Associate to Hear Tales Of Spanish California

THE 2002-03 SERIES of History Associates lectures and events opens Monday, Oct. 7, with a talk on early California history by two of the state’s most highly regarded historians of Spanish California.

Profs. Rose Marie Beebe and Robert M. Senkewicz of Santa Clara University will speak in the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History's Fleischmann Auditorium on the subject of their new book, *Lands of Promise and Despair: Chronicles of Early California, 1535-1846*.

History Associates will host a wine-and-cheese reception for the editors in the auditorium annex at 6:30 p.m., with the talk scheduled to begin at 7:30.

*Lands of Promise and Despair* assembles letters, reports, reminiscences and documents from the 300 years prior to Mexican-American War of 1846 that have been largely ignored by California historians.

Beginning with Christopher Columbus's account of his first meeting with Native Americans in 1492, the book includes an excerpt from Garci Rodríguez de Montalvo's 1510 account of an island paradise that he named “California” and Juan Rodríguez Cabrillo's description of his 1542 visits to Ensenada and San Diego.


Reviewers have praised the pair’s writing as “lively and engaging.” In a review of *Lands of Promise and Despair* in the Los Angeles *Times* (June 16, 2002), Jonathan Kirsch described the work as “a richly illustrated anthology of witness accounts of the troubled but crucial period when native Californians and Europeans first came into contact with each other.”

The Museum of Natural History is located at 2559 Puesta del Sol Road, just above the Santa Barbara Mission in Mission Canyon. Reservations for the reception, at $7 for members and $10 for non-members, may be made with the UCSB Office of Community Relations, (805) 893-4388.

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Elliot Brownlee Retires After 35 Years

BY LAURA KALMAN

A story, sometimes attributed to Hans Gadamer, begins with God creating the professor on the seventh day. Then, it continues, the Devil decided to get busy. He made the colleague. And surely there are colleagues and then there are colleagues.

In my book, though, Elliot Brownlee gives the word, “colleague,” a good name. This summer, he retired after 35 years at UCSB.

Elliot is one of the nation’s most distinguished economic historians. Currently, he is collaborating with scholars at the University of Tokyo and Rikkyo University on a comparative history of the American and Japanese tax systems in the twentieth centuries. He is also putting the finishing touches on a volume about the Reagan Presidency that grew out of a conference he and the late Hugh Graham organized.

His recent book, Federal Taxation in America: A Short History—breathtaking in its scope, clarity, and depth (and eminently cribbable, for those of us who need to prepare a lecture on the topic in a hurry)—cements his place as the foremost historian of taxation. Another recent book, Funding the American State, 1941-1995: The Rise and Fall of Easy Finance, brilliantly explores the recent fiscal crisis and locates it in its historical context.

Among his earlier work, Women in the American Economy, 1625-1929, written with Mary Margaret Brownlee, was one of the very first efforts in the field of women’s studies to define the historic role of women in the American economy. His introductory text, America’s History, now in its fourth edition, was the first major textbook to integrate social history with the political and economic narrative.

Then there is the leadership Elliot provided our department as chair and member. When I came to UCSB 20 years ago, there were but two women in the department. Elliot launched a planning initiative that became a model for the campus and moved us away from automatically cloning departing colleagues. He urged us to consider how the writing of history had changed and to request resources accordingly. That enabled us to take advantage of the transformations sweeping the field in the 1980s, and, for example, to become strong in gender history.

With our tireless computer enthusiast, Al Lindemann, Elliot also launched the process of dragging our department into the computer age. And the major role he carved out for our history faculty and graduate students in the UCDC program has helped make the department’s history of public policy and public history programs so strong.

Then there are Elliot’s many contributions to the campus and system. Consider just a few of his titles: UCSB Academic Senate Chair; UC-wide Academic Council Chair and UC Regent; Associate Provost of the University of California. In 1998, he won the Oliver Johnson Award for Distinguished Leadership in the Academic Senate at the divisional and systemwide level. It was an award richly deserved: Since arriving here at the tender age of twenty-six, Elliot has devoted his entire career to date to making the University of California our greatest public university.

Then there is a staggering record of professional and community service, including the presidencies of The Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation and The Association of Retarded Citizens in Santa Barbara. There are memberships on the boards of the American Council of Learned Societies, National Council of Public History, University of California Press, California State Parks Foundation, and Santa Barbara County Assessors.

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Badash Leaves a Legacy (In More Ways than One)

FRIENDS, COLLEAGUES and former students of emeritus Prof. Larry Badash reached their goal of $10,000 to create a graduate student prize in his name in record time.

Not to be outdone, Prof. Badash himself set up a new fund "to make the life of professors just a little easier."

Prof. Badash said his new "Professional Expense Fund" for History of Science, which he started with a $1,000 donation, was something he had been mulling over for a long time.

"Employees of private corporations are not expected to pay business expenses from their own pockets," he said. "Yet the University of California graciously allows professors to pay much of their own professional expenses."

"We wind up spending hundreds or thousands of dollars of our own funds on travel, lodging..."
Defining a Community

I've recently returned from a sabbatical year in Massachusetts, where as a fellow at the American Antiquarian Society I had the daily excitement of grazing through their vast collections of pre-1850 printed matter. I took particular interest in reading small newspapers and periodicals that were ubiquitous in the 1830s-50s, the era of a revolution in printing that put newspaper production into reach of a surprising number and kind of people.

Now it is my turn to contribute to a similar local-interest periodical, Historia, and I find the historical precedents crowding my mind as I envision my task and my audience.

Is Historia like the famous Lowell Offering, a periodical written by Massachusetts mill girls in the 1840s—yet paid for and controlled by the mill owners, who insisted on putting a good spin on 70-hours per week industrial jobs?

Or is it more like the very uncontrolled "flash" press of New York City, central to my own research, papers with titles like the Rake and Libertine that publicized the doings of the city's sexual subculture and specialized in salacious humor, wisecracks aimed at the district attorney, and blackmail?

Is Historia maybe the modern-day equivalent of the Opal, quite an interesting monthly production totally under the control of the inmates of the Utica (NY) Lunatic Asylum in the 1850s? The asylum director proudly distributed the Opal well beyond his institution, to show what a good job he was doing.

Historia has features in common with these models: it describes and defines a community both to itself and to a larger and distant audience of people connected to our enterprise: graduated students, retired faculty, the History Associates, and campus administrators.

Historia publicizes our triumphs and accomplishments, introduces our new hires and salutes the departures. Like the mill workers’ paper, it seeks to beckon newcomers into our community. Like the flash press, it pokes gentle fun at community members. And I’m sure some would say that it is run by very talented lunatics. It conveys the spirit of our little community, and, perhaps most importantly from the historian’s perspective, it is a preserved written record covering now some 15 years of the History Department’s own history.

When the electrons of email have scattered away, when filing cabinets of blue-papered memo documents have hit the recycling pile, a complete file of Historia will remain, perhaps in UCSB’s Special Collections, for some researcher to find in the year 2150, distilling the essence of what this community was all about.

Pat Cohen
Chair

From The Chair

Susan Shaffner (center) is congratulated by Project Director Margaret Rose (left) and Prof. J. Sears McGee, who served many years as co-director of the summer institute.

Middle School Teacher Wins CH-SSP Award

Susan Shaffner of Richland Junior High School in Shafter, CA, became the third K-12 teacher to receive the "Outstanding CH-SSP Fellow" Award from the UCSB History Associates at the department’s annual Awards Ceremony last May.

A teacher for more than 30 years, Ms. Shaffner has taught in Shafter, a rural community north of Bakersfield, for the past 21 years.

Ms. Shaffner has been associated with the California History-Social Science Project (CH-SSP) since its inception at UCSB in 1997.

The program brings together about 30 K-12 teachers every summer for a three-week series of lectures and workshops devoted to a given theme.

They are selected from a pool of 100-150 applicants.

The theme for this past summer’s Institute was "Speaking Out: Individuals, Ideas, and Images in History."

In 1999, the American Historical Association conferred its Beveridge Family Teaching Prize for excellence and innovation in K-12 History teaching to the CH-SSP program, which runs a total of 10 sites around the state.

UCSB’s site, which serves teachers in central California, is the only one to operate a three-week institute devoted to a particular theme.

The strong support shown by UCSB History faculty, who give daily presentations during the institute, has also brought recognition.

The CH-SSP Award was created by the UCSB History Associates in 2000 to honor outstanding performance by teacher-participants.

"This has become one of our most popular awards," said Associates President Monica Orozco. "People really like to support K-12 teachers."

Previous recipients are Yolanda Espinoza of Walter Stiern Middle School in Bakersfield and Melanie Jacobson of San Marcos High School in Santa Barbara.
President's Corner

Celebration and Renewal

This past June I happily celebrated the graduation of many friends and colleagues from the doctoral program in the History Department at UCSB. Graduation is a wonderful reminder that students are engaged in a tradition that is traced back to the universities of the Middle Ages. The processional is particularly moving as graduate students and their mentors march to their seats as “Pomp and Circumstance” plays.

The variety of regalia spoke to the diversity of academic scholarship and experience. This was an occasion of reaffirmation.

As a friend standing next to me noted, it was enough to rededicate her to writing her dissertation. And it certainly was more than enough to impress upon me the role that the History Associates has played in helping these students realize their goals.

For me, this ceremony did not mark the end of a process. Instead it was the beginning of the yearly challenge we face in bringing interesting programs for our members and raising funds for our various awards and fellowships.

As with most things in life we hardly have time to consider our accomplishments before taking on our next adventure. By early August the History Associates Board was already meeting to plan activities for the new year.

We are all very excited about the programs we are planning for you! Our first event this year will be a reception for the editors of a new book on early California history who will be speaking at the Museum of Natural History on October 7.

And in early December we hope to have a tour and lecture featuring the newly installed mural by David Alfaro Siqueiros at the Santa Barbara Art Museum. This piece is an important part of the mural movement within Mexican history and art and its acquisition by our local museum is itself a tremendous story.

Soon many of you will be receiving a letter from me asking you to renew your membership. I hope you will do so without hesitation. If you are not already a member, I hope you will join us in our effort to bring together faculty, students, and members of the community who share this great interest in history.

Monica Orozco
President

UCSB History Degree Sparks 35-Year Career

Don't tell Clark Reynolds that you can't do anything with a degree in History.

The 1961 UCSB graduate has just ended a 35-year career that included stints as author, consultant, curator and defense analyst, as well as professorships at four different institutions.

And even though he retired last Spring from the University of Charleston, SC, whose History department he chaired, Reynolds continues to teach via video courses and appearances on the History Channel.

Prof. Reynolds' World History course, which he started long before such courses became fashionable, is now available as a two-course, 80-videotape set at www.WorldHistory101-102.com.

"I give UCSB credit in the first lecture of each course," Prof. Reynolds said. "The education I received influenced my thinking way back—and since—then."

From UCSB, Prof. Reynolds went on to Duke University, where he received both his MA and PhD degrees. He is the author of major works on maritime history, including The Fast Carriers: the Forging of an Air Navy (1968), still considered one of the best works on the subject.


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
Last year Prof. Cohen held the position of Mellon Distinguished Scholar-in-Residence at the American Antiquarian Society (AAS) in Worcester, MA, where she also conducted research for her current project on “Gender and Travel in Antebellum America.” Shortly after Sept. 11 she sent the following message to some colleagues:

"I know those lower Manhattan neighborhoods so well, in their 1830s incarnation (my murderer’s boarding house was right on the WTC plaza). I used to look at modern-day sites in NYC and then actively imagine the past I knew had taken place exactly there, and now I am doing the reverse: reading about Greenwich and Hudson, Dey and Nassau streets in the 1840s with my modern head knowing what horror will take place exactly there in 2001."

Prof. Cohen came to the department from UC Berkeley in 1976. She was promoted to the rank of full professor in 1993.

Pat Cohen Assumes Chair

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Badash Gift

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Moreover, he added, "the university provides us such small offices that we literally cannot stuff all our books and papers into them. This forces many of us to maintain another office at home, commonly with computer and printer, again purchased from personal funds. "I cannot think of another business in which employees are expected to subsidize their own careers in such fashion."

Prof. Badash said he intended to make annual contributions to the new fund for unrestricted use by History faculty whose primary discipline is the history of science, medicine or technology.

"Only the IRS need know how the money was spent," Prof. Badash said, adding that he hoped to set an example for emeriti in other fields.

Meanwhile, the new Larry Badash Prize became fully funded in August when Prof. Michael Osborne brought in new contributions that put it over the $10,000 mark—the minimum amount for creating a Fund Functioning as an Endowment (FFE).

Earnings from the fund will be used for an award for graduate students in one of the areas of Prof. Badash’s interest.

History Department Gets New Voice, New Looks

"HISTORY DEPARTMENT. This is Laura. How may I direct your call?"

The History Department has a new voice this Fall, as well as some new faces.

Laura White is the department’s new receptionist. Working in the main office with veterans Catherine Salzgeber and Mike Tucker, Laura has taken charge of answering the phones, distributing mail and general email messages and keeping the department’s four copying machines in working order. Laura comes to History from the Athletics Department, where she held a similar position.

Rosa Arlington is the new financial assistant to Attack Secretary Carol Pfeil, assuming responsibility for a wide range of functions ranging from student grants and honoraria payments to handling conference and entertainment charges and ordering supplies.

Rosa has eight years of UC experience, but the big buzz is whether she will be able to deal with all the bruised egos and broken psyches left in the wake of the Attack Secretary. The department’s third new staffer came on board last year.

Dan Haskell is History’s computer resource specialist, in charge of seeing to it that faculty and staff computers are working properly and that the best equipment and software are ordered.

He previously handled computer problems for the Boys and Girls Club of Santa Barbara.

Rounding out the staff are veterans Darcy Ritzau and Carolyn Isono-Grabard, who handle matters dealing with enrolled and new graduate students, respectively.

Carolyn’s duties also include the Public History program, where managing editor Lindsey Reed continues to oversee production of The Public Historian.

History MSO Maria Perez said this was the first time she has felt the department was fully staffed since she took over from the legendary Helen Nordhoff in 1992.

“We have been understaffed for so many years, that it’s a real joy to finally have some additional staff help,” she said.

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Pat Cohen Assumes Chair

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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 $50
- 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

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Brownlee Retirement: ‘The Best of Colleagues’

UCSB historians attending the annual Berkshire Conference on the History of Women last June took time out for a group photo. Standing, l. to r.: Pat Cohen, Sharleen Nakamoto, Sarah Case, Sandra Danoom, Eileen Boris, Alex Epstein, Carolyn Lewis, Susan Snyder and Joan Judge. The UCSB contingent was one of the largest at this year’s conference.