

Simms, Chesebrough close out careers

Two veteran historians are retiring at the end of the spring semester. L. Moody Simms will end 35 years at Illinois State, and David Chesebrough will close out 14 years. They were honored at a gathering in the Bone Student Center on April 12.

Simms, who served as chairperson from 1980 to 1984, came to the department in 1967 after a year teaching at Tulane University. The previous year he had obtained his doctorate at the University of Virginia.

Simms's earlier education was at Millsaps College in Jackson, Mississippi, his hometown. He was one of Millsaps's first Woodrow Wilson Fellows and a member of its first Honors program.

Subjects of his more than 100 published articles and essays have ranged from the ideology of white supremacy, to Southern literature and fine arts, to American popular culture.

But Simms considers his major scholarly achievement to be his decade-long service as an associate editor of the 20-volume *American National Biography*, published in 1999 under editors John Garraty and Mark Carnes. Simms identified subjects, located authors, edited submitted articles, and wrote 25 of the entries.

In his 35 years at Illinois State, Simms taught the history surveys 135 and 136, History 323 and 324 (intellectual history), and the History 424 "Seminar in American Cultural and Intellectual History." He directed numerous master's theses and doctoral dissertations, and was a cofounder of the department's Honors program.

He and his wife, Barbara, who is also retiring in May after 27 years in Unit 5 schools in special education, plan to remain in Bloomington-Normal. Their

daughters, Stacy and Paige, live with their husbands and children in New Jersey and Colorado respectively.

In retirement, Simms said, he plans "the further education of Moody Simms. I will continue the life of the mind."

David Chesebrough joined the History Department as undergraduate advisor in 1988 after completing his D.A. degree here. His D.A. dissertation, directed by Simms, was titled "The Call to Battle: The Stances of Parker, Finney, Beecher, and Brooks on the Great Issues Surrounding the Civil War and a Comparison of Those Stances With Other Clergy in the Nation."

Prior to joining the department, Chesebrough had a career as a Baptist minister, beginning at the First Baptist Church of Gosport, Indiana, in 1958, through service in Hammond, Indiana, and his 16 years serving the First Baptist Church of Normal from 1972 to 1988. His divinity degree is from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky, in 1958. Prior to that he obtained his B.A. in history from Wheaton in 1954.

But academic life called him. He recalls today that he found the ministry "a bit confining. I had a desire for more personal freedom."

His advising work won Illinois State's Herb Sanders Award for Outstanding Advising in 1995.

Chesebrough has taught the U.S. history surveys, world religions, 20th century United States, great figures, and Lincoln.

In his brief tenure he became one of the department's most prolific members, turning out numerous articles and seven books. His favorite remains "'No Sorrow Like Our Sorrow': Northern Protestant

Ministers and the Assassination of Lincoln," published in 1994.

Chesebrough believes his years as a member of the clergy helped his development as a writer of history: "In the ministry, I had to do a sermon a week. I had to come up with something, even if I didn't feel like doing so."

His daughter, Brenda, is a nurse in Alpine, California, and his son, Timothy, is a mechanical engineer in Phoenix, Arizona.

First Ray award given

Van O. Furrh, a senior major in history education, won the first Gleylnafa A. Ray Scholarship at a ceremony held last November 28 in Bone Student Center.

The award is for \$3,000. It is given through the gift of Ray, who studied at Illinois State from 1926 to 1930 and then taught history in Illinois and Iowa. Her award is to benefit students in history teacher education.

Furrh, whose first bachelor's degree was from the University of Illinois, recalled his mother commenting, "If you want to be a teacher in Illinois—this [Illinois State] is where you go to college." She obtained her degree from the University and taught for 35 years in the state's public schools.

Those active alumni...

Rebecca McAllister, M.S. '00, is a library technician at the U.S. Department of Energy in Washington. Her work takes her to the Library of Congress and other governmental divisions. Also, she reports, "I get first pick of any books that we need to give away, which include presidential papers and interesting publications on Soviet history."

Loyola University of Chicago has employed **Kathy Young '88, M.S. '91**, as an archivist in its Women and Leadership Archives. She obtained an M.L.I.S. degree from Dominican University last August.

Geography, current events, and world history are subject areas for **Ron Moir '97**, who is now in his fourth year at Wilmington High School.

The death of **Kathryn Elyse Kost, M.S. '65**, has been reported. She died of cancer in Carbondale on March 9, 2001.

Susan Michel '70, M.S. '75, teaches modern world history, ancient history, and U.S. history at Pontiac High School.

American history and world history are subjects taught by **Kathy Wagner '77** at Metamora High School.

John Walters '70 is teaching history and physical education at Deer Park Grade School, where he has been employed since 1982.

Service on the Ottawa Scouting Museum Board is a major activity for **Keith Goetz, M.S. '80**, who is in his 33rd year teaching at Flanagan High School. Goetz, who lives in Ottawa, works on

monthly adult seminars and scouting projects as well as at the museum.

Carol Schierer '00 is in her second year as an in-school tutor at Manual High School in Peoria.

Consulting work with the Bradley Center for Economic Education and the Illinois Council for Economic Education has kept **John Rathbun '67, M.S. '72**, busy since his retirement two years ago from Woodruff High School in Peoria. He had taught social studies there for 33 years and won master teacher certification in social sciences in November 2001 from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards. Rathbun also works with the department's Frederick Drake on the Illinois Council for Social Studies. He lives in Washington.

Eichstaedt's book translated for German sales

Interviews with an American and a German veteran of World War II, who fought in adjacent areas at the end of the conflict, form the basis for a book by **Donna March Eichstaedt, D.A. '90**. *Once Enemies, Now Friends* was published by Red Sky Publishing in Las Cruces, New Mexico, and is now being published in German by Beier Publishing Co. of Crailsheim, Germany.

The American soldier served in the 63rd Infantry Division, and the German

was in the Luftwaffe Flak Corps. The German publisher invited Eichstaedt, her husband, Carl (an Illinois State retiree), and the German and U.S. soldiers for a visit in May.

The project continues Eichstaedt's long-term interest in researching and writing on historical memory. *The Southern New Mexico Historical Review* carried her article "Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service in World War II: New Mexico Women Remember Their

Service as WAVES" in January 2001.

She has written book reviews for the journal and is now writing "Myra McCormick: Lady of Bear Mountain" for the New Mexico Nature Conservancy. President-elect of the Doña Ana County Historical Society, she also teaches history at the University of Texas, El Paso, and at New Mexico State University. The Eichstaedts live in Las Cruces.

Olsen leads Cuba tour

After an eight-day stay, members of the Cuba study tour that included faculty, students, and community members returned from a trip to Cuba after spring break.

Codirector was the department's Patrice Olsen. The group conducted an intensive tour of Havana and surrounding communities to gain a general understanding of the historical context of contemporary political, social, and economic challenges that Cuba faces while considering the specific issue of urban renewal in a socialist city.

Prior to leaving for Cuba, students had completed a series of core readings, and some—depending on the number of credits desired—wrote a research paper after their return.

During their stay, the group visited churches; various neighborhoods in and around Havana; Moro Castle, which once

served as a critical site for the slave trade; the Museum of the Revolution; and the Literacy Museum. They also met student leaders at the University of Havana as well as neighborhood revitalization and other neighborhood and planning groups.

Olsen hopes to make this tour an annual event.

Today & Yesterday

JUNE 2002 • VOLUME 26, NUMBER 2
PUBLISHED PERIODICALLY

Illinois State University
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Normal, IL 61790-4420

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Mathiesen publishes

Baylor University Press recently published *Critical Issues in American Religious History: A Reader*, edited by **Robert R. Mathiesen, D.A. '78**.

The book seeks to enlarge critical thinking through examining both primary and secondary sources of America's religious past. These range from the statement of a Southern Anglican Loyalist in 1770 to an essay on the American Revolution and the nation's religious history.

Mathiesen teaches at Western Baptist College in Salem, Oregon.

Presses roll for History Department faculty

In April **Kyle Ciani** presented the paper "Revelations of a Reformer: The Awakening of Social Injustice in the Mind of Helen D. Marston Beardsley" at the 33rd Annual Western Association of Women Historians Conference held at the Huntington Library in Pasadena, California.

The editorial boards of H-France and the Society for French Historical Studies have jointly named **Anthony Crubaugh** 18th century book review editor.

Ray Clemens has engaged in several recent collaborations with Chicago's Newberry Library, including publishing the National Endowment for the Humanities slide set "Gregorio Dati's Sfera and Geographical Education in Renaissance Florence" and presenting in February 2002 the paper "Text and Meaning in Hildegard's Corpus" before the Medieval Intellectual History Workshop. Clemens also held the workshop "Witchcraft and Magic in the Middle Ages and Renaissance" for the program Teachers as Scholars: A Professional Development Program of the Newberry Library and the Chicago Academy of Sciences in Partnership with the Chicago Public Schools.

At the 2002 American Historical Association annual meeting in San Francisco, **Frederick Drake** delivered the paper "Building Collegiality between Teachers and Professors to Prepare Historical Citizens." Drake traveled to Riga, Latvia, in July 2001 to present "Principles

and Practices of Democracy in Preservice Education" at the conference International Partnerships for Civic Education and Democracy: A Conference for Civic Educators from Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, and the United States of America. He has coauthored with Lynn R. Nelson "Myths and History in the United States: The Need for Deliberative Discussions," International Society for History Didactics, 2001 Yearbook; and "Civic Intelligence and Liberal Intelligence in the History Education of Social Studies Teacher and Students" in *Principles and Practices of Democracy in the Education of Social Studies Teachers: Civic Learning in Teacher Education*, edited by John J. Patrick and Robert S. Leming, (Purdue University, 2001).

Sandra Harmon will guest curate for the McLean County Museum of History a special exhibit on the Great Depression set to open October 29, 2004. Titled *Weathering the Storm: Life in the Great Depression*, the exhibit will open on the 75th anniversary of the 1929 stock market crash.

The Journal of Urban History has named **Alan Lessoff** to its editorial board.

Lawrence W. McBride and **Frederick Drake** have written six lessons that comprise the book *From Courtroom to Classroom: The Lincoln Legal Papers Curriculum*, edited by Dennis E. Suttles and Daniel W. Stowell, and published in

2002 by the Illinois History Preservation Agency. The Illinois Bar Association and Abraham Lincoln Associates provided grant support for the project. Four graduates of the Illinois State history education program assisted McBride and Drake: **Shari Conditt Hills**, **Carmen Ganser**, **Jessica Pilson**, and **Lindsay Shaw**.

Clinical Applications: The Yellow Emperor's Canon on Internal Medicine, edited by **Richard Pearce** and published by New World Press, Beijing, is being made available by the China International Book Trading Corporation.

Jo Rayfield, history professor emerita and Illinois State University archivist, delivered the 2002 Heritage Day address "A University Goes to War." The event was sponsored by Senior Professionals of Illinois State University.

American Nineteenth Century History has published **Silvana Siddali's** article "Refined, Highfalutin' Principles': The Northern Public and the Constitution in 1861-1862" in volume 2, number 2 (2001).

Mark Wyman's article "Return Migration: Old Story, New Story" appeared in the London-published, special issue of *Immigrants & Minorities* titled "Stayers, Leavers and Returners," volume 20, number 1 (March 2001). He also authored the booklet *ParkLands: A History*, which is about a McLean County (Illinois) preservation area.

Master teacher receives Sorensen prize

The prestigious Clarence Sorensen prize has gone to Joyce A. Witt, D.A. '01, who served as the department's "master teacher" for the 1999-2000 school year.

Witt, who teaches at Highland Park High School in Chicago's northeast suburbs, will receive \$500 and a plaque for the award, which goes to the outstanding dissertation written by an Illinois State student during the previous year.

Her dissertation, written under the mentorship of Lawrence McBride, is titled "A Humanities Approach to the Study of the Holocaust." It won the Cavanagh Award for best history doctoral dissertation in fall 2001.

Indian historian Edmunds honored

A 1966 master's graduate who has authored or edited eight books on Native Americans received an honorary Doctor of Literature at the February 21st Founders Day convocation.

He is R. David Edmunds, now Watson Professor of American History Chair in Arts and Humanities at the University of Texas at Dallas. He spoke at the convocation and met with History Department faculty and others from the University in sessions during a two-day period.

Edmunds's record includes serving as director of the Newberry Library's Center for History of the American Indian, as well as consultant for such documentary

films as *Ishi, the Last Yahi*; *The Way West*; and the *Five Hundred Nations* series.

At Illinois State in the 1960s he wrote his master's thesis on "A History of the Kickapoo Indians in Illinois, 1750-1834." He then went to the University of Oklahoma, and his Ph.D. dissertation on the Potawatomi tribe was later published as **The Potawatomis: Keepers of the Fire**; it won the Francis Parkman Prize in American history.

He taught at the University of Wyoming, Texas Christian University, and Indiana University before taking his present position in Dallas.

Seventeen join Phi Alpha Theta

Seventeen students were initiated into Phi Alpha Theta, the history honor society, at the spring awards reception. Faculty advisor Sharon MacDonald and President Charles Chun performed the rites.

The new members are Aimee Cottingham, Traci Ehnlé, Mark Flynn, Adam Goduto, Nicholas Hostert, Michaelene Martin, Aaron Oliver, Dawn Peterson, Daniel Pietrus, Barbara Rexroat, Jesse Risley, Kenneth Rubach, Catherine Sperling, Lesley Stephens, Kelly Tregler, Matthew Van Ham, and Timothy Wiegand.



Fall award winners—Students receiving fall awards posed after the November 1 ceremony in the Bone Student Center: seated from left, Michelle Fennessy and Jeanette Miller, Tasher Senior Scholarships; standing from left, Morgan Whitcomb and Scott Aronson, Tasher Scholarships; Thomas Hochstetler, Cavanagh master's thesis award; Jeremy Meiners, Tasher Scholarship; and Joyce Witt, Cavanagh doctoral dissertation award. The Tasher Scholarships brought \$3,000 apiece, the Cavanagh thesis and dissertation awards \$500 apiece. Photo by Louis Perez.

Student activities

Senior history education major Greg Baker spent summer 2001 in Fort Worth, Texas, working with local seventh and eighth graders on "Summer Bridge." The program uses college students to teach the local pupils. Baker was supported by a \$1,000 Illinois State University Student Scholarship Award given by the History Department.

Amy Eden, senior history major, has been accepted by the University of Denver for its international studies master's program in human rights studies.

Stacy Davidson will be attending the University of Michigan starting next fall after winning a full fellowship for study in the doctoral program in Near Eastern studies.

Reitan publishes

The fifth and sixth books by retired historian Earl A. Reitan came off the press last fall: *Riflemen: On the Cutting Edge of World War II* and a spin-off novel, *I Was a Teenage Rifleman in World War II*.

Merriam Press published *Riflemen*, which examines the war through Reitan's experiences as a foot soldier in the Italian and southern France campaigns. He also did extensive research in military records. The novel was published by Author's Choice Press, a subsidiary of Barnes & Noble.

Reitan retired in 1990. He and his wife, Carol, live in Normal.

IHRC praises thesis

A master's thesis completed in the department last semester has won praise from the curator of the Immigration History Research Center (IHRC) at the University of Minnesota.

The thesis by **Remy Finch Garard**, M.S. '01, is titled "Vladimirovo of Lost Lake: A Displaced People Found." It examines a Russian Orthodox community in northern Illinois, formed by post-World War II refugees who refused to return to the U.S.S.R.

Curator Joel Wurl, who had requested a copy for the IHRC collections, wrote to Garard that the thesis demonstrates "one of the more unique and compelling virtues of immigration history—its ability to explain localized situations in a very broad international context. Your study reflects a great deal of effort and familiarity with the subject matter."

Institute draws 149

The department's 18th annual Institute on History and Social Sciences was held March 18 on the theme "Tension in the Global Village." It attracted 149 of the region's secondary school teachers and other participants to a program that included addresses and a panel discussion.

Participants included Richard Soderlund, who spoke on "The Antinomies of European Integration," and Tony Adedze, who spoke on "Is Globalization Good for Africa? Some History Perspectives."

A forum on the topic "Center and Periphery in the Global Village" was moderated by Frederick Drake with history panel members Patrice Olsen and Mohamed Tavakoli-Targhi.

Faculty research funded

Eight History Department faculty have won Illinois State financial aid for research in coming months.

Kyle Ciani and **Touré Reed** have been awarded New Faculty Initiation Grants. Pre-Tenure Faculty Initiative Grants have gone to **Anthony Crubaugh**, **Linda Clemmons**, and **Patrice Olsen**.

Lee Beier and **Ray Clemens** were given Summer Faculty Fellowships, and **Silvana Siddali** received a Faculty Research Award.

Cash flows to six

Six students walked off with monetary awards at the spring 2002 awards reception on April 11. Four days later one of them also won one of the top Graduate School honors.

The top prizes, worth \$3,000 apiece, went to seniors **Jesse Risley**, **Jessica Miskell**, and **Michael Haak**. They were each winners of the Gley-nafa T. Ray Scholarship given to juniors, seniors, and graduate students who are going into teaching.

The recently authorized Ray Scholarships are from a bequest left to the department by Ray, who graduated from Illinois State Normal University in 1930 and taught at Victoria and Rockford high schools.

Master's students **John Poling** and **Carmen Ganser** each won \$2,000 Helen M. Cavanagh Awards as best master's degree students. The following week Ganser was announced as winner of the \$2,900 Ada Belle Clark Welsh Scholarship given by the Graduate School to outstanding women graduate students.

Sophomore **Robert T. Seidel** was the recipient of the \$400 James Todd Wilborn Scholarship for sophomores.

Awards chairperson Susan Westbury conducted the program in Bone Student Center.

Major fund drive under way

A major fund drive—Redefining “normal”, The Campaign for Illinois State University—is under way, and alumni will soon be asked to help increase the University’s nongovernmental support.

The Family Campaign portion of the drive is under way. History Chairperson Paul Holsinger said he hoped friends of the department will designate their pledges to the History Department “to help it fund several extremely important needs,” including four of major importance:

1. The newly created Center for History Education;
2. Proposed Illinois Study Consortium on Local and Regional History;
3. Thalia Tarrant Student Research Fund, designed to provide small grants to allow history majors to travel to archival depositories, and to present their findings at professional conferences; and
4. Helen Marshall Faculty Research Initiative Fund, to make it more possible for faculty to do research elsewhere in the United States as well as overseas.

Master teacher touts benefits

Grant Phillipp, a social studies teacher at Kelvyn Park High School in Chicago, is the 2001-2002 master teacher in the History Department.

Phillipp, whose undergraduate degree is from the University of Illinois at Chicago, is teaching the “Social Sciences Seminar” in the department and supervising student teachers. He is also lead presenter for the Mentoring and Induction of New Teachers (MINT) program in Chicago. He obtained a Master of Philosophy in Education from Cambridge in 2000, writing a thesis on

“Thinking About History: Is Apprenticeship an Appropriate Model for Teaching Disadvantaged Learners?”

Benefits for Phillipp are many—“This is an academically rigorous year,” he commented, stressing his opportunity “to learn how to effectively be a teacher-educator.”

Phillipp is also developing coordination between Kelvyn Park and several teacher training programs at Illinois State, including chemistry, mathematics, and English in addition to history.

Westbury wins tenure

The University has awarded tenure to Susan Westbury, who became a full-time professor in 1996 after serving in part-time positions since 1983.

Westbury, who obtained her Ph.D. in 1981 from the University of Illinois, is the department’s historian of the colonial era and has done her major work on the issue of slavery in the state-ratifying conventions for the U.S. Constitution.

She has published eight articles and has been chosen to participate in three National Endowment for the Humanities workshops.

A native of Australia, Westbury obtained her undergraduate degree from the University of Melbourne in 1962 and came with her husband to the United States in 1968 when he was hired by the University of Chicago.

Students at convention

Charles Chun, a student in the master’s program, and **Kelly LeJeune**, a sophomore, gave papers at the biennial Phi Alpha Theta convention in San Antonio, Texas, in December. Chun spoke on “Orientalism and the Study of the far East,” and LeJeune’s title was “Rwanda: The Genocide that the West Ignored.”

Phi Alpha Theta’s president-elect, David Wrobel of the University of Nevada-Las Vegas, had praise for LeJeune’s

paper and called Chun’s presentation “thoughtfully constructed, historiographically challenging, and superbly delivered...he gave a fantastic impression of himself and served as a great ambassador for your program.” In his letter to Chun’s advisor, **Mohamed Tavakoli-Targhi**, Wrobel also noted that Chun “handled himself brilliantly” in the discussion after his paper.

Seventh annual symposium held

The seventh annual Women’s Studies Symposium drew more than 160 persons to its sessions on March 29.

Chaired by Sandra Harmon, interim director of Women’s Studies, the conference was highlighted by an address by Dorothy Roberts of Northwestern University School of Law. Her topic was “Race and the Ethics of Reproductive Technologies.”

History students participating, and titles of their papers, were:

Graduate students—Tina Stewart Brakebill, “The Intersection Between Woman’s Sphere and Woman’s Rights: One Woman’s Struggle to Balance the Conflicts Between Society’s Ideal and Personal Ideal”; and Deborah Bertschi, “Revisiting ‘Gender as a Category of Historical Analysis.’”

Undergraduates—Victor Boens, “What Caused Women to Become Prostitutes According to Henry Mayhew and His Co-Authors?”; Susan Harsha, “Prostitutes in Mayhew’s London: Victims of Circumstance or Working Women”; Christopher Yepsen, “Prostitution”; Susan Crowe, “The Diary of Elizabeth Drinker, Vol. 1”; and Christy Leigh Eyre, “Anna Howard Shaw: Story of a Pioneer.”

Four on internships

Four students were selected for spring internships, according to Charles Ross, advisor and director of internships for the department.

Graduate student Beth McMurray is at the Illinois Regional Archives Depository on campus.

Undergraduate interns are Rebecca Loofbourrow and Amand Vanblaracom, McLean County Museum of History; and Catherine Sperling, David Davis Mansion.

Lend a hand!

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Send to: Illinois State University, Department of History, *Today & Yesterday*,
Campus Box 4420, Normal, IL 61790-4420.

Drake travels, writes

Representing Illinois State University's College of Arts and Sciences, Frederick Drake traveled to meetings of the National Network for Educational Renewal (NNER) in New Jersey, Seattle, and Denver (where he presented a paper). Drake notes that Illinois State's acceptance as a member of NNER, a distinction for the University, was "largely the work of Barb Nourie" of the College of Education.

A related project is a handbook produced by history education and the Department of Special Education titled *Teaching History in Inclusive Settings*, which Drake edited with Paula Crowley of Special Education. It was produced through the Illinois Professional Learner's Partnership Grant Program.

Also, Drake was named academic director of a teaching American history grant (Byrd Grant) to improve teachers' background and techniques of teaching ideas of the U.S. Constitution. He has been an advisor and presenter at other Byrd Grants in Wisconsin and Maryland as well as serving as codirector (with Lawrence McBride) of the department's own Byrd Grant.

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