

Haunted By Evil, Inspired By Hope

IN RETROSPECT, DR. Eric Boehm told listeners at this month's History Associates lecture, he wished he had asked more philosophical questions when he interviewed Holocaust survivors almost 60 years ago.

When he was serving in Germany at the end of World War II, Dr. Boehm said, the biggest question on his mind was "How could this have happened?"

"It was puzzlement, more than anything else," he said, that led him to seek out Jews who had successfully hidden from Nazi hunters during the war.

His quest resulted in publication of *We Survived: The Hidden and Hunted in Nazi Germany*, first published by Yale in 1949.

A collection of first-person accounts by 13 survivors, the book is now in its fourth edition, copies of which Dr. Boehm autographed at the event, with proceeds

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A Class Act Leaves the Stage



Prof. Abraham Friesen and friend.

BY HAL DRAKE

ON THURSDAY, MARCH 11, Abe Friesen delivered the last lecture of a career that has spanned 37 years at UCSB.

Appropriately enough, it was Abe's signature course on the Reformation, the course in which he takes students seemingly without effort through the religious, social and intellectual currents that helped shape the modern world.

Abe went out the same way he came in, feisty and full of the joy of learning.

When a student asked at the very end of the hour how he felt to be retired, Abe beamed at the entire class and said,

"In the words of the famous namesake of one of the Reformers, 'Free at last! Free at last! Thank God Almighty, free at last!'"

This is the way Abe has always liked to

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John Lee Brings Home the Big One

ASST. PROF. JOHN W. I. Lee won the Academic Senate's Distinguished Teaching Award this month, carrying on what is becoming a department tradition.

In a surprise announcement at the start of a noon meeting on gender studies, Prof. Colin Gardner of the Senate Committee on Distinguished Teaching Awards notified Prof. Lee of the award, which will be formally conferred at the May meeting of the Academic Senate.

"Of all the nominations we received this year, John Lee's was one that clearly stood

out from the rest," Prof. Gardner said.

"His teaching evaluations are spectacular, engaging the interest of a wide variety of undergraduates from a broad range of disciplines."

Students, Prof. Gardner said, "repeatedly commented on his passion for teaching, his approachability, as well as his successful use of new technologies in the classroom."

Prof. Lee, who came to UCSB in 2000 to teach ancient Greek history, specializes in the history of warfare.

He was recently interviewed about the defeat of Attila the Hun in the 5th century

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Asst. Prof. John W. I. Lee



Prof. Harold Marcuse (L) and Erika Rappaport.

Historia photo by Mike Tucker

Tea and Memory Bring Home Bacon

TEA AND MEMORY have proved to be winning topics for History Profs. Harold Marcuse and Erika Rappaport.

The two UCSB faculty were among the 10 UC faculty selected to receive the University of California President's Research Fellowships in the Humanities for 2004-05.

Prof. Rappaport's project, "Tea Parties: Britishness, Imperial Legacies, and Global Cultures" examines how tea came to be so significant to British national and gender identities.

With the emergence of mass consumption in Britain, Prof. Rappaport writes, tea became

the centerpiece of "a national debate about the morality and the health of Britain as an imperial nation."

She said her project will illustrate how ideas of "nation, empire and gender intersected with the emergence of mass consumption."

Prof. Rappaport came to UCSB in 1998 to teach modern British history. Her book on *Shopping for Pleasure: Women in the Making of London's West End* was published in 2000 by Princeton University Press.

Prof. Marcuse will examine the way life in Nazi Germany has been passed on to subsequent generations in his project, entitled "Reverberations of the Past: On the Intergenerational Transmission of Historical Experience in Post-Nazi Germany."

For his study, Prof. Marcuse will draw on diaries, memoirs and interviews to determine which aspects of their experience survivors passed on to children and grandchildren, and which they did not.

"I'm particularly interested in the role the age of a person experiencing an event at the time of that event plays in

Abe Friesen Goes Out The Way He Came In

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challenge and delight his classes, by combining something offbeat and unexpected with a rigorous, eloquent exposition of the issues.

Abe has been threatening retirement for years.

With a workhorse like Abe, who has been known to even teach the huge History 4B class as a voluntary overload, the very thought of retirement has been enough to drain the blood from a chair's face.

But the current chair, Pat Cohen, had a different worry.

"Who will take up the tradition of singing to students in lecture classes, now that Abe is retiring?" she asked.

That's right. After Warren Hollister retired, Abe picked up the mantle of Singing Instructor, delivering Warren's famous ditties in his rich baritone to delighted 4B students, and even adding a few of his own.

"He's a hard act to follow," Cohen sighed.

Former students reading this story will not only remember Abe's singing but also his famous feud with Paul Sonnino over the existence of a "Renaissance." It led to a two-page story in the *Nexus* and a memorable debate in the Ucen attended by some 200 students.

Asked about the retirement of his famous nemesis, Prof. Sonnino replied that it put him in mind to think of Frank Frost's retirement in 1989.

"It's going to be cold around here without Frost and Friesen," he said.

Abe's teaching has won him a loyal following among UCSB students.

I should know. For years, I've had to endure the indignity of bringing students to my house, watching them eat my

food and drink my wine, and then tell me what a great teacher Friesen is.

Abe helped change the map of his field. When he first came to UCSB in 1967, Reformation historiography was dominated by Marxist thinkers who saw the whole period as proof of class warfare.

Abe's first book, *Reformation and Utopia: The Marxist Interpretation of the Reformation and Its Antecedents* (1974) systematically demolished that position and shot him to the forefront of revisionist scholars.

It led to the offer of an endowed chair at the University of Winnipeg in his native Canada, which he turned down to stay at UCSB.

Which is odd, because Abe has spent all of his time here reminding us how much better than the U. S. Canada is.

Well, almost all. Two years ago Abe finally became an American citizen. Go figure.

In any case, while here Abe wrote seven more books and more than 40 articles and book chapters.

His most recent work is a departure. Based on archives unearthed in Russia after the fall of the Soviet regime, it is the story of a Mennonite migration into and out of Russia in the period of World War I.

"Having devoted his whole career to studying the 16th-century German Anabaptists, Abe Friesen is taking a huge leap to the 20th century in his latest work," Chair Cohen observed.

Abe has mentored dozens of PhD students and produced half a dozen of his own, with three more whose dissertations he will continue to supervise in retirement.

If they don't get in the way of his golf game, that is.



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Save the Date — May 26 3-6 pm

WITH ANOTHER successful scholarship drive almost completed, UCSB History Associates have selected Wednesday, May 26 as the day to give it all away.

The annual awards ceremony and reception will be held at 3 p.m. in HSSB 6020 on the UCSB campus, HA Board Pres. Sears McGee announced.

I urge all members who can to attend, Prof. McGee said. "It's a very rewarding experience."

Best Teacher

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A. D. for a program that will be part of a series on famous battles presented on the A&E network.

Prof. Lee is currently finishing a book on the Greek army immortalized by the Athenian Xenophon for its march into Persia in the 4th century B. C.

The wide-ranging study deals with everything from the ethnic makeup of the army to camp followers and foraging methods.

History faculty have now won this award, one of five conferred annually by the Senate, for each of the past three years, and five of the past seven.

"I was just saying to junior faculty, without knowing this news, that History must hold the prize for garnering teaching awards," Chair Pat Cohen said. "We can all be proud of having such a strong teaching department."

History's current winning streak began with Fred Logevall in 1998, followed by Randy Bergstrom in 1999. Mario Garcia won the prize in 2002, and John Majewski won it last year.



Historia photo by Mike Tucker

The 2003-04 Senior Honors Seminar (l. to r.: Jennifer Atkins, Natalie Xifo, Daniel Klein, Bret Beheim, Joanna Hulce, Elizabeth Ciarrocca. Seated: Prof. Erika Rappaport. Not pictured: Marco Yupango

No Subject Too Large (or too small) For This Senior Honors Seminar

BY JOANNA HULCE

THIS YEAR'S CROP of senior honor theses is almost ready to be unveiled.

The group of seven students is being guided through the writing process by Prof. Erika Rappaport for her second year in a row.

The participating students and their mentors and topics are as follows:

Elizabeth Ciarrocca is presenting a thesis on the crimes against humanity trial against Klaus Barbie in 1987 France. Prof. Kenneth Mouré is overseeing her project and helping her sharpen her French reading skills.

Jennifer Adkins is working on the changing direction of the gaze on Pacific Island women, with Prof. Paul Spickard serving as her mentor all the way from Oregon.

Daniel Klein's thesis is exploring the structure of student

space and the free speech movement. Prof. Laura Kalman is his mentor for the project.

Natalie Xifo is working on the portrayal of Native Americans in newspapers, with a focus on the Sand Creek Massacre. Prof. Patricia Cohen is Natalie's mentor for this endeavor.

Bret Beheim is working with Prof. Hal Drake on the changing landscape of the ancient Greek city of Ephesus in Late Antiquity.

Marco Yupango is working on the economics of colonization in the 19th century Philippines. He is being mentored by Prof. David Rock.

Finally, I am working with Carl Harris on the medicalization of female sexuality in the Redemption era American

*Joanna Hulce is Undergraduate Editor of **Historia** and President of UCSB's Phi Alpha Theta History honor society.*

South.

While the topics are disparate all the students involved are joined in their attempt to create a thesis that they can look back on as worthwhile and meaningful. Many of the students involved plan to go on to graduate programs and law schools so their theses will provide them with means to test their intellectual mettle.

In the next few weeks all the above mentioned students will be plaguing Dr. Rappaport and their mentors with pleas for advice and soothing words. So if you see any of them in the hall, please be a bit gentle with all involved since they are trying to do what so many have done before them. While the students try to contribute something to the stacks of historical knowledge and improve their own minds, their mentors are patiently guiding them through

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President's Corner

From the Trenches

As my first year as president of the UCSB History Associates draws toward an end, I want to bring to your attention the varied roles played by our board members in mounting the events, raising the funds for our fellowships and prizes, expanding our membership, and – in a host of other ways – enabling us to function and to succeed.

Although I have served on the board for many years, it was not until I began work as president that I realized the full range and value of contributions of time, energy and thought as well as, of course, money, that the board members give us.



Primary responsibility falls on the officers, to be sure, and I thank Barbara Lindemann (vice-president), Hal Drake (secretary) and Bev Schwartzberg (treasurer) for all they have done and are doing.

But the rest of the board members (Karen Anderson, Eric Boehm, Pat Cohen, Bob Collins, Mary Louise Days, Maeve Devoy, Greg de Roulhac, Sheila Lodge, Pat O'Dowd, Dick Oglesby, Monica Orozco, Margaret Rose and Jo Beth Van Gelderen) are also vital participants in our work.

Paddy Moriarty, who directs UCSB's Office of Community Relations and is Vice-Chancellor John Wiemann's representative, takes care of all our mailings, prepares rosters of those attending events and name tags for them, keeps us informed about university regulations for support groups, and performs a plethora of other essential administrative tasks.

Planning for the year's events begins with a summer luncheon hosted by Hal and Kathy Drake, a meeting for brainstorming about program ideas. At this and the subsequent afternoon board meetings during the academic year, we talk about many issues and try to take effective action on publicity, membership, and fundraising.

We try to pick the best possible times and venues in the hope of maximizing attendance at our events, and we try to figure out what went wrong when an event had disappointing attendance.

As the award ceremony approaches, a subcommittee is formed to choose fellowship winners from among the students nominated by the faculty.

This year, for example, both the idea for and much of the work on our first event, a tour and reception at the

Holocaust

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donated to the History Associates Scholarship Fund and the Santa Barbara Jewish Federation.

His own parents, he said, had initially refused to leave Germany, believing the Nazis would "blow over."

"There was such a disparity between the reality of our childhood and the reality of Nazi Germany," said Dr. Boehm, who fled Germany in 1934.

"We kept asking ourselves and others, 'How did this happen? How could it?'"

Now, however, he said he realizes that "the questions we posed were stimulated by an ever-increasing number of queries about human potential for evil—issues that have not been resolved and will forever continue to plague us."

That question, in turn, has led him to a greater appreciation of the role of "hope for an ultimate victory of human behavior over evil," he said.

Asked to read his favorite passage from the book, Dr. Boehm skipped over his own chapters and went immediately to the epilogue to the new edition, in which he quotes an essay "On Becoming Human," written by David Krieger of the Nuclear Age Peace Foundation for the *Encyclopedia of Genocide*.

"To be human is to recognize the cultural perspectives that bind us to the tribe, sect, religion, or nation, and to rise above them," he read, "To be human is not always to succeed, but it is always to learn. It is to move forward despite the obstacles."

A member of the History Associates Board, Dr. Boehm holds an MA from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy and a PhD from Yale. He founded the Santa Barbara publishing firm of ABC-CLIO in 1955.

We're Almost There!

\$8,000!



— \$7,581

DESPITE A SLUGGISH economy, contributions to the Scholarship Drive are running well ahead of last year. THAT'S HOW BADLY PEOPLE WANT TO GET EVERY DIME OUT OF JO BETH AND DON VAN GELDEREN! Don't miss your own chance. Send a contribution today to: UCSB History Associates, Office of Community Relations, UCSB 93106-1136.

LET US HEAR FROM YOU

If you are a grad trying to get in touch with an old classmate, or a community member or alum with an article or story, why not drop us a line?

Send your letters to:
Editor, *Historia*
Department of History
University of California
Santa Barbara, CA 93106-9410

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History Grads Reap Honors!

IT SEEMS AS IF nothing could stop History grad students this year, with good news pouring in from all quarters.

In addition to a blizzard of grants, job offers, conference papers and publications, the department's intra-mural basketball team turned in its best season ever (see photo, right).

Jobs, Jobs, Jobs!

John Baranski (PhD Furner, 2004) has accepted a tenure track position in U. S. history at Fort Lewis College in Durango, Colorado.

Justin Stephens (PhD Drake, 2001) has accepted a tenure-track position in ancient Mediterranean history at the State University of West Georgia. Justin has been teaching this year at Hillsdale College in Michigan.

Steve Cory (PhD Humphreys, 2002) has accepted a tenure-track position in History and Religious Studies at Cleveland State University. Since receiving his degree, Steve has been teaching at UCSB as a UC Faculty Fellow in Religious Studies.

Awards & Grants

April Hayes (Cohen) has won a Social Science Research Council grant for all of next year to fund her dissertation research on sex and the body in the popular health movement of the 19th century.

Rick Fogarty (PhD Talbott, 2002) has received a summer fellowship from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Sandra Dawson (Rappaport) was awarded the Andrew Mellon Predissertation Fellowship of the Council for European Studies to conduct research in England this summer.



History photo by Casey Smith

"History Hoops" turned in their best season yet, advancing all the way to the finals, only to lose a squeaker, 44-40. Pictured, l. to r.: Matt "Vegas" Aberman, Matt "Digiorno" DeFraga, Prof. Randy Bergstrom, Mike Schmidli, Travis Smith, John Sbardelatti and "Jersey" Joe Campo.

Heidi Morrison (Gallagher) has received a fellowship from the Center for Arabic Studies Abroad at the American University in Cairo for the 2004-2005 academic year.

Matt Sutton (DeHart) has received the Woodrow Wilson Foundation's Charlotte W. Newcombe Dissertation Fellowship to support research for his PhD on Aimee Semple McPherson. Matt was previously awarded one of the Eli Lilly Foundation's Louisville Institute Dissertation Fellowships.

Monique Vallance (Dutra) has been awarded a grant from the Luso-American Foundation to spend two months this summer working in Portugal's National Archives on her biography of Queen Luisa de Gusmão.

Papers & Publications

George Fujii (Logevall) presented a paper on "Building a 'Marshall Plan Ideology': Redefining Liberalism on the

Eve of the Cold War" at the McGill-Queen's Graduate Student Conference in History in Montreal last month.

Tom Sizgorich (Drake) has had an article on "Boundaries and Borderlands: Late Antiquity, Early Islam and Narratives of Community" accepted by the British journal *Past and Present*.

Erik Esselstrom (Fogel) presented a paper on "Japanese Colonial Police and Korean 'Collaborators' in Manchuria: The Case of the Manshu Hominkai, 1920-1924" last month at "Empires and Imperial Control in Comparative Historical Perspective," The Fourth Annual Harvard Graduate Student Conference on International History.

Also presenting at Harvard was **David Reeves** (Edgar), who spoke on "Nationality and Empire: The All-Union Census of 1926 in Soviet Azerbaijan."

Earlier this month, David presented another paper on "Islam, Banditry, and Popular

Resistance to Soviet Power in Azerbaijan, Summer 1929" at a Social Science Research Council Dissertation Development Workshop at Princeton University.

David was joined by **Leslie Sargent** (Edgar), who presented a paper on "Armenian and Azerbaijani 'Shared Culture' in 'Russian' Transcaucasia: Defining Culture/Location Alternatives."

Heidi Marx-Wolf (Drake) presented a paper on "Varying Constructions of Mental Crisis in the Canonization Process for Saint Nicola of Tolentino" at the annual conference of the Medieval Academy of America last month in Seattle.

Monique Vallance (Dutra) presented a paper on "D. Luisa de Gusmão, Regent of Portugal (1656-1662): The Woman who Saved Portuguese Independence" at the 35th annual conference for the Society for Spanish and Portuguese Historical Studies at UCLA earlier this month.

Ready to Join?

Another great year of UCSB History Associates' events is under way. You'll want to keep posted about events in the History Department as well. To renew your membership or join for the first time, just fill out this form and mail it with your check or money order (payable to UCSB History Associates).

Enclosed are my annual membership dues of \$ _____

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☐ Corresponding 15

(Available to residents outside of Santa Barbara County only)

*

In addition to my membership dues, enclosed is:

☐ \$25 to obtain a UCSB Library card

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Note: Gifts of \$1,000 or more qualify for one-year membership in the Chancellor's Council.

*

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Membership dues are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. Gifts to the scholarship fund are considered charitable donations.

Please make your check payable to the UCSB History Associates and return it to:

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Senior Honors Seminar

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the process of intellectual birth. The six students in the program know that while the hours logged and energy spent seems infinite, the effort put forth will be worth it all in the end. As long as that end comes soon and breathes summer break in through the doors.

Two years of undergraduates and their nervous breakdowns would test the patience of any mortal, but from what I can tell, Dr. Rappaport is still speaking to this year's group; a feat of considerable magnitude!

President's Fellows

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whether and how they attempt to pass knowledge of an event on to their descendants," Prof. Marcuse said.

"My work to date suggests that this is a crucial (but hitherto neglected) determining factor along with the cultural context when the transmission takes place."

Prof. Marcuse, who has taught modern German history at UCSB since 1992, has also been appointed a international visiting fellow in the Cultures of Consumption Project at the University of London's Birkbeck College for this summer.

His book on *Legacies of Dachau: The Use and Abuse of a Concentration Camp, 1933-2001* was published by Cambridge University Press in 2001.

President's Corner

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Santa Barbara Historical Society, came from Jo Beth Van Gelderen. And the presenters at two of this year's events are board members, Eric Boehm and Dick Oglesby.

On April 15 at the Santa Barbara Jewish Federation, Eric talked about his fascinating book on individuals who managed to survive the Nazi regime in Germany. He also donated copies and pledged the proceeds of sales at the event to our scholarship fund and the SBJF.

Our final event will be a luncheon on June 3, at which Dick Oglesby, professor emeritus of Western American history, will reflect on the Lewis and Clark expedition in this 200th anniversary year.

Next year, former Mayor Sheila Lodge will lead a tour of the Santa Barbara courthouse.

The time and effort involved in serving on the History Associates board is substantial, and we owe the fine people who take on this task and fulfill it so well a large debt of gratitude.

Sears McGee
President

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