265 Majors to Graduate

A total of 218 students will take BA degrees in History this year. The total includes 25 students who took their degrees at the end of Fall quarter and 28 at the end of Winter quarter. Another 41 plan to complete all requirements by the end of this summer.

The largest group, 124 students, are scheduled to receive their degrees at the Humanities division commencement ceremony on Sunday, June 17 at 1 p.m.

Prior to that time, the History department will host its annual reception for graduating students and their parents from 11 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. in the History Conference Room, HSSB 4020.

Leading the Spring graduation will be the 12 students in this year’s Senior Honors seminar, who earned Distinction in the Major for successfully completing their thesis projects (see story p. 3).

One of these students, Aaron Laycook, was selected by the departmental awards committee to receive the A. Russell Buchanan Award, presented by the UCSB Alumni Association to the outstanding graduating senior in History (see story p. 3).

Seven History and History of Public Policy majors were among 111 students (out of some 3,500 graduating this year) selected for admission to Phi Beta Kappa, the nation’s oldest and most prestigious honor society, founded in 1776.

They are Tayler Buffington, Nicholas Busta, Daniel Dionne, Taylor Ernst, Aaron Laycook, Robin Portune and Adrianne Ross.

Another Senior Honors student, David Wight, won top honors for undergraduate seminar papers. He won the History Associates Board Prize for best paper in the Senior Seminar for “The Ford Administration’s Role in the 1975-76 Lebanese Civil War and the Syrian Military Intervention,” written for Prof. Adil Yaqub.

He also shared the Stuart Bernath Prize for best undergraduate paper in a one-quarter course for “Malick Sow Meets Jim Crow: African Diplomats, Route 40, the State Department, and Civil Rights, 1961-64,” written for Prof. Harris.

The other recipient was Aubrey Boag, who wrote, “They Expected the Worst – They Did Not Expect the Unthinkable: Jewish Emigration from Germany, 1933-41,” which she wrote for Prof. Marcuse.

The 2006-07 UCSB History Associates program series will close on Sunday, June 3 with a performance of “Angels in America” by the UCSB Drama department.

Prior to viewing Part One of Tony Kushner’s powerful comedy-drama, winner of both the Tony Award for best play and the Pulitzer Prize for Drama in 1993, Associates will meet with the director, Prof. Irvin Appel, over an informal lunch in the History Conference Room, HSSB 4020.

Reservations, at $22 for members and $24 for non-members, may be made by phoning the UCSB Office of Community Relations at (805) 893-4388.
History Associates Give Away $43,000 at Awards Ceremony

Twelve graduate students received fellowships from the UCSB History Associates on May 16 as the department support group gave away some $43,000 collected in this year’s annual fund-raising drive.

The new Fellows range from students who are just beginning their dissertation projects to others who are almost completed.

“The range of their projects represent the great breadth of specialties and fields we have in the department,” said History Chair Sears McGee.

The new Fellows are:
Megan Barber (Mouré), the cultural history of France.
Leah Fernandez (Cline), Mexican American women working in San Diego during World War II.
Karen Frank (Lansing), Late Medieval Jewish families in Perugia.
Rose Hayden-Smith (Bergstrom), “Sowing the Seeds of Victory: National Gardening Programs During World War I.”
Patrick Ludolph (McGee), Tudor-Stuart England with a focus on the English Civil War.
Anil Mukerjee (Dutra), the role of the provost-mor (chief treasury official) in 17th century Brazil.

Ingrid Page (Spickard), the lives of multiracial people who were prominent African American leaders in the last third of the 19th century and first half of the 20th.

Elizabeth Pryor (Cohen), the trans-Atlantic travel of African Americans when oceanic steam travel revolutionized the experience of all passengers in the 1840s.

Paul Sandul (Bergstrom), historic memory, representation and identity in a former agricultural—now bedroom—community in Southern California.

Jon Scarcon (Gallagher), Iraqi and Yemeni Jewish immigration to Israel.

Tracey Watts (Lee), the social and cultural aspects of agricultural slavery in the ancient Mediterranean.

Two New ‘Darcys’

BROADWAY has its Tonys and Hollywood its Oscars, now UCSB History has its Darcys.

The award, started last year by longtime Graduate Secretary Darcy Ruth Ritzau to support first-year grad students with unusual needs, got the name this Spring when History Associates met to select this year’s winners.

“Everybody just kept calling them ‘the Darcys,’ so that’s what we’re going to use,” explained HA Pres. Barbara Lindemann.

This year’s winners are Paul Baltimore (Yaqub) to help study Arabic for his dissertation on US foreign policy in the Middle East and Tracey Watts (Lee), to study Greek and Latin for her study of ancient agricultural slavery.

Associate Professors Win Paper Prize, Fellowship

Good news came to Associate Prof. Adrienne Edgar and Hilary Bernstein last month.

Prof. Bernstein received a UC President’s Fellowship in the Humanities, joining Prof. Ana Guerrini and Stephan Miescher, whose awards were announced earlier.

She will travel to Paris to conduct research for her study of “Erudition in the Provinces: Cities, Urban History, and National Scholarship in Early Islamic Perspective” was one of two winner’s of this year’s Best Article Prize awarded by the Berkshire Conference of Women Historians.

Published in the summer 2006 issue of Slavic Review, "Islam in Modern France.”

Meanwhile, Prof. Adrienne Edgar learned that her article on “Bolshevism, Patriarchy and the Nation: the Soviet ‘Emancipation’ of Muslim Women in Pan- Russian Turkey” was one of two winner’s of this year’s Best Article Prize awarded by the Berkshire Conference of Women Historians.

Published in the summer 2006 issue of Slavic Review, continued on p. 5
12 Seniors Win Distinction in Major

TWELVE STUDENTS successfully completed this year’s Senior Honors Seminar and will graduate with distinction in the major.

This year’s class, led by Prof. Stephan Miescher, studied topics ranging in time from Late Antiquity to the 20th century and in topic from the creation of the National Park System to Roman persecutions.

Students presented the results of their studies in a colloquium sponsored by the College of Letters and Science on May 17 and at an all-day meeting May 18 in the History Conference Room, where their theses were critiqued by faculty and grad student respondents.

The twelve students (in alphabetical order), with the names of their faculty mentors and titles of their projects were:

Nicholas Busta (Talbott), “Abandoned and Alone: The
Mistakes that Led to the Loss of the Battle of Wake Island.”
Taylor Ernst (Draje), “Was the Great Persecution of Christians Caused by Manichaeans? The Significance of the Manichaean Persecution in the Time of Diocletian.”

CONTINUED ON P. 6

Time for Smiles. Members of this year’s Senior Honors seminar celebrate completion of their projects. From l. to r.: Taylor Ernst, Kaitlyn Gilmore, Graham Olsson, Caroline Smith, Aaron Laycook, Clara Morain, John Stark, John Towero, Jackson Warkentin and Daniel Razzari. Not pictured: Nicholas Busta, David Wight.
From The Chair

What's New?

Every ten years or so, departments at UCSB undergo an exhaustive two-year “Program Review.” In the first year piles of statistical information about our research and teaching activities are heaped up. Extensive surveys of undergraduate and graduate students are undertaken to discover their opinions about the department’s strengths and weaknesses. The History faculty makes its own collective “self-assessment” which tries to identify what needs changing and where the department ought to go in the decade ahead. A small committee of distinguished historians from other universities is being selected which will read the resulting documents. Next winter, they will visit our campus for several days of talking to students and faculty about these matters. They then produce a report which will play an important role in decisions about the allocation of resources to this department for years to come.

It should be obvious that a Program Review is an exhaustive and exhausting process for all of us. Fortunately, it can also be a revelatory and even an inspiring process. A History department at a research university tends to want to “cover” the whole world in geographical and chronological terms. Inescapably, we remain Asianists, Latin Americanists, Europeanists, U. S. historians, and so on. However, an interesting feature of the self-assessment that is now emerging is that we have become much more keenly aware of themes, methods and interests that spread out across the continents, the centuries and even the millennia. Instead of thinking mainly about filling “gaps,” we think about making connections with our fellow historians and with scholars in many other departments on campus.

Our Academic Planning Committee has identified a number of “clusters” that demonstrate this more inclusive and comparative approach that we are taking. These include “Religion, Society and the State” from Late Antiquity all the way to Christianity in the Asian diaspora in the 20th and 21st centuries. “Identities, Boundaries and Borderlands” are being studied from classical Greece and Han China to what used to be called Soviet Central Asia. “Consumption, Commodities and Markets” take us from the Silk Road to Wal-Mart. “International History” and “Gender and Women’s History” round out our clusters. The clusters are by no means exclusive, and many faculty operate in several of them. Merely to list the titles of some of the conferences held here in recent years demonstrates the wide reach of our faculty and graduate students: “Edible Empire: African Cocoa in a Global Economy”; “WalMart: Template for 21st-Century Capitalism?”; “Women and Conflict: Historical Perspectives”; “Medieval Sexualities”; “Africa After Gender?”; “Historical Memories and Resurgence of Nationalism in East Asia.”

Fair warning: don’t ask me “what’s new in history” unless you have some time on your hands to listen to the answer!

J. Sears McGee

Memorial Awards Recognize Achievement

Carolyn Lewis (Boris) and Warren Wood (Cohen) won the Donald Van Gelder Memorial award this year. Established by JoBeth Van Gelder, the prize recognizes students who, like herself, returned to graduate study after pursuing career and family interests.

Carolyn’s dissertation explores the history of sexuality on issues of citizenship, nationalism, and national defense.

Wood also won the Richard and Jeanne Williams Endowed Graduate Fellowship to pursue his studies on ethnic masculinities in San Francisco between 1850 and 1920.

Elizabeth Shermer (Lichtenstein) won the new Van Gelder Graduate Fellowship, established this year to support graduate students in American history.

The Esmé Frost Fellow-Associates Establish E-Mail List

The UCSB History Associates Board of Directors voted at its most recent meeting to create an e-mail list of members who would like to be informed of current and upcoming events in the History department.

“So much is always going on that members often don’t hear about events until they are over,” Pres. Barbara Lindermann explained.

For privacy reasons, notices will only be sent to members who send their e-mail addresses to Hal Drake (drake@history.ucsb.edu).

And don’t forget that you can see back issues of Historia on the web at: http://www.history.ucsb.edu/historyassociates/haindex.htm
Greek Soldiers a Far Cry From ‘300,’ Lee Reports

There were no chow lines in the armies of ancient Greece, and the soldiers looked more like undernourished peasants than the buff and ready Spartans in the movie “300,” Prof. John Lee told the UCSB History Associates last month.

From burial evidence, he said, scholars have deduced that soldiers would have been about 5'3" tall and weighed about 130 pounds.

"These were lean, spare men, used to hard labor and carrying extra loads," he said.

"It was a subsistence economy—there was no extra fat."

In studying the famous mercenary army that fought against the great Persian empire—"the first world power and multi-ethnic empire in history"—Prof. Lee said his interest was less in battles and strategy and more in the lives of everyday soldiers.

"Modern armies are highly organized logistical machines," he noted. But these soldiers had to fend for themselves.

They subsisted in groups of 5-10 men called suskenoi, "tent mates," who shared the duties of cooking, eating, and foraging with each other.

Using figures from non-industrial countries today, Prof. Lee calculated that these soldiers needed to find 20,000 pounds of wood every day just for cooking.

They had no idea of the geography they faced as they trekked 2,000 miles—"the distance from Santa Barbara to British Columbia"—over the

Good News

CONTINUED FROM P. 2

her article studies the Soviet "emancipation" of women in the 1920s and 1930s as part of an effort to create a "modern, homogeneous, mobilized population."

She concludes that the result "was more like what often happened in the periphery of European empires; feminism and nationalism became opposed to each other, instead of forming mutually supportive components of modernity."
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 $ 

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- $________ gift to the History Associates ________ Fund.
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Note: Gifts of $1,000 or more qualify for one-year membership in the Chancellor's Council.

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

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Santa Barbara, CA 93106-1136
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Senior Honors CONTINUED FROM P. 5

Aaron Laycook (Drake), “Martyrs or Murderers? The Controversy of Christian Violence in the Later Roman Empire.”


Caroline Smith (Farmer), “A Bohemian Princess as the Holy Spirit Incarnate? The Guglielmites, their Motivations for Turning to Heresy, and the Group’s Survival for over Thirty Years.”

Daniel Razzari (Dutra), “Sir Francis Drake: The Pirate Leading the Counter Armada.”


Buchanan Award CONTINUED FROM P. 5

and identity in Late Antiquity has taught him how self-defeating it is to stick labels on people you oppose.

“Traditional Christians in fourth-century North Africa called these other Christians who clung to a tradition rooted in martyrdom, blood and violence ‘heretics’ and ‘bandits,’” he observed. “Today, they would call them ‘terrorists.’”

Either way, he said, the effect is to polarize the two sides and stop the process of communication.”

Aaron is the 33rd winner of the award, which was established by the 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. It goes to the outstanding graduating senior in the department.

Drake: The Pirate Leading the Counter Armada.”


Greek Army CONTINUED FROM P. 5

course of two years.

Their dietary staple was barley, which could be heated "like popcorn," made into porridge or, if there was enough time, baked into something like pita bread.

The standard Mediterranean supplements were cheese, olives, garlic and onions, but on the march these soldiers "ate what they could find."

This included everything from dates, palm hearts and lentils to lizards and small game. A slaughtered pack animal could provide 60-85 portions of meat that soldiers would barter for other necessities or make into "donkey jerky."

Such details provide more than antiquarian interest, Prof. Lee said. "They tell us how an army worked, and also allow us to get into the mindset of ancient peoples. Their living conditions were very different from what we have today."

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