

HISTORY

MATTERS

Brown University Department of History

Volume 31 / Spring 2017



BROWN

Café Central ca. 1900, Budapest. Meeting place for artists, intellectuals, and editors at the fin de siècle. From the Historical Photography Collection of the National Museum of Hungary and featured in Mary Gluck's new book, *The Invisible Jewish Budapest: Metropolitan Culture at the Fin de Siècle*.



History Matters

Brown University Department of History / Volume 31 / Spring 2017

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A Word from the Chair

As the 2016-2017 academic year draws to a close and commencement approaches, I welcome this opportunity to reflect on the accomplishments of, and developments in, the Department of History.

Before doing so, however, as the new chair of the department I'd like to take this opportunity to recognize the quite extraordinary accomplishments of the previous year, 2015-2016, and to thank the department, and especially the outgoing chair, Cynthia Brokaw, for making them possible. It was frankly an astonishing year in the number and breadth of History's activities. The department hired five new tenure-track faculty members (Holly Case, Bathsheba Demuth, Brian Lander, Jeremy Mumford, and Emily Owens), produced an 80-page self-study analyzing the department's strengths and potential future directions, drafted and approved a new Diversity and Inclusion Action Plan, and underwent an external review by a committee of four distinguished historians from peer universities. (For introductions to the new faculty, and for a detailed account of these activities, please see the 2016 Newsletter, which can be found on the department's web site.)

Any one of these undertakings, alongside the regular departmental activities of teaching and research, would have been a signal accomplishment for an academic year. Taken together, they are a record of energy and achievement unlike anything I've seen in a decade and a half in the department. And this is to say nothing of the usual, lengthy catalogue of workshops, conferences, speakers, and other programming on campus for which individual faculty members and the department as a whole were responsible. I cannot offer high enough praise for Cynthia's leadership in that unprecedentedly busy and consequential year.

In 2016-2017, the pace of events has slowed and the department has been able to return to something more like its accustomed and regular busy routine. As you will read in the following pages, History faculty

continue to publish widely, deliver talks and papers, and serve on a variety of boards and committees at Brown, in their fields, and in the profession at large. Moreover, as you'll learn from the individual narratives, in 2016-2017 History faculty sustained their exceptional record of garnering prestigious fellowships from a variety of organizations and institutions, including the American Council of Learned Societies, the Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation, the American Academy in Berlin, the Max Planck Institutes, and the European Institute, among many others. One of the great pleasures of being chair is to bear close witness to the process by which faculty members submit proposals and garner funding for their research. Observing that annual process is a reminder of the enormous breadth of scholarship conducted by the department's forty-some professors: from western antiquity to early China; from colonial Latin America to postcolonial North Africa; from Medieval Iberia to modern South Asia. And, as the saying goes, everything in between.

Indeed, if we step back momentarily and take a ten-year snapshot, rather than our accustomed academic year portrait, it is evident that History has evolved in two quite important and far-reaching respects in that time. The faculty has expanded significantly in size, by nearly twenty-five percent, and its specializations now range even more widely throughout the world, as more scholars of Africa, East Asia, Latin America, and the Middle East have joined the department. As a result of both developments, the department can now offer undergraduate courses and graduate training in almost all regions of the world.

As the department has expanded in size and geographic coverage, we've also introduced innovative curricular reforms. The most notable of these has been the development of what we call "History 150s" (so named for their numbering in the catalogue). These are introductory courses designed to span multiple continents and to cover centuries of time; they are wide-angle introductions to global historical phenomenon that draw students from across campus,

and they have served this purpose exceedingly well. Thus far, we've offered History 150s on the history of capitalism, prisons and incarceration, alchemy, and refugees and will introduce two new courses in the coming year, one on piracy and one on trials. The History 150 program has become a staple of the department's curriculum, and I look forward to future proposals for new and exciting offerings.

There have been welcome developments in the graduate program as well. The Graduate School announced in March that it would raise the stipend paid to PhD students and extend it from nine months to twelve. This is a just and progressive development for our students, and it will enhance the department's recruitment efforts as well. Another progressive addition has been the emergence of the "doctoral certificate" programs. These are clusters of courses designed, in the words of the graduate school, "to extend expertise into interdisciplinary areas and to

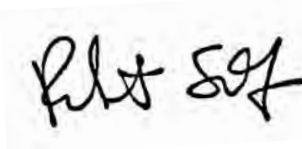
In the annual departmental comings and goings, we bid farewell to postdoctoral fellows Nicole Burrowes and Germán Vergara, who leave Brown to take up positions at the University of Texas and Georgia Tech respectively. This year, we've welcomed a new Cogut-Mellon postdoctoral fellow, Ketaki Pant, a scholar of long-distance trade in the Indian Ocean. This spring, Pant accepted a tenure track position at USC but will defer for a year and remain with the department through 2017-2018. We've also welcomed the affiliation of a Center for the Study of Race and Ethnicity in the Americas presidential postdoctoral scholar, Emma Amador, who is teaching for the department. Amador, too, accepted a tenure track position this fall, with the University of Connecticut, but will remain at Brown for the coming academic year.

As I bring these reflections to a close, let me extend the department's warmest congratulations to Adam Teller, who was promoted to full professor this year.

Indeed, if we step back momentarily and take a ten-year snapshot, rather than our accustomed academic year portrait, it is evident that History has evolved in two quite important and far-reaching respects in that time.

certify training beyond the home Ph.D. discipline." There are now eight such certificates, in the following areas: Africana Studies, Data Science, Gender and Sexuality Studies, Latin American and Caribbean Studies, Public Humanities, Science and Technology Studies, and Spatial Analysis. Alongside the Open MA Program, which allows PhD students in one field to earn a masters degree in another, doctoral certificates offer the department's PhD students opportunities to enhance their methodological training and intellectual versatility.

I invite you to linger over the faculty summaries and other entries in the following pages. It's in the teaching, achievements, and scholarship of the faculty that we can see the true life of the department. We remain grateful for the department's extensive network of alumni, both undergraduate and graduate, and for its many friends across the Brown campus and the profession.



Robert Self

Cover Image/Holly Case

In 1940, the grande dame of Soviet cinema, Lyuba Orlova, starred in a musical titled *Shining Path*. This image shows the making of *Shining Path*, with Orlova at the bottom right. Her character was a Soviet Cinderella who rises from domestic service to become a record-breaking Stakhanovite weaver.

In a climactic scene, a factory full of surging mechanical looms sets the rhythm for her triumphant anthem to the new Soviet person: “Comrade, don’t lose heart / Be confident and make your own story / Labor is our honor, our honor and our glory!”

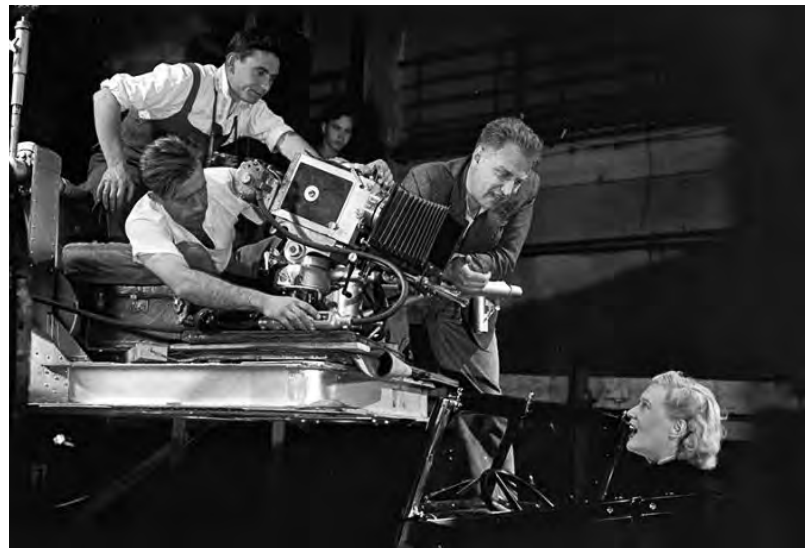
The Soviet Union under Stalin marked the height of “new person”-mania. The autocrat of the mid-twentieth century was a strict and demanding father out to shape you into an ideal. He wanted you to lose a few pounds, mothball your fez, lay some more bricks, and join a state-run youth organization (or five). He might demand that you learn a new language and call it your own, or memorize a poem or passage he had penned and call it your history. Even democratic heads of state once had higher expectations of their citizenry. The famous line from John F. Kennedy’s 1961 inaugural speech—“Ask not what your country can do for you, but what you can do for your country”—now sounds like an admonition from an earlier, distant century.

What happened to the idea of creating a “new person”? This question has dogged me as I’ve watched the rise of semi-authoritarian leaders like Russia’s Vladimir Putin, Turkey’s Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, and Hungary’s Viktor Orbán. In an article for *Aeon* magazine, I wondered why twentieth-century attempts to create the “new person” ended so badly, and how that legacy has made Europeans and their neighbors especially averse to idealist politics. Today’s authoritarians don’t seek to transform their subjects or mold them into an ideal. They are more like the fathers of our time, who often send a message akin to, “Daddy understands what Junior thinks and feels: slighted.”

The new authoritarian does not pretend to make you better, only to make you feel better about not wanting to change. In this respect he has tapped a gusher in the zeitgeist that reaches well beyond the former Soviet sphere. Today neuroscience and many branches of the social and behavioral

sciences insist that our conduct in any given circumstance is largely predictable and reflexive, something over which we have little control. We are told that it’s very nearly impossible for a fat person to become thin, for someone who is easily frightened to vote anything but conservative, for an alcoholic to stay on the wagon, for a poor or ugly person — or even someone with an unusual-sounding name — to be successful, or for a woman or a minority to overcome structural inequality.

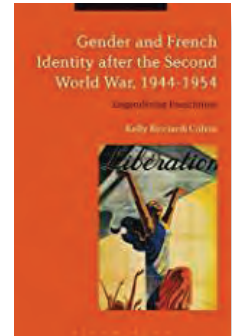
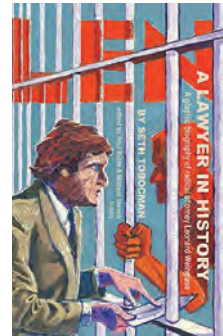
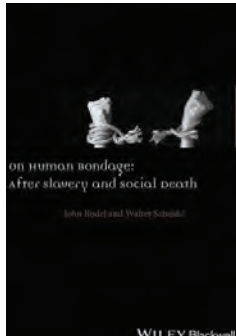
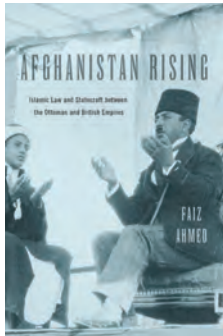
In this environment, any form of self-improvement or aspiration increasingly seems like a naïve delusion. And so we are left with an attitude that the writer Marilynne Robinson disparages as “nonfailure,” and that the writer Walter Mosley elevates to a virtue: “we need to raise our imperfections to a political platform that says, ‘My flaws need attention too.’ This is what I call the ‘utopia.’” Welcome to the not-so-brave new world.



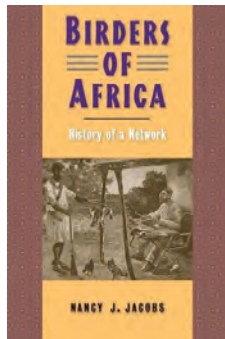
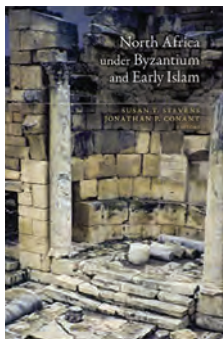
Above, lead actress Lyubov Orlova during the filming of the Soviet musical comedy *Shining Path* (1940). The director of the film, Grigory Alexandrov, coaches her. Right, Lyubov Orlova’s character addresses a group of workers in *Shining Path*.



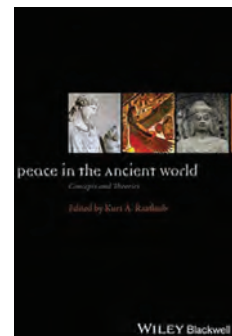
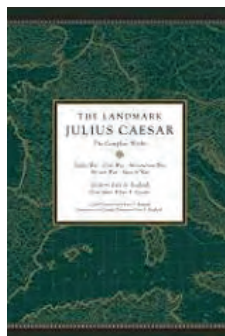
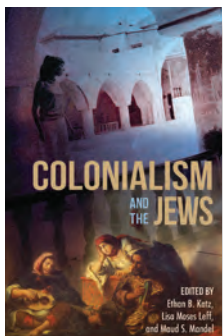
Recent Faculty Books



Faiz Ahmed, *Afghanistan Rising: Islamic Law and Statecraft between the Ottoman and British Empires*, Harvard University Press (November 6, 2017); John Bodet and Walter Scheidel, eds., *On Human Bondage: After Slavery and Social Death*, Wiley-Blackwell (August 15, 2016); Paul Buhle, *A Full Life: James Connolly the Irish Rebel*, PM Press (June 15, 2016); Paul Buhle and Michael Steven Smith, eds., *Len, A Lawyer in History: A Graphic Biography of Radical Attorney Leonard Weinglass*, AK Press (August 9, 2016); Kelly Ricciardi Colvin, *Gender and French Identity after the Second World War, 1944-1954: Engendering Frenchness*, Bloomsbury Academic (September 7, 2017)

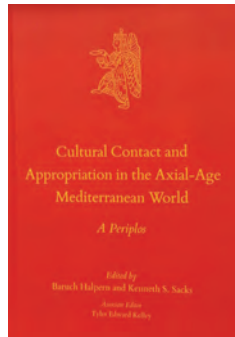
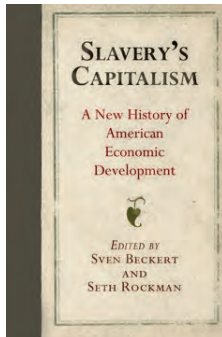


Jonathan P. Conant and Susan T. Stevens, eds., *North Africa under Byzantium and Early Islam*, Dumbarton Oaks Research Library and Collection (March 14, 2016); Mary Gluck, *The Invisible Jewish Budapest: Metropolitan Culture at the Fin de Siècle*, University of Wisconsin Press (April 12, 2016); Nancy J. Jacobs, *Birders of Africa: History of a Network*, Yale University Press (April 26, 2016); Jennifer L. Lambe, *Madhouse: Psychiatry and Politics in Cuban History (Envisioning Cuba)*, University of North Carolina Press (February 6, 2017); Steven D. Lubar, *Inside the Lost Museum: Curating, Past and Present*, Harvard University Press (August 7, 2017);

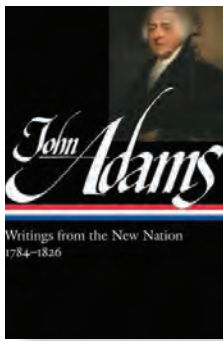
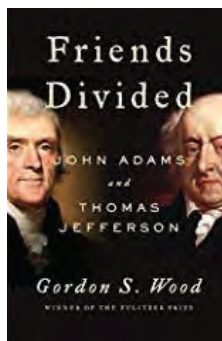
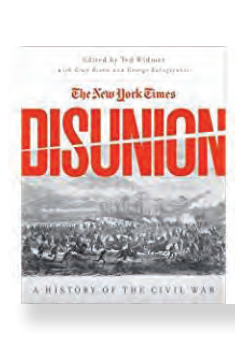


Maud S. Mandel and Ethan Katz and Lisa Moses Leff, eds., *Colonialism and the Jews*, Indiana University Press (January 20, 2017); Maud S. Mandel, *Muslims and Jews in France: History of a Conflict*, Princeton University Press (August 2, 2016); Kurt A. Raaflaub, *The Landmark Julius Caesar: The Complete Works: Gallic War, Civil War, Alexandrian War, African War, and Spanish War*, Pantheon (October 24, 2017); Kurt A. Raaflaub, *The Adventure of the Human Intellect*, Wiley-Blackwell (May 31, 2016); Kurt A. Raaflaub, *Peace in the Ancient World: Concepts and Theories*, Wiley-Blackwell (May 31, 2016)

Recent Faculty Books

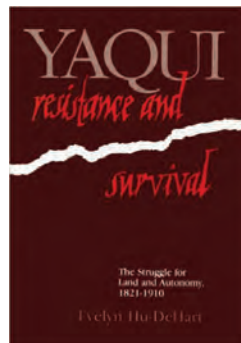


Seth Rockman and Sven Beckert, eds., *Slavery's Capitalism: A New History of American Economic Development*, University of Pennsylvania Press (August 8, 2016); **Kenneth Sacks and Baruch Halpern**, eds., *Cultural Contact and Appropriation in the Axial-age Mediterranean World: A Periplos (Culture and History of the Ancient Near East)*, Brill Academic Publisher (December 15, 2016); **Neil Safier**, *La medición del Nuevo Mundo (Spanish translation of Measuring the New World)*, Perfect Paperback (2016); **Michael P. Steinberg, Jacques Picard, Jacques M. Revel and Idith Zertal**, eds., *Makers of Jewish Modernity: Thinkers, Artists, Leaders, and the World They Made*, Princeton University Press (August 9, 2016)



Adam Teller, *Money, Power, and Influence in Eighteenth-Century Lithuania: The Jews on the Radziwill Estates*, Stanford University Press (September 21, 2016); **Edward L. Widmer**, *The New York Times Disunion: A History of the Civil War*, Oxford University Press (October 13, 2016); **Gordon S. Wood**, *Friends Divided: John Adams and Thomas Jefferson*, Penguin Press (November 7, 2017); **Gordon S. Wood**, *John Adams: Writings from the New Nation 1784-1826*, Library of America (March 22, 2016);

Reprints, Paperback Editions, and Translations



Omer Bartov, *Borrados (Spanish Edition of Erased)*, Malpas Kindle Edition (February 15, 2016); **Evelyn Hu-DeHart**, *Yaqui Resistance and Survival: Struggle for Land and Autonomy, 1821-1910*, University of Wisconsin Press New Edition (November 1, 2016)

Exploration

Concentration Declaration

On Friday, April 21 the History Department held its Concentration Declaration Day party. This is a new tradition at Brown. Starting last year the Dean of the College's office has encouraged departments to hold an event soon after the concentration declaration deadline to welcome new concentrators. The goal is to foster greater community by creating an early opportunity for students to meet their fellow concentrators and for them to interact with faculty outside the formal classroom or office hours settings. This year we decided to hold the event in the history department. We had food (savory and dessert) and pretty good turn out from both faculty (9-10) and students (15-20) from all years. Every had a good time and appreciated the chance to meet fellow concentrators and to chat with faculty.



PHOTO BY CHERRIE GUERZON

History Department Alumni and Friends...

Please send in your stories, research, news and photographs. We all look forward to hearing about your life after Brown.

Our newsletter is only as good as its contributors!

Rhode Island Social Movement Oral History Project

Over the summer of 2016, a group of Brown undergraduates, Professor Daniel Rodriguez, and community organizer Camilo Viveiros teamed up to work on the Rhode Island Social Movement Oral History Project. Over the course of 10 weeks, the team met up to learn about oral history methodology and then conduct a series of interviews with local activists and organizers who had been politically active from the 1960s to the 1980s. Among the more than a dozen organizers interviewed by the group were: a Guatemalan immigrants-rights organizer who worked closely with the church to defend the rights of Central American refugees and has organized Latino residents in the Olneyville neighborhood of Providence for decades; a pair of revolutionary Communist labor activists talked about their fight for a union at the Electric Boat factory in Quonset Point in the 1970s; and a socialist feminist gay liberation activist who, in her words, “learned to become a revolutionary” while attending Catholic high school in the late 1960s.



Father Ray Tetrault (top) and Juan Garcia (above), being interviewed for the Rhode Island Social Movement Oral History Project

Two of the guiding principles of the project were: 1) focus on collecting the stories of activists who are approaching the end of their lives and whose stories, experiences, and insights have not yet been sufficiently documented; and 2) organize these stories into a multimedia archive that can be made useful to subsequent generations of activists and scholars. Towards this latter goal, the students filmed and later transcribed the interviews, and began the process of editing the videos and organizing a website where these and future stories can be exhibited. This work, which has continued since last summer, is an example of how undergraduate historians-in-training can develop their oral history research skills while building meaningful connections with members of the community.

— Daniel Rodriguez

Medicine and Public Health in Africa: Past, Present, and Future

By Jennifer Johnson

In November 2016, I organized an exciting one-day conference entitled “Medicine and Public Health in Africa: Past, Present, and Future” at Brown University. Scholars of Africa from seven universities, with a range of disciplinary expertise, including History, Anthropology, Sociology, and Public Health, gathered to discuss historical and cultural contexts in which medicine and public health initiatives have operated and assess them alongside contemporary biomedical approaches.

The conference, which was generously supported by a Watson Institute Collaboration Grant and a Faculty Curriculum Development Grant from the Global Health Initiative, had two main goals. First, I planned it alongside my upper-level History seminar by the same name, and envisioned it as an opportunity for the students in the course and for scholars in the field to convene and exchange innovative research on medicine, health care, and disease management in Africa. By that point in the semester, the students had read a robust literature on the history of medicine and were in the process of writing a final research paper on a topic of their choosing. Therefore, they were in a position to fully participate in the panel discussions and many noted that the conference was the highlight of the course for them. Second, it aimed to connect scholars and practitioners who approach similar questions but from quite different perspectives. Scholars presented work on the history of syphilis in Egypt, hookworm and

Vitamin A global health programs, the impact and legacy of decolonization on local, regional, and international health initiatives, pharmaceutical production in East Africa, and the role of doctors in current conflicts. Throughout the day we all engaged in a lively discussion about the promises and enduring challenges of creating affordable, efficacious, and accessible health care.

Our conversations highlighted the multidisciplinary approach researchers and practitioners must consider in order to generate meaningful health care solutions to today’s most pressing challenges and they reiterated the importance of understanding specific cultural and historical contexts. Combining the study of local cosmologies of health, healing, and the body, as well as the science behind a particular disease and international organizations’ objectives will allow us to better explain when, where, and why certain health care policies and programs have made a positive impact and point us towards more successful outcomes in the future.

Medicine and Public Health in Africa: Past, Present, and Future



Participants:

Beth Baron CCNY and CUNY Graduate Center	Jennifer Johnson Brown University	Sarah Cook Runcie Columbia University
Nitsan Chorev Brown University	Mark Lurie Brown University	Daniel Smith Brown University
Sherine Hamdy Brown University	Randall Packard Johns Hopkins University	James Webb Colby College
Matthew Heaton Virginia Tech	Jessica Pearson Macalester College	

Friday, November 11, 2016, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Joukowsky Forum
Watson Institute
111 Thayer Street

This conference is funded by a Watson Institute Collaboration Grant and a Global Health Initiative Framework Faculty Curriculum Development Grant. Co-sponsored by the Africa Initiative, the Department of History, and African Studies.



Scholars presented work on the history of syphilis in Egypt, hookworm and Vitamin A global health programs, the impact and legacy of decolonization on local, regional, and international health initiatives, pharmaceutical production in East Africa, and the role of doctors in current conflicts.

Students and faculty joined in a discussion about disease and medicine in historical perspective



Beyond the Sugar Curtain: Tracing Cuba-U.S. Connections since 1959

By Jennifer Lambe

This year, with the support of the Dean of the College and the Office of Institutional Diversity and Inclusion, Jennifer Lambe, together with undergraduate fellows Lily Hartmann and Camila Ruiz Segovia, launched a digital humanities project entitled “Beyond the Sugar Curtain: Tracing Cuba-U.S. Connections since 1959.” The initiative seeks to contribute to a new if fragile age of diplomatic normalization by exploring the past and present of transnational travel and encounter, featuring spaces of connection in the post-1959 period. From students to activists, family members and journalists, human ties have long defied political obstacles, bridging the material and affective barriers wrought by diplomatic isolation. Even in the most unpropitious circumstances, citizens of both countries have thus found

room for mutual inspiration, productive disagreement, and even friendship and love.

In the 1960s, the “sugar curtain” was

forged through the escalation of hostilities between the United States and the Caribbean revolution that, in its very being, seemed to defy the Cold War geopolitical order. Politically, the process of estrangement is easy to chart, from secret U.S. government plots to overthrow Fidel Castro through the Bay of Pigs, the rupture of diplomatic relations, and the installation of an economic embargo; or, on the Cuban side, from an increasingly radicalized agrarian reform to the nationalization of many U.S.-owned businesses and

the declaration of the socialist character of the Revolution in April 1961. In retrospect, the break between the two nations may even seem overdetermined.

Yet it also flew in the face of a century of cultural, political, and economic codependence between the two nations, what President William McKinley would refer to in 1899 as “ties of singular intimacy.” Undoubtedly, this formulation was euphemistic in large part, for Cuba had been forcibly brought under the imperial oversight of the United States in 1898 following its successful struggle for independence from Spain. The assertion of U.S. hegemony persisted long thereafter. But political dominance also came accompanied by a deep — if by no means uncontested - process of cultural interconnection, as ordinary Cubans and Americans alike found much that inspired and attracted them on the other side of the Florida Straits.

After 1959, there would be some on both sides who would delight in the political theater of Cold War one-upmanship, with Cuba staging its heroic defiance of U.S. dominance and the United States punishing the revolutionary island for the same. Yet, on a human level, many experienced this schism as traumatic, culturally and personally impoverishing. Over the course of the early 1960s, obstacles to travel would accumulate; everyday communication (phone and mail) would slow to a halt. And so the ties of singular intimacy would become the shackles of exceptional enmity, condemning many to imaginative voyages beyond the sugar curtain.

The so-called “sugar curtain”

was far from the only such metaphorical device to shape international relations in the age of the Cold War. It was rather the inevitable Caribbean outgrowth of the enduring “iron curtain,” a term plagued by its own debates over authorship. Yet the “telón de azúcar” was not merely a Cold



PHOTO CREDIT: VICTOIRE PÉREZ-VARGAS

War semantic imposition or extension. Ordinary Cubans would also take up the phrase to encapsulate the challenges attending their lived reality of diplomatic isolation.

Even so, it represents a curious metaphor; curtains separate, they demarcate, but they do not necessarily barricade. Yet this was precisely the sentiment that often animated the term: to imply a division breached, an obstacle overcome, most commonly by a Western interloper seeking out secrets behind enemy lines. Inevitably, then, curtains imply less borders than voyeurs.

In defiance of — but also in seeming accord with - the prohibitions and taboos bound up in the symbolic fall of the “sugar curtain,” more than a few North Americans, along with many others, have sought to peer into the revolutionarily different world they imagined on the other side of the Florida Straits. But this was a curtain that cut both ways. Cuban officials were as loathe as their U.S. analogues to allow access to the antagonistic capitalist world they had worked to eradicate. So, much as curious U.S. visitors have long overcome hurdles of many kinds to experience revolutionary Cuba, their Cuban counterparts have sought out evidence of life on the other side. Though their mobility was much more limited than that of U.S. visitors to the island, they engaged with the United States through cultural and subterranean connections of all kinds. Even where political intransigence closed doors to reciprocal connection, the complicated dream and promise of the “other” remained alive.

“Beyond the Sugar Curtain” seeks to explore these connections, real and imagined, in light of the new political context of Cuba-U.S. relations. The first issue on “Encuentros y desencuentros [Encounters and the Space in Between]” was published in December 2016, and our second issue on “Mobility” is forthcoming in May. The (bilingual) project can be viewed at www.brown.edu/sugarcurtain.

In the 1960s, the “sugar curtain” was forged through the escalation of hostilities between the United States and the Caribbean revolution that, in its very being, seemed to defy the Cold War geopolitical order.

Opening the Archives Project Gives Undergrads Research Experience in National Archives

By James N. Green

This summer, for the fifth consecutive year, a group of ten Brown undergrads will spend June and July working at the National Archives in College Park, Maryland on the Opening the Archives Project. It is a unique opportunity for Brown students from different disciplines to do hands-on research through processing U.S. government documents, while providing a valuable resource to scholars around the world.

Developed by Professor James N. Green in conjunction with Brazilian universities and the Brazilian National Archive, students will spend two months digitizing and indexing U.S. government documents related to Brazil during the military dictatorship that ruled the country between 1964 and 1985. They will then be uploaded to a public-access website hosted by the Brown University

Library so that U.S., Brazilian, and other researchers can have easy access to materials about this critical period in U.S.-Brazilian relations. Thousands of researchers seeking information about the role that the U.S. government played in Brazil during the height of the Cold War have already accessed the site.

As part of the effort to effectively use this declassified material, on April 7 and 8, 2017, scholars from France, Brazil, and the United States met at Brown University for the Second International Symposium, Brazil: From Dictatorship to Democracy, to discuss the archives and to share their research that was conducted with these materials from the U.S. National Archives and made easily available through the Opening the Archives Project. The event was co-sponsored by the Brown Brazil Initiative, the History Department, the Watson Institute for International and Policy Studies, and the Bem-te-vi Diversity Association, located in São Paulo Brazil.

During the first day of the international symposium, Brown undergraduates and graduate students presented research carried out over the last academic year with material from this new digital archive. Then professors from West Point; the University of Paris-Est Marne-la-Vallée, Paris; the State University of Santa Catarina, Brazil; the State University of Maringá, Paraná, Brazil; and the University of São Paulo,



James N. Green (center) and Brown students involved in the Opening the Archives Project.

Thousands of researchers seeking information about the role that the U.S. government played in Brazil during the height of the Cold War have already accessed the site.

Opening the Archives Project

HOME BACKGROUND INFORMATION PROJECT PARTNERS SIDE RESEARCH PROJECTS STUDENT RESEARCHERS

FURTHER READING

The *Opening the Archives Project* is a joint effort by Brown University, the U.S. National Archives and Records Administration, the Universidade Estadual de Maringá, Paraná, Brazil, and the Brazilian National Archives to digitize and index 100,000 U.S. government documents on Brazil from 1960-80 and make them available to the public on an open-access website.

Enter the [Brown Digital Repository](#) to search through the digital archive. Additional documents are still being uploaded.

The *Opening the Archives Project* is an ambitious undertaking organized by Brown University and the Universidade Estadual de Maringá, Paraná, Brazil with the support of the U.S. National Archive and Record Administration and the Brazilian National Archive to systematically digitize and index tens of thousands of declassified documents in the U.S. government archives related to Brazil from 1960 to 1980, and to make them available on mirror websites at both universities. These websites will also feature several thousand pages of CIA intelligence reports previously available exclusively at the National Archives II facility in College Park, MD.

To accomplish this task, the *Opening the Archives Project* partnered with the U.S. National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), the Brazilian Arquivo Nacional, and the National Security Archive at George Washington University in a joint effort to preserve crucial items digital copies accessible online.

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Brazil read papers on U.S.-Brazilian relations during the 1960s and 70s derived from the documents found in the Opening the Archives Project.

In the afternoon, Symposium participants met with the Brown Library Staff members from the Center for Digital Scholarship in a workshop to review the overall structuring of the project and plan ways to improve access to the documents. The group also discussed various possibilities for creative use of the data embedded in the archives.

This workshop was followed by a keynote address by Paulo Abrão, the Executive Director of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights of the Organization of American States, entitled “Memory, Truth, and Justice in the Americas: What is Ahead?” Abrão, the former President of the Brazilian Amnesty Commission, is a member of the Opening the Archives Advisory Board.

History Behind Bars: The Brown History Education Prison Project

By Amy G. Remensnyder

A steel door several inches thick makes a distinctive sound when it slams shut and locks you into the expanse of the prison yard that soon will be crowded with inmates in khaki uniforms. It is a noise with which a group of History faculty has become familiar since 2012. In that year, in conjunction with some of my colleagues, I founded the Brown History Education Prison Program (BHEPP), a program inspired by the belief that education is a basic right—and driven by the knowledge that not every one in the US has equal access to this right. Among the most educationally disadvantaged people in this country are those millions of men and women behind bars, the majority of whom lack a high school degree or its equivalent when they begin their prison sentences. In this era of mass incarceration, public funding has been slashed for educational programs for prisoners. The BHEPP faculty—Jonathan Conant, Linford Fisher, Nancy Jacobs, Rebecca Nedostup, Emily Owens, Daniel Rodriguez, Naoko Shibusawa, Michael Vorenberg, and myself—join other professors across the country who volunteer their time to teach in prison.

Every spring, BHEPP faculty team-teach a college level history course to men incarcerated in the medium security facility of the Rhode Island state prison system. Entering classrooms beyond the gauntlet of metal detectors and barbed wire fences, BHEPP faculty find passionate, eager, and creative students. BHEPP courses are seminar-style, issue-driven, and thematic in focus. In courses such as “God, State and Citizen: Power and the Individual from the Middle Ages to Modernity,” “The History of Human Rights,” and “The Power of Gender in History,” BHEPP students plunge into the readings and engage in intense historical debate. In the fall semesters of 2015 and 2016, a special BHEPP course created dialogue between Brown undergraduates taking

History 150C (Locked Up: A Global History of Prison and Captivity) and prisoner-students taking a version of the same course. BHEPP courses do not carry college credit, but they provide incarcerated students with “earned time,” that is, a certain number of days reduced from their sentences. But perhaps sometime soon that will change. In conjunction with the John Nicholas Brown Center for Public Humanities and other organizations and individuals at Brown interested in the issue of incarceration, BHEPP is working to create the Brown Incarceration Initiative, which will seek to offer courses bearing Brown credit in the prison. In the meantime, the learning partnership between BHEPP faculty and students will continue.

In the past I have participated in many prison programs. [...] What made this so different was the opportunity that you provided for us to actually learn through critical thinking from each other. Critical thinking, in my opinion, is by far the most powerful tool in both education and in life itself. The most important benefit I received from this class was getting my self-respect back. [It] provided me the platform for me to actually accept myself. I now have a fire burning in me to keep learning and bettering myself. It's not too late. —comment by BHEPP student

Faculty Activities

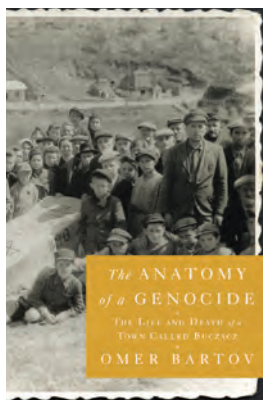
For the 2016-17 year **Faiz Ahmed** was a National Endowment for the Humanities Fellow in Istanbul, Turkey. Conducting research for his second book project, on the Ottoman Empire and the United States, he spent the bulk of his fieldwork in the Ottoman Archives and archives of



the Red Crescent Society, sister organization to the International Committee of the Red Cross. In Istanbul he delivered lectures at the American Research

Institute in Turkey and Istanbul University on the question of Islamic law and modernity in Asia and the Eastern Mediterranean during the long nineteenth century. He also published two articles on Afghan constitutionalism and Anglo-Ottoman debates about citizenship and international law in the *International Journal of Middle East Studies* and *Journal of the Ottoman and Turkish Studies Association*, respectively. His forthcoming book, *Afghanistan Rising*, is scheduled for publication in Fall 2017 with Harvard University Press.

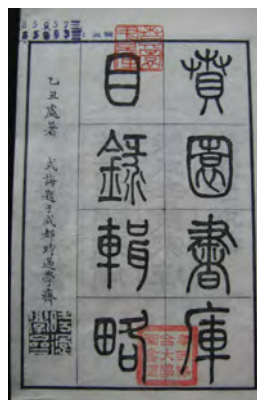
Omer Bartov finally completed his monograph, now renamed *Anatomy of a Genocide: The Life and Death of a Town Called Buczacz*, scheduled for publication with Simon and Schuster in December 2017. The book



relates in great detail how the centuries-long coexistence of Jews, Poles, and Ukrainians in a little town in Eastern Galicia ended up in gruesome genocide. Since research on this book uncovered numerous fascinating unpublished accounts, Bartov has also just agreed to publish an annotated edition of three diaries from the two world wars by a Polish

headmaster, a Ukrainian high school teacher, and a Jewish electrician, providing an unparalleled glimpse into the daily life of occupation and mass murder. The book, to

be published by Berghahn Books, will be titled *Voices from War and Genocide: Personal Accounts of Violence in 20th-Century Eastern Europe*. Moving on to his new area of interest, Bartov hosted two workshops in November 2016 and April 2017 on “The Holocaust and the Nakba” and “Faith, Ideology, and Education,” as part of the project he is heading at the Watson Institute for International and Public Affairs on “Israel Palestine: Lands and Peoples,” which gathered over thirty scholars from Israel-Palestine, Europe, and the United States. He also greatly enjoyed teaching two undergraduate seminars on the topics of the workshops to some forty eager and bright students. The last year of the project, 2017-2018, will include a workshop on “Environment, Urbanization, and Temporality” in November and a closing conference on “Future Scenarios.” It promises to be as hectic and exciting as this past year.



After a very enjoyable fall semester teaching a seminar on China’s examination system and a survey of pre-modern Chinese history, **Cynthia Brokaw** has spent the spring (on leave) working on a book manuscript on the ways in which classical studies and elite reading practices shaped the content of reform movements, in both the provinces and the metropole,

in late nineteenth-century China. She looks forward to a research trip to Shandong in fall 2017, when she will return to the study of the publishing trade and popular commercial book culture in late imperial China.

Nicole Burrowes completed her second and final year as a Presidential Diversity Postdoctoral Fellow. She continues to work on her book manuscript “Seeds of Solidarity:



African-Indian Relations and the Labor Rebellions of 1935 in British Guiana,” for which she had a chapter review with gracious faculty from History, Africana and American Studies during the Fall semester. She has

completed three articles during her tenure: “Responding to King Sugar’s Painful Rule: Clive Thomas and the Vision for an Economically Independent Caribbean” for the C.L.R. James Journal; a co-authored article, “Freedom is a Constant Struggle’: From the 1964 Mississippi Freedom Summer to Black Lives Matter,” for the volume *Understanding and Teaching the Civil Rights Movement* edited by Hasan Jeffries (forthcoming University of Wisconsin Press); and a final essay on gender, race and the intersections of anti-violence work in women of color organizing, which is under review. She presented at the Guyana@50 independence celebrations in New York City (livestreamed in Guyana) and in the African Studies colloquium at Brown. During the Spring semester, she went on faculty exchange in the Brown-Tougaloo partnership where she taught a course on African liberation movements at Tougaloo College in Mississippi; served as one of the facilitators for Civil Rights mini-exchange with Brown and Tougaloo students led by Dr. Hamlin; organized and spoke on a panel about the current political moment for the Veterans of the Mississippi Civil Rights Movement conference; and was a contributing correspondent for the Atlanta Black Star. Beginning in the Fall of 2017, she will be an Assistant Professor in the African and African Diaspora Studies Department with an affiliation in History at the University of Texas at Austin. She is excited about the opportunities and wonderful community that she has experienced here at Brown.

Holly Case has spent the 2016/2017 academic year on leave in Vienna, Austria, where she’s been a fellow at the Institute for the Human Sciences (IWM). There she completed her book manuscript *The Age of Questions*, which is due to be published by Princeton University Press in 2018, and



continued work on her next book project (on consuls and the international system). She also gave several talks on her work over the course of the year. Furthermore,

since many Austrians love to read and discuss ideas and politics, she was able to participate in several IWM events that involved interaction with the Viennese: presenting at the Vienna Museum on the politics of insanity in the fall, and then “science speed dating” with locals in a Viennese Heurige (a local inn/tavern where they serve new wine and rustic meals), and where she met Austrians from all walks of life who were keen to discuss the crisis of liberalism, whether “capitalism” is a useful term, and what happened

to the idea of a “better future.” At the IWM she and a Polish theology student formed what became known as the Vienna Circle, an informal reading group that met every other week or so in a friend’s living room to discuss texts on art, politics, science, literature, psychology, law, religion, and many other themes. In July she’s running a Sommerfrische one-week intensive discussion group in rural Moldova with a German colleague for a group of twelve graduate students and talented undergraduates from Europe and the US, including a current Brown Ph.D. student, Harry Merritt.

Caroline Castiglione completed two articles for publication: “What to Expect When You’re Always Expecting: Frequent Childbirth and Female Health in Early Modern Italy,” in *Conserving Health in Early Modern Culture: Bodies*



and Environments in Italy and England, ed. Sandra Cavallo and Tessa Storey (Manchester University Press: Social History of Medicine Series, 2017); and as co-author with Suzanne Scanlan, “Death Did Not Become Her: Unconventional Women and the Problem of Female Commemoration

in Early Modern Rome,” *Early Modern Women: An Interdisciplinary Journal* 11.2 (2017): 59-92. In April 2017, she gave an invited lecture, “A Death is a Death: Monuments to Loss and Solutions to Domestic Abuse in Moderata Fonte’s *The Worth of Women*” to Montclair State University’s Medieval and Early Modern Studies Seminar. She is also chair of Italian Studies and continues to work with the Dean of the Faculty to study possible improvements to the Humanities PhD programs, convening in 2016-17 a graduate student committee to discuss these issues.

Howard Chudacoff spent most of the past year researching and revising his chapters for the 11th edition of *A People and a Nation*, first published in 1982. He also began work



on related new research projects, both extending topics from his recently published book, *Changing the Playbook: How Power, Profit, and Politics Transformed College Sports*. In addition, his op ed piece, “We Don’t Need to Pay College Athletes,” was published in the *Wall Street Journal* and provoked considerable controversy.

Kelly Ricciardi Colvin had another fruitful and interesting year at Brown, thanks in large part to the wonderful students, staff, and colleagues at the university. She



developed a new seminar on food and power in French history, and she also taught survey courses in European women's history and modern French history. She is pleased to announce the publication in fall 2017 of her book, *Engendering Frenchness: Gender and French Identity*

during the Long Liberation, with Bloomsbury Press. She also started a new project on how France wielded widespread international assumptions about French femininity and sexuality to shape popular diplomacy in the 1950s and 1960s. Finally, the very nice people at Blue State Coffee deserve a hand for their efforts in keeping her fueled and energized this year!

This year, **Jonathan Conant's** research focused primarily on his second book, *The Carolingians and the Ends of Empire, c. 795–840*. Work on this project brought him



to the Bibliothèque nationale de France in Paris as well as to sites in France, Germany, the Netherlands, and Spain that provide evidence for encounters and interactions between early medieval Frankish, Saxon, Frisian, Norse, Basque, and Muslim populations. In the summer of 2016 he served as the inaugural

Summer Research Fellow at Loyola University Chicago's John Felice Rome Center, which gave him the opportunity to pursue manuscript research at the Vatican Library and to present his research to the faculty and students at the Rome Center in a series of three lectures. In addition, he has presented papers at Caltech, the Central European University (Budapest), and Charles University (Prague). He published a book chapter on sectarian violence in late Roman North Africa.

During the past year, **Harold J (Hal) Cook** completed the writing and revisions for his next book and settled on a title for it: *The Young Descartes: Nobility, Rumor, and War* (University of Chicago Press). Now going through the editing process, it should be out early in 2018. He also saw some articles through to publication and submitted several new ones, including a historiographical essay on the Scientific Revolution for a special issue of the *Journal*

of *Early Modern History*, which arose from the organizing efforts of J.B. Shank, a Brown alum as well as a professor of history at the University of Minnesota. He took a leave in the spring semester in order to deliver a series of lectures in Paris during March 2017 at the École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales and the C.N.R.S.; he has also joined



two large research groups in The Netherlands, one of which will be gathering in Amsterdam in June. In

pursuit of teaching-led research, he will also be offering a new History 150 in the fall, on the global history of foods and drugs. He continues to find teaching Brown undergraduate and graduate students to be stimulating, and conversations with his colleagues pleasantly eye-opening.

In 2016, **Douglas Cope** taught courses on Mexico, Latin America, and the Atlantic world that ranged from the fourteenth to the twenty-first centuries. His research focuses on the informal economy of colonial Mexico City.

Bathsheba Demuth was thrilled to be back at Brown this fall — this time as faculty rather than as an undergraduate. She developed and taught two seminars, one on the history of energy and an interdisciplinary exploration



of the Anthropocene for the Institute at Brown for Environment and Society. Her current lecture course is survey of global environmental history from the fifteenth century to the present. When not reveling in teaching Brown students, she completed a chapter for an edited volume on

the gold rush in Alaska (forthcoming from University of California Press) among other writing projects. Demuth also gave papers at the American Society for Environmental History, the American Society for Ethnohistory, and the American Society for East European and Eurasian Studies conferences. With Ethan Pollock, she is helping organize a Russian history workshop at Brown in May 2017. She is looking forward to summer trips to Arctic to finish up research for her first book, an environmental history of the Bering Strait from the 1840s to 1980s.

Beshara Doumani finished his book, *Family Life in the Ottoman Mediterranean: A Social History*. Published by Cambridge University Press, it will be available in bookstores as of August, 2017. The book reveals dramatic regional differences in gender and property relations and their impact on the formation of the modern Middle East. As Director of Middle East Studies for the past five years, Doumani has built a program that occupies a big footprint at Brown and that is now nationally recognized as the most innovative and active of Brown's peer institutions. Doumani also chaired a steering committee of leading Brown Faculty who organized a year-long series of



eight workshops and numerous other activities on the topic of "Displacement and the Making of the Modern World." This major initiative, which

also involved a dedicated post-doc and two graduate students, was funded by a Mellon Sawyer Seminar grant, awarded to Doumani in 2015. Recently, the University of California Press named Doumani as the senior editor of a book series, *New Directions in Palestinian Studies*, which will be the first of its kind for this field of study. In the Spring 2017 semester, Doumani introduced a new graduate course on forced population displacement which attracted students from several departments. Along with Prof. Keisha-Khan Perry, Doumani is co-chairing a BIARI Institute on this topic. The Institute, which brings dozens of emerging scholars from Africa, Asia, and Latin America, will be held in June, 2017. All in all, a typical year since Doumani joined Brown in 2012.

Roquinaldo Ferreira spent the year as visiting scholar at the Institut de Hautes Études Internationales et du Développement in Geneva working on several projects. He conducted research in Cuban and Portuguese archives (June 2016 and October 2016, respectively). With Prof. Tatiana Seijas (Penn State University), he has been editing a special number of the *Journal of Global Slavery*. This project is based on a workshop on the Iberian slave trade organized at Brown University in May 2016. With Prof. Seijas, Ferreira wrote a chapter for the *Cambridge Companion of Afro-Latin America History* (Cambridge University), edited by Profs. Alejandro de la Fuente and Reid Andrews and has delivered talks in several institutions in the United States, Cuba, Brazil, and Switzerland. Most of his time has been devoted to finalizing a book manuscript now under contract with Princeton University Press.



Memorial to slavery on Bermuda.

Linford Fisher enjoyed a productive year of teaching and research. In addition to teaching classes on the material culture of early America, religion and politics in America, and colonial encounters in early America, Linford enjoyed serving on a variety of committees on campus. Perhaps the most meaningful and time-consuming involvement this past year was serving on the Steering Committee for the new Native American and Indigenous Studies Initiative here at Brown, approved by the Provost in 2016. The biggest task of the Steering Committee was to run a national search for an inaugural director, a process that will hopefully be completed by the summer of 2017. Additionally, Linford continued to work on his book project on Native American and African slavery in New England and the English Atlantic world. Research trips over the past year have included Bermuda and local, US-based archives. Linford published several essays over the past year, including two in *Ethnohistory* on Native American slavery, as well as a book chapter on the 1663 Indian Bible (in the Wôpanâak language).

In many respects, this past year has been one of continuity in terms of **Mary Gluck's** research and writing. She completed the Hungarian translation of her recent book, *The Invisible Jewish Budapest*, which is due to come out



in Budapest in June 2017. She has also given several talks about the book and written a synopsis of its arguments in *Polin*, a journal of Polish Jewish studies. An even

longer project on Decadence and Modernity, which was commissioned by the *Cambridge History of Modern European Thought*, has also been brought to conclusion.

In addition to completing the manuscript, *Gay Brazilian Revolutionary: The Life and Times of Herbert Daniel*, that will be published by Duke University Press, **James Green** has sent to press the second edition of *The Brazil Reader: History, Politics, and Culture*, also published by Duke University Press. The Opening the Archives Project, which digitizes, indexes, and makes available on an open-access site sponsored by the Brown University Library U.S. documents about the Brazilian military dictatorship



Brazilian Former President Dilma Rousseff with Lanna Leite, '12 and James N. Green

(1964-85), is now entering its fifth year with an on-going grant from the Bem-te-vi Diversity foundation of São Paulo. At the Second International Symposium, Brazil: From Dictatorship to Democracy, “Transparency, Truth, and Memory: An International Conference and Digital Scholarship Workshop,” held at the Watson Institute

for International and Public Policy and Brown University Library, April 7-8, 2017, we re-launched the site with 31,000 documents now available to researchers and the public. In addition, he continues to direct the Brazil Initiative at Brown, an inter-disciplinary effort that organizes events, film series, and conferences for students, faculty, and the community, on a wide range of issues related to Latin America’s largest and most population country.

During the academic year 2016-17, **Jack P. Greene**, Adjunct Professor, published a monograph, *Settler Jamaica during the 1750s: A Social Portrait* (Charlottesville: University of Virginia Press, 2016), and an article, “The symbiotic Relationship between Liberty and Inequality in the Cultural Construction of Colonial British America and the United States: An Overview,” *American Political Thought: A Journal of Ideas, Institutions, and Culture*, 5 (Fall 2016): 549-66.



Last year, **Françoise Hamlin** published several articles and continued to work on her new monograph. Her most recent book, the co-edited anthology, *These Truly Are The Brave: African American*

Writings on War and Patriotism, was a finalist for the QBR 2016 Wheatley Book Award in Nonfiction. As part of her work with Brown’s extraordinary students she took a group to Tougaloo College (Mississippi) for her seventh

annual Spring Break trip as part of the Brown-Tougaloo partnership and in conjunction with her courses and research. She continues to advise in an array of activities, and remains co-chair of the Faculty of Color Working Group that she co-founded in 2015. In addition to the other speaking engagements she fulfilled, Hamlin had the great honor of leading the 2017 Black History Month events in Lisbon and Helsinki, sponsored by the U.S. Embassy in both countries. She gave 2 lectures in each city to university audiences, and a lecture in a high school in both places. Also, she visited immigration and refugee documentation projects, and urban art projects in Lisbon, and local civil rights activists in Helsinki. <https://www.flickr.com/photos/archelsinki/> Away from campus and her various desks, she trains (barring injuries) in martial arts alongside her nine-year old son Elijah!

Tim Harris visited Taiwan in June 2016, giving talks at the Taiwan National University in Taipei and to the Taiwan World History Group at the National Cheng Kung University in Tainan. It was great to make so many new friends and to catch up with his former student Shih-Chieh (Roger) Lo and his former colleague Richard Davis. In September he was a discussant at a conference at the Aspen Institute in Washington D.C. on ‘Firearms and the Common Law Tradition’; in October he spoke



on ‘Elections before Democracy in Seventeenth-Century England’ at a symposium at Princeton University; in November he gave a paper at the North American Conference on

British Studies in D.C. on ‘Constitutional Royalism’; and in February he spoke at Stony Brook on ‘Politics and Imagining the Future in Stuart Britain’. He has written articles on ‘Anti-Catholicism and Anti-Popery in Seventeenth-Century England’, ‘Religious and National Stereotyping and Prejudice in Seventeenth-Century England’, ‘Periodizing the Early Modern’, ‘Hibernophobia and Francophobia in Restoration England’, and ‘Publics and Participation in the Three Kingdoms: Was there such a thing as British Public Opinion?’, all of which are in press at the time of writing. He is working on a book on ‘Britain’s Century of Revolutions’ for Oxford University Press and engaged in a collaborative project on politics and religion in seventeenth- and eighteenth-century Britain with colleagues in Britain and America for Boydell Press.



Three generations of Herlihy's at Brown are represented here. David Herlihy, Brown '12, with the cap and gown of his late grandfather David Herlihy, Barnaby Conrad and Mary Critchfield Kee-ney Professor of History, prepares to receive his Ph. D. in chemistry at the University of California, Berkeley. Pat and David Herlihy's son, Maurice Herlihy, An Wang Professor of Computer Science at Brown, looks proudly on.

that her grandson David M. Herlihy, Brown '12, received his Ph.D. in chemistry in May from the University of California, Berkeley.

Benjamin Holtzman spent his first year as a faculty member happily teaching courses on the history of the United States after 1945 and on race and inequality in metropolitan America. He also placed his book, *Crisis and Confidence: New York City and the Market Turn in the Late Twentieth Century*, with Oxford University Press, his journal article on the struggle to house the homeless in 1980s New York City with the *Journal of Social History*, and his popular writings in *Jacobin* and the Miller Center's First Year Project website (<http://firstyear2017.org>). Outside of Brown, he continued his longterm work with Direct Action for Rights and Equality on Providence's south side.



During Fall 2017, **Evelyn Hu-DeHart** had the great pleasure of teaching the inaugural "Modern Southeast Asia" seminar. History concentrator and rising junior Quinton

Huang approached her late last semester to mentor a GISP for a few students interested in SEA, in view of the fact that they couldn't find any course in the curriculum covering

Patricia Herlihy, Professor Emerita and Adjunct Professor, Watson Institute for International and Public Affairs, gave a paper on the 1914 Russian Prohibition at the Joint Research Centre on Transnational Crime, Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Milan on October 7. The talk was a summary of a book chapter on the same topic to be published next year on *Addiction* by Springer Publishing, USA. She was going to talk on the same subject at the National World War I Museum and Memorial in Kansas City, MO on March 15, but she could not make the trip because of the blizzard. The Museum recorded her talk and showed her power point instead. She is very proud

this important region of Asia and the world. Word spread, and that GISP quickly mounted into a group of 24 undergraduates plus one RISD student and one graduate student, all but 2 of whom completed the course. Students represented almost all countries of SEA (Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, Myanmar, Cambodia, Vietnam, Philippines), either as international students from those countries, or immigrants or children of immigrants who are Americans, as well as white and African American and a Spanish student. Although she is just learning about SEA herself — her own research touches on the early colonial history of Las Filipinas as an extension of Mexico/New Spain of the Spanish Empire, and she spent last year as Visiting Professor of History at Nanyang Technological University in Singapore — she invited guest speakers who Skyped in from Singapore, Brunei, UC Berkeley, or came in person from RISD and Yale, as well as our colleague Elena Shih of Watson and American Studies. The course helped spawn the Southeast Asian Studies Student Initiative (SEASI), which held its inaugural student conference on April 27, 2017.



Nancy Jacobs was promoted to Professor in July of 2016 and the following year was a time of transitions in teaching and research. She offered new courses on animal studies and on non-human actors in environmental history. She also turned her attention to a question in South African history

that had nagged her since 1994, when she was a UN observer for that country's first democratic elections. The last-minute deal that ended the pre-election violence was credited to a little known Kenyan diplomat, Washington Okumu. Nancy felt indebted to him for her personal safety in what might have been dangerous circumstances and wanted to understand his role in that historic moment. Through Brown alumni contacts, she found Okumu, who agreed to speak to her and Aidea Downie, her UTRA student. Their summer research trip revealed the parameters of an extraordinary life and previously unknown international political dynamics. The interviews took on a deeper significance when Okumu died in November. Jacobs and Downie are writing an article about Okumu and his role in South Africa's transition to a non-racial democracy. In Kenya, Nancy also started work on her next book, on the global history of the African Grey Parrot.



This year, **Jennifer Johnson's** research focused on her second book project, which explores the relationship between public health and state-building in post-colonial North Africa. In it, she analyzes the role of international aid and global health programs in the region and the ways in

which local leaders used this foreign assistance to their own benefit. She conducted research at the National Archives and the National Library in Rabat, Morocco, and the National Archives and National Library, in Tunis, Tunisia, and the Rockefeller Archive Center in New York. She presented her work and served as a discussant at the African Studies Association Conference, Harvard University, Brown University and the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C. She enjoyed teaching undergraduate courses on Modern African History and Medicine and Public Health in Africa and getting to know the dynamic and passionate students. In November 2016, she organized a one-day conference entitled, "Medicine and Public Health in Africa: Past, Present, and Future" at Brown University. Scholars of Africa from a number of disciplines, including History, Anthropology, Sociology, and Public Health, gathered to discuss historical and cultural contexts in which medicine and public health initiatives have operated and assess them alongside contemporary biomedical approaches. She is also working with Nancy Jacobs on a primary sourcebook for African History after 1945. She looks forward to enjoying long summer days with her family in Providence and beyond in the upcoming months.



2016-17 was an eventful year for **Jennifer Lambe**, which saw the release in February 2017 of her first book, *Madhouse: Psychiatry and Politics in Cuban History* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press). *Madhouse* traces the history of mental illness

and mental healing in Cuba through the Mazorra Mental Asylum, the only public psychiatric hospital in Cuba until the 1959 Revolution and a key site of political intervention and social reform. An article on Cuba's "Freud Wars" was also published in the *Bulletin of the History of Medicine*, and another on revolutionary body politics is forthcoming in the *Journal of Latin American Studies*. She is currently coediting a volume on the Cuban Revolution, which is now under contract with Duke University Press. In 2017 Jenny also taught a new graduate course on "Moral Panic and the Politics of Fear." With the support of a Wriston Fellowship, she will be on sabbatical during the coming academic year.

Brian Lander used his time as a fellow at the Harvard University Center for the Environment to work on two new projects. He completed an article entitled "Wild Mammals of Ancient North China" (co-written with Katherine Brunson of Brown's Joukowsky Institute for Archaeology), a multidisciplinary study of the native mammals of the heartland of Chinese civilization, a region now home to hundreds of millions of humans, and very few wild mammals. This is the first such study in any language,



and lays the foundation for more detailed future research on the histories of specific wild animals in China. He continued his work on the environmental history of the Yangzi Valley lowlands by organizing a workshop on a cache of third-century administrative documents written on wood and bamboo that were excavated 20

years ago from a well but have yet to be studied by Western scholars. The workshop brought China's leading specialist together with Western scholars for three days of learning how to read the language of 3rd century South Chinese bureaucrats. He also took advantage of his time at Harvard to study the archaeology of South America, building on a longstanding interest in the Amazon, and helping him prepare for his first course at Brown, a history of the human impact on the global environment before 1492.



Steven Lubar used his sabbatical this fall to complete his book, work on some short articles based on research that didn't make it into the book, and start on a new project. *Inside the Lost Museum: Curating, Past and Present*, will be published this summer. A short article on the invention of

the modern American art museum centered on a recreation of Benjamin Ives Gilman's 1917 skiascope, a device designed to encourage close looking at art. Still in progress is an article tracking the history of 800 mice collected in Middleboro, Massachusetts, for the Smithsonian in the 1850s, and a digital humanities project on the 1853 New York Crystal Palace. The new project — a change from museum history — is a hands-on history of skill in America. This spring meant a return to teaching, including a course on the theory and practice of local history.



In addition to continuing to serve as Brown University's Dean of the College, **Maud S. Mandel** co-edited (with Ethan B. Katz and Lisa Moses Leff) *Colonialism and the Jews*, which

appeared with Indiana University Press in January 2017. In her addition, her essay "Simone Weil (1909-1943)" was published in the volume *Thinking Jewish Modernity* with Princeton University Press. The volume, edited by Jacques Picard, Jacques Revel, Michael P. Steinberg, and Idith Zertal, was winner of the 2016 National Jewish Book Award in the category of Anthologies and Collections. Dean Mandel gave presentations of her research at Yale University, University of Illinois, Manhattan College, and Connecticut College.



Rich Meckel delivered the George Rosen Memorial Lecture at Yale University Medical School and gave a paper on the war on poverty origins of WIC at the American Association of Medical Historians annual conference.

Tony Molho was forced to devote most of his energy this past year to non scholarly activities, and had to relinquish his position as Visiting Professor at the Stanford University-in-Florence Programme. He is now slowly trying to return to his research projects. During this past year, four of his publications appeared in print, some with great delay, that was not always product of his own inefficiency. Among these, there were three articles and a small monograph. The monograph appeared in a bilingual English and Greek edition, entitled (in English): *Dissent, Discipline, Dissimulation in Early Modern Europe. Reflections on a European Tradition* (Athens, History Section of the Hellenic National Research Institute, 2016). Two articles were included in Festschriften that were presented to old friends, whose recent retirements reminded him that he is not the only scholar whose scholarly career is coming to an end. Jacques Revel, an old friend recently retired from the Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, was presented with two festschriften. Molho's homage to him was published in one of them: "Michael Baxandall's Episodes. A Memory Book. Rhetoric, Remembering, and the Pleasures of Narration," in *La forza*

delle incertezze. Dialoghi storiografici con Jacques Revel (Bologna: Il Mulino, 2016), pp. 187-210. Riccardo Fubini, perhaps the most important historian of humanism today, and until recently Professor of Renaissance History at the University of Florence, received a volume in his honour, prepared by some of his students. Molho's friendship with him goes back to the academic year 1968-69, when both were Fellows at the The Harvard University Center for Italian Renaissance Studies in Florence. My contribution to his Festschrift is "We have been friends for so long, I could not forgo telling you how I feel." As Epistolary Exchange between Paul Oskar Kristeller and Edward Lowinsky, 1982-1983," in *Il laboratorio del Rinascimento. Studi di storia e cultura per Riccardo Fubini*, (Firenze: Le Lettere, 2016), pp.257-275. Finally, there is the third article, that was originally intended to be a chapter of a book he has been working on for the past few years: "Besuch in Deutschland: Paul Oskar Kristeller in America," *I Tatti Studies in the Italian Renaissance*, 2016, vol 19, number 2, pp. 427-467.



The saga of "Applied History" has continued during 2016-2017 and **Rebecca W. S. More** is grateful to the department for research and interpretative skill sets that can be employed in so many productive ways. While she retired from administrative work at the Sheridan Center almost seven years ago and from teaching Early Modern gender history at RISD three years ago, she is busier than ever.

The challenge of getting the archives of Reed & Barton Silversmiths (1824 - 2015) required active management until June 2016. The business records were safely deposited at Harvard Business School's Baker Library. With the assistance of a deeply committed Reed & Barton custodian, the RISD rare book librarian was able to transfer two-truck loads of tissue-thin designs going back to the 19th c. to Providence. While time-consuming, this was a great learning experience and used much of the research she had done on the company for a 2003 family event.

Another complex archival project involved transferring original late 19th and early 20th c. autographed photographs, formerly on display at the John Wingate Weeks Museum in Weeks State Park, Lancaster NH, from the State of New Hampshire to the Weeks Papers on deposit at Dartmouth College's Rauner Rare Book Library. She spent about six months researching which photographs were at Weeks State Park and which at Dartmouth. One of the benefits was that she had a chance to research each photograph and learn about the early 20th c. development of radio, television and facsimile technology by the U.S. military before and after World War I. An Annapolis graduate, Weeks served as Secretary of War and worked closely with many of the early military innovators. Among the original photographs was one of the first facsimiles - a "Telephotograph" portrait of Weeks sent over telephone wires in 1924.

The seven-year effort to protect 192 miles of New Hampshire from degradation of its scenic, historic and cultural landscapes by the proposed Northern Pass Transmission (HV electric power) project from Canada to Connecticut has escalated significantly this past year. The US Department of Energy has conducted an Environmental Impact review, including a Section 106 Historical and Cultural review of the potential impact on historic and cultural resources including Native American archaeological artifacts. The NH Site Evaluation Committee (SEC) began its review in 2016 and over 200 individuals and groups petitioned as Interveners to participate actively in making sure that the Northern Pass is held to the highest standards. The SEC has now reached the adjudicative stage in which the Applicant (Northern Pass) and Interveners, including the State Attorney General, submit testimony on the pros and cons of the case under oath. Representing the Weeks family, especially with regard to the impact of the proposal on Weeks State Park, More has served as Intervener in both the federal and state reviews, as well as a Consulting Party for the Section 106. This summer she will testify before the SEC on the research she did on the historic and cultural landscape surrounding the Park, largely intact since the early 19th c.

Finally work on a constellation of non-profit boards in New Hampshire has provided her the opportunity to integrate health care needs, education, local history and preservation for the benefit of the northern New Hampshire community. Finding ways to bring Plymouth State University, its Museum of the White Mountains, and the new four-hospital Accountable Care Organization incorporating Weeks Medical Center to assist a rural region in difficult economic condition plan for a better future is deeply worthwhile.

Not least, she is still grateful for the chance to work with History Department seniors and to continue two Research projects. She is looking forward to hearing the 2017 senior History Honors students make effective presentations of their theses to the department, friends and family next week. And she has been able to research the diary of a New Hampshire-born Revolutionary War era Anglican minister in England this year as well as add to her Inventory of English church memorials that reflect public service values.



Jeremy Mumford

continues to research his second book, a monograph about royal incest and close-kin marriage among the Incas, the Spanish Habsburgs, and the Peruvian colonial elite; he presented his work at conferences in

Lima and La Paz. He also published a critical edition of a unique archival document in *Histórica*, Peru's flagship history journal. In the sixteenth century, indigenous people participated actively in the colonial judicial system, but within self-contained, Quechua-speaking villages — the so-called "Republic of Indians" — we know almost nothing about how they resolved crimes and disputes. In a Bolivian archive, Jeremy found the only document that has come to light about how a village alcalde or judge handled a civil dispute. In this case, a farmer recognized in another man's possession several llamas which had been stolen from him some time before. The Indian alcalde ordered the llamas returned, and gave the defendant one year to locate the person he claimed to have bought them from; otherwise he was liable for the original owner's entire loss. (Even today an Andean herder can recognize every llama he or she has known, sometimes years later; perhaps that is true of herders everywhere.) In his teaching, Jeremy had students in a FYS on *The Age of Revolutions* write original songs to connect the revolutions in Haiti, France or Venezuela to the musical "Hamilton." Jeremy's and Sohini's second daughter, Neerja Hope, was born in September. She pays a lot of attention to the world. Their older daughter, Anarkali, is consumed with the adventures of Tintin.

The highlight of **Rebecca Nedostup's** year was receiving mangoes freshly shaken from a tree (just pictured, left) in a semi-abandoned village in Pingtung County, Taiwan. She was there along with Brown undergrads and UTRA students Wing-Sze Ho and Michelle Ng, and the fruit was largess from a descendant of a refugee community



originally resettled in the village. Some mention of the village appears in “Burying, Repatriating and Leaving the Dead in Wartime and Postwar China and Taiwan, 1937-

1955,” which was published in the inaugural issue of *Journal of Chinese History* (Cambridge.) Rebecca participated in the yearlong Sawyer Seminar on Displacement in the Making of the Modern World, and won a Seed Award for her collaborative digital project (with Maura Dykstra of Caltech), “The Field of the Chinese State: An ‘Archive to Article’ Project”. But she spent much of the year negotiating the learning curve as new Director of Graduate Studies, and nonetheless greatly enjoying the company of students that the position affords.



After giving a keynote lecture on “Alchemical Bodies” at the 2016 meeting of *Scientiae: Disciplines of Knowing in the Early Modern World* in Oxford, **Tara Nummedal** headed to Berlin, Germany for the 2016/17 academic year, where she mainly

focused on completing her book on the alchemist and prophet Anna Zieglerin, “The Lion’s Blood: Alchemy, Gender, and Apocalypse in Reformation Germany.” During the winter, however, she took a break from the book to spend three months as a Visiting Scholar at Berlin’s Max Planck Institute for the History of Science (Dept. II), where she worked on Project Atalanta, a collaborative project with Donna Bilak (Columbia University) and the Brown University Library to create a digital edition and collection of new scholarly essays on the German physician Michael Maier’s 1618 musical-alchemical emblem book, *Atalanta fugiens*. Being based in Europe made it possible for Nummedal to share her research on alchemy and color, Anna Zieglerin, and Project Atalanta with colleagues and students at the University of Utrecht, University of Cambridge, the European University Institute in Florence, University of Luzern, and the Charles University in Prague. She also met with colleagues in Vienna to discuss two-volume of essays on the Habsburgs, to which she will contribute an essay on the Renaissance.

During her first year in the department, **Emily Owens** continued work on her first monograph, *Fantasies of Consent: Sex, Commerce, and Affect in 19th Century New Orleans*. A highlight of this work included a productive research trip to New Orleans, with the added bonus of a first-time drive down the long and winding “River Road,”

where enslaved men staged the German Coast Uprising in 1811, and a visit to the Whitney Plantation, the only plantation museum in the U.S. South that centers the lives of the enslaved people who lived and labored there. She also began work on an anthology tentatively titled *Affirmative Consent and its Discontents*, broke ground on two new



courses, and gave talks about her research at the University of Toronto, Princeton, and Vanderbilt. She represented the Center for the Study of Slavery and Justice in its partnership with Tougaloo College, and will also take on three student research assistants over the upcoming summer (through the UTRA program, the Leadership Alliance, and the

Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship) in their research as budding historians of U.S. slavery under the aegis of the CSSJ. In addition, Emily spent the year delighting in the ins and outs of a new life in Providence, spending way too much time at Tallulah’s and building high hopes for riding the East Bay Bike Path this upcoming summer.



Ethan Pollock finished up his three-year term as DUS this academic year and is looking forward to a leave next year that will take him and his family to the European University Institute in Florence, Italy, where he will be a Fernand Braudel Senior Fellow.

While there, he hopes to finish up his book manuscript on the history of Russian bathhouses and drink prosecco. He presented parts of that manuscript at workshops at Brown and at UC Berkeley this year. Also, with Professor Kerry Smith, he developed and team-taught a new course called “A Global History of the Nuclear Age.” In what may have been the result of a clerical error, the university awarded him the William G. McLoughlin Award for Excellence in teaching in the Social Sciences.

In July 2016, **Amy G. Remensnyder** had the honor of being appointed the Royce Family Professor of Teaching Excellence. This year she taught three courses on medieval history as well as her course on the history of incarceration, “Locked Up: A Global History of Prison and Captivity,” a class in which she brings Brown students into dialogue with students in a local prison. Once a week, Remensnyder

went to a local prison to teach the course material from “Locked Up” to a group of adult male prisoners. She devised ways for the Brown students and the prisoner students to have dialogue about the course materials via audio recordings. In recognition of this pedagogical work, she was made a Faculty Fellow at the John Nicholas Brown Center for Public Humanities (JNBC). With the JNBC, she co-sponsored and co-organized a conference held at Brown in September 2016 called “The Prison Education Movement: Does Brown Have a Role?” which brought together local and national leaders in the prison education movement to speak about their programs, the state of this growing field, and Brown’s potential contribution to it.

Despite her growing interest in prison education, Remensnyder remains passionate about medieval history. She is launched on a new book tentatively entitled *Island of Trust in a Sea of Danger: Lampedusa ca. 1200- ca. 1700*. This project brings together her current research interests



in oceanic history, the history of captivity, and Muslim-Christian relations in the late medieval Mediterranean. This year, Remensnyder gave talks about her work at Hebrew University in Jerusalem, the University of New England in Maine, and at a meeting of the Medieval Academy of America; she also was the keynote speaker at the Mediterranean Seminar Spring Workshop at the University of Colorado. She will be on leave in 2017-18 and is looking forward to spending the spring of 2018 at the American Academy in Berlin, where she has been awarded a fellowship to work on her book.

This fall **Joan Richards** began a three-year term as the director of Brown’s Science and Technology Studies [STS] Program and which includes on the order of 45 undergraduate concentrators. It has been an interesting and exciting development. In the spring, she taught the “Introduction to STS,” which is required for all

concentrators to a lively engaged group of students. Starting next fall, the program will expand to include PhD students from other Brown Departments, including History, will be able to pursue a graduate certificate in



STS. The learning curve has been steep, but it has been very invigorating to work with the wonderfully diverse group of students and faculty from all over the university who are involved in the STS program. More traditionally for Richards, in the fall she

taught “The Roots of Modern Science,” which focuses on the development of science from Newton through Darwin. She has taught some version of this class since coming to Brown thirty-five years ago, and as she pulled together lectures this time it was interesting to reflect on how much has changed in the ways historians of science approach this material, even as much has remained the same. That rumination became even more pronounced this spring, when she team-taught “Science at the Crossroads” with Lukas Reippel. Lukas has brought the biological sciences to bear on a course that in the past has focused on the overthrow of Newtonian physics with the rise of relativity physics and quantum mechanics at the beginning of the twentieth century. This is only the second time she has team-taught a course since coming to Brown, and the experience has been a positive revelation. She has learned a tremendous amount from his lectures and readings, and the students have been energized by the synergy between their different points of view. She hopes that the History Department will support many more team-taught courses in the future. She is moving into phased retirement in July, which means that she will continue for three more years of half-time teaching. This arrangement will allow her to continue work with STS while leaving the development of new courses to the exciting new group of younger professors in the department. It will she hopes also give her the kind of uninterrupted time needed to finish *Generations of Reason*, her book about the Frennd/De Morgan family.

Lukas Rieppel is especially proud (not to mention relieved!) to report that he finally completed a draft of his book manuscript, which is currently undergoing peer review. Tentatively entitled “Dinosaurs & Capitalism: Assembling an Icon of Science,” this book uses the history of vertebrate paleontology to examine how the culture of American capitalism spread through the ranks of the scientific community, manifesting itself in the way dinosaurs were collected, studied, and mounted for public

display. In addition, he also co-edited a special issue of the journal *Osiris* on the theme of “Science & Capitalism: Entangled Histories,” which is currently undergoing peer review as well. Moreover, he contributed an essay to



that issue of *Osiris* entitled “Organizing the Marketplace” about convergences between evolutionary theory and economic theory during the nineteenth century. Third, he co-edited a special issue of the *Museum History Journal* with Steven Lubar, Kathrinne Duffy, and Ann Daly on the theme of “Lost Museums,”

and published an essay on the concept of “Nature” for the online journal *Political Concepts: A Critical Lexicon*. In the classroom, Lukas enjoyed co-teaching a new lecture course with Joan Richards about the historical relationship between the life science and the physical sciences. Finally, he has been busily planning a research trip to China and Taiwan in the summer of 2017. In addition to presenting his work at the Academia Sinica and Hong Kong University, he looks forward to visiting several paleontological excavation sites and museums in mainland China as well.



Seth Rockman spent the 2016-17 year in Berlin as a member of an international research seminar on global labor history at the Humboldt University. Re:work, as the institute is known, provided the opportunity to read broadly and write without interruption. Look for forthcoming articles in *Technology & Culture*,

International Review of Social History, and two new essay collections on the history of American capitalism. While in Europe, Rockman gave talks in Basel and Frankfurt regarding the recently published *Slavery’s Capitalism: A New History of American Economic Development*. From afar, Rockman was able to take delight in the many accomplishments of graduate students Rachel Knecht and Alicia Maggard, both of whom won competitive fellowships to finish their doctorates next year.

Daniel Rodriguez felt like he hit his stride in his third year as a member of the faculty. On the teaching/mentoring front, he was the primary advisor for a fantastic group of six students writing honors theses in the history of medicine,



led a summer-long team UTRA oral history project focused on the lives of Rhode Island activists and organizers, and will soon be travelling to Havana to teach a month-long course on the history of medicine in Cuba. On the research front, he presented his work in New York and Miami, and received a Woodrow Wilson Career



Enhancement Fellowship, which will allow him to take a full year’s sabbatical, finish his first book, and begin substantive research on the second project. More importantly, he looks forward to a summer of flying kites and going on bike rides with his four year old daughter Lourdes.

Brill published *Cultural Contact and Appropriation in the Axial-Age Mediterranean World: A Periplos* which **Ken Sacks** co-edited with Baruch Halpern. It was a result of several international conferences focusing on cultural appropriation in

the early Iron Age Mediterranean. His own contribution was “Who Markets Ideas? Elite and Non-elite Transmission of Culture and Technology.”

In addition to returning to the classroom with a Wintersession course on Maps and Empires taught at the JCB, **Neil Safier** gave the biennial Moody-Hamilton lecture in Atlantic history at Acadia University in Nova Scotia, as well as scholarly presentations and lectures in Madrid, New Haven, New York, Paris, Potsdam (via Skype) and Santiago de Chile this past year. He also published “Masked Observers and Mask Collectors: Entangled Histories from the Eighteenth-Century Amazon” in the April 2017 issue of *Colonial Latin American Review*. The article, dedicated to the memory of anthropologist Neil L. Whitehead, is the culmination of ten years of research and thinking about



how European and indigenous ways of seeing are entangled with one another in eighteenth-century Amazonia. Neil also served as a member of the steering committee of the Native American and Indigenous Studies Initiative, in addition to his role as director and librarian of the John Carter Brown Library.

Robert Self became department chair in July and devoted the past year to balancing attention to department affairs with his scholarly and professional activities. He placed two essays into press: “Breadwinner Liberalism and its Discontents in the American Welfare State,” in an anthology entitled *Democracy and the Welfare State: The Two Wests in the Age of Austerity*, and a long synthetic essay, entitled “The 1960s,” in the online Oxford Research Encyclopedia for American History. While he continues to work on his next monograph, *The Best Years of Our Lives*, about houses, cars, and children in the twentieth-century U.S., he also launched a future volume of essays to be co-edited with Nancy Cott of Harvard and Margot Canaday of Princeton, under the provisional title “The Intimate State.”



A 2016 conference at Harvard, and one planned for 2018 at Brown, will generate essays for the anthology, which focuses on gender, sexuality, and state power in the United States since Reconstruction. Additionally, Self revised the ninth edition of *America’s History*, a college

and AP high school textbook he co-authors with Rebecca Edwards and Eric Hinderaker, which will publish in the fall of 2017. Among his proudest accomplishments was serving as co-chair of the 2017 conference program committee for the Organization of American Historians. The committee organized a conference of over 100 panels and sessions, including two remarkable plenaries: “Historians in the Court,” featuring prominent senior historians who have authored major briefs in Supreme Court cases, and “African American History, Art, and the Public Museum,” featuring Lonnie Bunch, the founding director of the new National Museum of African American History in Washington, DC. It’s been a busy year, and the learning curve for department chair has been steep. But Self looks forward to another academic year and extends sincere thanks to the department faculty, staff, and students for their support and encouragement.

Naoko Shibusawa taught two new courses this past year: a freshman seminar in the fall semester, “Asian Americans and Third World Solidarity” and a wintersession course, “Settler Colonialism and U.S. Military Empire in the Pacific.” The wintersession course included a travel component to Hawai‘i with a dozen students for a little over a week in January. In Hawai‘i, students participated in a spiritual march organized by sovereignty activists to remember the day 124 years earlier, January 17, 1893, when the American planter elite seized power and imprisoned Queen



Lilioukalani in Iolani Palace. The upside down Hawaiian flag denotes “nation in distress.”

Kerry Smith spent last summer at the International Consortium for Research in the Humanities at the Friedrich-Alexander University Erlangen-Nuremberg, as a research fellow in a joint project on “Accounting for Uncertainty: Prediction and Planning in Asia’s History.”



Gate leading into the Shiragane-higashi Disaster Prevention complex, Tokyo; The long row of tall, white apartment buildings paralleling the river (near the top, center of the photo) marks the boundaries of the Shirahige-higashi Disaster Prevention complex. (Photo from the observation deck of the Tokyo Skytree.)

This summer he’ll be in Berlin at the Max Planck Institute for the History of Science, completing the second half of the fellowship. In addition to getting a crash course in Chinese horoscopy and hand mnemonics, Smith made progress on his current book project, which focuses on earthquake prediction and disasters in 20th century Japan, and presented parts of that work to colleagues in Erlangen and Berlin. In addition, and thanks to support from the Salomon Faculty Fund and the Association for Asian Studies, he also spent several weeks in Tokyo doing archival work and exploring the Higashi-Shirahige Disaster Prevention complex, a massive 1970s-era urban redevelopment project designed to shelter some 80,000 residents from the fires and floods that the city’s next major earthquake

would almost certainly trigger. Meant to be a model for other, even larger structures to be constructed elsewhere in Tokyo, it was in the end the only one ever built. Following on last year's "70th Anniversary of the Dawn of the Atomic Age" lecture series, in the fall Smith and Ethan Pollock launched a new co-taught lecture course, "A Global History of the Atomic Age." Developed with support from the Stanton Foundation, the course examined the origins of nuclear proliferation, cultural responses to the atomic age, and — quoting the syllabus here — the "slow catastrophes that accompanied weapons development, the nuclear industry, and waste storage." One of the highlights of the semester was a class field trip to the Rhode Island Nuclear Science Center and a tour of the research reactor facility there; they also arranged for the Brown premier of Containment, a new Peter Gallison documentary on nuclear waste storage and the lessons of the Fukushima disaster.



Michael Steinberg is currently on leave from Brown and serving as President of the American Academy in Berlin. His co-edited volume *Makers of Jewish Modernity: Thinkers, Artists, Leaders and the World They Made* (Princeton University Press, 2016) won a 2016 National Jewish Book Award. His

new book *The Trouble with Wagner*, on art, nationalism, with an afterword on the problem of the post-secular, is currently in press.



Meltem Toksoz, Associate Professor of Late Ottoman History at Bogazici University, Istanbul, Turkey came to Brown MES and History Department as a Visiting Scholar in Fall 2016. Meltem received her PhD in Ottoman History from SUNY Binghamton (2001) where she had worked with the late Donald Quataert. Since

then at the History Department of Bogazici University, she has been to many research institutions such as the Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin, and Koç University Research Center for Anatolian Studies. Besides her *Nomads, Migrants and Cotton in the Eastern Mediterranean: The Making of*

the Adana-Mersin Region in the Ottoman Empire, 1850-1908. (Brill Publications, the Netherlands, 2010); she has co-edited *Cities of the Mediterranean: From the Ottoman Times to the Present*. (I.B. Tauris, London, 2011 and 2014 second edition). The Turkish translation *Osmanlılardan Günümüze Doğu Akdeniz Kentleri* came out in 2015 from İş Bankası Kültür Yayınları. Her current research interests include historiography, intellectual history, economic history and the modernization of state and society in late Ottoman history. Here at Brown, Meltem has enjoyed sharing the great friendship, collegiality and work of many at Brown. As the summer of 2016 unfolded many disruptive changes for her home country, Turkey, one of the first events she participated was the Turkey Teach-In on September 2016 which proved all the more valuable as Beshara Doumani hosted the event that her long-time 'mentor' Engin Akarli also joined. Meltem also presented on the Mediterranean history at the Displacement and the Making of the Modern World: Migration and Displacement, A World on the Move, workshop organized by Watson Institute and Middle East Studies, and gave a talk entitled "Archaeology as History, 19th century Ottoman Conceptualizations," at the Juokowsky Institute for Archaeology. This year at Brown also enabled her to participate in workshops at University of Texas at Austin, Columbia and Harvard universities. Meltem came to Brown to work on her book on the Intellectual History of the Ottoman Empire which she hopes to complete in 2018.



Germán Vergara had a wonderful second year as a postdoctoral fellow in environmental history at Brown. In the fall, he taught a course on the urban history of Latin America and, in the spring, he offered a class on the history of food and agriculture in the Americas.

At Brown, he presented his work at the weekly seminar at the Cogut Center for the Humanities. In the meantime, he continued to work on his book manuscript on the energy and environmental history of Mexico in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries and submitted two articles for publication at Environmental History and Mexican Studies. This fall, he will be joining the Department of History and Sociology at the Georgia Institute of Technology as assistant professor in environmental history.



In 2016, **Ted Widmer** published another book of edited essays about the Civil War, taken from the New York Times' Disunion series with Oxford University Press. He also wrote three essays on historical themes for *New Yorker's* online version. Widmer is now the Director of the John W. Kluge Center at the Library of Congress.



Michael Vorenberg delivered a number of lectures relating to the 150th anniversary of Reconstruction and the Fourteenth Amendment. These included Constitution Day lectures at Worcester Polytechnic Institute and Boston College Law School

(pictured here). He also delivered the annual Abraham Lincoln lecture at University of St. Mary. His current book project, *Lincoln's Peace: The Elusive End of the American Civil War*, is now under contract with Knopf.

During the past academic year **Gordon Wood** gave lectures at Marquette, two historical societies, the National Constitution Center, the Union League in Philadelphia, and several organizations in Florida; he also led a week-long seminar for high school teachers at Mount Vernon. He served on the Scholarly Council of the Kluge Center of the Library of



Congress and on the Board of the American Revolution Museum in Philadelphia and participated in the Museum's gala opening on April 19, 2017. He was a member of the editorial boards of several Founding Fathers projects. He wrote several reviews for the N.Y. Review of Books. He published with the Library of America the third and final

volume of the writings of John Adams, and completed his manuscript on the relationship between John Adams and Thomas Jefferson, the book slated to be published in the fall of 2017. He was awarded the Abraham Redwood Medal for Contributions to American History and Culture by the Redwood Library in the fall of 2016.



Vazira Zamindar's year, 2016, began and ended in South Asia — for both winters she was able to travel to India and Pakistan, do research and give talks there. The most exciting was speaking at the Jaipur

Literary Festival, which is one of the largest literary festivals in the world, but other talks, at Kolkatta Literary Meet, Aesthetics Project in Delhi, at Karachi's activist civil space, T2F, and with students at Habib University, were all valuable experiences of public engagement in South Asia. Of course she continued to give academic talks here in the US and this included a keynote at the University of Hawaii's annual South Asia conference and at Princeton. With a Pembroke fellowship and sabbatical coming up next academic year, Zamindar is looking forward to some withdrawal and a writing-focused year ahead.

In Memoriam

Thomas E. Skidmore, 84, historian of Brazil and Professor Emeritus of History at Brown, passed away on June 11, 2016 in Westerly, R.I. He left a rich intellectual and professional legacy in his many books and articles that analyze politics, society, and culture in twentieth-century Brazil. The History faculty and staff remember him fondly and honor his enormous contributions to the department, the university, and the history profession. Professor Skidmore moved to Brown University in 1988 as the Carlos Manuel de Céspedes Professor of Latin American History and taught here until his retirement in 2000. He served as president of the Latin American Studies Association and of the New England Council of Latin American Studies. His three seminal works, all published by Oxford University Press, were *Politics in Brazil: 1930-1964: An Experiment in Democracy* (1967); *Black into White: Race and Nationality in Brazilian Thought* (1974); and *Politics of Military Rule in Brazil, 1964-85* (1987). A renown book collector, Skidmore had previously donated his 6,000-book library, which included many rare nineteenth-century volumes in Portuguese, to the university. Skidmore is survived by his wife, Felicity; his three sons, David, James, and Robert; and three grandchildren. A celebration of his life was held on campus during the fall semester.

Graduate Program

In a year marked by instability and ambiguity, it has been both a relief and a distinct pleasure to work with colleagues to make an already robust graduate program even stronger. Few directors are as lucky as I was in succeeding such a talented and thoughtful predecessor as Tara Nummedal. Much of the work of the graduate program this year has concentrated on continuing to realize the goal of diversifying our community and practice, one that was originally articulated by Tara in graduate section of the Departmental Diversity and Inclusion Action Plan last spring.

Our MA and PhD programs continue to grow in numbers and in areas of study. This fall we enrolled 8 MA and 11 PhD students. Although some of the cohort reflected the department's longstanding strength in fields such as 19th and 20th century US, early modern Europe, and the ancient world, others found places in the histories of East Asia, Latin America, and the Middle East. More notably, many students are at the same time expressing early interest in the rapidly growing transgeographic fields of Atlantic world and STEaM (Science, Technology, Environment, and Medicine), or in the study of material culture, political economy, law, or religion (among others). At the department's January retreat, the importance of interdisciplinary training as an intellectual as well as practical skill emerged as one area of focus during our discussion of the graduate program. Therefore the History strategic plan, passed in April, includes measures to encourage our students to pursue this path.

That same strategic plan introduced an overarching concept for our department's graduate study: a "door-to-door" program. This is shorthand for a comprehensive approach to training and mentoring students throughout their graduate and immediate post-graduate careers. When we welcome students through one "door" via admission and recruitment, we have the other "door"—placement—firmly in mind. We cannot predict the intellectual and career route any individual student will take, but door-to-door serves to highlight from the moment of admission such issues as diversity and inclusion, advising, collaboration within fields and across the department, professionalization, and serious conversations about, and exposure to, careers and career options. We will retain our core focus on the fundamentals of training in historical research and writing. But — as Tara

Nummedal noted last year — by speaking frankly about and planning for a variety of career options, we are not just being practical: we are reflecting and supporting what our students are already doing on their own. Building on the work she and previous graduate committees started, History will participate in the Mellon-funded AHA Career Diversity Initiative in 2017-18.

We took steps to articulate the different kinds of work graduate students and faculty do as historians — in the archive, in the classroom, in other workplaces, and in each aspect of our lives — in our yearlong workshop series, "What History Looks Like." Sessions were led by colleagues from inside and outside the department, especially by our new junior faculty, and PhD alumni. With the support of the Graduate School and the Rhode Island Historical Society we were able to fund a pilot proctorship at the Museum of Work and Culture in Pawtucket, a relationship we hope to continue as one route of developing professional opportunities. Our students continue to win grants to teach their own courses: this year they won the trifecta of the Dean's Faculty Fellowship, the Wheaton/Brown Faculty Fellowship, and a special yearlong placement in the Brown-Tougaloo Partnership Faculty Fellows Program.

Finally, the Graduate School took several big steps this year to further support graduate work and student professionalization, the most significant of which was a shift to twelve-month funding in the humanities and social sciences, which creates important financial stability for students, and facilitates their research in the summer months. Our students are already taking advantage of eight new doctoral certificate programs, as well pre-existing professionalization opportunities such as the BEST higher-ed administration training. Most important, they continue to be incredibly active in organizing their own workshops, reading groups, and conferences, and in supporting each other in moments professional and personal.



Rebecca Nedostup

Master of Arts, 2016-2017

Keegan J. Cothorn

George D. Elliott

Anne B. Grasberger

Maariyah S. Lateef

Joseph W. Leidy

Rebecca R. Marisseau

Eve O'Connor

Catriona Corliss Schwartz

Jenny Lhamo Tsundu

Eliana Wiener

Doctor of Philosophy, 2016-2017

Patrick Chung

Building Global Capitalism: Militarization, Standardization, and US-South Korean Relations, 1950-present

Director: Naoko Shibusawa

Zoe Ann Griffith

Egyptian Ports and the Ottoman Mediterranean, 1760-1820

Director: Beshara Doumani

Sandra K. Haley

Urban Pueblo: Gender, Ethnicity, and Work in

Oaxaca, Mexico, 1920-1945

Director: James N. Green

Wanda Henry

Searching the Dead and Burying the Bodies: Bills of Mortality, Women Searchers of the Dead, and Sextonesses in England from the Sixteenth to the Nineteenth Century

Director: Harold J. Cook

Justina Hwang

Cold War Courtships: Authoritarian Anti-Communism and Developmental Diplomacy in Latin America and the Republic of China 1960-1975

Director: Evelyn Hu-DeHart

Liise Lehtsalu

Negotiated Lives: Women's Third Order Religious Communities in 17th- and 18th-Century Italy

Director: Caroline Castiglione

Isadora Moura Mota

On the Imminence of Emancipation: Black Geopolitical Literacy and Anglo-American Abolitionism in Late Nineteenth-Century Brazil

Director: James N. Green

Undergraduate Program

Serving as the department's Director of Undergraduate Studies these past three years has reaffirmed what a great place Brown is to teach and learn. Our concentrators never cease to amaze me with all that they are able to do in the classroom and beyond. As DUS I also get to see first-hand the thought and hard work our faculty put into their courses. The results are impressive even as they are unsurprising — combining excellent and engaged students with committed and masterful teachers creates an outstanding environment for learning. Without losing sight of that winning formula, the faculty and students have found the time and energy to reorganize the curriculum and the concentration, which has made room for dozens of new courses and the integration of a six new faculty members over the past few years. Together faculty and students helped to write a Department Diversity and Inclusion Action Plan that affirms our commitment to creating an inclusive and open concentration in terms of both how we teach and what we teach.

One goal that has motivated our students of late is to foster a greater sense of departmental community. This can be hard. We have a lot of concentrators, with a wide variety of interests, and almost all of our courses enroll more non-concentrators than concentrators. Knowing this, the student leaders of our Department Undergraduate Group (DUG) have organized social events such as faculty/student “teas,” informal study breaks during finals, student-led advising sessions, and panels with history alumni about their careers after Brown. They've also organized lunches for students to meet new faculty as well as a student/faculty panel discussion on religion and politics in the fall semester and another panel discussion on immigration and the US border in the spring semester. These events play a crucial role in the life of our department and help to create opportunities for students and faculty to interact outside the classroom and outside the formal curriculum.

Being DUS comes with a very nice perk: the opportunity to teach the department's honors workshop. More than in any other class, the workshop allows faculty to see students

interested in all areas of the world and various time periods come work together to complete their individual projects. This year's thesis writers wrote theses on the challenges of African assimilation in France, families in a Chilean copper mine in the early 20th century, the World Bank and efforts at population control, RFK's relationship with Cesar Chavez, the Madras Torture Commission and British colonial rule, Black medical professionals in progressive era America, mosquito eradication programs in Cuba, Panama, and New Orleans, the Exclusion Crisis in Restoration England, the 1970 Brazilian soccer team's relationship to the Brazilian

The faculty and students have found the time and energy to reorganize the curriculum and the concentration.

military regime, Irish vagabonds in early America, Civil Defense films in the early Cold War, Japanese intellectuals in Manchuria in the 1930s, and psychiatry in Pinochet's Chile. Each thesis marks a fitting culmination of an outstanding undergraduate career.

This summer Professor Naoko Shibusawa will replace me as DUS. I am confident that in she will find the job as rewarding and stimulating as I have.



Ethan Pollock

Award Recipients

The Samuel C. Lamport Prize in International Understanding for best paper on international understanding, with emphasis on cooperation and tolerance.

Aditya V. Kumar
In Blood and Color: The Madras Torture Commission Report as a Liberal Response to a Crisis in Racial Capitalism

The Gaspee Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution Award for best paper written as a class assignment in an American history course.

Phoebe Young
Movements Born of the Ground: Cross-Cultural Studies of Native Resistance in Colonial New England and Post-Independence Mexico

The Marjorie Harris Weiss Memorial Premium in History as the outstanding undergraduate woman student majoring in History.

Belinda Y. Zhou

Pell Medal Award for excellence in United States history.

Leah C. Kazar

The Christian Yegen Thesis Prize for an outstanding thesis.

Bohao Wu
Imagining Asian Modernity: Japanese Intellectuals in Manchuria and Their Agrarian Movement, 1931-1943

The John L. Thomas Memorial Award for best thesis in the History Department.

Belinda Y. Zhou
Therapeutic Advocacy: Treating and Empowering the Politically Persecuted in Authoritarian Chile 1973-1990

The David Herlihy Prize For best student in Medieval or Renaissance, or Ancient History.

Jessica Laird

The Skidmore Family and Friends Thesis Prize for best thesis in Latin American Studies.

Katherine E. Grusky
Digging Below the Surface: Women and Families in the El Teniente Copper Mine, 1904-1930

Honors Recipients

Eleanor F. Bohn

Too Many Cooks Out of the Kitchen: The Dissemination of Postwar Domestic Ideals in Cecily Brownstone's Associated Press Recipes, 1960-1965

Advisor: Robert Self

Otis B. Booz

The Color of Failure: A History of African Assimilation and Multiculturalism in 20th Century French Politics

Advisor: Nancy Jacobs

Katherine E. Grusky

Digging Below the Surface: Women and Families in the El Teniente Copper Amine, 1904-1930

Advisor: Jeremy Mumford

Virginia A. Holmes

Female Cultural Identity in Die Aktion, 1913-1919

Advisor: Mary Gluck

Leah C. Kazar

The World Bank, Population Control, and the Liberal Economic Order

Advisor: Naoko Shibusawa

Mariah Kennedy Cuomo

Robert F. Kennedy and the Farmworkers: The Formation of Robert F. Kennedy and Cesar Chavez's Bond

Advisor: Edward Widmer

Aditya V. Kumar

In Blood and Color: The Madras Torture Commission Report as a Liberal Response to a Crisis in Racial Capitalism

Advisor: Naoko Shibusawa

David I. Lazris

Survival and Progress: The National Medical Association and Black Medical

Professionalism, 1865-1929

Advisor: Daniel Rodriguez

Daniel J. Muller

An American Colonialism: The Colonial Application of Mosquito Eradication Programs from Cuba and Panama in 1905 New Orleans

Advisor: Daniel Rodriguez

Benjamin T. Orf

Whig and Country: The Exclusion Crisis and the Politics of Opposition in Restoration England c. 1674-81

Advisor: Tim Harris

Christian A. Rodriguez

The 1970 Seleção: The Brazilian Military Regime's Propagandist Force Went Unrivaled by Political Opposition

Advisor: James Green

Emma M. Scott

Sentenced to Settlement: Irish Vagabonds, Convict Transportation, and Labor in Early America

Advisor: Hilary Levey-Friedman

Bradley X. Weekes

How to Survive an Atomic Bomb: The Role of Civil Defense Films During the Cold War, 1945-1956

Advisor: Kerry Smith

Bohao Wu

Imagining Asian Modernity: Japanese Intellectuals in Manchuria and Their Agrarian Movement, 1931-1943

Advisor: Kerry Smith

Belinda Y. Zhou

Therapeutic Advocacy: Treating and Empowering the Politically Persecuted in Authoritarian Chile 1973-1990

Advisor: Jennifer Lambe

