Ty Smith (Hancock).

Labor Historian Wins Collins Prize for Best First Grad Student Publication

Elizabeth Shermer (Lichtenstein) has been awarded the first Robert O. Collins Prize for best first publication by a graduate student.


"We had five submissions, any one of which was worthy of the prize," Prof. Gabriella Soto Laveaga, a member of the Prizes Committee, said. "This one was distinguished by its novel argument and its persuasive, polished style."

The Arizona Senator, Shermer writes, "introduced into mainstream politics the idea that many routine, heretofore legal trade union activities were corrupt, dangerous, and un-American."

Shermer defended her dissertation this spring and will begin teaching at Claremont-McKenna College in the Fall.

The Collins Prize was established by the History faculty in 2008 to recognize the celebrated African historian’s lifelong dedication to teaching and publication.

It has been generously endowed by Prof. Collins’ three surviving children—Catharine Collins Kristian, Randolph Collins and Robert W. Collins.

In Memoriam: Dimitrije Djordjevic

BY HAL DRAKE

IT WAS A PARTICULARLY contentious department meeting, the kind we get into from time to time. Tempers were growing short as faculty on both sides spoke with increasing vehemence.

Then Dimitrije Djordjevic raised his hand.

In those urbane, gentle tones that anyone who knew him remembers so well, he began to tell a story about a Prime Minister in his beloved Balkan homeland.

After one speaker finished, he said, the P.M. replied, "You are right."

When an opposition speaker finished, the P.M. said, "You are right."

A third speaker pointed out that he had just agreed with diametrically opposite positions. The P.M. replied, "You are right, too."

Dimitrije used the story to remind us that issues are not always black and white, and it worked. The temperature in the room went down, and after a good laugh we resolved the issue. Try as I may, I cannot remember what that issue was.

I think that was also Dimitrije’s point: no matter how important issues seem at the time, the only thing that matters in the long run is the respect with which we treat each other.

Unlike most of us, Dimitrije, who died March 5 at the age of 87, did not learn this lesson out of books, he lived it. An ardent nationalist, he was sent to a concentration camp by the Nazis in World War II, and after the war sent back to prison by Tito’s Communist regime.

The author of eight books before he retired in 1990, Dimitrije rose to new heights in retirement when he published a multi-volume memoir of his wartime and postwar experiences. Publication in Yugoslavia caused a sensation, with revelations of the deeds of individuals whose names had been purged from the history books.

Of course, students loved him. After an English translation of the first volume of his memoirs was published as Scars and Memory in 1997, Dimitrije was invited to speak at UCSB’s Interdisciplinary Humanities Center.

The half-life of undergraduate memory is two years, so none of the students who packed the room knew what was in store for them. Within minutes, he...
Looking Ahead
As this academic year ends, the moment is opportune not just to look back at what we’ve accomplished (and survived!), but to look ahead. The department has 187 graduating majors in June and about 20 graduate students being hooded in recognition of completion of their PhDs. Our number of majors has been rising from its recent plateau in the low 500s, to 552 in spring 2008, and our courses fill rapidly well in advance of the start of each quarter. In response to budget cuts, department planning for 2009-10 has focused on mitigating the impact of those cuts on our program quality and the number of students we teach. Faculty have responded to the crisis with great energy and good will. Our lower division courses will be fewer in number and smaller in size, as their size is determined by the number of TAships the university can fund. Faculty have made a major effort to increase our upper division course offerings in number and size; we will have several hundred more seats available in our upper division classes.

Most impressively, the range of courses we offer continues to expand as faculty take up new interests based on new research. Prof. Moses Chikowero, just hired in African history, will offer a new course in Winter quarter on the history of Southern Africa (102MC). Professor Chikowero joins us in the Fall and information about his course will be posted on line. Professor Cline will offer a new survey of the history of religion in Latin America from 1500 to the present in Spring quarter, covering indigenous, Christian, and non-Christian traditions (158R).

Our teaching effort will extend to Washington, DC, where Professor Alice O’Connor will be directing the UCDC program for the next two years. Students there in Winter quarter will benefit from the opportunity to take her new reading seminar, “Obama’s New Deal? Historical Perspectives on the Politics of Reform.” And back at home in Santa Barbara, Profs. Lisa Jacobson and Erika Rappaport will combine their research interests in offering a new lecture class in Winter quarter, Food in World History (195F). It will look at the impact of economic, cultural, technological and geopolitical change in the consumption and cultures of food and drink on a global scale. Students will learn the rich historical context for current concerns for world hunger, the politics of subsidies, the regulation of food safety, and the global inequalities in distribution of food.

Come rain, fire, drought and deficit, we continue to deliver!

Ken Mouré, Chair

Marx-Wolf Captures Prize for Best Graduate Student

HEIDI MARX-WOLF (De Palma Digeser/Drake) was awarded the Richard Mayberry Award for best overall performance in any field of history.

Set to begin teaching at the University of Manitoba in Canada in the Fall. Marx-Wolf is completing a dissertation on "Daemological Discourse and the Christianization of the Mediterranean World in Late Antiquity."

Prof. DePalma Digeser called the dissertation "a revolutionary exploration of late antique Mediterranean religion."

Other best student awards:
The J. Bruce Anderson Fellowship for the outstanding teaching assistant went to Jessica Elliott (Farmer). Jessica also received the C. Warren Hollister Memorial Fellowship for research in medieval European history.

Bianca Murillo (Hämäläinen) received the Jane S. De Hart Prize, which goes to the best graduate student working on historical issues related to gender or sexuality.

Grads Garner Teaching Jobs

MORE GOOD NEWS on the job front.

Josh Birk (PhD 2006 Lansing) has been appointed to a tenure track position at Smith College.

Mark Hendrickson (PhD 2004 Furner) is moving from Colorado State to a tenure-track position at UC San Diego.

Katie Sjursen (Farmer) has accepted a tenure-track position at Southern Illinois University.

Travis Moger (Friesen/McGee) has accepted a three-year appointment as an instructor in history at the United States Naval Academy.
Best Paper Awards Lead Prizes List

Micha el Daly won the Stuart Bernath Prize for best undergraduate paper, and Sunny Lim the William Ellison Prize for best graduate paper.

Daly’s paper, written for Prof. Furner, was titled “No Casa to Call Home: Mexican Industrial Workers in 1920s Chicago.”

Lim wrote “The Bona Fide Labor Dispute and Spatial Restrictions,” also for Prof. Furner.

The History Associates Board Prize for best paper in the Senior Honors seminar was shared by Celine Purcell and Nicole Pacino (Soto La-vega).

New Awards For Recruitment, Ancient History

Three graduate students who entered the program this year were beneficiaries of a new recruitment fellowship created by the History Associates.

Two other new students received the first grants from the Harold and Kathleen Drake Fund, created last year to benefit graduate students in ancient Mediterranean or Chinese history.

The first Drake Fellows are Ryan Horne (Lee) and Greg Goalwin (DePalma Digeser).

The three recruitment fellowships went to Ryan Albrecht (DePalma Digeser), Tiffany Dimaggio (Hämäläinen) and Zamira Yusufjono (Edgar).

“The History department now competes for the best graduate students in the country,” Associates President Monica Orozco explained.

“We hoped this award would give the department a little edge, and we’re delighted it worked so well.”

Buchanan Award winner Risa Katzen (see p. 1).

Purcell’s paper, written for Prof. Jacobson, was titled “Step It Up: The Rise of Conservative Anti-Gang Legislation in California.”

The John Coleman Award for best paper in international, Cold War or military history went to Roger Pryor (Yaqub) for “The Fruits of Science for Death and Destruction.”

The Nicholas and Lena Durham Essay Award for best paper on a topic of ancient or medieval Greek history or culture went to Loren Fox for “Homeric Betrothal Customs: Do They Represent One Time or Many?” written for Prof. Lee.

Named Awards Go to Grads, Undergrads

Rheannon Maxwell (Hasegawa) was awarded the Marion Ramstad Scholarship for study of European or Asian history.

The Margaret J. Straight Scholarship funded by the Daughters of the American Revolution for undergraduate study of U.S. history went to Donny Ristow.

In the graduate student category, the Lawrence Badash Prize for outstanding work in the History of Science went to Nicole Pacino (Soto La-vega).

Nicole was also awarded the Stuart Bernath Research Prize for dissertation travel expenses.

The Richard and Jeanne Williams Endowed Fellowship to recruit and support outstanding graduate students went to Damian Nemovosky (Rock).

Warren Wood (Cohen) received the Van Gelderen Graduate Fellowship for study of U.S. Western history.

Henry Maar (Lichtenstein) and Jackson Warkentin (Hämäläinen) shared the

Inside the CASA

BY TY SMITH

“This April, UCSB played host to the annual meeting of the California chapter of the American Studies Association (CASA). I attended as an outsider, attracted, in typical graduate student fashion, by some mixture of a desire to help my professor, free registration and coffee, and intellectual stimulation.

I knew next to nothing about the organization. My first impression was of the conference’s scale. Compared to the meetings of much larger organizations, attendance was modest. The enthusiasm of the participants, both presenters and audience, though, made it a unique and refreshing experience, as the sessions took on a conversational tone. I was pleased by all of the many sessions I attended; the topics of which were quite diverse. One panel featured a discussion of the relationship of democracy and top 40 radio programming and was followed by an interesting session on the cultural restoration among Native Hawaiians through their environmental restoration of Kaho‘olawe Island. Another presenter grappled with the complexities of cultural meanings of the famed California poet bandit, Joaquin Murieta, as seen through the personality of John Rollin Ridge, California’s first novelist. All of the topics did justice to the conference theme, which was “Building Community Across Borders.”

You can tell a lot about an organization through its paper presentations, but you can tell a lot more from its business meetings, which I attended as an interloper. I felt a bit awkward sitting among a group who clearly knew each other well, but what I learned at the meeting put the conference into perspective. As it turns out, in addition to attending a highly successful conference, I was also experiencing a renaissance of sorts. CASA has languished a bit in the previous years, a fact that a dedicated core, among them UCSB’s own Ann Plane, seemed resolved to remedy. Rumor has it that next year’s conference will be held at CSU Long Beach, but if this year’s conference is any indicator, then it will be worth the trip whatever the location. I plan to attend, only this time as an insider.

Ty Smith is a History graduate student working on California Indian history with Prof. Mary Hancock.
Corey Brown Wins New Boorman Award

Graduating senior Corey Brown has been selected to be the first recipient of the Ronald Boorman Memorial Scholarship.

Ronald Boorman was president of the first senior class to graduate from the then-new Goleta campus in 1955. He went on to receive an MA in History in 1957 and to teach history at San Marcos High School in Santa Barbara.

The scholarship, created following Mr. Boorman’s unexpected death in April, 2008, is intended to support undergraduate students who are pursuing a teaching career in History.

Prof. Tsuyoshi Hasegawa, who nominated Brown for the award, praised his "dynamic personality, diligence, and love of history." Brown plans to enter the teaching credential program at San Diego State University in the Fall.

Students Garner Named Awards

CONTINUED FROM P. 5

William E. Nida Scholarship for entering graduate students.

Lily Welty (Spickard) was awarded the Joseph and Gina Jannotta Foundation Prize for support of graduate students working on topics related to East Asian or Trans-Pacific relations.

The Stephen Hay Award for research in Muslim history and culture went to Heidi Morrison (Gallagher).

Timothy Daniels (McGee) received the Esme Frost Fellowship for research in pre-modern European history.

The Darcy Ruth Ritzau Award for support of graduate students with special needs went to Niccole Coggins (Spickard).

Djordjevic

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

had them eating out of his hand. I followed a group of them down the stairs after the talk and listened with a smile as they talked excitedly about this new find in their lives, this Professor Djordjevic, and what was he teaching?

Teaching he certainly is, but classes now are restricted to his fellow angels.

Dimitrije is survived by his beloved wife, Nan, his daughter Jelena Markovic, two grandchildren, one great granddaughter, and three stepchildren.