

History at Lehigh University

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*This is the seventh volume 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. Please let us know if you have information or updates you would like to appear in future issues of **History at Lehigh**.*

This fall the department is proud to welcome Dr. Michelle LeMaster as the newest member of our distinguished faculty!

Originally from Washington state, Michelle attended Western Washington University for her B.A. and Johns Hopkins University for her M.A. and Ph.D. Michelle's research and professional interests include colonial British America, Native Americans and the history of women and gender. She is presently revising a book manuscript for publication on the role that differing ideas about gender played in shaping English-Native American relations in the colonial Southeast 1664-1783, and hopes to have the draft completed by the end of next summer. Michelle says that she moved to Bethlehem because of Lehigh's strong record in the study of British America and the Atlantic world and for the opportunity to work with Ph.D. students.

Even in her short time here at Lehigh, Michelle has made quite an impression. As colleague Michael Baylor says "With her interests in colonial America, gender, Native American history, and the Atlantic World, Michelle will play a key role in both our undergraduate and graduate programs," and doctoral graduate student Nathan Friend echoes this sentiment, stating that Michelle is both extremely competent in her fields of expertise, as well as being warm and approachable to students. Welcome to the department Michelle, we are glad to have you!

The department also welcomes six new Masters students and one Ph. D. student to the graduate program!



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Accolades

Faculty

- * **Michelle LeMaster** had an article in the *North Carolina Historical Review* (April 2006) entitled "In the 'Scolding Houses': Indians and the Law in Eastern North Carolina, 1684-1760." Michelle also gave a paper at the Omohundro Institute for Early American History and Culture conference in Quebec in June, entitled "Where are the Women?: The Not-so-Invisible Woman and White-Indian Diplomacy in Colonial Charles Town."
- * **James Saeger** has recently finished and submitted for publication his biography of Francisco Solano López, the president and dictator of Paraguay from 1862-1870. The book is scheduled to be published by Rowman and Littlefield in the summer of 2007.
- * **John Savage** attended the French Colonial History Society Conference in Dakar, Senegal, this past June, thanks to a grant from the Provost Travel Fund; and presented a paper there on metropolitan French images of slave-criminals during the 1820s and 1830s. This winter break, he will be leading a group of students on a study abroad program, teaching an interdisciplinary course entitled "Lehigh in Martinique: Globalization and Local Identity." Additionally, his article, "Between Colonial Fact and French Law: Slave Poisoners and the Provostial Court in Restoration era Martinique" has been published recently in *French Historical Studies*.
- * **William Scott** was recently appointed to the Board of Managers of the American Baptist Historical Society and to the Advisory Board of the American Baptist Quarterly. A reprint of his book, *The Sons of Sheba's Race*, was published during the summer by Tsehai Press, and he has also just completed for publication a study of early black intellectual history entitled "Origins of the Ethiopian Ethos in Black Thought, 1693-1797."
- * **John K. Smith** presented a paper on the history of gasohol at the American Chemical Society National Meeting in San Francisco in September. John was also interviewed by the local PBS station for a documentary film on the history of Bethlehem that will focus on both sides of the river.

Graduate Students

- * **Joseph Eldred** had an article entitled "The Hudson River and the Hudson Highlands" included in *The Encyclopedia of the American Revolutionary War*, published by ABC-CLIO in September, 2006.
- * **Jim Higgins** has been interviewed for several newspapers concerning the flu of 1918 (modern avian flue), including the *St. Louis Times-Dispatch*, the *Pittsburgh Tribune Review*, the *Baltimore Sun*, the *Nashua Telegraph*, and the *Ming Pao* (Chinese Language Daily in Hong Kong). He recently helped plan an avian flu response for IBM and has been consulted for a book on the avian flue by the deputy editor of the *Far Eastern Economic Review*. Jim will also be presenting a paper at the Southern Association for the History of Medicine and Science at the University of Virginia in March 2007.

***Nathan Friend** gave a presentation entitled "Jonathan Edwards and True Conversion," at the Brown Bag Lunch Seminar in September.

***Brian Regan** presented "Bill Clinton: The Defense of the United States?" at a September's Brown Bag Lunch Seminar.

Alumni

***Ralph Kidder** (B.A. 1968) has recently completed the Doctor of Education degree in Higher Education Administration at the University of Massachusetts at Boston.

***Paul G. Gillespie** (Ph.D. 2002) had his book *Weapons of Choice: The Development of Precision Guided Munitions* published by the University of Alabama Press. Paul is the Associate Professor and Director of Military History at the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, CO.

Department News and Announcements

*Brown Bag Lunch Seminar-Fall 2006

This semester's Brown Bag Colloquium has welcomed a variety of speakers from around Lehigh and Bethlehem. Roberta Meek, recent graduate of Muhlenberg College and well-known jazz singer in the Lehigh Valley, presented "Urban Renewal or Negro Removal: Race and Housing in Allentown, Pennsylvania 1963-1968," and Bruce Sinclair, retired Melvin Kranzberg Professor of the History of Technology at the Georgia Institute of Technology, presented "Engineering Hetch-Hetchy," a history of the Hetch-Hetchy dam near San Francisco. Lehigh University's own Julia Maserjian from the Lehigh Libraries Digital History projects presented "Lehigh's Digital Library: An Update on Current and Future Projects," and department members John Pettegrew, Michael Baylor, Gail Cooper, John Smith, and graduate students Matt Zimmerman, Nathan Friend, and Brian Regan, also presented their works and papers during the fall. The Brown Bag Lunch Colloquium Series is sponsored by the History Department and the Science, Technology, and Society Program. Brown Bag provides a relaxed and informal atmosphere for scholars both within Lehigh and outside to present their work and engage in supportive discussions. Please join us this coming semester for the spring Brown Bag Colloquium, and if you have any presentation ideas please contact Dr. Kim Carrell-Smith at kwc2@lehigh.edu.

***Congratulations** to Mark Nicholas, Matt Zimmerman and Susan Hoffman for successfully defending their dissertations this fall.

***The American Historical Association conference** will be held in sunny and warm Atlanta, GA this year. Conference dates are January 4-7, anyone interested in attending and/or carpooling please contact Maria Williams at mtw5@lehigh.edu.

History Quiz

A: Who Said it?

"Keep your eyes wide open before marriage, half shut afterwards."

B: In what European country did women not get the vote until 1971?

C: Who was the first U.S. president to have his photograph taken?

D: Where and when was toilet paper first invented?

E: During the Alaskan Klondike gold rush (1897-1898) what vegetable was so valued for its vitamin C content that miners freely traded gold for it?

Answers:

A: Benjamin Franklin B: Switzerland C: James Polk (1845-49) D: China, 1391 A.D.

E: Potatoes

Parting Thoughts

"You're a lost civilization!" cried the anthropologist to the Indian chief.

"We don't mind being lost," answered the chief. "It's being found that scares us!"



"History can be an art, it is never a science, it is always a craft, and to develop craft skills takes discipline, knowledge of the traditions and accomplishments and errors of the past, and above all motivation."

-Bernard Bailyn