

# History at Lehigh University

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Welcome to the Fall 2014 issue of *History at Lehigh*, the official newsletter of the Department of History at Lehigh University. *History at Lehigh* is published twice per year in an effort to maintain contact and share information with students, alumni, and faculty.

## *Message from the Chair*

### Lehigh Invades New York to begin 150<sup>th</sup> Celebration

To kick-off its sesquicentennial Lehigh is playing Lafayette in sold-out Yankee Stadium. Many other events are planned including a concert in Carnegie Hall. Professor Roger Simon's ever-popular tour of Greenwich Village quickly sold out. Over the years Simon's field trips have been a highlight of many student's time at Lehigh. Recently, one alum fondly recalled eating a signature cheesesteak during a visit to Philadelphia. In the Twentieth Century American City, Simon has taken the class to Philadelphia since the early 1970s. He has also developed a strong interest in the history of New York City. From 2002-2005 he participated in a Lehigh summer program in New York in which a group of Lehigh students lived in Greenwich Village for six weeks and took two courses. Professor Simon's course in the program, the Built-Environment of New York, included a dozen walking tours around the city. In August of 2012 he gave a walking tour of Greenwich Village to a group from the New York Alumni Club. For the past decade he has also taught a course called *Gangs of New York* in which he takes the eponymous film as a starting point and examines the material covered in the film. The course has proven to be very popular with the students.

In addition to teaching urban history, Simon has focused his research and interests around cities and social class. He has written or co-authored works on Milwaukee, Pittsburgh, and Philadelphia. His dissertation on housing and neighborhood development in Milwaukee, published as *The City-Building Process* (1978) was re-printed in a second edition in 1996. A recent review of the historical literature of that city described his study as "seminal." He also co-authored *Lives of Their Own*, a comparative study of the economic and urban adjustment of Italian and Polish immigrants with that of African American migrants to Pittsburgh in the early twentieth century. Moving further east, in 2003 he wrote *Philadelphia: A Brief History* for a series published by the Pennsylvania Historical Association. After running through two printings, the book is now out of print, and he is currently preparing a second, updated edition.

Roger Simon, now the senior member of the department and beginning his forty-fifth year at Lehigh, has conveyed his passion for cities to thousands of students. Even after all these years of teaching, his enthusiasm is still infectious. In coming years, I am sure we can convince him to give a few more city tours for alumni and students.



## Accolades

### Faculty

**Maria Bárbara Zepeda Cortés** presented a paper in September entitled, “¿La desidia del visitador? José de Gálvez en su doble papel de inspector y proveedor de justicia en Nueva España, 1765-1772” or “The Visitor's Procrastination? José de Gálvez in his Dual Role as Inspector and Purveyor of Justice in New Spain, 1765-1772” at the Fourteenth Meeting of Historians of Mexico in Chicago. This past summer, Dr. Zepeda Cortés was a visiting scholar at the Institute of History of the Spanish National Research Council (Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas) in Madrid. With the support of a Paul J. Franz, Jr. Summer Research Grant, she visited different archives in Spain and Italy to advance an article project entitled, “Women with Money: Female Heirs to a Fortune Amassed in Spanish Imperial Government Jobs, 1760s-1860s.”

**Nitzan Lebovic** published the book, *The Politics of Nihilism: From Nineteenth Century Germany to Contemporary Israel*, which is part of Bloomsbury Press' “Studies in Political Philosophy” series. The book was co-edited with Roy ben-Shai. Dr. Lebovic also published a chapter entitled “Lebensphilosophie und deutsch-Jüdische Biopolitik,” in *Das Leben vom Tode her. Zur Kulturgeschichte einer Grenzbestimmung*, which was edited by Katrin Solhdju and Ulrike Vedder. In addition, he published “The Political Walter Benjamin, a Review Essay,” in *The Republic of Letters* 4:4, which is available online: <http://arcade.stanford.edu/rofl-issues>.

**Michelle LeMaster** published an article entitled “Pocahontas Doesn't Live Here Anymore: Women and Gender in the Native South before Removal” in the journal, *Native South*. In September, she presented the paper, “A Tale of Two Massacres: The Tuscarora War in Gendered Perspective,” at the British Group in Early American History Annual Conference in Edinburgh, Scotland.

**Jean Soderlund's** book *Lenape Country: Delaware Valley Society Before William Penn* was published this fall by the University of Pennsylvania Press. On November 22, 2014, she gave a paper entitled “The West New Jersey Frontier: Swedes, Finns, and

English in Lenape Country, 1664-1700” at the 2014 Forum of the New Jersey Historical Commission at Kean University.

### Graduate Students

**Jay Donis** presented a paper entitled “Applying ‘Frontier’ and ‘Borderland’ Theories to Early Kentucky” on October 18<sup>th</sup> at the 2014 Ohio Valley History Conference held in Clarksville, TN.

**Rachel Engl** presented a paper at the annual Pennsylvania Historical Association (PHA) meeting in Philadelphia in November entitled “Awaiting the Queen in French Azilum: The Place of Pennsylvania in the French Revolution.”

**Elizabeth Erwin** will be presenting her paper entitled “A Woman's Work is Never Done: How The Walking Dead Co-opted the Slasher Film and Created a Radical Feminist Discourse” in April 2015 at the National PCA/ACA Conference in New Orleans.

**Andrew Dyrli Hermeling** presented his paper, “Onondaga and the Ohio Country: Six Nations Civil Government and the Ohio Iroquoians” at the 2014 American Society for Ethnohistory Conference in Indianapolis, Indiana in October.

**Calvin Tesler** is publishing a paper entitled “American Jewish Response to the Holocaust in the Post-War Period: Development of Holocaust Education” in an e-book compiled by Kean University's Institute for Human Rights. Calvin also received a position at Rutgers University as a part-time lecturer.

**Kristin Tremper** presented her paper, “‘That Melancholy Subject’: Public Dialogues of Death in Eighteenth-Century Philadelphia” at the annual PHA meeting in Philadelphia in November.

**Scott Wert** delivered a lecture at the Conrad Weiser Homestead in November entitled “‘Defending the Hole:’ Difficulties of the Frontier Forts during the French and Indian War.”

## Alumni

**Joshua Britton** (PhD, 2012) is now the Associate Manager of Public Programs at the 9/11 Memorial Museum.

**Silas Chamberlain** (PhD, 2014) recently published an article, "The Other End of the Tracks," on his rails to trails research in *Landscape Architecture Magazine: The Journal of the American Society for Landscape Architects*.

**Greg Dehler's** (PhD, 2002) book, *The Most Defiant Devil: William Temple Hornaday and His Controversial*

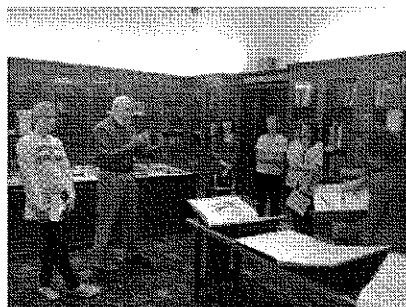
*Crusade to Save American Wildlife* (University of Virginia Press, 2013) will be released in a paperback edition in January 2015. The biography, which was based on Greg's dissertation, was reviewed in *Environmental History* 19 (October 2014) by J. Brooks Flippen. Flippen finds it to be "a solid piece of scholarship based on an array of archival and primary sources" and "the first true academic biography" of Hornaday. Hornaday was a complex, flawed, and hence not always sympathetic, character making Dehler's deft handling of his subject "a welcome addition to the field."

## Gipson Institute Events

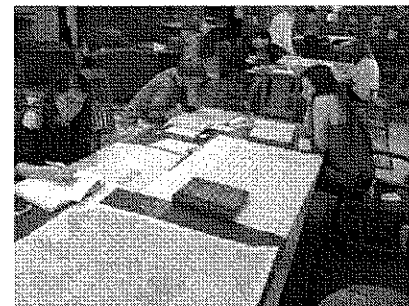
The Gipson Institute sponsored two visits this semester. **Dr. Benjamin Beneke**, from Bentley University, presented a talk entitled "Freedom, Civility, and Slavery: The Irony of Early American Religious Liberty."

**Dr. Paul Peucker**, the Director of the Moravian Archives, delivered a presentation entitled "Opening the Blue Cabinet: Moravians and Sexuality in the Eighteenth Century."

## History in Action!



Dr. Cutcliffe professing about environmental history for students in HIST 315 in the Linderman Library Special Collection Galleria about artistic natural history depictions of birds, animals, and Native Americans displayed in worked by Marc Catesby, John J. Audubon, and George Catlin. Also featured here you can see students, including majors John Behre and Taylor Briggs, poring over maps of US western plains exploration for a research paper.



## Founder's Day 2014



Scenes from Asa Packer's Founder's Day Campus Tour

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<https://www.facebook.com/LehighUniversityHistoryDept>

## Lehigh University Department of History

If you have any information for future newsletters, please contact the department.

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## Gifts

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### *Gifts since May 1, 2014:*

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Dave and Mary Titus '85

(Every effort was made to ensure the accuracy of this list, but if you notice an error or omission, please contact the Department of History, College of Arts and Sciences, Lehigh University, 9 West Packer Avenue, Bethlehem, PA 18015. Our phone number is 610-758-3360.)