

# history

NEWSLETTER

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BROWN

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# history

NEWSLETTER

## Chairs' Letter



The Chairs' Letter is coming to you this year from Tim Harris, who served as Acting Chair in the fall semester, and Jim McClain, who was on sabbatic leave in the fall and returned to campus in January to begin a second stint as department chair. Together, we are happy to report that the History Department enjoyed another busy and successful year.

The number of graduating students constitutes one index of departmental vitality, of course, and we note that History continues to be one of the largest programs at Brown. In May, the department awarded 138 Bachelor's, 20 Master's, and 9 Ph.D. degrees. We salute the accomplishments of all our graduates and wish them well in their future endeavors. The activities of the faculty, as outlined in the individual snapshots on the following pages, are another measure of department strength. As Chairs, we are proud of the unique contribution that each and every one of our colleagues makes to the departmental profile, but we wish to call attention to some special accomplishments in the past year. Omer Bartov was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and Howard Chudacoff was awarded the Karen T. Romer Prize for Undergraduate Advising and Mentoring for his years of distinguished interaction with Brown students. Tim Harris was named the Munro-Goodwin-Wilkinson Professor in European History, and Maud Mandel was promoted to the rank of associate professor with tenure. Robert Self's book, *America's Babylon*, won four major prizes, including the prestigious Ralph J. Bunche Award from the American Political Science Association. Finally, Engin Akarli, Karl Jacoby, and Tara Nummedal have received distinguished fellowships that will allow them to engage in research and writing in 2005-2006.

During the past year, the department also completed the final stages of planning for the implementation of new undergraduate and graduate programs. As reported in last year's *Newsletter*, the revisions in the undergraduate program, which will take effect beginning with the class of 2007, are intended to encourage students to immerse themselves in a greater variety of cultural perspectives and historical topics. To that end, the new program increases the minimum number of courses from eight to ten, requires a minimum of three courses each in the modern and premodern eras, expands the geographic distribution of courses, and encourages students to take a first-year seminar.

The revisions to the Ph.D. program resulted from a lengthy review process undertaken by a committee chaired by Kerry Smith. As approved by the department last fall, the committee recommended the introduction of more broadly imagined course offerings in order to increase the students' exposure to the faculty, encourage discussion across regional and chronological divisions, and respond to a need for more transnational and transcultural profession training. Specifically, beginning with the class matriculating in 2005, first-year Ph.D. students will take three reading seminars, structured around thematic or disciplinary concerns, together with a Practice of History Workshop in the fall semester. After successful completion of the first semester of coursework, students will complete at least two research seminars over the next three semesters, as well as a joint colloquium, a Professionalization seminar, and a Prospectus Development seminar. They will then undertake the Preliminary Examinations in their fifth semester and then turn to researching and writing the dissertation.

The faculty as well as the curriculum experienced changes over the past year. Abbott (Tom) Gleason has retired, and all of us will miss his gentlemanly goodwill, sly (and sometimes stinging) humor, and uncompromising commitment to excellence in teaching and scholarship. While Tom is irreplaceable, the department was happy to welcome four new colleagues in 2004-2005 (James Green, Seth Rockman, Robert Self, and Naoko Shibusawa), and they are introduced later in the Newsletter. In addition, from this fall Michael Steinberg, who will serve as the director of the newly established Humanities Center, will join the department, and Caroline Castiglione, an historian of the Italian Renaissance who recently was appointed an assistant professor in Italian Studies, and Matthew Garcia, an associate professor of American Civilization and Ethnic Studies who specializes in Chicano History and Intercultural Relations, will hold concurrent appointments in the History Department. Carolyn Dean has accepted a position as Associate Dean of the Faculty for three years. We thank her for the great service she has done the department over the years and look forward to her return once her stint in the Dean's office is completed. On an especially sad note, our colleague John L. (Jack) Thomas passed away this summer. Karl Jacoby has written a department tribute to Jack, and it appears later in this Newsletter.

We wish to close with two thank-yous. The first is to the staff of the History Department—Julissa Bautista, Mary Beth Bryson, Cherrie Guerzon, and Department Manager Karen Mota. We all are indebted to them for their handling all matter of tasks with unfailing efficiency and boundless patience. The second is to all of you who sent us a monetary contribution this past year. As in the past, your generosity has supported students doing research for their Honors theses, enabled graduate students to attend conferences and visit libraries overseas, and underwritten guest lectures and a symposium organized by graduate students. We are grateful for your continued assistance.

Best regards.  
 Tim Harris  
 James L. McClain



## New Faculty



**JAMES N. GREEN**  
arrived at Brown University in January 2005 as Associate Professor of Brazilian History and Culture. In

May 2005, he published an edited collection in Brazil entitled *Homossexualismo em São Paulo e outros escritos*. This last year he presented a keynote lecture entitled “While the Brazilian Generals Ruled: Rethinking Political, Social, and Cultural Assumptions about Life under an Authoritarian Regime” at a three-day international symposium, “The Cultures of Dictatorship: Historical Reflections on the Brazilian Golpe of 1964,” that was held at the University of Maryland. He also presented his research at the Latin American Studies Association, the American Historical Association, Iowa State University, Cornell University, Harvard University, and the Berkshire Conference on Women’s History. In June 2005, he co-organized an International Symposium in Rio de Janeiro entitled, “Brazil-United States: New Generations, New Dialogues,” in which fourteen U.S. scholars working on Brazilian history presented their latest research to leading Brazilian academics. As the Chair of the Committee on the Future of Brazilian Studies in the United States, Professor Green has also spent the last semester making the final preparations for a national conference that will be held at Brown University, September 30 and October 1, 2005.



**DIMITRIS LIVANIOS**  
presented papers on nationalism and the construction of borders in the Balkans at Yale and the University of Minnesota.

He also completed two articles. The first, “A Central European Meets the Bandit: Ernest Gellner as a Historian of Balkan Nationalism and Violence”, is forthcoming from the University of Minnesota’s *Modern Greek Studies Yearbook*. The second, “The ‘Sick Man’ Paradox: History, Rhetoric and the ‘European Character’ of Turkey” is currently under submission. In addition, he published an obituary of the eminent British Byzantinist Donald Nicol, in *Pembroke College Cambridge Society: Annual Gazette*, and contributed book reviews to *South European society and Politics*, *Slavonic and East European Review*, the *Anglo-Hellenic Review*, and *Southeast European and Black Sea Studies*. He also supervised three undergraduate Honors dissertations and was pleased to learn that one of his students donated funds to the University in his honor. His greatest achievement of the past year, however, was non-academic: his son (Yiannis) was born on 7 December, 2004.



**SETH ROCKMAN**  
completed his first year on the Brown faculty, during which time he became very involved with the University’s Slavery &

Justice Initiative. In addition to supervising a group of twenty undergraduates in a Group Research Project on slavery and restorative justice, he compiled a bibliography for the members of the steering committee (available online at [www.brown.edu/slaveryjustice](http://www.brown.edu/slaveryjustice)). He presented papers at the annual meetings of the American

Historical Association and the Society for Historians of the Early American Republic. These papers will soon appear in the *Journal of Urban History* and the *Journal of the Early Republic*. Professor Rockman's essay on the uses of class analysis in early American history recently appeared in the journal, *Labor*.



**ROBERT SELF** joined the faculty in the fall as an assistant professor specializing in post-1945 U.S. urban and political history. During the first

semester he taught a lecture course on politics and culture in the U.S. after the Second World War and a seminar on race and urban politics in the era of the "urban crisis." He left Providence in January to take up a semester-long research fellowship at the Huntington Library in California, where he began work on his second book. That project, supported by the Huntington as well as a 2005 Salomon Award for faculty research from Brown, focuses on the politics of gender and sexuality in the U.S. from 1965 through 1980. During the first semester, Self also finished two chapters for forthcoming collections: "The Black Panther Party and the Long Civil Rights Era, 1935-1975" for a Duke University Press anthology on the Black Panthers, and "Prelude to the Tax Revolt: The Politics of the Tax Dollar in Postwar California" for a University of Chicago collection on postwar suburban U.S. history.

Professor Self's first book, *American Babylon: Race and the Struggle for Postwar Oakland*, which will go to paperback in August 2005, received four prizes during the course of 2004-2005: the Ralph J. Bunche Award from the American Political Science Association for best

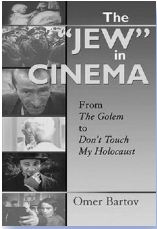
book in racial and ethnic pluralism; the prize for Best Book in North American Urban History from the Urban History Association; the James A. Rawley Prize from the Organization of American Historians for best book on U.S. race relations; and the prize for Best Book in urban Affairs from the Urban Affairs Association.



**NAOKO SHIBUSAWA** spent her first year at Brown on leave with an ACLS/Andrew W. Mellon Fellowship for Junior Faculty, and finished

revising her manuscript, *America's Geisha Ally* for Harvard University Press. She also made a short, preliminary trip to the National Archives to research a Japanese dissident who fled Imperial Japan and worked for the OWI and the OSS during WWII, which she turned into a conference paper for the annual meeting of the Association of Asian American Studies, held in Los Angeles. There, she also co-moderated and organized—along with Evelyn Hu-DeHart and Eiko Kosasa (Hawai'i-Leeward)—a town hall meeting on defending academic freedom. This summer, she turned her conference paper into an article for a special edition of *The Journal of Asian American Studies*, which will focus on transnational Asian American history. She will be co-editing this edition with Erika Lee (Minnesota). She also is writing an introduction to the translation of the Hawai'i journalist Yasutaro Soga's memoir, *Behind Barbed Wire*, which will be published by the University of Hawai'i press.

## Faculty Books 2005–2006



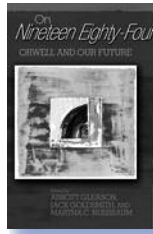
Omer Bartov, *The "Jew" in Cinema From the Golem to Don't Touch my Holocaust* (Indiana University Press, 2005).



Jorge Flores and Nuno Vassall e Silva, eds., *Goa and the Great Mughal*, (Lisbon and London: Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation and Scala Publishers, 2004).



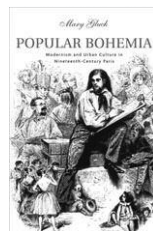
Paul Buhle and Nicole Schulman, eds., *WOBBLIES! A Graphic History of the Industrial Workers of the World* (New York: Verso, 2005, the centenary of the IWW).



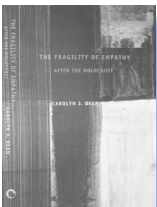
Abbott Gleason, Jack Goldsmith and Martha Nussbaum, eds., *On Nineteen Eighty-Four: Orwell and Our Future* (Princeton University Press, 2005).



Deborah Cohen and Maura O'Connor, eds. *Comparison and History: Europe in Cross-National Perspective* (Routledge, 2004).



Mary Gluck, *Popular Bohemia: Modernism and Urban Culture in Nineteenth-Century Paris* (Harvard University Press, 2004).



Carolyn Dean, *The Fragility of Empathy After the Holocaust* (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 2004).



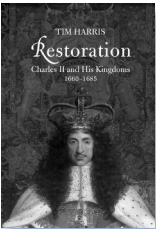
Stephen Graubard, *Command of Office: How War, Secrecy and Deception Transformed the Presidency from Theodore Roosevelt to George W. Bush* (Basic Books, 2004; pbk January 2006).



James Green,  
Homossexualismo em São  
Paulo e outros escritos  
(Editora Unesp, 2005).



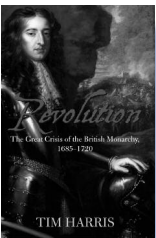
James Patterson, Restless  
Giant: The United States  
from Watergate to Bush v.  
Gore (Oxford Press, 2005).



Tim Harris, Restoration:  
Charles II and His Kingdoms  
1660-1685 (Penguin, 2005;  
pbk January 2006).



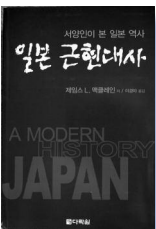
Seth Rockman, Welfare  
Reform in the Early Republic  
(Bedford/St.Martin's Press,  
2003).



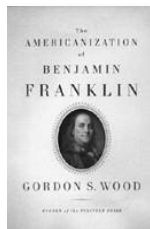
Tim Harris, Revolution: The  
Great Crisis of the British  
Monarchy, 1685-1720  
(Penguin, January 2006).



Robert Self, American  
Babylon: Race and the  
Struggle for Postwar Oakland  
(Princeton University Press,  
2003).



James McClain, Ihl Bohn:  
Geun hyun deh sah  
(Darakwon Publishing  
Company in Seoul, Korea,  
2005).



Gordon Wood, The  
Americanization of Benjamin  
Franklin (Penguin, 2004;  
pbk 2005).

## Faculty Activities

**ENGIN AKARLI** gave talks on various aspects of the Ottoman legal system in the eighteenth century and its transformation in the nineteenth at Harvard, Columbia Chicago, and Oxford Universities as well as at Martin-Luther-Universitaet Halle-Wittenberg and the History Department Workshop at Brown. His article “Law and Communal Identity in Ottoman Lebanon, 1909–1912” has been published in Turkish. Professor Akarli received a research fellowship from the Islamic Legal Studies Program at Harvard Law School and will be on leave during the 2005–2006 academic year. Finally, he was elected for a four-year term to the Editorial Board of the *International Journal of Middle East Studies*.

In early 2005 **OMER BARTOV'S** new book, *The “Jew” in Cinema: From The Golem to Don't Touch My Holocaust*, was published by Indiana University Press. His *Hitler's Army* came out in a Polish translation and will soon be published also in Spanish and Portuguese. He also continued research on the East Galician town of Buczacz, and spent the month of June 2004 at the International Research Center for Cultural Studies in Vienna, Austria, where he worked in the archives as well as making a research trip to Ukraine. Professor Bartov presented papers on his research at various venues, including Paris, Berlin, Jerusalem, Vienna, Princeton, and Harvard. He continued leading the research project “Borderlands: Ethnicity, Identity, and Violence in the Shatter-Zone of Empires Since 1848” at Brown's Watson Institute. Ten visiting researchers delivered papers to the Borderlands Seminar during the year, which culminated in May with a workshop that gathered together some 15 leading scholars in East European, Russian, and Jewish history. In November 2004 he organized the international conference “Lessons & Legacies,” hosted by Brown University, in which some 220 major scholars of the

Holocaust and other genocides participated. In addition, he continued serving as general editor of the series *Studies on War and Genocide* with Berghahn Books. Professor Bartov reports that one of the highlights of his year was the lecture course, “Modern Genocide and Other Crimes against Humanity,” which attracted some 240 students, as well as a graduate research seminar on interethnic relations. As a member of the President's Steering Committee on Slavery and Justice he will have spent part of the summer writing a portion of its final report after two intensive years of work.

**MARI JO BUHLE** has stepped down—after several years of service—as chair of the Department of American Civilization and looks forward to teaching full-time again. She spent much of this past year working on two, college-level textbooks: the fifth edition *Out of Many: A History of the American People* (Prentice-Hall); and (with two other historians) a new textbook on U.S. women's history, forthcoming from Prentice-Hall. She continues to research and teach in the history of the behavioral sciences as well as the history of U.S. women and gender.

During the 2004–5 academic year, **HOWARD CHUDACOFF** devoted considerable time to campus activities, serving on the search committee for a new university librarian, participating in a group convened to discuss the remodeling of the Science Library, and continuing in his position as Brown University's Faculty Athletic Representative to the NCAA. He currently is continuing the writing of his book, *Child's Play: The Contest Over Children's Culture, Colonial Times to the Present*, which will be published by New York University Press, 2006, and will be giving presentations at conferences at Marquette University and the University of California at Berkeley later this year. In May he was awarded the prestigious Karen



T. Romer Prize for Undergraduate Advising and Mentoring for his years of distinguished interaction with Brown students.

Last year **DEBORAH COHEN** was on leave to finish her book, *Household Gods: The British and their Possessions*. It will be published by Yale University Press in 2006.

**DOUGLAS COPE** published an essay on urban labor in seventeenth-century Mexico for a volume entitled *Historia de la vida cotidiana en México: la ciudad barroca*. In August 2004 he participated in the International Seminar on the History of the Atlantic World at Harvard University, which focused on indigenous cultures. He is currently working on a study of colonial Mexico City's "informal economy."

**RICHARD DAVIS**, on leave for the Spring semester, divided his time between Taipei and Shanghai while finishing a biography of an emperor of early tenth-century China, Zhuangzong of Later Tang. The long-awaited *Cambridge History of China*, Volume 5 will be published in September 2005 by Cambridge University Press, for which he authored three chapters. Reviews of his translation of the *Historical Records Of The Five Dynasties*, published by Columbia University Press in early 2004, have been appearing in a broad range of journals, including the *Medieval Review*.

**CAROLYN J. DEAN'S** most recent book, *The Fragility of Empathy after the Holocaust*, was published by Cornell University Press in November 2004. She also published an article in *Rethinking History* about the current state of Intellectual history. An article on "Recent French Discourses on Stalinism, Nazism and 'Exorbitant' Jewish Memory" is forthcoming in *History & Memory*. A review essay of Berel Lang's work on Post-Holocaust is in press at *History and*

*Theory*, and another on recent books about memory and forgetting is in press at *The New Republic*. She spoke at Cornell University on her new project about changing constructions of the figure of the victim in the U.S. and Western Europe after World War II. She will leave the Department and teaching temporarily for three years to take up a position as Associate Dean of the Faculty.

**ABBOTT GLEASON'S** co-edited volume, *Nineteen Eighty-Four: George Orwell and Our Future*, was published by Princeton University Press in June, 2005. He completed articles for *The Encyclopedia of Europe 1914–2004* and the *Dizionario del Comunismo*. He is presently editing the Blackwell's Companion to Russian History. Professor Gleason retired on June 30, 2005.

**MARY GLUCK'S** *Popular Bohemia: Modernism and Urban Culture in Nineteenth-Century Paris* came out with Harvard University Press in February 2005. She has also completed an article related to the theme of the book, entitled "Sites of Modernity: The City and the Novel" that is forthcoming in *Modernism/Modernity*. She is currently working on the connections between everyday life and modernity, on Jewish humor in nineteenth-century Budapest and on the continuing relevance of bohemia in contemporary life.

**ELLIOTT GORN** continues to work on a book about gangsters in the 1930s, John Dillinger in particular. He will be on leave 2005–2006 at the Huntington Library in Los Angeles.

**STEPHEN R. GRAUBARD'S** book *Command of Office: How War, Secrecy and Deception Transformed the Presidency from Theodore Roosevelt to George W. Bush* was published by Basic Books in early October 2004. The British version, *The Presidents: The Transformation of the Presidency from Theodore Roosevelt to George*

## Faculty Activities continued

*W. Bush*, published by Allen Lane, appeared in January 2005. It was widely and favorably reviewed, with the *History Guild* offering it as a special selection for its subscribers at Easter. It will appear in a paperback Penguin edition in January 2006. Professor Graubard is now at work on an intellectual history of Great Britain and the United States since 1900.

**TIM HARRIS'S** *Restoration: Charles II and His Kingdoms, 1660–1685* was published by Penguin in April 2005. Its sequel—*Revolution: The Great Crisis of the British Monarchy, 1685–1720*—will appear in January 2006 (as will the paperback version of *Restoration*). Professor Harris also published an essay on ‘The Reality Behind the Merry Monarchy’ in *History Today* (June 2005) and took part in a BBC Radio 3 documentary on the Glorious Revolution (‘The King’s Bloody Nose’) which aired on Boxing Day 2004. His work took him to Baltimore, Washington D.C., Montreal, Dublin, London, Cambridge, and, of course, West Byfleet. He was Acting Chair of the Department in the fall semester of 2004 and tells us that he remains particularly proud of the Christmas party.

During the fall semester, 2004, Professor **EMERITA PATRICIA HERLIHY** was a visiting Professor at Providence College where she taught a graduate seminar in Russian Social History. In October she lectured on Napoleon I on a Brown Alumni tour of the French and Italian Riviera. She published “Port Jews of Odessa and Trieste: A Tale of Two Cities,” in *Yearbook 2003*, Simon Dubnow Institute, University of Leipzig. In March, 2005, she presented a paper, “The Persuasive Power of the Odessa Myth,” at a conference, “After the Fall: European Integration and Urban History” at Harvard University. In May–June, 2005, she lectured on Russian and Ukrainian history on a 26-day tour of the Black

Sea. She was awarded a Mellon Grant to write a biography of an American diplomat Eugene Schuyler (1840–1890) and continues to work as a Research Professor at Brown’s Watson Institute for International Studies.

**EVELYN HU-DEHART** will be on leave from Brown next Academic Year, and will be Freeman Visiting Professor at Wesleyan in American Studies, Asian Studies, and Asian American Studies. She also has a new book coming out later this year: Evelyn Hu-DeHart (co-editor K.E. Kuah-Pearce), *Voluntary Associations In The Chinese Diaspora*. Hong Kong University Press and a new article: “Opium and Social Control: Coolies on the Plantations of Peru and Cuba.” *Journal Of Chinese Overseas*. Vol. 1, no. 2 (December 2005).

Over the past year, **NANCY JACOBS** continued work on her study of people and birds in sub-Saharan Africa, conducting research in the United Kingdom. Much of her effort, however, was dedicated to developing curricular materials for her new web-based lecture course “Twentieth-Century Africa.” The centerpiece of the course is the “Animated Atlas of African History” developed with the assistance of Brown’s Instructional Technology Group. The map (which is still in development) is publicly accessible at:

<http://www.brown.edu/Research/AAAH/>

**KARL JACOBY** wrote two essays over the past year. The first, completed with the help of UTRAs Susan Oba and Linda Evarts, showcased a previously unknown first-hand account of the Wounded Knee Massacre, in which soldiers from the 7<sup>th</sup> Cavalry killed some 250 Sioux Indians in 1890. The second article presented some new ways of thinking about the ties (and tensions) between social and environmental history. Jacoby will be

on leave next year thanks to a fellowship from the American Council of Learned Societies, which will enable him to complete a draft of his current book on ethnic relations in the nineteenth-century U.S.-Mexico borderlands.

**RHETT S. JONES** now has in press “Black Resistance in the Americas before Blackness” in the *Journal of Black Studies*; “Civilization and Its Discontents: Black Life in the Eighteenth Century Cities of British North America” in an anthology on blacks in cities; “Dreams, Nightmares, and Realities: Afro-American Studies at Brown University, 1969–1986” for a black studies anthology; “History of Afro-Indian History” for an introductory Africana Studies reader; “Malcolm X’s Normative Leadership” for an anthology on Afro-American leadership; “Methodology and Meaning: The Sociology of Malcolm X” in an anthology on Malcolm X; “Orphans of the Americas: Why the Existence of Zambo Societies has been Denied” in *The Journal of African American Studies*; “Pan-Africanism as Sub-Africanity in the United States” in an anthology on Pan-Africanism; and “Zambo Histories” in an anthology on Afro-American History. He continues as a Contributing Editor to *Black Masks*, as a contributing Writer to *Pepper Bird Magazine*, and has been named to the editorial board of *Ethnic Studies*. He also serves as consultant to the American Beach project in Florida, and has been named as an Affiliated Scholar in the Philadelphia Museum of African American History and Culture.

**CARL KAESTLE** has directed the Advanced Studies Fellowship at Brown for the past three years. An invitational conference of historians, political scientists, and policy practitioners capped the program. A number of presentations by the Fellows were historical in nature, including David Gamson of Penn State, on the similarities between

Progressive-era and 1950s education reforms; Beth Rose (Trinity College) on the history of pre-Kindergarten education as a policy issue and Adam Nelson (Brown Ph.D; now at Wisconsin) on contrary definitions of educational equality in the 1970s Supreme Court. Colleagues James Patterson and Howard Chudacoff served as mentors to some of the fellows during the program; a volume of the Fellows’ essays is planned.

Since his retirement and move to Westport MA in 2003, **R. BURR LITCHFIELD** has participated in conferences and has appeared as a guest lecturer in courses at Brown. He has written many book reviews, published an article in the *Journal of Modern Italian Studies* and completed a book, *Florence Ducal Capital, 1530–1630*, that is to be published as an e-book in the American Council of Learned Societies History E-Book series. A new web site “An Online Gazetteer of Sixteenth Century Florence” based on the Buonsignori axonometric map of 1584 that is being developed by the Brown Scholarly Technology Group will be attached to the e-book and will be available in about a year.

In 2004 **BRYCE LYON** published *The Wardrobe Book for 1296–1297: A Financial Account for Edward I’s Campaign Against Philip IV of France in 1297*, his twenty-sixth book. He also published the article: “Henri Pirenne: *Connu or Inconnu?*” *Revue Belge de Philologie et d’Histoire*, 81, 2004, pp. 1231–1241. He continues to give lectures at Dartmouth College.

**MAUD MANDEL’S** book project, *Beyond Antisemitism: Muslims and Jews in Contemporary France*, received an advance contract from Princeton University Press. In addition, she was awarded the Schmitt Grant from the American Historical Association to help fund her research. Her article, “Transnationalism and its Discontents

## Faculty Activities continued

during the 1948 Arab/Israeli War,” was accepted for publication in the journal *Diaspora*. In addition, she participated in an international symposium on the future of European Jewish history at the University of Tel Aviv in Israel. Professor Mandel was promoted to the rank of Associate Professor with tenure this year.

During a sabbatical semester in the fall, **JIM MCCLAIN** visited Korea where he oversaw completion of his book *Ihl Bohn: Geun hyun deh sab*, published by Darakwon Publishing Company in the spring of 2005. He also spent three months as a Visiting Professor at Keiō University in Tokyo. While in Japan he traveled to various archives and museums to conduct preliminary research for a forthcoming book to be entitled *Tokyo Modern: The Dominance of the Middle Class in Twentieth Century Japan*. He returned to campus in January to begin his second term as department chair.

**RICHARD MECKEL** co-edited *Children and Youth in Sickness and Health* (2004), a collection of scholarly essays and primary documents that represent the first attempt to provide a broad and comprehensive overview of the health and health care of America's young from the colonial period to the present. He also gave an invited lecture on the Great Depression and the politics of American child health care at an international symposium on the state and child health sponsored by McGill University.

**TONY MOLHO** continues to serve as Head of the Department of History and Civilization of the European University Institute (EUI). On 1 October 2005, he shall give up the Headship to become the first holder of a new Chair of Mediterranean Studies at the Centre Robert Schumann of the EUI. He also continues to direct the Academy of

European History of the EUI. The summer 2004 session, devoted to “Empires and States in European History,” was held in Olympia, Greece. The summer 2005 session, devoted to “Population Movements in European History” will be held at the Institute. During the past year, he lectured in Athens, Thessaloniki, and Pisa and published articles on Carlo Ginzburg, in the *European History of Ideas*; on the Mediterranean as a category of historical analysis in a collective volume on the Mediterranean (published in Pisa); and on contemporary Greek historiography in a collective, 2-volume work on Greek history in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, published by the National Research Foundation in Athens. He is currently in the final stages of editing a collective book (to be published by Berghahn Books) whose provisional title is: *Rethinking the History of Europe: Discourses, and Images*. Among the volume's 17 contributors is Francesca Trivellato, one of his former doctoral students at Brown.

**CHARLES E. NEU**, emeritus (American foreign relations), retired from Brown in June 2003 and is now Adjunct Professor of History at the University of Miami. In March he led a group of Brown travelers to Vietnam and Cambodia, and in July he directed an NEH Summer Seminar for College Teachers on the Vietnam War at the University of Miami. In January his *America's Lost War: Vietnam, 1945–1975*, was published by Harlan Davidson, Inc., and in early 2006 his co-edited volume of essays, *Artists of Power: Theodore Roosevelt, Woodrow Wilson, and Their Enduring Impact on U.S. Foreign Policy*, will appear. He was recently appointed to the National Advisory Council of the Vietnam Center at Texas Tech University. Year-round swimming in South Florida is great!, he reports. Former students can reach him at 4929 S.W. 71st Place, Miami FL 33155 or at [cneu@bellsouth.net](mailto:cneu@bellsouth.net).



**TARA NUMMEDAL** continues to work on her book *Alchemy and the Battle for Authority in the Holy Roman Empire*, which takes the problem of fraud as a point of entry into the world of alchemical practice in the sixteenth and seventeenth-century central Europe. She recently presented some of this work in the History and Philosophy of Science Seminar Series at McGill University in Montreal. At the Sixteenth Century Studies Conference in Toronto last fall, she organized a session on “Gender and Knowledge,” in which she presented research from her next project, *Anna Zieglerin and the Lion’s Blood: A Female Alchemist’s Career in Reformation Europe*. Nummedal was recently awarded an NEH Fellowship, which will allow her to spend the 2005–2006 academic year on leave completing her book on fraud and alchemy.

**JAMES PATTERSON** devoted some of his time to helping advanced graduate students develop their dissertations: two students—Robert Fleegler and Daniel Williams—received their doctoral degrees in May 2005. He also served as a lecturer for two alumni trips, one to Normandy and southern England, the other to the Low Countries. He focused above all on completing a book, *Restless Giant: The United States from Watergate to Bush v. Gore*, which was published as part of the Oxford History of the United States series in September 2005.

**KURT RAAFLAUB’S** book, *The Discovery of Freedom in Ancient Greece*, published by the University of Chicago Press in 2004, was awarded the American Historical Association’s James Henry Breasted Prize for the best book written in English on any period before 1,000 CE. He has completed papers and chapters on Thucydides’ views on democracy, epic and history, warfare in “Homeric society,” and the rise of Rome from village to

empire. His current research focuses on the beginnings of political thought in ancient Greece, especially in its relation to forms of political thinking in earlier and contemporaneous societies in ancient West Asia and Egypt. As director of the Program in Ancient Studies, he has organized a lecture series and taught a seminar on “Writing History in the Ancient World”—a subject he plans to pursue in a conference in the near future.

**AMY G. REMENSNYDER** gained new insights into the History program by teaching at both ends of the curriculum last year: History 1 for first and second-year undergraduates and the introductory seminar for first-year Ph.D. students. She also taught a graduate seminar on medieval Spain and continued to serve as Graduate Advisor. She published an article and gave two conference papers related to the book she is writing about the Virgin Mary in medieval Spain and colonial Mexico.

**JOAN RICHARDS** was on leave in the fall, pursuing her book-length study of the Frennd/De Morgan as a fellow of the Max Planck Institut für Wissenschafts Geschichte in Berlin. She returned to Brown to teach courses in the history of science during the spring term. This fall she will be teaching An Introduction to Science Studies as a University course, as well as The Rise of the Scientific Worldview in the history department.

**DONALD G. ROHR** edited travel diaries, 1823–1824 and is writing “The Young John Carter Brown in Europe.”

In March of 2005 **THOMAS SKIDMORE** delivered two lectures in Porto Alegre and Cruz Alta on “An American Reflects on 40 Years in Brazil.” In June 2005 he delivered a lecture on “Brazilian Democracy: Past and Future” at the Bildner Center for Western Hemispheric Studies at the Graduate Center of the City University of

## Faculty Activities continued

New York and in March 2005 participated in a panel discussion on “Populism and Democracy” at the Instituto de Estudos Internacionais (Sao Paulo). In the fall of 2005 he published the 6<sup>th</sup> ed. of *Modern Latin America* (Oxford University Press), co-authored with Peter H. Smith.

**KERRY SMITH** continues to work on a book about the social and cultural histories of the Great Kanto Earthquake of 1923, and he spoke on that topic at a series of conferences this past year. He also appeared as a featured commentator on a new *History Channel* series, “The Last Days of World War II,” which ran from February through August 2005.

**MARK SWISLOCKI** divided his time between new course development and research and writing for his book, *A Sense of Time and Place: Shanghai Foodways and Chinese Cultural Memory*.

**MICHAEL VORENBERG** continues to work on his book on the impact of the Civil War on American citizenship. He spoke on this subject at a public presentation in Las Vegas, Nevada, and at the Southern Historical Association meeting in Memphis, Tennessee. He also completed three essays related to the topic, two of which will be published in anthologies and the third in *Civil War History*. Finally, he joined the Editorial Board of *Law and History Review*.

**LEA WILLIAMS** completed four voyages on a Russian ice-hardened vessel down to the Antarctic peninsula in February and March and one circumnavigation of the Japanese archipelago in April and May. At the end of June, he headed out for a month on a Russian nuclear icebreaker for two trips to the North Pole, weather and pack ice permitting. A dividend of all this seafaring was the publication in August of his semi-autobiographical, semi-investigative book

*Voyaging, an Inside Look at Sea Travel or the World Through a Porthole*.

**GORDON WOOD** spent the academic year 2004–05 on leave working on several projects: *The Oxford History of the Early Republic, 1789–1815* and a collection of essays on the founders, tentatively entitled *Revolutionary Characters*. He presented lectures at the John Adams Home for the National Park Service, at the Society for the History of the Early Republic meeting in Providence, the Jimmy Carter Museum in Atlanta, Ohio State University, the Massachusetts Historical Society in Deerfield, the New York Historical Society, Brown’s Parents Weekend, the Cambridge Forum, the RI Historical Society, San Diego Law School, Las Vegas Law School, Bristol RI on Presidents’ Day, Illinois State University, the American Antiquarian Society, Northern Colorado University, the North Kingston Library, and the University of Connecticut. He also served as one of two commentators on Justice Stephen Breyer’s Tanner Lectures given in November, 2004, at Harvard. He gave several radio interviews and one to German television. He wrote several reviews for *The New Republic*, the *New York Review of Books*, and the Washington Post. His book *The Americanization of Benjamin Franklin* was awarded the 2005 Julia Ward Howe Prize by the Boston Authors Club. Professor Wood served on the search committee for the directorship of the John Carter Brown Library and on an ad-hoc committee for a tenure appointment at Harvard University. He continues to serve as chair of the academic advisory committee for the National Constitution Center and on the boards of trustees for Colonial Williamsburg and the National Council for History Education.

## Prizes

2005

**Gaspee Chapter DAR “woman student who presents the best paper written as a class assignment in an American history course.”**

**EMILY NEMENS** for an examination of the relationship between landscape painting and nationalism.

**JAMIE FLEISCHMAN** for the “‘Twice as Real...as the Peace that Followed’: Walker Percey’s Civil War.”

**GRETA PEMBERTON** for the paper “*Politea Americana*: The Classical Influence on American Constitutions.”

**MONICA MARTINEZ** for “The Bracero: Mexico’s Lost Resource.”

**SALLY WALKERMAN** for her honors thesis “A Captain’s Nightmare: The Arctic Whaling Disaster of 1871.”

**Marjorie Harris Weiss “outstanding undergraduate woman majoring in History”**

**JESSICA KREMEN** for her honors thesis, “Women, Infants and Medical Care in London Charitable Maternity Hospitals, 1880-1930.”

**CAITLIN DEANGELIS** for “Proud to Be An American: Patriotism and the American Military in Post-9/11 Popular Country Music.”

**Samuel C. Lamport in International Understanding with an emphasis on cooperation and tolerance**

**KATHARINE MOORE** for her honors thesis, “The Rabbi and the Republic: French Jews and the Separation of Church and State, 1879–1906.”

**REBECCA SIMON** for “Farmers and Political Thinkers: A Comparison of Hesiod’s *Works and Days* and Nate Shaw’s Stories in *All God’s Dangers*.”

**LILLIAN GUENTHER** for “Bohuslav Martinu and the Boston Symphony Orchestra: A Musical Collaboration, 1925–1959.”

**HILARY FALB** for “Internalizing Iran: The Post-Mosaddegh Era Intellectuals and the Coming Revolution.”

**TAKURO NOGUCHI** for “Negotiating a Middle Ground.”

**The Claiborne Pell Medal for excellence in U.S. history**

**SARAH BOWMAN** for distinguished course work and her honors thesis, “Constructing ‘Our Second Great Historical Epoch’: The Massachusetts Historical Society during the United States Civil War.”

## PhDs Awarded

2004–2005

**FLEEGLER, ROBERT** “A Nation of Immigrants: The Rise of “Contributionism” in the United States, 1924–1965”; lecturer, University of Rhode Island

**IMAI, SHIHO** “Creating the Nisei Market: Japanese American Consumer Culture in Honolulu, 1920–1941”; asst. prof., SUNY, Potsdam

**KADANE, MATTHEW** “The Watchful Clothier: The Diary of an Eighteenth-Century Protestant-Capitalist”; asst. prof., Hobart and William Smith Colleges

**LAFANTASIE, GLENN W.** “William C. Oates: A Biography”; asst. prof., University of Maine, Farmington

**MCGINITY, KEREN R.** “Still Jewish: A History of Women and Intermarriage in America”; visiting asst. prof., Brown University

**O'BRIEN, EMILY D.** “The Anatomy of an Apology: The War Against Conciliarism and the Politicization of Papal Authority in the *Commentarii* of Pope Pius II, 1458–1464”; asst. prof., Simon Fraser University, British Columbia

**VARI, ALEXANDRU I.** “Commercialized Modernities: A History of City Marketing and Urban Tourism Promotion in Paris and Budapest from the Nineteenth-Century to the Interwar Period”; postdoctoral fellow, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh

**WILLIAMS, DANIEL** “From the Pews to the Polls: The Formation of a Southern Christian Right”; asst. prof., University of West Georgia

**YETTER, LEIGH** “Attitudes to Crime, Criminality, and the Law in Print in England, c.1580–c.1700”; visiting asst. prof., Brown University



### Florence Exchange Students

Irene Fattaciu and Nicola Borchi



## Reflections on the History Graduate Program

The year ahead promises to be an exciting one for the Graduate Program. The History Department eagerly looks forward to the arrival of five new outstanding Ph.D. students along with five very able M.A. students, selected from the one hundred and fifty applicants to the program. Their fields of interests range from modern Japan to medieval Europe. This intellectual diversity is also reflected in the increasing numbers of students who choose each year to prepare preliminary examination fields in African History and Middle Eastern History. To be sure, the Department's core strengths in US and European History continue to attract top-notch students, but this widening of geographical perspectives is most welcome. It makes our students beautifully poised to become the sort of teachers and scholars needed in this era of globalization. Some too are beginning to cast their ambitions beyond the academic world by studying Public History, the art of using historians' skills outside the field of higher education.

I am pleased to report that our current students continue to shine as Teaching Assistants and young scholars. Their collective talents were much in evidence in their terrific success in winning university and external fellowships. The grants that students from the Department will hold in the academic year 2005–6 include Beinecke, Chateaubriand, Fulbright, Huntington Library, Humboldt, Javits, and Mellon fellowships, as well as the American Association of University Women American Dissertation Fellowship, the Council for European Studies Pre-Dissertation Fellowship, the Dolores Zohrab Liebmann Fellowship, the Gilder Lehrmann Institute Fellowship, the Institute for Historical Research Fellowship, the Maude Howlett Woodfin-Susan

Lough Grant, the Northeast Consortium For Faculty Diversity Dissertation Fellowship, and the Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation-Mellon Mays Dissertation Grant. This long and impressive list is a tribute to our students' exceptional quality.

Hearty congratulations are also due to the nine students who received their Ph.D.s in May 2005. Two will stay on at Brown as Visiting Assistant Professors for a year, one has received a prestigious post-doctoral fellowship at Carnegie Mellon University, while yet others will be taking up faculty positions at Harvard University, Hobart and William Smith Colleges, Simon Fraser University, SUNY Potsdam, the University of Maine, and the University of West Georgia. We wish them all well and look forward to news of their continued successes.

As we welcome the incoming class this fall, we will also welcome a new Dean of the Graduate School, for Professor Karen Newman has just completed her term in this position. It is thanks to her skilled leadership over the last three years that Brown graduate students now enjoy stipends comparable to and in some cases much better than those of our peer institutions. (Of course we always wish that more funding were available to our students, particularly for summer language study and pre-dissertation trips to the Archives.) I am confident that the new Dean, Professor Sheila Bonde (a medievalist, I must proudly point out), will continue with the initiatives to enhance graduate education at Brown that President Ruth Simmons has made such a priority.

Amy G. Remensnyder

## Reflections on the History Honors Program

This year, the honors program produced a bumper crop. Twenty-six students completed theses that were awarded honors, and a number of these papers were truly exceptional. It was difficult selecting the best, but three, in the end, not only incorporated original research but presented syntheses of material so sophisticated and challenging that our faculty believe they are publishable as monographs. Sarah Bowman wrote, "Constructing 'Our Second Great Historical Epoch': The Massachusetts Historical Society During the United States Civil War." Under the direction of Professor Michael Vorenberg, Sarah ingeniously examined the ways in which the Massachusetts Historical Society reinterpreted history to account for slavery as a cause of the Civil War. David Petruccelli, working with Professor Omer Bartov, produced "Detectives Under the Swastika: The Organization, Actions, and Men of the German Criminal Police During the National Socialist Period," an extraordinarily close look at how one group of police was transformed from investigating to, in effect, creating crime. And Alexander Provan wrote "Everything Connects: Harry Smith and the Anthology of American Folk Music," a highly creative evaluation of a seminal figure in Twentieth Century American culture. Alex worked with Professor Abbott Gleason, whose specialty is Russian history. Professor Gleason's breadth of interest is so expansive that in his many years in our department he has supervised honors students whose topics range far a field from his recognized area of expertise. Professor Gleason retires this year, but has promised to remain active in our honors program. At least, after he reads this, I hope he has no choice!

There were a great number of other notable theses. Sally Walkerman received the Gaspee Chapter DAR Prize for "A Captain's Nightmare: The Arctic Whaling Disaster of 1871" under the direction of Professor John Thomas. Jessica Kremen received the Marjorie Harris Weiss Award for "Women, Infants and Medical Care in London Charitable Maternity Hospitals, 1880-1930," directed by Professor Carolyn Dean. Jessica shared the award with Caitlin DeAngelis, who won for her paper, "Proud To Be an American: Patriotism and the American Military in Post-9/11 Popular Country Music," written in Professor Andrew Huebner's class. Caitlin's thesis, "Sally Jackson's Wedding Dress: Women's Consumption and the Nonimportation Movement in Boston," was also quite notable. For her thesis on the Massachusetts Historical Society, Sarah Bowman also received the Claiborne Pell Medal for Excellence in United States History. Even with all this work recognized, faculty felt that several other theses contained publishable material.

And lest you think we're all brain and no brawn, kudos go to Sally Walkerman and Edward (Ward) Young for captaining their outstanding sailing teams. Sally, we noted above, wrote on the whaling industry. Ward, also under the direction of Professor Thomas, wrote a highly successful thesis on a Long Island bridge that Robert Moses proposed but never managed to convince Nelson Rockefeller to build. So, both our sailors wrote on sea-related topics. Harder to connect athletic interests to thesis topic is Joshua Champagne, who wrote "Trusted Allies, Bloody Assassins? Western Perspectives on the Yugoslav Lands and People, 1914-1941." Josh also captained Brown's national champion

Ultimate Frisbee squad and last summer led some forty Brown students on a cross-country bicycle tour, Build & Bike, stopping along the way to help build homes for the needy. This year's Bike & Build leader was also a History concentrator, Hunter Bergschneider.

Once again we were able to host a reception for all honors students and senior concentrators at the Faculty Club. And, again, we were able to support thesis research with a travel stipend to any student who requested it. Because of the generosity of a donor who wishes to remain anonymous, we are able to increase that stipend to \$300 per student. To those of you who have contributed to our honors fund and other undergraduate needs, we extend our deepest gratitude.

Professor John (Jack) Thomas, who died just weeks after students finished their theses, was for decades the bulwark of the honors program. He designed and directed it, and, even in retirement and in failing health, continued to guide individual students with rigor and compassion in undertaking superior, professional work. Near his final days, he insisted on reading honors theses from his hospital bed. His presence, certainly within the department but especially for the many undergraduate students for whom he was an enthusiastic, yet discriminating, mentor, will be greatly missed.

I will end this report the way Jack Thomas would have wished. The class of '05 was completing its first week at Brown when 9/11 occurred. We saw a great deal of understandable anxiety over the next year or two as students struggled to make sense of an incomprehensible world. But I'm delighted to say that this class graduated full of energy and outstanding accomplishment. It was deeply gratifying to witness such resilience.



# THANK YOU

## Visiting Professors

Jorge Flores,  
Andrew Huebner,  
Neeti Nair,  
*and*  
Ken Sacks



## One winner

from last  
year's contest....

**William Tatum III**

## 2004–2005 History Department Honors Recipients

AKKOYUNLU, KARABEKIR	Bringing the Myth Down to Earth: Perspectives in the Cosmopolitan City of Istanbul during the Battle of Gallipoli
ARBEIT, JEFFREY	A Moment in Crime: A Further Examination of the Brink's Robbery
BEIDLER, JACOB	Stolen Streets: The Exploitative Development of Chicago's Transit System, 1880–1900
BERMAN, ADRIANE	Rabbi Baruch Korff: How an Ardent Advocate for Jewish Causes Became an Unlikely Defender of Richard Nixon during the Watergate Scandal
BOWMAN, SARAH	Constructing 'Our Second Great Historical Epoch': The Massachusetts Historical Society during the United States Civil War
BROWN, STEPHEN	Slavery's Echoes: Civil Liberties, Conservatism, and the Imperiled Union in the Age of the Negro Seaman's Act
CHAMPAGNE, JOSHUA	Trusted Allies, Bloody Assassins? Western Perspectives on the Yugoslav Lands and People, 1914–1941
DEANGELIS, CAITLIN	Sally Jackson's Wedding Dress: Women's Consumption and the Nonimportation Movement in Boston
DEBOER, JAMES	Paddy in Rhode Island: Perceptions of the Irish in Mid-Nineteenth Century America
GRIFFONS, MEGAN	Unfit To Serve? The Story of IV-Fs During World War II
KREMEN, JESSICA	"The Way He Is Mothered": Women, Infants and Medical Care in London Charitable Maternity Hospitals, 1880–1930
LEFF, BENJAMIN	The Story Hoosiers Love to Tell About Themselves Remembering Milan's 1954 Indiana State Basketball Championship

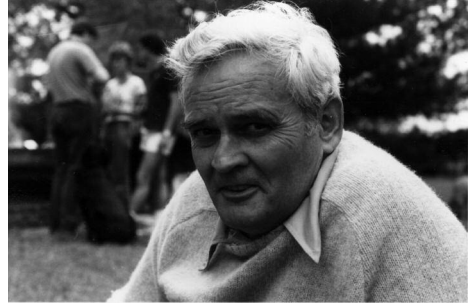


- MOORE, KATHARINE** The Rabbi and the Republic: French Jews and the Separation of Church and State, 1879–1906
- NGAOTHEPPITAK, PALIN** Paris Vivant: The Cultural and Intellectual Life of Paris during the German Occupation, 1940–1944
- NICHOLS, JOHN** Fallen Soldiers: Remembering the Centralia Tragedy of 1919
- NOGUCHI, TAKURO** “The Residue of Design” How Branch Rickey Organized the St. Louis Cardinals, 1881–1946
- PAVLAKIS, ALEXANDRA** The Greek Diaspora of South Africa: The Early Beginnings to 1970
- PETRUCCELLI, DAVID** Detectives Under the Swastika: The Organization, Actions, and Men of the German Criminal Police During the National Socialist Period
- PROVAN, ALEXANDER** Everything Connects: Harry Smith and the Anthology of American Folk Music
- RIS, ETHAN** Fighting for the Public Good: Political Economy in Rhode Island 1750–1800
- ROOSEVELT, THERESA** Unintended Uses of Gitmo: The Evolving Story of Refugees at the U.S. Naval Base, 1959–1995
- ROSENBLOOM, ALEXA** Crime New’s Deal: FDR and the Federalization of Crime Policy
- SCHERMERHORN, PETER** Competing Visions: Historic Preservation and Institutional Expansion on Providence’s East Side 1937–1966
- TALMAN, STEFAN** Balkan Cities, Oriental Ghosts: The Balkan City in the Western Imagination, 1870–1930”
- WALKERMAN, SALLY** A Captain’s Nightmare: The Arctic Whaling Disaster of 1871
- YOUNG, EDWARD** Robert Moses’ Long Island Sound Crossing

## In Memorial

Meeting John L. Thomas was a bit like encountering a figure from one of Jack's brilliant histories of 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century America. There was the same flinty, New England resolve of a William Lloyd Garrison, the abolitionist who was the subject of Jack's first book, *The Liberator*. The same outrage at the inequities of American society that so moved Henry George, one of the central figures in Jack's analysis of Gilded Age reform, *Alternative America*. The same love of nature and of good writing that animated Bernard DeVoto and Wallace Stegner, the thinkers whose relationship was at the heart of Jack's recent *A Country of the Mind*. And the same hunger for intellectual friendship so important to Mari Sandoz, the Great Plains novelist and historian who was the subject of the manuscript that Jack was working on when he passed away in Providence on June 11, 2005 at the age of seventy-eight.

Jack first came to Brown in 1953 to earn a Ph.D. in the university's program in American Civilization. Other than a short stay in Cambridge in the early 1960s, when he was an assistant professor at Harvard, he would spend the next half-century at Brown as a member of the History Department. Although Jack earned remarkable acclaim for his research—his biography of Garrison received the 1964 Bancroft Prize, the most prestigious award given to American historians—his legacy as a teacher was even more impressive. For those of us who were fortunate enough to take one of his classes (as I did in 1986), the experience could be both thrilling and a little daunting. Jack had high expectations for his students, and he wasn't shy about letting us know when we weren't measuring up. Essays would come back tattooed with comments, and no shirking was permitted during classroom



discussions. I can still recall one afternoon when Jack, frustrated that we had little to offer about our weekly reading, blurted, "If you aren't prepared, I'm not going to waste my time here," and stormed out of the room. For a moment my classmates and I sat there in stunned silence—could professors do that, leave in the middle of class? But Jack had made his point: there was to be no coasting in his classroom. For the rest of the semester, we came to class ready to engage with the reading and with one another in a way that I've seldom seen equaled in any other class I've ever taken.

Despite his passionate interest in the affairs of the day and the latest historical scholarship, Jack often seemed as if he would have been more at home in the company of the turn-of-the-century reformers whose lives he limned so eloquently in his research. Jack had little use, for instance, for computers. He wrote mainly by hand or on a trusty manual typewriter. He never acquired an email account or spent time surfing the worldwide web. Even though the university bought him a computer shortly before his retirement, the machine remained in his office in the box in which it had arrived, untouched and unused. Instead, Jack savored his summers in his remote cabin in Maine. It was a quiet spot, ideal for reading, writing, and contemplation—and far from most intrusions of the modern world.

Although Jack technically retired as the George L. Littlefield Professor of American History in 2002, the effect of this transition on

his day-to-day life was negligible. His colonial home on Benefit Street remained a salon for everyone from undergraduates seeking advice on their honor theses, to graduate students on whose committees Jack still served, to colleagues hoping to get one of Jack's rigorous readings of their latest chapters. Visitors seldom failed to notice that in Jack's living room the place of pride was reserved not for his own work but for a stack of books written by his former students. The pile was impressive: over the course of his long career at Brown, Jack directed more than twenty-five dissertations in History and American Civilization and over fifty-five masters and honors theses. Indeed, many of today's leading historians (as well as many notable lawyers, journalists, businesspersons, and the like) can trace their intellectual genesis to a class they took as an undergraduate or graduate student with Jack.

John L. Thomas was married for forty-one years to Patricia Blake Thomas. He is survived by his son John, his daughter Jayn, and his grandchildren Blake and Chandler Ellis. There will be a memorial service in Jack's honor on Saturday, September 17, 2005 at 11 o'clock in Brown University's Sayles Hall. The family asks that in lieu of flowers, memorial contributions for the Professor Jack Thomas Fund can be made payable to: Brown University, c/o Brown University Gift Accounting, Box 1893, Providence, Rhode Island 02912, which will be used to support graduate studies and an annual prize for the best dissertation in history.

The above also appeared in the Brown Alumni Monthly.

**KARL JACOBY** ('87) is an associate professor in the History Department.

The 24th  
William F. Church Memorial Lecture

John G.A. Pocock  
Professor Emeritus,  
Johns Hopkins University

spoke on

*"The Inner Asian Frontiers of Europe:  
Gibbon's Concept of Barbarism"*

during the annual  
William F. Church Memorial Lecture  
on  
Thursday, April 7, 2005

## Keeping in Touch and Winning a Contest

We hope to feature more news and information about our graduates in future editions of the Newsletter. I hope all of you will write to us about your professional accomplishments and noteworthy personal developments. To encourage you to do so, the Department will send a copy of one book featured in this Newsletter to the first five of you to identify the building that graces the cover of the Newsletter.

Best,  
James L. McClain

**history**  
NEWSLETTER

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