

History Department Newsletter

Spring 2010

Subaltern Pedagogy -- New Courses for 2010

Professor **Sara Scalenghe** is developing new courses in Middle East history for next year to add to her current popular offerings. In the fall 2010, she will teach "Colonialism and Nationalism in the Middle East and North Africa." The course will examine the political, military, economic, and cultural aspects of colonialism in the region from Napoleon Bonaparte's sphinx-defacing invasion of Egypt in 1798 to the second half of the twentieth century. The variety of colonial ideologies and practices, and the anti-colonial responses and nationalist struggles that met them, will be sampled by study of the Italians in Libya; the French in Algeria, Syria, and Lebanon; and the British in Egypt, Palestine, and Iraq. In the spring of 2011 (pay attention juniors and sophomores), Professor Scalenghe will launch her seminar, "America in the Middle East: From the Barbary Wars to Operation Iraqi Freedom." Unlike the commitments thus undertaken by the United States, the seminar will be focused, productive, and adhere strictly to its semester time-line. If you are interested, see Professor Scalenghe for further information.

Do You Call That Bombard Clean, Soldier?

Our own medieval military history expert, Professor **Kelly DeVries**, has been named the General Mark Clark Chair in military history at The Citadel in beautiful (and snow-free) Charleston, South Carolina. Kelly will take up his post at the post in 2011-2012 (tentatively). Despite the famous South Carolina military academy's tradition of hazing and

Summer in the City

The department will offer three courses this summer. Professor Bill Donovan will teach **HS 101 – Modern Western Civilization** and Professor Angela Leonard will teach **HS 340 – America through Reconstruction** in the first summer session. Professor Tom Pegram will teach **HS 350 – World War II in America** in the second summer session. Check the catalog for details. Short of joining the Marine Corps, there is no more intense but rewarding experience than compressing a fourteen-week course into a six-week summer session. You'll read, you'll sweat, and you'll come out with three credits toward graduation. No running required.

stern discipline, we think that eminent visiting faculty will be exempt from spur-of-the-moment pushups and close-order drill on the checkerboard parade ground. In between bouts of intensive training, Kelly will no doubt trade idyllic reminiscences of carefree Loyola days with Citadel history professor Joe Renouard, a graduate of our history department.

Honors for an Engaged Scholar

Professor **Elizabeth Schmidt** has been honored with the 2010 Faculty Excellence Award for Service-Learning and Engaged Scholarship from the Office of Service Learning. The award will officially be made at the Deans Symposium on March 19. Betsy's service-learning initiatives have brought Loyola students into real-world interaction with refugees in Baltimore, adding a personal and human dimension to the academic study of the historical circumstances that create refugee crises. Combined with her impressive output of scholarly work, Professor Schmidt is an exemplar of the engaged scholar and a fit recipient of this award. She will receive a framed award and \$500, as will a community partner that she designates. Congratulations to Betsy.

Student Research Spotlight: Ekaterina Minina

Ekaterina is a senior history major from Baltimore, by way of Belarus, who is finishing up her honors thesis this semester. The honors thesis is an option for top seniors with a minimum GPA of 3.75 in their history classes. Katya's working title is "Joseph de Maistre and the Decembrists: the Roots of Romantic Nationalism in Russia." Her work investigates the influence of the Enlightenment and its western liberal tendencies on the development of social and political thought in Russia at the beginning of the nineteenth century. It examines the works of such thinkers as Joseph de Maistre and Nicholas Karamzin and their impact on the birth of independent political movements in Russia in the turbulent years encompassing the Revolt of 1825. Good luck to Katya as she finishes her work.

A Brief History of Doing History

Contrary to the assumptions of many state legislators, history professors do a lot of work outside the classroom. Loyola's finest have been busy publishing books and articles, finishing up major projects, and presenting research in a globe-hopping display of scholarly engagement. Professor **Angela Leonard** published a new book, *Political Poetry as Discourse: Rereading John Greenleaf Whittier, Ebenezer Elliott, and Hip-hop-ology* (Lexington Books, 2009). She has also published an article on remembering slavery sites in Liverpool in a volume of essays released by the University of Innsbruck (Austria) Press, and an article in the *Journal of Ecocriticism* entitled, "Goin' to Nature to Find Double Consciousness." Not yet out of breath, Professor Leonard also found time to serve as the Co-Convener of the African Studies Association Women's Caucus.

Professor **Martha Taylor**, our colleague in Classics and History, published *Pericles, Thucydides, and the Idea of Athens in the Peloponnesian War* (Cambridge University Press, 2010) and was promoted to the rank of Full Professor in the fall. Professor **Elizabeth Schmidt** published “Anticolonial Nationalism in French West Africa: What Made Guinea Unique?” in the *African Studies Review* in September. Continuing her busy September, she also gave a paper, entitled “Popular Resistance and Anticolonial Mobilization: The War Effort in French Guinea,” at a

Upcoming Events for Students

Phi Alpha Theta, the History Honor Society is sponsoring two events in March. The next session of **News & Nuance**, a student-led roundtable discussion will take place on Monday, March, 22 in Sellinger V.I.P. Room from 6-7 pm.

On Monday, March 29 (location TBA), Phi Alpha Theta will hold a **Research & Writing Workshop** for students in 100 & 300 level courses from 6-7 pm.

Finally, the spring induction for Phi Alpha Theta will be held at the end of April. Please turn in all transcripts and required dues to Professor Jane Edwards in HU 308 by the beginning of April.

conference on Africa in World War II at Cornell University. Papers from the conference are scheduled to be published in an edited volume later. Professor Schmidt wrapped up the fall by completing her three-year term on the board of directors of the African Studies Association. That blur in the hallway is Betsy in the midst of her spring projects.

Especially peripatetic was Professor **Steve Hughes**. Despite feeling like a plongeur in George Orwell’s *Down and Out in London and Paris*, Steve gussied up his French last summer and presented “*Camarades, mais pas Compatriots: Les Volontaires Suisses du Risorgimento*,” at the Ecole Normale Supérieure in Paris. Quickly switching to his preferred tongue, he then published “*Il Duello e la Destra nel Novecento*,” for *Il Giornale di Storia Contemporanea* in the Fall. Not yet exhausted, he frolicked (if we can so characterize a back-breaking struggle up the slopes) on the Matterhorn in Switzerland with his wife Sue Cornish in honor of their joint sixtieth birthdays. He also did more quotidian research on Italian Swiss nationalism in the local archives. Just to keep his hand in English,

he will give a talk entitled, “Dueling after Il Duce: Honor Conflicts in Post-War Italy,” at the Historical Society conference in Washington this June.

Sara Scalenghe and **Matt Mulcahy**, our esteemed chair, hit the beach (actually the carpeted meeting rooms) in San Diego to present papers at the annual American History Association meetings. Professor Scalenghe gave the provocatively-titled talk, “Does God Hear Silent Prayers? Deafness in Ottoman Syria,” while Professor Mulcahy opted for the Gibbon-esque “The Rise and Fall – and Rise and Fall Again – of Port Royal,” concerning the devastating earthquake that destroyed the Jamaican port city in 1692. In keeping with his scholarly focus on the catastrophic, he also published “Building for Disaster: Hurricanes and the Built

Alumni Night

The department again hosted several recent alumni who came to campus to talk about life after Loyola as a history major. Thirty undergraduates ate pizza and heard from **Karina Christiansen** (2007) who worked at the Bloomberg School of Public Health before starting a graduate program at Johns Hopkins, **Matt Hill** (2002), an attorney at the Public Justice Center in Baltimore, **Ralph Doran** (1998), National Recruiting Manager at Black and Decker, **Katherine Kelly** (2007) who works in the Advancement Office at Loyola, **Peter Walden** (2005), an account executive at Travelers Insurance, and **Kathryn (Cookie) Karl** (2008) who just started a new job at CNFA, a non-profit agency in Washington engaged in micro-financing. All of the alumni have their contact information on the History Alumni Database (which can be found on the department's website www.loyola.edu/academics/history) and are all happy to talk to any current students about careers as a history major. If you are a history graduate who would like to add your name to the database, please contact Matt Mulcahy at mmulcahy@loyola.edu.

Environment in South Carolina and the British West Indies," in the edited volume, *Material Culture in Anglo-America* (University of South Carolina Press). Professor **Keith Schoppa's** crowded academic calendar took him to Harvard University for a workshop and to Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario for an international conference on one of Keith's least-admired historical figures, Chiang Kai-Shek. Professor Schoppa has also put the finishing touches on his latest book, "Chinese Kaleidoscope: Spatial, Social, and Psychological Displacement in the Sino-Japanese War, 1937-1945," a project which has absorbed his attention for the last decade. We look forward to the publication of this typically Schoppa-esque combination of comprehensive scholarship, unique insight, and stylistic grace.

Professor **John R. Breihan** has been celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of Baltimore Heritage Inc., with weekly images of significant Baltimore buildings from his voluminous photo archive. Please go to the Baltimore Heritage site, <http://blog.baltimoreheritage.org/>, to view the images. Now a vice president at Baltimore Heritage, Jack has become something of a Baltimore landmark himself, devoting twenty years on the board of one of the oldest local historic-preservation advocacy organizations in the country. Finally, Professor **Kelly DeVries** has been busy as well. He published "Warfare and the International State System," in *European Warfare, 1350-1750* (Cambridge, 2010), "Conquering the Conqueror at Belgrade (1456) and Rhodes (1480): Irregular Soldiers for an Uncommon Defense," in *A Guerra, Revista de História das Ideias* and "Standing Up to the Ottoman Empire: Civilian Resistance to Turkish Expansionism during the Fifteenth, Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries," in *Military Conflicts and Civil Population: Total Wars, Limited Wars, Asymmetrical Wars*. When not in Rhodes, he is often in North Africa. This past fall, it was Tunisia to give a paper on "Tunisia at the Center of Naval Matters: Central Mediterranean Geostrategy in the Sixteenth Century." Watch this space in future newsletters for word of other publications, achievements, and project completions.

A Bright Talk about a Bitter Struggle

Before the snow crushed our semester into dust, history majors and faculty alike were delighted by the Phi Beta Kappa lecture on February 4, cosponsored by the history department, which was delivered by Professor William Hitchcock of Temple University. Hitchcock's analysis of the human cost of liberation at the end of World War II reminded his listeners of how historical analysis can be accessible, exciting, and also intellectually sophisticated and nuanced. Professor Hitchcock also warmly congratulated Jack Breihan's World War II students for their well-informed and spirited discussion of Hitchcock's book, The Bitter Road to Freedom, earlier in the day.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!
THE HISTORY DEPARTMENT PICNIC
THURSDAY, APRIL 29 AT 5:30
ON THE QUAD