

History Department Newsletter

Spring 2011

World's Work

Just as Loyola students work in communities outside the classroom, history department professors extend their scholarly concerns into the wider world. Fr. Charles Borges is planning another Winter Tour of India, scheduled to take place between December 29 and January 14 in the next academic year. The Tour of India brings a select group of Loyola students into contact with the diverse and complex cultures of South Asia. Interested students should contact Fr. Borges or the International Programs Office. Fr. Borges also reviewed US Student Fulbright Program applications for South Asia as a member of the Fulbright National Screening Committee.

Closer to home Jack Breihan received a Baltimore City Historical Society 2010 History Honor award in October for his work on Baltimore's Cherry Hill neighborhood and World War II-era housing in the Baltimore area. The award was presented by Baltimore Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake.

Never Did No Wanderin'

The stay-at-home narrator of the Folksmen's classic tune has little in common with Professor **Kelly DeVries**, history road warrior. Over the next few weeks, our well-traveled medievalist will log time in China (examining fortifications for National Geographic's "Man Made Marvels" program); the UK (speaking at the International Medieval Conference in Leeds and leading a tour at nearby Sandal Castle); and Italy (presenting at the Festival Internazionale della Storia).

HS 101 Lecture Insects of the Caribbean

Don't expect to see Johnny Depp, but on **March 28 at 5:00** the history department will present a talk by a luminary in the world of historical scholarship, J. R. McNeill of Georgetown University. McNeill is the most recent recipient of the prestigious Albert J. Beveridge Award from the American Historical Association for his book *Mosquito Empires: Ecology and War in the Greater Caribbean, 1620-1914*. McNeill's Loyola talk, **"Revolutionary Mosquitoes: Plantation Ecology, Tropical Diseases, and Anti-Colonial Revolutions in Haiti, Venezuela, and Cuba, 1791-1898,"** draws on his larger argument that European colonialism in the New World created the conditions that led to the spread of mosquito-borne diseases. Hailed for his "pathbreaking work" in applying environmental history to problems in the history of imperialism and the tropical Americas, McNeill will offer an exciting example of how interdisciplinary historical scholarship can produce stunning new insights.

Stateside, he will hop from Colby College in Maine, Longwood University in Virginia, Western Michigan University in exotic Kalamazoo, and Wheaton, Illinois leaving a trail of academic papers in his wake. All this is prologue to his year-long tenure as General Mark W. Clark Visiting Chair at The Citadel in Charleston, South Carolina from fall 2011 to spring 2012. Somehow, ending that exhausting itinerary in a comfortable chair seems appropriate.

Study Break

Most people think of a sabbatical as a designated period of rest and reflection. For historians, a sabbatical is an opportunity to work full-time on scholarly projects. Professors **Jack Breihan** and **Angela Leonard** will be hard at work during their time away from Loyola next year. Professor Breihan will be writing a history of planned communities during World War II and their influence on the emergence of suburbs in the post-1945 United States. Professor Leonard will be in England teasing meaning from buildings and spaces connected to the slave trade and the African presence in Britain.

Press Run

Several history department faculty have books coming out in the next few months. **Kelly DeVries**, as is often the case, is the busiest of the bunch. His *Joan of Arc, A Military Leader*, has been reissued by History Press and a second edition of *Medieval Military Technology* is due from the University of Toronto Press. Among his new offerings are *Besieged Rhodes: A New History* and an edited volume, *Medieval Warfare, 1300-1450*, part of the International Library of Essays in Military History published by Ashgate. **Keith Schoppa's** study of crisis, displacement, and popular experience during the stresses of the Sino-Japanese War, *In a Sea of Bitterness: Refugees during the Sino-Japanese War, 1937-1945*, will soon be published by Harvard University Press. The second edition of his *Twentieth Century China: A History in Documents*, has also been published by Oxford University Press. In search of a topic even less appealing to Loyola readers than the history of Prohibition, **Tom Pegrham** has completed a new history of the second incarnation of the Ku Klux Klan, *One Hundred Percent American: The Rebirth and Decline of the Ku Klux Klan in the 1920s*, soon to be published by Ivan Dee. Titles from other Loyola history professors are in the pipeline; watch this space for news of their progress.

Among the numerous articles produced on the third floor of the Humanities building, **Steve Hughes** has "Il duello dopo il Duce: gli scontri d'onore nell'Italia del dopoguerra," coming out

Our Huis is a Very, Very, Very Fine Huis

Over the summer, **Professor Steve Hughes** will once again take up residence in Nachbahr Huis as the resident director of Loyola's Leuven Program in Belgium. This will be Steve's third tour of duty at Loyola's most venerable overseas program. We will miss him for two years, but Loyola juniors studying abroad will benefit from his knowledge of Europe, his familiarity with the ins and outs of international programs, and his home-repair skills.

in *Il giornala di storia contemporanea* (ask Professor Scalenghe for the translation). His classic example of Euro-gonzo scholarship, “Fear and Loathing in Bologna and Rome: The Papal Police in Perspective,” has been reprinted in an edited volume, *The Theories and Origins of the Modern Police*, from Ashgate. Finding reserves of energy unavailable to the rest of us, **Keith**

Schoppa also published “The Political Creativity of Late Imperial China” and “From Empire to People’s Republic” in edited volumes on Chinese history and politics.

Summer in the City

The department will offer three courses this summer. Professor Jack Breihan will teach **HS 101 – Modern Western Civilization** and Professor Joseph Walsh – **Roman Private Life** 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.

Paper Chase

Professor DeVries may have earned his own travel section in this newsletter, but other Loyola history professors have also scattered far and wide to deliver scholarly papers and perform professional functions. Heeding the musical advice of the Dropkick Murphys, four historians from Loyola shipped up to Boston in early January for the annual meeting of the American Historical Association. **Steve Hughes** chaired a session on “Crime and Punishment in Liberal and Fascist Italy,” and commented on the papers of the other panelists, perhaps dishing out a little mild punishment of his own. **Sara Scalenghe** participated in a panel on “The Challenges and Opportunities of Teaching Women’s History.” In a session devoted to the history of the

Invisible Empire, Tom Pegram presented a paper on the Klan’s very different lessons, entitled “The Hooded Schoolhouse: School Reform, State-Building, and Cultural Intolerance in the 1920s.” **Keith Schoppa** contributed to a session on civilian experience in wartime China with his paper, “Confronting the Refugee Crisis in Zheijang, 1937-45.” While faculty and students at Loyola cursed the February weather, **Katherine Brennan** retreated to beautiful Charleston, South Carolina for the meeting of the Society for French Historical Studies. Standing firm for liberté, fraternité, égalité in a city that had lately witnessed the ill-conceived secession ball, Professor Brennan and her colleagues struck a blow for the responsible use of the past by honoring the memory and achievements of two noteworthy scholars: Sharon Kettering and Claude Langlois. Professor Brennan organized the Kettering session and presented a paper on “Provincial Urban Intellectuals, Parisian Cultural Brokers, and the Establishment of State Policy.” Turning on a dime, she then chaired the session entitled, “Claude Langlois’ Vision of France: Regional Identity, Royal Imagery, and Holy Women.”

Several other Loyola historians also had the foresight to schedule conference presentations at attractive locales. **Matt Mulcahy** will deliver a paper on the destructive Port Royal fire at a conference focusing on disasters, but no one will be depressed because the dogwoods will be blossoming along the Brandywine when the conference convenes this spring at the Hagley Museum in Delaware. Appearing very much to be rubbing it in, Professor Mulcahy will then

*SEE THE SNAKE, SIGN THE
PLEDGE, JOIN PHI ALPHA THETA*

Phi Alpha Theta, the national history honor society, will be holding its annual induction ceremony in April (featuring the cold-blooded creature mentioned in the headline). That in itself is a sight to behold, but membership in Phi Alpha Theta at Loyola also puts you in contact with like-minded history students and affirms your strong performance in history courses.

Membership in PAT is not restricted to history majors or minors. If you have taken at least 12 credit hours in history (3 courses, including HS 101 and AP credit accepted at Loyola) and maintained a GPA of 3.1 or higher in history courses and a GPA of 3.0 or higher in two-thirds of your remaining courses (yes, you can drop the lower third of your grades from non-history courses), then you are eligible for membership.

To enter into the mysteries of Phi Alpha Theta, bring an unofficial copy of your transcript with an attached (functional) cell phone number to HU 308, the exotic and wonderful lair of Professor Jane Edwards, Phi Alpha Theta faculty advisor. If Professor Edwards is currently in material form, you can hand her the information, otherwise slip it under the door.

depart for Puerto Rico to give a paper on days of fasting and thanksgiving (indeed!). **Keith Schoppa** will skip directly to the A-list destinations, jetting to Honolulu in April to present at the Association for Asian Studies and then continuing on in June to a conference at Oxford University. Prior to his luxury engagements, Professor Schoppa will journey to Southern Methodist University and Rice University to give a talk called, "Two Views of Wartime Displacement: Refugees and Conscripted Labor during the Sino-Japanese War." Neither Dallas nor Houston rivals Honolulu, but it must be said that Texas is better in March than it is after the summer blast furnace is fired up. Lots of work and worry go into these presentations, but the rest of us can still wish that we were tagging along.

Mark Your Calendars!

The History Department Spring Picnic

Monday, May 2, 5:30 P.M.

The Fried Chicken is Back!