

História

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Newsletter of the UCSB History Associates

March 1988

LECTURE, TOUR PUT ON AGENDA FOR SPRING TERM

A luncheon lecture by Sears McGee, professor of Early Modern British history, and a field trip to the Huntington Library in Pasadena led by Prof. Wilbur Jacobs will close out activities for the first year of the UCSB History Associates, according to Board President Dick Cooke.

McGee's topic for the luncheon, to be held March 17 at the Sheraton Hotel, will be "Henry VIII: Myth and Reality." Best known for his many wives, Henry has always been a popular subject in McGee's undergraduate courses.

To the general public, it was Henry's determination to produce an heir that led him to break with Rome and bring the Reformation into England. But there was

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ASSOCIATES LUNCHEON

Kelley tells Audience About Ethnic Politics

The ethnic factor is the most frequently overlooked aspect of the American political experience, Prof. Robert Kelley told the most recent gathering of the UCSB History Associates last month.

"Lots of attention has been paid to the influence of economic, social, and political values in determining a person's party preference," he told the luncheon audience. "The ethnic factor is the most frequently overlooked."

This ethnic—or "tribal"—factor has run through American politics from the start, he said. It is created by conflict between the "core" or "in" culture and the various immigrant groups that have either tried to become part of that core group or protect themselves from it.

"Yankee" culture, originally associated with just a segment of the New England population, clearly is that "core culture" for the U.S., Prof. Kelley said, as the fact that all Americans now are known to the rest of the world as "Yanks" demonstrates.

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Djordjevic Schedules Conference

UCSB will host a joint international research conference on "Population Migrations in South Eastern Europe from Pre-History until Recent Times" next month.

The conference, to be held from April 10-12, is the product of collaboration between the UCSB History Department and the Institute of Balkan Studies of the Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts in Belgrade. It will bring together leading scholars from Europe and the United States.

Prof. Dimitri Djordjevic, who has spent more than a year organizing the conference, says it is meant to provide a forum for scholars from different nations and different disciplines.

"The Balkans have been a cultural, ethnographic

and historical crossroads between three continents for three millenia," he explained. "Population movements here have influenced everything from linguistics to nationalism to World Wars."

In addition to Belgrade and UCSB, scholars will come from UCLA, Stanford, Buffalo, Boulder, and Budapest.

Participating from UCSB, in addition to Prof. Djordjevic, will be History Prof. Frank Frost, who will speak on cultural continuity in the Balkans from antiquity to the present, and Robert Frakes, a doctoral candidate in the Department of History, who will give a paper on the impact of the Huns.

Conference programs, with a complete list of talks and activities, will be available later this month.

View From the Chair

The Department of History is going to have its first External Review in about 15 years this March. In preparation, we were asked to do a self-assessment of our program, from which some interesting information merged. Did you know that:

§ More than half of our faculty have held national fellowships—including nine Guggenheim Fellows (some of whom have received this award more than once) and five Wilson Fellows.

§ In the past five years, UCSB historians have served as Presidents of the Pacific Coast Branch of the American Historical Association, the North American Society for Serbian Studies, the North American Conference on British Studies, and the Charles Homer Haskins Society.

§ The Department boasts two fellows of the Medieval Academy of America, a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature, a Fellow of the Serbian Academy of Sciences, a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, a Fellow of the American Physical Society, and a Senior Fellow of the Society of Fellows, the University of Durham, England.

§ In the past five years, History faculty have published some 30 books and monographs with university presses and a dozen more with leading publishers, and literally hundreds of scholarly articles.

§ The Department granted its first Ph.D. only 25 years ago (this was the first ever awarded at UCSB), yet by 1984 it had become one of the 50 departments nationwide that account for more than 80 percent of all history faculty with Ph.D. degrees in the nation. If only faculty who received their degrees since 1969 are counted, we rank in the top 25, accounting for 1 percent of all history Ph.D.s in the nation (by comparison, Harvard, which was first, accounts for 6.3 percent).

§ The most recent survey of UCSB graduates (a profile of the Class of 1986) indicated that about 40 percent of our majors go on to enroll in professional programs (with about 80 percent of these in schools of education). Of the 60 percent who entered the work force that year, 20 percent were in real estate, and another 20 percent in investment companies.

§ The UCSB Department of History was the only history department in the state (and one of only two in the country) to have one of its students win a Mellon Fellowship in each of the first three years of this prestigious new program.

These signs of our Department's national stature make the founding of the History Associates this year all the more important. It is impossible to maintain a first-rate program without effective alumni and community support. We have been overwhelmed by the enormous and enthusiastic response to the Associates' first membership call, and look forward to a close and mutually beneficial relationship.

H.A. Drake
Chair

História

Prepared for the UCSB History Associates
by the members of the
Gamma Iota Chapter
of Phi Alpha Theta

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History Undergrad, Grad Students Chart Activities for Spring Term

This edition of the History Association Newsletter will introduce and briefly describe three fine student organizations dedicated to enhancing the UCSB History Department and fostering the academic environment of history students.

The History Undergraduate Association, Phi Alpha Theta (History Honors Society) and the History Graduate Students Association offer excellent opportunities to interact with fellow history majors, encourage the growth and diversity of the History Department, attend lectures, conferences, and field trips, and become involved in the external historical community.

Open to All

Membership in the History Undergraduate Association (HUA) is open to all students, whether or not they are History majors. Phi Alpha Theta selects members annually from History majors who have completed at least five courses with the major with a grade-point average of at least 3.4 (approximately B+). Majors who have completed fewer than five courses with significantly higher grades can also be considered.

Graduate students who have a GPA of at least 3.7 (A-), are also eligible for membership.

As an international honors society, Phi Alpha Theta sponsors conferences, paper contests, and lectures, and offers scholarships to graduate students. The local UCSB Gamma-Iota chapter also sponsors lectures, holds an annual banquet for history faculty and new members, and hosts many regular meetings and social events.

Work Closely

The HUA and Phi Alpha Theta work closely together, and usually hold their meetings together, as well as planning joint activities.

The two organizations recently completed a fund-raising book sale, and plan to co-host a picnic and departmental softball game in the Spring with the History Graduate Students Association (HGSA).

Undergraduates in history can get to know one fellow history students, participate in social events, and attend interesting lectures by joining the Undergraduate History Association. This is a great opportunity for new history students to familiarize themselves with the History Department and enrich their academic pursuits.

The History Graduate Students Association (HGSA) is open to all master's and Ph.D. degree candidates in history. Members meet regularly to discuss issues of common concern, such as curriculum, facilities for teaching and study, and professional opportunities.

Heading the HGSA this year is Tom Widroe, who is currently enrolled in the MA Program.

Each group serves both the History Department and the student community, and certainly hopes to see more inquiring and interested faces. We look forward to meeting you soon.

Burris DeBenning
Editor

PROF. HOLLISTER CHOSEN TO LEAD MEDIEVAL SOCY

UCSB History Prof. C. Warren Hollister will be inducted as Vice President of the Medieval Association of the Pacific (MAP) at the Society's annual conference this month in Tucson, with automatic advancement to the Presidency following a two-year term.

Hollister, who was informed of his selection in late February, referred to it as "a very great honor" because of the size of the organization, which embraces all of the Western states, and the variety of its membership.

"MAP is not simply limited to historians," he explained. "It includes all those who study the Middle Ages—a period of 1,000 years. So we include members in language, literature, art and science as well as history."

Honor is, of course, nothing new to Prof. Hollister. A Fellow of the Medieval Academy of America and President of the Charles Homer Haskins Society, he is also the immediate Past President of the North American Conference on British Studies and a former Vice President of the American Historical Association. His textbook on Medieval Europe is now in its 5th edition and has been translated into Swedish and Chinese.

A specialist in the period of Anglo-Norman England, Prof. Hollister is in frequent demand as a lecturer at scholarly meetings throughout the world.

LETTERS

Editor:

Enclosed find my subscription for the UCSB History Associates.

Although I've lived and worked abroad since 1964 I do get back to the States frequently and might be able to attend some of your events; in any event, the idea is a good one and needs supporting.

If, in the future, any of your 'excursions' ever take you as far as Edinburgh and you need a crash course in Scottish history, I'd be glad to oblige (gratis).

(Dr.) Marinell Ash

Historical Services (Scotland)

LET US HEAR FROM YOU!

Have you got news to relate, or things you would like to hear about? Ideas for courses or classmates you want to get in touch with? Drop a line to:

EDITOR, História

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KELLEY

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For most of American political history, he said, immigrants have turned to the Democratic party as a way of developing an effective political base against the core culture. Recent politics, however, indicate a major realignment of some of these ethnic minorities might now be occurring.

Nationally famous for his work on intellectual history and public policy, Prof. Kelley was the fourth speaker this year in the History Associates' luncheon program, which aims to bring faculty research to the community.

Three New Members
Join History Faculty

Three new assistant professors joined the Department of History this year. They are (in alphabetical order): Dr. Keletso Atkins, History of Southern Africa; Dr. Randolph Bergstrom, U.S. Social Policy; and Dr. Zaragosa Vargas, U.S. Labor History.

Prof. Atkins comes to UCSB from the University of Minnesota. She completed her Ph.D. degree at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, in 1986 with a dissertation on "The Cultural Origins of an African Work Ethic and Practices" Natal, South Africa, 1843-1875."

By comparing the concepts and language of native tribes and white settlers in the 19th century, she has discovered different meanings that were given to "time" and "work" by the two peoples that account for many of the misperceptions that developed at that time.

At UCSB, Prof. Atkins is teaching upper-division and graduate courses in Southern African history and is developing a lower-division survey course in Pre-Colonial Africa. She joins a team of Africa specialists that includes Profs. Robert Collins (Sudan) and Nancy Gallagher (Egypt).

Bergstrom on Policy

UCSB is the first home for Randy Bergstrom, who completed his Ph.D. at Columbia just this year. Prof. Bergstrom's research has focused on changes in legal liability for accidents that occurred around the turn of the century, just prior to development of workmen's compensation laws.

Through a computerized quantitative study of cases in the New York Supreme Court and Court of Appeals, Prof. Bergstrom discovered that the definition of "liability" and "fault" in the courts was mirroring changes in society at large during this time.

His dissertation, "Courting Danger: The Evolution of Tort Liability in New York, 1870-1910," has been nominated by Columbia for the Bancroft Prize.

Prof. Bergstrom has been teaching an upper-division course in U.S. Public Policy and graduate courses in policy and historical methods. Last fall, he taught the Department's innovative lower-division survey course on "Great Issues in Public Policy."

Work Force for Vargas

From Michigan via Yale, Zaragosa Vargas completes the trio of UCSB's new historians. Prof. Vargas' interests in social history and the history of minorities led him to investigate the condition of Mexican workers in the Detroit auto industry during the 1920s. His dissertation, "Mexican Auto Workers at Ford Motor Company, 1918-1933," used neglected records stored by the auto makers to document a role played by Mexican nationals that was both more extensive and much earlier than previously thought.

Dividing his time between Chicano Studies and History, Prof. Vargas has developed a new, two-quarter upper-division course on U.S. Labor History. He plans to follow up his study of the Motor City with analysis of records for Mexican industrial workers in the Southwest during the first half of this century.

Prof. Vargas joins a team of social and economic historians in the Department that includes Profs. Elliot Brownlee (business and fiscal policy) and Mario Garcia (Chicano and labor history).

Active Board Steers Associates



AT EASE! Caught relaxing after a grueling luncheon meeting are History Associate Board members (l. to r.) Mary Louise Days, Hal Drake, Barbara Lindemann, Board Chair

Dick Cooke, Vice Chair Doug Schmidt, Treasurer Jeremy Haas, and Secretary Richard Oglesby. Not pictured: Frank Frost, Eric Hvolboll, Jarrell Jackman, and Richard Esparza.

Membership Bulges in New Associates

Officially launched just six months ago, the UCSB History Associates has already grown to more than 200 members, according to Board President Dick Cooke.

"The response from alumni has been fantastic," Cook said. "We have gotten response from alumni throughout the country, and from as far away as Scotland and the Orient."

History Associates membership passed the 225 mark in February, Cooke said, and the Alumni Association office continues to get several calls and letters every week.

Cooke, a retired executive for TV Guide who describes himself as "a local history buff," was quick to point out that membership in the History Associates is open to all friends of history.

"We are now drawing a regular turnout of about 75 people to our luncheons," he explained, "and most of these are local residents who like having the opportunity to hear about all the exciting things UCSB's world-famous history faculty are doing."

The Associates have plans to build scholarships and other forms of support funds for the Department, Cooke said. Guiding the activities is an active Board of Directors that now consists of ten members.

In addition to Cooke, the Board's officers include Douglas Schmidt, vice chair; Richard Oglesby, secretary; and Jeremy Haas, treasurer.

Other members are Frank Frost, Eric Hvolboll, Mary Louise Days, Barbara Lindemann, Jarrell Jackman, Hal Drake and Richard Esparza.

For a membership fee of \$20 (\$10 for members of the UCSB Alumni Association), Associates become entitled to a range of benefits, including a library card valid at any U.C. campus, alumni group travel, and discounts on theater and vacation programs.

Associates also may audit UCSB history classes free on a space-available basis.

Information about membership in the History Associates may be obtained by writing the UCSB Alumni Association or phoning (805) 961-2288.

SPRING: Lecture, Tour Set

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more to it than that, says McGee, who has studied the impact of these religious controversies on English thought in several books and articles.

The spring quarter will close with a field trip to the Huntington Library in Pasadena. Professor Wilbur Jacobs (American Frontier, Colonial, Indian, and Environmental History) will speak at the library, followed by a conducted tour through the library and gardens.

Further information for both events can be gotten by calling the UCSB Alumni Association, 961-2288.

Earlier luncheons this year have featured talks by Profs. Richard Oglesby on recent California history, Frank Frost on the home of the Homeric hero

Odysseus, and Robert Kelley on ethnic politics in America. Screenwriter Paul Lazarus of the Film Studies Department also was featured, with a history of the Hollywood studios.

"We have a strong lineup for next year's luncheons already in place," Cook said. "Prof. Nancy Gallagher has agreed to speak on problems in the Middle East, and Prof. Keletso Atkins, who just joined the faculty this year, will talk about South Africa in the 19th century."

Other scheduled talks will be by History Department Chair Hal Drake on the Discovery of the True Cross and local writer/artist Barnaby Conrad. The first lecture of the new season will be given in October.

Historia

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This Month in *HISTORY*

March 2 (Wednesday)

"Anti-Semitism in Europe as an Issue of Public Policy." Prof. Albert Lindemann. 4 p.m. 5824 Ellison Hall (History Conference Room). Sponsored by the Public Policy Colloquium. Free.

March 3 (Thursday)

"To Lift the Iron Curtain: A Historian's Contribution." Dr. Tibor Frank, Fulbright Visiting Professor from Budapest, Hungary. 4 p.m. 4834 Ellison Hall (History Lounge). Sponsored by Phi Alpha Theta and the History Undergraduate Association. Free.

March 3 (Thursday)

"Embarking on a Rough Passage: Achieving, Experiencing, and Managing the State of Pregnancy in 17th-Century England." Dr. Linda Pollock, Churchill College, Cambridge. 4 p.m. 2623 South Hall (Sankey Room). Sponsored by Renaissance Studies and the Department of History. Free.

March 17 (Thursday)

"Henry VIII: Myth and Reality." Prof. Sears McGee. Noon, Sheraton Hotel. Sponsored by UCSB History Associates. Tickets (including lunch) are \$10 for students and members, \$12 for others.