



Today & Yesterday

Newsletter of the Department of History

Volume 42, 2018

European Studies

By Anthony Crubaugh

Illinois State's newest undergraduate program, a B.A. in European Studies, became official on May 21. Approved by the Board of Trustees in 2016 and the Illinois Board of Higher Education in 2017, the major in European Studies will be housed in History, meaning that the director and administrative support will come from the department. "With a significant contingent of talented Europeanists, some of the best academic advisors on campus, and an unsurpassed record of interdisciplinary collaboration, History is perfectly suited to take the leadership of this exciting and experimental program," said Chairperson Ross Kennedy.

History currently participates in 15 interdisciplinary minors at Illinois State ranging from Children's Studies to Classical Studies. It has an especially significant presence in Women's and Gender Studies and already administers three other important interdisciplinary minors: African-American Studies, African Studies, and Urban



Students enjoy their "Last Supper" in Orvieto, Italy, June 2017

Studies. European Studies, then, will build on History's record of collaboration across disciplines, but it will nevertheless be unique insofar as it constitutes not only a minor (in spring 2018 there were 14 minors, a very healthy number for a new program) but also a major. According to Associate Pro-

vest Jonathan Rosenthal, "European Studies is an innovative model in that it will not require a new department but rather draws on the expertise of numerous departments across three colleges (Arts and Sciences, Business, and Fine Arts), allowing students to develop language skills and core knowledge while exploring their particular interests in interdisciplinary ways."

European Studies denotes the recognized academic field dedicated to the interdisciplinary study of Europe. Programs exist throughout the U.S., but ISU's will be the first such program in the state of Illinois. Although some curricula focus on contemporary developments related to the European Union while others emphasize a broader approach to European culture, history, society, politics, and economics, all European Studies programs are predicated on the assumption that, in both contemporary and historical terms, Europe retains tremendous significance as a geopolitical and cultural entity. Indeed, the European Union alone contains over 500 million inhabitants in its 28 member states and constitutes the world's second-largest economy. In addition, any understanding of the world requires a grasp of what European history has bequeathed—from science, capitalism, and transformative art to horrific world wars, genocide, and colonization. And, of course, the relationship between the U.S. and Europe is among the most important (albeit strained) global partnerships, as European civilization has greatly shaped American political, intellectual, and cultural life.

At ISU, European Studies had its

seeds in crisis but came to fruition as an opportunity for students interested in Europe to craft unique and specialized academic programs. Specifically, the idea for the program in European Studies emerged as the brainchild of German language faculty—Andrew Weeks, James van der Laan, and Elke Segelcke—in the mid-2000s, when diminishing enrollment threatened that program. Determined to defend the teaching and study of German lan-



This summer ISU Orvieto took its largest group of ISU students to Italy. Here they are in Rome, June 2018.

guage and culture, those faculty members, with strong encouragement from the dean, proposed teaching European languages within a broader, interdisciplinary context across the college. History faculty, enjoying close intellectual ties to colleagues in Languages, Literatures, and Cultures (LAN), were early and enthusiastic converts to the idea of European Studies; the department identified the creation of such a program as a key action item in its 2011 strategic plan. Subsequently both LAN and History reiterated the desire for a European Studies program in their respective program reviews. As chair of History from 2009 to 2017, I deemed the creation and implementation of European Studies "one of the department's highest priorities and major achievements" during my tenure.

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Letter from the chair, Ross A. Kennedy

The 2017-2018 academic year has been a time of transition for the History Department. In July, Tony Crubaugh stepped down after eight years of outstanding service as chair. He left the department in great shape, thus making my first year as chair much easier than otherwise would have been the case. In the front office, Sharon Foiles replaced Linda Spencer as lead staff, while Faith Ten Haken took over as our graduate secretary and Kera Storrs, an alumni of our program, now runs the front desk. They've proven to be an effective team, providing excellent support for our faculty and students.

The department has accomplished much this past year. Thanks to our generous donors, we awarded approximately \$62,000 in student scholarships in 2017-2018. For the third straight year our enrollment increased, up 7 percent from 2016-2017. Our applications for fall 2018 are up 40 percent over last year's, and the number of accepted students signing up to attend class in the fall is up 10 percent. We remain the largest History program in the state of Illinois.

It is no wonder students want to come here, given the strength of our faculty. In 2017-2018, faculty members had 14 articles and four books published and gave dozens of presentations to the local community and around the world. They won five major university or college awards for teaching, service, and research, raising the total number of faculty honors won since 2012 to 25.

Our faculty also continued their work in organizing a variety of events that enliven the intellectual life of ISU. We co-hosted the History Symposium, bringing together future teachers and current educators to explore new perspectives on the teaching of history and the social sciences. We again co-organized the Illinois Capitol Forum on America's Future, in which high school students, teachers, and academic experts examined various global issues through a day-long series of workshops and panels. The department sponsored or co-sponsored several speakers on campus too, including Adrienne Dixson (keynote—Black History Month), Janaya Khan (keynote—Women's and Gender Studies Symposium), and Lynn Hunt (Robert G. Bone Distinguished Lecturer). Finally, the European Studies program, led by our colleagues Tony Crubaugh and Katie Jasper, recruited 13 distinguished scholars to speak at the International Seminar Series in spring 2018.

Other notable achievements this past year involved laying the groundwork for the future. We hired an award-winning teacher and scholar, Keith Pluymers, to be our specialist in Early Modern Europe, and we completed our new strategic plan, which will chart the direction of the department over the next five years.

It is an exciting time for the department. Thank you to all of our friends and donors whose support helps make everything we do possible!

European Studies continued from page 1

Neither Rome nor European Studies was built in a day; in fact, the latter took 13 years! For van der Laan, "the European Studies program represents the culmination of many years of planning and effort to launch an academic project of truly interdisciplinary and international scope." After its original conception in 2005, European Studies gained momentum in following years with campus-wide meetings of interested faculty, a European film festival at the Normal Theater, and a successful four-day European Studies Symposium in spring 2015 funded by a grant from the European Union. The well-attended and high-visibility symposium consisted of a speech by the consul general of Poland, two keynote lectures, and a dozen workshop presentations by scholars such as the New America Foundation's Steven Hill, author of *Europe's Promise*, and ISU's (then) Provost Janet Krejci. Fueled by the

symposium's success and again funded by a European Union grant, in summer 2015 a steering committee consisting of Weeks, van der Laan, Kathryn Jasper (History), Lea Cline (Art) and I convened to finally develop the structure and content of the program, ultimately submitting curricular proposals for the minor and major, along with proposals for specific courses, in European Studies.

Because so many institutions offered excellent models, Cline noted that the steering committee saw no need to reinvent a European Studies wheel, but that it did have to establish a set of defining parameters for ISU's program. In crafting a new curriculum, the committee settled on four guiding principles. First, Europe was broadly defined, both geographically and chronologically. As a result, ISU's program does not replicate those focused solely on Western Europe

or on the European Union. Second, language competency and a study abroad experience were deemed critical components of a student's educational experience in order to foster a deeper understanding of European culture and institutions. Next, the program's design balanced courses that provide a shared academic experience and ensure shared knowledge and competencies with the flexibility that allows students to pursue individualized intellectual interests beyond traditional departmental boundaries. Finally, as a practical

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recruiting matter, European Studies ought to overlap with ISU's General Education program and stand as an attractive double major or minor for students.

In concrete terms, the essential components of the European Studies curriculum include core courses, language courses, study abroad, and electives that can be customized to fit a student's individual interests. The core courses begin with a basic survey of Europe (such as IDS 112: Introduction to Europe, or HIS 102: Modern Western Civilization); continue with IDS 212: Europe Today, which stresses contemporary politics and society; and conclude with a capstone seminar, IDS 312: Senior Seminar, in which students will undertake a major research project formulated in consultation with a faculty mentor. In taking 19 credits of language courses—or one course above the intermediate level—European Studies majors will graduate with both language skills and intercultural competence. (Weeks expects the program to be an attractive double major for numerous ISU students already fluent in a continental language such as Polish, Lithuanian, or Spanish.) The requirement that majors study abroad for a semester coincides with ISU's internationalization efforts.

Electives will be key to the entire program, for in selecting six classes from a list of approximately 100 courses offered throughout the University, students will craft an interdisciplinary program tailored to their academic interests. For example, an undergraduate passionate about medieval Europe can create a major around History 223 (Europe, 1100-1500), Philosophy 257 (Medieval Philosophy), English 213 (Medieval Studies), and Art 242 (Medieval Art and Architecture). Another student interested in business might take courses on the economics of the European Union while pursuing related interests in German language and history. Obviously, the goal of European Studies is to allow students to pursue interests across traditional disciplines.

That European Studies offers nearly 100 electives from Art, Dance,



Students Al Madura and Ben Sulaski discuss Italian Renaissance images of the Virgin Mary in the Uffizi Gallery in Florence, Italy, May 2018

Economics, English, French, German, History, International Business, Italian, Music, Philosophy, Politics, Spanish, and Theater attests to the vast European expertise of ISU faculty across campus. In fact, at the time of its launching in May 2018, European Studies consisted of 23 core tenure-track faculty, including seven from History. Numerous adjunct colleagues from various departments also possess impressive expertise in European matters. Although the program was designed to benefit students by allowing them to take courses across disciplines, thereby preparing them for numerous careers in business, teaching, and other professional fields, European Studies has brought a wider benefit by generating a lively intellectual community that transcends preexisting departments. That community was on prominent display in spring 2018, when European Studies hosted ISU's International Seminar Series on the subject of "Europe in a Global Context." The 13-week series brought community members, students, and faculty and staff together for talks on issues ranging from Brexit to Catalonia's independence movement, from the threat of far-right populism to Europe's crisis of multiculturalism. Katie Jasper, unanimously elected by core faculty to serve as director of European Studies beginning fall 2018, identifies as one of her key goals the continuation of this lively, intellectual community already in existence.

Having substantial experience with interdisciplinary programs and study abroad and recognized as an outstanding teacher and excellent recruiter, Jasper will be the visionary and energetic leader that a new program needs. Of

course, at present there are precisely zero majors, and so her "greatest priority will remain student recruitment." Asked about other items on her agenda for fall, Jasper mentioned that European Studies was organizing several public talks while simultaneously preparing for a special (but for now secret) event showcasing European Studies' collaboration with Milner Library's Special Collections. In terms of curriculum, European Studies continues to integrate new courses into the program, including most recently, classes on medieval philosophy, the digital humanities, modern European art history, and international business.

The co-founders of European Studies, Weeks and van der Laan, retired at the end of spring 2018 just as their creation came online. Not surprisingly, they consider European Studies one of the proudest, if most exhausting, achievements of their distinguished careers as teachers and scholars. Van der Laan, the outgoing director, confirms that "to have established this major and minor gives a sense of deep satisfaction." The incoming director, Jasper, pledges to fulfill the founders' vision: "I have made it my foremost objective to highlight the interdisciplinarity of the program and to make sure students take advantage of opportunities to study abroad, to learn languages, and to develop a more nuanced understanding of Europe's past and present." History's heavy involvement in European Studies—just one of its numerous interdisciplinary collaborations—signals that the department will remain at the crossroads of intellectual life at ISU for years to come.



ISU students outside the hilltop town of Orvieto, Italy, June 2017

2017–2018 Student Awards



HELEN M. CAVANAGH AWARD FOR BEST MASTER'S DEGREE STUDENT

Tom Beazley
Caleb Zuiderveen

HELEN M. CAVANAGH AWARD FOR BEST MASTER'S THESIS

Erin Barr (U.S. History)

LUCY LUCILE TASHER SENIOR SCHOLARSHIP

Fall 2017
Nicole Gregor
Spring 2018
Nate Herman
Noah Mendenhall
Carli Serpe

GLEYNFA A. RAY AWARD

Fall 2017
Nicole Jurka
Jeffrey Krause
Spring 2018
Ian Earley
Jen Schutz
Mary Kate Turek

MARK WYMAN SCHOLARSHIP

Brandon Henry
Brooklynn Scharwark

JAMES TODD WILBORN SCHOLARSHIP

Sean Kennedy

DARREL A. SUTTER AWARD

Jenni Morgan
Ricky King

DARREL A. SUTTER STUDENT TEACHER AWARD

Spring 2017
Courtney Motola
Fall 2017
Michael Anglemire

DARREL A. SUTTER TEXTBOOK SCHOLARSHIP

Bryce Thomas

DARREL A. SUTTER WRITING AWARDS

Brendan Flynn
Brooklynn Scharwark
Andrew Pfannkuche

KYLE C. SESSIONS HONORS SCHOLARSHIP

Noah Tang

WILLIAM AND JEANNE HOWARD SCHOLARSHIP

Jen Schutz

HARMON RECRUITMENT SCHOLARSHIP

Artur Da Silva
Kayla Davie

LAWRENCE W. MCBRIDE AWARD

Eric Siemann
Gabriel Buckrop

HOWARD ROMANEK HISTORY SCHOLARSHIP

Kelly Schrems
Adam Surufka

In memoriam

The Department of History mourns three of our colleagues, Susan Westbury, 80; Gerlof Homan, 88; and Donald Manahan, 89.

Westbury, born in Melbourne, Australia, completed her Bachelor of Arts at the University of Melbourne, a Bachelor of Education at the University of Alberta, a Master of Science in Teaching at the University of Chicago,

and a Ph.D. at the U of I, Urbana-Champaign, and was the first in her family to attend college.

Westbury started out as a nurse at the Royal Melbourne Hospital, then as a high school teacher, and finally as a professor of history at ISU. She began teaching for the Department of History in 1981, receiving the position of assistant professor in 1996 and retired in

2005. Her research focused on colonial and revolutionary-era American history and she published original scholarship on the colonial slave trade. She received fellowships from the National Endowment for the Humanities to generate new insights into the U.S. Constitutional Convention of 1787 and the lives of colonial American women.

Homan, born in Appingedam, the

Netherlands, experienced the German occupation of 1940-1945 of the Netherlands, giving him a deep interest in human rights and democracy. He came to the United States in 1952, where he attended Bethel College in North Newton, Kansas, receiving a Bachelor of Arts, and went on to receive his Master of Arts and Ph.D. in history at the University of Kansas, finishing in 1958.

Homan taught five years at Central State University of Oklahoma, a year at the University of Oklahoma, and four years at Pittsburg (Kansas) State before coming to Illinois State in 1968. While at ISU he taught courses on the French Revolution and Napoleon, Modern

Europe, Contemporary World History, and Philosophy of History. Homan was chair of the History Department from 1976-1980, and in 1988 he and Joseph Grabill launched a program in Peace and Conflict Resolution, coordinating courses in a dozen ISU departments.

Manahan, born in Rockford, attended LaSalle-Peru-Oglesby Community College in LaSalle and later received his master's degree in education from Illinois State Normal University in 1963.

Manahan served in the U.S. military, first in the U.S. Coast Guard as a ship's

cook, first class, in 1945, and in the U.S. Air Force during the Korean War, retiring as a staff sergeant in 1955. He received many honors, including C.G. Victory Medal, American Area Campaign Medal, Air Force Defense Medal and Good Conduct Medal.

Manahan worked as a teacher and as an administrator at Unit 5 schools before coming to ISU in 1989 as a clinical assistant professor for the Department of History. He supervised many student-teachers before retiring in 2011.

Capitol Forum on America's Future—Bone Student Center, April 2018

By Richard Hughes

Since 2013 the Department of History, together with Illinois Humanities, has hosted Capitol Forum on America's Future that brings high school teachers, students, scholars, activists, and history and social science teacher candidates to campus to deliberate issues of American foreign policy in a changing world. The event, funded with a generous grant from the McCormack Foundation, involves efforts throughout the year that culminate with the forum at ISU. Despite challenges related to the renovation of the Bone Student Center, over 150 high students representing 16 high schools ranging from Bunker Hill High School near Edwardsville to Maine East High School in Park Ridge attended breakout sessions April 12 that addressed issues such as genocide, immigration, nuclear proliferation, terrorism, climate change and the environment, and student activism related to guns and school violence. Guest presenters this year included Lawrence Leck, attorney and coordinator for the Center for Nonviolence in Lake County; Rev. Craig Mousin from DePaul University; Ben Silver, an attorney from the Citizen Advocacy Center; Clifford Singer, director of the Program in Arms Control and Domestic and International Security at

the University of Illinois; Neil Vander Most, European Union Center at the



University of Illinois, and Julie Webber-Collins, Department of Politics and Government, Illinois State University.

A key component of each year's capitol forum has been the role of history education students from History 290 who lead small group discussions on specific case studies in American foreign policy based on the Choices curriculum developed at Brown University. Later in the day, our teacher candidates also assist high school students as they prepare for a whole group simulation that mirrors a formal hearing in front of a U.S. Senate Committee on Foreign Relations. While students in History 290 prepare materials to promote deliberate discussions, they also collaborate with master social studies teachers from throughout the state to obtain invaluable experience about how to

promote civic engagement in secondary schools. A number of teachers at Capitol Forum are alumni of our program such as Jason Klokkenga, Deb Bertschi, Meghan (Petges) McCoy, Tyler VanLandeghem, Kimberly (Burke) Hoss, Brad Christie, and Emma (Wilson) Delgado. This spring, as in previous years, the veteran teachers commented on the success of our teacher candidates in preparing and leading thoughtful discussions about many of the complex issues facing the nation.

Not surprisingly considering ongoing debates on numerous issues, such as immigration and gun violence, the high school students who participated in this year's Capitol Forum were highly engaged and enthusiastic about deliberating various topics. Their interaction with faculty experts and our History 290 students served as a wonderful model for our program's emerging teacher candidates. Each year ISU Admissions is especially pleased to support Capitol Forum and welcome these talented high school students as their positive experiences on campus help promote the department and the university.

For more information on the Illinois Capitol Forum, go to ilhumanities.org.

Faculty awards

Amy Wood, one of three professors receiving the 2017-2018 Outstanding College Teaching Award

A recipient of Outstanding College Researcher Awards in 2010 and 2015, Wood has used her deep knowledge of U.S. history to develop 15 courses since



coming to work at Illinois State, ranging from General Education classes to required history courses at both the graduate and undergraduate level. Wood

wants students to appreciate history in the same manner professional historians do: as a process of interpretation and deliberation. To that end, she strongly emphasizes writing in each week of her courses. Using an interactive classroom environment and innovative assignments, she motivates students to become invested in the materials and the learning process. Wood's mentorship and individual attention are highly sought after. Within the last seven years alone, she has directed over 10 independent studies, seven master's "field of study" exams, and five master's theses. Her work has drawn national attention and earned her a number of invitations to share her expertise with other universities.

Richard Hughes, one of two faculty members receiving the 2017-2018 Outstanding University Teaching Award

An associate professor in the History Department and a lead faculty member in the Social Science Education program, Hughes specializes in teaching methods and U.S. history. He has received several other teaching



awards, including the College of Arts and Sciences Outstanding Teacher Award (Social Sciences) in 2011, and the John A. Dossey Award for Outstanding Teaching in the College of Arts and Sciences in 2013. He also received awards from the Office of Teaching and Learning for his range of research interests. His interest in the role of historic cognition in the growth of history teacher candidates has led to the creation of a special topics course for the department. Additionally, Hughes is working on a study featuring ISU teacher candidates who dual student taught in Illinois and England, entitled, "Teaching History in a Place with a Different History: Theory and Practice in England and the United States."

Issam Nassar, one of two professors to receive the Outstanding University Researcher Award, 2017-2018

Nassar joined the History Department in 2006 after earning his Doctor of Arts degree here at Illinois State in 1997. He has held positions at Al-Quds University, the Institute of Jerusalem Studies, and the University of California at Berkeley. Nassar's scholarship focuses on Palestine and Greater Syria during the Ottoman and colonial periods.

He has served as editor of the *Jerusalem Quarterly* and as an advisor for a PBS documentary entitled "1913: Seeds of Conflict," which explored the development of national identities in Palestine prior to World War I. Since beginning teaching at Illinois State he has authored three books, numerous articles, book chapters, essays, papers, and reviews. He has also edited several collections and is working on two additional textbooks.



Monica Noraian one of three recipients of the 2017-2018 College of Arts and Sciences Outstanding Service Award

Noraian is currently director of the History and Social Sciences Education Program and serves as a liaison between the College of Education and the College of Arts and Sciences. She is also a member of the Chicago Urban Teacher Education Pipeline and chairs that



body's steering committee. Additionally, she is on the executive board for the Council for Teacher Education, and she is a board

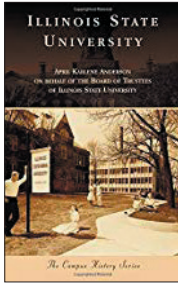
member and faculty liaison for ISU's National Center for Urban Education. During her sabbatical in 2015 she worked with teachers and administrators at the Regional Alternative School in McLean County to help improve the types of instruction and resources available for their educators. Noraian also served as the former president of the board for the Children's Discovery Museum, is a currently elected member of the Citizen's Advisory Board for Illinois State's laboratory schools, and is president of Leadership Illinois, a statewide professional organization for women. In 2009 she was given the McLean County Woman of Distinction in Education Award.

You make history too!

We'd love to hear from you. Please send us your news for inclusion in future newsletters: History@IllinoisState.edu

Books Published

The History Department is pleased to announce the following faculty book publications: **April Anderson**, *Illinois State University* (Campus History, 2017); **Roger Biles**, co-edited *The President and American Capitalism since 1945* (2017); **Andrew Hartman**, “Culture Wars and the Humanities in the Age of Neoliberalism” *Raritan* (Spring 2017); **Georgia Tsouvala** co-authored with Sarah B. Pomeroy, et al., *Ancient Greece: A Political, Social, and Cultural History*, 4th edition (Oxford University Press, 2017).



Student spotlight

Noah Tang has been selected as a recipient of the Robert G. Bone Scholarship for 2018-19, which is the University’s highest honor bestowed to students who are entering their senior year. The



department honored Tang in spring 2018 with the Kyle Sessions Award for scholarly excellence as

an Honors Program student, and he is also a Presidential Scholar, a Golden Apple Scholar, and a literacy instructor at University High School. During his sophomore year, Tang studied abroad at the University of Otago, New Zealand, and became a mentor for underserved children who attended a local primary school. As a history education major, Tang is passionate about teaching and has spent time learning about educational policies and community practices such as neighborhood “redlin-

ing” to establish de facto segregation in public school districts. His Golden Apple experiences in urban schools has shown him the realities of redlining, which moved him to become involved in the 2015 primary and 2016 national election as one solution to ending these practices. He has continued his political engagements by leading the organization on campus of a Democratic Socialists group and has helped develop a food cupboard for ISU students, which will open in fall 2018.

Student Research Presentations

Graduate student **Tom Beazley** has been accepted into the doctoral program in History at Arizona State University with full five-year funding to study modern U.S. cultural history. He will begin the program this fall.

Two graduate students presented their research at the WGS Symposium on Campus in April. **Emmanuella Amoh** presented her work “Deconstructing the Ethics of a Black Nationalist Movement: Shirley Graham Dubois As a Pan-Africanist.” **Tara Lynne Tracy** delivered her paper “Feminism

Repurposed: Art as Activism in the Riot Grrrl Movement.”

Sarah Coffman, was accepted into the Master of Library Science Online Program at the University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee. She will be starting in January 2019.

Graduate student **Eldon Yeakel** has been accepted into the museum studies program at Indiana University-Purdue University-Indianapolis and will enroll there in fall 2018.

Graduate student **Caleb Zuiderveen** presented his paper “The

Treasure of Egypt: Gregory the Great’s Theological Framework for the Use of Origen in His Exegesis on the Song of Songs” at the Vagantes Conference in April. He was also elected to the Conference’s board of directors.

Nate Herman, one of our honors students, presented at the University Research Symposium; his research project, under Tony Crubaugh, focused on debates about property rights during the French Revolution. He will be a student in our graduate program beginning fall 2018.

Supporting Excellence

Support from friends and alumni makes possible much of what the department does. This past winter, as part of Redbirds Rising: The Campaign for Illinois State, we were fortunate to receive a generous commitment of \$25,000 over the next five years from Paul and Sandra Harmon to fund The Harmon Recruitment Scholarship in History. Established in 2003, this is a permanently endowed scholarship to provide resources to attract outstanding undergraduate students from underrepresented groups to the Department of History.

Sandra Harmon received a master's in history at ISU in 1970, then taught at University High School. After a year there, the department invited her to develop a women's history course, and she joined the faculty as a part-time instructor. Sandra Harmon taught in the department until 2003. She also took on a variety of responsibilities

within the University. From September 1996 through December 1997, she served as interim assistant to the president for Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity and director of the Affirmative Action Office. In addition, she served three times as interim director of the Women's Studies Program and as assistant director and academic advisor for the Women's Studies Program from 1997 until her retirement in 2004. One of her proudest accomplishments was to start the Women's Studies Symposium to provide students a forum to present their research.

Paul Harmon Jr., an undergraduate history major, was general counsel and secretary of the Illinois Agricultural Association and Country Insurance and Financial Services, retiring in 2008. As a member of the Normal City Council, he served on the Town/University Liaison Committee and, as mayor of the Town of Normal from 1985-1993, he



RedbirdsRising.IllinoisState.edu

worked to strengthen ties between the town and the University. Early in his tenure as mayor the Town/ISU Student Liaison Committee was established. He was a member of the Renaissance Society of the College of Arts and Sciences.

In a challenging financial climate, the Harmons' gift—like every gift from our donors—is vital to our ability to maintain the excellence of our program. We are grateful for their help!

Alumni updates

Fusheng Luo, M.S. '15, currently ABD in history at the University of Michigan, received a doctoral fellowship to do research at the Ricci Institute, University of San Francisco.

Dan Delaney '14 a former history education student, was selected as the Illinois recipient of the James Madison Fellowship, fully funding his continuing graduate education.

David Varel '07, M.A. '08, published his first book, *The Lost Black Scholar: Resurrecting Allison Davis in American Social Thought*, with the University of Chicago Press, which is based on his doctoral dissertation from the University of Colorado. For an interview about his book, go to aaahs.org/the-lost-black-scholar.

Zach Sandifer '12 has been selected as editor in chief of the SIU Law Journal.

Erin Barr, M.A. '17, will begin her doctoral program in history at Purdue University, with full five-year funding.

Lacey Brown, M.S. '16, is teaching African-American studies at the University of Illinois-Springfield and volunteering at the Springfield African American History museum.

Telisha Reinhardt, M.S. '17, accepted a job as the office coordinator in the History Department at the University of Minnesota.

Lorenzo Schiavetta, M.A. '17, began his doctorate in the History Department at the University of Minnesota.

John Moreland, M.S. '16, began law school at Southern Illinois University in Carbondale.

Kerry Garvey, M.S. '17, is teaching U.S. history and European history at United Township High School in East Moline.

Eric Jones, M.S. '13, is chair of the Aviation Department at Lewis University in Romeoville.



For more information, visit
Homecoming.IllinoisState.edu

Faculty accomplishments

Roger Biles' new co-edited volume *The President and American Capitalism since 1945* has just been published by the University Press of Florida.

Kyle Ciani delivered several public talks for women's history month celebrations, including the keynote address for the McLean County Equal Pay Coalition. She gave the introductory remarks on the historical importance of women's access to education and introduced the speaker, actor Gabourey Sidibe, for ISU's Women's History Cultural Dinner. She also delivered four two-hour sessions for the Senior Professionals workshop "More Than the Vote: Women's Rights Activism in the U.S." and spoke to the Westminster community on the history of student feminist activism at Illinois State University. In June, she was one of 18 NEH Summer Scholars who participated in the week-long NEH Summer "Gender, the State, and the 1977 International Women's Year Conference" held at the University of Houston. The University of Nebraska Press unanimously approved her book for publication, *Choosing to Care: A Century of Childcare and Social Reform in San Diego, 1850-1950*. She has also been appointed the acting director of Women's and Gender Studies for the academic year 2018-19.

Linda Clemmons received an advance contract from the University of Iowa Press for her book project *After 1862: Exile, Trauma, and Survival among the Dakota, 1862-1866* and was asked to serve as a senior editor for the journal *Studies in Midwestern History*. She presented her paper "The young folks [want] to go in and see the Indians': Davenport Citizens, the Press, and Dakota Prisoners of War" at the Third Annual Midwestern History Conference in June 2017; this article was accepted for publication in *The Annals of Iowa* (spring 2018). She published two articles, "[B]usiness is business even if we are Christians': The Politics of Grant's Peace Policy in Dakota Territory, 1870-1880," was accepted for publication in the *Plains Political Tradition*, volume 3 (fall 2018) and "We are writing this letter seeking your help': Dakotas, ABCFM Missionaries, and Their Uses of Literacy, 1863-1866," in the *Western Historical Quarterly*, 47:2 (summer 2016). She was also nominated for the Jane Dempsey Douglass Prize given by the Church History Society, summer 2017.

Doug Cutter gave a talk on "Mexicans in the Midwest: A Brief History of Mexican Immigration to the U.S." to the Farm Bureau's "Agricultural Leaders of Tomorrow" conference.

John Freed presented his work "The Lutheran Reformation: A Balance Sheet After 500 Years" at the International Seminar Series, Bone Student Center. He gave an interview to WGLT on the founding myth of German nationalism.

Andrew Hartman wrote an opinion piece on college students and free speech published in *The Washington Post*: washingtonpost.com. His article "Culture Wars and the Humanities in the Age of Neoliberalism," was published in *Raritan* (spring 2017). He also published "The Master Class on the Make," in *The Baffler* (December 2017)

Qiliang He's book *Feminism, Women's Agency, and Communication in Early Twentieth-Century China: The Case of Huang-Lu Elopement*, is currently in press at Palgrave MacMillan. He also translated two volumes for Routledge: *Merchants and Society in Modern China: Rise of Merchant Groups*, (2018) and *Merchants and Society in Modern China: From Guild to Chamber of Commerce* (2018). He presented papers at two conferences: "The Project of Dredging the West Lake in the 1950s and Its Ecological Consequences," at the Association for Asian Studies annual conference; and "The People's West Lake: Nature and Landscape in Communist China," at the East Asia STM Fudan University, Shanghai. He gave three talks in China: "Huang Huiru and Lu Genrong: Vernacularized Feminisms and Urban Network of Communication" at the Shanghai Academy of Science and the East China Normal University and "Huang Huiru and Lu Genrong: Texts and Socio-cultural Changes," at the Shanghai Normal University.

Richard Hughes presented at four conferences: "March: Using Graphic Novels to Teach the Stories of the Civil Rights Movement" at the Missouri and Illinois Councils for History Education annual conference, St. Louis; "Teacher Candidates and Historical Narratives: A Study in Encountering the Discipline" at the American Educational Research Association Annual Conference, New York, "Thinking Like a Historian, Thinking Like a Geographer: Reading a Source from Different Perspectives," at the Library of Congress/National Council for History Education Meeting, San Antonio, and with Sarah Drake, "Teacher Candidates and Historical Narratives, A Study in Encountering the Discipline," at the American Educational Research Association conference in New York. Alumni Meghan Hawkins and Katie Lopez collaborated with him in writing "History, Literacy, and Popular Culture: Using Graphic Novels to Teach the Struggle for Racial Justice," in Edward Janak and Ludovic A. Sourdout, eds. *Educating through Popular Culture: You're Not Cool Just Because You Teach with Comics* (Lexington Books, 2017). His article "Teaching History Then: The Origins of the Journal and the Teaching History Movement of the 1970s," was published in *Teaching History: A Journal of Methods*, 42:2 (fall 2017).

Kathryn Jasper gave a talk in March at NIU to the Department of Geographic and Atmospheric Sciences, entitled "Applications of GIS to the Study of Monastic

Continued on page 10

Faculty accomplishments (Continued from page 9)

Reform During the Eleventh Century.” She presented papers at three conferences: “Remembering Romualdian Reforms in the Vita Romualdi,” at the International Medieval Congress, University of Leeds, Leeds UK, “Teuzo of Florence, Urban Hermit,” at the American Historical Association meeting in Washington, D.C.; and “Using Place-Based Tools in the Classroom” at the From Theory to Practice: Digital Measures in Research and Teaching Workshop, Center for the Humanities, Wesleyan University, Middletown, Connecticut. Three publications are in press, including “*Peter Damian and the Communication of Reform*,” *Catholic Historical Review*; “Peter Damian and the Language Friendship: The Polysemy of Caritas,” in Quasi Labor Intus, Ambiguity in the Latin Language, Michael Fountaine et. al., eds., Paideia Institute; and an article co-authored with John Howe, “Hermitism in the Eleventh and Twelfth Centuries,” in *Cambridge History of Medieval Monasticism in the Latin West*, Alison I. Beach and Isabelle Cochelin, eds., Cambridge University Press. She also co-authored a successful CAS interdisciplinary grant for a new course, HIS 308, “Digital Methods in Historical Research.” This grant will provide a setting to apply digital tools now available to historical scholarship and methods for applying these in the classroom.

Janice Jayes gave a talk in March to the ROTC program at University of Illinois on “The Structural Roots of Political Islam.” She spoke to the Urbana School District teacher retreat in March about the background to the Central American refugee crisis. She also presented “From iPhones to ISIS: Social Media and the Non-State Actor” at the University of Illinois Center for South Asian and Middle Eastern Studies, in October.

Ross Kennedy gave the Howard and Sczepaniak Lectures at Lewis University, on the U.S. and international politics during World War I. *Journal of Strategic Studies* published online his review essay, “Four New Takes on Wilson, World War I, and the Making of the Post-War Order.” He also made a presentation at a symposium on World War I held at the Midway Village Museum in Rockford; gave an invited talk at the Hoover Presidential Library; presented at the SHAFR Conference in Washington, D.C.; and, at the University of Alabama, was a speaker at a symposium on World War I and the American South.

Alan Lessoff was profiled on the Urban History Association blog: themetropole.blog. He published two chapters in edited collections: “The Gilded Age City in American Political Discourse and Lore,” *Stadt-Macht-Korruption*, Jens-Ivo Engels et. al, eds. (Stuttgart: Franz Steiner Ver-

lag, 2017) and “Art and Architecture” in *A Companion to the Gilded Age and Progressive Era*, Christopher McKnight Nichols and Nancy C. Unger, eds. (Hoboken: Wiley-Blackwell, 2017).


Issam Nassar spoke at Skidmore College in New York on “Early Photography and Palestine.” He participated in the conference “On the Ruins of History: A Walter Benjamin Moment in the Arab Thought” held in Berlin at the Forum Transregional Studien and gave a paper entitled “Benjamin’s Concept of the Aura of Photography: Reflections on the Early Images of Palestine in European Photography.” He gave an invited lecture at the P 21 Gallery in London, entitled “Early Palestinian Photography.” He gave a talk entitled “The Emergence of a Culture of Resistance in the Aftermath of the Occupation” as part of a symposium on the Six-Day War held at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He also presented his paper “Handling, Placing, and Looking at Photographs in Relation to Migration” at the European University Institute in Florence, Italy.

Monica Noraian has been selected as the liaison to the secondary programs for ISU’s Cecilia J. Lauby Teacher Education Center.

Katrin Paehler presented a paper entitled “The District Six Museum in Cape Town, South Africa: A Three Dimensional Yizkor-Book?” at the conference “Why Remember? Memory and Forgetting in Times of War and Its Aftermath” held in Sarajevo in June. At the German Studies Association in October 2017, she chaired a panel on noise, “Marking the Other: Speech, Archetype, and Deviance in Europe, 1900-1960,” and gave a paper “Navigating Forty-Five: Hildegard Beetz, Foreign Intelligence, and Journalism.” She was invited to give a masterclass at Bishop Grosseteste University, in Lincoln, UK. As part of her weeklong stay she worked with a colleague to develop a proposal for an international conference and gave a paper, “Spying While Female: Hildegard Beetz, Nazi Espionage, and the Quest for the Ciano Diaries.”

John Reda gave two talks about Alexander Hamilton for the Senior Professionals series in April. He was interviewed on WMAV Springfield, the Ray Lytle Show, about his book, *From Furs To Farms* and spoke at the Illinois History Forum, held at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum, where he discussed his book.

Touré Reed was interviewed by The Pantagraph and WGLT for an article and a segment on the 50th anniversary of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. He



also organized the panel discussion sponsored by the Department and African-American Studies, “Black Politics in the Age of Trump,” involving scholars and activists speaking about the implications of the Trump presidency for progressive movements seeking reforms in education, law enforcement, and the workplace. His article “Between Obama and Coates” was published in *Catalyst*, Vol. 1, No. 4 (spring 2018). He also published *All Roads Named Culture of Poverty Lead to Mass Incarceration* as part of a symposium on Elizabeth Hinton’s *From the War on Poverty to the War on Crime*, in the (December/Winter) issue of *LABOR: Studies in Working Class History in America*. His interview with “Philosophy Talk” on SiriusXM radio, on the Black Lives Matter movement, aired recently: [stitcher.com](https://www.stitcher.com)

Sudipa Topdar won a Bernadotte E. Schmitt Research Grant from the AHA. Her article “Autopic Imperial Eyes: Intersecting Race and Language in Early Cross-cultural Encounters,” was published in *Economic and Political Weekly* (June 2017).

Georgia Tsouvala co-authored with Sarah B. Pomeroy, et al., *Ancient Greece: A Political, Social, and Cultural History, 4th edition* (Oxford University Press, 2017). She also gave three invited talks for the American School of Classical Studies at Athens: “The History of Akragas (Agrigento, Sicily program: May 18, 2017); “The Sanctuary of Artemis at Brauron: Topography and Myth” (summer session: June 9, 2017); and “The Panathenaic Stadium and Roman Athens” (summer session: July 4, 2017), as well as an interview for the American School of Classical Studies at Athens (July 25, 2017): [ascsa.edu.gr](https://www.ascsa.edu.gr).

Christine Varga-Harris spoke on “Exporting the Russian Revolution: Soviet Women and Cultural Outreach to ‘Developing Countries’ During the 1950s and 1960s,” at ISU’s International Seminar Series. She presented her paper “Soviet Hospitality, Counterpropaganda and Intelligence Gathering: The Soviet Women’s Committee and

Visiting Delegates from Africa and Asia” and participated in the roundtable discussion “Housing and Revolution in Russia’s Long 20th Century” at the convention of the Association for Slavic, East European and Eurasian Studies held in Chicago. She was invited to present the paper “Between Friends: The Language of Gender Equality and ‘Sisterhood’ in Encounters among Soviet and ‘Third-World’ Women” at the conference “Languages of Internationalism” at the University of London; in June, she participated in the workshop “The Soviet Home, Domestic Ideology and Practice” at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, both as a panel discussant and providing concluding remarks for its “Wrap-Up Session.” She received a Faculty Research Award to continue archival research in Moscow for her new book project, *The Life Everyone Would Like to Live: Soviet Cultural Outreach to Women of Developing Countries, 1956-1982*.

Amy Wood spoke at a roundtable discussion on “The History of Emotions in the Gilded Age and Progressive Era” at the Organization of American Historians annual meeting in Sacramento. She chaired and served as discussant on the panel, “An Intellectual History of the Voiceless, Nameless, and Faceless: Or, How Black History Reshaped American History” at the Society for U.S. Intellectual History conference in Dallas. She is also serving as a consultant for the National Endowment for the Humanities. Along with the Director of Research Programs at the NEH, she will be conducting a site review in preparation for a report she will write for the NEH on the Omohundro Institute for Early American History and Culture in Williamsburg, Virginia.





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