



HISTORY AT LEHIGH

or, a *True* and *Faythful* account of that which has happen'd at
Lehigh University's Department of *History*

Volume 2, Issue 2

Spring, 2002

Department Intelligence

This is the second volume of HISTORY AT LEHIGH, which is published each semester by the Department of History at Lehigh University. News of Alumni activities will appear in this and subsequent issues. In order to keep close contacts between graduates, faculty, and students, please keep us up-to-date with your work, activities, publications, and changes of address.

Dr. Kim Carrell-Smith was awarded the YWCA Woman of the Year, for her public service in South Bethlehem. The Woman of the Year award highlights community service with an emphasis on volunteer work outside of one's profession. Dr. Carrell-Smith has played an integral role in fostering networks in South Bethlehem that connect a broad range of people and organizations, such as FACES of South Bethlehem and Fountain Hill, the Touchstone Theater, Lehigh University, and local schools. As a result, social services operate with more integration, less overlap, and with more input by community members, as opposed to mutually exclusive operations directed from above. In addition Prof. Carrell-Smith has helped sustain the Broughal Instrumental Program, organizing a program for financial support.

Dr. William Shade has been selected for the Fulbright Nikolay Sivachev Distinguished Chair in American History at the Moscow State University for the spring 2003 semester. Each year, the Fulbright chair is awarded to a scholar to teach in Moscow, Russia during the Spring semester. While in Moscow, Dr. Shade will be teaching American History to 5th year students, who are the equivalent of graduate students in the United States. He plans to focus special attention on po-

litical party formation and 19th Century U.S. History.

Dr. Roger Simon gave an invited paper in December of 2001 at the conference sponsored by the Council on Tall Buildings and the Urban Habitat in London. The conference was a mix of academics and practitioners, including engineers, planners, and architects. In the paper, Dr. Simon focused on the history of the London skyline, tracing the regulatory environment affecting building heights in London and the city's ambiguous attitude about tall buildings. The paper will be published as part of the conference proceedings.

Dr. James Saeger recently returned from a research trip to Paraguay where he continued work on his biography of Paraguayan Dictator Francisco Solano Lopez. He did research at the Archivo Nacional de Asuncion, and the Biblioteca Nacional, focusing on the papers of the Paraguayan dictator-president, as well as the newspapers published during his regime and under his strict supervision. "Since he (Solano) approved every word that went into them," Dr. Saeger comments, "they should be seen as an official, if totally distorted, interpretation of the war of 1864-70 that destroyed the country and a tribute to his role in it." Prof. Saeger also gave a talk entitled "La Historio del Paraguay Colonial: Una Jornada de un Historiador Norteamericano" at the Academia Paraguaya de La Historia, summarizing his work of the past twenty years, and its implications for professional history in the U.S.

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The History at Lehigh Newsletter

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Alumni,

showing the things that Lehigh History Graduates have Done.

Glenn S. Gordinier ('81 M.A.) recently completed his Ph.D. at the University of Connecticut and has been appointed the Robert G. Albion Historian at Mystic Seaport Museum. He is an instructor and co-director of the Frank C. Munson Institute for Maritime Studies, a summer graduate program at Mystic Seaport. Dr. Gordinier also serves as the Museum's senior historian and teaches maritime history for the Maritime Studies program of Williams College and Mystic Seaport.

Dr. Mark Spicka ('91 B.A.) received his Ph.D. from Ohio State University in 2000. His doctoral dissertation was entitled: "Setting the Economic Miracle: Economic Propaganda and Political Power in West Germany 1949-57." He is currently a Visiting Assistant Professor at Muskingum College in New Concord, OH. He authored two articles that will appear in the spring, in *German Studies Review* and *German Politics and Society*. Dr. Spicka has accepted a tenure-track position teaching German history at Shippensburg University, and will begin teaching there in the fall.

Molly Egan ('99 B.A.) is a Project Coordinator for Digney York Associates, a general contractor and small project management firm that specializes in hotel renovations across the country. While at Lehigh, her focus was on urban history, planning, and development. Egan believes that a history degree "leaves a world of possibilities and opportunities open to you," and feels her education in urban history has proved to be a valuable asset in her work.

Leonard Lance ('74 B.A.) is a Republican member of the New Jersey State Senate for District 23. He is chair of the Labor Committee, and is a member of the Budget and Appropriations and Environment Committees. Senator Lance holds a law degree from Vanderbilt University, a Masters in Public Administration from Princeton University, and has previously served ten years in the

New Jersey General Assembly.

Rev. R. Rhys Williams ('44 B.A. in Classics) received his MA in Semitic Languages at Columbia University. He studied the Old and New Testament for his Th.D. from the General Theological Seminary in New York in 1960. Rev. Williams is currently retired, and living for part of the year in Canada. His particular focus in history is "the ancient history of Greece and the Middle East, particularly in the Sixth Century B.C.E."

Michael H. Danjczek ('72, B.A.) is the President and Executive Director of the Children's Home of Easton, "a private, non-profit agency providing both therapeutic home and community-based programs for troubled youths from dysfunctional families." The Children's Home, as its name implies, is dedicated to providing a "home environment for children who have needed our services" (<http://www.thechildrenshome.org>.) In addition to his Bachelor's of History, Dr. Danjczek received his M.Ed. and Ed.D. from Lehigh, and received an honorary degree from Lafayette. In addition, he has served as Interim President and CEO of the Council on Accreditation for Children and Family Services from late January until October 1st of 2001.

J. James Spinner ('73 B.A.) is the General Counsel for the Inter-American Development Bank in Washington D.C. Prior to that he served on several task forces for the bank focusing on several issues, including an anti-corruption strategy. He earned a Juris Doctorate from Georgetown University Law Center in 1976.

Bernard Oppel ('61 B.A.) retired from the U.S. Department of State after having served as a Foreign Service Officer. He received the Ph.D. from Duke University in 1966. Dr. Oppel has long been interested in Russian and Central European history, and more recently in the history of the Western United States.

Experiencing History

"Tourism and the Wisconsin Dells" is the title of **Dr. John Pettegrew's** History 202: Historical Research course. While learning the methods of historical inquiry, students are developing a "close historical understanding of modern American tourism and the Wisconsin Dells." The Dells have long been a tourist location advertising "primitivism" to white middle class Americans, as an immersion in nature and Native Americana. The course combines film and a variety of printed materials, together with a research trip to Madison taken at the end of February to engage students actively in the historical process, employing a broader range of sources than the traditional forms. "While we got caught in a total blizzard and therefore couldn't visit the Dells," Dr. Pettegrew relates, "the trip was still a great success. The students really got into the archival material on Dells' tourism and also seemed to have a lot of fun in Madison." Another crucial aspect of the course emphasizes students' writing skills, so that

they possess the requisite skills to articulate research findings professionally.

Maria McGrath is teaching the Introduction to American Studies course this fall, with a special focus on an important decade. History 196, "America in the 1950s" is an exploration into the "culture of the 1950s in its historical context," focusing on such topics as "the cold war, McCarthyism, gender roles and the domestic ideal, suburbanization, the Beats, race and the civil rights movement, jazz, youth culture and rebellion." The course introduces students to the theory and methods of American studies, and engage them with a wide array of sources including material culture, television, music, and a milieu of printed materials from the era. The course will provide students with a more complex understanding of the 1950s, that challenges them to think critically about the widely accepted "monochromatic" image of the era.

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Dr. John Smith will attend a conference in Bologna, Italy, entitled "Revisiting the Chemist's War, 1914-18" in mid-June. Dr. Smith's particular research interest is in how the munitions industry in the United States "grew by several orders of magnitude" during World War I. He plans to discuss in particular the degree to which the industry replicated or improved technology, and the implications for their workforce.

Robert Armstrong read his paper "Finding a Middle Ground: Responding to the *New York Times*" at SUNY Stony Brook's 14th Annual Interdisciplinary Graduate Conference. In the paper he focused on stereotypical depictions in the hit HBO series *The Sopranos*, how the series has been treated in the *New York Times*, and Italian-American reactions to the popular TV program.

Jim Higgins earned his Master's Degree at Duquesne University, writing his thesis on the 1918

influenza epidemic in Pittsburgh. Recently he has been wrapping up his research on the influenza outbreak in the Allentown-Bethlehem area for Dr. Simon's Graduate Historical Research Seminar. His current work has given him valuable first-time experience in oral history interviews. In addition, he has employed an eclectic range of sources including hospital records, newspapers, health bureau records, U.S. Army Ambulance Corps records, and Lehigh University presidential papers. He is still exploring the scope of the topic of the influenza in regional and socio-historical terms in anticipation of his dissertation.

Mark Nicholas will be giving a paper in September at a conference on New England Indians held at the Mashantucket Pequot Museum and Research Center. The title of the paper is "Captain Ahab's Indian Sailors and Their Families: Mashpees in the Atlantic World of the New Republic." Mark is scheduled to take his comprehensive examinations in April.



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Organisations

On Tuesday, 12 March the History honor society **Phi Alpha Theta** held a "tea and cookies" event in the history commons room in Maginnes Hall. The event was a chance for junior scholars in history to touch base with faculty in a more social setting. On 2 May Phi Alpha Theta will hold a dinner, at which Ph.D. candidate **Maria McGrath** is the featured speaker. **Dr. Monica Najar** is the society's faculty advisor.

History Club members and faculty are meeting for their end of the year barbecue at the home of **Dr. Stephen Cutcliffe**. "The History Club seeks to bring together not only history majors and minors, Club treasurer Laura Rheinbauer explains, "but any student with an interest in history." The club is hoping to do a "History Trivia" during the Freshmen Orientation Weekend, featuring prizes. The History Club's faculty advisor is **Dr. John Pettigrew**.

Lehigh-Leuven Connexion,

*Which is an Account of our
Fellowe Scholars visiting from Flanders.*

This semester the Lehigh University History Department welcomes two students from the Catholic University of Leuven in Belgium. **Caroline Luypaers** is from the village of Wilrijk,

Scholars!
You will *no doubt* wish to attend the History Department's

Browne-Bagge

lunch series, which is a **Colloquium**, featuring various *Scholars* presenting, and seeking an informal forum to *discuss* their work.

Held in the **Commons** of the History Department, with confections and coffee *gratis*.

Ideas for Presentations shou'd be submitted to the Honourable Dr. Stephen Cutcliffe.

just outside of Antwerp. She wrote her undergraduate thesis on Performance Culture and Theater in 18th Century Antwerp. Caroline is particularly interested in Urban and Cultural history. She describes herself as a dedicated city-dweller, and she really enjoyed her visits to both New York and Philadelphia. **Kristof Lowyck** is from Leuven. His interests include the socio-economic and cultural aspects of military history. He wrote his undergraduate thesis on the daily life of soldiers in Walloon regiments during the Seven Years' War. Both Caroline and Kristof say that their education at Leuven has given them valuable training in evaluating and employing primary source material in historical inquiry. They say their experience as graduate students at Lehigh has taught them to evaluate secondary sources more critically, and so has benefited immeasurably their education as scholars.