PULITZER-PRIZE WINNING HISTORIAN LEADS GRADUATE SEMINAR

James McPherson, Ph.D., the George Henry Davis 1886 Professor of American History, Emeritus, at Princeton University, spoke on campus on Wednesday, September 30, 2009, in the Villanova Room of Connelly Center. Dr. McPherson explored the subject: "Lincoln as Commander-in-Chief." A reception followed the lecture. Dr. McPherson’s visit was sponsored by the Lore Kephart, ’86, Distinguished Historians Lecture Series. This event was the series’ inaugural lecture.

Dr. McPherson is a widely acclaimed historian and author of the New York Times best-seller “Crossroads of Freedom: Antietam.” He won a Pulitzer Prize for “Battle Cry of Freedom,” and two prestigious Lincoln Prizes for “ Tried by War: Abraham Lincoln as Commander-in-Chief” and “For Cause and Comrades.”

On Thursday, October 1, Dr. McPherson led a graduate seminar with students enrolled in the master’s program in the Department of History. Students from Judith Giesberg, Ph.D.’s ‘Lincoln’s America’ class and from Marc Gallicchio, Ph.D.’s ‘The Impact of War on Society’ class discussed the research and writing process with Dr. McPherson and engaged in a lively discussion with the author about the many decisions Lincoln made as commander-in-chief.

Read more about the Lore Kephart ’86 Distinguished Historians Lecture Series on page 3.

CHARLENE MIRES LEAVING VILLANOVA

By Marc Gallicchio, Ph.D.

It is with mixed emotions that we report that Charlene Mires, Ph.D., has accepted an offer to become Director of the Mid-Atlantic Regional Center for the Humanities (MARCH), and associate professor of History at Rutgers-Camden as of September 1, 2010. This is an exciting opportunity for Dr. Mires, but it represents a significant loss for the Department of History and Villanova University.

When we hired Dr. Mires thirteen years ago we recognized that she was already a gifted and innovative teacher. Since then, many of us have benefited from her advice and suggestions for improving our work in the classroom. In recent years, we have been fortunate to have Dr. Mires lead a writing workshop for graduate students during orientation.

Dr. Mires taught a broad range of courses many of which she developed herself. In addition to teaching the history core course, themes in modern world history, Dr. Mires helped revise the standard U.S. history survey course into the research oriented investigating U.S. history. She also taught when centuries end; history and memory; material culture, artifacts in history; history of Philadelphia, cities and suburbs; empire and world’s fairs. Drawing on her professional connections and service, Dr. Mires also created a vibrant and popular series of courses in public history in our graduate program.

Dr. Mires has played an increasingly important role in linking Villanova to the region’s historic sites and public history activities. She is a member of the oversight committee for the President’s House memorial in Philadelphia and she has worked closely with National Park Service officials at Independence Hall and Valley Forge. She is also co-editor of the Encyclopedia of Greater Philadelphia, a large civic oriented project of local continued on back page

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FACULTY NEWS


In June 2009, Marc Gallicchio, Ph.D., served as commentator on papers presented by several Japanese scholars on "China in the U.S.-Japan Relationship, 1952 – 1972, and Its Relevance to Today" at the annual conference of the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations, in Washington, D.C. In August 2009, Dr. Gallicchio served as an external reviewer of fellowship applications for The National Endowment for the Humanities. He introduced and led a discussion on the documentary "Wings of Defeat" for the Cultural Film Series on November 2, 2010. The award winning film explores the motivations and experiences of kamikaze pilots at the end of World War II. Dr. Gallicchio also chaired and commented on papers at a March 2010 session of the Asian Studies Conference in Philadelphia on "Japan and the New International History." His review of Russell D. Buhite, "Douglas MacArthur: Statecraft and Stagecraft in America's East Asian Policy" was published in the Pacific Historical Review in February 2010.


Christopher Haas, Ph.D., published "Ioane Zedazneli: A Georgian Saint in the Syrian Ascetical Tradition," in P. Skinner, D. Tumanishvili and A. Shanshiasvili, eds., "Georgian Art in the Context of European and Asian Cultures: Proceedings of the Vakhtang Beridze 1st International Symposium of Georgian Culture," (Tbilisi, 2009). On April 17, 2010, Dr. Haas presented an invited paper on "Geopolitics and Georgian Identity in Late Antiquity; the Dangerous World of Vakhtang Gorgasali" at a conference organized around the theme "The Caucasus: Imagining Freedom, Negotiating Dominions." The conference was held at the University of St. Andrews and was jointly sponsored by the British Academy and the Centre for Russian, Soviet, Central and East European Studies at the University of St. Andrews – a venue utterly wasted on Dr. Haas since he is not a golfer.

Lyne Hartnett, Ph.D., presented "Constructing a Myth or Recounting a Life? Vera Figner's Efforts to Find and Define her Place in the Russian Revolutionary Movement" at the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies National Convention in Boston, Massachusetts in November 2009. Dr. Hartnett was also nominated for the Lindback Excellence in Teaching Award for the second consecutive year and was elected to serve a three-year term as the director of Russian Area Studies at Villanova.

Catherine Kerrison, Ph.D., delivered "Out of Jefferson's Shadow: Harriet Hemings and the Pursuit of Freedom" at the conference of the Southern Association for Women Historians in Columbia, South Carolina in June 2009. Dr. Kerrison was invited to give two presentations in July 2009 at the College of William and Mary's National Institute for American History and Democracy Program. During the past year, she has also spoken to several branches of the Association of American University Women, and has been appointed to a three-year term of service running from January 2010 to December 2012 on the editorial board of the Virginia Magazine of History and Biography.


Jeffrey Johnson, Ph.D., presented "A Case Study of the Gnischwitz Powder Factory, 1914 – 1918" to the Modern German History Workshop at Swarthmore College in April 2009. During late summer Dr. Johnson chaired the organizing committee for a symposium on "Chemistry in the Aftermath of World Wars" at the 23rd International Congress of History of Science and Technology in Budapest, Hungary, where he presented the keynote address entitled, "Crisis, Change and Creativity in Science and Technology: Chemistry in the Aftermath of Twentieth Century Global Wars." Dr. Johnson also served as a commentator for a session on "Chemistry and Chemical Industry in the Aftermath of World War II." In August 2009, he presented "The First World War and the Shaping of Dual-Use Chemical Technologies: The Case of
German Chemicals and Explosives, 1914 – 1925” at the 7th International Conference on History of Chemistry in Sopron, Hungary.

Timothy McCall, Ph.D., was featured in the Italian newspaper Libero concerning the edited volume “Sex in the Renaissance,” in which one of his essays was included. Dr. McCall also published “The Gendering of Libertas and the International Gothic: Carlo Crivelli’s Assischi Annunciation,” in Studies in Iconography in 2009, and “Il commercio delle amanti a corte. Corpi erotici e sistemi di scambio all’inizio dell’epoca moderna,” in Sesso nel Rinascimento: pratica, perversione e punizione nell’Italia rinascimentale, ed. Allison Levy, trans. Monica Martignoni and Tiziana Gambardella (Florence: Le Lettere, 2009). Dr. McCall was awarded the I Tatti Fellowship at Villa I Tatti, the Harvard University Center for Italian Renaissance Studies, for the year 2010 – 2011. In March 2010, Dr. McCall gave an invited lecture on “Cecilia Gallerani and Milanese Mistresses,” at the Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore in Milan. Also in March, he presented “The Signore Hidden and Revealed: the Intarsia Coretto of Pier Maria Rossi of Parma,” at the Penn Humanities Forum, University of Pennsylvania. He also delivered a paper on “Brilliant Bodies on Display: Masculinity, Nobility, and Power in Fifteenth-Century Ferrara,” at the Renaissance Society of America Annual Meeting held in Venice in April 2010, for which he organized and chaired a session on “Parme’s Renaissance: Traditions of Art and Historiography.”


Paul Steege, Ph.D. had contributions to a forum on “Everyday Life (Alltagsgeschichte) in Nazi Germany” published in German History: The Journal of the German History Society in October 2009. The panel for the forum was comprised of historians from Australia, Canada, Germany and the United States. He also commented on the panel “Survival and Distraction Among the Ruins: The Cultural Politics of ‘Normalisation’ in Berlin, 1945 – 49” at the German Studies Association Annual Conference in Washington, D.C., in October 2009.

Alexander Varies, Ph.D. published “Defining the Moment: History, Style, and the Paris Exposition of 1925” in The International Journal of the Arts in Society in November 2009. The article is an expanded version of a paper Dr. Varies presented at the conference of the society organized by the University of Illinois and held in July 2009 in Venice, Italy. Dr. Varies also published articles for Odyssey Magazine (centered in Athens, Greece) in March, July and November of 2009 on the Greek anarchist movement and its role in recent disturbances in Greece, an interview with the eminent historian Mark Mazower, and an article on the Hellenic Center in Nafplion—now launched by Harvard University as part of its larger focus on the history of Greece.

LORE KEPHART LECTURE SERIES ESTABLISHED

The Lore Kephart '86 Distinguished Historians Lecture Series has been established in memory of Lore Kephart '86 through an endowment to the University by the family of Horace L. and Lore Kephart. The first lecture was given in September 2009 by James McPherson Ph.D., the George Henry Davis '88 Professor Emeritus of United States History at Princeton University and the 2003 president of the American Historical Association.
"A NEW LOOK AT THE CIVIL WAR" WITH JUDITH GIESBERG, PH.D.

Judith Giesberg, Ph.D., gave a lecture on March 24, 2010, entitled, 'A New Look at the Civil War.' Beginning with the incredible story of women of color who bravely defied segregation by stepping onto Philadelphia’s white-only street cars, the talk illustrated the variety of experiences of women on the Civil War’s northern home front. Whether they were white working-class draft-resisters, seamstresses or cartridge-formers employed at federal arsenals, or the wives and daughters of Philadelphia’s elite black activists, women sought to give the war meaning at home. Dr. Giesberg’s book, "Army at Home: Women and the Civil War on the Northern Home Front," tells their stories. Dr. Giesberg's talk was in honor of Women's History Month and also the final talk in the Scholarship@Villanova lecture series for the spring 2010 semester.

DR GIESBERG NAMED BOOK REVIEW EDITOR FOR NEW JOURNAL

Debuting in March 2011, the *new Journal of the Civil War Era* will explore "the sectional crisis, war, Reconstruction, and memory of the conflict, while bringing fresh understanding to the struggles that defined the period.” In addition to “offering fresh perspectives on military, political, and legal history of the era,” the journal will publish the latest scholarly work on ‘slavery and antislavery, labor and capitalism, popular culture and intellectual history, expansionism and empire, and African-American and women’s history.” Edited by William Blair, director of the George and Ann Richards Civil War Era Center at Pennsylvania State University, the *Journal of the Civil War Era* will be published by the University of North Carolina Press (UNC), a recognized leader in publishing works in African-American history, Civil War history, and the history of gender. As book review editor, Dr. Giesberg will be in charge of recruiting 12 to 15 reviews per issue and evaluating upwards of 200 books per year from over 30 university presses. This position will allow Dr. Giesberg and the history department to continue to build bridges between the college and the scholarly community and will help to put the department on the map in Civil War studies at a most opportune time, with the upcoming Civil War sesquicentennial beginning in 2011.

PAUL ROSIER, PH.D., WINS BOOK AWARD

Dr. Paul Rosier has been awarded the 2010 American Indian National Book Award for best book on modern American Indian history/studies for his book “Serving Their Country: American Indian Politics and Patriotism in the Twentieth Century” (Harvard University Press, 2009). The award is given by the Labriola National American Indian Data Center at Arizona State University. Dedicated in 1993, the Labriola National American Indian Data Center in the Arizona State University (ASU) Libraries is one of the only repositories within a public university library devoted to American Indian collections.

LINCOLN’S AMERICA CLASS MEETS WITH SCHOLARS AT GETTYSBURG COLLEGE

Students in the Lincoln's America class met with Michael Burlingame, Ph.D., in a seminar on Friday, November 20, the morning after Dr. Burlingame delivered his Fortenbaugh lecture at Gettysburg College.

Photo: Left to right: Marisa Maldanado, Kyle Robinson, Rachael Sheehan, Stephen Bruning, Dane Di Febo, and from back to front, Professors Alan Guelzo, Michael Burlingame, Gabor Borrit, and Judith Giesberg.
STUDENT NEWS

Dave Emni published “Black Slave – White Queen, and Colors Between” through xlibris in February 2010. Emni makes the case for artist James Stidum as the first African-American portrait artist. Motivated by his chance “find” of portraits of African-American businessman and abolitionist Stephen Smith and his wife, Harriet Lee Smith, in storage at the Philadelphia History Museum, Emni documents Stidum’s likely Swedish ancestry, while also discussing the plight of his enslaved family.

Beth Petijean presented her paper entitled, “Atlantis on Our Minds: Through the Stargate and Under the Sea to Find a Lost World,” at the Southwest/Texas Popular Culture Association conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico in February 2010. Petijean will give another paper on “Girlish Matrons: Love and Betrayal in HBO’s Rome” at the 2010 Film & History conference in Milwaukee in November 2010.

Robert Terrell published “Habsburg Statehood Through the Historiographical Lens of Bohemian National Identity” in the Spring 2010 issue of Madison Historical Review.

PH.D. BOUND

Michael Chornesky ’09, has been offered admission to the doctoral programs at University of Colorado at Boulder and SUNY Albany to study American foreign relations. As of this writing he had not decided which offer to accept.

Jessica Delisi ’09, has accepted admission to the doctoral program at CUNY. She will receive full funding.

Elliott Drago ’09, will begin doctoral studies in the fall at Temple University with full funding. He is interested in 18th- and 19th-century American history, particularly the Civil War.

David Guba ’10, will enroll in Temple University’s doctoral program with full funding to study modern European history with a particular in the historical understanding of France in 1868. He was also accepted by the University of Delaware with full funding and the New School for Social Research in New York.

Retzeflah Monroe ’10, was offered and accepted full funding by the University of Delaware to study Reconstruction era America. She hopes to write her dissertation on women during Reconstruction, focusing primarily on northern black women.

Brian Taylor ’10, has accepted a history department fellowship/teaching assistantship from Georgetown University for doctoral studies. He intends to study 18th- and 19th-century American history, concentrating specifically on antebellum sectional conflicts, the American Civil War, and issues of race and slavery.

STUDENTS WIN PRIZES AT PHI ALPHA THETA CONFERENCE

Four graduate students in the History department attended this year’s Phi Alpha Theta, Pennsylvania East Regional Conference, held at Bloomsburg University on March 27, 2010. They set a high standard with their work on topics ranging from race and community to fashion and politics, and all four received awards, claiming two of the three best paper prizes and two of the three best presentation prizes. Brian Taylor received the best paper prize in U.S. History for his “Beyond Richard Allen: the Wesley-Bethel Dispute of the 1820s and its Meanings for the Philadelphia Black Community.” Elizabeth Ives received the best paper prize in World History for her work, “The Body Politic: Victorian Fashions as Agents of Change in Meiji Japan.” Marisa Maldonado won a best presentation award for her “Confidante or Servant? Using the Plantation Hierarchy to Re-envision the Relationship between Mary Lincoln and Elizabeth Keckley,” as did Beth Petijean for her “Reforming Rome’s Relics: The Practical and Visual Impact of Trent on the Veneration of Saints and Relics.”

DEPARTMENTAL PRIZE WINNERS

The winner of the 2009 Carroll Prize for the best graduate paper was David Powell for his paper entitled, “The Peasant Rusticus: Life Near Paris in the Time of Clovis.” Powell’s paper takes advantage of an incredibly exciting body of new scholarship that has appeared on the late fifth and early sixth centuries in the last five or so years to write a social history narrative of French peasantry that comes alive with details carefully gleaned from the primary source record.

The Paper Prize Committee also recognized the following as Carroll Prize honorable mentions: Beth Petijean in “Reforming Rome’s Relics: The Practical and Visual Enactment of Trent” offers a new and surprising interpretation of the prominent role of relics in the seventeenth century church, and David Gube in his paper “Reformation and the German Peasants’ War of 1525” presents a top-notch historiography of the Peasants’ War, from Friedrich Engels’ materialist treatment of the war in 1850 to the 1980s – 1990s, when the literature “shed its ideological shibboleths and expanded into comprehensive studies,” taking “into account the political, cultural, religious, and socio-economic variation between disparate regions of revolt.”

The Graduate Forum Prize for 2009 – 2010 was given to Amanda Reid.
ALUMNI/ALUMNAE NEWS

Sean Brennan ’03 was awarded his doctorate from the University of Notre Dame in 2009 and is currently assistant professor of history at Scranton University.

After receiving an M.A. in history, Araceli Duque ’98 returned to her native Spain, where she joined a convent in 2005. There are presently 20 nuns in her house, and in addition to teaching, the order travels to Poland and Mexico, giving retreats and instructions in spiritual exercises. Duque is currently a doctoral candidate in European Studies at the University Institute Ortega y Gasset, Madrid, Spain, and her main research interests are in modern European intellectual history, history of ideas, philosophy, and Russian literature and history. Her recent article, “The Vision of Christopher Dawson,” was published by the Catholic Educator’s Resource Center (July 2004).

Cathleen Nista Rauterkus, Ph.D., ’01, has written a book entitled “Go Get Mother’s Picket Sign,” published by UP of America. Dr. Rauterkus wrote the original research paper as an M.A. student in Dr. Winer’s two-semester historiography class on women and gender. The topic of the class was American suffragists as wives and mothers, and the material that their culture generated to argue that the vote would hinder them in these roles and vice versa. Congratulations, Cathleen, on this accomplishment—Dr. Winer is very proud!


David Craig Smith ’06, passed his doctoral comps and now retains the status of ABD in the Transatlantic History program at the University of Texas at Arlington. Smith remains in his position as director of Advancement Services with the University of Dallas.

ALUMNUS WINS NATIONAL ENDOWMENT

Robert Simpson received a post-master’s certificate in modern European history in 2006 and is currently teaching advanced placement European history at Penncrest High School in Media, Pennsylvania. Simpson recently received a grant from the National Endowment of the Humanities to complete a project with the Churchill Centre of London. This summer he will participate in a research seminar devoted to the life of Winston Churchill and will spend three weeks in England: two weeks at Cambridge University and one week at Goodenough College in London, where he will work in the Churchill Archives. Simpson was one of 24 selected among hundreds of national applicants, and he intends to focus his research on Churchill’s involvement in constructing post-WWII Europe and the Anglo-American relationship that the process involved. He plans to incorporate his own research into the AP Euro curriculum at Penncrest.

STUDENTS RECEIVE M.A. IN HISTORY AT COMMENCEMENT

Villanova University’s department of History congratulates the 15 graduate students who were awarded their master of arts degree at commencement ceremonies in May. A special recognition ceremony for the doctoral and master’s graduates in liberal arts and sciences was held on Saturday, May 15. Dr. Lindenmeyer, Dean of Graduate Studies and former Chair of the History department, congratulated them on their academic achievements. The University Commencement Ceremony was held on Sunday, May 16, 2010.

Brooke Bernardini
Margaret Ciancio
Peter Cunningham
Megan Drucker
John Foran
David Guba
Elizabeth Ives
Michael Kenny

Marisa Maldonado
Ratzfellaht Monroe
Brittany Orrico
Amanda Reid
Hilary Streifer
Brian Taylor
John Vella

Adele Lindenmeyer, Ph.D., Dean of Graduate Studies, and former Chair of the History department, gives congratulations at the Recognition Ceremony for graduate students on Saturday, May 15, 2010. At left, Lowell Gaetjansen, Ph.D., Associate Dean of Social Science, and at right, Thomas W. Smith, Ph.D., Associate Dean of Humanities.
TWO BOOKS PUBLISHED BY GRADUATE ALUMNI

Michael Smith, M.A. ’94 and Francis Ryan, M.A. ’95 have added book publications to their list of accomplishments. Smith co-edited a new book that urges colleges and universities to make civic engagement a key component of their curricula as a way to help students become more active, reflective civic agents. Published by Indiana University Press, “Citizenship Across the Curriculum” includes case studies from a variety of disciplines that provide models for citizenship education and for evaluating their educational effectiveness.

The case studies in the book are from disciplines most often associated with civic education—like history and political science—but include disciplines such as mathematics or biochemistry.

Smith conducted much of his research on civic engagement and developed the local environmental history project he writes about in his own chapter of the book while serving as a Carnegie Scholar with the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching in 2005 – 2006. Michael is assistant professor of history and environmental studies at Ithaca College in Ithaca, N.Y.

Francis Ryan teaches labor history at the Comey Institute of Industrial Relations at St. Joseph’s University in Philadelphia and is a visiting assistant professor of history at Temple University. His new book, “AFSCME’s Philadelphia Story: Municipal Workers and Urban Power in the Twentieth Century,” will be published by Temple University Press in November. “AFSCME’s Philadelphia Story” provides the most comprehensive account of the early years of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, which is one of the nation’s largest and most politically powerful unions in the AFL-CIO.

Ryan shows how Philadelphia’s AFSCME emerged from the patronage system controlled by one of the early twentieth century’s most notorious urban machines. In reconstructing the origins and development of AFSCME, Ryan illuminates the working class origins of African-American political power and also provides a thorough overview of the role the municipal state played in the urban economy of one of the nation’s largest cities during the twentieth century.

SECOND LORE KEPHART ’86
DISTINGUISHED HISTORIANS LECTURE

“Whose Army? Civil-Military Relations in the United States Since World War II.”

Andrew J. Bacevich, Ph.D.

September 27, 2010

7:00 pm

Villanova Room, Connelly Center

Andrew J. Bacevich, Ph.D., is professor of international relations and history and former director of the Center for International Relations at Boston University. A graduate of the U.S. Military Academy, he received his doctorate degree in American diplomatic history from Princeton University. He retired from the United States Army with the rank of Colonel.

CHARLENE MIRES LEAVING VILLANOVA CONTINUED FROM COVER

history. Through her participation in these regional projects, Dr. Mires was able to involve Villanova undergraduate and graduate students in the rewriting of the area’s history. Her students have contributed to studies of the Centennial Exhibition, the Eastern State Penitentiary and Independence Hall, among other sites.

Dr. Mires also established herself as an outstanding scholar with her book, “Independence Hall in American Memory,” which won the 2003 Athenaeum of Philadelphia Literary Award. She is currently completing a manuscript on the quest for a permanent home for the United Nations. “Capitals of the World” looks back at the spontaneous competition that developed between cities and towns in the United States to become the home of the United Nations. Dr. Mires uses these examples of civic boosterism in such improbable places as the Black Hills of South Dakota to explore how Americans at the end of World War II saw their communities connected to or, as she notes, even central to, the wider world. She has already published several articles on this topic and the forthcoming book promises to be another impressive work of scholarship.

In her new position as director of MARCH, Dr. Mires will be able to develop further her scholarly and professional interests in bringing the region’s history to the public. The center identifies its mission as: “Helping humanities professionals tap the power of the region’s expansive cultural heritage to enrich community life, inspire visitors, and revitalize the economy.” In light of Dr. Mires’s record of achievement while at Villanova we are confident that she will do a superb job as the new director of MARCH. We are saddened at her departure, but take some consolation in knowing that she is moving just across the Delaware River. We wish her success.