



Department
of History

FALL 2021
Newsletter



Portland State
History



FRIENDS *of*
HISTORY



John Ott at the Althing, Iceland

Fall greetings from Cramer Hall!

I hope this finds you enjoying our Pacific Northwest autumn—unpredictable though it can be—and looking forward to the impending holiday season. This is my fourth Covid newsletter, and while a small part of me thinks it won't be the last, I am happy to report that in September the campus and department welcomed students back in person and resumed most services. While the general mood around the Park Blocks remains a bit subdued and building access is limited, there is no doubt that those students who have ventured back to campus are thrilled to attend class in person (and masked). Our community Covid case load has been low, and many events and groups have resumed activity,

including the **History Club**, which has already hosted three meetings this term — including one, appropriately, on historical pandemics.

The lingering effects of Covid are still being felt, even as we work to center student success. We will be christening our remodeled Barney Burke History Student Lounge later this term — a place where students can study, relax, and work individually or in groups. The lounge is outfitted with a microwave, electric tea kettle, tea and coffee, mugs and utensils, a computer station, a meeting table, three study desks, a whiteboard, numerous USB charging ports, and a couple of comfy couches. Students need campus spaces to which they can retreat, in order to attend classes being taught via Zoom immediately after being face to face in a classroom. Our new lounge, whose remodel and upkeep were made possible by donor support, offers a welcoming environment in which to do that. Thanks to a successful Spring fundraising drive, the Department will be disbursing \$500 awards in Hardship Funds to ten of our undergraduate and MA students this Winter term. We are so grateful to our friends and supporters for their generous contributions to the Hardship Fund, whose moneys are disbursed directly to our students' tuition accounts. Student success sometimes means helping students make ends meet, and donor support makes that possible.

This newsletter also features updates from our faculty, including our distinguished emeriti. As you'll see, we have collectively remained very busy despite the pandemic. Our emeriti continue to speak, publish, and otherwise distinguish themselves. They are even known to throw out the occasional opening pitch at minor league baseball games! Faculty scholarship continues to be relevant and timely. **Friedrich Schuler's** recent book offers the first history of the U.S. quarantine station at Knappton Cove, near Astoria. **Patricia Schechter** organized a panel discussion in October on the 100th anniversary of the 1921 riots that destroyed the prosperous Black community of Greenwood in Tulsa, Oklahoma, and saw many of its residents displaced and murdered. Our faculty are routinely sought out for their insight and commentary on contemporary events, including **Marc Rodriguez** on current civil and political unrest and **Ken Ruoff** on the transformation of the Japanese monarchy. Historians are uniquely situated to offer deeper perspectives and context on current affairs, and our faculty have generously stepped into the public sphere when called upon. New courses being proposed by our faculty reflect a continuing engagement with the present, including Professor **Katy Barber's** new "History Wars," Professor **Jennifer Kerns'** "History of Now," and Professor **Patricia Schechter's** "Global History of Love." All are aimed at lower-division students (200-level), in the hopes of enticing them into the department.

Lastly, I am delighted to share the news of an estate gift to the department by Dr. Bruce Craig, an alumnus who, after graduating from PSU in 1962, enjoyed a long career in academia, notably as a librarian and bibliographer at the University of Chicago. He has recently endowed two professorships, one in classical Islam/Egypt and the other in Mongol and premodern Chinese history, the latter in memory of his lifelong friend, fellow alumnus, and distinguished historian Tom Allsen. You can read more about Professors Craig, Allsen, and Bruce's gift later in this newsletter. His generosity will help ensure the department remains vibrant well into the future.

In closing, I have a question for you, Dear Reader: What sort of features would you like to see more of in our departmental newsletters? More news on alumni, students, faculty, donor support? More topical historical content? Please consider taking [this brief, two-question poll](#) to help inform our content in future issues. One winner will be selected at random from all submissions to receive a copy of either Professor **Catherine McNeur's** *Taming Manhattan: Environmental Battles in the Antebellum City* (Harvard, 2014) or Professor **Friedrich Schuler's** *A Shield for the Columbia: The Quarantine Station and the U.S. Public Health Service at Knappton Cove, WA, and Astoria, OR, 1890-1899* (American Humanities Press, 2021)!

I am proud to be a member of such an engaged, student-centered department. I am certain you will see evidence of our ongoing efforts on every page below. Read on!

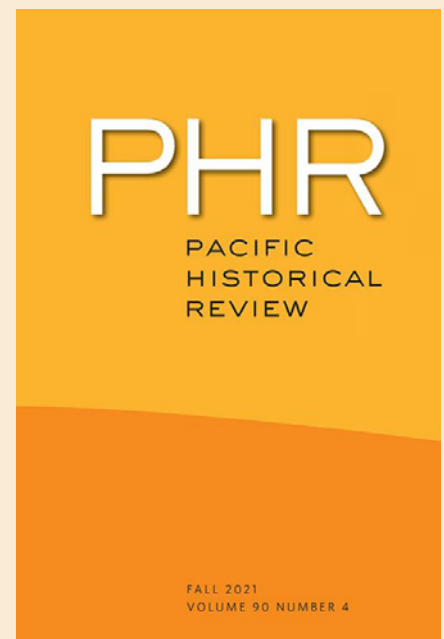


John Ott, *History Department Chair*

Update from *Pacific Historical Review* by **Marc Rodriguez**

At the *Pacific Historical Review* we have survived and thrived during the pandemic. Thanks to our shift to an online, cloud-based submission and review system in 2014 we were able to keep up our workflow remotely. During this time, however, the Editor and Associate Editor have not been able to travel to conferences or do US-based and international outreach. Zoom calls with colleagues in Los Angeles, Sydney, and Hong Kong have had to suffice, but there is no substitute for face to face meetings when it comes to outreach and development of a US and increasingly global readership and author-base. I for one look forward to attending conferences and doing workshops internationally as soon as possible.

We could not do our job without the hard work of our PSU student fellows at the *PHR*. Due to the total shutdown of global travel we were able to redirect some resources to hire two rather than one Caughey Foundation Honors Fellow, in addition to our Stoel Graduate Editorial Fellow. This was all done remotely, and all of our training was done remotely as well. Our Stoel Fellow is **Francheska Cannone**, a second-year history graduate student at PSU in the public history program. She studies American legal history and U.S. political



and cultural history with a focus on women's history. Joining us for a second year as the Caughey Fellow is **Allison Kirkpatrick**, a senior at PSU majoring in history with a minor in medieval studies. Our Honors Fellow this year is **Ana Bane**, a junior at Portland State majoring in history with a minor in art history. Like past Honors Fellow **Jessica Moore**, Ana served as Editor-in-Chief of the PSU Honors College journal, *Anthós*. Ana is interested in U.S. cultural history as well as global environmental history. Our amazing fellows have started their year doing amazing work, and we hope, learning a thing or two about copy-editing, developmental editing, and online publishing management under the direction of Associate Editor **Dr. Brenda Frink** and me. For more on our journal and staff, please visit the PSU-based *PHR* website.

Each year since 2014, Brenda and I have been lucky enough to see several of our authors win important annual awards from historical associations, and this year is no exception. In 2021, the *PHR* awarded both the Louis Knott Koontz Memorial Award and the W. Turrentine Jackson (Article) Prize to Japanese historian **Yu Tokunaga**, of the University of Kyoto for his article "Japanese Farmers, Mexican Workers, and the Making of Transpacific Borderlands." This is the first year in which one individual has been awarded both prizes. We also saw two of our authors **Celeste Menchaca** and **Allyson Brantley**, win Western History Association Prizes. These prizes are a testament to the high quality scholars who choose to submit their work to the *PHR*.

Lastly, after conversations about the lack of an important prize in Pacific World and Asian American history, I worked to create the Carl Abbott and David Johnson Article Award. The Abbott-Johnson Award will be awarded annually to the best article in the history of the Pacific World, its peoples, and relations (which includes studies of Oceanian, Southeast Asian, Asian American, and Hawaiian history), published in the *Pacific Historical Review* and/or by a member of the **Pacific Coast Branch of the American Historical Association (PCB-AHA)** published in a different journal. Those interested in honoring the over 20 years of service to the field provided by Professors Abbott and Johnson should **contact Michael Green**, Executive Director, PCB-AHA about tax deductible contributions.

Happy Fall,
Marc Rodriguez, Professor of History, and Editor of the *PHR*

Graduate Program News

Another year of socially-distanced learning brought another year's worth of good news from the Department's MA program.

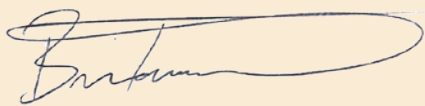
Fall 2021 marks the one-year anniversary of our new program requirements. The Department's two-track approach to the MA program had a successful start. Over the last year, the department has conferred eleven MA degrees: **Jeffrey Arnsdorf** (Ott), **Haley Demi Blackledge** (Rodriguez), **Katherine Nicole Bush** (Barber), **Alex-Jon Earl** (Schechter), **Jason R. Ferguson** (Hsu), **Adam Russell Fitzhugh** (Barber), **Carolee J. Harrison** (McNeur), **Jacob G. Hutchins** (Barber), **James Martin Masnov** (Luckett), **Liza Julene Schade** (Barber), **Icarus Jacoby Smith** (Horowitz). Congratulations to everyone.

History MA students once again illustrated their scholarly abilities in a variety of forums. **Silvie Andrews** has published a second article in the Oregon Historical Quarterly, "Homeward Bound: The Battleship Oregon Pennant and Imperialism in Oregon." **Jeffrey Arnsdorf's** thesis ("New Perspectives on Johannes de Muris and his *Notitia artis musicae*") was nominated by the PSU Graduate School as the Outstanding (non-STEM) Thesis for the Western Association of Graduate Schools Thesis competition. **Hannah Reynolds** ("A little wife well-willed': Marriage and Settlement in American Empire") placed second at the Department's annual History Slam. If anyone has news of other publications, awards or presentations, please let us know.

Several graduate students were recognized at our most recent Graduation Ceremony (June 2021). **Hannah Reynolds** won the Best Graduate Seminar Paper Award for “‘I just had to do most everything’: Settler Colonial Implications of Women’s Roles in Homesteading.” Honorable mentions for the same award went to **Silvie Andrews** (“Ethnology, War Booty, and the Legacy of Imperialism in the Philippines and the American West”), and to **Adam Saltzman** (“Sugar, the West India Interest, and the Evolution of the British National Economy”). Alexandra Ibarra achieved the Highest Graduate GPA and **Liza Schade** was recognized for her service to the Department. Along with his nomination described previously, **Jeffrey Arnsdorf** won the inaugural Johnson Family Award for Outstanding MA Thesis. **Katherine Bush** and **Johanna Murphy** both received Honorable Mentions for the award.

Thanks to the generosity of several donors, the Department again offered several awards and scholarships to deserving students. Stephanie K. Oliver Awards were granted to **Katherine Bush**, **Liza Schade**, **Icarus Smith**, and **Andy Swinford**. **Stephanie Vallance** received the Joel Palmer Award, and **Hannah Reynolds** the Fulton-Dodds.

Two of our new admits to the program also received scholarships. **Jared Michael Ramirez** was awarded the Friends of History Graduate Entrance Scholarship and received the Oregon Laurels Scholarship, the latter a University-wide award. **Victoria White** received the Anne Myers Award. **Sarah Harris’** Rose Tucker Fellowship in partnership with the Oregon Historical Society was renewed, and **Francheska Cannone** will hold the Caroline P. Stoel Fellowship at the *Pacific Historical Review*. Several students once again made use of hardship funds made available by the department. These funds, like all of our awards and scholarships, are made possible through the generosity of alumni and donors who have chosen to support our students, and to whom we offer our greatest thanks. Anyone wishing to learn more about our scholarships and awards is invited to consult the Giving to the Department of History page at the end of this newsletter.



Brian Turner, *Graduate Studies Coordinator*

Jeffrey Arnsdorf Master’s thesis selected for WAGS

Jeffrey Arnsdorf’s Master’s thesis, “**New Perspectives on Johannes de Muris and his Notitia artis musicae**,” was selected by the Graduate School as the Outstanding Thesis from Portland State University for the Western Association of Graduate Schools award selection process.



Jeffrey’s thesis will now be entered in another round of nominations for the “finals,” along with other **nominees from the member graduate programs (non-STEM)**. Three of these regional nominees will be advanced to the finals.

The 2021-2022 recipient will receive \$1,000, a Certificate of Award, and travel expenses for the recipient to attend the WAGS Annual Conference and Awards luncheon to be held in Denver, Colorado, on March 20-23, 2022.



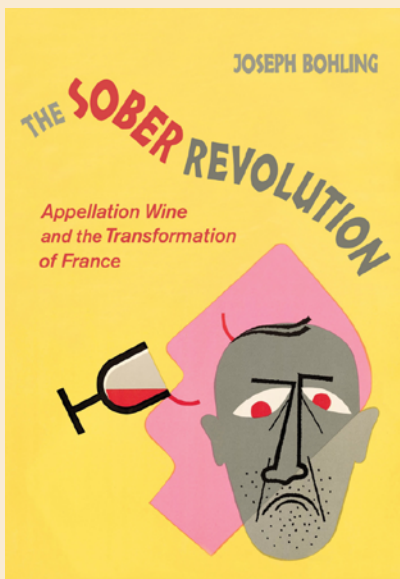
Jeffrey Arnsdorf

Faculty Reports

Katy Barber spent the last year collaborating with Warm Springs elder Linda Meanus and a team at the **Confluence Project** on a children's book based on oral history interviews and historic photos that will be published later this year. Other collaborations/partnerships included public history projects with the High Desert Museum, Oregon Department of Transportation, Confluence Project, Oregon State University Press, and **Justice for Greenwood**. She provided trainings for the Bonneville Power Administration and a workshop for the NW5 Consortium for Community Engaged Learning's two-day gathering, "Colonialism and Indigenous Knowledge Ways in the PNW." An invitation to give Willamette University's Frost lecture opened an opportunity to speak about her current research, which examines the overlapping histories of New Thought, African American religious practices outside of the Black Church, alternative health practices, American race and gender construction, activism, the politics of passing, eugenics, and nationalism through the career of one spiritualist, his followers and lovers, and those who persecuted him. Most rewarding was working with four graduate students as they finished their degrees despite the year's difficulties. Thanks to a productive summer, two more graduate students will defend their theses this fall.



Katy Barber



Joe Bohling's year was about trying to complete one story and begin another. The Université de Bourgogne invited him to give an UNESCO-sponsored lecture on his book, *The Sober Revolution*. Over the summer, leaders of France's major wine association, the Confédération nationale des producteurs de vins et eaux-de-vie de vin à Appellations d'origine contrôlées (CNAOC), invited him to speak at their annual trade conference and provide an historical perspective on the challenges facing the French wine industry in the current age of globalization. This September, Joe was invited to join the Confrérie des Chevaliers du Tastevin, the world's most famous drinking society devoted to the appreciation of Burgundy wine, in order to discuss *The Sober Revolution*. His year also included a visiting professorship in the history department at Sciences Po in Paris, along with invited talks on his new book project—the French energy transition—at Sciences Po, the Zentrum Marc Bloch in Berlin, and the Institute of Historical Research in London. Outside of work, Joe and Maria bought a new house in NE Portland, where they will share the joy and challenges of growing a new garden.

While digitizing a fresh version of his lecture notes for HST 327U: U.S. History, 1890-1932 to supplement in-person class meetings and creating the first version of digitized notes for his Roots of American Popular Culture class for fall term, **David Horowitz** served as the organizer and a panelist for a virtual session of the annual PCB-AHA meeting entitled "The Portland State Police Riot, Antiwar Protest, and America's Culture Wars." His presentation addressed "Vietnam Antiwar Protest and the Legacy of Social Movements." Working on the paper coincided with a request from the *Pacific Historical Review* to do a book review of David M. Potter's *Disruption: Why Things Change* (Oxford University Press, 2021), an assessment of the unanticipated consequences of social change movements in global history. Both projects also coincided with his organizing the commemoration of the Portland State Student Antiwar Strike of 1970, now scheduled for May 11, 2022.

Jim Grehan spent the past year finishing a book chapter on Ottoman fashion in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. It will appear sometime next year in *The Cambridge Global History of Fashion* (eds. Beverly Lemire and Giorgio Riello), to be published in two rather sizable volumes put out by Cambridge University Press. The pandemic lockdown tested his patience with internet infrastructure, but allowed him to make significant progress on his research and writing. His current book project, which is nearing completion, is a study of manners and everyday life in the early modern Ottoman Empire. He is delighted to have escaped the various Zoom rooms in which he was imprisoned and step back into real classrooms on campus this fall. He still makes the best bread in the department.



Catherine McNeur

Catherine McNeur has been busy writing, workshopping, and presenting parts of her research for her **upcoming book on the forgotten nineteenth-century scientists Margareta Hare Morris and Elizabeth Carrington Morris**. Over the last year she gave virtual talks **at the Smithsonian**, Boston University, the Society for Historians of the Early American Republic, and in a number of classrooms, most recently at Bowdoin College and University of Alabama, where students had been reading and discussing *Taming Manhattan*. A recent article she wrote for *Scientific American* on Margareta Morris's uncredited discovery of a cicada has inspired entomologists to rename the cicada in honor of Morris. In addition to teaching and writing, Catherine spent much of the last year helping her children navigate remote school while also training for the New York City Half Marathon, which she ran virtually in the spring. She is looking forward to the upcoming academic year and whatever it might entail as we continue to work with students to navigate the pandemic.

John Ott spent the past year staffing a largely vacant department office, in a largely vacant building, on a largely unpopulated campus, in an eerily quiet corner of Portland. He forged new relationships with the one barista still serving coffee in this part of town (Todd Edwards at **Olé Latte Coffee**—highly recommended!) and with the lunch hour employees at Subway and Phat Cart. This past summer he found time to finish a long overdue book manuscript (with a colleague), which should be published reasonably soon under the title, *The Medieval Clergy, c. 800-1200. A Reader* (Toronto: PIMS Press). He also submitted a lengthy article and textual edition, likewise the fruit of an elephantine gestation, to the Swiss journal of medieval law, *Zeitschrift der Savigny-Stiftung, Kanonistische Abteilung*. Ah, 2021. You've been a year.



John Ott Honey Bucket selfie

Marc Rodriguez spent some time this summer in his hometown of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, in the Walker's Square Neighborhood, a majority Latinx community. He was happy to see that many of his friends now represent the district from the school board, to the city council, to the state legislature. He also visited his old neighborhood in Chicago, Humboldt Park, famous for its street-spanning Puerto Rican flag sculpture, amazing jibarito sandwiches, and as the setting for novels by Saul Bellow and Nelson Algren. Rodriguez also served as a panelist at a virtual seminar on publishing for the University of Southern California with the editors of the *Western Historical Quarterly* and *William and Mary Quarterly*. He has also given virtual seminars to students at the University of Limoges, France, on American political history. Rodriguez is halfway done with the research gathering phase for a new book project and can't wait to get writing.

Ken Ruoff gave the *Harold Seymour Lecture in Sports History* at *Cornell University* on 15 October, on the history of the Olympics in Japan. Over the summer he was interviewed by the *New York Times* and various other media about topics including Japan imperial family's early and ongoing support for the Paralympics. At his home, his civil engineer daughter managed to make the bird feeder genuinely squirrel-proof (no small feat), allowing all the family to enjoy a parade of birds enjoying the feed.

Patricia Schechter completed her term as interim director of the Conflict Resolution program and returned to the History Department full time as of September 1st. She accepted the presidency of the *Western Association of Women Historians* for AY 2021-22, and will support their hoped-for in-person annual conference scheduled for April. This past summer, she presented a fresh section of her book manuscript in process at the XV Congreso of the Asociación de Historia Contemporánea virtually "in" Cordoba, Spain. In addition to her teaching and service duties this year, she will be preparing for sabbatical in 2022-23, during which time she will complete her book, currently titled *El Terrible: Life and Labor in Pueblonuevo, 1887-1939*.

Professor Friedrich Schuler researched and wrote a first draft of his next book detailing the work of the United States Public Health Service along the Columbia from 1899 to 1903. His timely first book in this series, *A Shield for the Columbia: The Quarantine Station and the U.S. Public Health Service at Knappton Cove, WA, and Astoria, OR, 1890-1899*, was published this March and offers stories behind the founding of the Columbia River Quarantine Station. For more information about the History of the U.S. Public Health Service at Knappton Cove, visit the [Knappton Cove Heritage Center](#).

Jennifer Selwyn has been working on staying healthy (and relatively sane) in sunny, too-often-smoky, California, spending as much time as possible exercising, drinking good coffee (ideally on our backyard hammock), reading, listening to music and podcasts and, of course, teaching asynchronous European history classes for PSU students. She watched her son graduate from high school this past June and he is about to launch into adulthood by joining Americorps-NCCC in just a couple weeks for a gap year of volunteer service. At the beginning of this year, her essay "Wrestling the World from Fools: Teaching Historical Empathy and Critical Engagement in Traditional and Online Classrooms," was published in *Challenging Women's Agency and Activism in Early Modernity*, Merry E. Wiesner-Hanks, ed. (Amsterdam University Press, 2021), 163-182. She has also recently collaborated with a friend and fellow educator on a new podcast, *Cap City Chalk Talk*, focusing on educational issues in the K-12 classroom in the Sacramento area and beyond. Jennifer is very eager to make a long-overdue visit to Portland, as soon as it is safe to do so.



Jennifer Selwyn

Loren Spielman, after the publication of his first book, *Jews and Entertainment in the Ancient World* last year, spent the summer working on a new research project that investigates attitudes towards violence and non-violence in ancient Judaism. The work seeks to categorize all the different ways that Jews justified and condemned violent acts against others in their classical texts, including the Hebrew Bible, apocrypha and pseudepigrapha, the works of the Jewish historian Josephus, and the corpus of rabbinic literature.

Emeriti Updates



Karen Carr

Karen Carr is currently on the East Coast, enjoying the hospitality of the Classics Department at Brown University, where she has been making good use of the newly re-opened libraries. Her book *Shifting Currents: A World History of Swimming* will be out next May from Reaktion Books, and an article, ‘A short history of feather fans,’ will be out in the spring issue of the *Journal of World History*.

She is now working on her next book, tentatively titled *A Feminist History of Industry and Money from the Stone Age to the Renaissance*, under contract with Liverpool University Press. Slow progress is also (finally!) being made towards publication of

her pottery work at Leptiminius, which will appear as a supplement to the *Journal of Roman Archaeology*. She expects to be back in Portland next fall, and hopes to see many of you at AIA lectures then!



Susan Karant-Nunn reports: “I am retired and definitely slowing down, in addition to which, because of the pandemic, I cannot return to Germany to carry out research. I am content. I am proud to be an emerita professor of Portland State University’s Department of History.



Susan Karant-Nunn

The following are my scholarly activities thus far for 2021:

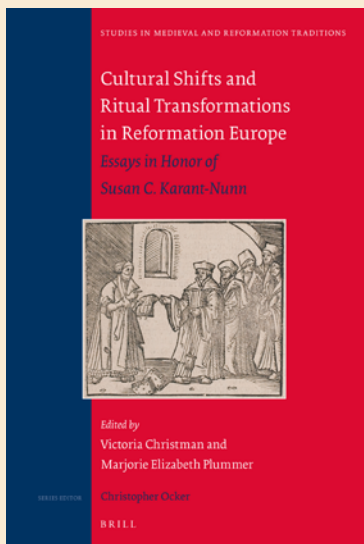
Co-Edited book: Susan C. Karant-Nunn and Ute Lotz-Heumann, *The Cultural History of the Reformations: Theories and Applications* (Göttingen: Harrassowitz Verlag, 2021).

With an essay by me in the book: “John Calvin’s Sexuality,” pp. 211-26.

“Afterword: Looking Backward and Forward,” conclusion of festschrift for Merry Wiesner-Hanks in *Embodiment, Identity, and Gender in the Early Modern Era*, ed. by Amy E. Leonard and David M. Whitford (London and New York: Routledge, 2021).

April 2021, “The Interknittedness of Reformation Scholars,” lead presentation at Webinar organized by Karin Maag (Dir., Meeter Center, Calvin College) on subject of new festschrift, *Cultural Shifts and Ritual Transformations in Reformation Europe: Essays in Honor of Susan C. Karant-Nunn*, coedited by Victoria Christman and Marjorie Elizabeth Plummer (Leiden: Brill, 2020).

During 2019, 2020 and 2021, I have taken five Spanish courses from the World Languages and Literatures Department at PSU.”



Bill Lang reports: “I retired in 2012 but work on the Executive Committee of the Oregon Encyclopedia has kept me busy supporting and contributing to this growing project at the Oregon Historical Society. I continue to review manuscripts for academic book and periodical publishers, contribute articles and write book reviews for history journals, and give public talks on Pacific Northwest History. With co-author James V. Walker, I recently published *Explorers of the Maritime Pacific Northwest* (ABC-Clio, 2016) in the publisher’s documentary history series. My current writing project is a new biography of Joel Palmer, who served as Superintendent of Indian Affairs for Oregon Territory and negotiated nine treaties during the 1850s.”

Caroline Litzenberger retired from PSU in 2012; however, she had been ordained as an Episcopal priest in 2004 and had worked as a priest while teaching history at PSU until her retirement from there. She continued to be active as a priest in various Episcopal churches in the Portland area until the fall of 2019. At that time, she was diagnosed with Multiple Myeloma, bringing her working life to a screeching halt, at least for a while. She did manage to return to a more active and productive life after about six months. Her mobility is compromised, but she can still think and write, so she has written her memoirs and a book on the English Reformation without the scholarly apparatus, so that members of congregations may find it accessible. She’s now completing research she started over ten years ago into the history of her parish here in Portland: St. Michael’s and All Angels Episcopal Church. That project fell by the wayside due to a variety of complications and challenges within the parish, but hopefully the team that is working on it now will be able to complete the work within the next year and publish the results.

Frederick Nunn has enjoyed retirement since 1999. From that time until 2015 he continued to teach and write, or serve in administrative posts here, in Japan, and in Washington, D. C. During 2015 and 2016 he consulted for the plaintiffs in a human-rights civil suit (unlawful imprisonment, torture, and murder) stemming from the 1973 overthrow of the Chilean government. Since then he has enjoyed being a retiree even more. With travel made difficult during the plague year and since, he spends time reading (20th century historical fiction), taking walks, and following American politics more closely than ever before. His long-time interest in 20th century Latin American and European history, he finds, provides enlightening perspectives on our recent past.



Frederick Nunn



Michael Reardon

After his year as Interim President at PSU, **Michael Reardon** went to VietNam for six years as Co-President of a new Vietnamese University, Eastern International University. EIU was built and owned by Becamex IDC as part of a new city development in Binh Duong Province 40 miles north of Ho Chi Minh City. He continues as Board Member of Becamex as a consultant on higher education. He is now back home in Portland and hoping to travel back to VietNam when it is safe to do so.

Linda Walton reports, “For me, the pandemic brought an early halt to a three-year visiting professorship at Hunan University in Changsha, P.R.C. While there in 2019, I edited a Chinese translation of my book, *Academies and Society in Southern Song China* (1999), and happily the project is still on track for publication in China soon. In 2020 I published a book chapter, “Songyang Academy in Time and Place: From Confucian Academy to Cultural Heritage,” and another chapter in a volume I co-edited, *The Heritage Turn in China: The Reinvention, Dissemination,*

and Consumption of Heritage (Amsterdam University Press). This fall I was actually able to finish the draft of a manuscript under contract (since 2016!) to Cambridge University Press for their series on *New Approaches to Asian History*, tentatively titled *Imperial China, 900-1350: A New History*. Now I am looking forward (optimistically) to being able finally to take up a three-month visiting research appointment at Edinburgh University in March as part of a European Research Commission-funded project on classical learning in Song China and Byzantium. Apart from all that, the pandemic has provided lots of opportunities to help take care of two wonderful grandchildren, Griffin (b.2017) and Cornelia (“Nellie”, b.2021).



Charlie White

Charlie White reports: “After 26 years I stopped volunteering at Multnomah Falls. Declining hearing acuity plus required mask and plastic barrier between volunteer and questioner called for the action. I haven’t audited at PSU since the pandemic but plan to resume this year. I spend my time gardening, doing my daily Sudoku, and reading books, magazines, and newspapers, including *The Globe and Mail*. My TV/computer fare includes baseball games (Go Tigers), the news, Jeopardy, and assorted films.

Dawn and I spent four days in Walla Walla sightseeing in the daytime (Palouse Falls, my candidate for the most beautiful falls in the USA, Fort Walla Walla, Frazier Farm, and wine tasting) and in the evenings watching the Walla Walla Sweets baseball team. On the second night the ticket taker surprised me when he said I was to throw out the ceremonial first pitch. Surprised again when I learned the Sweets throw a Walla Walla Sweet onion, not a baseball. This happened because of an unknown PR proposal: honor a World War II veteran, sent to the Sweets by **Tim Garrison**.

Dawn and I attend local games, too. An added attraction this year was seeing the Vancouver Canadians, marooned in the US when the pandemic closed the border, play their “home” games at Ron Tonkin Field in Hillsboro.

I’ve had two book reviews published recently: *A School for the People: A Photographic History of Oregon State University* by Lawrence A. Landis in the *Oregon Historical Quarterly* and *Thunder Go North: The Hunt for Sir Francis Drake’s Fair and Good Bay* by Melissa Darby in the *Pacific Historical Review*. The first is a competent photo history of Oregon State, very much like the PSU book I edited. The second is an excellent account of Drake’s voyage positing that Whale Cove near Depoe Bay is the site of Drake’s West Coast landing for repairs. Darby’s research also casts more doubt on the integrity of Herbert Bolton.”



Read more PSU **History Department** News
including media, podcasts, and interviews at
pdx.edu/history/history-news

Patricia Schechter elected president of WAWH

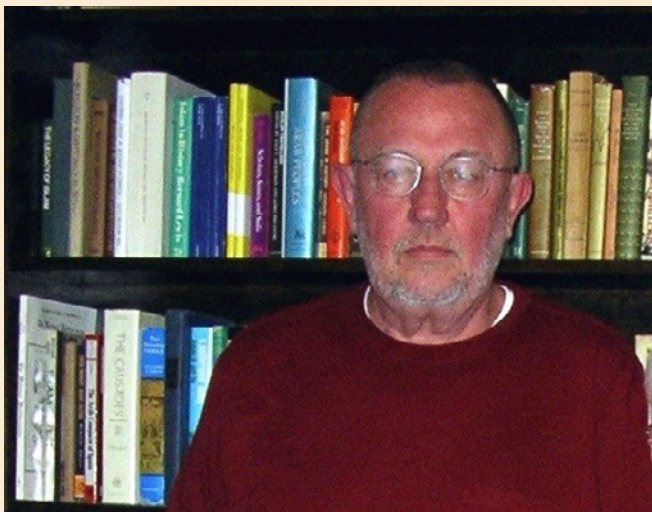
The **Western Association of Women Historians** is a “second-wave” feminist organization established in 1969. The founders included early-career, white, women historians who modeled themselves on the east coast’s Berkshire Conference for Women’s Historians. The early meetings were made up of small groups of graduate students and new PhDs, more like caucuses than a professional organization. By the mid-1970s more formal annual meetings and by-laws took shape. Like most second-wave organizations, the **WAWH** has had to very intentionally desegregate itself and transform itself into a more inclusive organization. The work of diversity and inclusion remains ongoing. **Patricia Schechter** is the new president of this organization. She was mentored



WAWH gavel

into the **WAWH** by **Susan Wladaver-Morgan**, former Associate Editor of the *Pacific Historical Review* at PSU, and by immediate past president **Ula Y. Taylor**, distinguished historian of African American women’s history. Ula and Patricia and several other colleagues were the “Covid cohort” program committee for the WAWH’s first fully online conference that took place on the “Nooks” platform in April 2021. PSU remains well represented in the WAWH executive board, with **Katherine Bush** (MA 2021) serving as Digital Communications Coordinator for the upcoming year as well. The gavel, engraved with the letters “WAWH.” was sent by Ula to Patricia this summer, and is a symbolic token of the passing of the presidency between the generations of leadership within the organization.

History Alumnus Endows Two Professorships



Thomas T. Allsen

History alumnus **Bruce D. Craig** (Class of 1962), later a professor at the American University in Cairo and the University of Minnesota before joining the University of Chicago, recently announced the establishment of two new endowed professorships in the Portland State University History Department: **The Bruce D. Craig Endowed Professorship in the Ayyubid and Mamluk Sultanates** (focused on Syria and Egypt, 1174-1517), and the **Thomas T. Allsen Endowed Professorship in East and Central Asian History**, with a focus on the Mongol Empire. Craig, who was the Director of the Middle East Documentation Center and Bibliographer of Middle Eastern Studies at the University of Chicago, founded and edited for twelve years the *Mamlūk Studies Review*, a premier journal in the field. Tom Allsen (1940-2019) was a fellow PSU History major (‘62) who went

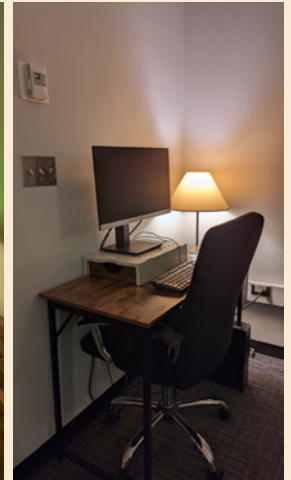
on to work in the Peace Corps before completing his Ph.D. at the University of Minnesota in Comparative Asian History. He enjoyed a long career at the College of New Jersey before his retirement, and was an eminent scholar in Mongol Studies, authoring six well-regarded books in the field. Portland State has long had a commitment to research and teaching in the fields of pre-modern Chinese and Middle Eastern history. Craig’s gift will further that mission.

Barney Burke History Student Lounge opens



This term, the History Department will open its newly remodeled Barney Burke History Student Lounge. The Lounge, formerly the Graduate TA Office, was given a face-lift during the summer and early fall. It now offers a welcoming and relaxed atmosphere in which students can study, make a cup of tea, Zoom into their online courses, or simply unwind.

Thanks to donor support through our Spring 2020 fundraising drive, we were able to equip the space with desks, a sideboard with a microwave, electric kettle, and selection of teas and coffees, a group workspace with whiteboard and table, an easy chair, and a couch, as well as floor lamps and a computer station. New lighting, USB ports, carpeting, and paint rounded out the improvements. Wall decorations and other amenities are also in the works. We



New workspaces

are planning a formal “launch party” early next term, and students have already begun using the space. It is open during business hours to all History students, undergraduates and graduates alike. We hope our student groups will also be able to take advantage of the new environs.



Annastasia Conner accepted into UChicago PhD program



Annastasia Conner

Hello History Department!

My name is **Annastasia Conner**, I am an alumna who graduated in 2017 and recently confirmed my place in the History PhD program at the University of Chicago to start in Fall 2021, with fields in History of Science and Medicine and Early Modern Europe. My research will focus on the study of non-normative bodies, specifically examining perspectives on and experiences of female, disabled, and racially diverse bodies through an interdisciplinary lens. I'll be co-supervised by **Dr. Ada Palmer** in the UChicago History Department and **Dr. Hannah Marcus** in the History of Science Department at Harvard. The program is fully funded for the duration of the degree, and I have also been awarded an additional **Neubauer Family Distinguished Doctoral Fellowship**.

My mentor in the PSU History Department was **Dr. Brian Turner**; he supervised my undergraduate honors thesis and helped me to develop a lot of the skills needed for graduate school. I also studied with **Dr. Harry York**, in the Honors College, whose classes inspired my interest in the history of medicine. After graduating PSU, I went on to do an MA at Newcastle University, in the United Kingdom, which I finished in August 2018. While at Newcastle, I served as the graduate student liaison, representing my cohort's interests in conversations with university faculty and staff. I've been working outside of academia since then, and I am delighted to be jumping back into scholarly work in such a fantastic program as UChicago.

Liza Schade accepts position at Clark County Historical Museum

Liza Schade is a sixth generation Oregonian and graduated with a BA in History from Portland State University in 2014. She then worked as a museum collections manager and curator for several years. In 2018, she returned to PSU to earn an MA in History, specializing in Public History and the Pacific NW. She wrote a **thesis** on current needs for historic homes in Oregon and served as a Teachers Assistant and President of **Phi Alpha Theta History Honor Society** in her senior year, graduating in June 2021. Recently, she accepted the position of Collections Manager of **Clark County Historical Museum (CCHM)** in downtown Vancouver, WA.

Passionate about history, she is excited to care for over 60,000 artifacts that represent our shared past and expand her knowledge of the continuous story of the Pacific Northwest. She will work closely with a supportive **CCHM** team to research new historical perspectives, create dynamic exhibits, train interns and volunteers, and inspire the public to become heritage activists in their own communities.



Liza Schade

Christian Graham on teaching in Kingigan, Alaska

Where to begin...Alaska is incredible!

I wake up to the northern lights shining brightly above as a thousand shades of green, red, and purple dance through the sky. My days end as I watch the sunset over the snowy peaks on the Russian mainland across the Bering Strait. The Iñupiaq name of the village is Kingigan. Kingigan translates to “the high place” which is a reference to the mountain, Cape of Wales Mountain, that is right behind the village. (I do not know the Iñupiaq name for the mountain). The people are called the Kingikmiut meaning “people who live near the high place.” Kingigan is a place of beauty and power. Humans and nature collide in so many different ways. It is a cycle of life and death visible from the tiniest of lichen to the massive whale bones. I love my life here, and every passing day makes it harder and harder to think of returning home.



Christian Graham

My days outside of class have been filled with community events, time with the Elders, dancing, fishing, hiking, and many other adventures. I have hiked over the mountains behind the village and seen many of the different landmarks that are sacred to the Kingikmiut People. The Elders gave me permission to inspect and photograph their burials as well. Centuries of weathering have destroyed the coffins and rocks leaving the burial sites as a field of animal and human bones. Polar bear skulls, whale ribs, and human remains litter the tundra from Razorback to Point. A field of death that is full of life as the multi-colored lichens and berries grow on the ancestors’ remains only to be covered by the fall snow.



Northern Lights

My time in class has been challenging but rewarding. Every day has stark ups and downs. My students are consistently navigating harsh realities due to the problems of village life, but they always strive for success. They surpass what seem like insurmountable odds on a daily basis. We have forged strong relationships and continue to build our trust in each other. I also find that we don’t stay in school. Taking my classes outside has become a common occurrence. From berry picking on a shaman’s grave to taking a convoy of four-wheelers into the mountains to climb up the lower peaks, our field trips have been pretty epic.

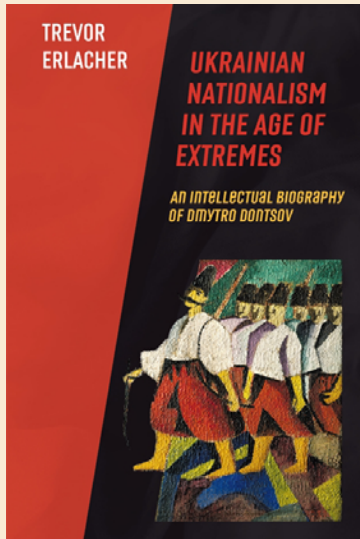
My time with the Elders has been one of the main highlights of this experience. They take an active role in my students’ education as well as my own. When the Elders come to school, they teach the kids skin sewing, the histories of the village and their ancestors, tracking, and many other skills. I have learned so much from them. Stories about hunting, spiritual beliefs, the climate, and the impact of colonization have been the focus of our conversations. Their friendship and guidance has been one of the greatest joys of my time in Kingigan.

Alumni Publications

Trevor Erlacher, completed his History Honors Thesis at PSU, “From Kobzar to Cold War: The Ideological Trajectory of Ukrainian Nationalism,” in May 2010. Trevor went on to complete his Ph.D. in Russian and East European History at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 2017. He was a Fulbright fellow in Ukraine in 2014-2015, a recipient of the Neporany Dissertation Fellowship from the Canadian Institute for Ukrainian Studies, and a postdoctoral fellow with the Ukrainian Research in Switzerland Initiative at the University of Basel in 2018.



Trevor Erlacher

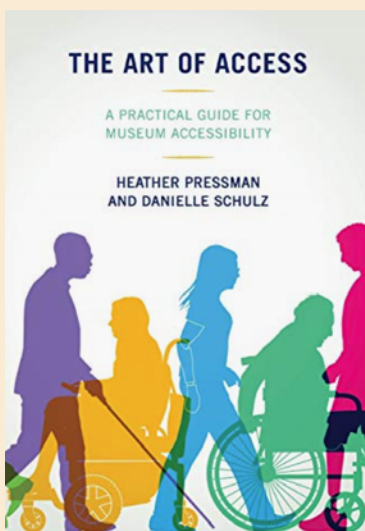


He currently serves as an Academic Advisor, Program Coordinator, Lecturer, and Editor for the Center for Russian, East European, and Eurasian Studies (REEES) and the Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES) at the University of Pittsburgh. His most recent publication is *Ukrainian Nationalism in the Age of Extremes: An Intellectual Biography of Dmytro Dontsov* (Harvard University Press, 2021). Listen to a [New Books Network interview with Trevor](#) about the book.

Since leaving Portland, **Heather Pressman** has worked and volunteered in a variety of nonprofit organizations and museums in Chicago, the Bay Area, and Denver. History, and women’s history in particular, has always been her passion and for the past three years she has served as the Director of Learning & Engagement at the Molly Brown House Museum in Denver. In her role there, she helps make Margaret “Molly” Brown’s story accessible to all visitors, despite the physical challenges of the 132-year old house. Heather’s interest in accessibility and making museums and historic sites accessible led her to co-write *The Art of Access: A Practical Guide for Museum Accessibility*, published by Rowman & Littlefield earlier this spring (2021).



Heather Pressman



In addition to *The Art of Access*, Heather recently co authored “Decorating Up a Few Acres of the Rocky Mountains: Engaging Art and Design Students in a Historic House Museum” featured in *Engaging Communities Through Civic Engagement in Art Museum Education* (2021) and “Connecting People, Place, and Past in a Virtual World” featured in the forthcoming *History Dis-placed: Transitioning Historic Houses to a Virtual Experience*. Beginning in the fall of 2021, Heather will be a lecturer for The Johns Hopkins University where she will be teaching Accessibility in the Museum as a part of the Master’s in Museum Studies program. You may order *The Art of Access: A Practical Guide for Museum Accessibility*, directly from Rowman & Littlefield, and use the code RLFANDF30 for 30% off.

Susan Wladaver-Morgan receives the PCB-AHA Distinguished Service Award

Congratulations to **Susan Wladaver-Morgan**, who has received the Distinguished Service Award of the **Pacific Coast Branch, American Historical Association**. She is the third-ever recipient of the award.

Each year, the **PCB-AHA** presents this award to a member who has provided distinguished service to the organization through such activities as committee service and conference participation.

The honoree receives a plaque and a lifetime membership in the American Historical Association, for which we thank Executive Director James Grossman and the AHA. The previous recipients of the award have been **Stacey L. Smith** of Oregon State University and **Albert Camarillo** of Stanford University.

Dr. Wladaver-Morgan earned her Ph.D. in US history, American Studies, and Victorian Studies from Indiana University, where she worked on the editorial staff of the *Journal of American History*. She served as former Associate Editor (now emeritus) of the *Pacific Historical Review* when it first relocated to Portland State in 1996, former president of the **Western Association of Women Historians**, as well as of the Coordinating Council for Women in History, and as longtime contributor to the **Pacific Coast Branch, American Historical Association**.



Susan Wladaver-Morgan

At the *PHR*, Wladaver-Morgan was the key editor who helped generations of scholars young and old refine and polish their written work. She especially enjoyed recruiting articles from graduate students doing cutting-edge research, as well as training the Caroline P. Stoel Editorial Fellows in what the students termed “the craft of scholarly editing.” As an editor, she is fondly remembered for these skills and the kindness she displayed to young scholars writing their first articles. The list of eminent historians who saw their first scholarly work published in the *PHR* is long, and many bear the mark of Wladaver-Morgan’s guiding hand.

The *Pacific Historical Review* and the Department of History thank Susan for her many contributions to our journal and to the historical field!

Marc Rodriguez and **Brenda Frink**

Calling All Portland State University History Alumni!



We'd love to hear from you about your post-graduation career paths, accomplishments, publications, or other news and feature your story in our Spring newsletter.

Email us at: **hist@pdx.edu**

Giving to the Department of History

If you are interested in contributing to the History Department, note that you can provide support to a specific fund. Simply **note on your contribution** where you would like your money to go. If you would like to discuss any of the particular funds, please email **John Ott** at ott@pdx.edu or phone him at (503) 725-3013.

Fund	Purpose
History Department	Supports the general expenses of the History Department, particularly faculty and student research
<i>Pacific Historical Review</i>	Funds travel, office expenses, research support, and professional development
History Graduate Scholarship Fund	Funds scholarships for incoming MA History students
Tim Alan Garrison History Faculty Awards	Provides a cash award for faculty who publish books
Bernard Burke Award	Provides scholarships for undergraduate students in History
Anne Myers Scholarship	Provides scholarships for incoming graduate students in History
Charles M. White Scholarship	Provides support to part or full-time undergraduate students with financial need and academic promise pursuing a degree in CLAS
Caroline P. Stoel Fellowship	Provides fellowships for graduate students at the <i>Pacific Historical Review</i>
Lauren Banasky Grant	Funds graduate research expenses for students interested in European or women's history
Joel Palmer Fellowship	Provides fellowships for continuing graduate students in Pacific Northwest History
E. Ann Fulton Fellowship	Provides grants, scholarships, and awards for History students
Stephanie K. Oliver Award	Provides support for graduate students nearing the completion of their degree
Friends of History Operations	Supports lectures and other events sponsored by the Friends of History, faculty research, and student awards and scholarships
Friends of History Endowment	Provides funding to bring top historians to lecture at PSU
Gordon B. Dodds Fellowship	Funds fellowships for continuing graduate students in History
Johnson Family History Awards	Provides awards recognizing Outstanding Graduate Thesis, Undergraduate Honors Thesis, and Outstanding Performance in Lower Division History
History Student Internship and Professionalization Fund	Funds the cost of tuition for students who enroll in HST 404 or 504: Internship
Student Hardship Fund	Provides support to History Majors or MA Students in need of financial assistance

FRIENDS of HISTORY

The Friends of History is a community-based organization affiliated with the **Portland State University Department of History** that is committed to supporting the teaching and study of history

within the larger Portland area. Thanks to the generous support of our members, we are able to provide lectures, discussion groups, and other programming that speaks to a variety of scholarly interests, as well as scholarships and grants to further important research in history by Portland State University students and faculty members.

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