



HISTORY AT LEHIGH

A NEWSLETTER FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

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Spring 2003

This is the third 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 see appear in future issues of *History at Lehigh*.

DEPARTMENT NEWS



Frederick J. Sirota, Esq. (B.A. '67) and his wife Joan generously created an endowed scholarship fund favoring Lehigh undergraduate students majoring in History and American Studies. Mr.

Sirota is a partner in the law firm of Wiley, Malehorn & Sirota in Morristown, NJ. The scholarship will also benefit students in the English and Philosophy departments. **Dr. John Savage** traveled to the Caribbean island of Martinique in early January 2003 with **Dr. Marie-Sophie Armstrong** from the Modern Literature and Languages Department. This was a planning trip for an upcoming Study Abroad Program focusing on Martinique's unique history and culture. The inter-disciplinary program, offered December 2003-January 2004, is jointly sponsored through Lehigh's History, French, and Africana Studies programs. **Dr. Savage** stated, "Martinique offers a special case study of the historical construction of race and colonial and post-colonial identity. The course will examine the legacy of slavery in the French Caribbean, the impact of the French and Haitian Revolutions, and the emergence of a distinct French West Indian culture in the twentieth century." Interested students are encouraged to contact **Dr. Savage** in the History department. **Dr. Gail Cooper** accepted a senior fellowship at the *Massachusetts Institute of Technology's* Dibner Institute. She will be one of ten fellows for the 2003-2004 academic year. She will have an office on campus and will work full time on her manuscript on the history of statistical quality control. **Dr. Monica Najjar** will be a visiting fellow at the Center for the Study of Religion at *Princeton University* in 2003-2004. She will be working on her current project, entitled "Evangelizing the South: The Sacred and the Secular in the Early Evangelical South, 1765-1815." This project examines the rapid numerical and geographic expansion of evangelicalism in the American South and argues that the evangelicals effected this transformation through the institutional structures they introduced into southern civil and religious life, institutions which allowed evangelicals to reshape and at times dissolve the boundaries between the secular and religious realms.

In This Issue
 Department News...1
 Organizations/Events...2
 Announcements.....2
 Alumni Updates.....3
 Student Profile.....4
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ORGANIZATIONS & EVENTS

On March 16th members of Phi Alpha Theta, the History Honor Society, visited *Mr. Harry Rinker*, a Lehigh History alumnus, at his home in Vera Cruz, PA. Mr. Rinker has published numerous books, writes a weekly column, does a weekly radio show, and has his own show, "The Collector Inspector," on HGTV. Mr. Rinker, an expert on antiques, shared his knowledge with the members. They enjoyed getting to know him, as well as sharing dessert with him. On April 1st, *Mr. Brad Scheler, Esq.*, another alumnus from Lehigh's History department, spoke on careers in law to both Phi Alpha Theta and the History Club. The initiation ceremony for new inductees of the Alpha-Alpha chapter of Phi Alpha Theta was held on April 15th. History graduate student, *Meredith Gee*, gave a talk entitled, "Trauma and History: The Narrative of Harriet Jacobs and the Implications of Rape Trauma Theory in the Study of History." Members of Phi Alpha Theta and the History Club are anticipating their annual end of the year BBQ in early May at a faculty member's home.

Erwin Pantel served as unit representative for 2002-2003 to the *Graduate Student Council (GSC)*. Each unit within the graduate community is required to send representatives to the Graduate Student Council which acts as a representative body between the graduate students and the administration. The primary goal of the GSC for this academic year was to address matters concerning accident and health insurance. As a member of GSC, Mr. Pantel represented the graduate student community on the

Graduate & Research Committee.

The GRC is a committee that reports to the faculty on matters pertaining to graduate student education and university research. They meet regularly throughout the academic year regarding such diverse matters as approving changes and additions to the graduate curriculum, making recommendations on institutes and centers within the university, assisting in the policy for the distribution of fellowships, and hearing and voting on graduate academic appeals.

In February, *Dr. Steve Cutcliffe*, attended the 18th annual meeting of the National Association of Science, Technology, and Society in Baltimore. *NASTS* is an interdisciplinary scholarly organization that provides a forum for researchers and educators from a wide variety of disciplines. Through the annual meeting, a newsletter, *STS Today*, and an affiliation with the scholarly *Bulletin of Science, Technology, and Society*, *NASTS* seeks to promote a wider understanding of science and technology developments and how society is both influenced by and helps to shape those techno-scientific changes. Lehigh's STS Program, which is closely associated with the History Department, is an Institutional Member of *NASTS*. Dr. Cutcliffe has been involved with *NASTS* since its inception and among other duties has served as President (1991), Vice-President and Conference Chair (1990), and this year began a term as Secretary. Each year, he takes one or more History graduate students to the annual *NASTS* meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Kim Carrell-Smith is one of the Lehigh Valley's "Movers and Shakers" according to the *Lehigh Valley Magazine*. The publication annually recognizes those "invaluable members of our community who are toiling, often with little public recognition, to make the Lehigh Valley a better place to live and work." Dr. Carrell-Smith received her recognition due to her involvement with Lehigh's "Move Out" project, which raises funds for South Side social programs.

The Guide to Research Collections on the History of the Lehigh Valley, Pennsylvania, compiled by *Susan Hoffman*, a Ph.D. candidate in History, will soon be available on the Lehigh web site. A grant from *Richard* (B.A. '73) and *JoAnn Bitting* provided funding for this guide to Lehigh Valley resources in 17 repositories. *Dr. Philip Metzger*, Curator of Special Collections, has facilitated this project, including its publication on the web.

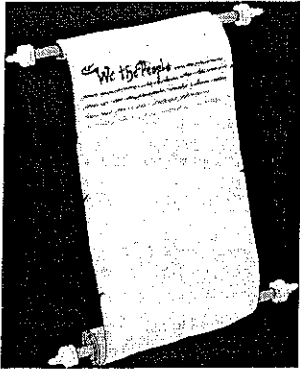
**Department of History/STS
BROWN BAG LECTURE SERIES**

Listen to History scholars present papers & join in discussion of their work in a relaxed, informal atmosphere.

WHEN: WEDNESDAYS 12 NOON.
WHERE: HISTORY COMMONS, 342
MAGINNES HALL (unless otherwise noted).

For presentation ideas & series schedules, contact Dr. Steve Cutcliffe

COFFEE & COOKIES PROVIDED



ALUMNI UPDATES

N.B.: We were unable to print all responses from alumni. More alumni updates will be included in future issues of History at Lehigh.

Anthony F. Vitiello, Esq. ('90 B.A.) received his J.D. and the Master of Law (LL.M.) in Taxation from New York University. He is currently Partner and Chairman, Taxation & Estate Planning Group at Connell Foley, LLP in Roseland, NJ.

Frederick M. Schweitzer ('54 B.A.) earned his Ph.D. at Columbia University in modern British and European history. He is professor emeritus at Manhattan College after having taught history there for forty years. Since Vatican Council II, he has written extensively on Catholic-Jewish relations, Jews in the Christian West, and the Holocaust. His most recent work, coauthored with Marvin Perry is *Antisemitism: Myth & Hate From Antiquity to the Present* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2002). At present he is engaged in compiling a companion volume of primary sources that illustrate the myths. Mr. Schweitzer commented on being at Lehigh during the "great days" of Professors William Appleton Aiken, George Dewey Harmon, and Lawrence Henry Gipson.

Karyn Richman Kendall ('98 B.A.) received her Master of Public Administration degree from Columbia University. She is currently employed as Program Examiner, Homeland Security Branch, Executive Office of the President, Office of Management and Budget in Washington, D.C. She believes that her degree in History from Lehigh provided her with skills and general knowledge that she uses on a daily basis in her public sector job.

Larry Burkhart (Ph.D. '82) is currently the Superintendent of Schools for the Eastern Lancaster County School District. He is also a History lecturer at Penn State University-Berks County campus.

Richard C. Hawkins (B.A. '62) retired in September 2002 as Vice President for Human Resources for the Sheridan Group in Hunt Valley, MD. This company is a privately held printing and publication services firm. He previously held positions as Vice President for Human Resources for Kopper Company, Hubbell Incorporated, and Harsco Corporation, as well as senior positions with National Steel and Robertson-Ceco. He now enjoys the surf and sand in Ocean City, NJ.

Elizabeth Staber (nee Kim) (B.A. '93) received her J.D. from the University of Baltimore School of Law in 1998. After working for a few years for a small law firm concentrating in insurance law, she was hired by Aetna Health, a major health insurer. She is currently employed as their Regional Counsel for the Mid-Atlantic region.

Major Paul Gillespie (Ph.D. '02) is currently the Air Mobility Command Chief of Deployed Communications for the U.S. Air Force. For the past year he has been stationed at Air Mobility Command in East St. Louis, IL. He will spend next year at Air Command and Staff College in Montgomery, AL. At the conclusion of this one year station, Maj. Gillespie is slated to return to the U.S. Air Force Academy Department of History in Colorado Springs, CO as an Assistant Professor. Gillespie believes the study of History is excellent preparation for careers in the government.

*"Life must be lived forward,
but understood backward."*

—Kierkegaard





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STUDENT PROFILE

Bruce D. Bomberger is a doctoral candidate in the History department. He received his B.A. from Lebanon Valley College, and his M.A. in American History from Pennsylvania State University. Since 1984 he has been employed in the public history field with the Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission. Since 1997 he has worked at the Commission's Landis Valley Museum, near Lancaster, PA, as Curator of Architecture & Machine and Tool Technology. He wants to focus his dissertation upon the two Landis brothers who founded that museum. Both were Lehigh trained engineers, and the elder brother Henry had a career in industry, teaching, and industrial trade journal editing. Henry Landis was interested in photography, and made an extensive photographic record of every place he lived and worked, including the Lehigh Valley, the University of Missouri, New York City, and Lancaster County. His photographic record reveals a remarkable visual record of these places between the 1880s and the 1920s. His photographic subjects were as diverse as Lehigh University architecture and dorm life, the metal and gas industries, New York waterfront and boat life, African-American community life in the Welsh Mountain area of Lancaster County, and the Pennsylvania German countryside.

Between their retirement in 1924 and World War II, the Landis Brothers amassed a large collection of objects, numbering in the tens of thousands. While much of their original collecting centered on pre-industrial tools and weaponry, Henry Landis increasingly turned his interest to the Pennsylvania German region. Within the significant context of early twentieth century museum building, the Landis's were contemporaneous with those of the Henry Ford Museum, Henry Mercer Museum, and Colonial Williamsburg.

Bruce hopes to document the personal development of Henry Landis and the evolution of his and his brother's personal collection into a public museum that first opened in 1925. Bruce has previously co-authored or written several small publications for the Pennsylvania Commission on subjects as diverse as industrial history and the French & Indian War, and produced a technical bulletin on the preservation and repair of log buildings for the National Park Service. Since 1998 he has written a regular artifact column, "Antique Toolbox," for the *Lancaster Intelligencer Journal*.

Thank you to Janet Walters, Michelle Baer, & Meredith Gee for help and support in the production of this issue of the newsletter. Thanks also to all alumni, students, and faculty who provided submissions for this publication.