

The Best Day — Awards and Prizes

On Wednesday June 7 in the McCune Conference Room, the History Department's Awards Ceremony began the commencement season that will conclude on the Faculty Club Green on June 18. This year, 109 students will graduate with degrees in history, the history of public policy, or medieval studies. Eight of them—Andy Chen, Paola de la Cruz, Robert King, James Cameron, Emily Leifer, Vincent Shephard, Katie Weinstein, and Cheryl Wilson—were chosen for membership in Phi Beta Kappa (the US's oldest scholastic honor society, founded in 1776). Paola de la Cruz-Perez received the Hal Drake Honor Key as the highest achieving history major to enter Phi Beta Kappa.



Phi Beta Kappas: Chen, King, Leifer, Shephard, Wilson, and Weinstein. Not shown: Klein, de la Cruz.

The Stuart Bernath Prize for the best paper in a one-quarter undergraduate seminar went to Elizabeth Schmitt. Her paper ("You Can Consider Him a Symbol" compared Emmet Till and Khaled Said, two young men whose deaths inspired movements for dignity and freedom (Seikaly). Katie Sebas received the History Associates Board Prize for the best Senior Honors Seminar paper. It was titled "The Clinton Administration and the Rwandan Genocide" (Yaqub). Elizabeth Schmitt's



Elizabeth Schmitt



Katie Sebas

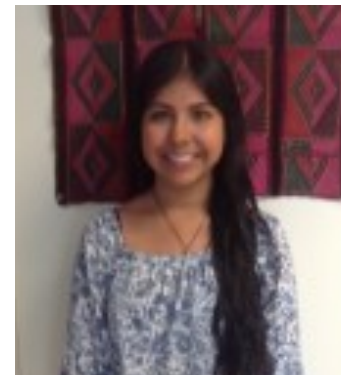
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A Bumper Crop of Terrific Undergrads

The UCSB History Department has an impressive track record of having students who win campus-wide awards at Commencement. But this year is our strongest showing ever. Four of our graduating seniors won a total of five major awards. Andy Chen (also our A. Russell Buchanan Outstanding Senior) got the William Reardon Undergraduate Award for outstanding achievement in the humanities and arts, and her Senior Honors paper received the Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Research. She has completed a triple major (Medieval Studies, Classics, Linguistics). Her paper was titled "Worship and War: Sacred Space in Byzantine Military Religion."



Andy Chen



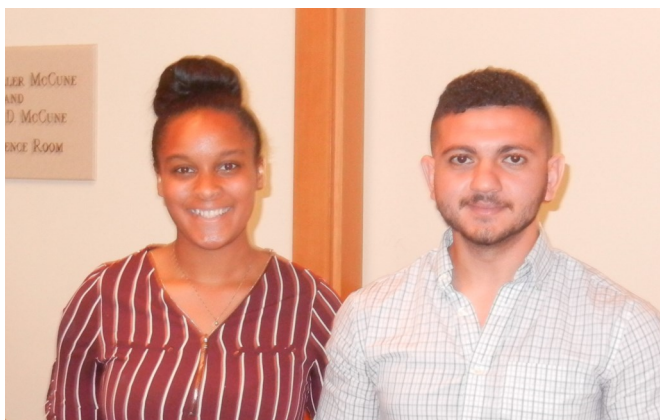
Paola de la Cruz

Paola de la Cruz won the Thomas Storke Award for excellence, outstanding scholarship, and extraordinary service to the university, its students, and the community. She worked as a restorative court student intern with the Superior Court of Santa Barbara (2013-15) and in 2015-16, she served as the Associated Students' External Vice President for Local Affairs in Isla Vista, working on voter registration, tenants' rights, and IV self-governance.

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“Representation without Taxation: Isla Vista and the Tax Revolt in California” was chosen as the best paper in the History of Public Policy Senior Seminar (O’Connor).

A new prize established this year is in memory of Amy Talbott Leach (Class of 1986). Her study of history at UCSB helped shape her understanding of the world in which she lived and recognizes her commitment to social justice in the United States and abroad and her love of travel. The prize supports undergraduate History majors who are taking part in the UC Education Abroad Program or the UC Washington Program (UCDC). The winners Sydney Martin (who will intern in Washington for the University of



California Office of Federal and Governmental Relations) and Steven Abdalmalik (who will study international human rights law at the London School of Economics).

The Marion Ramstad Scholarship, earmarked for juniors interested in European or Asian History, was divided between Matthew Hernandez (McGee) and Alexander Garcia (Roberts). The William Nida Scholarship for seniors interested in teaching U.S. history went to Angelica Garcia (Castillo-Munoz and Spickard). The DAR’s Margaret Straight Scholarship goes to a junior who plans to teach American history. This year’s recipient is Molly Silvestrini (Case).

The Dick Cook Memorial Award to students who made extraordinary contributions in service to the department and the campus was shared by undergraduates Cheryl Wilson and Paola de la Cruz-Perez and one grad student, David McIntosh (who served as president of the UCSB Graduate Students Association this year).

Eighteen graduate students received History Associates Fellowships for such purposes as travel to archives and conferences: Thomas Franke, Mariel

Aquino, Kashia Arnold, Melissa Barthelemy, Serge Ferrari, Doug Genens, Jesse Halvorsen, Fang He, Ibrahim Mansour, Lisa Meyers, Caitlin Rathe, Chloe Roberts, Anna Rudolph, Susan Schmidt, Stephanie Seketa, Shane Sprandio, Mario Tumen and Moriah Ulinskas.



Ulinskas, Tumen, Barthelemy, Seketa, Aquino, Roberts, Meyers, Franke, Straight, Ferrari. Not shown: Arnold, Genens, Halvorsen, He, Mansour, Rathe, Rudolph, Sprandio.

In addition, named fellowships funded by the History Associates were handed out. Mario Tumen garnered the Powell Prize for a graduate student who has made a distinguished contribution to Latin American and Iberian Studies. The Wilbur Jacobs Prize honors excellent work in early American history and went to Rana Razek (O’Connor) and Mariel Aquino (Brooks). Rana researches Syrian immigration (1885-1911), and Mariel is working on Basque immigrants to the American West.



Rana Razek

Sasha Coles

The Ellison Prize recognizes the best graduate seminar paper. It was shared by Sasha Coles (Jacobson) and Rana Razek (O’Connor). Sasha’s paper (“‘A Nation’s Wealth Surrounds a Worm’: Mormonism, Consumer Politics, and Utah’s Silk industry, 1850s-1906”) shows how Mormons managed the transition from a marginalized subgroup into the respectable mainstream by assessing their changing relationship to capitalist enterprise and the marketplace of goods. Sasha also got the Van Gelderen Graduate Fellowship. Rana wrote on “Trails & Fences” (an analysis of Syrian migration to the U.S. from 1885-1911).

The Robert L. Kelley Fellowship recognizes an outstanding student in one of the fields to which he made important contributions. Doug Genens (O'Connor) is a historian of public policy and focuses on the debate about the future of rural America from 1945 to 1980. The Donald Van Gelderen Memorial Award goes to a person who returned to graduate study after pursuing family or other interests, and Stephanie Seketa (Rappaport) is the recipient. She studies the impact of anti-Semitism and xenophobia on the business practices of British corporate capitalism in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Stephanie also got the Ken Moure and Sara Norquay Graduate Award for research in modern European history.

Julie Johnson (Rappaport) received the Lawrence Badash Prize for outstanding work in the history of science and medicine for her paper, "A Woman's Business: Branding Marie Stopes, 1918-1939." The Robert O. Collins Award the best first publication by a graduate student, and its recipient is Fang He (Zhou) for her essay "'Golden Lilies' across the Pacific: Footbinding and the American Enforcement of Chinese Exclusion Laws" appeared in *Gendering the Trans-Pacific World* (Brill, 2017). Keven Breu's analysis of differing approaches to the AIDS crisis in Brazil, Argentina, Haiti and Cuba (1980-2000) received the Orozco Prize for the best paper in the history of Latin America (Mendez).

David Baillargeon (Rappaport) garnered the Frank and Amanda Clark Frost Prize for the best seminar paper or dissertation chapter in military, diplomatic, scientific, economic or biographical history. His essay ("The Great White Chief: the Abolition of Slavery in Colonial Burma, 1826-1935") shows that the notion that humanitarian concerns drove the process of abolishing slavery tells only a small part of the true story. Mariel Aquino's conference paper on the Basques in the western U.S. garnered the Michael Bransfield Prize for the best work in public history.

The John Coleman Award for the best paper in international history was written by Andrew Elrod (Lichtenstein) on "The multinational Corporation and Détente: Investment Policy, Full Employment, and the Trade Act of 1974." Andrew also got the De Conde/Burns Prize in the history of U. S. foreign relations. The Harold and Kathleen Drake Award to support graduate study in the ancient Mediterranean and ancient Chinese history went to Lisa Meyers (Digeser). Chris McQuilkin received the Darcy Ruth Ritzau Graduate Student Award.

The Esme Frost Fellowship for achievement in pre-modern European went to Kalina Yamboliev (Lansing) who is completing her year in Rome as a Fulbright Fellow. Sarah Hanson (Farmer), another former Fulbright Fellow, is the recipient of the C. Warren Hollister Memorial Fellowship for the study of medieval European history. and Kit Smemo (Lichtenstein) won the Richard Mayberry Award for overall scholarly excellence.

Nicole DeSilva (Majewski, Jacobson) got the J. Bruce Anderson Memorial Fellowship for the outstanding T.A. in the Department of History, and Thomas Franke (Blumenthal) received the Williams Endowed Graduate Fellowship to support his research into



Nicole de Silva



Thomas Franke

"Black Spaniards: Color, Status, and Community in Sixteenth-Century Valencia." Travis Seifman is the recipient of the Schlaikjer-McIntyre Fellowship for his research on the relationship between the Ryukyu Kingdom (Okinawa) and the Tokugawa Shogunate in Edo (Tokyo) from 1600 to 1868.

Historic Hardhats

John Lee's fascinating exhibition, "Helmets of the First World War: Battle, Technology, and Culture," will be available only until June 30. If you haven't seen it yet, do consider a visit to the Davidson Library. Besides the helmets, the exhibit includes photos and maps from UCSB Library's Special Research Collections along with artifacts loaned by UCSB alumnus John Blankenship and the Pierre Claeysens Veterans Foundation. Undergraduate researcher Sydney Martin, a second-year student worked with Prof. Lee to prepare the exhibition. See <http://guides.library.ucsb.edu/c.php?g=585403&p=4043134>

LET US HEAR FROM YOU: Send letters to: Editor, *Historia*, Dept. of History, UCSB, Santa Barbara, CA 93106-9410 (or e-mail to: jsmcgee@history.ucsb.edu)



Katie Correia

Cheryl Wilson

Katie Correia received the Dean of Undergraduate Education Commencement Award for outstanding scholarship and contributions to the campus community, such as working for the Guardian Scholar's Program, which supports the educations of former foster youth. She developed resources for other students who are, like herself, parents and transfer students. Cheryl Wilson garnered the Deans' Award for Outstanding Senior. As a sophomore, she was elected president of the UCSB Mock Trial Club, and in 2015 the American Mock Trial Association named her the "All-Nation Outstanding Attorney." AT UCDC during her junior year, she served as an intern both at the White House and the Department of Justice. The Department of Justice then hired her for a year as a paid employee during which she earned credits toward her UCSB BA and organizing a Mentorship Day which brought students from local high schools to the DOJ.

In addition, twelve students completed the department's highly demanding Senior Honors Seminar.



From left: Correia, Nelson, Leifer, Chen, Gray, I. Garcia, A. Garcia, Sebas, Tragarz. Not shown: Cain, Samuels, Young.

The Mary Furner Colloquium

By Serge Ferrari

On March 10, 2017, the History of Public Policy Program and the Center for the Study of Work, Labor, and Democracy hosted a symposium and dinner in honor of Professor Mary Furner, who retired last year after a near quarter-century in the Department of History at UC Santa Barbara. Dozens of colleagues and former students from throughout the United States attended the event to celebrate her remarkable career. The symposium was entitled *Scholar, Mentor, Humanist*, and commemorated Professor Furner's contributions to research and teaching, as well as her longstanding commitment to scholarship with a public purpose.



From left: Jensen, Schuster, Yang, Hendrickson, Furner, Ashenmiller, O'Connor, Lichtenstein, Baranski, Sonti

After heartfelt introductions by Alice O'Connor, Nelson Lichtenstein, and Chancellor Yang, Professor Furner kicked off the symposium with a new paper on labor standards regulations in the Gilded Age. A lively round of comments followed, drawing attention to many of the paper's provocative interventions, including the notion of a state-level 'freedom of contract' moment that had predated the *Lochner* era. In classic Furner fashion, during the Q&A she seamlessly cultivated a conversational tone, inviting attendees to discuss the history freely and its significance for the present.

The rest of the symposium was structured around a series of panels in which former students (many of them now colleagues) gave talks on Professor Furner's influence on their work and experience. The first panel of speakers presented new research that reflected fields of study to which Professor Furner has long been devoted, including the history of economic and social thought, public policy, labor, and capitalism.

Jill Jenson of Redlands University presented a project on international labor standards and political economy, and Mark Hendrickson of UCSD spoke about the “field shaping” nature of *Advocacy and Objectivity* and confessed that it continues as one of the few books to never leave his desktop.



Other speakers reflected upon Professor Furner’s excellence as a teacher, noting that it has served as a continual source of inspiration. David G. Schuster of Indiana University–Purdue University Fort Wayne spoke of the relationship between critical thinking and writing history,

while John Baranski talked about “teaching that matters” in his experience at El Camino College. Josh Ashenmiller, too, focused on teaching, and also talked about his involvement in governance at Fullerton College. Beyond an academic setting, Samir Sonti reflected on labor history and his work as a union organizer as a way of coping with the contemporary U.S. political crisis.

In the evening, guests gathered at a charming French bistro for a reception and dinner. After a tasty feast and a round or two (or three) of fine wine, guests raised their glasses and recalled fond memories of meeting and working with Professor Furner. Cody Stephens talked about his experience as a first-year graduate who had quickly come to appreciate Professor Furner as a “tough critic, but also an encouraging supervisor.” Alice O’Connor toasted her as a “very close colleague and friend” and presented her with a box of fine chocolates. These and other kind words and gestures from guests brought to an end a well-deserved celebration for a colleague, a scholar, mentor, and friend who is held in the highest esteem.

Good News from Alumni

Jason Kelly (PhD 2004, Guerrini) has published an article in the April 2017 *American Historical Review* titled “Reading the Grand Tour at a Distance: Archives and Datasets in Digital History.” Jason is an Associate Professor of History and Director of the IUPUI Arts and Humanities Institute in Indianapolis, Indiana. Public historian **Alison Rose Jefferson** (PhD 2015, Bergstrom) received the David G. Cameron Award

(the first time this historic preservation award has been granted since 2010) by the Santa Monica Conservancy to recognize her research “into the history of African-Americans in Santa Monica and her education of the public about this subject.” **Jake Hamblin** (PhD 2001, Badash) is the recipient of the Davis Prize from the History of Science Society for his 2013 book, *Arming Mother Nature*. It goes to the best history of science book written for a popular audience. He is a Professor of History and Director of OSU Environmental Arts at Oregon State. **Justin Bengry** (PhD 2010, Rappaport) has accepted a lectureship in Queer history at Goldsmith’s College (University of London), where he will be helping to build a new MA program in Queer History.

More Good News from Grads

Laura Hooton (Spickard) has published her first article, “Black Angelenos with the ‘Courage to Do and Dare’: African American Community Organizers in Lower California” in *California History* (Spring, 2017). **Fang He** (Zhou, Cohen) has her first publication, an essay titled “Golden Lilies” across the Pacific: Footbinding and the American Enforcement of Chinese Exclusion Laws” in *Gendering the Trans-Pacific World* (Brill, 2017). **Paul Barba** (Spickard) has accepted a tenure-track assistant professorship at Bucknell University in Pennsylvania, where he will teach the history of the African diaspora, the Black Atlantic, and early Native America. He will also be the holder of the C. Graydon and Mary E. Rogers Faculty Fellowship for the next three years. **Elijah Bender** (Roberts) has accepted a tenure-track assistant professorship in global and environmental history at Concordia College in Minnesota.

Still More Good News from Faculty

Sherene Seikaly’s book, *Men of Capital: Scarcity and Economy in Mandate Palestine* (Stanford University Press, 2017) is co-winner of the 2016 Middle East Political Economy Book Prize. A version of the talk that **Nelson Lichtenstein** gave in a departmental symposium last fall—“How Immigrants Built the American Left — And Can Build It Again”—has been published in *Dissent* (Feb. 22, 2017).

Brrr! A Cold War Conference

By Salim Yaqub

From Thursday to Saturday, April 27 to 29, the Fifteenth International Graduate Student Conference on the Cold War took place at UCSB. The event is part of an ongoing conference series that UCSB's Center for Cold War Studies and International History (CCWS) convenes in cooperation with affiliated Cold War centers at George Washington University and the London School of Economics. Eighteen graduate students from all over the world came to UCSB to present original papers on aspects of the Cold War. Fifteen faculty members, from UCSB and elsewhere, made presentations of their own or commented on the papers.

The proceedings began on Thursday evening with a reception and dinner in the Santa Barbara Harbor



Room of the University Center, an event enlivened by a presentation on Cold War Film by Professors Charles Wolfe and Ross Melnick of the UCSB Film and Media Studies Department. The following two days were devoted to presentations by the graduate student participants, who included two UCSB PhD history students, Andrew Elrod and Jesse Halvorsen, and a former UCSB history major, Mattias Fibiger, now a doctoral student in history at Cornell University. The topics of the students' papers ranged from German war criminals in U.S. custody in the aftermath of World War II, to India's and China's family planning programs in the 1960s, to Yugoslavia's relations with Ethiopia in the late 1970s. Faculty commentators included UCSB history professors Elena Aronova, Patrick McCray, Paul Spickard, and Salim Yaqub, and recent UCSB history PhD Henry Maar.

Among the other highlights of the conference were a keynote address on "America's Covert Empire" by

Professor Hugh Wilford of California State University, Long Beach, and a pizza dinner at the home of CCWS director Salim Yaqub. The prize for the best conference paper went to Carl Forsberg of the University of Texas at Austin, who spoke on U.S.-Iraqi relations from the 1970s to the 1990s.

The conference was sponsored by CCWS, the Department of History, the Interdisciplinary Humanities Center, and the Graduate Division. Heartfelt thanks go out to CCWS's graduate assistant, James Williams, and to the four undergraduate facilitators: Madeline Atchison, Alexander ("Sasha") Bates, Jacob Bavoso, and Leticia Ceballos.

New Faculty Books

First to be considered are books edited (or co-edited) by UCSB historians. Please note that more information about any of these books is available from the websites of the various publishers. **John W. I. Lee** and **Michael North** co-edited *Globalizing Borderlands Studies in Europe and North America* (University of Nebraska Press, 2016). It contains essays by UCSB's Beth Digeser, Veronica Castillo-Munoz, Ann Plane, Gabriela Soto Laveaga, and Michael North. UCSB's Paul Spickard and former UCSB faculty member Pekka Hamalainen (now the Rhodes Professor at Oxford University) are the editors of the series on borderlands and transcultural studies in which it appears.

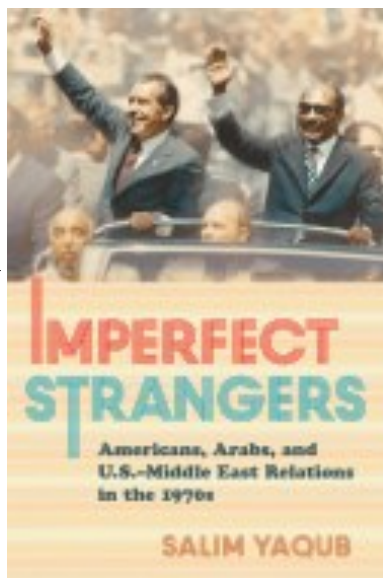
Elena Aronova co-edited (with Simone Turchetti) *Science Studies During the Cold War and Beyond: Paradigms Defected* (Palgrave Studies in the History of Science and Technology, 2016). It explores the Cold War politics of "science studies," as an intellectual project and a community of scholars, in both familiar "battlefields" of the cultural Cold War (the US and Western Europe) as well as in less familiar contexts of Eastern Europe, China, and Latin America.

With Sandra Dawson and Mark Crowley, **Erika Rappaport** edited *Consuming Behaviors: Identities, Politics, and Pleasure in Twentieth-Century Britain* (Bloomsbury, 2015). The essays in this book examine how consumerism in this period "increasingly defined and redefined individual and social identities. New types of consumers emerged: the idealized

working-class consumer, the African consumer, and the teenager challenged the prominent position of the middle and upper-class female shopper.”

Joined by David Kaiser, **Patrick McCray** co-edited *Groovy Science: Science, Technology, and the American Counterculture*. The twelve contributions oppose the notion that in the 1970s the counterculture was against science and shows instead that countercultural individuals and groups welcomed science (if not always in conventional ways.)

Four UCSB historians published monographs. In *Imperfect Strangers: Americans, Arabs, and Middle-East Relations in the 1970s* (Cornell University Press, Sept. 2016), **Salim Yaqub** presents a powerful argument that the decade of the 1970s has been mistakenly neglected by historians of international rela-



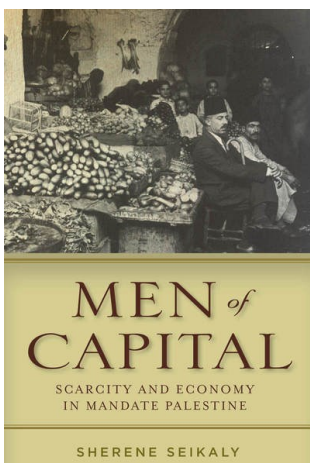
tions because it was the period which set the patterns of estrangement and accommodation that persisted right up to the present between the U.S. and the Arab states. This holds not only for high level diplomacy but for street-level interactions and even in the realm of the imagination. Yaqub vividly depicts a “wide array of American and Arab actors—political leaders, diplomats, warriors, activists, scholars, businesspeople, novelists, and others.” Mark Atwood Lawrence ((UT-Austin) describes it as “a first-rate, highly original, and unquestionably important book. Salim Yaqub brings together consideration of high-level policymaking with analysis of American domestic politics and culture and persuasively argues that the decade marks a major—and mostly ignored—turning point in U.S.–Middle Eastern relations.” According to David Farber (U. of Kansas), “given current concerns about ISIS, international terrorism, the fraught politics of the Middle East, and the heated rhetoric and high stakes

surrounding the status of people of Arab descent in the United States as well as in Europe, Yaqub’s rich and compelling work could not be more relevant.”

The Other California: Land, Identity, and Politics on the Mexican Borderlands (University of California Press, Nov. 2016) by **Verónica Castillo-Muñoz** received the 2017 Gita Chaudhuri Prize from the Western Association of Women historians. It describes the ethnically diverse communities of Baja California – indigenous groups, Japanese and Chinese farmers, Mexican migrants working in the United States, mixed-race families – and their complex interactions in the context of land reform and migration patterns from 1850 to 1945. Kelly Lytle Hernandez (UCLA) praised it as “an ambitious book packed with new and transformative stories of Mexico’s northern borderlands. In particular, by digging deep into the Mexicali Valley and broadly setting the historical frame for agrarian land reform in Mexico while fearlessly engaging in an analysis of the relationships between land, labor, gender, race, migration (regional and transnational), and citizenship, *The Other California* reveals the complexities and contingencies that made Mexicali one of the most diverse and productive regions of the Mexican borderlands.” For Evelyn Hu-Dehart (Brown University), “this book stands out in several ways: attention to Mexican, mestiza, and native women as laborers, activists, family, and community leaders; recognition of the significant presence of Asian immigrants (mostly Chinese and Japanese men) as protagonists in frontier development; and close examination of Mexico’s revolutionary land and agrarian reform under the *ejido* program, especially for Mexican families deported from the United States during the Depression years of the 1930s—all of which make this book a revelation!”



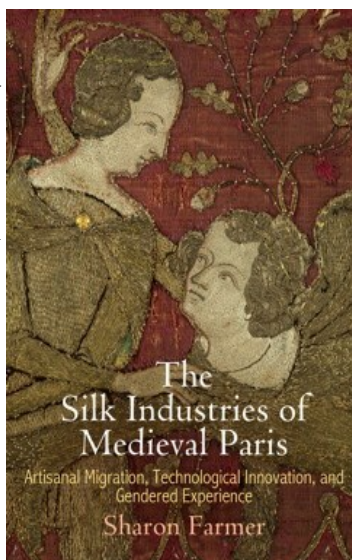
In her *Men of Capital: Scarcity and Economy in Mandate Palestine* (Stanford University Press, Nov 2015), **Sherene Seikaly** explores how Palestinian capitalists and British colonial officials used the economy to



shape territory, nationalism, the home, and the body during the 1930s and 1940s. It was shortlisted in the 2016 Palestine Book Awards, sponsored by the *Middle East Monitor* and won the 2016 Middle East Political Economy Book Prize. Unlike other histories of Palestine, Seikaly portrays efforts to build a pan-Arab utopia of the capitalist variety which utilized free trade, profitability, and private property. Rather than discussing the Zionist-Palestinian debates, it situates the Palestinians in the wider world of Arab thought and life. Drawing upon Palestinian business publications, public and private records,

and letters, Seikaly introduces the reader to a cast of characters that includes the man of capital, his frugal wife, the law-abiding Bedouin, the jobless youth, and the prosperous farmer. Manu Goswami (NYU) concluded that "Seikaly's critical history of Palestinian economic agents and thinkers is an exemplary instance of new approaches to political economy. Eschewing both nostalgic mourning and nationalist frames, *Men of Capital* will inform and instruct debates about the regional roots of economic practices and the institutional infrastructure of economic imaginaries across twentieth century Middle Eastern studies."

The Silk Industries of Medieval Paris: Artisanal Migration, Technological Innovation, and Gendered Experience (University of Pennsylvania Press, Nov 2016) is **Sharon Farmer's** latest book. From shortly before 1200 to the late 1300s, Paris was the only place north of the Mediterranean basin where luxury silk cloth was produced. Farmer shows that, besides the importation of raw materials, the arrival of skilled Mediterranean immigrants was central to success of the industry in Paris. Silk production offered unique opportunities to women and facilitated the rise of female entrepreneurs. Jewish and Italian pawnbrokers were also deeply involved. Using tax assessments, account books, and guild statutes, Farmer describes the economic and technological contributions the immigrants made to Parisian society. Her book provides, as Kathryn Reyerson (University of Minnesota) wrote, "a coherent discussion of silk and accessories production that accounts for the unusual presence of female guilds in Paris. . . . This is an invaluable contribution to the history of women, gender, and medieval industry."



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