History Grad Lands Coveted Rome Prize

HISTORY GRAD STUDENT Tracey Watts has been selected to receive the American Academy in Rome’s 116th annual Rome Prize.

The award provides a stipend plus room and board at the Academy’s estate in Rome, the historic Villa Aurelia on the Janiculum Hill.

"Tracey is the first UCSB History student to win a pre-doctoral Rome Prize in ancient studies," said Prof. John Lee, who is supervising her doctoral dissertation.

“She joins a distinguished roster of ancient studies Rome Prize winners including Lily Ross Taylor, Lucy Shoe Merritt, Richmond Lattimore, T.R.S. Broughton and Erich Gruen.”

Department Chair Elizabeth DePalma Digeser, who also serves on Tracey’s doctoral committee, noted that a previous recipient was Jacob Latham, who received his PhD in Religious Studies in 2008 and now teaches at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

Both recipients are products of UCSB’s interdisciplinary graduate emphasis in Ancient Mediterranean Studies.

Tracey’s dissertation project, entitled “Beyond the Pleasure Garden: Urban Agriculture in Ancient Rome,” combines her interests in agrarian history, ancient food production and environmental history.

Prior to coming to UCSB, Tracey received a B.S. in Agricultural Business Management and an MBA.

It was a banner year for Tracey, who had...
The Changing Face Of Junípero Serra

Only in the final years of his life was Junípero Serra able to do what he most wanted, Santa Clara Prof. Robert Senkewicz told the UCSB History Associates in the kickoff lecture for a series commemorating the 300th anniversary of the famous friar’s birth.

Calling Fr. Serra “the best known person in pre-U.S. California,” Prof. Senkewicz said the friar’s lifelong ambition was to evangelize through one-on-one contact with the native peoples.

Ironically, Prof. Senkewicz added, he only got this chance after being stripped of control following a series of misadventures in 1781. Fr. Serra died in 1784.

Most of the myths that have grown up around Fr. Serra, including the idea that he always walked on his travels through the state, persist because "they represent a kind of truth," even though they are factually incorrect, he said.

Other myths, however, including the picture of him as the "Father of the California missions," are due to misconceptions that began with the publication of his biography in 1787.

The aim of that biography, Prof. Senkewicz said, was to promote the mission system, not to understand Fr. Serra.

"After 1810, the missions were promoted as engines of grad students are doing.” The two students who received grants from UCEHG are Samir Sonti and Cody Stevens.

Both work with Prof. Nelson Lichtenstein on U.S. labor and economic history.

The 10 students who received central fellowships and their projects are:

- Ryan Abrecht (DePalma Digeser), immigrant communities in ancient imperial capitals.
- David Baillargeon (Rapaport), colonial Burma.
- Joe Figliuolo Rossowurm (who declined in order to accept his Fulbright).

The Changing Face Of Junípero Serra

McCray Pens Study Of Science ‘Visioneers’

Scientists who promoted such visionary schemes as space colonies and nanotechnology 50 years ago were not high on controlled substances. They had hard science on their side. That’s the conclusion of Prof. Patrick McCray’s new book, The Visioneers: How a Group of Elite Scientists Pursued Space Colonies, Nanotechnologies and a Limitless Future, published by Princeton University Press.

Calling these scientists “modern utopians,” Prof. McCray describes these scientists as equal parts visionaries and engineers who believed their technologies could head off pollution.

In this sense, they were simply ahead of their time.

But too often they tried to solve problems with one bold stroke rather than incremental steps.

“They’re often trying for the grand slam home run rather than trying to hit singles,” Prof. McCray says, and this is “maybe not the best approach with dealing with the problems that society faces.

“But the futures they envisioned are not failed futures,” he points out.
Prof. Sharon Farmer has been awarded a fellowship to the European Institute for Advanced Study in Paris (EURIAS) for 2013-14 to work on her study of the origins of the silk industry in medieval Paris.

Prof. Farmer was one of some 20 scholars selected to receive fellowships out of a pool of more than 650 applicants.

Selection was made by an international committee of 14 experts in a wide range of disciplines.

The fellowship provides an apartment in Paris and research funds as well as a stipend.

Prof. Farmer’s study, which has already resulted in several articles including one forthcoming in French Historical Studies, is the first scholarly examination of the origins of the silk industry of medieval Paris.

Her book will examine the industry as a case study of the role that skilled Mediterranean artisans played in transforming the material culture of Northern France during the age of the Crusades.

A previous recipient of Guggenheim and NEH fellowships, Prof. Farmer has also been a member of the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton.

Her current project promises to transform our understanding of royal economic policies in the middle ages, as well as the role of women and Jews in that economy.

Her plan is to make a gendered study of the role women played in the silk industry, and to compare it with the part they played in the linen and wool industries.

She has found that Jews and Jewish converts played a significant role in the silk trade that sheds light on the role of Jews in the economy of Northern Europe more generally.

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**Phi Alpha Theta Chapter Concludes Busy Year**

**By Mari Khasmanyan**

HSSB 4041 might be a classroom reserved for lectures during the day, but on Tuesdays at 6 p.m. the room has been full of undergraduate History majors—not taking notes, but attending History Club and Phi Alpha Theta meetings.

This year, the advisors and student officers planned various forms of events that would appeal to all history enthusiasts.

Perhaps one of the most significant meetings was the Professor/TA panel, when the student officers invited History graduate students and professors to describe their career paths.

This was done every quarter, and included professors and graduate students from a wide variety of fields.

Other meetings included games related to historical topics like charades and jeopardy, movie nights, and even trips to museums.

The History Club/Phi Alpha Theta is a great source for undergraduate history majors to gather together and share their stories about classes and research topics, and simply feel free to discuss their favorite aspects of history.

Phi Alpha Theta is a national history honor society. To be a member, one has to fulfill national requirements that include having a certain minimum History GPA and taking a certain minimum number of units.

As many entering undergraduate students are not able to fulfill the requirements during their first year, they enter the History Club until they are able to join the honor society.

This year the UCSB chapter was advised by Profs. Kate McDonald and Ann Plane.

The student officers for 2012-2013 were Lauren Kaye, president; Jesse McCarthy, vice president; Travis Spalding, treasurer, and Mari Khasmanyan, secretary and historian.

Students who would like to join or be notified of coming events should contact Mari Khasmanyan, who has been elected president for next year, at MariKhasmanyan@umail.ucsb.edu.
Dr. Brooks also told about the Hopis and Zunis and Pay’s Pueblo revolt. They led to dynamic reorganizations of religious, cultural and political beliefs, each of which deeply affected the history of the region. Dr. Brooks emphasized the continuing influence of women throughout the ages and within the varying cultures. It was a conundrum, he said, how the people managed to live with multiple faiths that brought about a millennium of evangelism, conflict and accommodation.

Dr. Brooks’ unique, in-depth approach to the study of the borderlands has garnered him numerous national awards, including the American Historical Association’s three highest awards for Captives & Cousins: Slavery, Kinship and Community in the Southwest Borderlands. This book is an intriguing account of slavery among the American Indians and the Spanish colonists of New Mexico. Dr. Brooks’ talk related to his book, focusing largely on the traffic in women and children in the region that was an expression of the intercultural violence that permeated the area. He also showed photos and drawings to depict the influence each culture had on the elaborate architecture in that part of the world.

In coordination with his book, Dr. Brooks explored the internal New Mexican society and the relations among its social classes, including slaves, descendants of slaves, Christianized Indians, mestizos and Spanish grandees. He examined slavery among the Navajo and described their pastoral economy, as well as the society that was later developed by the New Mexicans. He looked at aspects of Pawnee religious ceremonies, Kiowa society, the Ute, the Apache and the epidemics of European diseases that brought down many Comanches.

Dr. Brooks also told about the Hopis and Zunis and how warriors, violence, droughts, religious connections and economic growth,” he said. But Fr. Serra is best understood as an 18th century man who probably would not have liked this shift in purpose.

“As an 18th century man, Fr. Serra wanted to bring God to the unbaptized,” he explained.

Prof. Senkewicz’s lecture included a quick survey of changes in the way revisionist scholars have seen the famous friar.

At the end of the 19th century, he said, Fr. Serra was depicted as “a good guy in the employ of a retrograde system.” This picture changed with the birth of the “mission revival” movement in the early 20th century, which saw Fr. Serra in heroic terms, “preaching to a benighted people.”

The effect was to make the friar a symbol of the American pioneering spirit.

But in the 1990s, scholars emphasized a “bottom up” approach that cast Fr. Serra as “the grisel architect of a death-dealing system.” That image now has been replaced by a more balanced approach, he said.

Prof. Senkewicz’s lecture was the first in a series of events planned by the Mission Archive-Library to commemorate the Serra anniversary.

On June 22, archaeologist Robert Hoover will speak at 10:30 a.m. on “Junípero Serra, the Missionary Ideal and Mission San Antonio de Padua.”

On July 21, Prof. Steven Hackel of UC Riverside will speak at 2:30 p.m. on “Junípero Serra and the Legacies of the California Missions.”

Both talks will be held in the Mission-Archive Conference Room. Reservations, at $5 per person, may be made by email to director@sbmal.org or phone (805) 682-4715, ext. 152.
Prof. Fredrik Logevall of Cornell University taught here at UCSB for eleven years from 1992 to 2004, before he moved to the university near Cayuga Lake. At UCSB his class on the Vietnam War was one of the most popular on campus.

On April 11 we were pleased to welcome Fred back for his homecoming visit to talk about his new book, *Embers of War: The Fall of an Empire and the Making of American Vietnam* (Random House, 2012).

As expected, he gave a stellar presentation on the book to a packed audience in McCune Conference Room, cogently outlining this massive volume (837 pages) into three major themes: inevitability of the decolonization process after World War II, the French decision to reclaim Vietnam as its colony and the U.S. decision to back the French effort and to turn the war eventually into an American war, constantly reminding us of the lessons that the Americans refused to learn from the French experience.

After the presentation, Professor Logevall commented that above all else he was so touched by the warmth in the audience that he felt like he had never left UCSB and that he was very much bonded to this place and his former colleagues.

Prior to this lecture, Fred, Jack Talbott and I had a nice dinner courtesy of my wife, Debbie. We talked about the book, and reminisced about the good old days when Fred and I spent many enjoyable hours organizing the Cold War History Group (COWHIG), now changed into a more respectable name, the Center for Cold War and International History under Prof. Salim Yaqub’s able stewardship.

It was like the old days, when COWHIG members got together in our kitchen, engaging in passionate discussions about the topics at hand, whether it was the famous—or, rather, infamous—John Lewis Gaddis book, *We Now Know: Rethinking Cold War History* (1998), and informal dinner meetings after graduate student conferences or numerous workshops we organized.

We congratulated Fred for receiving the prestigious Francis Parkman Prize from the Society of American Historians. I suggested that the book would receive the National Book Award. Fred told us, “Unfortunately, someone else got the award.” Then Jack and I predicted that his book would be a shoo-in for this year’s Pulitzer Prize.

My power of prediction has never been good. For instance, I never predicted the fall of the Soviet Union. But this time, it was right on! A couple of days after his presentation at UCSB, the Pulitzer Prize Committee announced that Logevall’s *Embers of War* was the winner of this year’s Pulitzer Prize for history.
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 $35  
☐ 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.

☐ $____ gift to the History Associates __________________ Fund.  
(specific other scholarship fund)

Note: Gifts of $1,000 or more qualify for one-year membership in the Chancellor's Council.

Name: __________________________________________

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

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

History Associates  
Department of History  
University of California, Santa Barbara  
Santa Barbara, CA 93106-9410  
Questions? call (805) 893-2991

Even with the hint that he was in the former residence of a Hollywood star, no one was able to identify the site of Paul Sonnino's latest adventures. The answer: he was in the mountain-top palace of the late Princess Grace of Monaco, now occupied by her son, Prince Albert of Monaco. What was he doing there? "I was looking over the Inventory After Decease (probate papers) of Cardinal Mazarin to see if I could claim any of his property, like the College of Four Nations across from the Louvre," Prof. Sonnino explains. He adds, "Tell my colleagues that he welcomed me almost as cordially as they welcome me when I come to the department."

President’s Column: Upcoming Events

various forms of ceremonial life greatly affected each society over the history of the borderlands. Many religious and cultural practices blended into existing practices, resulting in the society we have there today.

Threading through his discussion, Dr. Brooks spoke of how much influence the emphasis on harmony, humility and balance had on the history of the region, again, including, the cultural impact of women.

Dr. Brooks concluded his talk by discussing the arrival of the Americans in New Mexico in the 19th century, the society they came upon and their impact on the borderlands. In his book, he tells about an American woman who learned that she had inherited 32 Ute slaves in 1909. In all likelihood, they were the last people to be held in bondage in the United States.

The audience was enthralled with Dr. Brooks’ remarks and we all learned a great deal from what he had to say. If you were unable to attend his talk, we hope you will join us for our upcoming events.

Our special Awards Ceremony will be held on Tuesday, June 4 at 4p.m. in the HSSB building. In addition, we plan to hold another event in June—a presentation on Santa Barbara’s historic Chinatown. It promises to be both exciting and interesting, so please mark your calendar when you receive your invitation.

Lastly, I hope you will become a member of the History Associates, as well as consider making a donation to this important cause, since it makes such a big difference in the lives of our worthy young scholars.

Thank you so much for your support. I hope to see you soon.

Ann Moore, President