Department of History
Spring Newsletter

LETTER FROM OUR CHAIR, PROFESSOR BARBARA WEINSTEIN

This past academic year has been a remarkable one in many ways for the Department of History. Aside from the flood of book prizes that I described in the previous newsletter, we have hired no fewer than six new faculty members, each one of whom brings fresh and innovative ideas about research and teaching to our community. Two of our colleagues are about to assume major administrative posts: Maria Montoya will be leaving temporarily to serve as dean of Arts and Science at NYU Shanghai, and Katherine Fleming will be the next University Provost. Our graduate students have won a record-breaking number of dissertation completion fellowships, and have had notable success getting academic positions and postdoctoral fellowships despite the erratic state of the job market. Looking back at this year, my last one as chair, it is tempting to feel a sense of accomplishment and satisfaction.

But there is one issue that keeps me from feeling entirely sanguine about the prospects for the future, and that is the downward trend in undergraduate majors and enrollments over the last eight years. Since I regularly read the posts on the AHA listserv for History chairs, I know that this problem is hardly peculiar to NYU. But knowing that it’s a national trend doesn’t exempt us from trying to come up with local solutions.

One way to approach the problem is to try to identify its causes, and use them as a guide to creating solutions. Many explanations have been offered for the broader trend in history and the humanities, but the one I find most compelling, given the timing of this phenomenon, is the impact of the Great Recession. Faced with a tighter job market and the prospect of being unable to pay off increasingly onerous college loans, many students are opting for majors that they (and/or their parents) regard as holding out the promise of a high-paying job. And since majors like economics and computer science have large numbers of prerequisites and...
required courses, students opting for those fields are less likely to have room in their schedules for History courses, most of which demand a significant amount of reading and writing.

Some commentators have claimed that the problem lies in the public’s declining confidence in the value of the Humanities disciplines to help people understand the world. But surely that cannot be the principal explanation since, in the aftermath of the Great Recession one would have expected the number of majors in Economics to plummet; instead they have increased dramatically. Rather, I would argue that disciplines such as History are not seen as useful enough for finding employment, though this might then have the collateral effect of leading our students and their families to think that History is not valuable in and of itself given the growing tendency to equate “value” with monetary rewards.

So how can historians convince their potential pupils that “History pays”? One is to highlight the analytic and interpretive skills that historical research and writing cultivates. The very ability to construct a well-written narrative and a well-reasoned argument—the bread and butter of historical writing—seems indispensable for any number of professional paths. But the problem with this “public-relations” strategy is the diffuse nature of the “skills” being touted. We can imagine many venues in which such skills would be useful, but they don’t necessarily shepherd a student to a specific career trajectory. Perhaps more effective would be to expand offerings in History that have greater “vocational” promise, or develop skills that can be more easily identified as leading to new career opportunities. Here I’m thinking about public history and digital history, two subfields for which we currently offer courses at the master’s level, but not for undergraduates. Yet public history, aside from having gained greater scholarly legitimacy over the last two decades, also has explicit links to a variety of professional paths. Digital history, meanwhile, requires both research skills and technical expertise that potential students may (rightly) associate with enhanced job prospects.

We also need to think about what the undergraduate History curriculum looks like to a potential student or major, and to what extent he/she sees our courses as offering ways to make sense of the past and the present. For example, two of the issues that frequently arise in public conversations these days are, to put it succinctly, “inequality” and “race.” These two intimately related themes are similarly impossible to discuss and comprehend without a historical perspective, but the extent to which our curriculum addresses these issues may not be evident from a quick glance at our course offerings. It’s not so much that we need to radically transform our curriculum but rather to make what we are already doing more visible. One way to do that would be to offer a minor or a concentration in a particular thematic area; so we are currently contemplating a minor in the history of capitalism, political economy, and economic thought which we think would attract undergraduates grappling with the problem of inequality and trying to understand how we have gotten to the point where the 400 richest people in the US have combined wealth that exceeds the nominal GDP of India, a nation with 1.3 billion people. Likewise, we could consider a concentration, or a group of linked courses, that foreground race and racism, and explore both the many ways in which racial hierarchies have been reproduced and entrenched, and the many movements that have sought to challenge and dismantle them.

I understand that many academics recoil at the idea of treating students like “customers” or of “pandering” to our potential public. I would readily agree that what we teach should not be determined solely by what we think our students want. Part of our pedagogical mission is surely to clarify why certain kinds of thinking and knowledge are important even if they are not immediately exciting or remunerative. But every generation has new needs and new preoccupations, and the past that interests them and the ways of understanding it change accordingly. And ultimately, we can’t make the discipline of history a central part of our students’ academic experience if we don’t get them into the classroom in the first place.

On that slightly sobering note, I sign off as department chair and bid a warm welcome to my successor, David Ludden, who will be chairing the History Department for the next three academic years.

Jane Burbank continued her project, "Russia: the Rule of Law in Question," at the Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin in the Spring semester. With other fellows, she organized two international conferences on Russian law from the 17th to the 21st centuries, one on "Law-making and Law-interpreting" and a second on "Trajectories of Law and Sovereignty." Her focus group concludes its year-long series of seminars in May with a discussion of Jane’s article on "Russia’s Eurasian Trajectories." In February, Jane and Fred Cooper were the subjects of a "Journée d’étude" focused on their work on empires at the University of Toulouse Jean Jaurès. Otherwise, Jane refused multiple invitations in favor of getting a start on her monograph, "Law and sovereignty in the middle of empire: Russia, Kazan Judicial District, 1880 to 1917."

Fred Cooper continues his stay in Berlin. He returned to the US in April to give the Lawrence Stone lectures at Princeton University on the theme of "Citizenship, Inequality, and Difference in World History: From Roman Times to the Present." He spent most of the past months working on these three lectures, which will be published by Princeton University Press. He also spoke at conferences at Bayreuth University, the University of Paris Sorbonne Panthéon, the School of Advanced Study of the University of London, and the Forum Transregionale Studien, Berlin. He inaugurated a series of lectures of the International Center on Work and Human Lifecycle in Global History at the Humboldt University in Berlin, and along with Jane Burbank, he gave presentations at the University of Toulouse on our book on empires. Talks at the Deutsches Historisches Museum and the Free University of Berlin are on the program for May, as is a conference on federalism at Paris Institute of Political Studies in June.

Linda Gordon is working on a Massive Open Online Course for the NY Historical Society with Alice Kessler-Harris. During the summer she will be completing a short term Fulbright in Sofia, Bulgaria and a fellowship with the Johannesberg Institute for Advanced Study – an initiative of the University of Johannesburg and Nanyang Technological University, Singapore.

Myles Jackson received a fellowship from the Max-Planck-Institute for History of Science (Berlin, Germany) for the summer of 2016.

Rebecca Karl’s new book, co-translated from the Chinese with Xueping Zhong (Tufts), was published in February 2016 by Duke University Press. It is a translation and edited annotation
FACULTY NEWS (CONTINUED)

of Cai Xiang, Revolution and its Narratives, originally published by Peking University Press in 2010, and one of the most talked-about and important scholarly humanities publications in China of the time.

Martin Klimke published two books this Spring: Ein Hauch von Freiheit? Afroamerikanische GIs, die US-Bürgerrechtsbewegung und Deutschland, with Maria Höhn and Protest Cultures: A Companion, with Kathrin Fahlenbrach and Joachim Scharloth. He also participated in Conference Series Revisiting 1968 and the Global Sixties, NYU Abu Dhabi, New York, Shanghai.

Prof. Joe Lee was conferred with an Honorary Doctorate of Laws by University College Dublin, Ireland, on 25 April, 2016.

On March 4, Erin Pettigrew organized a one-day workshop entitled Histories of the Unseen with NY-area scholars who discussed how to expand understandings of invisible entities in Islamic cosmology and Muslim societies across the longue durée. This first workshop will feed into a second two-day conference in Abu Dhabi in May 2017 where invited participants will present research addressing questions of how historians and anthropologists can include these spirits and ontologies in their narratives and analyses. Over the Spring, she presented additional talks at Columbia, CUNY, NYU, and the Italian Society for Middle East Studies annual conference in Catania, Sicily.

Amir Minsky is spending spring/summer 2016 as Visiting Research Fellow at the Center for the History of Emotions, Max Planck Institute for Human Development, Berlin.

Tom Sugrue was elected to the American Academy of Political and Social Science as the 2016 Walter Lippman Fellow. Tom was one of five fellows named this year and the only historian among them. Tom was also awarded an honorary doctorate of humane letters from Wayne State University of Detroit.

Alejandro Velasco’s book, "Barrio Rising: Urban Popular Politics and the Making of Modern Venezuela" won the Fernando Coronil Book Award given by the Section on Venezuelan Studies of the Latin American Studies Association. Also the NACLA Report on the Americas (which Alejandro is the Executive Editor for, will relaunch in print through a partnership with Routledge. Our relaunch issue is available online and will be available in print in late May.

Jonathan Zimmerman received a grant from the Spencer Foundation to conduct research on his book project, "The Scholar at the Blackboard: A History of College Teaching in America." He also completed work on his forthcoming book, Campus Politics: What Everyone Needs to Know," which will be published in August by Oxford University Press.


Congratulations to Katherine Fleming, who was recently appointed as the next University Provost.
FACULTY SPOTLIGHTS

Nathan Connolly is co-winner of the Urban History Association’s Kenneth Jackson Award for best book (North American) for *A World More Concrete: Real Estate and the Remaking of Jim Crow South Florida*. He will be recognized at the UHA’s biennial conference in Chicago, October 2016.


Ada Ferrer’s book, *Freedom’s Mirror: Cuba and Haiti in the Age of Revolution*, won the Friedrich Katz Prize in Latin American and Caribbean History, the Wesley-Logan Prize in African Diaspora History, and the James A. Rawley Prize for the History of the Atlantic Worlds before the 20th Century. She also received the prize for most outstanding nonfiction book in English on the subject of slavery and/or abolition and antislavery movement sponsored by the Gilder Lehrman Center for the Study of Slavery, Resistance, and Abolition. And finally, she was awarded the Haitian Studies Association’s Book Prize.

Greg Grandin is co-winner of the Albert J. Beveridge Award for his book, *The Empire of Necessity: Slavery, Freedom, and Deception in the New World*. This award is for the best book on the history of the U.S., Latin America, or Canada.

Martha Hodes’ book, *Mourning Lincoln* has been awarded the Avery O. Craven Award from the Organization of American Historians and the Lincoln Prize from the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History. (Following the Lincoln Prize ceremonies in New York in April, Martha appeared, pictured with Richard Gilder, in Bill Cunningham’s "Evening Hours" column of the New York Times!) Martha continues to lecture about the book, appearing recently at the Columbia Society of Fellows seminar at Columbia University, the American Philosophical Society in Philadelphia, and on a panel entitled "Why Lincoln Still Matters" at the National Archives in Washington, D.C. Her article, "Lincoln’s Black Mourners: Submerged Voices, Everyday Life, and the Question of Storytelling," was published in a roundtable on "Archives and Methods in the Study of Slavery and Freedom" in the December 2015 issue of Social Text. Martha has also recently been elected to the executive board of the Society of American Historians.

Yanni Kotsonis’ book, *States of Obligation: Taxes and Citizenship in the Russian Empire and the Early Soviet Republic*, was awarded the Ed A. Hewett Book Prize, and also received an Honorable Mention for The Davis Center Book Prize.

Department Chair Barbara Weinstein, won the Roberto Reis BRASA Book Award, which recognizes the two best books in Brazilian Studies published in English in the past two years that contributes significantly to promoting an understanding of Brazil, for her book *The Color of Modernity: Sao Paulo and the Making of Race and Nation in Brazil*. 
On Wednesday, May 4th, 2016 the Department of History hosted a retirement celebration in The Atrium of King Juan Carlos Center for our treasured colleague, Professor Peter Wosh. The event brought together several generations of Peter's former doctoral students, his colleagues, family, and friends. Peter will truly be missed.

Words of Appreciation

“Professor Wosh has been so pivotal in his student’s lives and is a committed and dedicated administrator, scholar, and educator. He has worked tirelessly to prepare his students for their professional endeavors and created an amazing department that espouses the mission of engagement and access. He is a mentor, a scholar, and a friend, and we are so lucky to have had him guiding us through our education; wishing him all the best in this next chapter, which will no doubt, be exciting.”

- Nicole DeRise

“You should walk away from NYU proud to have prepared hundreds of young and aspiring archivists, most of who are now preserving the records of our cultural heritage and who are also contributing to their chosen profession. I want to thank you for all that you have done for me—both personally and professionally. To have an opportunity to teach in your program at NYU, share our experiences within SAA and MARAC, and talk at length about the Mets, NCAA basketball, and the Rutgers Scarlet Knights (your alma mater) has been a tremendous joy for me for many, many years. I wish you all the best as you depart Washington Square.”

- Tom Frusciano

“Peter, your intelligence, hard work, strong leadership, and sense of humor have shaped the NYU Archives and Public History Program into one that produces archivists who do incredible work, and who care about their collections, their practice, and how it influences the world around them. The archival field has been forever changed for the better since you have been part of it, from the many publications you wrote or edited to the countless students you mentored over the past 22 years. Thank you for being our teacher, mentor, and friend!”

- Nicole Milano

“For those of us who are graduates of the Archives and Public History Program, we can say definitively that Peter has had a tremendous influence on our thinking and on our career choices. We are grateful to him for his mentorship. As evidenced by his extremely well-attended retirement celebration in May, Peter has built a cohesive community of archivists, educators, and public historians at NYU and beyond. In his retirement, I hope he enjoys pursuing his many interests (including baseball), relaxing with friends and family, and not having to commute. Thank you, Peter. We will miss you.”

- Gwynneth C. Malin
This year, we bid a fond and bittersweet farewell to a few of the department’s faculty members, including Nathan Connolly, Valerie Deacon, Masato Hasegawa, Rachel St. John, and Jonathan Zimmerman. We wish each of them the best in their future endeavors!

Valerie Deacon was the department’s very first Elihu Rose Scholar in Modern Military History. After four years, she is returning to Toronto, Canada. Masato Hasegawa was a Visiting Assistant Professor for three years, specializing in early modern East Asia. Many thanks for your contributions to the department and best of luck in these next chapters!

After 20 years of commuting between Philadelphia and New York, Jonathan Zimmerman will be leaving NYU in September 2016 to take a position at the University of Pennsylvania. He will be jointly appointed in the School of Education and the Department of History, as he was here at NYU. He will continue to advise doctoral students in Steinhardt and as well as those in History. While geography takes him to Penn, his heart will remain at NYU. Congratulations, Jon!

This past academic year, Nathan Connolly joined the departments of History and Social and Cultural Analysis as Visiting Associate Professor. In Fall 2016, he will be returning to Johns Hopkins University.
Welcome New Faculty

Alexis Antracoli will be joining us Fall 2016 to teach Introduction to Archives.

Robyn d’Avignon will be joining us Fall 2016 as Assistant Professor of African History.

Elizabeth Ellis will join us Fall 2017 as Assistant Professor of Native American History after completing her fellowship at the McNeil Center for Early American Studies.

Steven Hahn will join us Fall 2017 as Professor of U.S. History, after completing his fellowship at the Huntington Library in California through Fall 2017.

Susanah Shaw Romney will join us in Fall 2017 as Assistant Professor of Atlantic History, after completing her fellowship at the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Daniel Jutte will join us Fall 2017 as an Associate Professor of Urban Humanities, after completing his fellowship at the Center for Research in the Arts, Social Sciences, and Humanities at Cambridge University.

Ellen Noonan will be joining us Fall 2016 as the Interim Director of Archives and Public History.

Brandon Schechter will join us Fall 2016 as Assistant Professor Faculty Fellow of the Elihu Rose Scholar in Modern Military History.

Congratulations to the following faculty and staff, who were recognized at the Arts & Science Service Recognition Reception held on Tuesday, May 10th:

Maria Montoya (10 years)
Leslie P. Peirce (10 years)
Konstantinos Smyrlis (10 years)
Lawrence Wolff (10 years)

Gregory J. Grandin (15 years)
Sinclair Thompson (20 years)
Danielle Hartounian (Service Excellence)
UNDERGRADUATE DEPARTMENTAL PRIZE RECIPIENTS:

**Mark Alexander** is the recipient of the Nathan Schoengood History Award for Achievement in American History. It is awarded to a student who has demonstrated conscientious and outstanding work in the undergraduate History Department.

**Nika Arzoumanian** has received the Alvin H. Zagor Memorial Prize, which is awarded to a student whose academic record and life experience demonstrate wide-ranging interests and concern for the necessity of the humane studies in intellectual development of the modern professional.

**Alex Braverman** is the recipient of the Bessie and Louis Levy Prize for Excellence in American History. She is being recognized for her exceptional honors thesis in United States history.

**Francesca DeRosa** has received the Distinguished Leadership Prize, which is presented for distinguished service to the History Department's undergraduate program.

**Krishna Kulkarni** has received the Cecilia Bull Scholarship, which is presented to a student at the end of the junior year for excellence and accomplishment in history.

**Jeffrey Ngo** has been awarded the Helen M. Jones Prize in History. This is awarded for outstanding achievement in the history honors course. He also received the Honors Thesis Prize.

**Courtney Sy** has been awarded the Kwame Yeboah Daaku Memorial Prize in African History, which is presented to a graduating senior for accomplishment and interest in African History.

**Isabelle Klinghoffer** has been awarded the Capstone Prize for her paper, "The Currency of Military Integration: A History of the Media's Response to Female Prisoner-of-War Cases in the United States".

**Asha Kuziwa** has received the Richard Hull Fellowship, which is awarded annually to an undergraduate to help defray the cost of an NYU study abroad program or other research project related to African history.

**Yoonjane Park** has received the Elihu Rose Research Fellowship, which is presented to a rising Honors student working on military history for their thesis project.
Mark Lange Alexander (advisor, Prof. Maria Montoya) Water in and out of the Tenement Home: New York City’s Complex Liquid Right

Claudia Arnoldo (advisor, Prof. Zvi Ben-Dor Benite) Uncertainty and the Establishment of Chinese Communism Mao Zedong Thought and the Production of an Ideology

Alexie Basil (advisor, Prof. Martha Hodes) Alternative Historical Memory: Discrepancies in the Canonized Story of the American Civil War in Kentucky

Christopher Berenson (advisor, Prof. Valerie Deacon) Vive Le Quebec Libre! Nationalism and Autonomy in Quebec to 1980

Alex Braverman (advisor, Prof. Linda Gordon) The Women of Baker Street: Gender, Politics, and Desire in Sherlock Holmes Fan Culture, 1920-2016

Francesca DeRosa (advisor, Prof. David Oshinsky) The Starving South: A History of Pellagra in America

Allison Emanuel (advisor, Prof. Andrew Sartori) “Those Vile Blue Books:” Pamphlet Wars, Amboyna, and Anglo-Dutch Relations, 1624-1654

Christopher James Harvey (advisor, Prof. Molly Nolan) The Subaltern in Hong Kong’s Post-War Growth: Protestors in the Light Manufacturing Industry

Madeline Hunter (advisor, Prof. Molly Nolan) Captain America, the Nationalist Superhero: An Expression of American Military Conflicts Through Popular Culture

Kyle Mancuso (advisor, Prof. Larry Wolff) “Cu’ voli puisia vegna ‘n Sicilia” Giuseppe Pitrè, Risorgimento, and the Flowering of Sicilian Folklore

Shira Mogil (advisor, Prof. Maria Montoya) The Goose that Lays the Golden Egg: Preserving Racial Integrity and Implementing Compulsory Sterilization in 1924 Virginia

Jeffrey Ngo (advisor, Prof. David Ludden) Music Below the Lion Rock: Social and Political Life in Hong Kong Through the Lens of Transnational Cantopop, 1964-2004

Chinyere Obi (advisor, Prof. Ada Ferrer) Resolving the Afro-Cuban Double Identity Crisis in the African Diaspora: 1898-1940

Courtney Sy (advisor, Prof. Andrew Sartori) Degrees of Boerdom: British Perspectives of Boers During the South African War 1899-1902
UNDERGRADUATE NEWS (CONTINUED)

Honor Thesis students with Faculty Director Professor Montoya at Honors Colloquium on May 10th, 2016.

Jeffery Ngo, Best Honors Thesis and Shira Mogil, Runner Up

2016 Phi Alpha Theta class with Professors Berenson, Goetz, and Weinstein at their induction ceremony, May 5th, 2016.
Selda Altan (advisor, Rebecca Karl) has been awarded the Mellon Dissertation Fellowship in History for 2016-17.

Robert Cole's (advisor, Rebecca Karl) paper titled "Making Immovable Wealth Movable: Land Finance and Rural Money in 1930s Shanxi", received the Kerr Prize, for the best paper presented by a junior scholar at the Business History Conference in Portland, OR this past April.

Joanna Curtis (advisor, Lawrence Wolf) was awarded the 2016 Mainzer Summer Fellowship.

Kathryn David (advisor, Jane Burbank) was awarded the Jordan Center for the Advanced Study of Russia’s Summer Fieldwork and Language Training Fellowship.

Ben Davidson (advisor, Martha Hodes) received an NYU Center for the Humanities Research Fellowship for the 2016-17 academic year, to complete his dissertation, "Freedom's Generation: Coming of Age in the Era of Emancipation." Ben also received short-term research grants from the New England Regional Fellowship Consortium and the Princeton University Library, and presented ‘Emancipation and the Possibilities of Language and Liberty in the Nineteenth-Century Anglo-American Atlantic World’ at the joint British Association for American Studies and Irish Association for American Studies conference in Belfast.

Sam Dolbee (advisor, Zachary Lockman) has been awarded a Mellon/ACLS Dissertation Completion Fellowship for 2016-17.

Yue Du (advisor, Joanna Waley Cohen) was awarded the 2016 GSAS Predoctoral Summer Fellowship.

Filip Erdeljac (advisor, Lawrence Wolff) has received a 2016-2017 post-doctoral fellowship at the Mandel Center of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington.

Jeannette Estruth (advisor, Thomas Bender) was awarded the University of Virginia Miller Center-Hagley Library Dissertation Fellowship in Business and Politics for 2016-2017." She was made an alternate for the American Association of University Women Dissertation Fellowship, 2016-2017.

Joan Flores (advisor, Michael Gomez) has won the Ford Foundation Dissertation Fellowship for 2016-17.

Anasa Hicks (advisor, Ada Ferrer) was awarded a Woodrow Wilson Dissertation Fellowship in Women’s Studies for AY 2016-2017.

Marysia Jonsson (advisor, Larry Wolff) has received a Mellon/ACLS Dissertation Completion Fellowship for 2016-17.

Geoffrey Levin (advisor, Ronald Zweig) was awarded a Marcus Center Fellowship at the American Jewish Archives in Cincinnati and an Israel Institute Doctoral Fellowship for the 2016-2017 academic year.

Daniel London (advisor, Andrew Needham) has been awarded the Polonsky Digital Humanities Internship for the summer months of 2016.

Tyesha Maddox (advisor, Michael Gomez) has accepted a tenure-track position in the Department of African and African American Studies at Fordham University.

Alex Manevitz (advisor, Martha Hodes) has accepted a position as a Visiting Assistant Professor of American Studies at Trinity College in Hartford, Connecticut.
**GRADUATE STUDENT NEWS (CONTINUED)**

**Ian Merkel** (advisor, Herrick Chapman) has been awarded a Fulbright-Hays grant for summer 2016.

**Alaina Morgan** (advisor, Michael Gomez) has been selected for the GSAS Mellon Dissertation Fellowship in History and the Center for the Humanities Honorary Fellowship for 2016-2017.

**Tejasvi Nagaraja** (advisor, Marilyn Young) has been selected for a Mellon Dissertation Fellowship in History for 2016-17.

**Pam Nogales** (advisor, Thomas Bender) was awarded the Jerrold Seigel Fellowship in Intellectual and Cultural History to work in the archives for her dissertation, “Reform in the Age of Capital: Radical Political Thought in the United States, 1828–1877”. With this support, she will be working at the Houghton & Schlesinger Libraries and at the Massachusetts Historical Society this summer, with the papers of Margaret Fuller, Wendell Phillips, Charles Sumner, and others.

**Hayley Negrin** (advisor, Rebecca Goetz) has received a Wilbur Jacobs Fellowship and a Robert Middlekauff Fellowship for two months of research at the Huntington Library. She also received the Jamestowne Society Fellowship for the 2016-2017 academic year.

**Lana Dee Povitz** (advisor, Linda Gordon) has been awarded a Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council Postdoctoral Fellowship for 2016-17 as well as a Mellon Pre-Doctoral Fellowships in Women's History at the New-York Historical Society for the 16-17 AY.

**James Phillips** (advisor, Yanni Kotsonis) has been awarded a Mellon/ACLS Dissertation Completion Fellowship for 2016-17.

**Laura Phillips** (advisor, Fredrick Cooper) has been awarded the 2016 Robert Holmes Travel/Research Award for African Scholarship.

**Laura Quinton** (advisor, Guy Ortolano) has been awarded the Barnard College Alumnae Association Fellowship.

**Andrew Seaton** (advisor, Guy Ortolano) wrote a piece for History Workshop Online on writing histories of the British National Health Service.

**Ahmad Shokr** (advisor, Zachary Lockman) has accepted a tenure-track appointment as Assistant Professor of History at Swarthmore College. He will be spending the 2016-17 academic year as Junior Research Fellow at the Crown Center for Middle East Studies at Brandeis University before taking his post at Swarthmore.

**Alexandra Steinlight** (advisor, Herrick Chapman) received the Mellon/ACLS Dissertation Completion Fellowship for 2016-17.

**Aro Velmet** (advisor, Herrick Chapman) received the Jerrold Seigel Summer Fellowship, a Rockefeller Archive Foundation research grant for the Fall of 2016, a Remarque Institute Fellowship for the Spring of 2017, and the Josephine de Karman Dissertation Completion Fellowship for 2016-2017 academic year. In addition, he accepted a curatorial fellowship to design the 1988-1994 section of the permanent exposition of the Estonian Museum of Freedom.

**Rachel Welsh** (advisor, Karl Appuhn) has been awarded both a Fulbright Fellowship and Mellon CLIR Fellowship to study in Spain.
GRADUATE STUDENT NEWS (CONTINUED)

next year. She declined the Fulbright and will be a CLIR Mellon Fellow for the 2016-2017 school year.

Alex Winder (advisor, Zach Lockman) spring 2016, the Institute for Palestine Studies published (in Arabic) the book *Between Jaffa and Mount Hebron: The Diaries of Muhammad ‘Abd al-Hadi al-Shrouf, 1943-1962*, which he edited and introduced. He was also awarded the Carola Collier Berthelot Dissertation Writing Fellowship for the 2016-2017 academic year.

Emma Young (advisor, Barbara Weinstein) received a CLAH (Conference on Latin American History) James R. Scobie Award, which she will be using to conduct preliminary archival research in São Paulo and Rio this summer.

Elizabeth Ress Wint (advisor, Fredrick Cooper) received a two-year Postdoctoral Fellowship at the Buffett Institute at Northwestern University beginning in September 2016.

Emma Young (advisor, Barbara Weinstein) received a CLAH (Conference on Latin American History) James R. Scobie Award, which she will be using to conduct preliminary archival research in São Paulo and Rio this summer.

New Doctoral Student Profiles

The department of history is now offering online bios to all students who have advanced to candidacy!

This project has been a group effort, spearheaded jointly by Allison Korinek (GHSA Chair), in collaboration with Alyson Lounsbury (Graduate Program Administrator). Both worked diligently to make these profiles a reality before Alyson leaves this June.

The page is now part of our existing website and contains a picture, a short bio, research interests, dissertation topic, and contact information for all PhD students who have advanced to candidacy.

Alyson and Allison are thrilled not only because the profiles vastly improve the visibility of graduate students on the job market, but Alyson also worked with FAS Communications to develop a function which will pull graduated students to an alumni page, also on our website. This will regulate and improve the way we display placement data, which has been directly correlated to the successful recruitment of prospective students.

Please take a look at our new Graduate Student Profiles Page:

http://history.as.nyu.edu/page/graduate.students.current
Prospective Students ‘Weekend’ is the department’s key occasion to successfully recruit and retain incoming graduate student cohorts. The event lasts for two days, includes multiple, catered meals, and up to two nights of lodging for all students traveling to join us. Twenty-four prospective students (including joint admits) attended, with nearly thirty current student participants, as well as the attendance of our fifty-plus faculty, and all six staff members. This year, Alyson Lounsbury, Graduate Program Administrator, applied feedback received from our Graduate Student History Association to restructure the flow of events during this crucial weekend, ensuring that our most academic event, the presentation of scholarship-in-progress by current students, received a prime slot during the first few hours of our weekend, a change that enabled the department to properly showcase the intellectual community we work hard to foster. We are happy to report that all first round offer students who accepted admission, attended our PSW event.

“[PSW] was super helpful and engaging and fun – I was exhausted afterwards in a good way :) It was so seamlessly organized... Thank you so much! “
-NFC, incoming FA16

“...thank you so much for your support so far and I was so impressed by my first New York Bagels that I have already made up my mind to join NYU’s graduate program. I have already accepted the offer...”
-Giulio Salvati, incoming FA16

Special thanks to Alyson Lounsbury, Graduate Program Administrator and Allison Korinek, GHSA Chair who worked hard to organize this successful weekend.
ALUMNI NEWS AND JOB PLACEMENT

**Ademide Adelusi-Adeluyi** (advisor, Michael Gomez) was recently awarded an Andrew W. Mellon Postdoctoral Fellowship at the Humanities Research Center at Rice University for the 2016-17 academic year.

**Kendra Field** (advisor, Martha Hodes) was awarded a 2016-17 Faculty Fellowship at Harvard University’s Charles Warren Center for Studies in American History.

**Tom Fleischman** (advisor, Molly Nolan) will begin a tenure-track Assistant Professorship at the University of Rochester in the fall of 2016.

**Shay Hazkani** (advisor, Ron Zweig) will begin a tenure-track Assistant Professor position of Jewish Studies at the Meyerhoff Program and Center for Jewish Studies at the University of Maryland, College Park this upcoming fall.

**Laura Helton** (advisor, Michele Mitchell) currently a 2015-2017 Visiting Fellow at Penn State’s Center for Humanities and Information, received the Zuckerman Prize in American Studies from the McNeil Center for Early American Studies at the University of Pennsylvania. The award recognizes a dissertation that connects American history to literature and/or art in any period.

**Taja-Nia Henderson** (advisor, Martha Hodes) was awarded tenure and a promotion to full professor at Rutgers School of Law.

**Evelyne Laurent-Perrault** (advisor, Ada Ferrer) has been awarded the CUNY-IRADAC Postdoctoral Fellowship and has accepted an Assistant Professor position in the History Department at the University of California at Santa Barbara.

**Alexander Manevitz** (advisor, Martha Hodes) has accepted a one-year position as a Visiting Assistant Professor of American Studies at Trinity College, in Hartford, Connecticut.

**Melissa Milewski** (advisor, Martha Hodes) has accepted a position as a Lecturer in American History at the University of Sussex, England.

**Eva Muschik** (advisor, Molly Nolan) received a Max Weber Postdoctoral Fellowship at the CUNY-IRADAC Postdoctoral Fellowship and has accepted an Assistant Professor position as Assistant Professor of History at Brandeis University. In addition, Max will be a post-doctoral fellow at the Columbia Society of Fellows in 2016-17 and 2018-19.

**Jessica Pearson-Patel** (advisor, Herrick Chapman) has accepted a position as Assistant Professor in the history department at Macalester College in Saint Paul, MN.

**David Rainbow** (advisor, Yanni Kotsonis) has been appointed Instructional Assistant Professor at the Honors College of the University of Houston where he teaches courses in Russian history and European intellectual history.

**Gabriel Rocha** (advisor, Laurie Benton) successfully defended his dissertation, “Empire from the Commons: Making Colonial Archipelagos in the Early Iberian Atlantic.” He will begin a tenure-track position as Assistant Professor of Transnational Environmental History at Drexel University in September 2016.

**Paul Sager** (advisor, Herrick Chapman) recently wrote, "A
ALUMNI NEWS AND JOB PLACEMENT CONTINUED:

Nation of Functionaries, a Colony of Functionaries The
Antibureaucratic Consensus in France and Indochina,
1848–1912.” French Historical Studies 39, no. 1
(2016): 145-182. He earned a Master's in Library
Science and began working in spring 2016 as a Visiting
Assistant Professor in Hunter College Libraries as a
library subject specialist for English and Romance
Languages.

Samantha Seeley (advisor, Marth Hodes) has been
awarded two postdoctoral fellowships that will allow
her to be on leave for the 2016-2017 academic year:
The Lloyd Lewis Fellowship in American History at the
Newberry Library and a long-term fellowship at the
Gilder Lehrman Center for Slavery, Abolition, and
Resistance. Her article, "Beyond the American
Colonization Society," was published in the March 2016
issue of History Compass and she co-edited "The
Question of Recovery: Slavery, Freedom, and the
Archive," a special issue of Social Text, with Laura
Helton, Justin Leroy, Max Mishler, and Shauna
Sweeney.

Shauna Sweeney (advisor, Jennifer Morgan) has
accepted a tenure-track position in History and
Women's and Gender Studies at The University of
Toronto, beginning July 2018. Until then, she will also
be the Omohundro Institute-NEH postdoctoral fellow
for 2016-18 at the College of William & Mary.

Max Weber (advisor, Molly Nolan) received a Max
Weber Postdoctoral Fellowship at the European
University Institute in Florence, Italy for 2016-17.

Jerusha Westbury (advisor, Karen Kupperman)
successfully defended her dissertation last Friday and
has accepted a position at St. Mark's School in Dallas.

STAFF NEWS:

Chelsea Rhodes Undergraduate Program Assistant,
welcomed daughter Vera Mae on February 25, weighing
8 lbs 3 oz. She has stopped by the office on several
occasions to share her bundle of joy with the team. She
will return to the office in July. We are so happy for
Chelsea. Congratulations, Chelsea and family!

Alyson Lounsbury has accepted a new position as the Department
Administrator for the Department of Comparative Literature beginning
this June 2016. Alyson joined us in April 2013 and has been a great
addition to our department from day one. Alyson is excited to marry her
passion for the arts and arts education with her years of administrative
experience. However, for the rest of us, her departure is truly
bittersweet!

Farewell, Alyson. You will be missed.
STAFF NEWS CONTINUED:

Congratulations to Brenda Lau, our student worker, who graduated this Spring. Brenda was a student at the Gallatin School of Individualized Study with a major in French. She joined the department during her sophomore year and was an integral part of our team for the past three years. Wishing you all the best on this next leg of your journey, Brenda!

Danielle Hartounian received the Excellence Award during Arts & Science Service Recognition Reception held on Tuesday, May 10th. Danielle is an alumni of NYU and she is a key part of the team as the Assistant to the Chair. Congratulations, Danielle!

Latoya Coleman joined the department as the new Graduate Program Assistant in April. She received her BA at Wesleyan University and her Masters in Public Administration from Baruch College. She has a background in history and higher education and we are excited to have her join the team. Welcome Latoya!

UPCOMING EVENT THIS SUMMER

The WWI Workshop
Thursday, June 30th-Friday, July 1st
NYU London

The “Worlds of World War I” Workshop will focus on neglected aspects of World War One: these include its impact on domestic life in Britain, its effects on international thinking, and its impact on the Middle East and China, as well as its representation in a variety of English language media, notably literature and film. This workshop will also provide materials for a new course on “Worlds of World War One,” to be team-taught in History and Liberal Studies in NY and simultaneously at NYU-London, and NYU-Abu Dhabi starting in Fall, 2016.

Join us in London if you’re around!
FOR MORE INFO...

To be added to the Department of History Info and Opportunities Listserv, e-mail history.announcements@nyu.edu. This list is recommended for prospective and current history graduate students, faculty, or members of the NYC community who wish to learn more about the following:

* History and Humanities related events in the NYC area
* History related conference info and call for papers
  * Fellowships and scholarships
  * Job postings for scholars and historians

To be added to our Newsletter Mailing List e-mail your name and address to history.announcements@nyu.edu or call our office at 212.998.8600.

Hope to hear from you soon!