

HISTORY FROM THE HILL

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FROM THE CHAIR

I am happy to welcome all our students, undergraduate and graduate, back to campus. I extend a special welcome to students in the class of 2015 and to our new graduate students. I invite you to visit the History Department in East Hall, knock on our office doors, and introduce yourselves.

As a cornerstone of the humanities and social sciences at Tufts, the History Department plays a vital role in the intellectual life of our campus. I hope that you will check out our de-

partment website at ase.tufts.edu/history. You will find useful information on major requirements, faculty, and course descriptions. In addition, unique among the departments at Tufts, the history department website includes a list of courses we intend to offer each fall and spring semester for the next three years, to help you plan your undergraduate career.

The History Department is happy to welcome two new full-time faculty members. **Christopher Schmidt-Nowara** joins us



Prof. Virginia G. Drachman

this fall from Fordham University as the new holder of the Prince of Asturias Chair

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WHAT'S NEWS IN EAST HALL

In October 2010, [The New Ways of History: Developments in Historiography](#) was published by Tauris Academic Studies. The series of essays addresses the problems faced by historians in interpreting and teaching history. Professor **Ina Baghdiantz-McCabe** wrote Chapter 12 of this text, titled "On the Study of Diasporas." The chapter focuses on the history of the study of diasporas and how the term itself has evolved.

Professor **Benjamin Carp**'s book [Defiance of](#)

[the Patriots: The Boston Tea Party and the Making of America](#) was released in October 2010 from Yale University Press. It was the recipient of the 2010 "Best Book on the Era of the American Revolution Award" given by the American Revolution Round Table of New York, and it was selected as a 2011 Must-Read book by the Massachusetts Center for the Book. Professor Carp himself was listed as one of the "Top Young Historians" by the History News Network of George

Mason University. The list is composed of those scholars "who have made outstanding contributions to the discipline in their area of research through their commitment and achievement to scholarship and teaching. They are also highly regarded outside academia for their expertise, and many are consulted by the popular media".

In March 2011, Professor **David Ekbladh** won the 2011 Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations Stuart L. Bernath Book Prize for

best first book in American foreign relations. This book, titled [The Great American Mission: Modernization and the Construction of an American World Order](#), (Princeton University Press, 2010), also won the 2010 Phi Alpha First Book Award.

The Harvard Board of Overseers named Professor **Leila Fawaz** as president of the executive committee for 2011-2012.

Professor **Elizabeth Foster** was named a 2010-

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2011 HISTORY AWARDS

Each year, the Department of History awards a series of prizes to deserving Tufts undergraduates. Here are the prizes that were awarded in Spring 2011 and their recipients.

The **Albert H. Imlah European History Prize** is presented for distinguished work in the history of Western civilization. This year's prize was awarded to **David Lerer**, (LA '11) and **Lindsay Rutishauser**, (LA '11).

The **Albert H. Imlah Excellence in History Prize** is awarded to a senior in recognition of outstanding achievement in History. This year's recipients of the Imlah Excellence in History Prize were **Adam Evans**, (LA '11), **Matthew Steinberg**, (LA '11), and **Michael Steinberg**, (LA '11).

The **Russell E. Miller History Prize** is awarded to an undergraduate of exceptional ability whose participation in advanced history courses has demonstrated an eagerness to explore problems of historical analysis and interpretation. The 2011 Miller History Prize was presented to **Claire Mauksch** (LA '11).

The **Daughters of the Revolution Prize Scholarship** is awarded on recommendation of the History Department to a student demonstrating marked interest in American colonial history as well as excellence in scholarship. This year's prize scholarship was awarded to **Rachel Knecht**, (LA '11).

The **Gerald R. Gill Prize** is awarded annually for the best paper written for a history research seminar. The award recognizes outstanding research and exceptional analysis. The Gerald R. Gill Prize was presented to **Nathaniel Ingraham**, (LA '12).

The **Vida H. Allen Prize** is awarded annually to the undergraduate History major who is judged to have written the best honors thesis during that academic year. This year's recipient was **David Lerer**, (LA '11). His thesis was entitled "The Rhetoric of Revolution and Reality: Boulangism and Mass Politics in France", and it examined the political drama surrounding French General George Boulanger, who enjoyed great personal popularity in late 1880s France. Indeed, Boulanger was so widely admired that many people expected him to overthrow the Republic and establish a dictatorship. In a truly impressive feat of research, David combed through a vast pile of memoirs and newspaper articles in the original French to provide insight on how both supporters and detractors portrayed the General and the threat he posed to Third Republic France.

THE NEW FACES OF HISTORY

Professor Christopher Schmidt-Nowara *Prince of Asturias Chair in Spanish Culture and Civilization*

Christopher Schmidt-Nowara is a historian of Spain, the Spanish overseas empire, and of slavery and abolition in the Hispanic world. He joins the Tufts History Department after teaching for more than ten years at Fordham University, where he became a full professor in 2008. He received his B.A. from Kenyon College in 1988 and his Ph.D. from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor in 1995. At Fordham, in addition to teaching classes on Spanish, Caribbean, and Latin-American history, he served as the Director of the Latin American and Latino Studies Institute and as Magis Distinguished Professor. His first teaching position was at Stanford University, and he has been a visiting professor and fellow at the University of Puerto Rico, the University of São Paulo, Princeton, and the Fernand Braudel Center at Binghamton. He is the author and editor of several books, including The Conquest of History: Spanish Colonialism and National Histories in the Nineteenth Century and, most recently, Slavery, Freedom, and Abolition in Latin America and the Atlantic World. His current research on Spanish prisoners of war in Europe and the Americas reflects his long-standing interest in the problems of freedom, slavery, and captivity in the Iberian world. He has served widely in the profes-

sion, currently as head of the committee for the Lydia Cabrera Prize in Cuban History and as a member of the Executive Committee of the Association for Spanish & Portuguese Historical Studies, the annual meeting of which he will host at Tufts in the spring semester. The Department of History welcomes him as the Prince of Asturias Chair in Spanish Culture and Civilization.

Lecturer Joshua Hill

Joshua Hill will receive his Ph.D. in modern Chinese history from Harvard University in November 2011. His dissertation, entitled, "Voting as a Rite: Changing Ideas of Elections in Early Twentieth Century China," uses archival and rare library materials to investigate popular perceptions of voting in mainland China from the reign of the last emperors to the early years of the Communist government. Before graduate school, he spent several years as an English teacher in Chinese schools in mainland China's Zhejiang and Hunan provinces. His research interests include the political history of Republican China, the history of Chinese newspapers, and the circulation of political ideas.

WHAT'S NEWS

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2011 Neubauer Faculty Fellow at Tufts University. Additionally, she won a Fulbright Award to conduct research in the summer of 2012 in France for an upcoming book, tentatively titled, "Decolonizing Faith." In this book, Professor Foster plans to examine how French missionaries in West Africa handled the transition to indigenous leadership of the Church in the context of African political independence.

The December 2010/January 2011 issue of *Ebony Magazine* named Professor **Peniel Joseph** an "Emerging Leader" in their Power 100 issue. He wrote a cover essay on Manning Marable's Malcolm X biography, and it was published by The Chronicle of Higher Education on May 6, 2011. Professor Joseph both planned and participated in a panel at the July 23, 2011 Harlem Book Fair on the new Malcolm X biography. The event was broadcast live on C-SPAN. In June 2011, Professor Joseph gave talks at the University of Nantes and Sorbonne Nouvelle in Paris

where he spoke about the Stokely Carmichael biography that he is currently working on. Throughout the 2010/2011 academic year, Professor Joseph gave talks to community groups in Roxbury, academic audiences at Harvard, and high school students at Cambridge Ridge and Latin, all related to race, democracy, civil rights, Black Power, and Haitian history.

In his new book, Special Relations: The Americanization of Britain? (Stanford University Press, 2011), Professor **Howard Malchow** reevaluates Anglo-American cultural exchange by exploring metropolitan London's culture and counterculture from the 1950s to the 1970s.

Professor **Kris Manjapra** and colleagues have been awarded a National Endowment for the Humanities Collaborate Research Grant for their project on "Bengali Intellectuals in the Age of Decolonization". Professor Manjapra's book, M.N. Roy: Marxism and Colonial Cosmopolitanism (Routledge), was released in

February 2010.

Professor **Reed Ueda** is a member of an editorial team that is producing the Atlas of Boston History to be published by the University of Chicago Press. Additionally, he was named a Distinguished Lecturer by the Organization of American Historians.

Professor Emeritus **Howard Solomon** is the 2011 recipient of the Sampson Center for Diversity Catalyst for Change Award and will be honored at a dinner on October 20, 2011 at the Keeley Banquet Center in Portland, Maine. The award is sponsored by the Jean Byers Sampson Center for Diversity in Maine. As a University of Southern Maine Scholar-in-Residence, Howard helped develop the Center's LGBT Collection. He has also contributed to public programming and exhibitions in support of EqualityMaine and Maine Initiatives. All are welcome to attend or contribute to the Catalyst for Change Award Dinner.

Lata Parwani, a Ph.D. candidate in South

Asian history, was selected to participate in the National History Center's sixth international seminar on decolonization which took place in the summer of 2011 in Washington DC. The Seminar is co-sponsored by the American Historical Association and the John W. Kluge Center for the Library of Congress, and supported by the Mellon Foundation.

Ms. Parwani participation was based on her thesis topic, "From Homeland to Motherland: Reflections on the Sindhi Hindu Exodus, 1947-1949."

In addition, Ms. Parwani has received a Gaius Charles Bolin Fellowship at Williams College for 2011-2013. During the two-year residency, fellows devote the bulk of the first year to the completion of their doctoral dissertation, and teach one course as a faculty member in one of the College's academic departments or programs. During the second year, the fellows again teach one course, and spend their remaining time on academic career development.

ALUMNI NEWS

Duncan Pickard (LA '10) started a master's program at the Harvard Kennedy School in Fall 2010, studying Middle Eastern politics and U.S. foreign policy. He had an internship this summer with the International Foundation for Electoral Systems in Tunis, Tunisia, working with the transitional government to hold the first elections since the revolution. IFES is providing technical assistance to the government, helping to rewrite the electoral code, and advising on voter education programs. He also spent a couple weeks conducting research in Egypt. He returned this fall for his second year at Harvard before going to law school.

HISTORY FROM THE HILL—NEWSLETTER OF THE HISTORY DEPARTMENT AT TUFTS UNIVERSITY

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CHAIR

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in Spanish Culture and Civilization. In the spring semester, **Hugh Roberts**, currently Director of the North Africa Project, International Crisis Group in Cairo, will join the department as the first Edward Keller Professor in the History of North Africa and the Middle East. We also welcome Joshua Hill as a Lecturer, who will teach a course on China in both the fall and spring semesters.

I invite all of you with a special interest in History to join our History Society. You can learn details about it in the History Department office in East Hall 010. The History Society provides an opportunity for you to get involved in the department beyond your course work, to get to know faculty outside the classroom, and to help plan undergraduate events. The Society also offers the chance to participate in the production of an impressive journal, *The Tufts History Review*, which publishes annually the best work of our majors.

I look forward to working with you all in a challenging new year.

HISTORY SOCIETY UPDATE

History Society is overflowing with ideas for the upcoming semester. In the past, we have gone on historical-themed trips all over New England. Last semester, we explored the USS Constitution, the world's oldest commissioned warship that is still afloat nearby in the Boston Harbor. We also went on a day-trip to Plimoth Plantation, a recreation of a seventeenth-century English village, a Wampanoag village and the Mayflower. In previous years we have visited Newport Mansions, magnificent Gilded-Age houses, as well as Salem and other historical sites. We have also made a trip to Durgin-Park in Quincy Market, a historic restaurant (with delicious food) dating back to 1742. This semester, who knows where we will go? We might visit sites from our colonial past, or something from as recent in history as the Civil Rights Movement.

History Society meets biweekly and enjoys pizza and interesting conversations. In the past, we have debated which historical figures we would marry, best and worst historical movies and books, which was the greatest invention, and which historical figures would win in one-on-one fights. This fall, we will continue our tradition of quirky and insightful topics, and we welcome members new and old. As it comes time to sign up for classes for the next semester, we have a course advising night, in which majors and non-majors get the inside scoop on the upcoming history course offerings.

In addition to our conversations and trips, we also have movie nights. In the past, we have watched such movies as *The Last Samurai* and *Braveheart* (and learned how unhistorical

they are from Tufts professors), and we will continue to watch more historical movies this upcoming semester. We also work with the Tufts Historical Review to sponsor a lecture each year, and we look forward to the lecture this year.

We are made up of majors and non-majors, and this semester we have a new team leading the club: Emily German '12 and Karen Adler '13 as co-presidents; Tomas Manghi '13 as Treasurer; Tori Stevenson '13 as Secretary; and Lindsey Wright '13 as Trip Planner. Fall 2011 is going to be a blast of a semester, and we can't wait for History Society meetings to begin.

For more information, please contact the History Society at tuftshistory@gmail.com or David Proctor at david.proctor@tufts.edu.

BY KAREN ADLER

HISTORY CAREER NIGHT

BY ELIZABETH FOSTER

On March 10, 2011 the Department reprised last year's "Careers for History Majors" evening event, co-sponsored by the History Society and Career Services. A panel of five history alumni from a variety of fields and career stages returned to campus to speak about their experiences since graduating from Tufts. Panelists included John Rumppler '88, an environmental lawyer and activist, Jennifer Scherck '08, a National Teaching Fellow at Citizens' schools, Duncan Pickard '10, a graduate student at the Kennedy School of Government, Benjamin Tarshis '07, a sales representative for Bascom-Turner Instruments and formerly a college advisor for the National College Advising Corps, and Alice Tin '10, a graduate student in public health at Tufts Medical School. Professor Alisha Rankin collated and updated a lengthy brochure for students listing the contact information and career advice of alums that attended and others who could not make it. Donna Esposito from Career Services was very helpful in putting the event together, as was Elizabeth Metzger, the President of the History Society. The alums seemed very happy to be back and to participate, and students made some valuable connections.

2010-2011 GEORGE A. DAVID FELLOW

BY ERIN SHANAHAN

Erin Shanahan is a Senior majoring in Greek and Latin. She spent the Fall 2010 Semester in Athens, Greece on the College Year in Athens (CYA) Study Abroad Program. This abroad experience was made possible by the George A. David Fellowship which provides a full scholarship for the CYA program to one student per year.

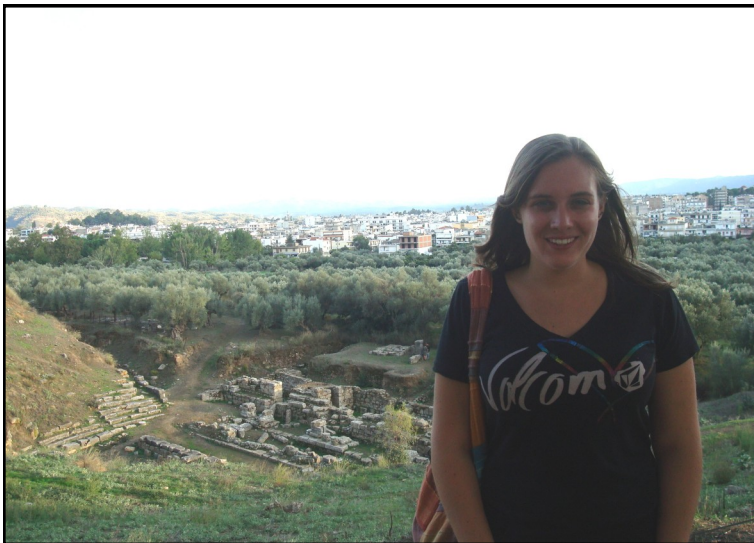
I would like to thank Mr. George David for providing me with this wonderful opportunity.

Greece has been in the news a lot lately, and not exactly in a positive light. With its suffering economy and sometimes violent demonstrations, it is easy for outsiders to get only a negative view of the country. Greece, however, has so much more to it than austerity cuts and riot police. After spending four months living in Athens and traveling around Greece and the Mediterranean, I have a much greater appreciation for both the history of the region and the modern culture.

During our first week in Athens, my program, CYA, took us on a tour of our neighborhood, Kolonaki. We saw where the grocery stores and the post office were, where to find the best *spanakopita* (spinach pie) and which route was the quickest to get to class. Then suddenly we turned a corner and had a clear view of the Parthenon. This walk around Athens made me realize that there is no distinct line between antiquity and the modern-day as I had always imagined, but rather that the city has a beautiful mix of the ancient and the modern.

Throughout the semester, I had the opportunity to learn about Greek history at many of the places where it actually happened. CYA took us on a week-long field trip to Crete, where we saw Knossos and other Minoan ruins, some of the first real sites of civilization in the Mediterranean. It was astounding to see the complex palace of Knossos with its plumbing and colorful frescoes, and to imagine that such an architectural feat was accomplished and then mysteriously destroyed 3600 years ago.

CYA also took us on a trip to the Peloponnese, where we toured Mycenaean ruins, several hundred years younger than what we saw on Crete. Mycenae, home to Agamemnon, was the richest palace of its time, with two grave circles that held more gold than had ever been discovered in a single location in Greece. We also saw the ruins of Sparta, the seat of Agamemnon's brother Menelaus. Little was being done to preserve the site, so we were able to get up close to the ruins

*The Parthenon**Erin at Sparta*

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DAVID FELLOWSHIP CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

and read inscriptions, sing in the amphitheater and pretend to kick each other into wells like in the movie *300*. Our last destination on this trip was Delphi, where the oracle of Apollo was. This was my favorite site – one of the most important sites of ancient Greece, nestled right next to a cute little mountain village. Delphi was the perfect example of modern civilization living alongside and benefiting from ancient history.

I also had the chance to do some exploring around Greece on my own. One weekend, a friend and I went to Meteora in central Greece. Literally meaning “suspended in the air,” Meteora is a group of rock pillars with Byzantine-era monasteries built on top. We hiked to each of the six remaining monasteries, enjoying both the breathtaking view from the mountain tops and the beautiful religious art inside. I had never known much about the Byzantine era before, but after taking a class on it with CYA and supplementing it with several trips to the Byzantine Museum (quite possibly my favorite museum in Athens, and there are a lot to choose from), I had a much better understanding and appreciation for this period and its art.

As a Classics major, I had only ever concentrated on the past, and never gave much thought to modern Athens and the culture associated with it. But while living there, I did my best to absorb this culture and blend in. I learned the art of making an iced coffee last two hours, and I joined the locals as they bought fruit from the open-air market on my street every Friday, conversing only in Greek with the vendors. Although we were not allowed to join the demonstrations and protests, sometimes we would go and watch.

Greece is a great example of how to blend history and the present. Traces of the country’s history are found not only in the many ruined monuments and temples scattered all over the country, but also in the customs and traditions of the people. Although old men no longer gather at the Agora to discuss business and politics, they can be found debating each other in cafes over a cup of coffee. The first democracy still voices their opinions by gathering in public and protesting when they do not like what is going on with their country. It may have its problems, but Greece is nevertheless a fascinating country, and one can learn a lot from studying both its past and its present.



Sanctuary of Athena Pronaia at Delphi



The geological phenomenon of Meteora



A demonstration in Athens