

# History *from the* Hill

<http://ase.tufts.edu/pandp>

History Department

Fall 2003

Volume X, Issue I

## What's News in East Hall

Professor **Gerald Gill** was an academic advisor for the documentary film series "This Far By Faith: African-American Spiritual Journeys," produced by Blackside, Inc., and The Faith Project, Inc., which aired on PBS stations in late June 2003. In addition, he is an academic advisor for "SLAM DUNK: Basketball and the American Century," a documentary film series currently under production by Roundtable, Inc. Professor Gill has also taken over the duties of Deputy Chair of the History Department from Professor Beatrice Manz who will be

on leave for the 2003-2004 academic year.

Professor **Gary Leupp's** third book, Inter-racial Intimacy in Japan: Western Men and Japanese Women, 1543-1900 (London: Continuum), was published in July 2003.

Professor **Beatrice Manz** has received a one-year membership from the School for Historical Studies at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton as well as a Tufts Faculty Research Award Committee (FRAC) grant.

Professor **Reed Ueda** is an Associate of the Center for American Political Studies at Harvard Uni-

versity, where he is working on a study (with Professor Mary C. Waters) of new immigrant populations based on U. S. Census data collected in the last half of the twentieth century. He will also be organizing a workshop there on the political incorporation of immigrants.

The History Department is pleased to welcome Dr. **Abby Zanger**, full-time Lecturer in Gender and Sexuality, **Awad Eddie Halabi**, full-time Lecturer on the Modern Middle East, and Dr. **Ya-Pei Kuo**, Assistant Professor in Chinese History. Stay tuned to future edi-

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tions of the newsletter for brief profiles of these additions to the History Department faculty.

## Alumni News

After working in the publishing industry, **Lorie Stoopack**, LA '96, will be a first-year student at the New York University Law School.

**Lyle Mays**, LA '95, is a first-year student at the University of Miami Law School, after working for eight years and playing in three bands.

Previously having worked in the District At-

torney's office in Lawrence, MA. for two years, **Juan Tejada**, LA '01, has enrolled at the Northeastern University School of Law.

**Gregory Staiti**, LA '99, has enrolled at the American University School of Law.

After graduating from Tufts and after finishing a post-baccalaureate program at Harvard, **Greg-**

**ory Rudolph**, LA '97, is enrolled at the University of Vermont Medical School.

**Ethan Steward**, LA '99, graduated from the University of Chicago Law School in June. Pending passage of the New York Bar Examination, Ethan who has been commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the Marine Corps, will begin his military ser-

vice in the Judge Advocate General's office.

**Adam Goodman**, LA '03, has started working as an Admissions Counselor on campus.

**Josh Cohen**, LA '03, will be working as a Research Coordinator at the Tufts University Dental School.

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# Perspectives

by David Proctor

It is hard to believe it has been ten years since the History Department first inaugurated what would become History from the Hill. In that time the History Department and the newsletter itself have undergone a multitude of changes. We hope to make this, our tenth anniversary year, the best yet.

In celebration of our anniversary, the *Perspectives* feature will serve as something of a conduit for examining, to paraphrase Yeats, what has passed, how it has influenced what is passing and how it will shape what is to come. For this, the first *Perspectives* piece of our 10th anniversary year, I thought it not inappropriate to take a quick look back at the history of the newsletter itself.

For my own part, this marks my seventh year of involvement with the newsletter. The year I started, Professor Beatrice Manz had just taken over the reins from Professor Leila Fawaz, the newsletter's founder and first faculty advisor. Following Professor Manz, Professor Ina Baghdiantz-McCabe served as faculty advisor, being succeeded in the fall of 2002 by Professor George Marcopoulos. I remember the first time I met with Professor Manz to discuss an article she had asked me to write. I was incredibly nervous, especially since the deadline for the next issue was looming large. The situation only got more interesting when I learned that the other student on the newsletter staff was not only rarely available, but would soon pull a quite effective disappearing act. In those days the deadlines for the newsletter were not flexible. I still remember vividly sitting in East 14 late into the evenings trying first and foremost to figure out how in the blazes Adobe Pagemaker actually worked! Fortunately I managed to figure it out in time to meet the deadline. What a relief, until of course I realized it was soon going to be time to start gathering stories for the next issue!

Over the years the format, size and frequency of the newsletter have changed, but what has remained constant is our commitment to not only highlighting the latest achievements of department faculty and keeping up to date on the accomplishments of past and current history majors, both undergraduates and graduate students, but also to offering in each issue something that hopefully makes our readers think. Whether that be our *Perspectives* segment, which allows faculty, staff and students to offer their own takes on history; our *Profiles* segment, which over the course of three years offered profiles of all the history department faculty; or a story about a new program, new course or a new adventure that someone in the department has undertaken.

For the last five years the newsletter has been ably assisted by, without doubt, the best copy editor anyone could ever ask for. History Department Secretary Mary-Ann Kazanjian has a knowledge of English grammar, style and word usage that is quite simply unparalleled. If only the editor managed to always include all of her corrections! Without her, not only would our readers enjoy the occasional typo, but the sheer ineptness of the newsletter editor when it comes to comma usage would be more than readily apparent.

As we begin the 2003-2004 academic year, the university itself stands at the brink facing the incredible opportunities and immense pitfalls brought on by the looming spectre of change. The Undergraduate Task Force Report to be followed this September by a similar report from the Graduate Education Council include proposals that promise to alter the very nature and fabric of this university. How many of these changes will be implemented and how they may or may not impact the History Department and the broader Arts and Humanities community at Tufts remains to be seen. In all times of change, however, there seems to be the occasional constant. We know, for example, that regardless of how cold it might be in the first weeks of October, there won't be any heat in most campus buildings until October 15. We know that on any given Saturday or Sunday during the academic year there will be at least three, if not more, history faculty working away in their offices. We know, also, that regardless of what might happen, the History Department newsletter will be published. No academic year in the last ten has been completed without a newsletter and no academic year in the next ten will either, that you can count on.

I also want to take a moment to thank all those faculty, students and staff who have helped through the years by supplying articles, news and everything needed to keep the newsletter going. It is thanks to your support and dedication that the newsletter has endured and will continue to thrive.

So, welcome to our tenth year. We hope you enjoy this and all our subsequent issues. To steal a phrase from my favorite singer, "the best is yet to come!"

# Book Review

by Ina Baghdiantz-McCabe

Empire by Michael Hardt and Antonio Negri, Harvard University Press, 2000.

Everywhere I went during my travels this summer people were reading or discussing Empire, even if they had not read it. No one would be caught admitting not having read it, which marks the true importance of a book that people chose to love or hate. Michael Hardt and Antonio Negri's bold work about the new political order of globalization and its consequences is not new. The book was shaped into being by Leslie Waters of Harvard University Press and it shook Boston's intellectual world by storm two years ago, but its real popularity dates to this summer. Since many readers see it as dealing with American imperialism, the events in Iraq have brought the book to the forefront in Europe and the Middle-East as well as in the U.S. Actually, reading the book might well destroy the vision of anything national or nation-based, including imperialism. Being an academic, I usually meet scholars wherever I go, so this is why I may be under the illusion that this is the most popular reading of the summer of 2003. Its philosophical tone, mostly set by Antonio Negri of the University of Padua, makes it an arduous read for the average person unfamiliar with a long history of political philosophy, but it seems not to have stopped anybody, and the reason might be the book's global ambitions to address the future and explain the present. Padua, where Negri teaches, shaped much of the Renaissance thinking that is referred to in the conclusion of the book. Many political utopias were shaped in the Renaissance; Empire is their worthy descendant, both as a work of political philosophy and as a utopian agenda for mankind's future, a subject few academic books address. Many translations of the book have appeared and I heard discussions from people who were reading it in Greek, French or Persian, groups with imperial pasts of their own, now deeply engaged in condemning the United States for its imperial policies. Whether people liked the book or not was largely a political matter. This is clearly a book that belongs to the left and as such, it stands alone facing the many books summing up the world's order produced by the intellectual right, such as Samuel Huntington's *Clash of Civilizations* or the works by Francis Fukuyama. No matter where they stood on the political front, most people I met had read it, or pretended to have, and more importantly, none of them had stayed indifferent. Some found it utterly ridiculous; others think it is the most brilliant book written in the past decade. I believe it will bring heated debate in any classroom as it addresses central issues that any student would find of interest: globalization, the new world order, and more importantly, personal security in the age of information and increased regulations and surveillance.

Hardt and Negri link philosophical and cultural transformation to economic changes in the society we live in--the most interesting part for my own purposes as someone interested in networks, diaspora and transnationalism is their analysis of the social effects of new networks of communication and control, and new paths of migration that go beyond the nation-state in our new transnational globalized world. Startling to some readers might be the fact that Empire, despite the bleak present it analyzes, is also an optimistic utopian work that predicts the possibility of a real democratic global society. It has been called "a new Communist Manifesto" possibly in part because one of the authors, Antonio Negri, is serving a prison sentence for activity in the Italian far-left and has written from prison, just as the more famous Gramsci had before him. It is certainly neo-Marxist, as one reads phrases such as "the last stage of capitalism," but what it prescribes is not the victory of one group over another, but hope for the pacification of the entire world. It may surprise some readers to learn that the book has been praised by some of the most conservative students and scholars that I know; they, too are interested in the struggle between transnational capitalism and the state. Michael Hardt, an American literary theorist owes a large debt to the French left, mostly to Michel Foucault and his visions of a society of surveillance attempting to control the constant flow of people traveling, of information and wealth being exchanged through creating more and more regulations aiming to monitor and control—their optimistic conclusion that this flow may be too fast, too ample and especially too unruly to control is in contradiction with the dark predictions of many political analysts who see the world progressing towards totalitarianism and a society of successful surveillance. A comparison between the role of NGO's to the Franciscan and Dominican orders as the "mendicant orders of Empire" are just some of the very creative parallels made with other periods of history. Some of these parallels will make historians uncomfortable, but they will still elicit some reflection.

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## Empire

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Empire, after analyzing economic and imperial exploitation at length, seeks a better alternative for humanity, and, in doing so, the authors are rather unique in an age where it is believed that idealism and utopia are no longer in the ethos of most university students, or of any one else for that matter, or so it seems. The authors believe that idealism and rebellion are close at hand despite the corruption that has overtaken everything. Contentions such as the one that even the pessimistic St. Augustine, who wrote that great reigns were only larger projections of lesser thieves, would “be struck dumb by today’s little thieves of monetary and financial power” can clarify some of the jargon for those looking for the bottom line, and for those who might have forgotten or never read Augustine, yes the divine city was “a universal city of aliens, coming together and cooperating.”

## News

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**Edward (Ted) Hutchinson**, GS ‘00, is a staff historian and reading room supervisor at the Massachusetts Historical Society.

**Austin Tracey**, LA ‘03, is the new Executive Assistant to the President of the American Foreign Service Association.

**Kim Frederick**, GS ‘99, is working on her dissertation as a Ph. D. candidate at Brandeis University. In September, she began teaching American History courses at Concord Academy.

**Sara Keddy**, LA ‘01, entered the M.A. Program in Organizational Communications and Management at Emerson College.

**Colin Wetherill**, LA ‘03, is working at J.P. Morgan Securities in New York.

**Mary C. Doyle**, LA ‘03, is teaching Humanities at Charlestown High School in Boston.

**Adrian Wilairat**, LA ‘01, is enrolled at the University of Maryland School of Law.

**Christopher Mitchell**, LA ‘02, received his Master of Philosophy degree in International Relations from Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge University. The title of his thesis was “Post-Traditional Nationalism: The Continued Importance of Re-Imagining Britishness in the Wake of September 11.”

**Matthew Oster**, LA ‘01, has started the M.A. Program at the School of Advanced International Studies at Johns Hopkins University

**Thomas Amdur**, LA ‘03, has started work at a legislative research and communications analyst at Stateside Associates, a lobbying firm in Washington, D.C.

**Paul Hirsch**, LA ‘97, has started a Ph.D. Program in Cold War History, coupled with a National Science Foundation Fellowship in “Public Policy and the Nuclear Threat” at the University of California, Santa Barbara.

## History Department 2003 Prizes

**Vida H. Allen Prize**  
Eugene C. Schiff LA ‘03

**Albert H. Imlah Excellence in History Prize**  
Eugene C. Schiff LA ‘03

**The Russell E. Miller History Prize**  
Mary C. Doyle J’03

**Albert H. Imlah European History Prize**  
Hillary J. Dunn J’03  
Alexander B. Spiro LA ‘05

**The Prospect Hill Chapter, Daughters of the Revolution Prize**  
Fraser B. Ireland LA ‘03

*The History Department congratulates all of the recipients!!*

### *History from the Hill Staff*

*George J. Marcopoulos*  
Faculty Advisor

*David J. Proctor*  
Editor

*Mary-Ann Kazanjian*  
Copy Editor

# Thesis Honors Program - "The Thesis Exchange" 2003-2004 *by Jeanne Penvenne*

## **Basic Criteria and Processes for Thesis Honors :**

The Thesis Honors Program for Liberal Arts at Tufts is detailed in the Bulletin. The key criteria are briefly described below.

### **Basic Criteria**

Students must have made the Dean's List at least once in order to register for Thesis Honors. Honors Theses are a two course credit commitment. Thesis Honors should overlap significantly with a Senior Research Seminar. Students may not count a Senior Research Seminar for the first half of a Senior Honors Thesis--the two must remain distinct.

### **The Committee**

The student's advisor and the chair of the department must agree to register the student for Thesis Honors through the Dean of the College Office.

The student is required to identify and secure the participation of her/ his thesis committee. In practice the thesis director often collaborates in that process. The director may not be on sabbatical or leave during either of the two semesters of thesis commitment. The thesis director and all thesis readers must agree on the student's preliminary title, thesis statement and preliminary bibliography before the student's application to the Thesis Honors Program is submitted to the Dean of the Colleges.

The thesis committee is comprised of the thesis director and two readers. The thesis director and one reader must hold appointments in History, and at least one reader MUST hold an appointment in another department or program.

### **Thesis submission and evaluation:**

The completed thesis must be presented for consideration no later than two weeks before the last day of classes of the student's final semester. Each candidate for a degree with thesis honors is required to undergo examination of the thesis. The thesis advisory committee assigns a grade for the thesis and determines the level of thesis honors to be awarded, basing its recommendation on both the final oral and written presentation of the thesis.

Thesis students receive a Y at the end of the first semester. The grade assigned by the committee at the end of the second semester counts for both thesis credits. The thesis advisory committee may recommend highest honors, high honors, honors or no honors. If the thesis is recommended for no honors, but is still deemed worthy of credit, the student receives two credits with whatever letter grade designation the committee assigns.

### **History's "Thesis Exchange" Faculty / Student Seminar**

Thesis students typically meet weekly with their thesis committee director, and periodically with their readers. The "Thesis Exchange" Seminar is designed to complement these meetings, not to replace them. The Thesis Exchange brings together all thesis students and faculty for inspiration, sharing of information, and mutual support. We gather informally with wine, cider, cheese and crackers to discuss the process and challenges of thesis writing.

## **Thesis Exchange Meetings for 2003-2004 Fall Semester - Wine, Cider, Cheese & Crackers**

### **Fall Semester Meetings**

#### **First Meeting - September 17th 5:00 - 6:20 East Hall Lounge**

As soon as all students have submitted their paperwork to the Dean of the College, the students, their directors and readers gather to meet one another, exchange email addresses, secure a mutually convenient meeting time, and develop a strategy for the year's "Thesis Exchange." We begin a consideration of research methods and thesis support.

#### **Second Meeting - October 15th 5:00 - 6:20 East Hall Lounge**

Two faculty members volunteer to present their current research and discuss their personal research and writing techniques, methods and strategies. Ideally faculty will have contrasting methods, thus introducing students to different ways of approaching research, writing and the profession.

Electronic research, the consortium, interlibrary loan, microfilm, the Center for Research Libraries -- these research and reference tools are highlighted, and students are urged to front load research because it will take time to secure

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## Thesis Exchange

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material through inter-library loan. The fact that a book, article or document is not on the shelf of the Tufts library is no excuse for ignoring it. Virtually everything a student needs to use can be acquired in some form or another.

If the student can demonstrate that she/he needs to visit a research collection some distance from Tufts the student should apply to "the usual suspects" (department chair, dean of the colleges, Provost, programs, etc.) for funding at this stage. The initial "introduction to the ropes," is followed by questions, answers, and a general discussion of the problems the students face launching their research.

### **Student Interim Meeting -**

**Date, Place & Time determined by students, History buys pizza.**

Students gather (refreshments provided by History) to discuss the challenges they are facing, questions they have, etc. If the students feel it would be useful to have another general meeting with faculty to address these questions (as opposed to simply addressing them individually with their thesis advisory committees), such a meeting is scheduled.

### **Third Meeting - November 19th 5:00 - 6:20 East Hall Lounge**

Faculty and students gather to assess the progress made to date and to develop strategies for moving from the information gathering and organization phase to the writing process. Inter-session writing strategies and Spring Semester Deadlines should be set. Students are reminded of thesis writing support through the Writing Center.

### **THIS IS OPT-OUT TIME**

Any theses that are substantially behind schedule, or seem unlikely to be completed during the second semester should be identified at this point. Students who find themselves in this situation are encouraged to salvage the effort by taking an "incomplete." Students then write up a significantly less ambitious project within the incomplete grace period (the first six weeks of spring term), and submit the revised project to the director as a one-credit independent research project.

### **Spring Semester Meetings**

**First Meeting** - As soon as people have their spring schedules settled, faculty and students meet to take stock of progress in the process of writing up the work. Students exchange thesis chapters and writing experience. This meeting tends to shift from research questions to write-up strategies. Students are reminded that the Writing Center also supports presentation strategies.

### **Second Meeting** - Early March

Final draft and oral presentation / defense questions dominate these meetings. Students will be close to final drafts by this time.

Faculty volunteer to present and critique each other's work.

### **\*\*Final Spring Meeting - "The Thesis Exchange" late April**

This meeting takes place after most students have defended their theses. The full History Faculty, members of the History Society and Sophomores and Juniors who are considering writing a Senior honors thesis are invited to attend. The event is indeed open to the public and advertised in the Daily.

Students briefly "present" their thesis, and discuss what they gained from the experience and what they might do differently were they to begin again. If time allows, thesis students respond to questions from the audience. The formal presentations and less formal discussions are followed by refreshments and a celebration honoring the thesis students.

## Blast from the Past

*Done and Done!*

Since this is our Tenth Anniversary Year, we thought it might be fun to take a look back at the people and events which have helped to write the history of the department for the last decade. If you have any photos you would like featured in our *Blast from the Past* segment, contact David Proctor at david.proctor@tufts.edu.



**Stephen Jacobson " Jake"**

Crack of dawn, fall 1997, having just printed the necessary two copies of his PhD dissertation : "Professionalism, Corporatism, and Catalanism: The Legal Profession in Nineteenth-Century Barcelona" This is what exhaustion and authorship looks like!

Jake is currently a Lecturer in the European Studies Programme at King's College, University of London

*(Photo courtesy of Jeanne Penvenne)*