

Associates Create Collins, Drake Funds

SOME OCCASIONS CAN be joyous and sad simultaneously.

So the Board of the UCSB History Associates discovered last Spring when they created two new funds for graduate students support.

The first honors Prof. Robert O. Collins, the department's distinguished professor of African history, who died of cancer last April. A sad occasion, though one that provides a joyous opportunity to celebrate one of the department's builders.

The second, named for Hal and Kathy Drake, was created on the occasion of the ancient Roman historian's retirement from teaching last June. A happy occasion, though it sadly means no more T-shirt giveaways in History 4A.

In recognition of Prof. Collins' lifelong devotion to research and publication—he wrote or edited at least 28 books, 10 after "retiring" in 1991—the award will be presented annually for the best first publication by a the UCSB History grad student.

Judging will be done by the department's Prizes Committee.

The Drake Fund will be used in a variety of ways to support graduate students in ancient Mediterranean and ancient Chinese history.

Associates Launch New Lecture Year After Record Fundraising in 2007-08

AFTER GIVING OUT a record \$60,000 in their best fundraising effort ever last Spring, the UCSB History Associates launch their 2008-09 series of events Oct. 19 by co-sponsoring a public lecture on one Christian family's unusual method of rescuing Jews from Hitler during World War II.

Jan and Antonina Zabinski were zoo-keepers in Warsaw when the Nazis invaded. To protect Jews and Polish resistance fighters, they started hiding fugitives in bombed-out animal cages.

Their story was published in 2007 as *The Zookeeper's Wife: A War Story* by celebrated author Diane Ackerman, who will be the

featured speaker at the event, which will begin at 3 p.m. in Campbell Hall on the UCSB campus.

The event is free and open to the public.

History Associates President Monica Orozco said the group will also sponsor a talk by History Prof. Pekka Hämäläinen on "The Imperial Comanches: How the Rise and Fall of an Indigenous Empire Shaped the Course of American History," based on his recent book.

The talk will be held Sunday, Nov. 16, at 2 p.m. in the Santa Barbara Mission Archive-Library.]



Dept Lands Africa MRG

A NEW MULTI-CAMPUS Research Group (MRG) in African Studies has been approved by the University of California Office of Research in Oakland.

Spearheading the 10-campus effort will be History Prof. Stephan Miescher, who is co-principal investigator for the new unit, along with Prof. Peter Bloom of the Film and Media Studies department.

The five-year mission of the new MRG will be to bring together Africanists from throughout the system to foster new approaches for studying the continent.

"African Studies started as a form of 'colonial history' that was more concerned with the European experience in Africa than indigenous cultures and institutions," Prof. Miescher explained.

"Our role will be to re-conceptualize

African Studies as a multi-sited, post-colonial discipline."

In support of the new program, the History department is conducting a search this year for a historian of sub-Saharan Africa to supplement Prof. Miescher, whose own work has focused on the west African nation of Ghana.

One result of the new group will be to reinvigorate graduate instruction in African Studies in the UC, which has been hurt by the loss of federal Title VI funding by the Africa centers at UCLA and Berkeley.

Over the course of the next five years, the MRG will hold three major international conferences in Africa, with the first already set for next August at the University of Ghana.

Topic of the Ghana conference will be "Revisiting Modernization." In addition to an academic conference, the event will include an art exhibition, creative writing competition, film screenings and two keynote addresses.

It is being mounted in collaboration with the Institute of African Studies at the University of Ghana-Legon.

Subsequent conferences will be put on in Senegal and South Africa in 2011 and 2013..

The MRG will also sponsor five special graduate student events, including dissertation workshops and graduate student conferences.

In keeping with its multi-disciplinary emphasis, the MRG will also organize travel to the African Film and Video Festival and an African art fair in Germany.

Career Mushrooms For Former Associates Fellow



Prof. Zuoyue Wang.

Grad Students Receive Awards And Prizes

The number of History grad students studying in Japan on Fulbright fellowships doubled over the summer.

Kirsten Ziomek (Fruhstuck), who had earlier received a Japan Foundation dissertation fellowship, received late news that she had won a Fulbright and opted for that award instead.

She joins Lily Welty (Spickard), who learned earlier that she had received the coveted Fulbright honor.

Meanwhile, Charles Delgadillo (Lichtenstein) won a \$1000 Congressional Research Award from the Dirksen Congressional Center.

PROF. ZUOYUE WANG (PhD Bardash 1994), an early recipient of History Associates fellowship support after he arrived here from China in 1986, has been appointed the Hixon-Riggs Visiting Professor in Science, Technology, and Society at Harvey Mudd College for 2008-2009.

The appointment follows a banner year for Zuoyue. His book, *In Sputnik's Shadow: The President's Science Advisory Committee and Cold War America*, was published last Spring by Rutgers, and he was promoted to the rank of full professor at his home university, Cal Poly Pomona.

The book is based on his PhD dissertation, which was supported by History Associates fellowships in 1991 and 1993.

"I want to express my deep gratitude to the History Associates for all the help and support over the years," Zuoyue writes.

As Hixon-Riggs Professor, Zuoyue will teach courses on US and Chinese science policy and organize an international conference on Science and Society in Modern China that will be held in the Spring.

New WWI Book By History Grad

RACE AND WAR in France: Colonial Subjects in the French Army, 1914-1918, by Rick Fogarty (PhD 2002 Talbott) was published in July by Johns Hopkins Press.

Rick's book focuses on the half million colonial subjects who served for France in the European war in order to understand contemporary French concepts of race and national identity.

Rick is currently assistant professor of History at SUNY Albany.

From The Chair

Evaluate This!

The *New York Times Magazine* on September 21 featured a special college issue, "It's All About Teaching." One article explored the nature and role of student evaluations of faculty, asking in the subtitle, "Will professors fight back?"

The article focused on the role evaluations play in academic promotions, particularly tenure decisions, in many colleges, and on the reliability of student evaluations for assessing effective instruction. The most substantial case cited was that of a professor at Wesleyan whose contract was not renewed because she had received only 75% "Outstanding" and "Good" evaluations from her students and had not received enough evaluations of her teaching efforts as "strenuous." In other bad news the article cited studies showing that students given chocolate before they completed evaluations gave more favorable evaluations, and that students' grade expectations influence their evaluations of the professor's teaching.

Student evaluations have long been controversial both for how students respond to particular questions and the uses to which institutions can put the results. Can students usefully assess course and instructor quality if they do not like, value, or understand the material being taught? Is education a product for which consumer preferences should determine content and packaging? To what extent do the questions asked influence the answers given? How do not only the quality of instruction and course material, but the way material is presented and the students' degree of comfort with the style, ideas and assignments used to convey course content influence evaluations? Are critics correct in opinion pieces arguing "Why the University Should Abolish Faculty Course Evaluations"?

Evaluations can provide critical feedback on teaching effectiveness from the students' perspective. The real need for critical thinking, it seems to me, is on how evaluations are designed and used. If education is to be designed on the basis of consumer satisfaction, students could be invited to comment on everything from their instructor's hairstyle and age to course content, workload and criteria for evaluation.

The hierarchy of academic power allows the university and the faculty, not the students, to decide curriculum and evaluation criteria; instructors have considerable freedom in designing their courses. This allows freedom to create new courses, to structure content and to utilize readings and course materials that will engage students' interest,



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Editor

Hal Drake

Undergrad Editor

Mike Uhl

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Ellison Winner Publishes Book On Edo Japan

LAURA NENZI (PhD Roberts 2004) has published her first book, *Excursions in Identity: Travel and the Intersection of Place, Gender and Status in Edo Japan*, with University of Hawaii Press.

Laura won the History Associates' Ellison Prize for best graduate paper in 2000 for "The Province of Sagami: A Preferred 'Package Tour' for Edo-Period Travellers."

"This is a great social, cultural and gendered history of travel for recreation in Tokugawa period Japan (1600-1868)," said her dissertation supervisor, Prof. Luke Roberts.

"The analysis of the transformative aspects of travel, the implications of commercialization, and the role of sacred spaces is superb, and the writing is of surpassing elegance."

Currently an assistant professor at Florida International University in Miami, Laura will be on a research fellowship in Japan next year, after which she will take up a new position in the history department at the University of Kentucky, Knoxville.



New faces (l. to r.): afternoon receptionist Sonya Perez, business officer David Passoff, morning receptionist Laura Meador.

Office Turnover Brings in New Faces

THERE'S A NEW look in the History department office. Three new looks, in fact.

David Passoff has succeeded Maria Perez as the department's Business Officer, while Laura Meador and Sonya Perez have taken over the receptionist duties of Deanne Day, with Laura working in the mornings and Sonya in the afternoons.

Both Maria and Deanne retired last Spring.

David comes to the de-

partment from the UCSB Registrar's office, where he held a similar position while also serving as manager of the Transcript and Verifications Unit.

He previously spent more than 20 years in various administrative positions at UCLA, including Operations Manager for the Student Accounting Office and Senior Analyst for Capital Programs.

"David Passoff has a very

tough act to follow!" said History Chair Ken Mouré, who headed the committee that interviewed candidates for Maria's position.

"But he's equal to the task," Prof. Mouré added, "He's been learning the ropes quickly, and we look forward to working with him."

Both of Deanne's replacements should look somewhat familiar.

Laura worked as a Peer Advisor in the office last year while she completed her bachelor's degree in History.

And Sonya is the daughter of David's predecessor.

"I am very pleased that Laura has continued with us from working as a Peer Advisor and that DeAnn's position is now split between both Laura and Sonya," David said.

At present, both will do the same thing, David said, but in June he and the chair will evaluate the position and decide if their duties should be split up differently.

Another new face will join the department this month as the new personnel secretary.

Honor Student Faith Reynado Wins James Madison Memorial Fellowship

FAITH REYNADO, a member of last year's Senior Honors Seminar, has been selected in a nationwide competition to receive a James Madison Fellowship for further study of American history.

Sponsored by the James Madison Memorial Fellowship Foundation of Washington, D.C., the competition draws applicants from each of the 50 states, as well as the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and island and trust territories.

It provides up to \$24,000



Fellowship winner Faith Reynado

in support of talented teachers planning a career in secondary education.

Faith's senior honors thesis was titled "Third and Long: The Allure of College Football in the Great Depression." It was supervised by Prof. Paul Spickard.

Faith is spending this year as a tutor for the Princeton Review while she applies to teacher credential programs, including UCSB and Stanford, which she hopes to enter in summer, 2009.

President's Corner

A New Year

Welcome to the start of another academic year! I am honored to be writing to you as the new president of the UCSB History Associates. I would like to thank Barbara Lindemann for her strong leadership as the past president. Her hard work, enthusiasm, and creativity are a great asset and helped us reach new levels in our ability to reach out to the community and provide financial assistance to graduate and undergraduate history students.



For those of you who don't know me, I am a graduate of the Ph.D. program in history at UCSB. My first contact with History Associates was when I was invited by Hal Drake to a luncheon lecture given by Prof. Mario García. I was a teaching assistant for Hal at the time.

Since it was my first quarter with that responsibility, and as a Latin Americanist suddenly teaching Ancient Western Civilization, I was a jumble of insecurities. But I found not only a mentor in my academic and professional life, I found an organization from which I would benefit in so many ways.

As a graduate student, I received the Philip Powell Prize, and graduate fellowships to fund my travel to Mexico for archival research. I was also honored to receive the Dick Cook Memorial Prize.

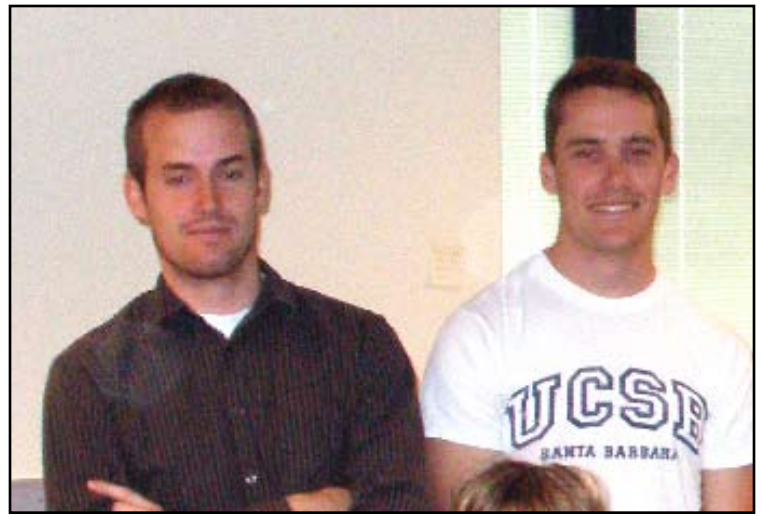
But the greatest honor was being asked to join the board of History Associates as a graduate student. I'm still here, hoping to serve my term as president as honorably as those who have preceded me.

My messages to you in the coming months will try to be informative, maybe even entertaining, but I will also try to impress upon you how greatly needed and appreciated your continued support of History Associates is to the students of the History Department.

If you have received a letter reminding you to renew your membership, please do so, knowing that the Board members and I will do our best to bring you programs that will remind you of the joys of historical investigation. I know our ever-faithful editor of *Historia* will endeavor to keep you informed and entertained as well.

Thank you again for your generous support of History Associates. I look forward to seeing you at our events this year!

Monica Orozco
President



Scott McDonald (l.) and Evan Raleigh.

Honors Papers Share Emeriti Research Prize

TWO MEMBERS OF last year's Senior Honors Seminar have been selected to share honors in this year's undergraduate research paper competition conducted by the UCSB Emeriti Association.

Scott McDonald and Evan Raleigh tied for second place in the competition, which judges projects by students in Arts and Humanities, Social Sciences, Sciences and Engineering.

No first place was awarded. They will share a \$500 prize, which will be presented at the Emeriti Association's annual Fall Luncheon on Saturday, Oct. 18 at the Faculty Club.

Scott's paper, "Working Hard for the Sovereignty: An Examination of the Role Played by Armenia in the Balance of Power System Between Rome and Persia," was written for Prof. Elizabeth Digeser.

Evan Raleigh wrote "The Good the Bad and Garrisoned: An Examination of the Social Lives of Hellenistic Garrison Soldiers" for Prof. John Lee.

A panel of emeriti faculty rank papers on the basis of originality, skill and clarity of presentation.

Both students are still at UCSB this year.

Scott is completing a double major in Anthropology, where

is he writing another senior honors paper, and Evan is completing a double major in Classics.

Evan plans to do graduate study in ancient history while Scott intends to study law.

Scott shared the UCSB History Associates Board Prize last Spring for the best paper produced by last year's Senior Honors class with Gregory Brown: "A Matter of Opinion: Analysis of Western Virginian Racial Attitudes in the Antebellum Period," written for Prof. Carl Harris.

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
or email:
drake@history.ucsb.edu

Meet the New Grads



Historia photo by Mike Tucker

Entering grad students for 2008-09. Seated (l. to r.): Scarlett Aldebot, Nicole Coggins, Tiffany DiMaggio, Joe Figiulo, Peggy Beedle. Standing (l. to r.): Sunny Lim, Margaret Jessor, Henry Maar, Director of Graduate Studies Sharon Farmer, Jason Stobler, Jason Linn, Damian Nemirovsky, Dustin Walker, Greg Goalwin, Jackson Warkentin, Ryan Abrecht, Ryan Horne, Victor Sebmagin and Graduate Program Assistant Darcy Ritzau. Not pictured: Jill Dolan, Wendy Hurforf, Christian Kraiker, Eric Massie, Zamira Yusuffonova.

Medieval Grad Student Wins \$1000 Paper Prize

CORINNE WIEBEN (Lansing) has been chosen to receive the first CICIS Graduate Student Paper Prize awarded by the University of California Italian Kelly at Getty; Bromber Elected

JASON KELLY (PhD Guerrini 2004) was one of the featured speakers at the Getty Villa in Malibu for an all-day colloquium on "Sir William Gell and The Topographical Imagination."

Jason is currently assistant professor of History at Indiana University-Perdue University in Indianapolis.

Robert Bromber (PhD Dutra 2004) has been elected to the board of the Inter-American Institute for Diplomacy, sponsor of the Institute sponsors the Washington Model Organization of American States.

Studies MRG.

Corinne's paper, entitled "As men do with their wives': Domestic Violence in Fourteenth-Century Lucca," analyzes a case of domestic violence from the point of view of the husband, the wife and the judge, concluding that the verdict was a "middle ground compromise."

A committee composed of Profs. John Marino (UCSD), Marla Stone (Occidental) and Laura Wittmann (Stanford) wrote that "Corinne's detailed and thorough historical reconstruction, as well as her honesty at depicting a situation that is complex and ambiguous ... make a convincing case for the study of the often impenetrable silence that lies at the heart of cases of domestic violence."

The award comes with a \$1,000 stipend.

Grad Numbers

THERE ARE 25 NEW students in the History graduate program this year.

U.S. history drew the largest number, seven, followed by Ancient Mediterranean and Public History with four each.

There are two new students each in Latin America, Middle Eastern and early modern European history, and one each in African, medieval European and east Asian history.

The final student is here on a one-year exchange through Education Abroad.

From the Chair

CONTINUED FROM P. 2

inspire effort and provoke critical thinking. Most faculty try to engage their students and have them learn, rather than simply entertain them. Student evaluations provide key feedback that allows instructors to adjust their teaching and assignments in order to engage and challenge their students.

If teaching were synonymous with entertainment, we would want strong positive ratings to demonstrate the success of our product. But if we are trying to foster critical thinking, and seek to challenge preconceived notions and demand effort to learn and excel, should we expect or desire uniform enthusiasm and approval? Because teaching is not indoctrination, we should encourage students to think for themselves, not to conform, in evaluating as well as in learning. If our purpose is education, can we design evaluations to measure effectiveness of teaching?

*Ken Mouré
Chair*

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 \$

- ☐ Active \$30
☐ 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
☐ \$ gift to the History Associates Graduate Fellowship Fund.
☐ \$ gift to the History Associates Dick Cook Fund.
☐ \$ gift to the History Associates Fund.

(specify other scholarship fund)

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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Santa Barbara, CA 93106-1136
Questions? call (805) 893-4388

The Last Word

One for the Gipper

As you've already read elsewhere in this newsletter, the History Associates Board created an award last Spring to honor the memory of Bob Collins, who died on April 11. The aim of this column is to get you to contribute to this new fund.

So why is it called "the Gipper," you ask. George Gipp was the original "Gipper," the spirited Notre Dame athlete who died in his prime during the early 1920s. On his deathbed, the story goes, he asked coach Knute Rockne to remember him, and someday "when things are wrong and the breaks are beating the boys—tell them to go in there with all they've got and win just one for the Gipper."

That's exactly what Rockne did in a halftime talk when Notre Dame was losing to Army in 1928. The Fighting Irish went on to victory, and The Gipper became the stuff of legend. Ronald Reagan played George Gipp in the 1940 film, "Knute Rockne: All American," and thereby inherited the title for the rest of his life.

So where does Bob Collins come into the picture?

When you think about it, there are lots of Gippers out there—people who pour their heart and soul into an enterprise, who are always there to rally the troops when things look glum. Not every outfit is lucky enough to have one, but we were, and his name was Bob Collins. As the thousands of students who took his classes over the course of 40 years know, Bob had a rumbling, basso voice and a flair for the dramatic that made him a spellbinding lecturer.

These traits also made Bob a born speech-maker. The year before his death, Bob became the first UCSB faculty to receive the UC's Constantine Panunzio Distinguished Emeriti Award. His speech at a department reception in his honor was vintage Collins, laced with anecdotes about the ambitions of the hardy group that launched the department, and ending with a heartfelt plea to maintain the highest standards of research and publication.

That's exactly what this award is designed to do: start grad students on their careers by recognizing their research talents now.

I'm no Knute Rockne, and the days when this department could be called an underdog are long passed. But Bob helped us to get there, and kept us going when we doubted whether we could. Now's the time to honor him for his efforts, by supporting a cause so dear to his heart. Please send your check (made out to UCSB History Associates/Collins Award) to the UCSB Office of Community Relations, Santa Barbara, CA 93106-9410. Do it today.



Hal Drake



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