2004 Election Was No ‘Turning Point,’ Faculty Decide

Although, as Prof. John Majewski said, it takes a lot of courage to discuss the outcome of an election before it has even happened, he and other panelists at October’s History Associates meeting were willing to predict that the 2004 election, despite all the intensity it has generated, would not be a “turning point” election.

In addition to Prof. Majewski, whose field is the Civil War, panelists included Profs. Mary Furner and Alice O’Connor, both History of Public Policy, and Prof. Nelson Lichtenstein, U. S. Labor History.

To be a “turning point,” all panelists agreed, an election must be one that leads to a major shift in domestic or foreign policy, or both.

Such elections occurred in 1800, when Jeffersonians offered a clear choice from Federalists, and again in 1860, when Abraham Lincoln’s election triggered the Civil War.

That would not happen this time, panel-

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From Medical Reform To Free Love in 1850s

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE between “love” and “lust”?

A wag might say “age,” but History Prof. Pat Cohen will have a more serious answer when she explores the topic of “Free Love in 19th-Century America” at the next History Associates luncheon-lecture on Thursday, Nov. 18 at noon at the Elephant Bar and Restaurant in Goleta.

Prof. Cohen’s topic grew out of research she was doing on Mary Gove Nichols, a pioneer lecturer on women’s anatomy and physiology in the middle of the 19th century.

After marrying journalist Thomas Low Nichols in 1848, Mary became caught up in a growing “Free Love” movement that defined marriage as slavery for women, Prof. Cohen said.

Happily married themselves, Mary and Thomas became key players in the move-

Prof. Pat Cohen at Antiquarian Society index.

Van Gelderen Dares Us To Raise $10,000!

JOBeth Van Gelderen has upped the ante once again. This year, she is challenging the History Associates to match $10,000 in donations to the annual graduate student fundraising drive.

This means that JoBeth has pledged to match every donation to the fund dollar-for-dollar up to $10,000—a $2,000 increase over the limit for the past several years.

“I don’t mind raising it because I can see how much good this money does,” JoBeth said recently.

Make your dollars count twice! Send a donation today to: UCSB History Associates Scholarship Fund, c/o Office of Community Relations, University of California, Santa Barbara, CA 93106-1156.

Free Love advocate Mary Gove Nichols.
Jay Carlander (l.) and Prof. John Majewski.

Hallway Conversation Leads To Prize in Civil War History

WHEN THE HISTORY department moved from Ellison Hall to its current quarters in the Humanities-Social Science Building (HSSB), Associate Prof. Ken MourÈ took one look at the narrow hallways and moaned, “We’ve lost our hallway culture.”

It’s true that halls no wider than the stretch of a single person’s arms are not as conducive to gathering and shmoozing as the broad thoroughfares of Ellison were.

But historians still feel the need to swap stories and ideas with each other, especially when working on topics that only another specialist could love.

So it was with Prof. John Majewski and then-grad student Jay Carlander (PhD Harris, 2003). The two shared an interest in the Southern political economy of the 19th century.

“For some strange reason,” Prof. Majewski mused recently, “relatively few people like discussing the terms of trade in cotton or the attitude of Southern economists toward manufacturing.”

As one of that precious few, Jay not only listened when Prof. Majewski talked about the way Virginia secessionists promoted the idea of a tariff to keep out Northern goods, but even contributed some thoughts of his own.

In working on his dissertation topic (In Search of “Industry”: Slavery, Manufacturing, and the Language of Political Economy in the Antebellum South, 1820-1850), Carlander had noticed that even before the Civil War, there were Virginians who were talking up a tariff to support the state’s industry.

Both of their findings ran against the common opinion among historians, which held that Southerners and the Confederacy were wedded to the principle of free trade and opposed to industry and manufacturing.

On the contrary, they suggested that the secessionists believed more manufacturing would give them the industrial might to help defend slavery.

The two decided that the germ of an article resided in their mutual findings.

After scores of drafts, they submitted the results to Civil War History, a leading journal in the field.

They were delighted when “Imagining a ‘Great Manufacturing Empire’: Virginia and the Possibilities of the Confederate Tariff” was accepted for publication, but even better news was yet to come.

At the end of the summer, they were notified by editor William Blair, director of the Richards Civil War Era Center at Penn State, that their study had been selected to receive the John T. Hubbell Prize as the best article of 2003.

The selection committee consisted of himself, the associate editor and the editorial board of the journal.

“We believed the work provided fresh evidence that the Confederacy had Hamiltonian

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6
Cold War Studies Workshop Provides ‘Intellectual Oasis’

BY JOHN SBARDELLATI

This summer the Center for Cold War Studies (CCWS) held its first educational workshop for high school teachers and graduate students.

“Contemporary Conflicts in Light of the Cold War” brought these educators together with research specialists to pursue five special topics: crisis diplomacy, the Israel-Palestine conflict, international terrorism, nuclear proliferation, and international peacekeeping.

The group explored connections between the Cold War and these current conflicts and developed ways for teaching this material to high school and college students.

These lesson plans can be found on the Center’s project website: www.coldwarclassroom.org

The week-long workshop proved to be an “intellectual oasis” in the words of one participant.

Top-notch speakers came in each day. Former co-director Fred Logevall kicked the week off with a talk on crisis diplomacy. He was followed by Salim Yaqub, of the University of Chicago, who spoke on the Israel-Palestine conflict. Jeffrey Bale (international terrorism) and William Potter (nuclear proliferation), both of UC Santa Barbara, described current conflicts and these current conflicts and nuclear proliferation, and international peacekeeping.

Franklin Roosevelt’s New Deal in 1932 was such a realignment, Prof. Lichtenstein pointed out.

Ronald Reagan’s victory in 1980 was another, only partially interrupted by Bill Clinton’s two terms, because Clinton won by leading Democrats onto a more conservative ground.

Prof. Furner pointed out that the Bush Administration had already created a turning point in foreign policy by backing away from the internationalism that guided American foreign policy for most of the 20th century.

However, Prof. O’Connor predicted that a Bush victory, especially if it produced a clear Republican majority in Congress, would set the stage for major changes in domestic policy and clear the way for a conservative majority on the Supreme Court for many years to come.

CONTINUED FROM P. 1

History Goes International To Nab New Computer Guru

BY MATT DEFRAGA

The UCSB History Department welcomed its newest staff member last summer with the hiring of Dimitar “Jimmy” Grablev as its new computer expert.

Jimmy is responsible for a variety of duties, including maintenance of the department website, software installation and technical support for the History faculty.

A native of Sofia, Bulgaria, Jimmy moved to the United States with his family three years ago when his stepfather accepted a statistics research position at UCSB.

Although he spoke no English at the time, in true European fashion he has since added it to the half dozen or so languages in which he is proficient.

He finished his secondary schooling at San Marcos High School, two superb high school teachers who played indispensable roles.

The workshop participants included seven History grad students: Matt Aberman (Bodash), Alex Fabros (Vargas), George Fujii (Logevall), David Reeves (Edgar), Ellie Shermer (Lichtenstein), David Schuster (Furner), and Eric Staples (Humphreys).

CCWS intends to continue this project every other summer, each time pursuing new topics.

Election

CONTINUED FROM P. 1

ists agreed, because John Kerry did not establish a position that was strongly different from President Bush’s.

Nor would this be a “realigning election,” one that creates a new political majority that holds for several subsequent elections.

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CONTINUED ON PAGE 6
President's Corner

Tomorrow the World!

Many colleges and universities in the United States have replaced the traditional “Western Civilization” survey for freshmen and sophomores with a “World Civilization” survey in recent years. At UCSB, we are now offering both, as our longstanding History 4ABC covers Western Civ and the new History 2ABC series is now available for those undergraduates who prefer it.

As the History Department has grown in the last dozen years or so, much of that increase has occurred in fields other than Europe and the United States. As “globalization” has been the trend in economic activity, so has it been among our faculty. Where once we had three positions in the history of East Asia, for example, now we have four, and where once we had two Latin Americanists, we now have four. Our highest priorities in the near term include another Africanist and a South Asianist. This development has had vigorous expression in our recent Award Ceremonies. In May 2003, for example, the J. Bruce Anderson Memorial Fellowship went to Erik Esselstrom, who is working with Josh Fogel in East Asian history, and a History Associates Fellowship went to Mar Logrono, who works in Islamic history with Nancy Gallagher.

Last spring, the Ellison Prize for the best graduate research paper went to Jason Dormady for a paper he wrote in Sarah Cline’s seminar on Mexican history.

The Jo Beth van Gelderen Award went to Frank Dutra’s student, Anil Mukerjee, and he is researching Rio de Janeiro and Baha in the political economy of colonial Brazil.

Another HA fellowship went to Bianca Murillo to help her pursue her research on women’s patterns of consumption in mid-20th century Ghana under Stephan Miescher’s direction. And Chris Wright got one of our fellowships to enable him to travel to Cairo and Istanbul to do research on the Arab-Muslim conquest of Egypt in the seventh century, a dissertation project guided by Steve Humphreys.

This does not, of course, mean that our commitment to Europe and the U.S. has in any way declined, but our Ph.D. students in those fields are in many cases doing at least one “world” field for both intellectual and pragmatic reasons. By “pragmatic” I mean that it makes them more competitive in the job market if they are prepared to teach “World Civ” as well as “Western Civ.”

One of my students in early modern British history got a tenure-track job mainly because one of his Ph.D. exam fields was in Islamic history with Steve Humphreys. I believe that the wider perspective provided by such study often improves the quality of the work done in a European or American subject.

World—we’re ready for you!

Sears McGee, President

‘What's It Good For?’
Alum Has an Answer

To the editor:
I just read the latest Historia and saw Dr. Cohen’s column, “What’s It Good For?” (Historia May 2004) and felt I had to respond.

First let me say that my two favorite teachers in my four years at UCSB (’77 - ’81) were Profs. Rock and Drake. Looking back I don’t think I worked harder for any two professors. I wasn’t a particularly great student and didn’t get great grades, but I did work hard and especially liked their approaches to history. I often think of Dr. Drake’s “Cosmic Question: Why do we study history?” I pretty much answer that question every morning when I read the newspaper. Of course, at the time I gave some stupid answer, but today history has a special relevance, as does the question.

I had Dr. Rock for Argentine History and I did my Junior Thesis with him. I worked like a dog on that assignment. I picked, “How the Argentine Constitution Contributed to Political Instability in the 20th Century.” I’m pretty sure I didn’t prove my thesis, but the classroom discussion (there were fewer than eight students in the class) left an indelible impression on me.

I parlayed my freshly minted ’81 History degree into a job at Hughes Aircraft as a parts expeditor. Then in 1983, they let me play on an IBM PC that they had acquired, and taught myself to program it. I’ve been in IT (Information Technology) ever since. I’ve been at Great Western Bank, Columbia/Sony Pictures, Savoy Pictures, Sprint, and Spelling Entertainment. I’m now the Assistant Vice President of Systems and Infrastructure at AIG Retirement Services—yes, the same AIG that’s now being sued by Elliot Spitzer in New York. I had nothing to do with it. I’m responsible for almost every computer system at what used to be AIG SunAmerica—pretty heady stuff for a History grad.

So, What’s It Good For? I must have answered that question every day I was at school. True, we as History majors are not going to get the highest paying jobs out of school. However, a degree is merely the first of many stepping stones in a career. A liberal arts degree in general, and a History degree in particular, hones one’s writing and organizational skills.

The sheer volume of reading that’s required trains a person in how to read for content—a skill that’s especially important today. It also hones one’s written skills, something sorely, sorely, sorely lacking in the Computer Science graduates I’ve hired in the past. In fact, one can usually learn the technical skills required by the IT field, but if one can’t communicate, upward mobility will be limited. Where and when else will a person have the continued on page 6

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 93106-9410
or email:
drake@history.ucsb.edu

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The Warren Hollister Songbook:
Those Were the Days!

BY HAL DRAKE

In our last issue of *Historia* (October 2004), Andrea Blumberg (Class of 1989) recalled the wonderful songs Warren Hollister used to sing to his History 4B classes, and asked if the lyrics were available for us to reprint.

Through the gracious permission of Edith Hollister, we reprint some of Warren’s favorites below. (We’ll reprint more in later issues, as space permits.)

Writing these songs became a family affair, Edith recalled.

“As we were driving on long trips, Warren would bring up the tune he wanted to use and the subject he wanted it to fit, and then we would all try to come up with the right words,” she said.

Edith had one request of *Historia’s* readers: while she has all of the class songs, she has none of the ones that Warren took to writing in his later years for graduate students when they finished their PhDs, and she would love to collect those as well.

How about it, readers—anybody have a line on these? Send them to *Historia*, and I’ll tell an anecdote about one of the parties where Warren would sing those paens.

**THE HOLLISTER SONGBOOK**

In an introduction to this collection of his songs, Warren explained that the songs “combine two of my cultural passions: history, and the musical theater.”

As a reluctant recruit during the Korean War, Warren wrote musicals for the Air Force, but concentrated on history while earning his MA and PhD at UCLA in the late 1950s.

But a song sent by a friend that put historical lyrics to an old blues tune inspired Warren to try his own version, at tale of France’s Louis IX (Saint Louis).

“I sang the song, without accompaniment, to my class in medieval history (History 116) at the conclusion of a lecture on St. Louis’ career,” Warren recalled.

“I was extremely apprehensive as I did so, since, to the best of my knowledge, no previous professor had ever concluded an upper-division university lecture with a comic song.”

The class’s response, Warren recalled, was “electrifying.”

“When I finished the song they applauded exuberantly.”

Here is that song:

**ODE TO ST. LOUIS**

Melody, “You’ve Come a Long Way from St. Louis (an old blues song)
You’ve come a long way, old St. Louis,
You brought your baronage to heel,
But you were aided by another,
your mother—
That smothering Blanche of Castile.
You gave the paupers all your spare shirts,
You loved the poor and scorned the rich,
You wouldn’t dress in silks or fair shirts; no rare shirts—

**SPEND IN THE TOWNS**

Isn’t it swell, isn’t it queer?
Buying our goods cheap as hell, selling them dear?
Spend in the towns, expend in the towns.
Come join our guild, come one and all,
We’ll keep the coopers well filled, in our guildhall.
So spend in the towns, spend in the towns.
Selling our wares, we do our best,
Visiting all of the markets and fairs in the medieval West.
Counting our pennies and pounds as we stash them away.
Grant us, we pray, more every day.

Though it is true, money is vile,
We will collect it from you, and with a smile,
And this I know well, when we go to hell,
We’ll go there in style!

Now, here is the song that Andrea remembered:

**THE PAPAL SCHISM SONG**

(Melody: "Old MacDonald Had a Farm")
Popes in Rome and Avignon, e-i-e-i-o,
One named Clement, one named John, e-i-e-i-o.
With one pope here and the other pope there, and Here a pope, there a pope, everywhere a pope, pope.
At Pisa back in fourteen nine, e-i-e-i-o,
A Council thought they’d fix things fine, e-i-e-i-o.
With one pope here and another pope there, and Here a pope, there a pope, everywhere a pope, pope.
The churchmen said, "It’s too absurd," e-i-e-i-o,
"We’ll fire them both and pick a third," e-i-e-i-o.
So with two popes here and a third pope there, and Here a pope, there a pope, is there any hope? Nope!
Three’s a crowd, or so I’ve heard, e-i-e-i-o.
Finally, my personal favorite, an explanation of medieval agriculture, set to the tune of "If I Only Had a Brain":

**IF I HAD A HEAVY PLOW**

Though my field would be too swampy for Caesar or for Pompey,
We’ve got the answer now.
I could grow wheat like crazy, and demolish every daisy,
If I had a heavy plow.
Oh my tilling would be thorough, a ridge for every furrow,
I’d really show them how:
I could grow wheat like crazy, and demolish every daisy,
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Ready to Join?


Leandra Zarnow’s (Dehart) paper on “How Feminist Lobbyists Successfully Advanced Policy in Conservative Times: A Case Study of Battered Immigrants” was the subject of a panel discussion of the annual meeting of the AHA Pacific Coast Branch last August in San Jose.

Travis Moger (Friesen) has been appointed to an adjunct position at Rollins College in Florida for Spring, 2005.

Hallway Culture

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2
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“It was very fresh, well argued, and made a significant contribution to the literature on the Confederacy.”

And so the “hallway culture” thrives—even without the hallways!

Computer Guru

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3
“It’s a very social atmosphere,” he says.

In the United States, by contrast, people tend to play by themselves online.

Though he laments this difference, Jimmy has heartily embraced one traditional leisure pastime at UCSB: surfing.

In any case, online or in person, Jimmy stands ready to ensure that the smooth computer functioning of the History department doesn’t crash.

Grad Students Achieve


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