

California State University, Fullerton

Footnotes

The Newsletter for the Department of History



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Footnotes

Department of History

A Letter from the Chair

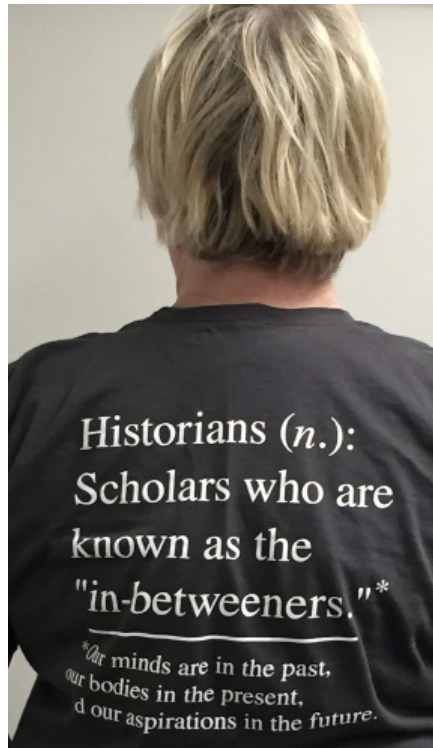
Now that we are at the end of the Spring 2016 semester, it is time to reflect on the History Department's exciting year. I don't normally like to turn my back on people, but I wanted to model the History Student Association's new t-shirt. Not only do I like the shirt, I believe that our students came up with a wonderful way of describing what it is that we as historians do and are. We are scholars who are "in-betweeners." "Our minds are in the past, our bodies in the present, and our aspirations in the future."

"Our minds are in the past." But our past is infinitely large, especially when you consider the work Jonathan Markley has done to popularize "Big History," that starts out with the "big bang." Our students and faculty study various aspects of the past from different regions and cultures from around the world. Professor Mikhail published an article on the early Christian Church, especially in Egypt, while Professors Rostam-Kolayi and Natalie Fousekis are focusing on more contemporary topics related to the Peace Corps and regional women's activism, respectively in the twentieth century. Similarly, M.A. student Gelu Pacurar completed a thesis based on Ibn Khaldun's *Muqaddimah*, while other M.A. students have been involved in various public and oral history projects related to more contemporary US history. This is just scratching the surface of the talent and excitement that takes place in the History Department. We are a large department with faculty specializing in many periods of

history. We are from around the world and study the world. Students who come to CSUF, thus, have many opportunities to work closely with talented faculty, engage in internship opportunities, and experience a truly global educational experience.

"Our bodies [are] in the present." We experience history as historians in multiple professional venues. Our students present papers at professional conferences and share an active social life with other students in our various social gatherings. Our Phi Alpha Theta--History Honor Society--chapter and our student produced journal, *The Wela-baethan*, are the envy of students and faculty in much larger and more prestigious universities from across the country. We also engage students in our classes. To show you something other than my back, I am including a photo of myself in a 1920s vintage biplane. I have a strong belief in visiting the places I have

studied to develop a sense of place, not simply to look for documents in archives [though that is certainly important]. My interest in taking to the air in a biplane was in part sparked by the wonderful work of undergraduate Sean Buchanan, who completed a fascinating and well-researched senior paper on "Hell Above Earth: A Critique of Romanticism and Aviation in the First Air War." Being in the present also means working with our students to help them to achieve their dreams of graduation. At the same time, I believe it means learning what we can from them to enrich our own studies and lives.



Historians are those individuals known as the "in-betweeners."

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“Our aspirations [are] in the future.” For students, perhaps, the most important aspiration is to graduate and find a job, but for many of us, studying the past involves recovering lost voices—of Holocaust survivors, Korean comfort women, etc.—to energize those who have been marginalized in more traditional histories. Our public historians have been especially involved in projects that work across generations like those of Drs. Margie Brown-Coronel and Natalie Fousekis, which are exploring Latinas “taking a stand” and other women who have been and continue to be inspiring activists for political change beneficial to women in our region. History changes, often dramatically, almost every day. Our work is not simply about memorizing facts from the past. Rather, we are about interacting with students, not only to help them fulfill their goals, but to bring our collective work together in the community to make this a better place to live.

On a final note, I want to express our thanks and say good-bye to two of our lecturers who retired and to Lynne Azar, our graduate coordinator, who has left us for Colorado. After receiving his Ph.D. from Wayne State University in 1963, Carmon Hardy joined the History Department as a full-time tenure-track faculty member in 1966, retired as a Full Professor in 1998, and has continued to teach for us as a lecturer until he retired again this summer. In his long career at CSUF, Professor Hardy served as History Department Chair from 1969-1972 and published six books and document collections. His publishing career also included multiple articles including two which won best article awards. Carmon Hardy was always an extremely dedicated teacher and won several Department and University awards for his work teaching and mentoring students. Susanne “Susie” Gaskins has been associated with the History Department since the early 1980s. After receiving her BA and MA from CSUF, she earned her Ph.D. from UC Riverside then rejoined us as a lecturer in History in 1990. She has mentored countless students, who have especially enjoyed her classes in World War II and historical methods. Finally, I would like to thank and say goodbye to Lynne Azar, who worked in the Department office for seven years, most recently as Graduate Coordinator, among other tasks. Her caring work helped make the MA experience a better one for our students. Thanks to dedicated professors like Carmon and Susie and our staff like Lynne

our community has thrived. You are all missed!

Best Wishes,

Dr. Nancy Fitch



Dr. Nancy Fitch, Chair of the Department of History, as a vintage pilot.

The Legacy of the Brave : The Welebaethan

For more than three decades, the *Welebaethan* has made a considerable impact on the History Department at California State University, Fullerton (CSUF). The journal received its name in the memory of Dr. Shirley Ann Weleba. She became a faculty member in the department in 1966, specializing in African history. Dr. Weleba passed away suddenly in 1972 before the first issue of the journal went to print. Faculty and students decided to re-title the journal the *Welebaethan* in her memory.

The journal continues to excel after the publication of the first issue. That issue contained five articles that focused on politics and other subjects, but every year things began to rapidly change. By 2015, the journal contained more than twenty-five articles and more than 310 pages focusing on ancient history to Spanish colonialism. Since its inception in the 1970s, the journal has won the Phi Alpha Theta Nash History Journal Award twenty-eight times. The journal owes a great thanks to its students and faculty advisors for all of their work and dedication. The journal is a labor of love that requires a lot of time and dedication from a hard working group. The relationship between the journal and its students is fostered through a classroom environment that is built on trust (and great food)!



The 2016 edition of the journal will mark the 29th annual publication of the *Welebaethan*.

The *Welebaethan* provides a unique opportunity for students to publish their work in an award-winning academic journal. The journal also builds the writing and editing skills of those who take the *Welebaethan* as a class. The students become editors, evaluate submissions, and determine which papers should be accepted into the journal. Once papers have been evaluated by the students, faculty, and the journal's staff, each student editor spends the remainder of the semester working with one author to prepare the paper for publication.

The staff takes pride in the fact that the *Welebaethan* exists as a student-run publication in both content and editing. This provides students with experience in academic publishing and builds their skills of communicating and negotiating with an author with the goal of sharpening the historical argument and clarity of their writing. With high expectations in the classroom come moments of levity as well; food is a staple in the *Welebaethan* classroom. More importantly, the journal allows students to prepare for the future. All of these things would not be possible without the support of the department, faculty, and the journal's current advisor, Dr. Vanessa Ann Gunther.

This is truly the Legacy of the Brave!!

Phi Alpha Theta Initiation Ceremony



The new members of Theta-Pi.

pancakes, while Dr. William Haddad gave a powerful talk entitled “An Ode to Secular Tyrants: Reflections on the History of the Modern Middle East.”

After the stunning keynote address, PAT members started the initiation ceremony with the traditional reading of the “Six Ages” of History. Thirty-six new members joined the ranks of Phi Alpha Theta and became a part of something much bigger—they joined a new family of historians. Guests felt a sense of privilege and honor as the initiates walked up and received their certificates from Dr. Burgtorf and Ben Cartwright. The Theta-Pi chapter grew to 2,031 members on that fateful day.



Jonathan Christensen winning the Major Douglas Amuel La Bouff Memorial Scholarship.

different events and tasks. The *Major Douglas Amuel La Bouff Memorial Scholarship* was awarded to Jonathan Christensen and Andrew Bolinger for their research in military history.

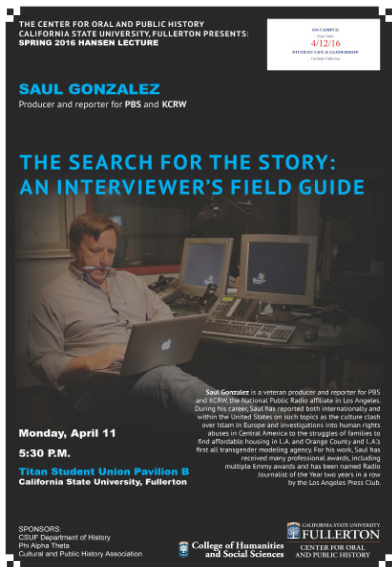
In the spring semester, people look forward to the annual Phi Alpha Theta (PAT) initiation ceremony because it is one of the best events in the academic year. Instead of the traditional lunchtime banquet, we had a brunch on Friday, March 18, 2016 at the Alta Vista Country Club in Placentia. Everyone was dressed to the nines and enjoyed each other’s company, while new members of the organization had the opportunity to meet some familiar faces. People enjoyed a range of breakfast related food items, such as omelets, prime rib, and



Johnathan Lozano winning the advisor’s award.

After we welcomed the new members, Drs. Burgtorf and Gunther honored the 2016 *Welebaethan* staff for their work and dedication to the journal. Members of the managing staff received a certificate to recognize their contributions to PAT and the department. Dr. Burgtorf also presented two awards to some very lucky students. Johnathan Lozano was given the *Advisor’s Award* for his hard work in PAT and assisting Dr. Burgtorf with

Saul Gonzalez and the Hansen Lecture



The 8th Annual Spring Hansen Lecture sponsored by the Center for Oral and Public History and featuring Saul Gonzalez, producer for PBS and KCRW, took place April 11, 2016 at the TSU Pavilion. Gonzalez discussed his early involvement with media production and reporting before landing a much sought after position with the Public Broadcasting Service (PBS). Tackling controversial topics, such as religious activism, military tension across Europe and Korea, as well as migrant labor in the United States, allowed Gonzalez to achieve a bright future as the radio broadcasting chair at KCRW. With brief discussions related to Vietnamese refugees at Camp Pendleton, the 2015 San Bernardino terrorist shootings, and an emotional family story relating to cancer and California's Dying Law, Gonzalez sparked the audience's interest before playing clips of his recently published interviews. In a brief Q & A session, Gonzalez spoke about his journey reporting meaningful stories that greatly impact the community, as well as his thirst for the next story. The personable and, at times, humorous reporter encouraged everyone to communicate with him electronically with any other burning questions and comments. To say the least, the 2016 Hansen Lecture was a glowing success.

History Students at Walt Disney World

by

Arturo De Leon Tell

In January 2016, Phi Alpha Theta (PAT), the national history honor society, hosted its biennial in Orlando, Florida. History students of the Theta Pi chapter represented California State University, Fullerton as well as the Department of History. Each participant presented original research alongside other PAT members across the nation. The gathering consisted of multiple panels that ranged from ancient history to post-modern history and everything in between. Most of the participants are currently graduate students in the department. Likewise, for some, this opportunity marked their first contribution to a professional academic conference. While the thought of presenting one's research in front of historians from all over the U.S. might spark fear, the overall atmosphere dictated otherwise. One of the best aspects of this trip was the fact that it allowed people to see how the instruction and production of history varies per institution throughout the nation. This insight fed into the ever-growing necessity to continue learning different research methods and areas of focus.



Members of Phi Alpha Theta at Disneyworld.

Perhaps one of the most interesting features of the conference was the realization of how much prestige is bestowed upon the department's Theta Pi chapter. Students and faculty advisors from other universities knew of the department's award-winning chapter and student-run journal. The level of reverence did not stop there. Our chapter's advisor, Dr. Jochen Burgtorf, earned the title of National President of the organization on the final evening of the gathering. After the ceremony, Dr. Burgtorf received the illustrious presidential spoon that made his new title official. Without a doubt, this raises the level of caliber for both the Theta Pi chapter as well as the Department of History at CSUF.

The following CSUF history majors who presented included: Tim Barratte, Jessica Buckle, Benjamin Cartwright, Arturo De Leon Tell, Sara Long, Johnathan Lozano, Russell McKinney, Conrad Negron, Madison Pavia-Logan, Dane Royster, and Alexandra Vrsalovich.

Public History Practicum Class Opened New Exhibit at the Heritage Museum of Orange County



Alum Kevin Cabrera, Dr. Brown-Coronel, and Dr. Larry de Graaf at the opening of *Taking a Stand: Legacies of Latina Activism in Southern California*.

Last semester, Professor Margie Brown-Coronel took her 2016 Public History Practicum class out of the classroom and into the public. The class partnered with the Heritage Museum of Orange County in Santa Ana to develop and install an exhibit titled, *Taking a Stand: Legacies of Latina Activism in Southern California*. The exhibit highlighted the activism of four women:



Students with Dr. Ruiz during the project.

Modesta Avila, Louisa Moreno, Emilia Castaneda and Anna Nieto-Gomez. All of the women stood up for their beliefs in various ways and left a lasting legacy of activism in Southern California.

To prepare for the exhibit and tell the story of Latina activism, students had to read scholarly works by leading historians in the field of Latina history and learned about best practices in exhibit development and programming. One challenging assignment was to write labels on Latina activism in 225 words – what a task! They also heard from a series of guest speakers, including documentary film producer Virginia Espino, Professor Christine Valenciana, NPR reporter Saul Gonzalez, and exhibit designer Gail Griswold.

Under the guidance of Dr. Brown-Coronel, students were divided into four teams to execute the exhibit. The curatorial team conducted research at local archives to gather source material for the exhibit. On one visit to the Southern California Library for Social Studies and Research, students Erich Wendt and Victoria Ford had a surprise scholarly encounter with UC, Irvine historian Vicki Ruiz. The design team was in charge of the budget and the list of required materials for design and installation of the exhibit. The education team developed educational materials aligned with the goals of the Museum as well as California Common Core standards. They also created guides for museum docents. The fourth team – the community relations team – created a contact system, website, Facebook page, press releases and other promotional items. Providing a real life experience for the students was the ultimate goal of the Practicum class.



Dr. Christine Valenciana (professor of Education at CSUF) and her mother.

The development of the exhibit allows the students to take what they have been learning throughout their academic career and put theory into practice.

The exhibit was installed by the design team on May 9, 2016. A reception on Tuesday, May 17 was held to launch the exhibit, which was open to the public from May 18 through July 31.

*This Man is On Fire:
Dr. Cawthra's Adventures*



Benjamin Cawthra's article "Duke Ellington's *Jump for Joy* and the Fight for Equality in Wartime Los Angeles" appeared in *Southern California Quarterly's* Spring 2016 issue. The article examines the cultural significance of Ellington's 1941 all-black musical revue and places it in the context of changing Los Angeles demographics and conflicts over civil rights in the months before Pearl Harbor.

Cawthra taught a new course for the University Honors Program this year. Jazz and American Culture, a junior-level seminar in Arts and Humanities, that examined the interplay of jazz with literature (James Baldwin, Eudora Welty, Ralph Ellison), drama (August Wilson), painting (Romare Bearden, Jean-Michel Basquiat), photography (Roy DeCarava, W. Eugene Smith), dance (the Lindy Hop, Savion Glover), and more, while examining the music's history in the context of the African American freedom struggle. Students made presentations on jazz and poetry and researched key jazz-related people, places, and themes for their final projects.

Cawthra continues work on *The Redemptive Lens*, his book project on the image of World War II and postwar Italy in photojournalism and film. He received a 2015-2016 Dean's Research Award for Associate Professors from the College of Humanities and Social Sciences to support his research into the work of *Life* magazine photographers Robert Capa and Margaret Bourke-White during the Italian campaign.

The research informed his United States Cultural History class in Spring 2016, the theme of which was "Italy in the American Imagination," tracing American cultural engagement with Italy over two centuries beginning in 1760. The class read first-hand travel accounts by James Fenimore Cooper, Margaret Fuller, Mark Twain, William Dean Howells, Henry James, Ernie Pyle, and Mary McCarthy, as well as fiction by Nathaniel Hawthorne, James, Edith Wharton, and Ernest Hemingway. They also studied visual sources, including the work of painters from Benjamin West to Cy Twombly and photographers and filmmakers such as Gordon Parks, Roberto Rossellini, and William Wyler. Students presented on topics ranging from Progressive-era American collectors of Italian art to segregated World War II military units to spaghetti western films.

In the public history arena, Cawthra serves on the Finance Committee of the National Council on Public History and attended the NCPH Annual Meeting in Baltimore in April. Cawthra has served for several years as an exhibition consultant for the Go For Broke National Education Center in Los Angeles as it develops a new museum in the historic Nishi Hongwanji Buddhist Temple in Little Tokyo. The museum's new permanent exhibition, *Defining Courage*, opened in May 2016 amid fanfare and ceremony honoring Japanese American military service during World War II.

Cawthra is the host of a new podcast series called *Outspoken*, featuring conversations about the activities of the Center for Oral and Public History emphasizing ongoing projects and their ties to current events as well as the past. For more information, see: <http://coph.fullerton.edu/outspoken/index.php>. Recent CSUF Master's graduate Carie Rael of the Center is the series producer, which also includes segments featuring the Center's collections with archivist Natalie Navar, another recent CSUF Master's graduate.

*Uniting Cultures through Oral History:
The Story of Long Table LA*
by
James Luna

The intoxicating smell of Currywurst, the bustle of preparation, and the resonance of music filled the air. Oral histories strung up between poles danced in the wind. Long wooden tables occupied the entirety of the Community Terrace walkway. These tables would unite hundreds as they shared their life stories over food in this growing festival tradition.

On March 12, 2016, Grand Park was the location for the first Long Table LA event in the United States. This event followed the tradition of Germany's popular Lange Tafel, which began over 10 years ago by Berlin-based artist Isabella Mamatis. "How can we bring this wonderful project to LA?" was the question that seared in Professor Cora Granata's mind after discovering Lange Tafel during a research visit to Berlin in 2014. Dr. Granata is the Associate Director of the Center for Oral and Public History and a professor at CSUF. Since, Granata and Mamatis have been working to bring Lange Tafel to LA.

A team from Berlin's Lange Tafel nonprofit flew over to assist in the preparations. Along with the LA-Berlin Sister Cities, LA's Goethe International Charter School (GICS), and a student team from CSUF, Long Table LA came to be.

The CSUF student team worked with fourth graders from GICS to teach them how to collect oral histories for the event. The team assisted in planning, decorating, publicizing, food serving, and collecting oral histories for Long Table LA. Attendees were privileged to hear from Dr. Granata, Isabella Mamatis, German Consul General Hans Jörg Neumann, and retired LA City Councilman Tom LaBonge as they spoke on the importance of oral history and detailed

the history of Lange Tafel.

Guests experienced an oral history performance from students who read distinct oral histories. Over 200 sat at the long table; some from places as far as Iran, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Germany, Japan, Norway, Italy, Nigeria, Ghana, Philippines, and Turkey. Student musicians catered to the audio needs of attendees playing various traditional German songs and other well-known pieces. Once the performances concluded, guests interacted with one another and enjoyed the transcripts of the oral histories on display. All left feeling enriched by the spirit of oral history.

While the long tables have been put away and the spirit of Long Table LA lingers, Dr. Granata and a student team traveled to Germany in the summer and assisted in Berlin's Lange Tafel.



Students taking part in an oral history presentation.



The students involved in the Long Table LA event on March 12, 2016.

Students at the Southwestern Social Science Association Conference

by

Caralou Rosen

When people think of Las Vegas, sights of grandeur and excitement cloud their minds and they forget about work and responsibility. However, a group of talented students traveled to Vegas in March 2016 for the Southwestern Social Sciences Association's Annual Conference at the Paris and Bally's Hotel. This conference offered new and interesting experiences, as members of Phi Alpha Theta bonded with one another, while presenting their research at a national conference. The SSSA conference has become a yearly tradition for students to grow and enjoy a brief, but professional getaway.

The *Welebaethan* staff attends the SSSA conference every year to provide advice to help other journals improve their editing techniques and skills. Victor Lopez, Madison Pavia-Logan, H. Patrick Pullman, Luis Quintanilla, Caralou Rosen, Dane Royster, and Jessica Truckey represented the journal at the 2016 annual conference.

Students from the department also presented their research at the conference to gain new experiences in their academic careers and areas of interest. Here is a quick recap of their panels. Graduate students Matt Snider and Ben Cartwright presented on "Topics in Colonial or Early American History"; Dane Royster and Erich Wendt presented on "Germans at Peace

and War in the 20th Century-Phi Alpha Theta Session"; Rosen participated in "Marginalized Voices, Peripheral Settings: Fresh Approaches to the 19th Century" panel; Truckey presented "'Justice for Berem! Justice for Ikrit': Negotiating Identity through Nonviolent Direct Action" on the "State in Contest with Institutions- Phi Alpha Theta Session" panel.

Each of these presentations offered a unique glimpse of the range of graduate student research at CSUF, while illustrating their hard work and commitment to their craft.



PAT members at the Wynn Hotel Buffet!!

The Power of Oral History: Dr. Fousekis on Women in Politics

What motivates historians to capture the past and tell an interesting story? How do they come up with interesting topics? How do they fund projects?

Dr. Natalie Fousekis always wondered how women excelled in politics and made an impact on their local community, so she looked towards oral history to explore this topic. As

the director for the Center for Oral and Public History, she started the “Women, Politics, and Activism” project to seek answers to some very deep questions. She began the project in 2013 in her oral history class with the help of her students. This project is focused on the political lives and actions of women from Southern California from the 1960s and beyond, who made an impact in the local

region. The use of oral history allows for people to hear these stories and understand the connection between the past and the present. Students learned about the different aspects of oral history by interviewing a number of women, transcribing parts of the interview, and collecting photos and other written materials. Essentially, these students gained valuable field experience, which will help them in the future.

Dr. Fousekis started applying for grants in an effort to expand the project. Scholars always dream of winning big awards to help fund their research, and Fousekis’s wish came true in June 2015. The John Randolph Haynes and Dora Haynes Foundation decided to fund Dr. Fousekis’s “Women, Politics and Activism” project with a grant of a \$211,500 to help process the interviews. The grant

will allow Dr. Fousekis to transcribe and edit forty-five interviews which students conducted in HIST 401A. These interviews, both the transcript and recordings, will then be posted in an on-line archive that will be available to the public in 2017. In addition to the recordings and transcripts, thirty-five interviews will be video recorded for younger generations to enjoy. One of the biggest features of the project is the student involvement and how it provides students with the experience they need for their future careers.

The “Women, Politics, and Activism” project was created to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment, which will occur in 2020. As an oral historian, Fousekis seeks to understand how women get involved in politics and their overall impact on society.

However, answering these questions is truly a group effort

because a number of graduate and undergraduate students are needed for the project. The grant allows Dr. Fousekis to hire three graduate student assistants to transcribe the interviews and help with different aspects of the project. The current graduate assistants working on the project are Analia Cabral, Skye Gomez, and Scherly Virgill, who will work over the summer on the project.

This project and grant highlight the importance of capturing the past for future generations.



Dr. Fousekis sits down for an interview with Wendy Greuel, who served as the City Controller for Los Angeles.

“Professor Dennehy’s Global Dialogues”



Dr. Dennehy with Angel Pineda in Japan.

Have you ever gotten an automatic email reply from a professor that says “I’m currently on sabbatical this semester” and wondered what that means? According to the online ety-

mology dictionary entry (www.etymonline.com), the adjective “sabbatical” dates back to the “1640s, ‘of or suitable for the Sabbath,’ from Latin sabbaticus, from Greek sabbatikos ‘of the Sabbath’... Noun meaning ‘a year’s absence granted to researchers’ (originally one year in seven, to university professors) is from 1934, short for sabbatical year, etc., first recorded 1886 (the thing itself is attested from 1880, at Harvard), related to sabbatical year (1590s) in Mosaic law, the seventh year, in which land was to remain untilled and debtors and slaves released.” But just as many of us don’t necessarily observe the Sabbath as a day of rest, faculty who have been awarded a one-semester leave for their proposed research project use that time for intellectual rejuvenation in a myriad of ways.

This past Spring, Dr. Kristine Dennehy worked on two manuscripts related to her sabbatical project, “Japanese Americans in Occupied Japan: 1945-1952” based on oral histories she conducted of Nisei who had served in the Military Intelligence Service after World War II. Time away from campus also afforded her the opportunity to make her first trip to Germany in January to participate in a conference at Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich, “Seventy Years to the End of the War in Asia: Divergent Perspectives on the War Denouement and the Onset of the Cold War.” In late May and early June, she spent a month in East Asia traveling to Shanghai, Tokyo, Fukui (Fullerton’s Sister City on the Japan Sea coast), and several cities in Kansai including Kobe, Osaka, and Kyoto.

In Tokyo, Dr. Dennehy met up with former student, Angel Pineda who is currently teaching English in nearby Ibaragi prefecture. Angel came to the lecture she gave at Waseda University, “Korean Nationalism during the Occupation” and joined the other professors and students for the “nijikai” (literally, “second gathering”) afterwards for beer, saké, and Japanese snacks!

During her first trip to mainland China since traveling there as an undergrad in 1987, Dr. Dennehy was hosted as a Visiting Scholar by East China Normal University Professor Yang Biao, a colleague she presented with on a panel at the Asian Association of World Historians in Singapore in 2015. In Shanghai, she addressed Dr. Yang’s students with a talk entitled “Asian History and the Common Core Curriculum” that introduced future Chinese teachers to recent innovations in professional development workshops led by CSUF professors for teachers in Orange County public schools.

Lest you think it’s all work and no play, Dr. Dennehy tells us she’s eager to be back on campus and in the classroom this Fall after spending some time with her family back in New England, including a few days on her uncle’s alpaca farm in Vermont!



Dr. Dennehy hanging out with some alpacas!

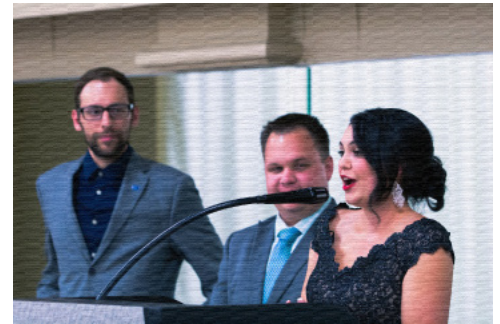
A Night to Remember



Brenda Farrington and department faculty during the banquet.

On Friday, May 6, 2016, the Department of History hosted its annual banquet celebrating the achievements of our students and faculty. Held at the Phoenix Club in Anaheim, guests included current students and faculty, staff, alumni, retired and emeriti faculty, as well as friends of the department. Everyone enjoyed dinner and dessert, which featured a host of German delicacies, as they chatted about the various activities that occurred during the past academic year.

Following dinner Dr. Fitch, chair of the department, welcomed all in attendance including the generous donors of our scholarships and awards. She then introduced the presidents of the History Student Association, Phi Alpha Theta, and the Cultural and Public History Association: Madison Pavia-Logan, Benjamin Cartwright, and Conrad Negron. Each student shared highlights about their organization's events and accomplishments from the 2015-2016 year.



Conrad Negron, Ben Cartwright, and Madison Pavia-Logan giving the highlights of the clubs for the 2015-2016 year.

Following the highlights of each club, faculty and students were honored for their hard work. Dr. Cawthra led the distribution of department scholarships and awards. Many of the students were shocked to win an award, but it was nice to see their smiles. The winners included: Daniel Schwartzkopf and Chelsea Hong for the *Carmen Delphine Bayati Award*, Kiana Nakamura for the *Alumni Fund: Warren Beck Outstanding History Student Award*, Skye Gomez for the *Lawrence B. de Graaf Outstanding Graduate Student Award*, Arturo De Leon Tell for the *Nancy Fitch Women and Gender History Award*, Scherly Virgill for the *Hansen Fellowship in Oral and Public History*, Kenneth Pinedo for the *Rietveld Fellowship on the Era of Abraham Lincoln*, and Caralou Rosen for the *Haleh Emrani Iranian History Award*.



The 2016 award winners.

After the department-based scholarships were handed out, Dr. Burgtorf then presented two awards dedicated in the memory of distinguished faculty member Dr. Gordon Bakken. Caralou Rosen, a third-year graduate student, won the *Gordon Morris Bakken Phi Alpha Theta Memorial Scholarship*, which will help her complete her Master's thesis. Alexander Foy won a *Bakken Book Award Fund*, which will help him afford the books needed for his schooling. The people who earned these awards felt a great pride for these wonderful gifts. Dr. Burgtorf also present-



Dr. Lawrence B. de Graaf during the banquet.



Leland and Marlita Bellot having a smashing time during the banquet.



Professor Brenda Farrington with Dr. James Woodward.

ed the awards for papers published in the most recent edition of the *Welebaethan*. Dr. Brunelle announced the winners of the two faculty awards: the *James Woodward Faculty Achievement Award* to Dr. Nancy Fitch and the *Leland and Marlita Bellot Research Grant* to Dr. Benjamin Cawthra.

In her closing remarks, department vice-chair Dr. Rostam-Kolayi expressed her thanks to all in attendance. She gave special appreciation to Dr. Fitch for her leadership as well as to the department staff for their tireless efforts in keeping the programs and services running throughout the year. Finally, as is the tradition, the night ended with celebratory music and dancing.



Dr. Nancy Fitch receiving the *James Woodward Faculty Achievement Award*.

The History Department would like to thank all donors and alumni who fund department scholarship and help students with their future careers! We could not do what we without you.



Dr. Gayle Brunelle with Vivien Ide.

The Lucky Ones: 2016 Commencement

Graduating from a four-year university is a major accomplishment for many people trying to make their mark on the world. On Saturday, May 21, the class of 2016 participated in commencement exercises at CSUF. Many history undergraduate and graduate students took to the stage in front of the Humanities Building to mark the



Dr. William Haddad speaking with the students.

completion of their degree and celebrate with their family, friends, and professors. These students spent many hours writing papers, researching, and synthesizing historical information to earn their degrees. Students in this department are some of the most talented and hard working individuals to ever walk across this campus!

Prof. William Haddad served as the Master of Ceremonies, while Chair of the Department, Dr. Nancy Fitch, gave a warm welcome to all. However, one of the highlights of the ceremony were the student speakers, graduate student Jeena Trexler and undergraduate Amanda Arroyo. Ms. Trexler spoke about her experiences as a Master's student in the public history program and how she became a stronger individual. Ms. Arroyo spoke about her journey towards earning an undergraduate degree and the obstacles that she eventually overcame. These two students symbolize the diversity and work ethic of the students in the department.



History Department faculty.

Finally, Dr. Gayle Brunelle announced student names, while Drs. Allison Varzally and Robert McLain handed diplomas to the Master's recipients. Many of the MA students were quite dedicated to the program and spent many hours organizing events, conferences, and training sessions for their fellow students. Drs. Fitch and Jasamin Rostam-Kolayi congratulated the Bachelor's recipients, who completed their degrees after pursuing a rigorous course of study.

After the initial graduation ceremonies, parents, students, and faculty gathered for a reception. Dr. Jochen Burgtorf, Libbie Burgtorf, alum Danielle Whittington, and Phi Alpha Theta organized this small celebration for the graduates and their guests.

Congratulations to the class of 2016! May your hopes and dreams come true!



Congrats!! You did it!!

Footnotes:

The Newsletter of the CSUF Department of
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The History Department
would like you to contribute to
the department newsletter. Please send pictures and
short items (up to 200
words) of
interest to the depart-
mental community to
Dr. Nancy Fitch at
nfitch@fullerton.edu.

"A Thanks to our Staff"

When the department office opens at 8 a.m., faculty and students are greeted by a welcoming smile and the smell of fresh coffee. Many of us do not see, though, the behind-the-scenes activities of the department. The staff works to make sure that everything functions at full speed. Melanie Woods and Rachael Amaro are answering phones and responding to student and faculty questions. Linda Rodgers oversees the department's many different operations. And, the student assistants carry out a range of tasks thrown their way. We dedicate this issue of the newsletter to them for making the department a second home for many of us. Thank you for all your hard work!