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Fall 2006

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History

Department of

Newsletter

A Resource for Majors, Minors, and Alumni.

Fall 2006

From the Editor

Many thanks to readers who extended kind words about the first issue of the History Department Newsletter! We're excited to be able to provide this medium as a way of connecting us with what is going on in the broader world of historical studies and, even more importantly, with each other. Please think of this publication as *yours*. We invite your feedback!

I'm happy to report that the History Department continues to undergo profound positive change. As part of the unfolding of Sacred Heart University's new Core Curriculum, this year we have begun to pilot Core Curriculum 101, a dramatic and exciting overhaul of our HI101 Civilizations. This new course presents the Western tradition up through the Renaissance, now complete with treatment of the Roman Republic, the Roman Empire, and the Middle Ages. As a counterpoint to the West, about a fourth of the course is devoted to ancient China.

Given the Core Curriculum's attention to the classical and Catholic traditions, we have for several years now felt the need for a specialist in these topics. We are pleased to announce that a search is currently underway for a new faculty member in Classics, hopefully to begin Fall semester 2007!

As part of the development of this new course, we have also gone to considerable lengths to bring our department's adjunct instructors into a more vital relationship with the rest of the department. Hopefully you have noticed their welcome presence on campus, attending events, presenting their scholarship, and adding greatly to our university life. We are deeply grateful for their hard work and service to our department.

At the other end of the undergraduate History experience, we have also been working to make the Senior Thesis a more rewarding (*and less stressful!*) experience for our majors. Now, rather than choosing

a topic during one's senior year and then frantically trying to research and write in the course of a few short months, topics are chosen at the end of HI201 (Historical Methods and Criticism), normally taken at the beginning of one's junior year. We've also added a one-credit Information Literacy requirement, in which extraordinarily helpful Amy Mackie of the Ryan-Matura Library assists students in, among other things, tracking down the appropriate sources. Added all up, we now have a streamlined process, which will serve to demystify and simplify the Senior Thesis, while simultaneously improving the final product. It's all good.

An important administrative detail: If you'd like to help us keep our costs down (making future issues of this Newsletter possible), please send your email address to bademanr@sacredheart.edu and we'll send you the pdf version (with enabled hyperlinks). Happy reading!

—R. Bryan Bademan

Student News

Please congratulate the winners of our departmental awards. **Michael Matri** won the 2005-2006 Eby Memorial Scholarship; **Michelle Baillargeon** won the Graduating Senior Medal of Excellence; and **Marianne McGee** won the Graduating Senior Certificate of Excellence.

Also congratulate **Matthew Reardon** for winning a URI Grant from the College of Arts and Sciences for the summer of 2006. The grant covered all expenses for a research trip to the Gettysburg National Military Park.

Lauren DellaVolpe received a summer internship with the United States Secret Service in White Plains, NY, which allowed her to work in counterfeit money detection for the New York and Connecticut areas. She was also able to travel and meet select high-level officials. Lauren will continue

her employment with the Secret Service as a Student Assistant in January.

Jared Blaso, Sara Coro, and Paul Ruvo are serving as History Department Work Studies. Thanks for your hard work!



From L to R: Louis D'Amarino, Katelyn Botsford, William Geddish, Michelle Baillargeon, Marianne McGee, and Michael Matri at the Annual Phi Alpha Theta Dinner last April.

The History Club was reestablished at Sacred Heart last February. Led by president **Mariel Palombo**, vice president **Lauren Daniels**, secretary **Amanda McLaughlin**, treasurer **A'lyse Thomas**, and CCO board representative **Leslie Pinto**, the club meets on either Tuesday or Wednesday nights at 10:10. Recently, it has helped to sponsor the History Department Cookout and the Major's Orientation. Upcoming events include a game night featuring American History Monopoly, a movie night, and a trip to the Cloisters in New York City. Look for upcoming emails and feel free to contact any of the club officers for more information.

Announcements

The Center for Catholic Thought, Ethics, and Culture (CCTEC) is sponsoring a freshman trip to the National Museum of Catholic Art and History on November 7, 9:30 am-2:00 pm. Private tour! Transportation is free! Contact June-Ann Greeley (greeleyj@sacredheart.edu) for more information.

Alumni News

(Note: We'd love to hear from you, whenever you are. Please write in and give us an update!)

Michelle Baillargeon ('06) won First Prize in the 2005-2006 Communications Across the Curriculum Interdisciplinary Writing Contest for her paper, "Mudang Exposed: An Explanation of Female Dominance in Korean Shamanism." Michelle has commenced graduate studies at the College of William and Mary. **Michael Galvin** ('05) received a scholarship to pursue a M.A. in Public Administration from the University of Southern California in Los Angeles. **Will Geddish** (History Minor, '06) was accepted to Hofstra University School of Law in Hempstead, NY. **Sylvester Kaar** ('05) was accepted at the New College of California School of Law in San Francisco.

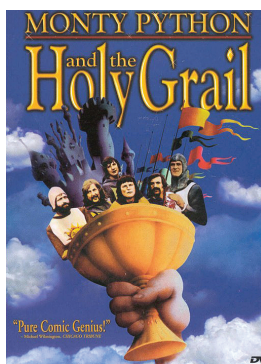
Kurt McCloud ('06) took a job working for Amica Mutual Insurance in Roslindale, MA. **Karen Oliva** ('04) started teaching Social Studies at her hometown school, East Hampton High. **Sword C. Shaw** ('05) is spending a year in Japan teaching English.

Department News

Congratulations go to Dr. Tom Curran for winning Sacred Heart University's annual Scholarly Achievement Award for his book, *Educational Reform in Republican China: The Failure of Educators to Create a Modern Nation* (Edwin Mellen Press, 2005).

This fall, SHU is offering its semester-long **Center for Medieval Studies** under the directorship of Dr. John Roney. In addition to eight courses offered on medieval topics in History, Music, Philosophy, and English and Spanish Literature, there are a number of upcoming special events on medieval themes, including the following medieval film schedule:

- 10/22: "The Fellowship of the Ring" (3:00 pm HC202)
- 10/24: "Kingdom of Heaven" (7:30 pm UC106)
- 10/27: "Fratello sole, sorella luna" ("Brother Sun, Sister Moon") (12:15 pm UC 109)



- 11/8: "Monty Python and the Holy Grail" (7:30 pm UC106)
- 11/12: "Lion in Winter" (3:00 pm HC202)
- 11/13: "The Passion of Joan of Arc" (7:30 pm UC109)
- 11/28: "Destiny" (7:30 pm UC 106)
- 11/29: "Man for All Seasons" (7:30 pm UC106)
- 12/5: "The Messenger: The Story of Joan of Arc" (7:30 pm UC106)

Several field trips are also planned, including a trip to the Cloisters in NYC, a reconstructed medieval monastery with world-renowned art, chapels, herb gardens, and sculpture. The last great event of the Fall Semester will be a Medieval Feast on Friday, December 8 at 5:30 p.m. in the Mahogany Room dining hall. All these co-curricular events are open to all students and alumni. Please come join us! Contact Dr. Roney for more details (roneyj@sacredheart.edu).

On October 18, the History Club and the History Department sponsored our first annual **Cookout on the Quad**. About 100 students stopped by for free hotdogs and hamburgers (and, of course, to hear about our major!).

Study Abroad in Leiden, the birthplace of Rembrandt van Rijn and the first university in the Netherlands! This past summer nine Sacred Heart students accompanied Dr. John Roney to the city of Leiden in the Netherlands. The four-week program offered a variety of courses, and for the first two weeks all the students were joined by another 10 students from Leiden following a course offered by Dr. Roney: "Creating a Land of Their Own: the Netherlands in the Golden Age and Beyond." In addition to class lectures and discussions the class went on a field trip to the oldest windmills in Holland, "Kinderdijk," where more than a dozen windmills are still preserved. The trip then visited one of the biggest flood control projects in the world, the Delta Works.

The second two weeks students took a second course of study as well. Another exciting field trip was to the World Court in The Hague where the class went to spe-

cial trials of the former Yugoslavian war and saw several Serbian generals on trial. One could understand the often-repeated phrase that this is the cross-roads of Europe.

In addition to course work students lived in apartments on a canal where there were house boats and water travel; it was only a short distance from the old center of town. Leiden is very old, and the main street was once a Roman road following the Rhine River to the sea. An added bonus was that the World Cup soccer [Voetball] games were on during this time, and all the students could not believe the revelry and excitement in the streets and cafes as they watched Holland and other favorite teams compete. Leiden is also central to other cities in the Netherlands: for example, it is only 20 minutes by train to the airport (with a station directly under the building), 25 minutes to Amsterdam, 7 minutes to The Hague. Students also traveled on long-weekends to Brussels, London, Paris, and Cologne. There was so much excitement that it hard to convince many of the students to board the plane and leave. Keep an eye open for future trips!

SHU Continues to Participate in Stratford School District's Teaching American History Grant: Stratford has been awarded a grant of \$1 million to strengthen the teaching of American history. Working closely with the Gilder Lehrman Center for the Study of Slavery, Resistance, and Abolition at Yale University, Professors Bademan, McLaughlin, and Siff from the History Department are teaching graduate courses to Stratford teachers in conjunction with SHU's Department of Education.

Recent Faculty Publications

R. Bryan Bademan, "The Edwards of History and the Edwards of Faith" *34 Reviews in American History* (June 2006): 131-149.

Opportunities

The **Undergraduate Research Award** program through the College of Arts and Sciences is now taking applications for Summer 2007 research proposals. Stipends for \$500-\$1,500 will be awarded. Successful applicants will present their work in April at the A&S Undergraduate Research Poster Session. Interested students should contact Prof. Bademan for application materials.

The History Department is proud to be affiliated with **Phi Alpha Theta**, the prestigious national history honor society. Our chapter, Phi-Iota, was chartered in 1974 and over the years has been actively involved in a variety of history-related activities. It invites and encourages all qualified students to become members. The membership criteria are an overall GPA of at least 3.2 and at least 12 credit hours (normally four courses) in history with an achieved GPA of at least 3.4. There is a one-time initiation fee of \$40.00 to the national organization, which insures a life-time membership, and students may join at any time. Our chapter holds an annual initiation ceremony for new members each spring. Phi Alpha Theta publishes *The Historian*, a quarterly journal that features original scholarship by P.A.T. members. Additionally, the honor society hosts a conference each year in Connecticut, at which students may present their work. All interested students should contact Dr. Paul Siff (siffp@sacredheart.edu), Phi-Iota's faculty advisor.

The **History News Network**, based at George Mason University, continues to seek unpaid interns. You can work from home. For details, see hnn.us/articles/982.html#intern.

Attention juniors! The **Society for Historians of the Early American Republic** announces its Mellon Summer Seminar Program, with funding (\$2000) for three weeks of study in Philadelphia in preparation for a senior thesis on some aspect of American history, 1776-1860. Application deadline is 2/15. For details, see www.shear.org/mellon.htm.

The **Gilder Lehrman History Scholars Program** is a competitive summer scholarship program in American history for outstanding college sophomores and juniors. The program, based in New York City, has been designed to both reward undergraduates who have demonstrated superb research and writing skills in the field of American history. The 2007 Gilder Lehrman History Scholars Program will run from June 24-July 28. For details on how to apply see www.gilderlehrman.org/teachers/student2.html.



The Darien Historical Society

The Department of History has built a collaborative relationship with the **Darien Historical Society**. The Society maintains a collection of artifacts dating to the early 18th century, and offers 3-credit internships for SHU students. For details, see Prof. McLaughlin or Dr. Curran.

The **Fairfield Historical Society** is looking for undergraduate interns from universities and colleges. A unique opportunity to learn how museums function and how local history gets preserved, an internship provides both structure and creative freedom. If you are interested in applying, email the Society at elaron@fairfieldhs.org. For details see www.fairfieldhistoricalsociety.org/-programs.html.

Authors wishing to submit original manuscripts for publication in the journal *Massachusetts Historical Review* should submit work by letter or email to the MHR editors. For details, see www.masshist.org/periodicals/mhr.cfm.

Authors wishing to submit original manuscripts for publication in the journal *Connecticut History* should contact the editor. For submission guidelines, see asch.ccsu.edu/CTHistory.htm.

Upcoming Conferences

(Note: A "call for papers" means that there is still time to submit a paper proposal for presentation at the conference!)

The **Gilder Lehrman Center** will be holding their Eighth Annual International Conference on November 2-4, 2006, at the Whitney Humanities Center Auditorium at Yale. The conference's topic is "Slavery & Public History: An International Symposium." For details and to register online, see www.yale.edu/glc/publichistory/index.htm/.

The Association for the Study of Connecticut History is sponsoring a conference on "Insiders and Outsiders: Ethnicity, Immigration, and Status in Connecticut," at Manchester Community College. For details, email Prof. Yang at gyang@mcc.commnet.edu.

The **World History Network**, an affiliate of the World History Association, is holding a conference on "Research in World History: Connections and Globalizations." It will be held in Boston at the John Hancock Conference Center on November 10-12, 2006. For details, see www.worldhistorynetwork.org.

The 2006 **North American Conference on British Studies** annual conference will be held in conjunction with the **North East Conference on British Studies** in Boston, November 17-19, 2006. For details, see www.nacbs.org.

The **American Academy of Religion** will be holding its annual conference on November 18-21, 2006, in Washington DC. For details see www.aarweb.org.

The **American Historical Association** will be holding their 121st Annual Meeting on January 4-7, 2007, in Atlanta Georgia. For details see The Professional Association for all Historians website at www.historians.org.

The **American Culture Association** will be holding its 2007 conference in Boston, from April 4-7. Call for papers expires 11/7/06. For details, see www.popularculture.org.

The **American Literature Association Conference** will be having their 18th Annual Conference on May 24-27, 2007, in Boston. The conference theme is "Americanizing Faith, Scripture, and Iconography." Call for papers expires 12/15/06. For details see www.arlshome.org.

The **Harriet Beecher Stowe Center** and the "Uncle Tom's Cabin & American Culture" project at the **University of Virginia** are hosting a conference from June 1-2, 2007, in Hartford, CT. The presentations will address the larger meanings of Uncle Tom's Cabin in many media and over many periods of America's cultural history. For details see www.HarrietBeecherStowe.org.

The New York State Historical Association and the Archives Partnership Trust are hosting a conference on New York State History on June 7-9, 2007, in Cooperstown, NY. They have released a call for papers on all aspects of New York history. For more details, contact Field Horne, Conference on New York State History, Box 215, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866; or email conference@nyhistory.net.

The Annual Meeting of the Society for Historians of the Early American Republic will be held July 19-22, 2007, in Worcester, MA. Call for papers expires 12/1/06. For more details, see www.shear.org/2007AM.htm.

The McNeil Center for Early American Studies and the Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture, in cooperation with the School of Arts and Sciences of the Catholic University of America, will hold a conference in Philadelphia September 18-20, 2008, on the uses of anti-papery in the early modern world. Call for papers expires 9/15/07. For details, see www.mceas.org/anti-papery/.

Yale University and the Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture will sponsor a conference on "Religion and Violence in Early America," on April 10-13, 2008, at Yale.

The Conference on Faith and History, an affiliate organization of the American Historical Association, will be holding their biennial conference in September 2008 at Bluffton University in Ohio. For details, see www.huntington.edu/cfh/.

We'd like to make this Newsletter more useful to you! Send your comments, suggestions, and announcements to Dr. Bryan Bademan at bademanr@sacredheart.edu. Put "History News" in the subject heading.

Please support future newsletter mailings and other History Department activities.

Your tax-free contributions will be gratefully accepted.

**Send checks (payable to SHU) to SHU Department of History, Thomas D. Curran, Chair,
5151 Park Ave., Fairfield, CT 06825.**

THE SACRED HEART UNIVERSITY HISTORY DEPARTMENT

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