

Historía

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Newsletter of the UCSB History Associates

March 1991

NEH TAPS TWO HISTORY PROFS FOR SEMINARS

Of the eight Summer Seminars for College Teachers being sponsored by the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) this year, two are being led by UCSB History faculty.

Prof. David Rock is offering a seminar in "Economic Development and Democratization in Argentina and Latin America, 1890 to the Present," and Prof. Jeffrey Russell one on "Intellectual and Social Dimensions of Medieval Religious Dissent."

NEH Summer Seminars are designed to give college teachers and scholars of equivalent standing an opportunity to pursue advanced work in their chosen fields. Because of the limited size (usually no more than 12 applicants are selected to participate) and number of these seminars, faculty selected to teach them are expected to be particularly distinguished in their fields.

"It is unusual for one department to be awarded two of these seminars in the same year because the selection process is so competitive," according to Dr. Barbara Harthorn, assistant director of UCSB's Interdisciplinary Humanities Center, who coordinated Profs. Rock and Russell's applications.

"It is a real tribute to the depth of talent in UCSB's department that both of these were selected."

Prof. Rock, author of a leading study of Argentine history, has won several national awards, including a Guggenheim Fellowship for 1989-90. Prof. Russell recently was named by the UCSB Academic Senate to receive its highest honor, the Faculty Research Lectureship, for his five-volume study of the history of evil.

Islamic Chair Humphreys To Clarify 'Jihad' Concept

By JOSEPH FINNIGAN

The Islamic concept of jihad, which some Westerners define as a "holy war," will be the subject of Dr. R. Stephen Humphreys' talk before the UCSB History Associates at the group's Mar. 12 lecture-luncheon.

Because jihad usually is defined as "holy war," Dr. Humphreys says, "most Americans have pictures of Muslims as wide-eyed fanatics who are intent on carrying out holy war against the rest of the world."

Godly Society

Dr. Humphreys defines jihad as a struggle to create a godly society.

"Sometimes that involves war, but it involves a lot of other things as well," he says. "It's a very broad mandate. I want to talk about jihad in that context, and explain why it seems such an important part of Islamic culture in the late 20th century. One of the things we have to keep in mind is that not every war involving Muslims is a jihad. Most wars are not. Muslims know the difference. They think most wars are about greed and ambition, not about serving God."

Vast Knowledge

Dr. Humphreys, who came to UCSB this academic year to assume the King Abdul Aziz Ibn Saud Chair of Islamic Studies, brings a vast knowledge of the Middle East to his lecture. Since receiving his Ph.D. from the University of Michigan in 1969, he has written major studies on the history of the medieval Islamic world, as well as articles and essays on medieval Islamic history, religion and politics in the contemporary Middle East.

The professor's wide experience on

(Please see "HUMPHREYS," p. 2)



Prof. R. STEPHEN HUMPHREYS
...to explain 'jihad.'

Prof. Fogel Leaves For China Conference

Prof. Joshua Fogel will deliver a paper on "Western Modernization Theories as Applied to China and Japan" at a conference on Modernization and East Asian Culture being held in Beijing this month.

The conference, sponsored by the Chinese Association for the Study of Sino-Japanese Relations, will be conducted entirely in Chinese.

A specialist in Sino-Japanese history, Prof. Fogel currently is serving as chair of UCSB's Asian Studies Program. He recently helped the UCSB Library acquire a gift of some 500 books on Korean history and culture from the Korean consul-general in Los Angeles.

From the Chair

Some years ago we began to avoid sexist language, and it was suggested that "chairmen" should be "chairpersons." The latter was, of course, too clumsy for everyday use, and so the occupant of this office became simply "the chair."

I understand this, and yet I still find it odd to hear myself referred to as "the chair." Am I a soft, easy chair or a hard, stiff-backed one? Eames? Sheraton? Garden? Ergonomic?

I know what it is like to be sat on or to come unglued. But I have two legs, not four, and, most of the time anyway, I am a fairly animated object, not an inanimate one. Perhaps this column should be called "squeaks from the chair."

The chair is too busy to do much reclining these days. We are working to complete our searches for this year and have already had two-day visits by seven candidates for our positions. There are more to come. Our own recent PhD recipients are flying all over the country for interviews, and we hope they will be successful in their job hunts.

In the meantime, the Department's Financial Aid Committee has begun the critically important task of ranking applicants to our graduate program for fellowships and teaching assistantships. For each applicant, we have grades, transcripts, writing samples, statements of purpose, letters of recommendation and Graduate Record Exam scores. Only a few of the applicants have made trips here to meet us, so for most the files full of paper are all we have to go on. As of early February, we had 104 applicants—a lot of files to read, and a lot of difficult decisions to make.

Clearly, however, many of those decisions in the past were good ones.

One interesting bit of evidence for this conclusion was provided by a current PhD student in the history of science field, Susan Brown. She reports that last summer, when she was at the Library of Congress, there were a dozen or so researchers in the manuscript reading room. Three were UCSB History graduate students.

Susan herself was looking into the lives of various 19th-century American astronomers. Zuoyue Wang was studying federal policy towards science in the 1960s. Ted Dickson was studying the experiences of U.S. generals in California in the 1850s.

We cannot conclude, obviously, that UCSB graduate students are doing 25 per cent of the historical research now in progress in this country. But Susan's report is nevertheless a nice indicator of the quality and seriousness of our program.

J. Sears McGee
Chair

HUMPHREYS: 'Jihad' Does Not Make Muslims Fanatic Warriors

(Continued from p. 1)

the Middle East gives him insight into what the Western world faces in the Middle East following the war against Iraq.

"What we are going to be left with, at best, after the war is an area in which the problems which underlay this conflict are still there," he predicts. "And the conflicts are, first of all, the gulf between the rich and poor Arabs—both within countries and between countries.

Palestinian Conflict

"A second problem is the ongoing Israeli-Palestinian conflict, which really seems almost unresolvable to me because neither side is willing to accept the minimum demands of the other. I think that's really what it comes down to.

"A third problem is what I regard as a desperate lack of effective leadership throughout the Middle East, in two respects. The first would be that the current leadership is ineffective in its ability to deal with the social and economic problems of the region. The second way it is ineffective is that relatively few of these leaders are able to make international arrangements and make them stick.

"I think where the current leadership is successful is in staying in power. If you look at the Arab regimes, the current ones go back at least 20 years, and some go as far back as 40."

U.S. Policy Role

Will the U.S. have a role to play in the postwar period?

"I think inevitably we will have a role," he says. "And I'm sorry about that, because I don't think we will be able to play it very well, because I think the region is extremely difficult to work in. Also, the way decisions are made in the U.S. government means we will not be able to act with the ultimate degree of wisdom. We have plenty of Middle East expertise. But foreign policy decisions are made in very complicated ways in this country, and are affected by domestic politics and conflicting interests in the U.S.

(Please see ASSOCIATES SPEAKER, p. 6)

Historia

Newsletter of the UCSB History Associates

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When Will They Ever Learn?

(Ed. Note: First there were "Lindemann's Laws," History Prof. Albert Lindemann's comical compilation of grammatical errors up with which he would not put. Now the irrepressible scholar has come forth with "Lindemann's Laffs," his personal nominations for that great Blue Book in the sky, followed in each instance by his own retort.

(Prof. Lindemann's list bring to mind that classic examination howler—"Dante stands with one foot in the Middle Ages, and with the other he salutes the rising star of the Renaissance." Yet another entry comes from a blue book turned in to History TA Rick Barton last Spring, in which the founder of the Jesuit Order was identified as "Saint Ignatius Payola."

(At the end of this catalogue, we reprint—for those who missed it the first time—the latest version of "Lindemann's Laws.")

By ALBERT LINDEMANN
Lindemann's Laffs, or

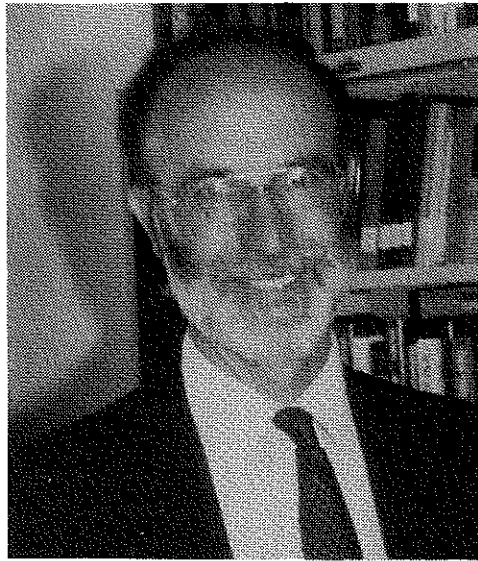
What Students Write About History
[and what Lindemann was
tempted to reply]

1. "Lincoln's mother died in infancy, and Lincoln himself was born in a log cabin that he built with his bare hands." [He was an even greater man than I thought, but with a mother like that. . . .]

2. "Socrates was a famous Greek philosopher who was condemned to die from an overdose of wedlock." [Surely divorce Italian style would have been better.]

3. "Before the American revolution the British put tacks in our tea." [Insidious, those limeys.] "After the revolution, we no longer had to pay for taxes." [Have you talked to the IRS recently?]

4. "Sir Francis Drake circumcised the globe with a 100-foot clipper." [What mohel would not sigh in envy and admiration.] "Magellan disproved the theory of a flat earth by circumventing the globe." [Maybe those who want to disprove Darwin's theories



Prof. ALBERT LINDEMANN
...grammar maven

have something to learn here.]

5. "Louis Pasteur discovered a cure for rabbis." [Now, if he had only carried his work on to Episcopalians and Baptists, just think what a wonderful world it would be.]

6. "Exactly how detrimental or beneficial the war meant to the socialist parties is often a debatable dilemma of their survival." [The winner of the 1981 Lindemann Prize for Clear and Effective Writing.]

7. "Leon Blum stayed out of the Spanish Civil War because the working class anarchists were revolting." [They hardly ever took baths and had not yet discovered a man's deodorant.]

8. "Stalin called the Jews ruthless cosmopolitans." [They could not even put down ruths in Palestine.]

9. "World War I turned many into passivists." [They just stayed in their trenches and played cards.]

10. "France and Germany shared boarders." [That was the beginning of the end for *Zimmerfrei*.] From a different student: "When war reached the Italian boarders, the Italian socialists revealed their true position." [The sanctity of the *pensione* was being violated!]

11. "The fear of whiches was widespread in the eighteenth century."

[However, the fear of whences did not come until later.] From another student: "The witch hysteria got rid of considerable people and made them more secure." [From the same people who brought you "better dead than red."] From yet another student: "Witches were punished for contorting with the devil." [One meaning of progress: Madonna now makes millions for doing the same thing.]

12. "After Hitler took over, the Communists set fire to the Gleichstag." [Were they the ones who said "all men are created equal"?)

13. "The Ebert-Groaner Agreement showed how the social democrats kowtowed to the Junker aristocracy." [And a long "ooooh" comes from General Groener's grave.]

14. "Also interesting in the middle ages is the male chauvinism apparent. In those years, most monks were men." [On the other hand, it has been argued that almost all nuns were women.]

15. "During the Renaissance, man began to reach out and explore himself." [Until he found out that it might make him dim-witted, to say nothing of giving him deep circles under his eyes.]

16. "People have always been ignorant of subjects they know nothing about." [Winner of the 1982 Lindemann One Hand Clapping Prize.]

17. "The life of the Russian pheasant hadn't changed for hundreds of years." [The life of sparrows, on the other hand, had been revolutionized.]

18. "Russia would send each soldier a bullet a day to fight with." [It's harder than it sounds; Russian bullets were devilishly small and slippery.]

19. "Lenin won over the populus with the call for "Peace, land, and fruit!" [To be more precise, "Peace, land, and cantaloups."]

20. "Berlin became the decadent capital of the new republic, where all sorts of sexual deprivations were practiced. A huge anti-Semantic movement arose." [Could this explain why my students don't write well?]

(Please see 'LAFFS,' p. 5)

'Hungarian Spring' Festival in Santa Barbara Has Deep Roots in UCSB History Department

The massive celebration of Hungarian culture that will formally open in Santa Barbara later this month started—of all places—at the elevator doors on the fifth floor of Ellison Hall.

"I was standing there in March of 1988," Festival Director Tibor Frank recalls, "when Prof. Collins walked up and asked me if I had heard about the Santa Barbara Art Museum's NEH grant to put on a exhibit of Hungarian avant-garde art from the period immediately before and after World War I."

Cultural Outpouring

Prof. Frank, who had come to the History Department only a few months earlier as a Fulbright exchange professor from Eötvös Loránd University in Budapest, immediately thought of pioneering work in film, music, science, and literature that developed in Hungary during the same period.

"When I learned that the exhibit was not going to open until 1991, I decided to see if there would be a way to celebrate these other accomplishments at the same time," he explained.

Special Schedule

Thus was born "Hungarian Spring," a two-month festival that will combine exhibits of art and literature with a special schedule of everything from concerts to cuisine. Highlights will include a special appearance by Sir Yehudi Menuhin as guest conductor of the Santa Barbara Symphony and a three-day conference on "Culture and Society in Early 20th Century Hungary."

The festival will, literally, take over Santa Barbara, with events scattered throughout the community. In addition to the Art Museum exhibit, there will be concerts at the Arlington and Lobero theaters and a recital of Hungarian organ music at Trinity Episcopal Church.



COLOR IT RED AND GREEN. The Hungarian tulip (above) is the official logo of Santa Barbara's 'Hungarian Spring' festival, which formally opens at the Museum of Art on March 23.

The Delphine Gallery on State Street will host a display of contemporary Hungarian art, while the Karpeles Manuscript Library will show Hungarian lithographs and sculpture.

Earthling Bookstore has planned a display of Hungarian books in English, and the Warehouse in Loreto Plaza will feature recordings by Hungarian composers, conductors, and soloists.

At UCSB, the Library Special Collections department plans a display of Hungarian Books from the early 20th

century, and Arts and Lectures has prepared a Hungarian Film Series.

The green-and-red Hungarian tulip, a traditionally popular motif in folk art because its colors match those of the green, red, and white Hungarian flag, has been chosen as the official logo of the festival.

Although more than half a dozen UCSB departments are involved in the festival—not counting the Interdisciplinary Humanities Center, which has been the administrative umbrella on campus—Prof. Frank said the History connection is particularly deep.

History Connection

Prof. Frank, who is currently a visiting Distinguished Professor of Humanities at the University of Nevada, Reno, is being assisted by a History graduate student, Helen Murdoch.

But even earlier, vital support was provided by Dr. Géza Jeszenszky. Currently Hungary's foreign minister, Dr. Jeszenszky also served more than two years as a Fulbright Visiting Professor of History at UCSB, during which time he established valuable contacts with the large Hungarian-American community in Southern California.

"The support of this community was absolutely vital," Prof. Frank said. "It was Géza who made the first contacts and opened these doors for me."

Plot Thickens

And here the plot thickens. For the Fulbright exchange that first brought Dr. Jeszenszky to the History Department was initiated by a U.S. Foreign Service officer in Budapest named John Menzies who previously had served as an assistant to the dean of the UCSB Graduate Division while completing his Ph.D. at Berkeley.

And the Graduate Dean at that time was none other than the selfsame Robert Collins who first called Prof. Frank's attention to the Art Museum project.

"So you see," Prof. Frank grinned, "without UCSB's History Department none of this ever would have happened!"

LET US

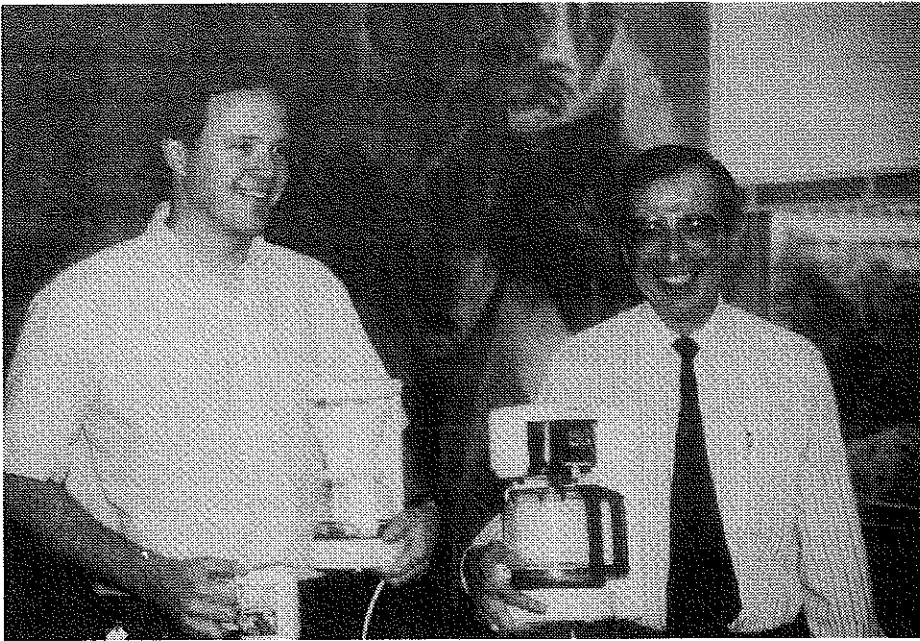
HEAR FROM YOU!

Historia exists to serve as a means of keeping all of us with an interest in UCSB's Department of History in touch with each other.

If you're a grad trying to get in touch with old classmates, a student with an idea for new classes, a parent or an alumnus, why not drop us a line?

Send your news and comments to:

*Editor, Historia
Department of History
University of California
Santa Barbara, CA 93016*



EASTWARD BOUND. History Profs. Hal Drake and Kenneth Mouré (the ugly one is Mouré) gather essential research tools in preparation for their study fellowships. Prof. Drake will spend next year at the Annenberg Research Institute in Philadelphia, while Prof. Mouré will go to the Institute for Advanced Study in nearby Princeton, where he has been awarded a two-year appointment.

Profs. Drake and Mouré Win Coveted National Fellowships

History Profs. Hal Drake and Kenneth Mouré have each received national fellowships to pursue their current research projects.

Prof. Mouré, a European economic historian, has won a two-year appointment to the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, New Jersey, to study the monetary policy of the Bank of France during the 1920s. Only two two-year fellowships are awarded by the Institute each year.

Prof. Drake, whose field is ancient Roman history, will spend next year at the Annenberg Research Institute in Philadelphia as one of 12 international scholars addressing the topic of "Intolerance in the Development of New Religions." His own project will be devoted to religious intolerance in the reign of Constantine the Great—part of a book he is writing on the man whose famous vision of a Cross in the sky traditionally made him Rome's first Christian emperor.

"All of the scholarship on Constantine has assumed that, if he was really

converted to Christianity, he must have become intolerant of those traditional religious practices we now label 'paganism,'" Drake said.

"My own research indicates that he remained quite tolerant. Does that mean he wasn't a sincere convert? Or does it mean scholars have projected Christian intolerance of a later period back into Constantine's time?"

Prof. Mouré's project is an outgrowth of his first book, a study of French monetary policy during the Great Depression of the 1930s.

"After World War I, the Bank of France was the main proponent of French gold standard views," Prof. Mouré explained. "The Bank wanted a standard that would provide greater international monetary stability, but its policy probably did more than any other central bank to destabilize the international system in the late 1920s."

Asked why anyone should care about French monetary policy in the 1920s, Prof. Mouré replied, "It makes more sense than Drake's project."

'LAFFS'

(Continued from p. 3)

Lindemann's Laws

1. Verbs has to agree with their subjects.
2. Don't use no double negatives.
3. Hopefully, you will stop using vague and inappropriate adverbs.
4. One criteria of being half educated is not knowing the plural of foreign loan words.
5. Just between you and I, case is important.
6. A writer must not shift your point of view.
7. If you want to impact your professors favorably, give them lots of input for their output.
8. No doubt about it, less errors come from fewer work.
9. When you lay down, do it yesterday.
10. Each pronoun agrees with their antecedent.
11. Join clause good, like a conjunction should.
12. About sentence fragments.
11. Dogs and lectures don't mix: Being inclined to bark, lick themselves noisily, and give in to public displays of sexual passion, students should not bring their dogs to class.
12. Don't run-on sentences you got to punctuate people get mixed up if you don't.
13. If you think you are nauseous, when you are nauseated, you're right.
14. It is wise to use the semicolon; only when you know how.
15. Its' important to use apostrophe's right.
16. Check everthing to see if you any words out, and be careful to proofead. If you don't your reputation for accuracy may be torn assunder.
17. Pity the poor bourgeoisie! ('cause the bourgeoisie revolution just prepares the proletariat revolution).
18. -- the dash -- it is not the only punctuation mark -- there are others.
19. Don't use commas, which aren't necessary. (Concerning which, don't use "whiches," which would be better as "thats" -- which *is* rather difficult to grasp. Got that?)

"Policy is not made by the State Department. The Congress, pressure groups, the Defense Department, all have a voice. And the President is the one who has to take all of this and sort it out."

Another problem which could hamper the U.S. in the Middle East is our image as a nation which wears "a black hat." Dr. Humphreys explains, "We are going to be seen as very partisan. By many groups, we are seen as the bad guys because we are longtime supporters of Israel; we have supported rich against poor states. And the Iranians have never forgiven us for supporting the Shah."

Before coming to UCSB, Dr. Humphreys taught at the State University of New York at Buffalo, the University of Chicago, and the University of Wisconsin. He was a Fellow of the Institute for Advanced Study in

Princeton during the 1980-81 academic year, and currently holds a three-year grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

He has published numerous books and articles, among them *From Saladin to the Mongols: the Ayyubids of Damascus, 1193-1260*, *Islamic History: A Framework for Inquiry*, and *Tradition and Innovation in Late Antiquity*.

Tickets for the March 12 lecture, which will be held at the Sheraton Hotel, 1111 E. Cabrillo Blvd., are \$13 for members, \$15 for non-members. Reservations and further information are available from the UCSB Alumni Association (805) 893-2288.

The Associates schedule for Spring quarter will include appearances by Prof. Abraham Friesen, discussing the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, and Dr. Jarrell Jackman, director of the Santa Barbara Trust for Historical Preservation.

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