History Department Appoints Three New Endowed Chairs

The Department of History is pleased to announce the recent appointment of three new endowed chairs.

**Thomas W. Gallant** will be joining the department this fall and pending approval by the UC Regents will be appointed the Nicholas Family Endowed Chair in Modern Greek History. Gallant hails from York University in Toronto where he held the Hellenic Heritage Foundation Chair of Modern Greek History. Professor Gallant received his Ph.D. in Classical Archaeology from Cambridge University in 1982.

**Paul G. Pickowicz** has been named the inaugural holder of the UCSD Endowed Chair in Modern Chinese History. Pickowicz joined the department in 1973 and was recently promoted to Distinguished Professor.

**William H.C. Propp** has been appointed to the Harriet and Louis Bookheim Endowed Chair in Biblical Hebrew and Related Languages in Judaic Studies. Propp joined the History Department in 1988.

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**Chair’s Column**

The UCSD History Department has had many changes in the past year. Patrick Patterson, who had been a Lecturer in Eleanor Roosevelt College’s Making of the Modern World Program at UCSD since 2001, joined the Department. While six colleagues separated at the end of 2005/2006—Michael Meranze, Becky Nicolaides, David Ringrose, Stephanie Smallwood, Emily Thompson, and Danny Vickers—2006/2007 saw the Department involved in an aggressive recruitment campaign. We are very pleased that we will be joined by three new colleagues in the coming year — Tom Gallant in the history of modern Greece and Mediterranean Studies, Cathy Gere in the history of medicine and bio-medical ethics, and Mark Hanna in the history of early America and the Atlantic World—who are profiled in the current newsletter. But with the recent departure of Michael Bernstein to become Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost of Tulane University, we have lost another colleague.

This coming year the Department will be searching to recruit new colleagues in African-American History, Brazilian History, U.S. Urban History, and the history of the U.S. and the World, in addition to continuing the recruitment of the Endowed Chair in Byzantine Greek History.

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**News Bits**

**Prof. Eric Van Young Named Interim Dean of Arts and Humanities**

**Prof. Naomi Oreskes with former Vice-President Al Gore, and Ken Belitz of USGS at Gore’s recent climate change talk at UCSD.**
Ninety-four seniors were awarded a Bachelor of Arts degree in History this June and another 23 students were awarded History degrees in the fall and winter quarters. History continues to attract more undergraduate students and there are now 435 majors and 100 history minors.

The 2007 Undergraduate Honors Program students were recently honored at a luncheon at the Faculty Club. The annual Rappaport Prize was awarded at the luncheon to honor’s student, Vanessa Freije. Vanessa’s honor’s thesis, is titled, “Writing our own History: Margarita Robles de Mendoza, Maternalist Discourse, and Debates over Women’s Citizenship in Postrevolutionary Mexico.” Professor Ev Meade served as Vanessa’s advisor. The Undergraduate Committee also granted an honorable mention to Jacob Garrison. Professor Rebecca Plant served as Jacob’s advisor.

The Rappaport Prize is presented to the best history essay or thesis written each year. The Rappaport Prize originated from a memorial fund established in 1983 for an early member of the UCSD history department, Prof. Armin Rappaport.

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The History Department welcomed two new assistant professors in 2006, including:

Luis Alvarez (Ph.D., University of Texas at Austin, 2001) has teaching and research interests in comparative race and ethnicity, popular culture, Chicana/o studies, Latina/o studies, African American studies, U.S.-Mexico borderlands, transnationalism, resistance, identity and community formation, and cultural theory.

Patrick Patterson (Ph.D., University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, 2001, J.D., University of Virginia, 1988) specializes in 19th- and 20th-century Eastern Europe and the Balkans, with emphasis on cultural and political history, nationalism, ethnicity, and religion.

The department is looking forward to the arrival of three additional faculty in fall 2007, including:

Thomas W. Gallant (Ph.D., Cambridge University, 1982) will join the department this fall, and pending approval by the UC Regents, as the newly appointed Nicholas Family Endowed Chair in Modern Greek History. Gallant has interests in rural society and culture, crime and violence, masculinity and gender, cultural identity, colonial power and government, and the social history of the Mediterranean.


Mark Hanna (Ph.D., Harvard University, 2006) is a specialist in early American history, with an emphasis on the Atlantic World, and early modern European history.

In addition, several new staff have joined the department or have been promoted to new positions this year, including:

Betty Gunderson joined the department last fall as the new Student Affairs Manager and oversees both graduate and undergraduate programs. Previously, Betty worked as the Undergraduate Student Affairs Manager for the Department of Psychology.

Kinuko Kanda is the new Japanese Studies Program Coordinator. Kinuko is a UCSD graduate from the Political Science Department and previously worked in the corporate sector.

Nadyne Nawar was recently promoted to the position of Graduate Student Affairs Officer. Previously Nadyne was our student affairs assistant.

Gail Parish was recently hired as the new Department Fiscal Officer. Gail comes to History from the Department of Bioengineering where she was a Fund Manager for several years.

Danielle Swenson is our new Assistant Undergraduate Student Affairs Officer. Previously, Danielle was our Main Officer Manager.

and Farewell to…

The Department bids farewell to three long-time members of the History Department.

Prof. Michael Bernstein has accepted a position at Tulane University as Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost.

Angie Finnerty has recently accepted a position as Senior Administrative Analyst in the Bioengineering Department at UCSD. Angie served as the Department of History’s Fiscal Officer for seventeen years and will be greatly missed!

Jeannette Ibarra, the program coordinator for the Japanese Studies Program, is leaving the university to pursue an MFA Degree at San Diego State this fall.
**Faculty News**

**Frank Biess** recently co-edited a book (together with Mark Roseman and Hanna Schissler) *Conflict, Catastrophe, and Continuity. Essays in Modern German History* (New York: Berghahn Books, 2007). He also co-authored the introduction (together with Mark Roseman) and contributed an article on "The Search for Missing Soldiers: MIAs, POWs, and Ordinary Germans, 1943-45." Biess also received an Alexander von Humboldt Foundation Research Fellowship for 2007/08 and part of 2008/09.

**Robert Edelman** was a 2006-07 recipient of the prestigious Guggenheim Fellowship.

**Joseph W. Esherick** recently co-edited volumes on *Empire to Nation: Historical Perspectives on the Making of the Modern World* (Roman and Littlefield, 2006), with Hasan Kayali and Eric Van Young. This project brought together UCSD history faculty from three field groups. Esherick also co-edited volumes on *The Cultural Revolution in Historical Perspective* (Stanford University Press, 2006) with Paul Pickowicz and Andrew Walder. This volume includes chapters by UCSD Chinese History graduate students Xiaowei Zheng, Dahpon David Ho, Jeremy Brown, Sigrid Schmalzer and Elya J. Zhang. In addition, Esherick co-edited volumes on *Empire, Nation, and Beyond: Chinese History in Late Imperial and Modern Times - A Festschrift in Honor of Frederic Wakeman* (Berkeley: Institute of East Asian Studies, 2006), with Wen-Hsin Yeh and Madeleine Zelin.

**David Goodblatt**’s recent book *Elements of Ancient Jewish Nationalism* (Cambridge University Press) will be the subject of a panel at the Society of Biblical Literature International Conference this summer in Vienna. Also published was Volume IV of the *Cambridge History of Judaism* containing three contributions by Goodblatt.

**Deborah Hertz**’s new book *How Jews Became Germans: The History of Conversion and Assimilation in Berlin* is due out with Yale University Press in November. Hertz gave two Scholar-in-residence weekends, at Temple Beth Am in Seattle and at Temple of Aaron in St. Paul, Minnesota. She also gave local talks at the San Diego Jewish Film Festival, the Jewish Book Fair, for the Agency for Jewish Education at the Coronado Library, and in the series on Religion and Violence for the UCSD Center for Humanities.

**David Luft** is writing a book on *The Austrian Tradition in German Culture: An Intellectual History* and working on a translation edition of Hugo von Hofmannsthal’s essays: *Hofmannsthal and the Austrian Idea. “Austrian Intellectual History and Bohemia” (The Austrian History Yearbook)* and “Cultural Memory and Intellectual History: Locating Austrian Literature” (Gender, History, and Memory) are about to appear, and “Das Intellektuelle Leben Österreichs in seiner Beziehung zur deutschen Sprache und der Modernen Kultur” was published electronically by the Center for Austrian Studies last fall. “Thinking about Sexuality and Gender in Vienna” also appeared in *Sexuality in Austria*, as did two articles in the *Encyclopedia of Europe: 1789-1914*, ed. John Merriman and Jay Winter.

**David Noel Freedman**’s new book, *What Are the Dead Sea Scrolls and Why Do They Matter?*, which he co-authored with Dr. Pam Fox Kuhlken, was published in March 2007. He has also edited several books which have just appeared or will soon appear in print including: *Exodus 19-40* by William H. C. Propp (2006), *No Ordinary Angel* by Susan Garrett (forthcoming), and *Mark 9-16* by Joel Marcus (forthcoming).
Naomi Oreskes has been active in a number of projects related to the scientific basis for our understanding of anthropogenic climate change. Her work on the scientific consensus on global warming has been featured in the documentary film, 'An Inconvenient Truth', and it continues to be quoted by former Vice President Al Gore as he presents slide shows on global warming across the country. Oreskes has published Op-Ed pieces in major national newspapers (Washington Post, Los Angeles Times, and San Francisco Chronicle) and has been extensively interviewed by reporters from The New York Times, Washington Post, USA Today, Seattle Times, San Diego Union Tribune, Parade, and many others. In December 2006, Oreskes testified at the “Climate Change and the Media” hearing of the U.S. Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works.

Michael Parrish spent the past academic year in Finland as the Fulbright Bicentennial Professor of American Studies at Helsinki University and its Renvall Institute. In addition to teaching courses at the University and its law school on legal and constitutional history, he lectured at the University of Turku in Finland, the University of Uppsala in Sweden, and the University of Tartu in Estonia. He also lectured before the Supreme Court of Finland on the history of Supreme Court nominations and confirmations in the United States.

Paul G. Pickowicz was promoted to Distinguished Professor and named the inaugural holder of the UCSD Endowed Chair in Modern Chinese History. His most recent publications include Revolution, Resistance and Reform in Village China (coauthor, Yale, 2005), The Chinese Cultural Revolution as History (coeditor, Stanford, 2006), and From Underground to Independent: Alternative Film Culture in Contemporary China (coeditor, Roman and Littlefield, 2006). Recent articles include "Social and Political Dynamics of Underground Filmmaking in China," (in From Underground to Independent, 2006), "Zheng Junli, Complicity, and the Cultural History of Socialist China, 1949-1976" (The China Quarterly, London, Dec. 2006), "Chunjiang yihen de shishi feifei yu lunxian shiqi de Zhongguo dianying" [Never-ending Controversies: The Case of Remorse in Shanghai and Occupation Era Chinese Filmmaking] (Wenyi yanjiu [Literature and Art Research], Beijing, Jan. 2007), and "From Yao Wenyan to Cui Zi’en: Film, History, and Memory," (Journal of Chinese Cinemas, vol. 1, United Kingdom, 2007). In Fall Quarter 2006 he was Distinguished Visiting Scholar at the University of Oxford.

Rebecca Plant has been named a recipient of the 2007-08 Hellman Faculty Fellows Award. Funded by Chris and Warren Hellman, the Hellman Faculty Fellows Awards are given to support the research and creative activities of promising assistant professors that show capacity for great distinction in their work.

William H.C. Propp was recently appointed to the newly created Harriet and Louis Bookheim Endowed Chair in Biblical Hebrew and Related Languages at UCSD. In addition, Propp recently published Exodus 19-40 (Doubleday), concluding his two-volume commentary begun in 1987.

Sarah Schneewind’s second book, A Tale of Two Melons: Emperor and Subject in Ming China, was published in September 2006 by Hackett Publishers. In addition, Schneewind has been awarded a UC Presidents Fellowship for research on a new project on public opinion in the Ming for next year.

Eric Van Young has been named Interim Dean of Arts and Humanities at UCSD. In addition, Van Young continues his archival research for a biography of Lucas Alaman; Van Young has also published the following books: La otra rebelion: La lucha por la independencia de Mexico, 1810-1821 (Mexico City: Fondo de Cultura Economica, 2006); co-edited, with Susan Deans-Smith Mexican Soundings: Essays in Honour of David A. Brading (London: Institute for the Study of the Americas, University of London, 2007); co-edited, with Joseph Esherick and Hasan Kayali, Empire to Nation: Historical Perspectives on the Making of the Modern World (Lanham, Md.: Rowmand and Littlefield, 2006).
**Ricardo Fagoaga Hernández** was awarded a 2007 UC MEXUS dissertation research grant for his project, "'En medio de una y otra América': Regions, markets and indigenous economic participation in Guatemala and Chiapas, 1750-1850." Ricardo has also been awarded a Bancroft Library Summer Fellowship to do research in the Bancroft's collections at UC Berkeley.

**Dahpon Ho** was awarded Fulbright IIE fellowship funding for dissertation research in China in 2007-08. Dahpon’s dissertation is entitled "The Empire's Scorched Shores: From Coastal Evacuation to Maritime Reconstruction in Seventeenth-Century China."

**Miriam Gross** was recently awarded 3 fellowships, including the Social Science Research Council International Dissertation Research Fellowship, the Fulbright IIE Fellowship, and the UC Pacific Rim Dissertation Fellowship. Miriam’s thesis is entitled "Chasing Snails: Scientific Consolidation in China's Anti-Schistosomiasis Campaigns."

**Susanne Hillman** was awarded a 2007-08 research fellowship from the UCSD Center for the Humanities.

**Ellen Huang** was awarded Fulbright IIE fellowship funding for dissertation research in China. Ellen’s dissertation is entitled "China's China: Jingdezhen Porcelain and the Production of Culture in the Nineteenth Century."

**Christian Gonzales** was awarded a 2007-08 research fellowship from the UCSD Center for the Humanities.

**Justin Jacobs** has been awarded a multi-year Jacob Javits Fellowship. His first-year research project is titled "Confronting Indiana Jones: The Chinese Conquest of Sir Aurel Stein and the Raiders of Dunhuang, 1900-1944." He has also had an article accepted and forthcoming later this year in the Journal of Asian Studies, the premier journal in the Asian field, entitled "How Chinese Turkestan Became Chinese: Visualizing Zhang Zhizhong's Tianshan Pictorial and Xinjiang Youth Song and Dance Troupe."

**Ben Jordan** has accepted a Visiting Instructor position at Kenyon College in Ohio for the 2007-08 academic year and plans to defend his dissertation in fall 2007.

**Miguel La Serna** was awarded a UCSD Presidents Dissertation Year Diversity Fellowship as well as fellowships from the Guggenheim Foundation and the Ford Foundation. Miguel’s dissertation title is "The Corner of the Living: Local Power Relations and Indigenous Perceptions in Ayacucho, Peru, 1940-1985."

**Lorena Marquez** was awarded a research fellowship from the Center for the Study of Race and Ethnicity.

**Minakshi Menon** has been named a recipient of the Frieda Daum Urey Endowed Fellowship.

**Stephanie Moore** was awarded a research fellowship from the Center for the Study of Race and Ethnicity.

**Jeremy Murray** has been awarded a University of California Pacific Rim Research Program Fellowship to do dissertation research in China in 2007-08. Jeremy's dissertation topic is "Hainan's Culture of Resistance in Twentieth-Century China."

**Nick Saenz** will serve as the 2007-08 Graduate Student Association Vice-President/Academic.

**Matt Shindell** was awarded a Friends of the International Center Scholarship for 2007-08.

**George Solt** was awarded a 2007-08 Transborder Interventions, Transcontinental Archives Fellowship from the UCSD Center for the Humanities.

**Barbara Zepeda Cortés** was awarded a 2007 UC MEXUS dissertation research grant for her project, "Empire, reform and corruption: José de Galvez and political culture in Bourbon, Mexico, 1759-1787."

**Ryan Zroka** was awarded a pre-dissertation grant from the Institute of European Studies at UC Berkeley. Ryan will be researching in Germany this summer and explore archival sources for his dissertation topic on the German defeat in 1918.
Graduate Students Awarded Degrees in 2006-07

Ph.D. Degrees

Mary Carmel Finley (History of Science/Science Studies)
Thesis: The Tragedy of Enclosure: Fish, Fisheries Science, and Foreign Policy, 1920-1960

Christian A. Hess (Chinese History)
Thesis: From Colonial Jewel to Socialist Metropolis: Dalian, 1895-1955

Kevin Ingram (European History)

Derek Jensen (History of Science/Science Studies)
Thesis: The Science of the Stars in Danzig from Rheticus to Hevelius

David R. Miano (Ancient History)
Thesis: Shadow on the Steps: Time Measurement in Ancient Israel

David Miller (United States History)
Thesis: Heroes of American Empire: John C. Frémont, Kit Carson, and the Culture of Imperialism, 1842-1898

Donald Wallace (European History)

M.A. Degrees

David Beaudreau    Viera Crosignani
Cristina Carney    Amy Edwards    Chiori Goto

Chair’s Column

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All specializations in all fields and time periods broaden our horizons and initiate us into a complex world beyond our own. The illustration above is from the French artist Jean-Baptiste Debret, who visited Rio between 1816 and 1831. It depicts capoeira—a dance, a kind of game, a Brazilian cultural and musical art, and a martial art, which is still practiced in Brazil today. Its origins are uncertain, but like all games, its rules provide an entry into the structure and thought of society. That kind of understanding of human societies and their change over time is what we historians study and teach. We welcome the diversity and comparative knowledge that comes from our colleagues who study societies and cultures from Ancient Mesopotamia to modern Los Angeles, from the Mexican revolution to the Syrian revolt, from African consumerism in urban Zanzibar to the rise of the market in the post-Cold War Balkans or in contemporary China.

The Department continues to have strong graduate programs in the history of the Ancient Near East, East Asia, Europe, Latin America, Science, and the United States. As we continue to build in these current programs, we hope to be developing future fields in the Middle East and Africa. A recent review of our undergraduate program confirmed the strong teaching profile of the Department and the involvement of many colleagues in UCSD’s college programs.

I hope that you find the information in the newsletter of interest about past, present, and future people and events. We wish not only to remember what we’ve been doing, but to engage alumni and friends in the continuing intellectual mission of the Department. All of us welcome hearing from former students and members of the community to help make us better at what we do.

Let me invite you to support some of the Department’s continuing initiatives: the Rappaport Fund for the Best Undergraduate Honor’s Thesis, the Hughes Fund for the Best Graduate Student Research Seminar Paper, and the Galbraith Fund to support faculty and student research projects. Contributions made out to the UC San Diego Foundation or the UC Regents and sent to the Department Chair are greatly appreciated and assist us in continuing to deliver the high quality education for which the Department is known.

John Marino, Chair

Alumni News

Volker Janssen (Ph.D., 2006), an Assistant Professor at Cal State-Fullerton, has received a two-year postdoctoral fellowship at the Huntington-USC Institute on California and the West. His project, based on his doctoral dissertation, is: “Convict Labor, Civic Welfare: Rehabilitation in California’s Prisons: 1941-1971.”

John Putman (Ph.D., 2000) has been promoted to tenured rank (Associate Professor) at San Diego State University. He is a specialist on western U.S. and modern U.S. history.

Ken Serbin (Ph.D., 1993), a professor of Latin American History at the University of San Diego, was recently awarded a fellowship from The American Council of Learned Societies.
What History Professors Read…

Prof. Joseph Esherick recently finished the new Oppenheimer biography -- *American Prometheus: The Triumph and Tragedy of J. Robert Oppenheimer* by Kai Bird and Martin J. Sherwin, which he claimed was an “excellent read.” And what is a good book about China for non-specialists? Esherick suggests, *Oracle Bones: A Journey Between China’s Past and Present*, by Peter Hessler.

Prof. Frank Biess suggests *The Kite Runner* by Khaled Hosseini, Zadie Smith’s *On Beauty*, and *The Lay of the Land* by Richard Ford. Two suggestions for novels from the German context and among Biess’s favorites are *The Magic Mountain* by Thomas Mann, and Uwe Johnson’s *Anniversaries. From the Life of Gesine Cresspahl*. Biess also suggests these history books: Mark Mazower’s, *Dark Continent. Europe’s Twentieth Century*, and Saul Friedlaender’s, *Nazi Germany and the Jews, Vols. 1 and 2*.

Prof. Christine Hunefeldt is reading “tons of books on Atlantic History,” many of which are publications that were considered for the 2006 Wesley-Logan Prize. The Wesley-Logan Prize is jointly sponsored by the American Historical Association and the Association for the Study of African American Life & History for an outstanding book on some aspect of the history of the dispersion, settlement, and adjustment, and the return of peoples originally from Africa. For a list of books, view: http://www.historians.org/prizes/AWARDED/WesleyLoganWinner.htm

Prof. Deborah Hertz is currently reading Daniel Mendelsohn’s *The Lost* and recently finished *The World To Come*, a novel by Dara Horn. For history books, she is surveying Niall Ferguson’s corpus.

Prof. Cynthia Truant has been reading French plays from the early 18th century, Marivaux in particular. The La Jolla Playhouse is doing a production/adaptation of Marivaux's *La Fausse Suivante*, which they call "The Deception," and Truant will be on a panel on their "Discovery Sunday" program where she will discuss Marivaux's life and times and a bit about this play --so she has also been reading more books on servants and masters and the portrayal of servants in literature. Truant has also been reading a book proposal about Beaumarchais, from the pre-Revolution to the Revolution, and has been reading some articles/books on Beaumarchais. Otherwise her reading really relates to her work, e.g., Mary Sherriff, *The Exceptional Woman* (on the life of Marie-Antoinette's court painter and great portraitist in general, Elisabeth Vigée Le Brun), and Laura Lee Downs's, *Writing Gender History*.

Prof. Eric Van Young has been reading, *Einstein: His Life and Times*, by Walter Isaacson; *The Rise of American Democracy*, by Sean Wilentz; *The Shadow of the Wind*, by Carlos Ruiz Zafon, and *The Road*, by Cormac McCarthy.