

HISTORY

MATTERS

Brown University Department of History

Volume 32 / Spring 2018



BROWN

16

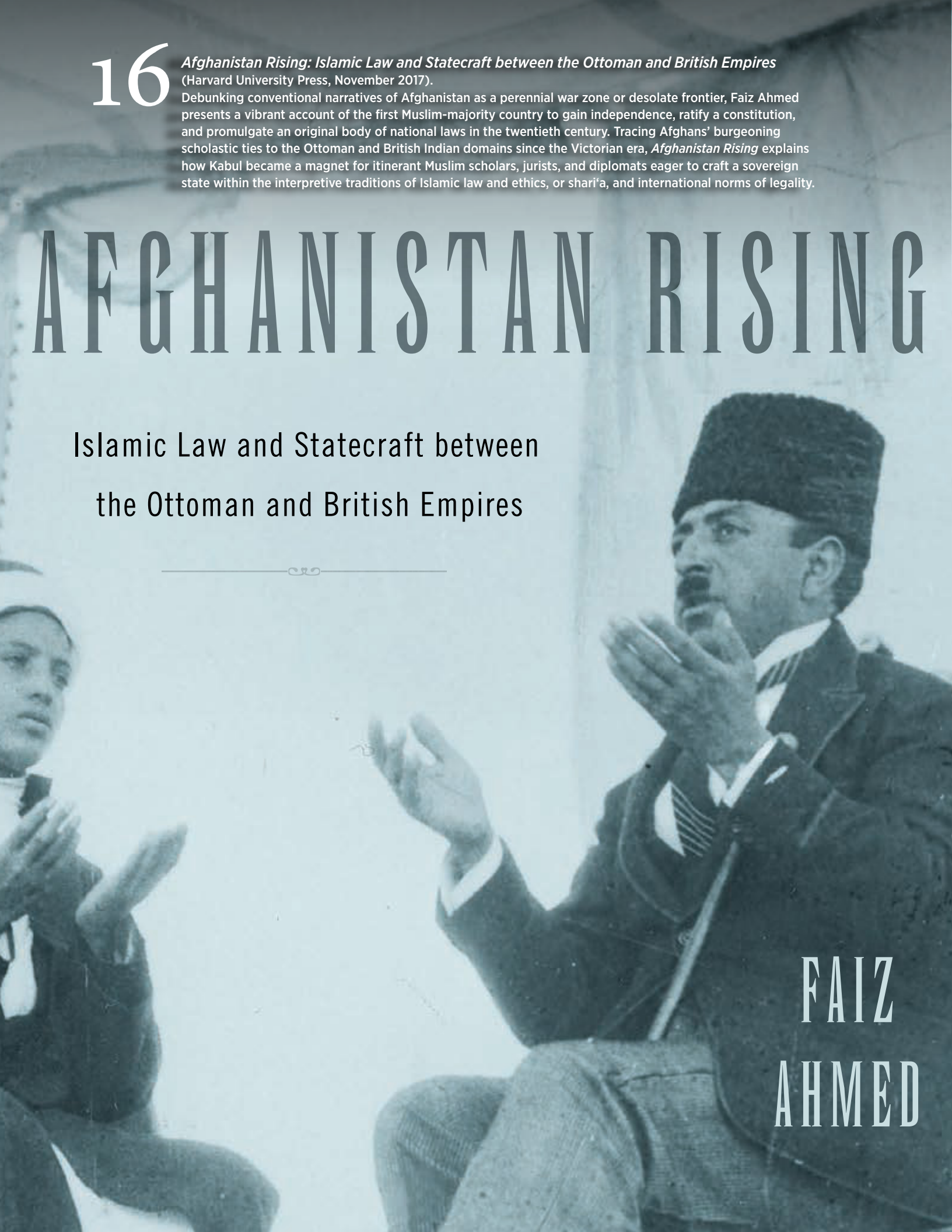
Afghanistan Rising: Islamic Law and Statecraft between the Ottoman and British Empires
(Harvard University Press, November 2017).

Debunking conventional narratives of Afghanistan as a perennial war zone or desolate frontier, Faiz Ahmed presents a vibrant account of the first Muslim-majority country to gain independence, ratify a constitution, and promulgate an original body of national laws in the twentieth century. Tracing Afghans' burgeoning scholastic ties to the Ottoman and British Indian domains since the Victorian era, *Afghanistan Rising* explains how Kabul became a magnet for itinerant Muslim scholars, jurists, and diplomats eager to craft a sovereign state within the interpretive traditions of Islamic law and ethics, or shari'a, and international norms of legality.

AFGHANISTAN RISING

Islamic Law and Statecraft between
the Ottoman and British Empires

FAIZ
AHMED



History Matters

Brown University Department of History / Volume 32 / Spring 2018

10

Table of Contents

A Word From the Chair/Robert Self	4
Cover Image/Bathsheba Demuth	6
Recent Faculty Books	7
Exploration	
David Weinrib and Junior Faculty Development Fund/Robert Self	9
Digital Humanities Project, <i>Furnace and Fugue</i> / Tara Nummedal	10
A New Era in Middle East Studies/ Robert Self	12
Legal History Workshop/Faiz Ahmed	14
Faculty Activities	16
Graduate Program	30
Undergraduate Program	41

15



36



Follow us on Twitter (BrownHist) and Facebook.



Brown University Department of History



Sharpe House
130 Angell Street



Peter Green House
79 Brown Street



BROWN

A Word from the Chair

As the 2017-2018 academic year draws to a close and commencement approaches, I welcome this opportunity to reflect on the Department of History's activities and accomplishments.

As readers will see in the individual faculty profiles, the department's research program is as strong as ever. One of the great pleasures of being chair is to bear close witness to 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; from segregation-era Mississippi to the waters of the Bering Strait. And, as the saying goes, everything in between. History faculty continue to publish widely and provocatively, deliver talks and papers across the world, and serve on a variety of boards and committees at Brown, in their fields, and in the profession at large. I encourage readers to linger over the individual faculty profiles in order to appreciate both the breadth and the quality of the department's research.

During their PhD training, graduate students make significant contributions to the department's research, as they develop, plan, and execute their dissertations. The publications and other accomplishments of the department's PhD and MA students are included in later pages herein, and the reader will find a number of individual stories penned by PhD students further along as well. Graduate students continue to play a central role in the pedagogical and intellectual life of the department through a wide range of activities: serving as teaching assistants and mentors to undergraduates, delivering papers and talks on their research, participating in and helping to organize workshops, and staging major conferences. In particular, I'd like to recognize the History Graduate Student Association, which held its tenth annual conference, "Atlantic Trajectories: Trends and Movements in Atlantic World Studies," in September, and Brown Legal Studies, which

held its third annual graduate student conference, "Law, Language, and the Archive," this April. Big congratulations, and thanks, to both groups.

The department prides itself on preparing PhD students for the professoriate, but it's long been the case that in addition to finding academic employment, History's PhD graduates take up a wide array of professional positions, in museums, libraries, academic administration, government, consulting, media, and more. In recognition of this fact, the department has begun to develop resources to assist students in preparing for a variety of history careers. In 2017-2018, the department launched a yearlong public history internship for PhD students in partnership with the Rhode Island Historical Society and the National Park Service. Next year, with the assistance of a grant from the American Historical Association and the Mellon Foundation that the department received this March, a PhD student, appointed as a "Career Diversity Fellow," will further develop and consolidate our professional and career-planning programs and resources. Many thanks to Rebecca Nedostup for ably leading this effort, alongside the newly appointed Director of Graduate Advising, Jonathan Conant, and Professor of History and Italian Studies, Caroline Castiglione.

There is good news in undergraduate teaching as well. While we should never fall in love with enrollment numbers as a stand-alone metric of success, there is reason to be excited that the department's annual undergraduate enrollment is the highest in more than a decade and second only to Economics in the Division of Social Science. The department's number of concentrators also continues to climb steadily, following a downturn during the Great Recession—a downturn, incidentally, that was experienced in much starker terms by many of our institutional peers than it was here at Brown. Indeed, Naoko Shibusawa, the Director of Undergraduate Studies, reports that we have more students registered to write senior theses next year than we've seen in any year in the twenty-first century. This year's thesis writers, and their subjects, are identified further along in these pages.

If we are a department on the move in a figurative sense, we will soon be so in a quite literal one as well. This past January, the university announced that it will relocate Sharpe House, one of the department's two buildings and home to more than half its faculty and all its graduate students. To make room for the new Performing Arts Center, Sharpe will be moved to a site alongside Peter Green, south of the Biomed building, with frontage on Brown Street. Built in 1872 as a wood-frame, two-family double house, Sharpe was converted into a dormitory for Pembroke College students in the early 1920s. Before becoming home to History, it housed the Education Department. The move is proceeding at a quick pace: All faculty and graduate students will be relocated in June for the 2018-2019 academic year, the building will be moved by winter break, and we'll return to a renovated Sharpe House in the summer of 2019. Fingers crossed!

The department bids a fond and bittersweet farewell to Maud Mandel, a longtime member of the department's faculty and, since 2015, Dean of the College. Maud will take her considerable skills to Williams College, where she will become its 18th president in July. We'll miss her presence but wish her much luck and success in the new endeavor.

Finally, as I bring these reflections to a close let me extend the department's warmest congratulations to Faiz Ahmed, who was promoted to associate professor with tenure this year.

I invite you to peruse and enjoy the faculty summaries and other entries in the following pages. It's in the teaching, scholarship, honors, and achievements of the faculty, and in the many initiatives and accomplishments of our students, that we see the true life of the department.

The department prides itself on preparing PhD students for the professoriate, but it's long been the case that in addition to finding academic employment, History's PhD graduates take up a wide array of professional positions, in museums, libraries, academic administration, government, consulting, media, and more.

In annual departmental comings and goings, we welcomed Holly Case, a historian of Modern Europe, to the faculty this year (hired a year ago, Case was featured in last year's newsletter). We hired an additional Modern Europeanist this past fall, Benjamin Hein, a historian of nineteenth-century Germany, migration, and industrialization who just completed his PhD at Stanford University. Hein will join the faculty in 2019. We bid fond farewell to postdoctoral fellows Ketaki Pant and Emma Amador. Pant, a scholar of long-distance trade in the Indian Ocean, will move into a tenure track position at USC, and Amador, a historian of Puerto Rico and the Caribbean, will begin a tenure track appointment at the University of Connecticut. We wish them well.

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/ Bathsheba Demuth

Between the west coast of Alaska and the east coast of Siberia, Saint Lawrence Island lifts from the Bering Sea, a pebbled beach giving way inland to gray-green tundra. The jawbones of bowhead whales in this image sit on that beach. Some of them are decades old and crumbling to white dust. These curves of bone are visual echoes of the v-shaped exhilarations left by living bowheads on the surface of the sea, as they rise to breathe during their spring migration north.

Bowhead whales are one of the animal species that make human life along the Bering Strait possible. The energy they concentrate in their massive bodies – some over 100 tons, nearly half of it fat – fed indigenous Inupiaq, Yupik, and Chukchi communities for millennia. And energy is a difficult thing for humans to find so far north. The ecology we take for granted in temperate climates, where lands and seas are nearly equal in their productivity, does not work here in the Arctic and sub-Arctic. Permafrost and long snow cover make it difficult for plants on land to fix carbon in their cells for much of the year. But the seas around the Bering Strait teem with life – are in fact some of the most productive ecosystems in the world. Some of this caloric wealth spills onto the coastlines, held in the blubber of walrus or fatty flesh of the salmon that swim up rivers. Life exists on an energetic gradient from sea to shore to the low plants of the tundra.

Sitting in an archive not so very far from Saint Lawrence Island a few years ago, I realized that this distribution of energy in arctic space matches the way foreigners colonized the Bering Strait in time. Beginning with commercial whalers – some of them shipping from Providence, Rhode Island – Americans and Russians were first drawn to the Bering Strait for its cetacean energy. When the bowheads were hunted nearly to extinction, they turned to walrus on the coasts and attempted to farm reindeer on land.

Come to take energy, these foreigners stayed to make nations. My current book project chronicles how people from the United States and the governments of Russia dealt came to the Bering Strait inspired by the two great

economic ideologies of the twentieth century, capitalism and communism. Both imagine history as universal, progress as inevitable, and the need for energy as infinite. They arrived in a place impossible for agriculture and challenging for industry. How did they fare in this place where the distribution and prevalence of energy is so particular?

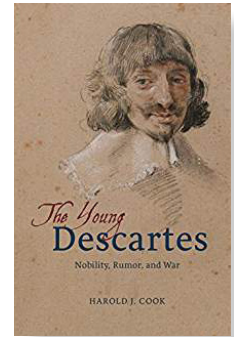
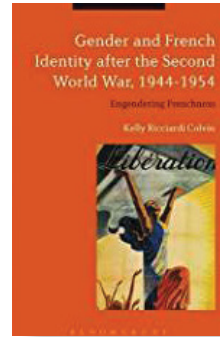
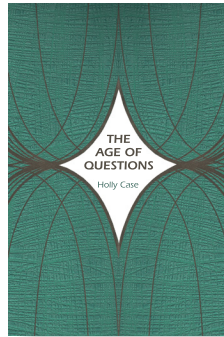
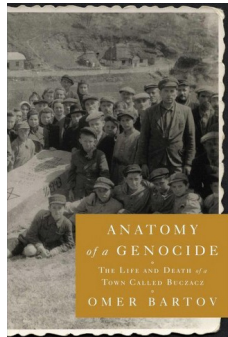
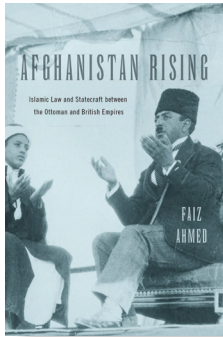
What I've found, after years in and out of places like Saint Lawrence Island, is that the marine, coastal, and terrestrial ecologies along the Bering Strait shaped the practice of communism and capitalism. Sometimes the two states were able to reshape local societies and ecologies to match their ideological principles. Often they did not. Frequently, they adapted in ways that made the two systems look more alike than different. But across the ecological spaces of the Bering Strait, no person or state, no matter how technologically or ideologically modern, was independent of depending on animals like these great, slow, fatty bowheads.



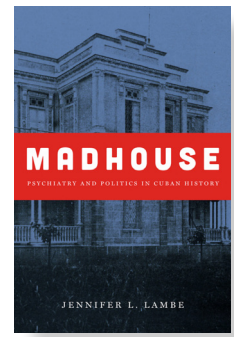
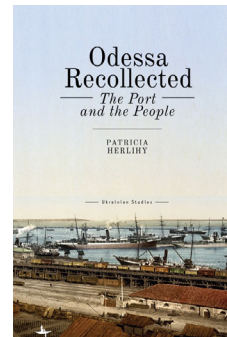
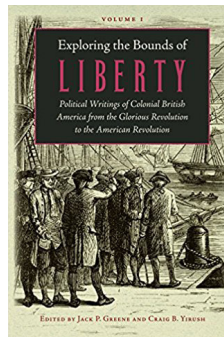
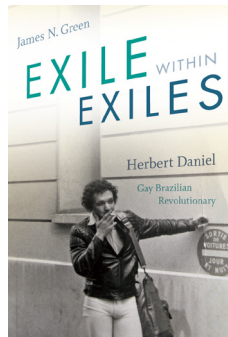
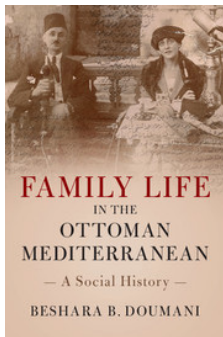
Above, Bowhead whale jawbones, Sivuqaq (St. Lawrence Island) Alaska. Right, Sea gull on sea ice, Chukotka, Russia



Recent Faculty Books

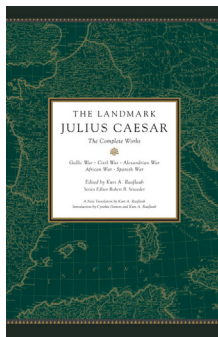
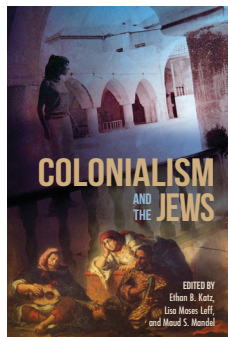


Faiz Ahmed, *Afghanistan Rising: Islamic Law and Statecraft between the Ottoman and British Empires*, Harvard University Press (November, 2017); **Omer Bartov**, *Anatomy of a Genocide: The Life and Death of a Town Called Buczacz*, Simon & Schuster (January, 2018); **Holly Case**, *The Age of Questions Or, A First Attempt at an Aggregate History of the Eastern, Social, Woman, American, Jewish, Polish, Bullion, Tuberculosis, and Many Other Questions over the Nineteenth Century, and Beyond*, Princeton University Press (June, 2018); **Kelly Ricciardi Colvin**, *Gender and French Identity after the Second World War, 1944-1954: Engendering Frenchness*, Bloomsbury Academic (September, 2017); **Harold J. Cook**, *The Young Descartes: Nobility, Rumor, and War*, University of Chicago Press (March, 2018)

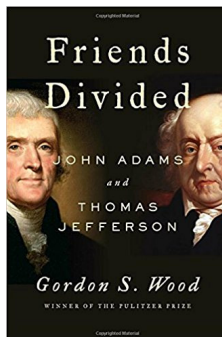
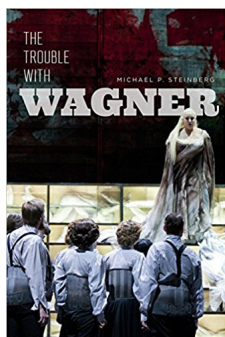
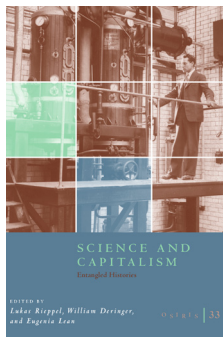


Beshara B. Doumani, *Family Life in the Ottoman Mediterranean: A Social History*, Cambridge University Press (June, 2017); **James N. Green**, *Exile within Exiles: Herbert Daniel, Gay Brazilian Revolutionary*, Duke University Press (October, 2018); **Jack P. Greene and Craig B. Yirush**, eds., *Exploring the Bounds of Liberty: Political Writings of Colonial British America from the Glorious Revolution to the American Revolution*, Liberty Fund; In Three Volumes ed. edition (April, 2018); **Patricia Herlihy**, *Odessa Recollected: The Port and the People*, Academic Studies Press at the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute (April, 2018); **Jennifer L. Lambe**, *Madhouse: Psychiatry and Politics in Cuban History*, University of North Carolina Press (February, 2017)

Recent Faculty Books

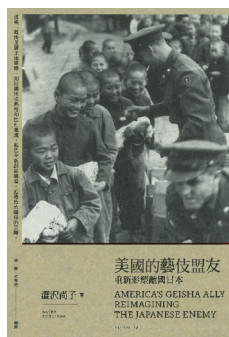
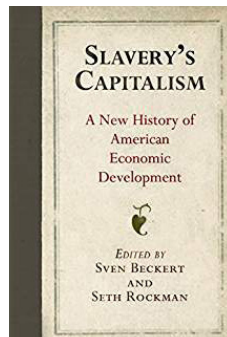
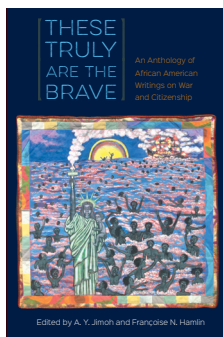


Steven D. Lubar, *Inside the Lost Museum: Curating, Past and Present*, Harvard University Press (August, 2017); **Maud S. Mandel and Ethan Katz and Lisa Moses Leff, eds.**, *Colonialism and the Jews*, Indiana University Press (January, 2017); **Kurt A. Raafaub**, *The Landmark Julius Caesar: The Complete Works: Gallic War, Civil War, Alexandrian War, African War, and Spanish War*, Pantheon (October, 2017)



Lukas Rieppel and William Deringer and Eugenia Lean, eds., *Osiris, Volume 33: Science and Capitalism: Entangled Histories*, University of Chicago Press (October, 2018); **Michael P. Steinberg**, *The Trouble with Wagner*, University of Chicago Press (November, 2018); **Gordon S. Wood**, *Friends Divided: John Adams and Thomas Jefferson*, Penguin Press (November, 2017)

Reprints, Paperback Editions, and Translations



Françoise N. Hamlin and A. Yemisi Jimoh, eds., *These Truly Are the Brave: An Anthology of African American Writings on War and Citizenship*, University Press of Florida pbk. (October, 2018); **Seth Rockman and Sven Beckert, eds.**, *Slavery's Capitalism: A New History of American Economic Development*, University of Pennsylvania Press; Reprint edition (February, 2018); **Naoko Shibusawa**, *America's Geisha Ally*, Taiwan: Walkers Cultural Enterprise, Ltd. Complex Chinese Translation (April 2017)

Exploration

Gift from Alum establishes Junior Faculty Development Fund

By David Weinrib

Editor's note: A generous gift from David Weinrib allowed the department to establish the Brown History Junior Faculty Development Fund to support the research projects of its assistant professors.

I am excited to “step up” my giving to Brown in a way that helps the History Department and in a meaningful way promotes the scholarship and advancement of the junior faculty. My history concentration at Brown stimulated a life-long passion for reading history. As an occasional traveler, I enjoy learning about the history of my destination and making connections to other histories.

As a physician and medical educator specializing in infectious diseases, I value the craft of

collecting an accurate medical history to which Sir William Osler and others attribute 70-90 percent of the information needed for an accurate diagnosis. Learning the historian's craft in Professor John L. Thomas's thesis preparation seminar, among many other history courses, enriched my other studies at Brown and created the foundation for my journey of personal and professional intellectual development.

I am so impressed by the expansion of the breadth and depth of the current Brown History Department. From strength to strength – I would like to see Brown history faculty continue to push the field ahead and hope other appreciative Brown history graduates will join me supporting the department.



David Weinrib

From strength to strength – I would like to see Brown history faculty continue to push the field ahead and hope other appreciative Brown history graduates will join me supporting the department.

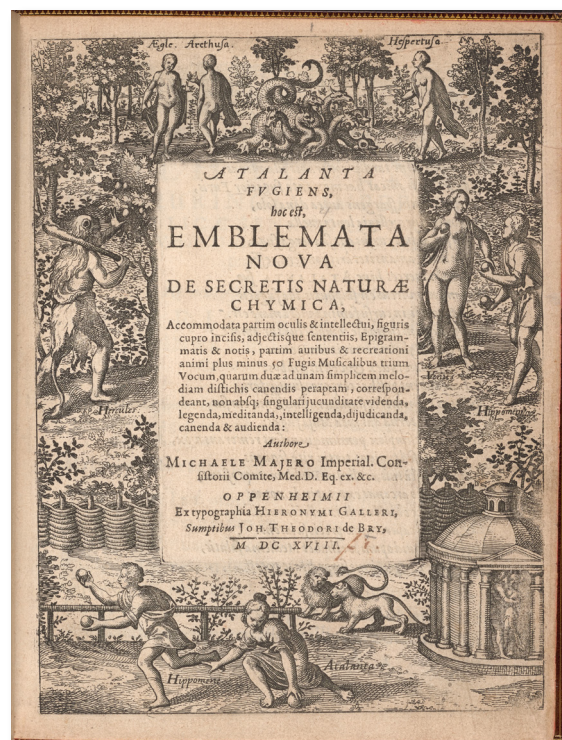
Furnace and Fugue: A Digital Edition of Michael Maier's Atalanta fugiens

By Tara Nummedal

On the eve of the Thirty Years War, the German alchemist and physician Michael Maier published *Atalanta fugiens* (1618), a lavishly illustrated musical alchemical emblem book. Maier retools Ovid's legend of the fleet-footed virgin huntress Atalanta, whom Hippomenes hopes to best in a race by dropping three distracting golden apples in her path, as an alchemical allegory designed to engage the ear, eye, and intellect (and, perhaps, to teach readers how to make the philosophers' stone). The book unfolds as a series of fifty emblems, each of which combines text in German and Latin with an etching and the score for a fugue in three voices. As Maier's title pages explains, *Atalanta fugiens* is to be "seen, read, reflected upon, comprehended, weighed, sung, and heard."

We are fortunate to have this spectacular book at Brown in the Hay Library, and a digitized copy of Brown's copy makes it accessible for those far from campus as well. *Furnace and Fugue*, the digital book I am now developing with co-editor Donna Bilak and in collaboration with Brown's Digital Publishing Initiative, will bring Maier's multimedia puzzle book to life in new ways. We are creating a dynamic, enhanced digital edition of *Atalanta fugiens*, making it possible for users to select customized sets of emblems or to listen to recordings of the fifty fugues, for example, as well as a critical anthology of media-rich interpretative essays that will explore the significance of Maier's ambitious book in the context of early modern European culture. At the same time, we aim to help

reimagine the scholarly publication in the digital age by producing a work that meets the rigorous scholarly standards of the university while also presenting arguments in innovative formats and reaching new audiences in the classroom and beyond the academy. We plan to submit *Furnace and Fugue* to a university press for review by the end of 2018. In the meantime, a varied group of scholars, students, and other interested readers have been exploring a new emblem from *Atalanta fugiens* each Friday on Instagram. We invite you to follow along @ProjectAtalanta!



The title page of Michael Maier, *Atalanta fugiens* [Atalanta fleeing] (1618), depicting the classical myth of the fleet-footed huntress Atalanta, her suitor Hippomenes, and the golden apples with which he tempts her during their race.



Emblem 11, "Whiten Latona and tear your books," Michael Maier, *Atalanta fugiens* (1618). In this emblem, Maier puns on Latona, mother of Apollo (representing gold) and Diana (representing silver) and Laton (or latten), a gold-hued copper alloy that must be purified as a step towards the creation of the philosopher's stone. Maier's injunction to "tear your books" is a warning to would-be alchemists: books alone are more likely to confuse and mislead than yield chymical secrets; reading, therefore, must always be balanced with hands-on work in the laboratory.

As Maier's title pages explains, *Atalanta fugiens* is to be "seen, read, reflected upon, comprehended, weighed, sung, and heard."

A New Era in Middle East Studies at Brown

By Robert Self

At the close of the 2017-2018 academic year, Beshara Doumani, the Joukowsky Family Distinguished Professor of Modern Middle Eastern History, will step down as Director of Middle East Studies. Under his leadership, Middle East Studies (MES) has become a vital campus institution and a leading international model for research and teaching on the Middle East. The History Department has both benefited from and contributed substantially to the rapid growth of MES and its expanded reach across campus.

When Doumani arrived in 2012, the MES Initiative was launched with the infrastructure for a new vision of Middle East Studies, which focuses on six thematic research initiatives: Arts and Social Change, Digital Islamic Humanities, Displacement and the Making of the Modern World, Engaged Scholarship, Islam and the Humanities, and New Directions in Palestinian Studies. Unlike legacy programs at many of Brown's institutional peers, which were founded either under the Orientalist imperatives of nineteenth-century "Near East" studies or, decades later, under the Cold War imperatives of "Area Studies," MES at Brown has charted a unique course. Agenda- and thematic-driven, MES has built on Brown's culture of interdisciplinary and engaged scholarship to advance knowledge about the region through collaborative projects with other units on campus.

Since 2012, MES has grown from a small undergraduate concentration into an internationally recognized center of research and teaching. Four History faculty—Doumani, Faiz Ahmed, Jennifer

Johnson, and Sreemati Mitter—each of whom arrived at Brown after 2012, have joined with more than two dozen faculty from across the university in this integrated and interdisciplinary program. In the last half decade, MES organized over 450 events, 46 of which were conferences or workshops focused on one of its six research initiatives. The number of students enrolled in MES courses has grown by more than 30 percent, and the number of concentrators has increased almost three-fold since 2012. There are currently 29 declared concentrators, and by May 2018, 78 students will have graduated with a concentration in MES since 2012.

The number of graduate students working on the Middle East has also increased substantially over this period, which led to the establishment of the MES Graduate Student Association (MESGSA) in 2014. MESGSA organizes book discussions, invited lectures, and other activities every year. MES has provided tens of thousands of dollars in research and travel awards to both undergraduate and graduate students over the past six years. In 2017, this growth also enabled the establishment of a formal track of PhD study in Islam, Society, and Culture within the department of Religious Studies—a first in the history of Brown.

As Doumani returns to full-time teaching in the History Department, MES will welcome as its new Director Shahzad Bashir, the Aga Khan Professor of Islamic Humanities and Professor of Religious Studies. The department has more than embraced the new era of Middle East Studies at Brown; its faculty have been central to conceiving and championing it.



Since 2012, MES has grown from a small undergraduate concentration into an internationally recognized center of research and teaching.

Brown Legal History Workshop

By Faiz Ahmed

This year, 2017-2018, marked the third consecutive year of the Brown Legal History Workshop. Established in Fall 2015 with the generous support of the History Department, Cogut Institute Humanities Initiative, and a Watson Institute Collaboration Grant, the purpose of this workshop is to advance research and writing in law and legal history at Brown. The Legal History Workshop meets three times per Fall and Spring semester, traditionally on a Friday morning over breakfast. Each meeting features a work-in-progress paper or proposal circulated at least one week in advance.

The workshop originated from the twin observations that there are a number of faculty and graduate students at Brown working on or interested in law and legal history across various disciplines, but there was, simultaneously, no venue to bring all of us together as a scholarly community. Our initial aim in this workshop was to build campus-wide connections in this regard. Reflecting the law's location at the intersection of the humanities, social sciences, and policy worlds, we envisioned a broad convergence of scholarly exchanges would prove to be stimulating and fruitful for historians and non-historians in our community alike.

We met that goal in our first two years through a wide array of faculty and postdoctoral presentations of works-in-progress, featuring topics in and outside the United States, from ancient to contemporary times, and employing diverse interpretive approaches and methodologies. Although the Legal History Workshop is steered by four members of the History

Department (Emily Owens, Michael Vorenberg, Rebecca Nedostup, and Faiz Ahmed), we have regularly drawn participants from American Studies, Anthropology, English, Music, Political Science, and Urban Studies, for example. This interdisciplinary breadth enables us to strengthen bridges to diverse campus centers including the Center for the Study of Slavery and Justice; the Cogut Institute; the Center for the Study of Race and Ethnicity in America; the Institute at Brown for Environment and Society; and the Watson Institute. In addition, this breadth allows us to feature work that largely falls outside of Anglo-American histories, which are the traditional province of the field of legal history. This year's seminars included presentations on marine conservation and indigenous rights at the Bering Strait, the struggle for fair and affordable housing in 1970s suburban Chicago, financial life and policing in British Mandate Palestine, *Dartmouth College v. Woodward* and settler colonialism in New England, and the family privilege in nineteenth century American insolvency law.

Part of the appeal of our workshop is that we emphasize presenting work in its early stages of formation, avoiding polished articles or lectures. Attendants have discussed book proposals, draft chapters, and even raw archival documents in an engaged but no-pressure environment over breakfast with peers. Our abiding goal has been that the workshop serves as a low-risk incubator for ideas and the sharing of expertise in a productive and boundary-pushing way that could eventually impact the study of legal history at large.

Our abiding goal has been that the workshop serves as a low-risk incubator for ideas and the sharing of expertise in a productive and boundary-pushing way that could eventually impact the study of legal history at large.



For more information on the Brown Legal History Workshop, including a list of presenters, topics, and affiliated programs to date, see brownlegalstudies.org.*

**As of 2017-18, the Brown Legal History Workshop is now one part of a larger, interdisciplinary collaborative, Brown Legal Studies, which includes a website (brownlegalstudies.org), listserv, graduate student conference, graduate seminar in legal history, and graduate reading group in Law and the Humanities.*

People line up to hear arguments in *Brown v. Board of Education* at the Supreme Court. Photo courtesy of the Library of Congress.

Faculty Activities

Gratitude beyond words was **Faiz Ahmed**'s anthem this year. In November 2017 he published his first book, *Afghanistan Rising: Islamic Law and Statecraft between the Ottoman and British Empires* (Harvard University Press). He enjoyed teaching new courses in Ottoman history,



Turkish Islam, and a graduate seminar in legal history; and presenting papers at the Middle East Studies Association conference in Washington D.C., "Religious Memory in an Age of Exodus" Conference at Columbia University,

and "Monarchy and Sovereignty in Twentieth Century Asia" Symposium at Duke University. Once again he was grateful to team with colleagues Mike Vorenberg, Emily Owens, and Rebecca Nedostup for another fulfilling year of the Brown Legal History Workshop. Most cherished of all, in the spring he welcomed a new addition to the family, Hasan Ghezali Ahmed. Gratitude beyond words.

Emma Amador finished her second year as a Presidential Diversity Postdoctoral Fellow in the Center for the Study of Race and Ethnicity in America while teaching a course in the Brown History Department. She will soon begin



a new position as an Assistant Professor of History and Latino/a, Caribbean, and Latin American Studies at the University of Connecticut, Storrs. During her time at Brown, she worked on her book manuscript, "Contesting Colonialism: Puerto Ricans and the Politics of Welfare in

the 20th Century," which explores the history of welfare, territorial social citizenship, and welfare rights in Puerto Rico and the Puerto Rican diaspora. This project examines

how the U.S. welfare state became a site where Puerto Ricans have struggled for social justice, labor reform, and decolonization. She also published an article, "Women Ask Relief for Puerto Ricans: Territorial Citizenship, the Social Security Act, and Puerto Rican Communities, 1933-1939" in *LABOR: Studies in Working-Class History of the Americas*. During the spring semester, she also had the pleasure of teaching Wise Latinas: Women, Gender, and Biography in Latinx History a course that explores the lives, labors, and politics of Latinas in the U.S. from the 19th century to the present through the study of biography, life history, oral history, and *testimonio*. She had a fantastic group of students in the class who developed "missing units" of the course based on the lives of Latina women in the United States that drew on a range of biographical and archival sources. She will miss her Brown students and colleagues and looks forward to staying in touch after she moves to Connecticut.

As he anticipated, this was an incredibly hectic but at the same time very satisfying year for **Omer Bartov**. The publication of his book, *Anatomy of a Genocide*, was accompanied by many lectures in the United States and overseas and a pleasing array of positive initial reviews. This



Sculpture on the beach in Tel Aviv of David Ben Gurion, the "founding father" of the state of Israel and its first prime minister, also known to have engaged in yoga in his spare time.

was also the last year of the three-year project he directed at the Watson Institute on "Israel-Palestine: Lands and Peoples," which was capped by an international conference in April on "Future Scenarios," convening close to thirty scholars, activists, journalists, poets and musicians from Israel-Palestine and elsewhere. Bartov also enjoyed teaching two more undergraduate seminars on themes related to this project as well as a graduate seminar on "First Person History in Times of Crisis" to

a diverse and engaged group of students from whom he learned a great deal about their own research projects. He plans to use his sabbatical leave next year to edit a volume

of essays based on the “Lands and Peoples” project as well as to write a monograph that will combine many of his current interests, tentatively titled “Israel, Palestine: A Personal Political History.” He will also be preoccupied with setting up an exchange program between Brown and the Hebrew University to be launched in the fall of 2019.

Cynthia Brokaw spent the 2017 fall semester as an Overseas



Visiting Scholar at Shandong University, Jinan. There she continued work on her long-term study of the spread of print and growth of a popular reading public in early modern China. Part of the study involves mapping the major commercial publishing sites of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, and in Shandong, she was able to supplement

her previous research on sites in south China with an investigation into the origins and spread of commercial publishing in the north. In Qufu, birthplace of Confucius, she presented a paper at the Eighth World Confucian Congress, from which she was able to steal some time to visit the tomb of the Sage. She lectured on her research at Shandong University, Liaocheng University, and, on her return to the States, the University of California, Berkeley. During the year, her study of the continuities between China’s old woodblock print culture and modern letterpress print, “The Dance of ‘Old’ and ‘New’ in Chinese Print Culture, 1860s-1955,” appeared in *Science in Context*. She returned to teaching in the spring with a new course on the history of Chinese political thought and a seminar on the Silk Roads.

This was **Holly Case**’s first year teaching at Brown and she has been wonderfully impressed by the originality, intelligence, and curiosity of students here. The group Case had for her first-year seminar, State Surveillance in History, will always stand out in memory because, in a sense, they



all started at Brown together. She was delighted to see several of them turn up in her lecture class this spring (History of Law: Great Trials) which has some really extraordinary and

inspiring talent and original thinkers. In January she ran a one-week intensive reading and discussion pre-seminar

together with a colleague from Charles University in Prague Ondřej Slačálek on “The Politics of Transcendence.” The students—two of whom from Prague, the others from Brown—had excellent thoughts and contributions. Apart from teaching, over the course of the year Case published a number of columns and essays in magazines and journals, and gave presentations on her work at the University of Wisconsin (Madison), Yale, Princeton, Cornell, U.C. Berkeley, Harvard, and here at Brown. Her new book, *The Age of Questions: Or, A First Attempt at an Aggregate History of the Eastern, Social, Woman, American, Jewish, Polish, Bullion, Tuberculosis, and Many Other Questions over the Nineteenth Century, and Beyond*, is scheduled to be published by Princeton University Press in June of this year. She will miss working on it as this project was truly a sublime obsession. Thankfully history has no shortage of material for the obsessed.

Caroline Castiglione published two articles, “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 with 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). “Death Did Not Become Her” won

the Best Article Prize for Volume 11 (2016-2017) from the journal *Early Modern Women*. She was awarded an UTRA in December 2017 to continue research on a project on the author Cesare Beccaria, “Equality Before the Law: Thinking the Unthinkable with Cesare Beccaria in *On Crimes and Punishments* (1764).

Howard Chudacoff will be on sabbatical in 2018-2019 working on a new project that focuses on the careers of important, but under-researched individuals who in



one way or another influenced the direction of intercollegiate athletics. Currently, he is researching the career of the elusive Walter Byers who served for thirty-seven years as executive director of the National Collegiate Athletic Association and made college sports into what they are today. Powerful and authoritarian,

Byers eschewed public attention and after he retired, published a memoir in which he scathingly criticized the NCAA, the very institution that he had so intently directed for so long. Other individuals included in the study are Donna Lopiano, creator of the Women's Sports Foundation, and former Congressman Tom McMillen, whose 1992 book *Out of Bounds*, lamented the ethical failures of American college sport and proposed an "Athletic Bill of Rights" to protect college athletes.

Kelly Ricciardi Colvin had another exciting and fulfilling year at Brown, thanks in large part to the fabulous students,



staff, and colleagues at the university. She taught seminars on French fashion and anti-feminism, as well as lecture courses on modern France and modern European women and gender. Additionally, her first book, *Gender and French Identity during the Long Liberation*, was published with Bloomsbury Press in fall

2017. She also presented several times on her new project, tentatively entitled, "Charm Offensive: Commodifying and Exporting Femininity in Postwar France", which looks at how the French state cultivated French femininity and marketed it to the world. She consumed massive amounts of Blue State Coffee for yet another year, for which all employees of that fine establishment deserve humongous thanks.

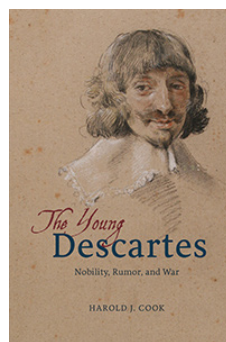
This year, **Jonathan Conant**'s research focused primarily on his second book, *The Carolingians and the Ends of Empire, c. 795–840*. Work on this project brought him to the Bibliothèque nationale de France in Paris as well as to sites in France, Italy, and Switzerland that provide evidence for encounters and interactions between early medieval



Franks and their neighbors. In September 2017 he delivered a keynote address to the Asia Pacific Early Christian Studies Conference in Melbourne, Australia, on "Conflict, Trauma, and the Formation of an Early Christian Identity." While there, he also took in the graffiti

of Hosier Lane. In addition, he has presented papers at the Universidad de León, Oxford University, Université de Lorraine (Nancy, France), and Smith College. He was awarded the 2017 Al-Masāq Article Prize for "Anxieties of Violence: Christians and Muslims in Conflict in Aghlābid North Africa and the Central Mediterranean" (2015).

Harold (Hal) Cook published a book in early 2018 with the University of Chicago Press with the title *The Young Descartes: Nobility, Rumor, and War*. It examines the activities of that famous intellectual figure during the decades before he began to write philosophy, showing that he could have stepped straight out of the pages of *The Three Musketeers*. He was a minor nobleman seeking the patronage of the great aristocrats of France, and was able to handle a sword and poetry equally well. Some of his



closest friends were literary figures, some of them being among the most scandalous libertines of the period, although in later years he also cultivated friends among leading members of the church who held charismatic religious views. A virtual orphan, raised mainly by his mother's family, he treated women as intellectual equals; he

also lived for long periods of time with his male friends, demanding their love as well. But following the bloody coup d'état that brought Louis XIII to the throne he would spend much of his life on the move, even spending the last twenty years of his life in exile—in the Dutch Republic—because of associations with the opposition to Cardinal Richelieu. Only in exile, after the age of forty, would he finally put pen to paper. He was certainly no armchair philosopher, and it now begins to make sense why his last and major work would be a study of the human passions, which powerfully link mind and body.

Hal also continues to write more generally about the relationships between materialistic science and commerce, which he will explore further in the summer with a research group at the Netherlands Institute for Advanced Study. He has also recently offered a new undergraduate course on the global history of foods and drugs.

In 2017-18, **Douglas Cope** introduced two new courses: an undergraduate seminar on colonial encounters, which emphasized primary texts from the sixteenth century, and a lecture course on pirates, which tracked sea rovers across several oceans from antiquity to the present day. He is researching and writing a study of the informal economy in eighteenth-century Mexico City; most recently, he



has focused on artisan guilds, highly permeable institutions that straddled the boundary between legal and illicit commerce.

Bathsheba Demuth spent her second fall at Brown teaching a new graduate course on environmental history, an experience she hopes was as intellectually beneficial for the students as their presence made it for her. This spring, her lecture course on global environmental history and an interdisciplinary seminar on the Anthropocene are both lively and renew every day her appreciation for teaching at Brown. Outside of the classroom, Demuth finished the



first full draft of her book manuscript, tentatively titled *Beringian Dreams: People, Nature, and the Quest for Arctic Energy*, which is forthcoming with W.W. Norton. Demuth spent too much time

on an airplane this past year, including research trips to Alaska, and papers and talks in Sweden, Croatia, the United Kingdom, and Russia. Her spring has been busy participating in an amazing slate of environmental events on Brown's campus, and organizing the second annual Russian history workshop at Brown in May 2018. With funding from a Richard B. Salomon Faculty Research Grant and an Institute at Brown for Environment and Society Seed Grant, she is looking forward to summer trips to Siberia for concluding research on her book.

Beshara Doumani's sixth year at Brown witnessed the culmination of several long-term projects and the inauguration of new ones. It began with the publication of his book, *Family Life in the Ottoman Mediterranean: A Social History* (Cambridge University Press), which debunks the notion of traditional Arab or Muslim family types by



revealing dramatic regional differences in how family as understood, organized, and reproduced. He greatly enjoyed the invited books talks that followed

at Brown, Yale, Harvard, Princeton, Columbia, NYU, and Swarthmore, among others. Doumani ends this year by stepping down as Director of Middle East Studies after building it from a concentration into a top-ten center that innovated a new model for regional studies. Under his leadership, the number of concentrators and core faculty has tripled and several nationally impactful research initiatives were launched, such as "New Directions in Palestinian Studies" (NDPS). Doumani will continue to organize the annual NDPS conference and he will serve

as the editor of a new book series with the same name published by the University of California Press. In early June, Doumani is co-chairing with Prof. Keisha-Khan Perry his final BIARI Institute on the "Forced Displacement and the Making off the Modern World." The Institute brings dozens of emerging scholars from Africa, Asia, and Latin America, for a two-week intensive program of South-South conversations. In late June, Doumani will travel to Palestine-Israel where he will be conducting research on a new book project on modern Palestinian history, while also volunteering to teach a summer graduate course at Birzeit University. After twelve years without a break, he will spend his sabbatical during the 2018-2019 academic year as a Fellow at the Institute for Advanced Studies at Princeton.

Linford Fisher has appreciated being on leave this year, continuing to work on his book on Native American slavery in the English Atlantic and the United States between 1492



and 1865. He and his family spent the summer in London while Professor Fisher worked at the UK National Archives and the British Library. He has given a number

of talks at conferences and universities and has taken research trips to local archives. Mostly, however, he has just been writing. With any luck, he hopes to have a full draft by December 2018. Fisher also has been working on the Database of Indigenous Slavery in the Americas (www.indigenousslavery.org), which hopes over time to catalog incidences of indigenous slavery in the Americas between 1492 and 1900. He has also spent considerable time helping to build the Native American and Indigenous Studies Initiative here at Brown.

Rather than focus on her accomplishments of the past year, **Mary Gluck** prefers to reminisce about a longer stretch of time. This fall will be her fortieth year of teaching at Brown. It is hard to wrap one's mind around such an event. How does one talk about the passing of forty years without reverting to clichés? It is her students who have unexpectedly provided an answer to this unanswerable question. In the past few years, Gluck has increasingly encountered the children of former students in her classroom. They are rarely forthcoming about the complex reasons that have brought them there. Eventually, though, they all shyly volunteer that they are the son or daughter of so-and-so, whom she probably doesn't remember, but who

says hi and highly recommends the course. At first only a vague memory is evoked by the name they mention, but then gradually a face also emerges that uncannily resembles the student in front of her.



Flaneurs' Dinner at Flatbread, December 2017

This past semester, Latin American history professor **James N. Green** completed his biography of Herbert Daniel, a Brazilian medical student turned revolutionary, who participated in the radical opposition to the Brazilian military dictatorship (1964-1985) and later was a leading figure in the fight of people with HIV/AIDS for full democratic and civil rights. The book, *Exile within Exiles: Herbert Daniel, Gay Brazilian Revolutionary*, will come out with Duke University Press in October 2018 and will be published in Portuguese as *Revolucionário e Gay: A vida extraordinária de Herbert Daniel* and launched at the Fourteenth International Conference of the Brazilian Studies Association (BRASA) in Rio de Janeiro in July 2018.



Jack Greene's major publication this year is in collaboration with Craig B. Yirush and is a three volume bound edition entitled *Exploring the Bounds of Liberty: Political Writings of Colonial British America from the Glorious Revolution to the American Revolution* (Indianapolis: Liberty Fund,

Inc. 2018). It consists of 75 of the most significant secular pamphlets published in or about the American colonies in North America, the West Indies, and the Atlantic. Primarily, however, Greene has been engaged in completing an edition of James Knight's never previously published two-volume history of Jamaica, written between 1737 and 1747 and entitled *The Natural, Moral, and Political History of Jamaica and the Territories thereon Depending from the Earliest Time to the Year 1742*. This enormous and well-researched work of more than a thousand pages was finished just before Knight's death in early 1747 and has resided in the British Library since the early nineteenth century. The first volume is a narrative history, and the second a chorography of Jamaica.



Françoise Hamlin was an American Council of Learned Society Frederick Burkhardt Fellow at the Radcliffe Institute at Harvard for the academic year while she continues to work on her monograph. Her most recent book, the 2015 co-edited anthology, *These Truly Are The Brave:*

African American Writings on War and Patriotism, will be reprinted in paperback this summer. She continues to take students to Tougaloo College in Mississippi for the annual Spring Break trip, she advises in many capacities, and remains co-chair of the Faculty of Color Working Group that she co-founded in 2015. Away from work, she trains (barring injuries) in martial arts alongside her ten-year old son Elijah. In March they both successfully tested for their Ki Bon Black Belt!

In 2017 **Tim Harris** gave talks in Beverly (MA), Denver, Stony Brook, Storrs, and Bangor (Wales). This coming summer



he is speaking at conferences in Glasgow and Durham (UK). He published articles on "Hibernophobia and Francophobia in Restoration England" in *Restoration:*

Studies in English Literary Culture, 1660-1760 (Fall, 2017) and "Publics and Participation in the Three Kingdoms: Was There Such a Thing as 'British Public Opinion in the Seventeenth Century?'" in the *Journal of British Studies* (October, 2017), and has a number of other articles in press, including one on "The Right to Bear Arms in English and Irish Historical Context." He is currently working on a couple of festschriften, while his longer-term project is a study of "Britain's Century of Revolutions" for Oxford University Press. His book series *Studies in Early Modern Cultural, Political and Social History* with Boydell Press continues to thrive. He also spent time in Arles, Nîmes, Clermont Ferrand and Lyon (France) and Cambridge (UK), whilst this summer he will be in Florence (Italy).

Wanda S. Henry has now spent three wonderful semesters teaching at Brown. While she enjoyed teaching her course on prostitutes, mothers, and midwives, she felt delighted with the high enrollments for Death from Medieval Relics to Forensic Science. Over the last year, she also managed to present her research on both sides of the Atlantic,



including at a conference at the University of Exeter in the UK on early modern medical practitioners and at the Folger Library in DC on the bills of mortality. She has submitted one article about women sextonesses for publication and has started revision of her book project on women searchers of the dead.

Patricia Herlihy, Professor Emerita and Adjunct Professor Watson Institute for International and Public Affairs gave



a book talk on her new book, *Odessa Recollected: The Port and the People*, Academic Studies Press at the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute on April 10, 2018. She also gave another book talk on “Jewish Odessa” at the Davis Center for Russian and Eurasian Studies at Harvard University. Her book chapter, “The Russian

Vodka Prohibition of 1914 and Its Consequences,” appeared in *Dual Markets: Comparative Approaches to Regulation*.



Lecturing at the Universidad Autónoma de Barcelona

For the Spring 2018 semester (January through June), **Evelyn Hu-DeHart** has been teaching at CASA Barcelona, the consortium of study abroad program in Barcelona, Spain, where she’s offering a new course on new Chinese and Latin American immigrants

to Barcelona, a major destination for immigrants from around the world to Spain and Europe during the past three decades. She was awarded a Senior Fellowship from the ACLS for 2019, and will be on sabbatical in Europe and China in Fall 2018, researching a book on “The Chinese Diaspora in the Spain and the Spanish Empire.”

For **Nancy Jacobs**, the second half of 2017 held the reward of a sabbatical and international travel. She is now fully engaged with her next book project: a transnational multispecies history of relations between the African Grey Parrot and people over five centuries. The month of June

saw Nancy in South Africa for research in the South African aviaries where hundreds of thousands of the birds have been bred for international trade since the 1990s. She was back in South Africa in September. On the way to and from research stops she attended conferences in Johannesburg and Zagreb. She was delighted to serve as the faculty representative on a Brown travelers tour of Barcelona. In November, research took her to Cameroon. There, she



made a fruitful connection with Simon Tamungang, a leading ornithologist of the Grey Parrot and she gave a lecture at the University of Bamenda. Also in Cameroon, she

went off the grid for 9 days, to research the parrot-people relations in the Dja Faunal Reserve. Her retired brother Dave joined her as a photographer and they were ably supported by Kamta Tchoffo Roméo Omer, a Master’s student from the University of Dschang. This fieldwork was sponsored by a small grant from the Institute for Environment and Society at Brown (IBES) and hosted at the facilities of the Congo Basin Institute, a research station managed by UCLA. For more about her fieldwork, see Nancy’s blog posts about the micro-politics of birdwatching and interviewing on animal history.

In spring 2018 Nancy was back in the classroom, teaching about South African history and Animal Studies. Sometimes, though, when things are quiet, she remembers the forest, the birds, and the good people who received her in South Africa and Cameroon.



Jennifer Johnson had a busy year researching, teaching, and serving on department and university committees. She continued working on her second book project, “State-building After Empire: Health Care, Family Planning, and International

Aid in North Africa,” which took her on research trips to Morocco and New York. She also presented her work at several conferences and invited talks. She placed an article on this new research, entitled “The Origins of Family Planning in Tunisia: Reform, Public Health, and International Aid,” which is forthcoming in the *Bulletin of the History of Medicine*. She enjoyed teaching in the graduate program once again and was particularly excited

to co-teach Colloquium with Ken Sacks, who taught her undergraduate thesis seminar at Brown. She developed a new undergraduate seminar on the history of North Africa and was delighted to offer a second seminar, Medicine and Public Health in Africa and a lecture course on the history of Modern Africa. She served on four undergraduate thesis committees in History, Public Health and Development Studies. She ended a two-year term on the department Priorities and Planning Committee and appreciated participating on the graduate Fulbright committee. She eagerly awaits summer during which she will travel with her husband for research and pleasure to Geneva and Denver.



In the past year **Carl Kaestle** published a letter to the *New York Times*, criticizing Secretary of Education DeVos for insisting that she would spend a huge chunk of the Department's budget on vouchers to parents to spend on any private school; when pressed in a hearing as to whether she could imagine any circumstances under which the government might want to worry about schools that discriminated by race, sex, or other invalid criteria, she said absolutely no—it's all about "choice." Kaestle disagreed. He continues to make progress on his book on the federal role in education. For that project, he moved all his archival materials out to his house in the Berkshires, where he's now living about half the time. Here at Brown, Kaestle really enjoyed being at the workshop by Adam Nelson (Brown history, Ph.D. 1998, Jack Thomas's student) on the twentieth anniversary of his dissertation defense, probably in the same room. Nelson is doing very original work on the history of American higher education in the early nineteenth century.

Rachel Knecht defended her dissertation in December 2017 and joined the department as a Visiting Assistant



Professor for the Spring 2018 semester, during which time she taught a small but vibrant seminar on the role of gender in the history of American capitalism. She also continued her work

with the Fellowships at Brown Program, where she advised undergraduates applying for nationally competitive awards and scholarships, and sat on the history department's Committee on Career Diversity. Next year she will join the faculty of Brandeis University as a full-time lecturer.



With the support of a Wriston Fellowship, **Jenny Lambe** spent her sabbatical working on a new book project. She was lucky enough to escape the winter doldrums during a February trip to Miami and is looking forward to an upcoming research adventure in California. This year, *The Revolution from Within: Cuba, 1959-1980*, a volume

she is co-editing with Michael Bustamante, entered copyediting with Duke University Press, and two new articles on child psychiatry (*Asclepio*) and drug scarcity in revolutionary Cuba (*Journal of Latin American Studies*) were published. The real highlight, though, was her fall wedding and honeymoon in Portugal, where she and her spouse had a blast exploring castles, navigating windy streets, and eating too many pastéis de nata to count.



Brian Lander spent his first year at Brown preparing and teaching classes on the environmental history of East Asia, wetlands, and the premodern world. As part of his work on reconstructing the long-lost natural ecosystems of

China, he published an article in the *Journal of Chinese History* investigating which mammals are native to North China, and a brief piece in *Current Biology* on how hunting and habitat loss extirpated the Sumatran Rhinoceros from mainland East Asia

(both co-authored with Katherine Brunson of the Joukowsky Institute for Archaeology).

He presented research on the environmental history of the Yangzi River lowlands at conferences in Washington, DC, and New Orleans. He combined the latter trip with visits to the bayous and levees of the Mississippi Delta, comparative research for his ongoing study of the Yangzi wetlands. Brian will head to China in June for some fieldwork and will then get back to his book manuscript on the political ecology of early North China.



With his museum book finished, **Steven Lubar** has turned to a new topic: the history of skill. His explorations of the topic began with teaching. In Fall

semester, he taught a hands-on first-year seminar, entitled Skill, in the Brown Design Workshop with excursions to, among other places, the Steelyard, for welding lessons, and New Harvest Coffee Roasters, for barista training. In Spring, as a Mellon Teaching Fellow at the RISD Museum, he co-taught, with textile curator Kate Irvin, a course on Repair: Museum, Metaphor, and Material, which started off with a lesson in darning. Students in the repair course curated two small exhibits, at the RISD Museum's Donghia Costume and Textiles Study Center and at the Haffenreffer Museum.



Photo by Webb Chappell, courtesy of Williams College.

After twenty very satisfying and fulfilling years at Brown, including four serving as Dean of the College, **Maud S. Mandel** is leaving Brown to become the 18th President of Williams College. While very excited about the new

opportunity, she will deeply miss Brown and her colleagues and students in the History department.



Walled Off Museum, Bethlehem, Occupied Palestine, January 2018.

During her second year in the department, **Sreemati Mitter** continued to work on her first monograph, "A History of Money in Palestine." She feels very lucky to have been granted a sabbatical this spring, and to have been able to go

on a productive research trip to Palestine in January. In addition to revising her manuscript, Mitter completed an article titled "Bankrupt: Financial Life in Mandate Palestine," versions of which she presented at the Legal History seminar in October and at the Watson Work in Progress Seminar in March. Mitter is currently working on a new book chapter, and looking forward to presenting in April at George Washington University's Annual IMES conference, which commemorates the 70th anniversary of the Nakba. She has been invited to give a lecture in May at UCSD; the title of talk there is "The Missing Municipality Cheque, and Other Stories From 1948: A Financial History of the Nakba." On the teaching front, she was glad to have had a fulfilling fall semester teaching Understanding the Middle East, a lecture course. Mitter is hoping to be in Palestine again this summer; the current situation in Gaza breaks her

heart and enrages her, but intensifies determination to get the book done, and as well as she can; she hopes it can serve justice in some way. Mitter will be on leave next academic year, having been very lucky to have received a research fellowship at the Institute of Advanced Study in Toulouse. She will miss you all, and hopes you will come visit her in southern France!

Tony Molho continued the year wearing his two Emeriti hats, from Brown, and the European University Institute. Following two rather bumpy years, he has slowly been returning to some of his research interests. An article, written in commemoration of his old friend, Sergio Bertelli (Professor of History at the University of Florence), will appear late this summer, in a volume edited by Giulia Calvi and published by the Accademia Colombaria. His presentation in the Old Parliament Building in Athens of a wonderfully interesting (and very thick!) volume on travelers' observations of and comments on Jewish life in Salonika (his home town) from the year 50 of the Christian era to the year 1912 was published in *Χρονικά*, vol. 40 (July-December 2017), journal of the Central Jewish Council of Greece. In November, invited by the Academy of Athens, he lectured on "Rich and Poor in Renaissance Florence," a talk inspired not so much by new archival research, as by the discussion recently generated by Thomas Piketty's book on the distribution of wealth in our times. The text of this presentation should be published by the Academy next year. Finally, invited by the Direction of the State Archives in Florence (*Archivio di Stato*) he gave the inaugural presentation for the opening of the new academic year. His talk's title, *Sparsi ricordi dall' Archivio di Stato di un vecchio studioso*, suggests that his aim was to evoke his experience, when, in late summer 1962 as an immature 23-year old, he arrived in Florence to launch his studies of medieval Italian history. The text of this lecture was published in the internet site of the Archivio di Stato.

While **Rebecca W.S. More** is engaged in a wide variety of ongoing "applied" history activities, a highlight of each year has been the chance to work with History department senior Honors students. This year is no exception. Her task is to help each student reflect on their written thesis and make it into effective oral presentation to the department, friends and family in early May. This is an important life skill they will need in whatever career they pursue in the years ahead. She usually spends several hours with each student discussing how to explain the point and the significance of their thesis as well as how they approached their research (the sources are often both written documents and oral interviews). Over the past eight years, the seniors have proved to be increasingly organized and

acutely self-reflective. They have a good sense of why they chose their topics and how their choices reveal their values and concerns for the world in which they live. The topics they choose are both historical and have connections to the issues of the present day.

Meanwhile, she continues to research two projects: 1) the diary of a New Hampshire-born Revolutionary War era Anglican minister in England and 2) the political affiliations of the 1920 party of New Hampshire men who named the



A Section 106 Cultural Landscape: Lancaster NH 1862, Robert Duncanson (courtesy MFA Boston)

Presidential Range in the White Mountains. She has also been researching the 18th and 19th century land use in the White Mountain National Forest region prior to the formation of the reserve in conjunction with a lecture marking its 2018 centennial.

The latter two projects are also related to the work she undertook during 2017 as part of the US Dept. of Energy's Environmental

Impact review of the Northern Pass Transmission project, which proposed to erect thousands of HV-DC transmission lines through 192 miles of New Hampshire's forests, tourist attractions and towns. The process includes a Section 106 Historical and Cultural review of the potential impact on historic and cultural resources including Native American archaeological artifacts. She has served as a Consulting Party since 2014, reviewing the project's potential impact on historic sites and large-scale cultural landscapes.

Finally ongoing 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 communities. Finding ways to bring the resources of Plymouth State University, its Museum of the White Mountains, Weeks Medical Center and the New Hampshire Historical Society to assist a rural region facing major economic challenges is deeply rewarding. The recent opportunity to join the RISD Museum's Fine Arts committee, which approves collection acquisitions, has been an opportunity to work again with the curators with whom she collaborated during her 20 years teaching Gender history at RISD. She looks forward to the year ahead.

Rebecca Nedostup has spent a great deal of the past year's activity reflecting on the value of community and collaboration. The department has been a place of

support and solace in times of family obligation and loss, demonstrating that historians truly do not work alone. Much of Rebecca's recent intellectual and organizational activity has been devoted to thinking about the future of graduate education, via the AHA Career Diversity for Historians program and work on the Brown campus, and to the role of East Asian studies at the university. She provided comments and talks on topics ranging from the politics of knowledge in early 20th century China and the history of Cross-Strait relations to comparative analyses of emergency and violence in East Asia. She was thrilled to see doctoral advisee Yu-chi Chang win the top China Times Foundation dissertation award for his research on maps and the imagination of loss and humiliation in early 20th century China.

As a Cogut Fellow and with Tamara Chin, Rebecca taught an interdisciplinary graduate course, "Scales of Historiography", as part of the Cogut Institute program in the Collaborative Humanities. This course has been truly challenging, not only in intellectual scope, but as an ongoing collaborative experiment that compels each participant to constantly articulate and examine their disciplinary and methodological assumptions. As she writes



this, Rebecca is about to travel to Sichuan for fieldwork with her co-PI on the Field of the Chinese State archive and digital project, Maura Dykstra (Caltech), historians

from Sichuan University, department graduate student Yu-cheng (Richard) Shih, and other collaborators. She will return in time to celebrate with graduating senior Michelle Ng, author of a senior thesis born of a long-ago UTRA and based in impressive interviewing among Hong Kong's North Point Hokkien community. And she will toast new PhD in modern Chinese history Shiuon Chu, whose research contests the idea that test-taking is somehow innate to China by tracing the use of newly devised and expanded examinations as an exercise of governance during the twentieth century, after the end of the fabled civil service exam system.

After returning from a year in Berlin, **Tara Nummedal** was pleased to jump back into life at Brown this fall. She taught two of her favorite classes, Age of Impostors and Nature, Knowledge, and Power in Renaissance Europe, and also thoroughly enjoyed team-teaching a graduate seminar on The Body with Debbie Weinstein (American Studies). Nummedal's new book, *Anna Zieglerin and the Lion's*

Blood: Alchemy, Gender, and the Last Days in Reformation Europe (University of Pennsylvania Press) is now in press and will be out next in spring, along with a second project, an edition (co-authored with Janice L. Neri and John V. Calhoun) of the artist-naturalist John Abbot's watercolors



of the "Butterflies and moths of Georgia," entitled *John Abbot and William Swainson: Art, Science, and Commerce in 19th-Century Natural History Illustration* (University of Alabama Press). Meanwhile, she continues to collaborate with co-editor Donna

Bilak, as well as colleagues in Rockefeller Library and the Center for Digital Scholarship, to "reimagine the scholarly monograph" via their digital book project, "Furnace and Fugue: A Digital Edition of Michael Maier's *Atalanta fugiens*, with Scholarly Commentary," (see p. 10). Finally, her essay on "Corruption, Generation, and the Problem of Menstrua in Early Modern Alchemy" appeared in *Blood Matters: Studies in European Literature and Thought, 1400-1700*, edited by Eleanor Decamp and Bonnie Lander Johnson (2018), as did a short essay on "Gemstones and Philosophers' Stones," in *Wonder: 50 Years of RISD Glass*, edited by Rachel Berwick, Denise Markonish, and Jocelyne Prince.



This year, **Emily Owens** continued work on her first monograph, as well as several articles that detail sex, race, and newly, reproduction in U.S. history. She was especially pleased to place an article in *Signs: Journal of Women in Culture and Society*, titled "Reproducing Racial Fictions: Critical Meditations on (a) Lesbian Pregnancy." Owens also

presented new work at the American Studies Association, and presented a keynote lecture at the Boston University School of Public Health about the uses of history in conversations about present-day sexual commerce. A most exciting highlight of the last year was the launch of the Brown Gender History Workshop this year, which, with the generous support of the History Department, the Center for the Study of Race and Ethnicity in America, and the Pembroke Center for Teaching and Research on Women, has provided space for graduate students at Brown to swap works-in-progress and eat take-out; she remains unclear about whether the main draw of the workshop is the dinner or the conversations about feminist history, but either way, it's been fun.

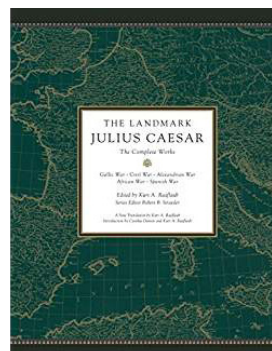
After three years of serving as the Department's Director of Undergraduate Studies, **Ethan Pollock** went on leave for the 2017-2018 academic year. In the fall he remained



in Providence and completed a first draft of his book on the history of the Russian bathhouse. In January, the department generously supported a workshop where colleagues (including Hal Cook and Bathsheba Demuth) critiqued the draft. Buoyed up by ideas for revisions, he spent the spring semester as the Fernand Braudel

Fellow at the European University Institute in Florence, Italy. There he read, thought, wrote, drank espresso, met with colleagues, stared out his office window (see picture), ate prosciutto, drank wine, and wrote some more, not necessarily in that order.

Kurt Raaflaub has, in December 2017, finally seen the *Landmark Julius Caesar* published. This is a new, reader-



friendly translation of the entire corpus of Caesar's works, with copious explanatory notes, maps, diagrams, and appendices on various aspects of Caesar's life, work, and world. The book is targeted for a broad range of readers who have an interest in ancient history but do not necessarily know much about

the subject matter; teachers and students who deal with Caesar in third-year high school Latin or in college will also find it a useful resource. Initial reactions have been very positive. Having been liberated of this millstone that has been hanging around his neck for many years, Raaflaub is now busy completing articles and an edited volume on War in the Ancient World—all projects that were banished not to a back burner but to a deep freezer for far too long. Otherwise, Raaflaub and his wife, Prof. of Classics emerita Deborah Boedeker, like to travel and explore areas of the world they haven't known so far—Andalusia in Spain or, most recently, New Zealand.

Amy G. Remensnyder was on sabbatical in 2017-2018 and dedicated herself to research. But she was not entirely absent from teaching. Under the auspices of the Brown History Education Prison Project (a program which she continues to direct), she organized two team-taught college level courses (and taught in one) at the Rhode Island Adult Correctional Institute. One of these courses was called “Seascapes of History” and grew directly from the book project that was her focus this year. This book, tentatively



entitled “Island of Muslim-Christian Trust in A Sea of Danger: Lampedusa 1200-1700,” provides a historical

perspective on Europe’s refugee crisis by tracing the genealogy of the outsized role played in this emergency by small Mediterranean islands that belong to Europe politically but geographically hug the coasts of North Africa and Turkey. In the book, Remensnyder looks at how medieval and early modern Muslim and Christian pirates made Lampedusa into a crucial hinge between Europe and Africa in the half millennium during which this tiny Mediterranean island was uninhabited. Through Lampedusa, she thus casts new light on familiar subjects like legends about deserted islands and also opens up new topics like pirates’ religion and the role of the environment in shaping Muslim-Christian relations. In an article published this year Remensnyder explored some preliminary issues relating to the project. She also gave talks about her research at Yale University, the University of Rochester, the American Academy of Berlin, and Heidelberg University.

Remensnyder’s year of research was intellectually exciting, especially beginning in January 2018, when she took up the five-month residential fellowship that she was awarded by the American Academy in Berlin. The Academy was a wonderful place to work, Berlin was a fabulously interesting city to explore, and the opportunity for intellectual dialogue with the other fellows was endlessly stimulating. While in Europe, she made a research trip to the island-nation of Malta, where she combed through the archives of the Knights of St. John (an organized group of Christian pirates and slave takers, though they had a reputation as defenders of Christianity). The February days that she spent blowing on her fingers and huddled in her winter coat in the grand but unheated marble Baroque pile that is the National Library of Malta were well worth the shivering;

she turned up rich material about Lampedusa. While in Malta, she learned that she had received the honor of being elected a Fellow of the Medieval Academy of America, the flagship professional organization of medievalists in North America. Its Fellows constitute a group of scholars especially recognized for their distinguished contributions to medieval studies.



Joan Richards is finishing her first year of phased retirement, which means that she is teaching half-time. She has continued to advise students in the History Department, while directing and teaching in the newly renamed Science, Society and Technology program. Her reduced teaching load has allowed

her to complete a draft of her book, *Generations of Reason*, which she reviewed in a workshop of distinguished scholars at the end of April. She is looking forward to following through on their suggestions at the Max Planck Institute for the History of Science in Berlin, where she will be in the fall of 2018.



This year was an especially busy one for **Lukas Rieppel**, who spent the bulk of it revising his book manuscript. He also finished co-editing a special issue of the annual journal *Osiris*

on the theme of “Science & Capitalism: Entangled Histories” with Virginia Lean from Columbia and William Deringer from MIT. In addition to co-authoring the introduction for that special issue, he contributed an essay entitled “Organizing the Marketplace.” Together with Steven Lubar and Katherine Duffy from American studies, as well as Ann Daly from History, Lukas also co-edited a special issue of the *Museum History Journal* on the theme of “Lost Museums,” which includes a number of essays that came out of a recent conference on that theme held here at Brown. Finally, he wrote an article for a special issue of the *Journal of the Early Republic* entitled “Hoaxes, Humbugs, and Frauds: Distinguishing Truth from Untruth in Early America.” Next year, he looks forward to spending the fall semester as a faculty fellow at the Cogut Institute, and he plans to spend the spring semester as a visiting scholar at the Max Planck Institute for the History of Science in Berlin.



Seth Rockman jumped back into the classroom after a thrilling research year in Berlin. Once again he taught the introductory History of Capitalism lecture course, as well as seminars on nineteenth-century US history and the concept of class in Early America. Most significantly, Rockman

launched a new American Revolution lecture course, co-taught with Professor Philip Gould, chair of the English Department. Another highlight of the year was the success of his graduate advisees in winning fellowships, placing journal articles, securing jobs and postdocs, and completing dissertations. Particular congratulations to Rachel Knecht and Alicia Maggard, both of whom have completed their time at Brown and are now launched into what promise to be successful careers. Rockman had the good fortune to give talks this year in Santa Barbara and Tel Aviv, while also traveling to Madrid to teach a course on slavery and capitalism for the IE-Brown Executive MBA Program. Rockman remains involved in the programming of the John Carter Brown Library and the Center for the Study of Slavery and Justice.



With the help of a Woodrow Wilson Career Enhancement Fellowship, **Daniel Rodriguez** spent the academic year on sabbatical, working to complete his first book, “The Right to Live in Health: Disease, Poverty, and Politics in Havana, 1897-1935”, and to begin researching his second project on child labor and welfare in post-

emancipation Cuba. In order to assist him with finishing the first book, his colleagues generously provided feedback during a manuscript workshop in September, and he spent the rest of the year writing, travelling for research, giving talks in Philadelphia and Chicago, taking a short vacation to the Arizona desert, and taking his new puppy out for walks. The year has gone *much* too quickly and the winter seemed interminable, but hopefully the summer will be full of beach trips, bike rides with his five-year old daughter Lourdes, and positive reader reports.

Ken Sacks served as guest editor of a special issue of *Religions: Transcendentalism and the Religious Experience*, to which he contributed two articles: “Auguste Comte and Consensus Formation in American Religious Thought,



Part 1: The Creation of Consensus” and “Auguste Comte and Consensus Formation in American Religious Thought, Part 2: Twilight of New England Comtism.” Sacks co-edited (with Baruch Halpern)

Cultural Contact and Appropriation in the Axial-Age Mediterranean World: A Periplos, for which he co-wrote the introduction and contributed “Who Markets Ideas? Elite and Non-elite Transmission of Culture and Technology.”

Also appearing this year was his keynote address and article, “Diodoros Siculos and the Hellenistic Mind,” in L.I. Hau, A. Meeus & B. Sheridan (eds.) *Diodoros of Sicily: Historiographical Theory and Practice in the Bibliotheca*. Sacks continues to work on his book project, *Emerson’s Civil War*.



Robert Self entered his second year as department chair (see “A Word from the Chair”) and devoted the past year to balancing attention to department affairs with his scholarly and professional activities. 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.” Along with Cott and Canaday, Self hosted a February workshop at Brown under the same title at which eighteen papers were presented and discussed as part of the preparation of the volume. The three are currently editing the chapters and writing the volume’s introduction.

One of the ongoing pleasures of **Naoko Shibusawa**’s job is working with the department’s extraordinarily talented students. As the new Director of Undergraduate Studies, she teaches the three-part honors thesis sequence for History concentrators and encounters the best of the best. Yet the largest source of pride and pleasure comes from meeting on a weekly basis with a writing group of her PhD and undergraduate honors students. From last year’s graduating class, Patrick Chung will be leaving his position at Northern



Florida to a new tenure-track position at the University of Maryland; Adi Kumar will enter Yale's History PhD program after a year's

deferral; Leah Kazar works for the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau; Nicolas Montano is a teacher in France; and Mae Verano is a researcher at the Stanford Med School in Primary Care & Population Health. This year's new and returning students all happened to be Asian Americanists. Pictured with her, left to right: Erin Aoyama, Mark Tseng-Putterman, Nicole Sintetos, Takuya Maeda, Jessica Jiang, Ida Yalzadeh, Katelynn Pan, and Miriam Laufer, a German Fulbrighter from the University of Freiburg. All five Brown PhD students presented at this year's Asian American Studies conference in San Francisco; Jessica became a Mellon-Mays associate; and Katelynn wrote a prize-winning thesis. All good reasons for smiles in this photo!



Kerry Smith spent last summer at the Max Planck Institute for the History of Science in Berlin as a research fellow in a joint project on "Accounting for Uncertainty: Prediction and Planning in Asia's History." The stay in Berlin was the second and (sadly) final component of a two year fellowship run jointly by the

Max Planck Institute and the International Consortium for Research in the Humanities at the Friedrich- Alexander University Erlangen-Nuremberg (IKGF). For those keeping track, he is continuing to work on his current book project, which explores earthquake prediction and disasters in 20th century Japan. He'll be back in Japan in early May to help support a Brown alumni tour of the Inland Sea and its environs, and when it concludes he'll relocate to Tokyo to get some research done.

Luther Spoehr, Senior Lecturer, was elected Chair of the Rhode Island Historical Society's Board of Trustees for 2017-2018. He has been involved with the RIHS for over 20 years, including as a trustee for over 15. Spoehr was on sabbatical during the Fall Semester, working on a project examining how academic freedom was (and wasn't) practiced at Stanford University during David Starr Jordan's presidency at the turn of the 20th century. This



spring he is back teaching courses on the history of higher education, including *Campus on Fire*, a First-year seminar on American colleges and universities during the 1960s, *American Higher Education in Historical Context*, a survey that (perhaps over-ambitiously) covers about 300 years of history.

Tracy Steffes has spent the last year working on her manuscript, "Shifting Fortunes: City Schools and Suburban Schools in Metropolitan Chicago, 1945-2000." After



spending the previous year in Chicago on sabbatical to finish the research, she has been writing chapters and presenting portions of the manuscript in progress. She presented

at the Brown Legal History Workshop, American Bar Foundation Legal History Roundtable, History of Education Society meeting, and Northwestern University.



Michael Steinberg continues to serve as president of the American Academy in Berlin in 2017-18. On regular trips back to the U.S. he was pleased to give the 25th anniversary lecture of the Institute for German Cultural Studies at Cornell University, November 2017, entitled "Martin Luther King in East and West Berlin: Analysis of an Itinerary, September 1964," as well

By Annette Hornischer, courtesy of American Academy in Berlin

as a seminar on "Richard Wagner and the Musical Unconscious," in the History of Psychiatry Program, Cornell-Weill Medical School, in April 2018. Also in April 2018, he convened a one-day conference at the New School for Social Research, in collaboration with the American Academy in Berlin, on "New Populisms and Nationalisms: Transatlantic Perspectives." His new book, *The Trouble with Wagner*, is due from the University of Chicago Press later in Fall 2018.

Adam Teller was on sabbatical in the fall working feverishly in order to complete his book, "Captives, Slaves, and Refugees in the Seventeenth Century: Polish Jews and the



Making of the Jewish World”, before the deadline to submit it to Princeton University Press. During the year, he presented his research at the Center for Historical Research of the Polish Academy of Sciences in Berlin, Germany and at the Seventeenth World Congress in Jewish Studies in Jerusalem, Israel, as well as at Harvard

University and the University of Maryland in College Park. Here at Brown he spoke twice, once in the Middle East Studies Seminar and once in the Library Lecture Series entitled, “The Holocaust: History and Aftermath.” His article, “Jews in the Polish-Lithuanian Economy, 1453-1795,” appeared in *The Cambridge History of Early Modern Judaism. Volume Seven: The Early Modern World, 1500-1815*.



In her second year at Brown, **Meltem Toksoz** continued teaching on various shapes and forms of historiography, from history of capitalism to history of global ideas as well as Ottoman Intellectual History, having retired from her position back in Turkey. It was a busy year with travel both in the U.S. and in Europe. Academically participating in the American Historical Association

and Middle East Studies Association annual conferences in panels organized by former students was most rewarding! Another trip of this year was to the West Coast to visit friends and colleagues at U.C. Berkeley and Stanford, together with her family as part of college visits for her daughter’s education.

Here at Brown, surrounded with colleagues, friends and students her diasporic existence became more of a joy and very fulfilling as she advised a graduation thesis and presented the opening speech at the Brown Model United Nations Annual Conference organized and hosted by students! This year two of Toksoz’s works on Ottoman/Turkish Historiography came out: “Deconstructing Imperial and National Narratives in Turkey and the Arab Middle East” (co-authored with Selçuk Esenbel), in Sven Beckert and Dominic Sachsenmaier, eds., *Global History, Globally: Research and Practice around the World* (Bloomsbury Press); and “Are they not our workers?” Socialist Hilmi and his Publication in *İştirak: An Appraisal of Ottoman Socialism*, in François Georgeon and

Noemi Levy-Aksu, eds., *The Young Turk Revolution and the Ottoman Empire, the Aftermath of 1908* (IB Tauris). She is looking forward to a summer in Munich, at the Ludwig Maximilian University Graduate School for East and Southeast European Studies where she will be advising graduate students and conducting colloquia. This experience will be very much around her work on Ottoman historiography, giving her the time and space to finish her manuscript on 19th century Ottoman global history writing.



Michael Vorenberg gave a number of lectures (one in Washington, DC pictured here) on the occasion of the 150th anniversary of the Fourteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. He continues to work on his book on the end of the U.S. Civil War, which is to be published with Knopf.



During the academic year 2017-18 **Gordon Wood** lectured at various colleges, libraries, and historical societies, including the Library of Congress, Mt. Vernon, Colonial Williamsburg, and Monticello. He served on the academic boards of several documentary projects, on the Scholarly Council of the Kluge Center at the Library of Congress, and on the board of the new Museum of the American Revolution in Philadelphia. In October 2017 he published *Friends Divided: John Adams and Thomas Jefferson* with Penguin Press.

Graduate Program

The accomplishments of Brown History graduate students are threaded throughout this newsletter. You will find their descriptions of their collaborative research; their self-organized conferences (both the History Graduate Students Association conference “Atlantic Trajectories”, and “Law, Language, and the Archive”, the conference of the interdisciplinary Legal Studies group); their professional training; and the grants they have won, the work they have published writing in a wide variety of venues, and the places where they work. This is the best collective testament to the developments in the graduate program, and to the hard work of students and their faculty mentors alike.

The 2017 graduate cohort consisted of 7 MA students. Two of these were participants in the Open Graduate Education Program, bringing the total number of History MAs granted to doctoral students in other departments through this program to three, and one in progress. The PhD cohort comprised 10 students, in the fields of Early Modern Europe, Early America, East Asia, Latin America, Modern Europe, Portuguese empire/South Asia, and 20th century US, with a strong subset of shared interest in the history of science and environmental history. Our faculty have been active this year in developing new field as well as thematic seminars that support students’ interests in pursuing topics that cut across geographic boundaries, all while continuing to think through the challenges of training them in the fundamentals of research. We are expanding support as well, establishing new scholarships that will each year fund half of tuition, insurance, and fees for two MA students from underrepresented groups. On the institutional side, the Graduate School added a very welcome transitional stipend that will help newly matriculating PhD students get set up in early September. Both of these will launch with the 2018 cohort.

The biggest change to the History graduate program this year, however, has been in support for skills development and career training. In spring 2018 the department won one of 20 Career Diversity Implementation Grants, funded by the Mellon Foundation and administered by the American Historical Association. The grant allows us to hire a graduate student proctor (intern) full time to help us develop more information about and relationships with partner institutions and with our students, faculty, and alumni. This will be the basis of a strong program for training for careers both inside a rapidly changing academy and outside of it. The grant also supports expanded programming that will allow us to make good on those connections: so expect to hear more from us in the near future!

When we were taking part in the earlier stage of the Career Diversity program last summer and fall, as participants in AHA Faculty Institutes, chair Robert Self, colleague Caroline Castiglione (Professor and Chair of Italian Studies), and I heard repeatedly from colleagues in pilot programs that such developments rose or fell on the collective participation of members of the broader community. Therefore in the fall History constituted a Graduate Careers Committee, comprised of Prof. Castiglione, Prof. Steve Lubar, and students Sam Caldis, Amy Kerner, and Rachel Knecht. The students brought to the table experience in fields such as the scholarship on teaching and learning; higher ed administration; public history; advising; teaching outside of Brown, and more. The committee worked both on overall program planning and on a year of events for the “What History Looks Like” series. Themed “The Skills and Work of the Historian”, these workshops included an open discussion on the career experiences and skills training of the committee members; an introduction to “digital literacies” and the career uses of digital skills by Brown staff; a two-pronged session on working as editors and working

with editors; and a student-only discussion about the nuts and bolts of planning and goal-setting, and future directions for the department. Colleagues also took up the baton: a spring roundtable organized by Holly Case and John Palatella addressed the important questions of how and why to write for and publish work for audiences outside the academy.

If “career diversity” stands for anything, it is an effort to enable graduate students to articulate their career goals and personal goals early on and to keep on revisiting and refining them, just as they do their intellectual goals.

Critically, thanks to the advocacy of chair Robert Self and the support of the department and the Dean of the Faculty, the position of Director of Graduate Advising was created to serve in parallel with the DGS. The DGA, a position taken up by Jonathan Conant in January 2018, works with students on myriad professional matters, from pedagogy development to grant writing to preparing materials for job seeking inside and outside the academy. Establishing the DGA as a department officer makes an important statement about emphasizing advising consistency throughout the graduate experience.

Brown’s graduate program is medium-sized, but it is diverse in subject matter (technically training in twelve fields, the boundaries of which are ever more porous) and in student background, interests, and goals. If “career diversity” stands for anything, it is an effort to enable graduate students to articulate their career goals and personal goals early on and to keep on revisiting and refining them, just as they do their intellectual goals (tools such as ImaginePhD (<http://imaginephd.com/>) help in this regard.) As AHA Executive Director Jim Grossman notes (“Imagining PhD Orientation in 2022”, <https://www-chronicle-com/article/Imagining-PhD-Orientation-in/240995>) the customary language of “producing” and “placing” PhDs tends to misdirect the agency that is critical to this process. To this welcome critique I would add a plea to abandon the term “alt-ac”. The exemplary list of engagements with history in many places that constitutes the content of this newsletter demonstrates that ours is a department that already thinks carefully and critically about audience and reach. With a bit of additional work, we will help our graduate students elaborate and articulate the skills they are acquiring in the service of the career paths they want to follow.



Rebecca Nedostup

Accomplishments of Graduate Students in 2017-2018

Amiri Ayanna

Awarded a Mellon/American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS), Dissertation Completion Fellowship, for “The Ethics of Everyday Life: Vernacular Devotional Literature by Women in Germany’s Long Fifteenth Century.”

Andrew Campbell

Appointed Instructor, International Division of the History Department, United States Military Academy in West Point New York.

Yu-chi Chang

Awarded the 2017 Mr. Chi-Chung Yu Award, China Times Cultural Foundation.

Sherri Cummings

Published “‘They Are Delighted to Dance for Themselves’: Deconstructing Intimacies - Moreau de Saint-Méry’s ‘Danse’ and the Spectre of Black Female Sexuality in Colonial Saint Domingue,” *Journal of Caribbean History* 51/2 (2017).

Miriam Eisen

Developed a website, “Hidden in Plain Sight: Cemeteries and Civil Rights,” civilrightsafterlife.com.

Javier Fernandez Galeano

Awarded a Mellon/American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS), Dissertation Completion Fellowship, for “Contested Sexualities: Male Homosexuality and the State in Twentieth-Century Argentina and Spain.”

Julia Gettle

Awarded a Palestinian-American Research Center U.S. Fellowship and American Center of Oriental Research CAORC (Council of American Overseas Research Centers) Fellowship.

Christopher Gillett

Appointed Assistant Professor in the History of the British Empire, University of Scranton; awarded a Patricia D. Klingenstein Short Term Fellowship, New York Historical Society.

Anne Gray Fischer

Awarded the Organization of American Historians (OAH) Louis Pelzer Memorial Award for “‘Land of the White Hunter’: Legal Liberalism and the Racial Politics of Morals Enforcement in Midcentury Los Angeles.”

Jonathan Lande

Appointed Assistant Professor at Weber State University; and Irene and Bernard Schwartz Postdoctoral Fellow, New York Historical Society and The New School, 2018-2019.

Awarded the Presidential Award for Excellence in Teaching, Brown University Graduate School.

Diego Luis

Awarded the Center for Latin American History Scobie Award for pre-dissertation research.

Published “Mexico City,” *Poetry Quarterly*, 2017. “Too Dark to Be White,” *Hawai’i Review*, 2018. “Colonialism,” *Harbinger Asylum*, 2018. “Pacific Passage,” *About Place Journal*, 2018.

Dan McDonald

Awarded Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad (DDRA) Fellowship, 2017-2018, for “Family Ties: Women’s Grassroots Movements and Citizenship in São Paulo, 1964-1995.”

Andre Pagliarini

Published “‘De onde? Para onde?’ The Continuity Question and the Debate over Brazil’s ‘Civil’-Military Dictatorship,” *Latin American Research Review* 52/5 (2017).

Awarded the Latin American and Caribbean Studies Dissertation Prize from the Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies (CLACS).

Watufani Poe

Awarded a Social Science Research Council’s International Dissertation Research Fellowship (Brazil) and a Fulbright Student Fellowship (Brazil).

Frances Tanzer

Awarded the Sophie Bookhalter Fellowship in Jewish Culture at the Center for Jewish History, 2017-2018.

Published “Performing the Austrian-Jewish (Negative) Symbiosis: Stella Kadmon’s Viennese Stage from Red Vienna to the Second Republic,” *Leo Baeck Institute Yearbook* Vol. 63, 2018.

Suvaid Yaseen

Published “The Mad Old Man” and “The Funeral of Your Democracy,” *raiot.in*, April 2018.

Yekai Zhang

Published (with Harry T. Dickinson) “Ineffectual Lobbying in an Increasingly Contested Parliament: the Failure of Edward Hyde’s Vision of Limited Reform, 1640–1642,” *Journal of Tsinghua University (Philosophy and Social Sciences)* 33/4 (2018).



Graduate students enjoying the annual spring picnic

The Japanese Incarceration Mobile Workshop

By Diego Luis, PhD Student

During the summer of 2017, I traveled with eight other Brown University PhD students from multiple departments—including Takuya Maeda, a first-year in the History department—to sites of Japanese incarceration during World War II. Nicole Sintetos, a second-year student in American Studies, organized this mobile workshop. We were joined by the musician Kaoru Ishibashi (alias Kishi Bashi) and his documentarian. Beginning in Phoenix, Arizona, we drove up the West Coast and ended in Bainbridge Island, Washington, where the first Japanese Americans were deported to concentration camps.

How could something so terrible happen in such a beautiful place? I thought at Manzanar, where eleven thousand Japanese Americans lived as prisoners in a country fighting for liberty and freedom against two of the most brutal authoritarian regimes to ever exist. Just a few hours from Los Angeles, Manzanar is now a national park under the auspices of the National Park Service, complete with a 5-star distinction on Google Reviews. A cluster of barracks, rebuilt using original materials, stands in the shadow of formidable mountains to the east and west.

Sharing our research and inspirations with a non-academic audience has been the highlight of my academic career thus far. Like never before, I felt that ideas have cultural currency and that intellectualism still has a stable home in this country. I remember discussing how the experiences of Japanese incarceration force us to think about the Asian

American experience as hemispheric, rather than tied to a national identity. Further, this perspective forces us to not only engage the larger Asian diaspora, but also to confront the longer history of Asians in the Americas, stretching back to the sixteenth century in Mexico. Asian American history includes a long legacy of slavery, of struggle against colonial hierarchies, of assimilation into colonial Spanish societies, and knowing this requires us to redefine what being Asian in America means to individual and community identities.

Our journey was a pilgrimage because it was spiritual, spiritual in the sense that our senses of self could not be the same after we flew home, spiritual in the sense of feeling a greater connectedness with those who tread that land before us—white homesteaders, incarcerated Japanese Americans, Mexican ranchers and farmers, African Americans fleeing southern slavery to a free Mexico, uprooted Native American communities. It would not be too much to say that the trip began to collapse the distinction between academic and archive. For us, the mobile workshop as a methodological and pedagogical entity worked brilliantly and in ways that we are still discovering, and it will continue to be a guiding and unifying force in our future research.



The Manzanar cemetery, constructed in 1943. “Tower to console the souls of the dead.” Photo by Diego Luis.

Sharing our research and inspirations with a non-academic audience has been the highlight of my academic career thus far.

Reflections on Teaching at Tougaloo College

By Jonathan Lande, PhD Student

Last August, I headed to Mississippi to teach as the Brown-Tougaloo Faculty Exchange Fellow. As a first-generation student steered through a bewildering college experience by professors, I hoped to assist students who find classrooms intimidating. I also entered Tougaloo excited to participate in the tradition of political engagement that made the historically black college an epicenter of civil rights activism. I am glad to report I have honored these goals and learned much.

After this year, I better appreciate the combined pedagogical and social role professors can play. On the first day of class, I walked past a banner featuring a quotation from the slain civil rights leader, Medgar Evers. It read: “The gifts of God ought to be enjoyed by all the citizens of our state and nation.” I walked to class ruminating over his words on a campus where he, students, and professors struggled for that cause. I reflected on how I could contribute in a smaller way by making knowledge of neglected historical actors accessible to students.

I did not expect historical lessons to affect my students so quickly, but in the first month, white supremacists descended on Charlottesville, Virginia. Just after President Trump condoned the bigotry, I led a discussion over little-known eighteenth-century African American intellectuals. As my students spoke, their voices rose with pride: they recognized the black patriots who contributed to the nation’s founding.

This spring, I continued to learn about the possibilities of an educator’s role. I taught a course on soldiering in the African Diaspora, lead students to the Vicksburg battlefield during a seminar on the Civil War, and joined Tougaloo and Brown undergraduates on a journey to sites related to Emmett Till’s murder.

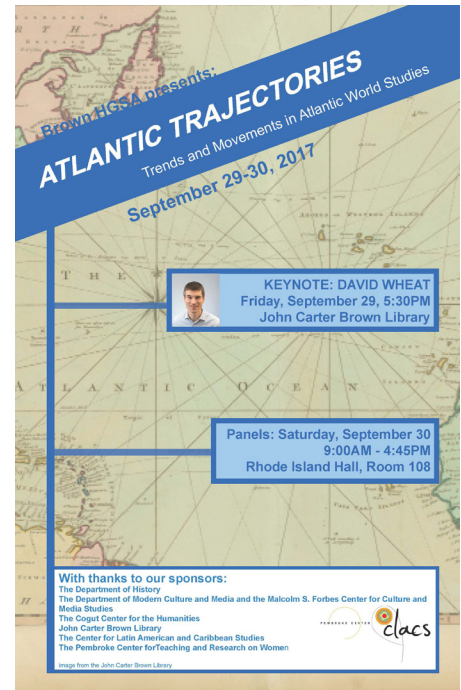
As the semester closes, my time at Tougaloo comes to an end, yet the changes to my understanding of a teacher’s role are indelible. I know the lessons I learned will always nourish me as an educator and a citizen.



Tougaloo and Brown undergraduate students and Jonathan Lande at the Delta Blues Museum during the Brown-Tougaloo Partnership Spring Break Civil Rights Mini-Exchange run by Professor Françoise Hamlin.

Graduate Student Conferences

On September 29th and 30th the History Graduate Student Association hosted its tenth conference, “Atlantic Trajectories: Trends and Movements in Atlantic World Studies”. We kicked off the event with a workshop led by third-year PhD student, Mayer Juni on Abbé Raynal’s *A Philosophical and Political History of Settlements and Trade of the Europeans in the East and West Indies* at the John Carter Brown Library. This event provided students, both at Brown University and our visiting panelists, with an opportunity to closely analyze this primary text. The event was followed by a keynote lecture and reception. Historian David Wheat’s lecture “Black Legend or Black Atlantic?: Africa in the Spanish Maritime World” looked at the broader implications of Spanish interventions in the Atlantic. The panels and discussions were held the following day in Rhode Island Hall on topics ranging from examining religious networks, slavery and Asientos, and US and Caribbean intellectual currents. For more information on this event please visit the HGSA Atlantic Trajectories Conference website (brownatlantictrajectories.wordpress.com).



The Third Annual Brown Legal Studies Graduate Conference, “Law, Language and the Archive,” took place on April 27 – 28, 2018. The event began with a roundtable discussion, led by Professor Michael Vorenberg, in the Peter Greene House Pavilion Room and consisted of faculty and graduate students. The featured scholars discussed their engagement with the archive and answered questions that focused on the interpretation of language in the sources they intimately work with. The second day of the conference consisted of panel discussions and was held in Smith Bounanno Hall. Graduate students from around the region presented papers that focused on Literary and Legal Negotiations of Power, Gender, Power, and Performance, Contemporary Rhetoric and the Law, and Creating and Confronting the Archive. For more information about the event, visit rownlegalstudies.org/graduate-student-conference.

Public History Proctorship: A New Opportunity for Graduate Students

Museum of Work and Culture

By Amy Kerner, PhD Student

In the spring of 2017, the History Department launched a new program for graduate students to develop professional skills in public history. At the Museum of Work and Culture in Woonsocket, Rhode Island, a partner of the Rhode Island Historical Society, I piloted the program as a research intern for a new digital exhibit.

Working in archives in Woonsocket, Providence, and Kingston, I pieced together stories of Woonsocket's transformation from a quiet township on the Blackstone River to a majority French-speaking immigrant colony and hotbed of labor protest. At the

center of "Mills Along the Blackstone: Locally Made, Internationally Known," now on view, is the product of my research: a digital touch-table that lets viewers navigate Woonsocket in time and space.

The History Department will continue this partnership as a proctorship, or paid alternative to a teaching assistantship. Graduate students can apply on a rolling basis for semester-long public history internship positions, as part of the Department's expansion of professional training opportunities.

The History Department will continue this partnership as a proctorship, or paid alternative to a teaching assistantship.



Inside a wool-waste mill owned by Arthur Darman, a vaudeville impresario, who built Woonsocket's Stadium Theater. Photo credit: Pinto, in the *Saturday Evening Post*, 23 June 1945.

Rhode Island Historical Society and the National Park Service

By Talya Housman, PhD Student

Following a successful pilot in the spring of 2017, this year the History Department launched two semester-long proctorships in public history, in conjunction with the Rhode Island Historical Society (including the Museum of Work and Culture) and the National Park Service. Following in the footsteps of Amy Kerner in the pilot project, I served as the inaugural intern. One of the most valuable skills for me has been learning to pitch my writing to various kinds of audiences, including the general public as well as more specific age groups, such as adolescents. The internship (technically a “proctorship” in Brown’s lingo) with the Rhode Island Historical Society

allowed me to explore multiple avenues within public history, including writing content for a digital 6th-8th grade textbook, collecting primary sources on Rhode Island history to distribute to local teachers, and editing walking tours for a smartphone app. The second-semester internship, with the National Park Service at Roger Williams National Memorial, focused more specifically on the foundational skill of interpretation. This involved interpreting the site for visitors as well as redesigning and rewriting the Memorial’s website. Both experiences have proved to be thoughtful introductions to public history for an academic historian.



One of the most valuable skills for me has been learning to pitch my writing to various kinds of audiences, including the general public as well as more specific age groups, such as adolescents.

Talya Housman explaining the settlement of Providence at the Roger Williams National Memorial.

Master of Arts, 2017-2018

Amanda J. Arceneaux

Andrew S. Campbell

Doria E. Charlson

MaryKatherine R. Chester

Evan Claude

Miriam S. Eisen

Aaron Jacobs

Lakshmi Padmanabhan

Jung Min Park

Watufani M. Poe

Emily J. Roche

Doctor of Philosophy, 2017-2018

Shiu On Chu

The Fifth Great Chinese Invention: Examination and State Power in Twentieth Century China and Taiwan

Director: Rebecca Nedostup

Christopher P. Gillett

"Catholicism and the Making of Revolutionary Ideologies in the British Atlantic, 1630-1673"

Director: Tim Harris

Anne Gray Fischer

Arrestable Behavior: Women, Police Power, and the Making of Law-and-Order America, 1930s-1980s

Director: Robert Self

Rachel Knecht

Visionary Calculations: Inventing the Mathematical Economy in Nineteenth Century America

Director: Seth Rockman

Brooke Lamperd

Trading Freedoms: Economic Internationalism in the New Deal

Director: Robert Self

Jonathan Lande

Disciplining Freedom: U.S. Army Slave Rebels and Emancipation in the Civil War

Director: Michael Vorenberg

Andre R. Pagliarini

"The Theater of Formidable Battles" The Struggle for Nationalism in Modern Brazil, 1955-1985

Director: James N. Green

Undergraduate Program

As the new Director of Undergraduate Studies, I'm happy to report that our undergraduate program has continued to build on existing strengths. Our course offerings are deeper and wider than ever. Newer faculty specializing in Africa, East Asia, Europe, the Middle East, Latin America, and North America have enriched the department's ability to teach environmental history, legal history, the history of science, colonial history, political history, the history of slavery, the history of capitalism, and the history of gender and sexuality. Our collective efforts have been rewarded with robust enrollments, a healthy concentration, and a vibrant undergraduate group.

This academic year, the department offered 88 undergraduate courses with a total enrollment of 2,385 students. With numerous colleagues on leave, we offered fewer classes this year than the 96 courses we offered in 2016-2017, but we enrolled 180 *more* students in 2017-2018. History colleagues taught an additional 192 students in 14 courses cross-listed courses with other departments. Some of our History lecture courses, such as Sreemati Mitter's Understanding the Middle East, Seth Rockman's History of Capitalism, Doug Cope's Pirates, and Holly Case's History of Law: Great Trials have become so popular that we've struggled to find enough TAs to cover their courses and the other popular lecture courses taught by our colleagues. Devising solutions will be a challenge (if a welcome one) going forward.

As of this writing, we have 242 History concentrators, with 65 new sophomores signing up this spring. History concentrators can now apply to be part of the Engaged Scholars Program through the Swearer Center. Engaged scholars combine internships and public service with the academic work in History in order to develop a deeper understanding of and appreciation for social engagement. Six new concentrators applied to be in program, and three were selected to be part of this pilot program. Seventy-eight seniors are set to graduate in May, and 15 of them researched and wrote honors theses. Based on this year's enrollments in the Honors Workshop for Prospective Thesis Writers, we could have up to 40 seniors writing honors theses next year!

My predecessor, Ethan Pollock, overhauled and streamlined our course numbering system and began work on improving a sense of community among History concentrators. As he passed the baton to me, he emphasized the need to foster a sense of connection among concentrators to each other and to the department. With a concentration so large and our classes populated with increasing numbers of non-concentrators, our students have often been surprised to find out an acquaintance or even a friend is a fellow History concentrator. I worked therefore with the Department Undergraduate Group (DUG) as partners in promoting the concentration and the department through extracurricular events featuring professionalization, writing skills-building, and panels with History faculty. In our new, updated department website, undergraduates have a presence for the first time as Peer Advisors who can offer recommendations and wisdom about a wide range of History classes. Under the superb leadership of seniors Katy Chu and Sarah Novicoff, the DUG has been especially energetic this year and another point of pride for the Department.

Challenges to community-building remain, of course, as do our goals to implement the Department's Diversity and Inclusion Action Plan (DIAP). DUG members helped us not only create a climate survey among our concentrators about how the department was faring in its DIAP goals but also to assess the results of the survey. Although largely positive, the survey results revealed that we need to meet DIAP goals more completely. As ever, our students had a lot to say on how to further improve the concentration more generally, much of it quite insightful.

Next year, I look forward to working closely with our DUG, History Chair Robert Self, Director of Graduate Studies Rebecca Nedostup, my colleagues, and our wonderful staff—Cherrie Guerzon, Mary Beth Bryson, and Julissa Bautista—as we continue striving towards our goals of community and academic excellence.



Naoko Shibusawa

Undegraduate Program

Award Recipients

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

Katherine A. Chu
British Protestant Missionaries in Interwar Egypt: Uneven Encounters in Imperial Contexts
Advisor: Jennifer Johnson

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

Greer M. Christensen-Gibbons
Prisoners of Propaganda: The Repatriation Crisis and the Allied Council for the U.S. Occupation of Japan 1945-1952
Advisor: Kerry Smith

Sarah H. Novicoff
Establishment and Civil War at the Government Hospital for the Insane 1852-1865
Advisor: Jennifer Lambe

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

Brigitte C. Dale

Pell Medal Award for excellence in United States history.

Kerrick Edwards

The Christian Yegen Thesis Prize for an outstanding thesis.

Michelle J. Ng
North Point: Identity Formation in Hong Kong's Hokkien Enclaves 1950s-Present
Advisor: Rebecca Nedostup

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

Katelynn Pan
The Second Removal: Urban Renewal and the Origins of the Japanese American Redress Movement
Advisor: Naoko Shibusawa

The Clarkson A. Collins, Jr. Prize in American History is to be awarded to the member of the junior or senior class for the best thesis in United States History.

Sienna R. Lotenberg
"Blessed is She Who in the Beginning Gave Birth" An Intellectual History of the Brown Women's Minyan and the Student Pioneers of American Jewish Feminism
Advisor: Kelly Colvin

Owen C. Parr
Challenging Invisibility and Forging Identity: Gay Cuban America and the Mariel Boatlift 1980-1998
Advisor: Jennifer Lambe

Honors Recipients

Greer M. Christensen-Gibbons
Prisoners of Propaganda: The Repatriation Crisis and the Allied Council for the U.S. Occupation of Japan 1945-1952

Advisor: Kerry Smith

Katherine A. Chu
British Protestant Missionaries in Interwar Egypt: Uneven Encounters in Imperial Contexts

Advisor: Jennifer Johnson

Brigitte C. Dale
Radical Actors: The Women's Social and Political Union's Staging of the Suffrage Campaign

Advisor: Kelly Colvin

Coda L. Danu-Asmara
America's Nightmare: The Rise and Fall of the Federal Elections Bill and the Making of an American Ethos

Advisor: Richard Meckel

Grace E. Gagnon
Pearl of New Bedford: The Atlantic Sea Scallop Fishery in Late Twentieth Century New England

Advisor: Bathsheba Demuth

Zoë B. Gilbard
Confining the Unfit: The Eugenics Movement in Early Twentieth Century Rhode Island

Advisor: Debbie Weinstein

Katherine W. Jessiman-Ketcham
Permanent Peace: Civilized Conquest and Empire in the U.S. Powder River Indian Expedition of 1865

Advisor: Michael Vorenberg

Isabella K. Kres-Nash
Pathologies of Power: Disentangling the Social Constructions of Blackness and Disability within the System of Antebellum Slavery

Advisor: Emily Owens

Sienna R. Lotenberg
"Blessed is She Who in the Beginning Gave Birth" An Intellectual History of the Brown Women's Minyan and the Student Pioneers of American Jewish Feminism

Advisor: Kelly Colvin

Michelle J. Ng
North Point: Identity Formation in Hong Kong's Hokkien Enclaves 1950s-Present

Advisor: Rebecca Nedostup

Sarah H. Novicoff
Establishment and Civil War at the Government Hospital for the Insane 1852-1865

Advisor: Jennifer Lambe

Katelynn Pan
The Second Removal: Urban Renewal and the Origins of the Japanese American Redress Movement

Advisor: Naoko Shibusawa

Owen C. Parr
Challenging Invisibility and Forging Identity: Gay Cuban America and the Mariel Boatlift 1980-1998

Advisor: Jennifer Lambe

Barry J. Thrasher
The Origins and Contested Legacy of Indonesia's Berkeley Mafia, 1955-1969

Advisor: Kerry Smith

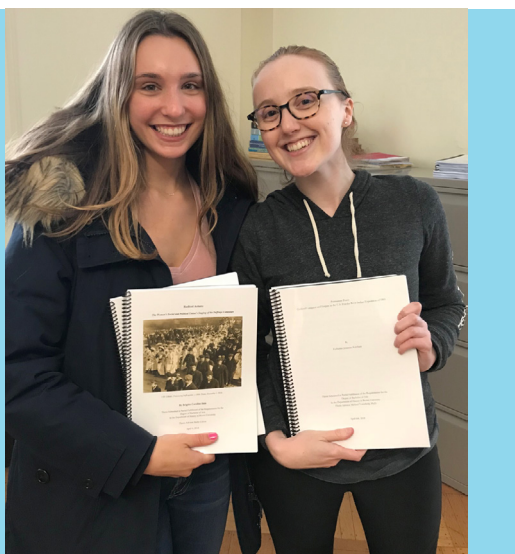
Isabelle J. Williams
The Politics of an 'Apolitical' Institution: Interpreting the Past and Educating the Future at Yad Vashem's Holocaust History Museum

Advisor: Omer Bartov

The History Departmental Undergraduate Group

The History Departmental Undergraduate Group (DUG) brings together History students and concentrators to build an academic community within the Department. This year, we have expanded the DUG leadership team to include more people with more diverse interests and identities. We planned 12 events this year, more than any other DUG at Brown. We organized two collaboration events with the CareerLAB, a writing workshop with graduate students, and a field trip with the John Carter Brown Library. Throughout the year, we also worked with professors to host panels and lunches for students interested in their research and teaching. Finally, we created a list of peer advisors, recommended by faculty and representing all geographical regions. We hope that this resource, publicly available on the Department website and the DUG Facebook page, will be a valuable resource to prospective concentrators and History

students interested in learning more. We also hosted declaration and pre-registration advising events in the Blue Room and the Rock. Due to the large size and breadth of options in the Department, building academic community can be a challenge, but we believe that the DUG does important work to connect people across the concentration. If you are interested in working with the DUG or planning an event with us, you can email us at brownhistdug@gmail.com or find out more on the History Department website.



Brigitte Dale (left) and Katharine Jessiman-Ketcham (right) turning in their honors theses



Sarah Novicoff and Katy Chu, Senior DUG Coordinators



BROWN

© 2018 Brown University

Designed and produced by the Office of University Communications