



Department
of History

FALL 2022
Newsletter



Portland State
History



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HISTORY



John Ott, as Mr. Autumn Guy

Autumnal Salutations from the South Park Blocks! It's hard to believe, but this is now my fourth fall term column, and I couldn't be happier to share that our downtown campus is once more buzzing with students. It feels like 2019 all over again.

The History Department has, like the rest of campus, re-opened. We hosted a 'welcome back' pizza party on the first day of the term for our majors, minors, and Master's students, and were delighted to have over 30 students attend. Free pizza is its own attraction, of course, but there was enthusiasm and excitement among the students and faculty, who came to eat, talk about history, and catch up.

Our curriculum this fall boasts several new courses, including **Jennifer Kerns'** "History of Now" (HST 230), **Rodney Koeneke's** "Modern Britain through Film" (HST 297), and **Jennifer Tappan's** "Topics in World History: Plagues and Peoples" (HST 390U). Unsurprisingly, Professor Tappan's course is full, as is **Chia Yin Hsu's** survey course on Soviet and post-Soviet Russia (HST 377U).

These are timely courses that feed our students' natural curiosity on the deeper historical contexts of current events. They no doubt in part account for the fact that our enrollments are up slightly over last year's, around 6.5%. Although a modest figure, it is registered against a backdrop of an annual decline in university-wide and college enrollments of roughly -5.3% and -6.3%, respectively. These are sobering statistics, and reflect national enrollment trends at urban universities and at regional community colleges, including Portland Community College and Clackamas Community College (at last word down substantially), whose students traditionally transfer to PSU. Given these declines, it is important that we meet students where they need us to be. To that end, we are offering our courses in a variety of modalities, including 13 in-person courses, 11 fully online courses, and 7 hybrid courses. Striking a balance in delivery modalities is no easy feat, but it is one we are trying to achieve.

The faculty too, are back. **Tim Garrison**, **Friedrich Schuler**, and **George Armantrout** retired in the spring, though the latter two are still teaching courses for us. Several others are taking well-earned sabbaticals. I hope you'll enjoy reading the faculty updates that appear elsewhere in this newsletter. As you'll see, we've been busy! Noteworthy recent and forthcoming publications include Professor **Brian Turner's** new book, a partial edition and commentary on *Pliny's Natural History, Books 2-6*, titled *Pliny the Elder's World* (Cambridge University Press, 2022), and Joe Bohling's book *The Sober Revolution: Appellation Wine and the Transformation of France* (Cornell University Press, 2018), which will soon be out in French translation. Faculty have also been busy working on book manuscripts and publishing articles, book chapters, opinion pieces and commentaries, and encyclopedia articles. Many of us have also resumed traveling to conferences and archives as they've slowly reopened.

While we weathered the Provost's Program Review and Reduction Process last spring, Portland State continues to face significant challenges in rebounding from the pandemic and in stanching the steady decline in student enrollment. History remains a vibrant program, committed to graduate and undergraduate education, teaching, research, and community engagement, and will, with the continued support from our faculty, students, alumni, donors, and community members, continue to remain a vital component of the University in the future. Read on: the proof is in the pudding!



John Ott, *History Department Chair*

Update from *Pacific Historical Review* by Marc Rodriguez



Petra Gerhardt



Ana Bane



Claudia C. Caminotti

Pacific Historical Review welcomes two new fellows this year and a GTEP student to our ranks for the 2022-23 school year. **Claudia C. Caminotti** joins us as the Caroline P. Stoel Editorial Fellow, after a year of coursework prior to formal matriculation in the MA program. **Ana Bane**, who served with us last year as a Honors Fellow continues and expands her role this year as the John and LaRee Caughey Honors College Editorial Fellow. Also joining our team as Editorial Assistant is **Petra Gerhardt**, a graduate student at the School of Education. We are happy to have such a unique and talented crew of student workers with us at the *PHR*. Our student workers are a core component of what makes the *PHR* what it is and it is their close reading of all of our articles prior to publication that is, we think, the key to our articles winning a significant number of prizes each year.

Warm regards, **Marc S. Rodriguez**, Editor

PHR Alumnus Forrest Holden, Ph.D. Candidate at UofM



Forrest Holden

Forrest Holden is a Ph.D. Candidate in the Department of History at University of Michigan, where he began his studies in 2016 after graduating PSU. Holden is also an alumnus of the *Pacific Historical Review* as the John and LaRee Caughey Honors Editorial Fellow for 2014-15. He has taught a number of courses on the history of Russia and the Soviet Union, in addition to courses on the history of magic and witchcraft in early modern Europe. In 2019 he received the Cohen-Tucker Dissertation Research Fellowship to carry out archival research in the Russian Federation. His dissertation, “Empire of Superstitions: The Civilizational Geography of Enlightenment Russia” explores the cultural meanings of magic, superstition, and rationality in the Russian Empire during the late eighteenth century.

Holden reports, “My dissertation is about magic and witchcraft in the late eighteenth century and sort of using that as a window into Habermas and the public sphere. In the process I’ve been really drawn into the world of cultural anthropology and especially **Talal Asad** and the anthropology of the secular. It’s been really fun!” Holden presented one of his chapters on Mikhail Chulkov’s *Dictionary of Russian Superstitions (1782)* at the 54th Annual Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (**ASEEES**).

Graduate Program News

After years of remote learning, legions of students have returned to campus, an event marked by our Department's packed "Welcome Back" pizza party and graduate orientation in late September. This year the Department welcomes ten new MA students in an array of fields, including Medieval, Japanese, and American history. Graduate students were welcomed to some newly revamped work spaces, including the History Department's Student Lounge, dedicated to the memory of former department chair Barney Burke and the **Thomas C. Bielavitz Graduate Student Collaboration Hub** located on the 4th floor of **Millar Library**. A vibrant campus, in-person classes, and impromptu conversations in the halls or Park Blocks are an important part of a Graduate education. At the same time, the last few years have taught all of us about the benefits of alternative approaches. This fall, the Department is offering more than ten different graduate-level classes, two of them in hybrid format, two of them fully online (including a 591-592 seminar), and one of them as an "attend anywhere." Taken together these offerings make our MA program the most accessible it has ever been.

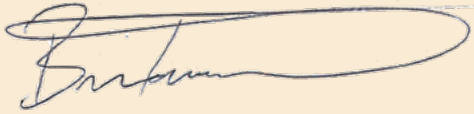
The Department is proud to recognize how our students readily met the difficulties of the past few years; indeed, last year marked one of our largest ever graduating classes. In 2021-2022, the department conferred fourteen MA degrees: **Zac Hamilla** (Ott), **Stephanie Vallance** (Barber), **Alex Clarke-Ritter** (Garrison), **Alexandra Ibarra** (Rodriguez), **Andy Swinford** (Ott), **Sarah Harris** (Barber), **Jordan Hallmark** (Luckett), **Adam Saltzman** (Luckett), **Hannah Reynolds** (Barber), **Brandon Metcalf** (Schechter), **Kim Andrews** (Schechter), **Silvie Andrews** (Barber), **Sherwood Crow** (Luckett), and **Francheska Cannone** (Rodriguez). Congratulations to everyone.

Several graduate students were recognized at our most recent Graduation Ceremony (June 2022). **Jordan Hallmark** won the Best Graduate Seminar Paper Award for "Nous ne voulons pas ... un seul homme de couleur dans la colonie': Free People of Color and the Cultural Construction of Racial Identity in Saint Domingue's Jérémie Parish, 1780-1797." Honorable mention for the same award went to **Sarah Harris** ("Lola Norris, Marsha Warrington and the White Slave Trade"). **Sarah Harris** also achieved the Highest Graduate GPA and **Jordan Hallmark** was recognized for service to the Department. **Alexandra Ibarra**'s thesis "Eating Real Mexican: Identity, Authenticity, Americanization, Heath, and Food Culture in the United States After 1900" received the second annual Johnson Family Award for Outstanding MA Thesis. **Adam Fitzhugh** ("Battle Rock: Anatomy of a Massacre") and **James Masnov** ("Judicial Review as an Instrument of Natural Rights Theory: An Intellectual History") 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 **Kim Andrews** and **Hannah Reynolds**. **Hannah Reynolds** also received the Joel Palmer Award. Second-year student Vicky White is the 2022-2023 Rose Tucker Fellow at the Oregon Historical Society. Newly matriculated, **Claudia Caminotti** holds this year's 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. We are grateful for their generosity. 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.

It is also exciting to acknowledge the success of our alumni. Former History MA students published important scholarly works. **Taylor Rose** (2016) published "The 'Opening of the Clackamas': Log Trucks, Access Roads, and Multiple-Use Infrastructure in Oregon's National Forests" in the *Western Historical Quarterly* (53.2). **Linda Maizels'** (1999) *What is Antisemitism? A Contemporary Introduction* appeared this fall from Taylor and Francis. If anyone has news of other publications, awards or presentations, or any other good news, please let us know.

Finally, this fall the University approved a BA/BS plus History MA degree program. This new program allows motivated students in their final year of their undergraduate program to take Graduate level courses which will count towards both their undergraduate and graduate degrees. The program requires an approved application, so interested students (in their junior year) should contact the Graduate Coordinator to discuss admission.



Brian Turner, *Graduate Studies Coordinator*

American History Remix Podcast



Will Schneider



Lyndsay Smith

Lyndsay Smith and **Will Schneider** met in the PSU History graduate program where they both gained experience in podcasting. Lyndsay ran *Beyond Footnotes* during the 2017-2018 academic year. Will took a course producing short podcasts for KBOO. He also has a background in music production, which comes in handy on the project.

After graduating, Lyndsay and Will stayed in touch. They met a few times to discuss possibly working on a project together, and they eventually landed on the idea of surveying US history and selecting topics that are generally misunderstood or under-explored. They called the project *American History Remix*.

“We like to take familiar subjects and flip them on their head,” said Will. “Our episode on the American Revolution doesn’t mention any battles. It’s about the ideas behind the Revolution. Our episode on the Civil War is about families in the conflict.”

Will specializes in the social and intellectual history of the United States. In addition to public history, Lyndsay studied environmental history. “Many episodes reflect our areas of interest,” said Will, “but the podcast also allows us to explore new subjects and expand our knowledge of U.S. history.” “It’s an excuse to buy a lot of good books or reread books we love,” added Lyndsay.

The two collaborate on each episode, which requires several steps, from researching to writing and recording, editing the audio, and promoting the podcast online and through social media. Though they share the work, Will is the primary writer and the voice the audience mostly hears. Lyndsay thoroughly edits the scripts and maintains the website.

“Dividing the workload produces a blended voice that we couldn’t create on our own, mixing our interests and perspectives,” said Lyndsay.

Sticking with the “remix” theme, the podcast is divided into “volumes” instead of seasons. Volume One covers the colonial era and includes subjects such as the Colonial Environment, Atlantic trade, and the Seven Years’ War. Volume Two covers the Early Republic up to the Civil War. The plan is to cover American history in four volumes.

Each episode is written in a casual tone, but the duo puts the transcripts on their website with full citations and recommended reading. “It’s very important to us that the podcast is accessible to a general audience while remaining scholarly,” said Lyndsay. “Each episode is like a 5000 word graduate paper, but I get to throw in Simpsons jokes and talk about the Green Bay Packers too,” added Will.



Over the two volumes released so far, their audience has grown to include listeners from across the United States and internationally.

Educators are showing interest, too. “A major goal for the podcast has always been to reach anyone interested in U.S. history, regardless of their background, but we were pleasantly surprised when we started to hear from teachers who use our material in their classrooms to teach not only history but writing,” said Lyndsay.

“Some teachers say they assigned the podcast to students instead of a textbook,” added Will. Whoever is listening, the pair are excited about the growth of the podcast.

“When I graduated from PSU, I felt like I learned all this amazing material that helped me understand America,” says Will. “I kept telling my friends and family to read this or that book. Some listened, but most didn’t want to pick up a 400-page history book because they assumed (incorrectly) that it would be boring. The podcast is, in a way, an attempt to take all this knowledge I learned in the grad program and share it with the public. We can discuss a subject for 40 minutes and then hopefully someone listening will go read those books we recommend.”

American History Remix is available to stream across all platforms and on AmericanHistoryRemix.com.

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

2022 PCB-AHA Conference Meets in Cramer Hall by Marc Rodriguez



LEFT TO RIGHT: Marc Rodriguez, Michael Green, Stacey L. Smith, John Ott, David Johnson

The Pacific Coast Branch of the American Historical Association (PCB-AHA) with Executive Director **Michael Green**, President **Stacey L. Smith**, and local partners brought over 200 historians, 52 panels, several receptions, and plenary sessions to Portland State University for the 115th Annual Meeting on August 10-12, 2022. Faculty, students and graduate students from across the West Coast filled Cramer Hall. PSU was to host this meeting in 2020, when **David Johnson**, Professor Emeritus of History at PSU, was the PCB-AHA president. Well, 2022 proved that “better late than never” is worth it.

PSU History Department Chair, **John Ott**, and the many faculty members who volunteered to chair panels helped make the conference a success. People on the ground here at PSU History made this conference possible. **Marc Rodriguez**, Professor of History and Editor of the *Pacific Historical Review* (published by the PCB-AHA), served as de facto conference coordinator, but he did not work alone. This meeting would not have been possible without the dedicated support of **Andrea Janda**, with thorough understanding of PSU’s bureaucracy and various offices (including IT). Together **Andrea Janda** and **Jeff Brown** moved furniture, made calls, and did so much to really make this conference a success. PSU history alumna **Sarah Alderson**, *PHR* Associate Editor **Dr. Brenda Frink**, and a large number of current PSU history students (and many others) chipped in and helped us keep the conference going.



Marc Rodriguez welcomes attendees

Many other contributions made this conference a success! CLAS Dean **Todd Rosenstiel** graciously paid for two days’ worth of continental breakfast and an ample supply of coffee each morning. Phi Alpha Theta and a large group of PSU history students and alumni also heeded the call for volunteers and came to help us manage this event. The PCB-AHA will return to PSU campus but not for a few years. Faculty, students, PCB-AHA staff, and administrators showed that we can do big things here at PSU.



Professor George Sanchez, University of Southern California, at the Camarillo Family Luncheon lecture



John Ott opening the Presidential Plenary Round Table



Marc Rodriguez among attendees

Event Recap: Remembering May 11, 1970 and Moving Forward



LEFT TO RIGHT: Cathy Wood Wyrick, Joe Bernt, Clifford Walker, Doug Weiskopf, Tony Barsotti, Sue Ellen White, and David A. Horowitz

Marking the 52nd anniversary of the Portland State Student Strike against the expansion of the Vietnam War to Cambodia and the shooting of antiwar protesters at Kent State University in 1970, the University Alumni Association, Student Activities and Leadership Programs, and the Ad Hoc May 11th Committee sponsored a **Park Blocks commemorative ceremony** on May 11, 2022.

Following welcoming remarks by PSU **President Stephen Percy** and Interim Dean of Students Aimee Shattuck, strike participants **Cathy Wood Wyrick, Clifford Walker, Tony Barsotti, Doug Weiskopf,** and History professor **David Horowitz** delivered brief reflections on the experience. In addition to the reading of a statement by former Marine combat

photographer and protest organizer **Michael McCusker**, additional presenters included **Sue Ellen White**, a member of the film crew that produced *The Seventh Day*, a prize-winning student-made documentary of the protest, and **Joe Bernt**, editor of the 1969-70 *Vanguard*.

The program climaxed with the dedication of a plaque commemorating the encounter on the Park Blocks between the non-violent vigil of PSU protesters and the Portland Tactical Police Squad, dispatched to campus to take down the medical tent that served as the center of the strike. Citing a legal permit, more than a hundred students and faculty defied an order to disperse and were violently attacked by the police, leaving 31 injured. The following day both strikers and their opponents united four thousand strong in a protest march to City Hall.

Members of the May 11th Committee funded the plaque designed by **John Laursen**, 2020 recipient of the Governor's Arts Award and one of the creators of the **Holocaust Memorial in Portland's Washington Park**. The installation has been placed in the front garden of the Benson House Alumni Center at the corner of the SW Park Blocks and Montgomery Street. Alumni and friends also underwrote "Remembering May 11th," a video of the ceremony produced by Collaborator Studios, **now available on YouTube**.

The May 11th Committee seeks to add a unifying voice to the efforts of young people and others in the local community, the nation, and across the world who use democratic methods to sustain humane social values and practices.

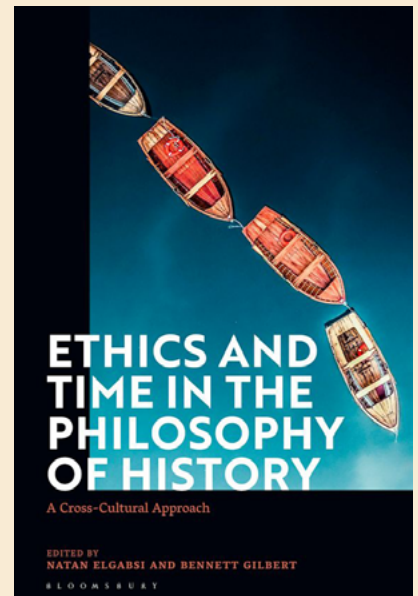
David A. Horowitz

Faculty Coordinator for the May 11th Project

Faculty Reports

Some highlights from **Joe Bohling**'s sabbatical include conducting research in numerous and wide-ranging archives in France. From this research, he is writing a book about why and how France has become a “low-carbon society”—an industrialized democracy that, within its European borders, has experienced arguably the fastest decline in carbon intensity in the world since the energy crisis of the 1970s. It also reveals the limitations that French energy policy has set on effective international climate action. For the second time in recent years, Joe was a visiting research fellow at **Sciences Po in Paris**, this time at the Centre de recherches internationales and within the “Nuclear Knowledges” research program. He presented his work there and at places closer to home like the University of Oregon. Additionally, a UNESCO chair at the University of Dijon commissioned the French translation of his first book, *The Sober Revolution*, on the remaking of the French wine industry in the twentieth century. He is currently wading through the proofs and awaits its publication in May 2023. For fun, or not fun, he ran the San Francisco Marathon and immediately celebrated afterward with copious amounts of good wine, charcuterie, and a nap.

Bennett Gilbert finally saw into print a project he did with a friend 45 years ago—a photo essay on Los Angeles bungalow architecture, now published as *Early-20th-Century Los Angeles Bungalow Architecture* by Arcadia in its *Images of America* series, after sitting in a box since 1977. It treats the style as social history. A more serious project will be published by Bloomsbury about the end of the year: a collection of commissioned papers he co-conceived and co-edited titled *Ethics and Time in the Philosophy of History: A Cross-Cultural Approach*. This is part of his long-running inquiry into philosophy of history and historical studies as a moral endeavor. Over the summer three papers of his appeared that are of interest to theory of history: “No History to be Found: Denying Relations in the Name of Realism,” *Epekeina: International Journal of Ontology History and Critics*, vol. 14, no. 1 (2022): 1–22; “The Problem of Anthropocentrism and the Human Kind of Personhood,” *Philosophy & Social Criticism* (2022); and “The Same World for All of Us” (essay-review of *History and Morality* by Donald Bloxham [Oxford University Press, 2020]), *History and Theory*, vol. 61, No. 2 (June, 2022): 352–368.



Jim Grehan is taking a much-needed sabbatical so that he can finish writing one of the two book manuscripts sitting on his desk. Tentatively titled *The Seductions of Civility*, his current project is a cultural history of the Ottoman Empire from the late seventeenth to the early nineteenth century, told mainly from the standpoint of the history of manners and sociability. The COVID pandemic has delayed publication of his chapter, “Everyday Ottoman Fashion, 1600-1800,” which is due to appear sometime in 2023 in *The Cambridge Global History of Fashion*, Beverly Lemire and Giorgio Riello (eds.), a rather imposing two-volume collection of essays on global fashion from antiquity to the present. His most recent publication, in the Istanbul journal *Yıllık Dergisi*, is a feature review of *A Companion to Early Modern Istanbul*, (eds.) Shirine Hamadeh and Çiğdem Kafescioğlu (Leiden: Brill), a collection of twenty-six essays bringing together the most recent scholarship on the early modern Ottoman capital.

David Horowitz published a book review of David Potter’s *Disruption: Why Things Change* in the winter issue of the *Pacific Historical Review*. He presented “The Second KKK and the Populist Strain” before the PCB-AHA in August. His lecture before the Humanists of Greater Portland, “9/11, Culture War, and the Pitfalls of History,” [text at [PDXScholar](#)] commemorated the 21st anniversary of the attack. On November 27th, a second presentation was delivered to the Humanists, “The 1920s KKK, White Nationalism, and the Advent of the Culture War.”

Jennifer Kerns spent much of 2021-2022 serving in her role as President of PSU-AAUP and as a Collective Bargaining Lead, working to secure a good contract for our faculty and continuing to ensure shared governance at the University. She is particularly proud of working together with administration to help create new faculty ranks, “Teaching Professors.” She also worked to advance the interests of caregivers across campus, whose burdens were made particularly bare during the pandemic. She was also excited to teach a new course this year titled the “History of Now,” which encourages students to connect present day concerns with the past. As James Baldwin said in 1965: “History, as nearly no one seems to know, is not merely something to be read. And it does not refer merely, or even principally, to the past. On the contrary, the great force of



Jennifer Kerns

history comes from the fact that we carry it within us, are unconsciously controlled by it in many ways, and history is literally present in all that we do. It could scarcely be otherwise, since it is to history that we owe our frames of reference, our identities, and our aspirations.” Jennifer has also been persuaded to become a Dodgers fan, thanks to her baseball-playing son and after a visit to her brother’s family in Los Angeles this past summer.



Catherine McNeur

Catherine McNeur recently submitted the manuscript for her upcoming book on Margaretta Hare Morris and Elizabeth Carrington Morris, which will be published with Basic Books in 2023. A chapter she wrote about archival erasures titled “Vanishing Flies and the Lady Entomologist” will be published this October in *Traces of the Animal Past: Methodological Challenges in Animal History* (University of Calgary Press, 2022). Over the last year, she has given presentations for the Friends of Peninsula Park Rose Garden, the Church of Latter Day Saints in Salt Lake City, the Portland Parks Foundation, and the American Society of Environmental Historians.

John Ott has gradually fallen back into old habits with respect to his office cleanliness and organization. But the Chair has a new chair (pictured) from which to survey his unruly domain! This year also saw the return to in-person conferencing after more than three years. John attended the Sixteenth Quadrennial International Congress of Medieval Canon Law at St. Louis University in July, where he presented a paper unassertively titled, “Some Tentative Observations on the Legal Collections in Bordeaux, BM Ms. 11, That Are Not the *Collectio Burdegalensis*.” He also saw published a long-germinating article, “Texts, Law, and Church Reform: The Anti-Simoniac Dossier of BM Reims Ms. 15 and the *Collectio Sinemuriensis*,” which appeared in *Zeitschrift der Savigny-Stiftung fuer Rechtsgeschichte: Kanonistische Abteilung* 108 (2022): 65-110. He and a colleague are putting finishing touches on their annotated source collection, *The Medieval Clergy, c.800-1250: A Reader*, which with luck should be published next year with Pontifical Institute of Mediaeval Studies Press in Toronto.



His Excellency, King John Ott’s throne and book parapets

Marc Rodriguez (with assistance from Chair **John Ott**, **Andrea Janda**, **Jeff Brown**, Dr. **Brenda Frink**, and the many PSU history faculty and students who volunteered) hosted the Pacific Coast Branch of the American Historical Association Meeting (PCB-AHA) at Portland State University's campus this August. The PCB-AHA meeting is the oldest continuous gathering of historians on the west coast of the United States. The conference was a success, and a real learning experience, and actually even fun. Cramer Hall was abuzz with historians and students and presentations for two amazing and busy days which attracted faculty from across the nation and world to PSU's campus.



Patricia Schechter @Spaincon2022

Patricia Schechter is in her second year as president of the **Western Association of Women Historians**, and is overseeing a mentorship program for junior scholars funded by a grant from the American Historical Association. Her new book, *Terrible: Life and Labor in Pueblonuevo, 1887-1939* will appear in the Microhistories series of Routledge Press.

Supported with a Franklin Research Grant from the American Philosophical Society and several other PSU sources, Patricia will spend her 2022-23 sabbatical completing her manuscript. She recently keynoted a conference at Kent University in Canterbury, England, on "Identity, State, and Society in Modern Spain."

Jennifer Tappan recently published an article titled "Wandering Epizootics and Zones of Emergence: Constructing Yellow Fever Endemicity in Africa" as part of a Special Section of the journal *Health & Place*, and she co-authored the introduction to the special section: "Histories of Global Health in Africa." She also began writing a book provisionally titled *Global Health Histories in Africa* for the *Africa in World History* series of Ohio University Press together with Melissa Graboyes, Associate Professor of History at the University of Oregon. With COVID and the ongoing obstacles in the continuation of her yellow fever research, she also began to explore a new project examining the history of doula and midwifery childbirth support in Africa, and she trained as a birth doula in order to incorporate participant ethnography in her analysis. Over the summer, she gardened a lot and grew the most massive sunflower in her life to date. She took her kids on an epic backpacking trip to the Eagle Cap Wilderness and together with her PDX to Coast Relay team successfully defended the first-place title in their division.



Jennifer Tappan

Brian Turner (with Richard J. A. Talbert) published *Pliny the Elder's World: Natural History Books 2-6* (Cambridge 2022). Their fresh translation of Pliny's geographic contributions reveals sometimes shocking and oftentimes enduring concerns about human geography, culture, values, and the environment. Pliny's World includes a **digital component** (a searchable map and database) hosted through NYU's Institute for the Study of the Ancient World. Brian's "Celebrating 'Bloodless Victories' in the Roman World" appeared in the *Journal of Military History*. Here, Brian challenges assumptions about the consequences of Rome's representation of and adherence to an understudied but surprisingly widespread aspect of their military culture. Elsewhere he contributed some fifteen entries for Wiley-Blackwell's *The Tacitus Encyclopedia* edited by Victoria Emma Pagan. Available in early 2023, his contributions include an illuminating analysis of Tacitus' presentation of the Roman army. He also published reviews in *Res Militares* and *H-Soz-Kult*. He remains the Department's Graduate Studies Coordinator, and an Associate Editor of the online gazetteer *Pleiades*. For 2022-2023, he has developed a fully online and asynchronous seminar sequence (HST 491/492).

RRWBH 2022 Recap by Chia Yin Hsu



“Capital, Commodities, and Empire: Doing Business at Long Distance,” the 4th Biennial **Richard Robinson Business History Workshop** (RRBHW), at last took place in the spring, from April 21 to April 23, after two years of delay. The co-organizers of the workshop, Professor **Thomas Luckett**, Professor **Chia Yin Hsu**, and Professor **Erika Vause**, their colleague at St. John’s University in New York, had invited over 20 scholars to PSU for the workshop in early 2020, prior to the pandemic lockdown. Amazingly, most of the invitees remained on board despite the long delay.

The workshop opened with a keynote by Professor **Erika Rappaport** (UC Santa Barbara), on sugar, advertising, and public relations in the post-colonial British Empire. Workshop panels included topics on commodities such as tea, coal, palm oil, and animal products; on financial tools and networks such as banking, credit rating, “credibility brokerage,” and contract enforcement; as well as on the technical means and cultural effects of commerce that dealt with railroads, seafaring, interethnic connections, and global trade ties. Covering from the early modern era up to the late twentieth century, workshop papers ranged in geographical focus across several continents (North and South America, German colonial Africa, French Indochina, and the Qing and Russian Empires), and several bodies of water (the Indian Ocean, the Black and the Baltic Seas, the Bering Strait, and the Moscow River).

The presenters themselves hailed from both nearby and afar. The workshop had, for instance, **Mark Metzler** (Univ. of Washington), who spoke on grain market globalization and famines; **Ilya Vinkovetsky** (Simon Fraser Univ.), on the Russian tea market; and **Cheryl S. McWatters** (Univ. of Ottawa), on the French slave trade. Other participants included **Paula Vedoveli** (Fundação Getúlio Vargas, Brazil), **Daniel Strum** (Univ. of São Paulo, Brazil), **Michel Abesser** (Univ. of Freiburg, Germany), **Christoph Nitschke** (Univ. of Oxford, UK), **Alexei V. Kraikovski** (Univ. of Genoa, Italy), **Julia Leikin** (Higher School of Economics, Moscow), **David Rainbow** (Univ. of Houston), **Robert Geraci** (Univ. of Illinois, Urbana Champaign), and **Jonathan Robins** (Michigan Technological Univ.).

Conducted as a primarily in-person event, the workshop included remote participation as well. This allowed us to bring in presenters who were unable to travel, **James R. Fichter** (Univ. of Hong Kong, China), **Lin Sun** (Beijing Normal Univ., China), and a few others.

The 4th Biennial RRBHW wrapped up after three days. In all, the workshop presented 21 papers, including two graduate student works. As we workshopped and took breaks to walk around and, on Saturday, to drop by the farmers’ market, we also took away a cumulative story of the panels—that of the still salient place of empire in shaping commerce, finance, and commodity flow.

Giving to the Department of History

If you are interested in contributing to the History Department, you can provide support to a specific fund by noting on your contribution where you would like your money to go or donate securely at the [PSU Foundation website](#). 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 Lecture 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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