# Tenth Annual Undergraduate History Conference

**March 31, 2018**

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10th Annual Undergraduate History Conference
Saturday, March 31, 2018
The Steel Dynamics Keith E. Busse IPFW Alumni Center

8:15-8:50 AM  Breakfast (coffee, pastries)
8:50-9:00 AM  Welcome and Opening Remarks (Dr. Deborah Bauer, History, and Dr. Richard Weiner, History Department Chair)
9:00-10:00 AM  Panel 1: Make Love or Make War?: America and the World in the 1960s and ’70s
Holly Holland (Secondary Education), “Defining Hippies from Heads to Tails: Haight-Ashbury and the Summer of Love”
Amara Scheitlin (History/Political Science), “Culture and Politics: Personal Connections and Ping Pong Diplomacy”
Sam Lyon (History & Secondary Education), “An Alliance of Dysfunction”
Chair/Moderator: Dr. David Schuster (History)
10:00-10:10 AM  Coffee break
10:10-11:10 AM  Panel 2: Spies and Lies: Secrecy in Warfare, Diplomacy, and Historical Judgment
Sarah Adams (History), “The U-505 Divulges Her Secrets”
Damon Staub (History), “The Origins of Modern Intelligence: Room 40 and Codebreaking During World War I”
Elizabeth Schneider (History), “Game of Queens”
Fyodor Wheeler (History), “A Questioned History: Procopius’ Secret History and its Contents”
Chair/Moderator: Dr. Christine Erickson (History)
11:15-12:15 PM  Panel 3: Assessing the Americas: Revising Visions of the Atlantic World
Bre Anne Briskey (History/Psychology), “Imperialist Texts: An Oversimplification of 19th Century Latin American Travel Literature”
Kyler Hudson (History/Political Science), “Seeing the New World Through the Lens of the Old World: Manifestation of Pre-existing Frameworks in the Travel Writing of Christopher Columbus”
Cameo Parry (General Studies), “Women and the Atlantic Slave Trade”
Iseah Hurtado (History), “Evolution of Frank Tannenbaum’s views on the Economic Progress of Mexico Following the Revolution”
Chair/Moderator: Dr. Jeffrey Malanson (History)
12:15-12:55 PM  Lunch (pre-registration required)
12:55-1:50 PM  Panel 4: Public History In and Out of the Classroom
Garett Chrisman (History)
Nick Miller (History)
Traci Henning-Kolberg (History)
Fyodor Wheeler (History)
Chair/Moderator: Prof. Deanna Wooley (History)
1:55-2:50 PM  Panel 5: Church, State, and Sports in the Soviet Union
Kevin Smith (Philosophy/History), “Church and State Relations in the Soviet Union during the 1920s.”
Tynan Easterday (Political Science), “The Bund and its Departure from the Russian Social Democrats”
Rachel Leap (History/Secondary Education), “Soviet Sports Culture”
Chair/Moderator: Dr. Suzanne LaVere (History)
Student Biographies and Abstracts

Panel: Make Love or Make War?: America and the World in the 1960s and ‘70s

**Hannah Smith**

**Title:** “The Making of a Long Strange Trip: LSD and The Grateful Dead”

**Faculty Advisor:** Dr. David Schuster

**Paper written for:** History A382: The Sixties in American History (Fall 2017)

**Hannah Smith** is in her third year at IPFW, majoring in Secondary Education with a concentration in historical perspectives, political science, and sociology. She appreciates all historical subjects, but is particularly enthusiastic about the Cold War era. After she graduates next spring, she plans to attend graduate school to obtain her master’s degree in History.

**Abstract**

When many think of American culture in the 1960s, visions of hippies, rock n’ roll, Woodstock, and drugs perhaps come to mind. These are all aspects of the counterculture that flourished during the decade. This paper explores the significance of the correlation between drugs and music for the counterculture in the 1960s, particularly examining the newest recreational drug at the time, LSD (also known as acid), and what would soon be one of the most popular rock n’ roll bands in American history, The Grateful Dead. For three decades — the 1960s to the 1980s — LSD influenced The Grateful Dead’s music, aesthetic, and fan base. In the 1960s, The Dead discovered their acid rock sound and jam band quality at Ken Kesey’s Acid Test Parties. In the 1970s, acid fueled the psychedelic artwork that appeared on their albums and in the lyrics in some of their most popular songs. The 1980s saw the creation of a Deadhead community as well as a firm connection between the band and its fans due to LSD and the surrounding drug culture. Interviews, memoirs, song lyrics, and documentaries from the time show that LSD impacted The Grateful Dead’s unique sound, loyal fan base, and psychedelic aesthetic, culminating in the creation of a legacy for the band that lasted for decades to come.

**Bibliographical Note**

The sources presented in this paper include both primary and secondary sources. The latter include books and articles relating to The Grateful Dead, LSD, or both. *Why The Grateful Dead Matters* by Michael Benson and *Perspectives on The Grateful Dead* edited by Robert G. Weiner are two books containing various view points on The Grateful Dead. “What LSD Actually Does to the Brain” by Zoe Cormier provides scientific evidence of the effects of acid on the chemistry of the human brain. *Acid Dreams: The Complete Social History of LSD: The CIA, the Sixties, and Beyond* written by Martin A. Lee and Bruce Shlain and *Bear: The Life and Times of Augustus Owsley Stanley III* are two novels about LSD’s pertinence to the 1960s and The Grateful Dead. Primary sources
used include interviews, books, song lyrics, and a documentary. Among said interviews are three with Jerry Garcia himself, two with artists for the Grateful Dead, one with a Grateful Dead lyricist, one with a veteran Deadhead, and one with Jerry Garcia’s ex-wife. Books include Growing Up Dead: The Hallucinated Confessions of a Teenage Deadhead written by Peter Conners and The Electric Kool-Aid Acid Test by Tom Wolfe. The paper also includes song lyrics by and a documentary about Bob Weir. All the sources help to identify LSD as one factor that contributed to the legacy of The Grateful Dead.
Holly Holland

Title: “Defining Hippies from Heads to Tails: Haight-Ashbury and the Summer of Love”
Faculty Advisor: Dr. David Schuster
Paper written for: History A382: The Sixties in American History (Fall 2017)

Holly Holland is a senior at IPFW working towards her bachelor’s in Secondary Education with a concentration in Social Studies. Her academic interests include questions of identity and ownership, and exploring alternative narratives that contend with more traditional narratives. Her historical pursuits include digging deeper into American history to explore the formation of countercultures and their specific roles in American political, economic and cultural advancements. Her other creative pursuits include water-coloring, creative writing and travel. This will be Holly’s second time participating in the Annual Undergraduate History Conference, her first being last year, with a paper that questioned the “American dream” and its relation to marginalized groups. She would like to dedicate this presentation to her mother, Patricia Rugg, who considers herself to be very much an “old, proud Hippie!”

Abstract

In 1967 the Haight-Ashbury district of San Francisco served as a stage for a distinct counterculture to thrive and ultimately integrate into mainstream society. This paper aims to deconstruct the competing perceptions of Hippies during and after the Summer of Love through the lens of Bay Area citizens and journalists of the time. The counterculture of Haight-Ashbury was subject to being defined not only by its neighbors, but also through divisions within the counterculture itself. Through exploring primary source documents such as news reports, editorials, opinion pieces, and first-hand accounts regarding the Haight-Ashbury counterculture, this paper found that defining the Hippie counterculture is subject to competing perceptions.

Within these competing perceptions, there is a correlation between the definers of a counterculture and its evolution into mainstream society. While some obvious definers of the counterculture are those who oppose it, this paper also found that there was a division within the counterculture itself as to what it meant to be a Hippie. For example, the difference between members of the counterculture who identified as Heads or Freaks in regards to their drug use created a deep division within the movement. Within the counterculture itself there was also a division between following its Beatnik roots and branching off to widely different areas. For those on the outside looking in, defining the hippie counterculture ranged from disdain to fanatical fascination, as shown in ads for a ‘Hippieland Tour’ featured in newspapers from the LA Times to the Boston Globe. Eventually as the counterculture itself lost its own ability to self-define, it was subject to commercialization and subsequent acquisition by mainstream media. In exploring the definition of the Hippie counterculture we can see that the process is as much a part of the counterculture as it is a sign of identity formation and ownership.
Bibliographical Note

Sources used in this paper include multiple primary accounts in newspaper articles, opinion pieces, and news reports, as well as a secondary source written by Charles Perry titled *The Haight-Ashbury: A History*. Nicholas Von Hoffman’s serial articles featured in *The Washington Post*, titled “The Acid Affair” provided deep insight into the hippie counterculture while various article advertising a ‘Hippie-tour’ were featured in newspapers from *The Chicago Tribune* to *The Los Angeles Times*. Tensions between members of the counterculture and other marginalized groups were illustrated in an article from “The Acid Affair” series as well as an article from *The New York Times*, while tensions within the counterculture were illustrated in an article by Stephen A. O. Golden in *The New York Times* titled “Hippie Regulars on Haigh Want Part-Timers to Take a Trip.” The secondary source provided by Charles Perry served as a contrast to the narratives presented by the primary sources to sustain depth and historical foresight.
Amara Scheitlin

Title: “Culture and Politics: Personal Connections and Ping Pong Diplomacy”
Faculty Advisor: Dr. David Schuster
Paper written for: History A382: The Sixties in American History (Fall 2017)

Amara Scheitlin is majoring in History and Political Science at IPFW and pursuing a Certificate in International Studies. This is her second year and she will be graduating next spring. She has been a legal assistant at Perry Law Office since 2016 and plans to continue studying international relations in graduate school. She is particularly interested in the role of international organizations as related to foreign policy and diplomatic history.

Abstract

Relations between the United States and the People’s Republic of China (PRC) changed during the 1970s. Although President Nixon’s visit to the PRC was not until February of 1972, the initial thaw in tensions began in March of 1971 with the thirty-first World Table Tennis Championships in Nagoya, Japan. At this international competition, American athlete Glenn Cowan made history when he hitched a ride on the Chinese team’s bus and ignited communication between the two countries. This personal connection between athletes led to more interactions between individual American and Chinese peoples. Just a few months later in July of 1971, Henry Kissinger and Premier Zhou Enlai would meet and negotiate the 1972 visit between President Nixon and Chairman Mao Zedong. Thus, the rapprochement that occurred between the PRC and U.S. was largely a product of what has been called ping pong diplomacy, but this thaw in relations was not isolated to the realm of politics.

In addition to political impacts, the U.S. also experienced cultural exchanges in the wake of ping pong diplomacy. These exchanges emerged due to the development of personal connections between the U.S. and PRC during the 1970s. The same person-to-person interactions experienced by the table tennis teams also spread to other individuals, such as government officials (i.e. Kissinger and Zhou), businessmen, and academics. Political encounters involved discussions of Vietnam and Taiwan, while cultural exchanges breached multiple topics. Throughout the U.S., Americans became more exposed to Chinese studies, art, and even symbols such as the panda bear. By making personal connections among Chinese and American individuals, ping pong diplomacy allowed diplomatic relations between the U.S. and PRC to emerge and cultural exchanges to flourish. For the first time, Americans could see the PRC as a nation of people rather than just a communist regime and took an interest in the foreign country like never before.

Bibliographical Note

For this paper, I utilized mainly primary sources consisting of newspaper and magazine articles from The Economist, The Boston Globe, and many more. These sources cross economic, social, cultural, and political lines in order to provide various viewpoints on the impacts of ping
pong diplomacy. Among the secondary sources used were works by scholars Victor Cha, Chris Tudda, Yafeng Xia, and Ruth Eckstein.
Sam Lyon

Title: “An Alliance of Dysfunction”
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Christine Erickson
Paper written for: History H217: The Nature of History (Fall 2017)

Sam Lyon is currently pursuing B.A.s in both History and Secondary Education. Aside from being a student, he is a soldier in the Indiana National Guard, as well as an electrical motor mechanic. He is an avid backpacker and traveler, as well as, obviously, a history enthusiast. This enthusiasm carried him to an internship at the Fort Wayne Historical Society this past summer, and his WWI exhibit is still on display there! Sam’s historical interests are all over the place, and have a lot to do with what classes he is currently taking and what books he is reading; currently his interests lie mainly in warfare and Southeast Asia.

Abstract

This paper asserts that the United States- Army of the Republic of Vietnam (ARVN) alliance during the Vietnam War was truly an alliance built upon, and operating within, a system of dysfunction. Focusing on the U.S. military political structure and its dealings with the ARVN, the paper proves that the U.S.-ARVN relationship was dysfunctional. It was, in fact, a tightly woven and toxic system of inter-dependency, which crippled the operational effectiveness of both armies.

My thesis is supported by various examples. The first massive sign of a distrusting and ineffective alliance is seen in the creation of the ARVN itself. While South Vietnamese generals wanted an army more suited towards local, guerilla war, the U.S. desired, pushed for, and attained an army that would be capable of withstanding conventional warfare. The way that the ARVN was structured continued to hurt the people of South Vietnam, who struggled to farm the land while meeting draft quotas, furthering the rift between the U.S. and the South.

Another of the many examples of dysfunction can be observed in the inadequate training and equipment received by conscripted South Vietnamese soldiers. Although drafted to meet U.S. demands, ARVN troops were horribly trained, and many feared that they would perish because of this. This fear, coupled with a massive lack in U.S. arms to supply them, caused the ARVN to be far less aggressive than the U.S. hoped. This lack of aggression, caused by U.S. lack of insight and care for their counterparts, did nothing but harm the American military. It caused American soldiers to, more often than not, be the aggressors in place of ineffective ARVN units.

My road into this subject itself was not a straight one. At first I wished to research and write on the Fall of Saigon, and the U.S.-ARVN relationship in that instance alone. After reading a few documents about U.S. neglect for their South Vietnamese counterparts during the evacuation process, I wanted to see how this dynamic played out during the course of the entire war. The question I set out to answer was, by itself, completely unoriginal. It has been dissected and poured over constantly by politicians, upset veterans, and historians alike since the war’s
termination. That question is, why did the U.S.-ARVN alliance fail? I believe that the unique nature of my research stems from my approach. I looked not to any particular battle, doctrine, or instant, but to the backbone of the alliance itself as the primary cause of U.S.-ARVN defeat.

**Bibliographical Note**

In order to guide this research and support my thesis, I used multiple primary and secondary sources, as well as a reference work. Primary sources include a U.S. Air Force step-by-step account of the Fall of Saigon, multiple newspaper articles, and the Paris Peace Accords themselves. These primary sources were augmented by secondary material ranging from accounts of daily life in the ARVN to the ins and outs of Vietnam’s traditional, subsistence economy. Primary sources were used mostly in discussing battles and the Fall of Vietnam itself, and they were invaluable in providing a sense of firsthand panic and chaos.

A substantial part of my work was devoted towards historical context and the background of the war, and for this I used exclusively secondary sources. One secondary source that proved incredibly useful for me was *ARVN: Life and Death in the South Vietnamese Army*, by Robert Bingham. This source gave key insight to the much unexplored plight of the ARVN soldier. Additionally, I relied on Stanley Kutler’s *Encyclopedia of the Vietnam War* to provide me with definitions, biographies, and orders of battles.
Panel: Spies and Lies: Secrecy in Warfare, Diplomacy, and Historical Judgement

Sarah Adams

Title: “The U-505 Divulges Her Secrets”
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Deborah Bauer
Paper written for: History B345: History of Espionage (Fall 2017)

Sarah Adams is a history major at IPFW in her junior year. She is interested in the development of technology from 1850 to 1950, and how its adaptation was connected with military uses. She has served as an intern at the Auburn Cord Duesenberg Museum in Auburn, specifically in the small artifacts area of the curatorial department. She performed the necessary examination and documentation of the artifacts in the museum to help develop a database. She is still at the museum working as an intern in the archival department, helping them input documents into a database. Her future plans include working in a museum where she can use her experience, interests, and education to provide future generations the opportunity to learn about history and its impact on our present.

Abstract

The German submarine U-505 was captured off the coast of Africa by the United States during World War II. The information gleaned from her helped the United States and Great Britain gain control of the Atlantic. This paper examines the role that the capture of this submarine played in a joint American and British espionage effort during World War II.

Until that point the Germans dominated the Atlantic and were slowly choking Great Britain by eliminating the flow of supplies to the island nation. German use of the Enigma machine to send coded messages to the submarines made it impossible for the Allies to read the messages in time to save shipping. The development of sonar guided torpedoes made it possible for a submarine to fire and escape without giving away its true position.

The capture of technology from the Germans, exposed through study of the U-505, gave the Allies the edge they needed to win the battle of the Atlantic. Today the U-505 sits in the Museum of Science and Industry in Chicago. It is not only a prize of war but a testament to the men and women who fought and died protecting Great Britain and the United States.

Bibliographical Note

This report relied on primary sources such as the writings of Captain Daniel Gallery, which gave insight into his personal experiences, and documents located in the United States Navy archives, which provided technical information on the torpedoes. Secondary sources included
biographies about the primary individuals involved, an Operations Evaluation Group from the U.S. Navy, and the Museum of Science and Industry in Chicago’s publication about the U-505.
Damon Staub
Title: “The Origins of Modern Intelligence: Room 40 and Codebreaking During World War I”
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Deborah Bauer
Paper written for: History B345: History of Espionage (Fall 2017)

Damon Staub is a senior majoring in History. He will be graduating with his bachelor’s degree after completion of this spring semester. Prior to his time at IPFW he spent two years of his college experience as an electrical and computer engineering technology student at Purdue University. After a couple years stressing over theoretical physics and equations he concluded he was not in the field he loved. History was something passed onto him by his grandparents and he decided to give it a try by taking a course while still at Purdue. Almost instantly he knew it was what he wanted to do. He plans to continue his education by pursuing a master’s degree in Library Services or History. While he is still deciding which direction to take, he plans to obtain a teaching certificate and find a job teaching history to future generations.

Abstract

War and fighting have existed since the earliest days of man. With it comes violence, destruction, territorial changes and mass amounts of casualties. However, there is another aspect of war that is not discussed as much—the ways in which countries try to avoid war and the violence that accompanies it. Behind the scenes there are operations and procedures that go into avoiding the destruction and bloodshed that war brings. Espionage and intelligence-gathering have long been the tools government bodies use to weaken enemy advantages, while trying to avoid as many casualties as possible. An example of this effort to shorten the duration of war by discovering enemy secrets and tactics can be found during the First World War with Great Britain’s creation of Room 40.

The goal of Room 40 was to intercept as many German messages as possible, and to decipher whatever it was the Germans were saying. The British and Room 40 dismantled German plans through discoveries like the Zimmerman Telegram, a major reason The United States joined the war on the side of Britain. Remnants of Room 40 can be seen throughout history as well. According to author and historian David Boyle, Room 40 was in many ways the precursor to Bletchley Park, the British codebreaking institute responsible for dismantling Nazi plans. Without the successes and new methods of Room 40 during WWI, WWII might not have gone the direction that it did. Room 40 established a national desire for a permanent system of intelligence gathering. It successfully bested the German enemy through innovative means like the use of signal intelligence—ultimately laying the groundwork for a new era of espionage in which codebreaking organizations and institutes, such as Bletchley Park, heavily influence the outcomes of war.
Bibliographical Note

I shaped my argument after familiarizing myself with Room 40 using secondary sources. The sources were the works of several historians specializing in the early 20th century, Western European conflicts, and WWI. Author David Boyle is a professional journalist that writes solely about history and the economy. In his book Before Enigma: The Room 40 Codebreakers of the First World War he details exactly what Room 40 was and how it led to code breaking during WWII with the creation of Bletchley Park. Professor Michael Heffernan works at the University of Nottingham and specializes in Historical Geography. In an article he published in the Transactions of the Institute of British Geographers, Heffernan details why Room 40 came into existence; his argument is that Room 40 was to counter the rise in German naval technology. American historian Dr. Barbara Tuchman specialized in 19th and early 20th-century American history. Her work is highly informative and influential and she was twice awarded the Pulitzer Prize. In her book The Zimmerman Telegram, she gives detailed information as to how Room 40 shifted the tide of war by uncovering the Zimmerman Telegram. Once the background information as to what Room 40 was and how it impacted history was found, I then looked for primary sources that supported the idea that Room 40 was a turning point in espionage. What I discovered was writings by Admiral Sir William Reginald Hall, the founder of Room 40. His writings came years after the events of Room 40, but was his attempt at creating a memoir of his time served. These works help in understanding what the mindset was at the time, and what options Great Britain and Hall had in stopping the German forces. Another primary source used was from Admiral Sir William James, an officer affiliated with Room 40. He gives a first-hand account as to what Room 40 was, and who was working there.
Elizabeth Schneider

Title: “Game of Queens”
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Deborah Bauer
Paper written for: History B345: History of Espionage (Fall 2017)

Elizabeth Schneider is a Senior at IPFW, pursing a Bachelor’s degree in History. She has worked at Parkview full time for the last seven years. After her third year there she realized that telemetry monitoring (providing remote surveillance of patient’s cardiac rhythms for the nurses and doctors) was not destined to be her life’s work. She returned to school for her true calling in history. She has discovered a fascination with monarchies and the way that they run, but she has also come to hold the colonial period of American History close to her heart. She is scheduled to graduate May 2019, and is excited to start the search for her niche in the study of history.

Abstract

“Game of Queens” is a reflection of how monarchs, queens especially, survived over the centuries; how they were able to combat their enemies and stay in power. It focuses on several queens – Elizabeth I of England, Mary Queen of Scots, Isabella of Castile, and Catherine de Medici of France – and how they were able to display prominence in a male-dominated world. While a king’s power went unquestioned due to his birthright as a male, the queens faced closer scrutiny and suspicion. This paper provides an analysis of how queens throughout history worked to negotiate ways to keep the power they had as well as keep their king in power. While some were successful, other queens would pay with their lives. This paper is about the real-life game of chess these women played and their legacy built into the survival of the monarchies throughout time.

Bibliographical Note

For the most part I used secondary sources such as books and journals and then used their list of primary sources to look further into details. Some books that I found particularly interesting include: Isabella: The Warrior Queen by Kristin Downey, Jane Dunn’s Elizabeth and Mary: Cousins, Rivals, Queens, Robert Massie’s Catherine the Great, as well as Louis XIV by Anthony Levi. A good article that I found online, which I highly recommend, is “A Stable of Whores? The Flying Squadron of Catherine De Medici” by Una Mcilvenna.
Fyodor Wheeler

Title: “A Questioned History: Procopius’ Secret History and its Contents”
Faculty Advisor: Dr. David Coles
Paper written for: History D402: Byzantine History and Civilization (Spring 2017)

Fyodor Wheeler is a senior history major and English minor with a completed religion minor. He has tutored American history post-1877, Western civilization to 1500, and writing for three years and has gained the reputation of the “guy with purple hair who knows a lot about history.” In the future, he plans on researching the history portrayed in Shakespeare’s Richard II and editing a volume of Middle English poetry. This is his third time presenting at this conference and hopefully he will not leave his coat behind this time.

Abstract

Procopius of Caesarea gives a bleak and sordid description of the Byzantine Empire under Justinian in the sixth century AD. His Secret History is not only an exposé of the Byzantine elite, but an indictment of its corruption and cruelty. In it he attacks everything from the offices held by unqualified and greedy individuals and Theodora’s scandalous background to the divisions in Christendom created by the Emperor and Empress, and makes the rather wild claim that Justinian was not human at all, but in fact a demon. The claims Procopius makes appear to be nothing but rumors and slander and a complete contradiction of his earlier writings in the Wars, in which Justinian is depicted as a good, upright leader.

What made Procopius change his portrayal of Justinian, and did he honestly believe what he recorded? How reliable a source is The Secret History? Using Anthony Kaldellis’s 2010 translation, this paper evaluates Procopius’s claims and his motives in writing this history to determine its trustworthiness. To do this, I have examined the religious situation of sixth century Byzantium to evaluate the book’s religious claims as well as the author himself as a Christian. While the accusations of demonic power are questionable, Procopius’s Christian convictions are genuine, and his objection to the contemporary religious controversies suggest he truly believed there was something wrong with the court. Procopius openly suggests the reader verify his claims by consulting his sources and other contemporary histories. I have cross-referenced his claims about politics and the corruption of the legal system with Justinian’s own laws, and found that many of these are indeed true, such as Novella 147, which proves Procopius’s claim that Justinian did not cancel tax arrears, and Novella 105, an attempt to modify the office of consul.

Bibliographical Note

The author is indebted to Anthony Kaldellis’s translation of Prokopios The Secret History with Related Texts (2010), the edition used in this paper.
Panel: Assessing the Americas: Revising Visions of the Atlantic World

Bre Anne Briskey

Title: “Imperialist Texts: An Oversimplification of 19th Century Latin American Travel Literature”
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Richard Weiner
Paper written for: History J495 (Senior Seminar): Latin America in Foreign Eyes (Fall 2017)

Bre Anne Briskey is a fourth-year Chapman Scholar, majoring in history and psychology. She is a member of Alpha Sigma Alpha, Phi Kappa Phi, Psi Chi, The National Society of Leadership and Success, and the current president of Phi Eta Sigma. Bre Anne is participating in the Honors Program at IPFW where she has earned the Honors Pin and is completing her honors project. She received the Top 50 Award in 2017 and again in 2018. Bre Anne presented at the 2015, 2016, 2017, and 2018 Student Research Symposiums along with presenting at the 8th and 9th Annual Undergraduate History Conferences. She is a student mentor for the Department of History as well as working with the IPFW Institute for Holocaust and Genocide Studies. Her historical interests consist of a wide array including Latin America, genocide, and the history of science and medicine. After graduating from IPFW, Bre Anne plans on attending graduate school in history.

Abstract

During the nineteenth century, foreign travelers often noted the rich, natural resources available in Latin America that could be used back in their home country. Frequently, accounts explicitly referenced how connections to Latin America would be beneficial; these features in their accounts reflected an imperialist attitude towards Latin America. In Imperial Eyes: Travel Writing and Transculturation, Mary Louise Pratt argued that travelers during this time wrote travel literature that viewed Latin America through biased eyes in order to exploit Latin America to advance their home country’s economy. Labeling 19th century travel writers Imperialists oversimplifies things. The purpose of this project was to examine foreign travel literature and travelers’ motivations for exploring Latin America. This project used contemporary travel literature, as well as scholarly secondary sources on the travel literature during this era. Two themes emerged from these writings: collaboration efforts and descriptions.

Scientific explorers such as Alexander von Humboldt and John Ball collaborated with native informants to gain information on Latin America, such as barometric measurements. Other scientific explorers like Sir Richard Henry Bonnycastle and William Walton used positive descriptions to portray the marvels of Latin America and its people. For instance, Walton praised Latin Americans for their competency in astronomy, botany, and chemistry, stating that because of their perception and skills, they were unquestioningly capable of attending universities in Europe. Based on these examples, this paper argues that advancing the scientific knowledge of the natural world rather than advancing an imperialist agenda, motivated some travelers to explore Latin America. The collaborations and positive descriptions examined in this paper do not fit into the imperialist interpretation on travel literature, which emphasizes not only travel writers’ negative
depictions of natives, but also foreigners’ reluctance to collaborate with locals. By showing that some scientific travelers collaborated with locals in the quest of advancing knowledge about the natural world, this study revises Pratt’s assertion that it was imperialism that motivated travelers to explore Latin America.

Bibliographical Note

This project used a combination of primary and secondary sources. The primary sources focused on foreign travelers’ accounts of Latin America. These accounts included descriptions on the natural resources, collaboration efforts with the native population, and depictions of the native populations. Additionally, in some of the primary sources, the authors noted their motivations for exploring Latin America. The secondary sources provided context for this project. For instance, Mary Louise Pratt’s book, Imperial Eyes, was used in this project to help demonstrate the need for a revisionist interpretation on the traditional narrative regarding scientific-explorer to Latin America. Several of the secondary sources provided information on writing travel literature in the nineteenth century. In addition, other secondary sources provided context for Latin American travel writing as well as on scientific travel writing more broadly.
Title: “Seeing the New World Through the Lens of the Old World: Manifestation of Pre-existing Frameworks in the Travel Writing of Christopher Columbus”

Faculty Advisor: Dr. Richard Weiner

Paper Written For: History J495 (Senior Seminar): Latin America in Foreign Eyes (Fall 2017)

Kyler Hudson is a senior at IPFW, majoring in History and Political Science. His historical interests include presidential politics, rural and agrarian politics, and World War I. He will graduate from IPFW in May 2018 and attend Indiana University in the fall to pursue a PhD in Political Science. Kyler will continue to research rural politics and policy, either in academia or at a public policy research center in Washington D.C.

Abstract

The writings of Christopher Columbus documented one of the most significant eras of human history, as Europeans discovered an entirely new and foreign world. During his historic expeditions, Columbus recorded his experiences in a journal that he presented to King Ferdinand and Queen Isabella after his return. Columbus’ journal provides modern historians with a window into the mind of the explorer as he experienced otherworldly phenomena. The journal describes the New World’s plants, animals, peoples, and physical geography. Columbus’ descriptions of the New World reflect the preexisting conceptual framework that he brought with him from the Old World. This conceptual framework manifested itself in Columbus’ journal via four literary devices: the principle of attachment, religious references, citations of earlier Western authors, and allusions to previous travels.

Columbus’ background in the Catholic Church, capitalist enclaves of Southern Europe, and colonies in Africa and the Atlantic colored his perception of the New World. This preexisting conceptual framework affected how he viewed the native phenomena across the Atlantic. In doing so, Columbus translated the exotic into the familiar. For example, Columbus often employed the principle of attachment to compare characteristics of the New World to those of the Old World, which he and his audience would recognize. He compared the Caribbean weather to that of Andalusia, the mountains of Cuba to those of Sicily, native birds to those in Castile, New World palm trees to those in Africa and Europe, and indigenous religions to Catholicism. Columbus also used the Bible to understand his new environment, writing that he had discovered the region of Ophir as described in the Book of Kings. He cited earlier authors like Cardinal Pierre d’Ailly, Pope Pius, Pliny the Elder, and Marco Polo to make sense of his discoveries. For example, after reading Polo’s descriptions, Columbus believed that Cuba was the island of Japan, which Polo named Cipango. Columbus also alluded to his and others’ previous travels to Africa and into the Atlantic. After sailing to Iceland, he learned of Scandinavian expeditions westward and heard of islands in the Atlantic. All of these examples present in Columbus’ writings demonstrate how his Old World conceptual framework affected how he viewed the New World.

This research builds upon the academic scholarship and supports the consensus that travel
literature is inherently subjective and cannot communicate experiences without bias. All travelers begin their journeys with prior ideas and backgrounds that affect how they understand the world. This approach however, with the identification of four literary devices which reflect a preexisting conceptual framework, is unique. The paper uses secondary sources to support specific points and provide background on the state of the academic literature, but relies heavily on primary sources, particularly the journal of Columbus’ first voyage. The conclusions suggest that modern historians should be wary of interpreting travel writing as wholly objective. While it is sometimes the only historical source available, it should not be understood to faultlessly convey reality.

Bibliographical Notes

This research paper relied primarily upon the journal of Christopher Columbus’ first voyage to the New World. The selected translation was edited by Oliver Dunn and James E. Kelley Jr. and included a transcription of the original Spanish text. While this document comprised the great majority of the evidence for the paper, other primary sources from Columbus were used, such as diary entries from later voyages and letters that he wrote to the Spanish monarchy. Secondary sources were used to provide information on Columbus’ background, earlier authors, and the academic literature on travel writing.
Cameo Parry

Title: “Women & the Atlantic Slave Trade”
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Jeffrey Malanson
Paper written for: History H360 - The Atlantic World - 1400-1900 (Summer 2017)

Cameo Parry is a General Studies major at IPFW, with a minor in History and OLS, where she has studied while working as a Community Development Specialist for the City of Fort Wayne. Cameo will graduate with highest honors, and was named an IPFW Top 50 student for her academic achievement and community involvement. She intends to enroll in graduate school and study public administration. She lives in Fort Wayne with her husband and three dogs.

Abstract

“Women and the Atlantic Slave Trade” explores the role of women during a variety of aspects of the Atlantic Slave Trade. This includes the undervalued role of slave women in Africa, the importance of captive women in slave culture in the West Indies, and women’s contributions in gaining and adapting to freedom during and after the abolition of slavery. The under-reported value of women in the Atlantic Slave Trade, whether in Africa or in the European Colonies in the Americas, is analyzed and existing research reviewed with the intent to find critical insight into the feminine role of slave culture. Through this analysis, a different context of slave cultures in the Atlantic World is explored in both the Caribbean and in Africa through the perspective of slave women. Further, the role of freed women after slavery is analyzed to show the pivotal role that women held in the transition of slaves to freed people.

Bibliographical Note

Using a mix of primary sources such as first-hand slave accounts, slave records, and artistic depictions of the slave trade as well as research by established scholars, this paper confronts the historical problem that women were often ignored by historians, both contemporaneously and in later attempts to understand the era of the Atlantic slave trade. The resulting research provides insight into women’s experience while undercutting previous silence or dismissal of captive women as important in the Atlantic Slave trade.
Iseah Hurtado

Title: “Evolution of Frank Tannenbaum’s views on the Economic Progress of Mexico Following the Revolution”

Faculty Advisor: Dr. Richard Weiner

Paper written for: Summer 2017 IRSC Summer Grant for research and writing

Iseah Hurtado will be graduating this May with a degree in History. His areas of interest in history include the early American Republic, presidential politics, and American political and diplomatic history. He is currently contemplating graduate school and aspires to leave Fort Wayne to further his education and career.

Abstract

American academic and activist Frank Tannenbaum (1893-1969) was highly esteemed in post-Revolutionary Mexico, and was good friends with President Lazaro Cardenas, one of the most influential Presidents in the nation’s history. This paper traces the evolution of Tannenbaum’s views on the Mexican Revolution from the 1920s to the 1960s, a period of significant change during which Mexico evolved from an agrarian to an industrial nation. Similarly, in 1959, the Cuban Revolution altered the situation in Mexico and all of Latin America. This paper argues that despite all this change, Tannenbaum’s views remained fairly consistent. Tannenbaum supported a small-scale economy and an agrarian program that would provide people with land they could farm and establish a self-sufficient existence. Tannenbaum believed that Mexico’s future lay in an agrarian economy that was self-reliant, community oriented, and free from the burdens and responsibilities of relying on other nations. He urged the government not to industrialize for fear that it would exacerbate inequalities, stir animosity between social classes, and make the country dependent on industrial nations that had resources that Mexico lacked. This would in turn result in another revolution. He championed his agrarian vision for decades, starting with Mexico’s reconstruction era of the 1920s, through Mexico’s agrarianism of 1930s, and during the Mexican Miracle of the 1940s. Only in his last works did he begin to accept that his agrarian ideal was not going to come to fruition as Mexico pursued a modern economy, far from what Tannenbaum envisioned when he first became enamored with the Revolution. His work on the Revolution and its aftermath was initially well received but over time he became less regarded because Mexicans viewed his opinions on Mexico as restrictive of the country’s economy and future.

Bibliographical Note

This essay focuses on historian Frank Tannenbaum’s agrarian interpretation of the Mexican Revolution and his consistent views that spanned decades as well as the shift from agrarianism to modernization that took place in Mexico. Primary sources aided the majority of my research, which included several books written by Tannenbaum about the Revolution. These books were all written in thirty-year time and provide insights into his views on the Revolution and the evolving economic climate. I also consulted secondary sources that analyzed Tannenbaum’s
views on agrarianism, modernization, and labor but used those mostly for reference and as an aid to understand the different eras of the Mexican Revolution and agrarian and industrial movements.
Panel: Public History In and Out of the Classroom

Faculty Advisor: Professor Deanna Wooley
Papers written for: T325: Introduction to Public History (Fall 2017)

Public History, as defined by the National Council of Public History, “describes the many and diverse ways in which history is put to work in the world...it is history that is applied to real-world issues.” Public historians find ways of engaging new audiences and bringing to light the myriad ways history touches our lives.

In Fall 2017, IPFW’s Department of History offered its first Introductory to Public History course. Students discussed the challenges of displaying history to the broader public and then created their own exhibits based on what they learned in the course. This panel explores the development and realization of public history projects about student life at IPFW with a focus on four student organizations: the Anthropology Club, the student newspaper Communicator, the Department of Theater, and the Indiana-Purdue Student Government Association. Panelists will discuss their experiences searching the IPFW university archives, conducting oral history interviews, planning exhibits at the Helmke Library, and writing the histories of IPFW student organizations.

Garett Chrisman
Theater Department

Garett Chrisman is currently in his third year at IPFW and is studying History as his major with Political Science as his minor. He has worked as a research assistant conducting interviews for Indiana University Bloomington on their Bicentennial Oral History Project. This is the first Annual History Conference he has spoken at, is a Questa Foundation Scholar, and currently works as a phlebotomist at the Coldwater BioLife Plasma Facility.

Nicholas Miller
The Anthropology Club

Nicholas Miller is a senior in his final semester at IPFW, with a double major in History and Anthropology and with a double minor in Psychology and Medieval Studies. Additionally, he is an intern at the Auburn Cord Duesenberg Museum, Early Ford V8 Museum and ARCH Inc. After commencement, he plans on pursuing a dual PhD in History and Anthropology. He has also applied to the Fulbright Scholarship Program in order to spend a semester abroad in Germany pursuing independent research. His mother's side of the family is from Germany, so he has many relatives in Europe – he would love the opportunity to meet the other half of his family and devote himself more fully to in-depth study of the German language. Furthermore, he is a certified mechanic and "turning a wrench" is how he has been funding his education. He enjoys working on cars, tinkering, and fabricating things in his free time, and being engaged with two automobile museums helps him balance out his passion for history and cars.
Fyodor Wheeler
The Anthropology Club

Fyodor Wheeler is a senior pursuing a major in History and minors in English and Religious Studies. He has tutored for H106 (American History since 1877) and H113 (Western Civilization to 1500), and provided assistance in writing papers. He has also gained the reputation of “has purple hair and knows a lot about history.” In the future, he plans on researching the history portrayed in Shakespeare’s Richard II and editing a volume of Middle English poetry.

Traci Henning-Kolberg
Indiana-Purdue Student Government Association

Traci Henning-Kolberg has returned to her true love of History after being away from IPFW for five years. She has found an amazingly supportive and vibrant faculty at IPFW and feels fulfilled by her studies as well as her position as a student worker with the History Department. Traci became President of the History Club last semester and is working to grow the organization by appealing to the more socially engaging side of History. There are many directions calling to her, but at this time, Traci is looking to successfully complete her B.A. in History and plans to pursue a master’s degree in Archival Studies and Historic Preservation with a focus on creating digital archives.

Bibliographical Note

The class divided into four groups, each of which investigated a different student organization for their respective exhibitions. Students in the groups conducted oral histories with members of the chosen organization; the interviews were then transcribed and filed with the organizations’ archives at IPFW. Students further compiled the remaining data found in the archives into papers discussing the history of their organizations and their purpose on campus. At the end of the semester the student groups exhibited their findings in the Helmke Library using guidelines introduced in class as well as from the course textbook Introduction to Public History: Interpreting the Past, Engaging Audiences (2017).
Panel: Church, State, and Sports in the Soviet Union

Kevin Smith

Title: “Church and State Relations in the Soviet Union During the 1920’s”
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Ann Livschiz
Paper Written For: History D310: The Russian Empire and Soviet Regimes (Fall 2017)

Kevin Smith is a third-year student at IPFW majoring in history and philosophy and minoring in economics. His main historical interests are in the history of philosophy, specifically medieval philosophy, but he is also interested in the history of Christianity and how church and state relations have changed over time. He is currently employed by Dr. Bernt Buldt as a research assistant working on editing Rudolf Carnap’s Introduction to Symbolic Logic and its Applications for a second edition. After graduating, he hopes to go on to graduate school in philosophy.

Abstract

Prior to the October Revolution of 1917, the Russian East Orthodox Church had complete authority over the spiritual affairs of Orthodox Russians. Starting with Peter the Great’s Church reform of 1721, the Orthodox clergy slowly developed into a professionalized separate class of people. The reform created the Holy Synod, council of high ranking clerics in charge of the Church, which later acquired a patriarch just prior to the October Revolution. This kind of organized and concentrated power could not be tolerated by the new Soviet government. From its very beginnings, the Soviet Union struggled with how to handle the tension between the Communist Party’s explicit goal of atheism and the state’s official doctrine of freedom of religion.

In the 1920s, the Soviet Union and Communist Party used three main methods to remove the Russian East Orthodox Church, and religion more generally, from Russia society: decrees, force, and propaganda. When the Bolsheviks first came to power they were too weak to remove the Church from society by force, so they had to settle with making bold unenforceable decrees. This was their main strategy from the October Revolution until the famine of 1921-1923. During the famine, the state forcibly started taking Church valuables to sell for famine relief. Some Orthodox believers and clergy resisted the confiscation of sacred objects, but the state swiftly put the protests down. Even though the official reason for taking the sacred objects was famine relief, there is good reason to think this was just an excuse. The Church still had great influence over the people, and the famine gave the state the opportunity to turn public opinion against it. After the official Church had been weakened during the famine, the Soviet state started focusing on getting the people to stop believing in religion. They did this in various ways, but the most dramatic thing they did was create the League of the Militant Godless in 1925. The main activity of the organization was to create and distribute anti-religious propaganda amongst the masses. Despite having the support of the Communist party and 5.5 million members, there is very little evidence to suggest it gained any sincere mass support. Out of the three methods used by the Soviet Union
to remove religion from Russian society the aggressive propaganda methods of the League of the Militant Godless were the least effective.

Bibliographical Note

The article “Church and State Relations in The Soviet Union during the 1920s” uses a variety of primary and secondary sources. Most of the primary sources are from Vladimir Lenin and Yemelyan Yaroslavsky. As both the leader of the Bolshevik Party and head of the Soviet government, Lenin had an unparalleled influence on how the Soviet Union dealt with the Russian East Orthodox Church during the 1920s. Yaroslavsky was the first president of the League of the Militant Godless so what he had to say sheds a lot of light on how members of the League viewed their task of removing religion from Soviet society.

The secondary sources are used to provide information about the Church prior to the revolution and help provide context for the information derived from primary sources. G. L. Freeze’s article “Handmaiden of the State? The Church in Imperial Russia Reconsidered,” Daniel Peris’s Storming the Heavens: The Soviet League of the Militant Godless, and William Husband’s Godless Communists: Atheism and Society In Soviet Russia, 1917-1932 were some of the most helpful secondary sources.
Tynan Easterday

Title: “The Bund and its Departure from the Russian Social Democrats”
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Ann Livschiz
Paper written for: History D310: Russian Revolutions and Soviet Regime (Fall 2017)

Tynan Easterday is in his third year as a student at IPFW. He is majoring in political science and history. He was a member of the Pep Band for one year and has been in Model UN for two years. He plans to go to graduate school and find opportunities to study radical politics.

Abstract

The Jewish Labor Bund of Lithuania, Poland, and Russia was a significant player in both the Russian revolutionary movement and Jewish political thought in the early 20th century. In regards to the Russian Revolution, it is often recognized for its conflict with Vladimir Lenin and the subsequent dramatic split from the Russian Social Democratic Workers’ Party (RSDWP) in 1903. As the understanding of the conflict has become more developed as the Bund has become more recognized, this split has proven to illuminate the latent authoritarian tendencies of Lenin and his cohorts. This paper seeks to show that the fundamental structure, origin, and culture of the Jewish Labor Bund sowed the seeds of conflict with the larger, Russian-speaking movement. Specifically, the mass quality and specific Jewish identity of the organization made it unique in the field of Russian social democratic parties. Because the Bund had an exclusively Jewish membership, they propagandized and agitated using Yiddish as their main language. Because they used a separate language from the rest of the Empire, there was room for more nationalistic positions. Furthermore, the Jewish population in the Pale constituted a middleman class, which exposed the Jewish worker to market forces earlier than his serf counterpart. This created a higher level of class consciousness, which manifested itself in the Bund’s organization. Since it was more populous in nature than its Russian-speaking counterparts, it was the major opposition to Lenin’s efforts for a strict, centralized social democratic party. This confrontation and resulting political split has its roots in the origin of the Bund. The Bund is important to study because of its interconnections with and relationship to Lenin and Russian Marxism.

Bibliographical Note

This essay focuses on the origin of the Jewish Labor Bund, and the timeline of its departure from the Russian Social Democrat Workers’ Party. The primary sources used are articles and pamphlets by Bundist leaders Vladimir Medem and Arkady Kremer that help explain the basis and significance of their ideology. For secondary sources, I used articles from Henry Tobias and Koppel Pinson along with others. Yoav Peled and Gershon Shafir’s work on split labor markets in the Pale was used to understand the economic conditions of the Jewish proletariat at the time.
Rachel Leap

Title: “Soviet Sports Culture”
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Ann Livschiz
Paper written for: History D310: Russian Revolutions and Soviet Regime (Fall 2017)

Rachel Leap is a third year IPFW student working towards bachelor’s degrees in history and secondary education. Her interest in history is primarily focused on culture because she loves the way people in the past lived outside of their jobs or government. In the future she wants to become a high school educator or perhaps another educator of some sort.

Abstract

After years of victory in the field of sports, Russia has built a reputation as being one of the most ruthless and insincere competitors in global sport. This reputation stems from the intense culture of victory endorsed by the Soviet Union that led to numerous champions emerging between the 1970s and 1990s in the Olympics and in world competitions. These victories came at a price, sacrificing the pride and health of Soviet athletes. Winning athletes became exemplars of communism and symbols of government success, and in modern Russia, some former Soviet athletes hold government positions despite this reckless history.

The Soviet Union was not afraid of unsavory tactics in Olympic competition. The 1972 Summer Olympics basketball final round is a great example of the Soviets’ unmerciful approach to sport. The Soviets beat the Americans by one point after two, three-second intervals were added to the clock at the end of the game. The reviewing panel and referees were also largely from the Soviet bloc, adding to the accusations of misconduct. The American players on the 1972 team believe to this day that the Soviets cheated, despite the Soviet team being very strong competitors.

Another component of Soviet era sports that still scars athletes from around the Bloc is a history of doping. The results of experimental and extreme drugging left many athletes with permanent damage to their bodies. Younger athletes like Rica Reinisch, a record setting swimmer at the time of her victories, were often not even told they were being doped. Reinsich surrendered her world records; however not every athlete has made this choice. Marita Koch still holds the world record for the 400-meter dash, and refuses to say that drugs played a role in her victory. Koch claims that there is no direct evidence proving that she doped.

Athletes were victims of Soviet culture not just by doping, but also by engaging in overly strenuous and dangerous training regimens that pushed the limit of sport to gain a win. The most tragic example of this is Elena Muhkina. Muhkina was an orphan encouraged to do gymnastics by her grandmother, but she wasn’t a highly valued athlete early on. She grabbed the attention of a new coach, however, who trained her to exceed Romanian gymnast Nadia Comaneci, lest she be a disappointment. She overthrew Comaneci in the 1978 World Championships, but her coaches wanted a gold medal in the 1980 Moscow Olympics. During this period of intense training,
Muhkina attempted the Thomas Salto flip, and consequently broke her neck, paralyzing her from the neck down.

Today, two former gold medal winning Soviet Olympians serve in the Russian government despite the unwholesome practice of sport during the Soviet era. Irina Rodnina, one of the most decorated pairs skaters in Olympic history, has served in the Russian Duma under Putin’s party since 2008, despite having no former governing experience. She created controversy in 2013 when she tweeted a photoshopped picture of President and Michelle Obama staring at a banana that had clear racist implications. Aleksandr Karelin, a nearly undefeated former Russian and Soviet Olympic wrestler, has been a representative for Putin’s party since 1999. The unwarranted political careers of these athletes demonstrate the continued power that the culture of victory has in Russia, despite the many immoral practices of the Soviet era.

**Bibliographical Note**

Because of the nature of my paper, many of my sources were not from traditional academic journals or books. My most useful sources were profiles written about the athletes at the time, with many of these coming from *Sports Illustrated* or excerpts from Russian magazines. For more current information on athletes, I used interviews from PBS, the BBC, or other contemporary news companies. I used official Olympic videos posted on YouTube to get a sense of what the athletes accomplished. I also used a few journal articles to gain a better understanding of Russian sports culture and topics broader than individual athletes.
Selected Student Awards and Accomplishments

Students in the Department of History have many opportunities for research and professional development outside the classroom. The following current students and graduates have worked hard for their successes, and the department is very proud and happy to share their accomplishments.


Bre Anne Briskey is a member of Alpha Sigma Alpha, Phi Kappa Phi, Psi Chi, The National Society of Leadership and Success, and the current president of Phi Eta Sigma. Bre Anne is participating in the Honors Program at IPFW where she has earned the Honors Pin and is completing her Honors project. She received the IPFW Top 50 Award in 2017 AND in 2018. Bre Anne presented at the 2015, 2016, 2017, and 2018 Student Research Symposia (recognized this year as the first student to present all four years), along with presenting at the 8th and 9th Annual Undergraduate History Conferences. She is a student mentor for the Department of History, as well as working with the IPFW Institute for Holocaust and Genocide Studies.

Jessie Cortesi (B.A. History 2014) coauthored “Mexico” (with Melissa Norton and Dr. Weiner), an article that appeared in Women’s Lives Around the World: Volume 2: the Americas (ABC-CLIO Greenwood Press, 2018). She was awarded a fellowship in the MA Program in History at IUPUI (with a Public History concentration), where she began her studies fall 2017.

Heather Dewey (B.A. History 2017) earned IPFW awards in the 2016-2017 academic year, including being included in the IPFW Top 50, and winning the Exemplar Award, given to the top IPFW Humanities student. She was also won the History Department’s Outstanding History Senior Award as well as the Promising Researcher Award. She has a forthcoming article (coauthored with Dr. Weiner), “Clashing Views on Modernization and Socioeconomic Rights: Mexican Reception of Frank Tannenbaum’s Mexico: The Struggle for Peace and Bread,” which will appear in Forum for Inter-American Research later this year. She is currently writing an article titled “Suriname” for the Encyclopedia for The Americas: An Encyclopedia of Culture and Society (ABC-CLIO). She will attend Northern Illinois University fall 2018, where she received a fellowship for graduate studies in History.

Cody Fuelling (B.A. History and Political Science, 2017) was awarded both the History Department’s Outstanding Senior Award and Outstanding Researcher Award in 2017. He also won a Fulbright Scholarship and is currently in Luxembourg conducting research on Holocaust Education.
Andrew Hakes (B.A. History 2017) has been continuing to work on research projects with History faculty following graduation. His work with Dr. Bauer included work on an upcoming book chapter entitled “Intelligence and Conquest in Nineteenth-Century French North Africa.” He has also been working with Dr. Livschiz.

Kyler Hudson has been accepted by the Indiana University (Bloomington) Department of Political Science to pursue a PhD, likely to begin in Fall 2018. At IU, Kyler’s primary field will be American Politics with a secondary field of Political Methodology, and will receive training in other sub-fields of Political Science, namely Comparative Politics, International Relations, and Political Philosophy. Kyler plans to research political behavior, particularly the relationship between political polarization and geography. He is also interested in rural politics. Kyler attributes his undergraduate degree in History for sharpening his writing, research, and analytical skills, and providing him with the tools necessary to be successful in academia or government. He has served as a department mentor for the History Department in 2017-2018. He is thankful to the IPFW History Department faculty, particularly Dr. Malanson, for supporting his application and guiding him into the world of scholarship.

Iseah Hurtado received a summer (2017) research grant from IPFW’s Institute for Research, Scholarship, and Creative Endeavors (IRSC) to study American scholar Frank Tannenbaum’s writings about the Mexican Revolution. He is currently interning at the Abraham Lincoln Archives at the Allen County Public Library.

Rosie Macqueen (B.A. History 2017) has been accepted to the University of Glasgow in Scotland to pursue a Master’s degree (MSc) in Museum Studies. Rosie won the History Department’s Piepenbrink Outstanding Paper Award in 2017, for her paper “Us and Them: The English-Formed Identity of Colonial India,” which she also presented at the 9th Annual Undergraduate History Conference in 2017.

Nicholas Miller has been recognized for his research and scholarship in a number of venues over the past year. He received an Indiana University Scholarship to attend Indiana’s Statewide Historic Preservation Conference, “Indiana Landmarks, and the Indiana Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology,” in 2017. He presented his research, “The Battle of Tours,” for both the Student Research and Creative Endeavour Symposium at IPFW and for the Science and Society conference at IPFW in 2017. He has been awarded a number of scholarships, including the IPFW Provost Scholarship for Excellence in Anthropology, the IPFW Withers Scholarship for Excellence in History and at present time, he is a semifinalist for a Fulbright Scholarship on the topic of “Archaeology, Faunal analysis in Neolithic Germany,” at the University of Tübingen. He received full funding from the IPFW Office of Student Affairs to attend the European Association of Archaeologists Conference in Maastricht, Netherlands in 2017. Nick has held a number of internships, including at the Early Ford V8 Museum in Auburn, IN, the Auburn Cord Duesenberg Museum in Auburn, and an internship with Architecture & Community Heritage (ARCH), in historic preservation, in Fort Wayne. He has also been
serving this past year as a mentor for the History Department’s pilot mentorship program, and he volunteered as a judge for the Northeast Regional National History Day Contest, for the Grade School History Projects in Fort Wayne. Finally, Nick has been accepted for this summer to begin as an Archaeology Student Worker, at Mohegan Field School, Phase I, II, & III Archaeology, at the Mohegan Reservation in Connecticut. Nick was also recently named one of the IPFW Top 50 Students for 2018.


Fiona Sackett received her Honor’s medallion with her project, “Dramaturgy: An Aide to Creation.” This project involved aiding the IPFW production, Frankenstein: An Act of Creation, through historical research and dramatic criticism over the course of the development of the devised production.

Amara Scheitlin has been awarded an internship with the United Nations Population Fund. She will spend the summer of 2018 in New York City working with the UN. Amara served as a student mentor for the History Department in 2017-2018.

2017 History Department Awards

Outstanding History Senior Award: Heather C. Dewey and Cody A. Fuelling
Sharon Alt Piepenbrink Outstanding Paper Award: Rosie R. Macqueen
Promising Scholar Award: Adam N. Gay and Jessica R. Hale
Outstanding Researcher: Heather C. Dewey and Cody A. Fuelling
The Judie and Ralph Violette Scholarship: Kyler J. Hudson
Faculty and Staff Updates


Dr. Christine Erickson is continuing to work on her book manuscript, Fraternity on the Frontier: The Montana Ku Klux Klan in the 1920s. She is working on a second project: the anti-Vietnam War movement in western Montana. Over the summer, she presented a paper on the Klan and secret fraternalism at the annual conference of the American Historical Association, Pacific Coast Branch, in California.

Dr. Benton Gates continues teaching courses through Continuing Studies and was awarded the IPFW Continuing Studies Excellence in Teaching Award in 2007. He presented the paper, “Novanglian Cant: The Missionary Ordeal of Matthew Graves,” at the 1996 Spring Conference of the Southeastern American Society for Eighteenth Century Studies at Florida State University. He is also the Campus Minister at IPFW.

Dr. Suzanne LaVere’s book chapter “‘A Priest Is Not a Free Person’: Condemning Clerical Sins and Upholding Higher Moral Standards in the Gemma Ecclesiastica” was published last month in the volume Gerald of Wales: New Perspectives on a Medieval Writer and Critic from the University of Wales Press. Dr. LaVere is currently conducting research on a book project examining the role of Joan of Arc in American culture and society and working on a book chapter for a forthcoming volume on medieval interpretations of the Song of Songs.

Dr. Ann Livschiz is on sabbatical during Spring 2018, working on her project on the memory of the Holocaust in Belarus.

Dr. Jeffrey Malanson is working on his next book project, Hamilton and Madison: Nationalism and Political Principle in the Early Republic, and will be on sabbatical in Fall 2018 to focus on research and writing. In addition to his research and teaching, Dr. Malanson serves as the Presiding Officer of the IPFW Faculty Senate.

Carter Ringle will be leaving us after many years. While we will greatly miss him, we are excited about the excellent opportunities that lie ahead. He began his undergraduate career in History at IPFW in 2004. After graduating with a BA in History he went on to earn an MA at the University of Chicago. He then returned to IPFW in 2011 and has been
teaching for the department in the years since. Among other publications, he most recently contributed a book review essay entitled “In Print and on the Screen” in Enterprise and Society (March 2018). Carter was recently awarded a generous five-year fellowship from the Screen Arts and Culture Ph.D. program at the University of Michigan. We greatly appreciate all the excellent teaching Carter has done for the department, and we wish him all the best as he starts graduate school in Michigan.

Dr. David G. Schuster is fascinated by the history of American medicine and culture and specializes in the post-Civil War period. In particular, he is interested in the ways Americans have developed competing notions of what is “normal” and “abnormal.” His most recent publications include “The Rise of a Modern Concept of ‘Health’” in A Companion to the Gilded Age and Progressive Era (John Wiley and Sons, 2017) and “Medical Heterodoxy and the Market Revolution” in Handbook of American Medical History, (Oxford University Press, forthcoming). When not working on teaching and research, he can be found walking and biking around town. Professor Schuster tries to avoid using cars, and encourages others to do the same.

Dr. Richard Weiner has been coauthoring articles with History majors (details under “Student Accomplishments,” above). Additionally, he is co-writing a piece with Dr. Steve Buttes (Spanish) on American representations of Mexico, and continues to work on his book manuscript on Alexander von Humboldt and Mexico’s Legendary Wealth.

Professor Deanna Wooley published an article last year on performing communism as a post-communist educational tool and is currently revising a chapter for an international handbook on teaching totalitarianism. She has overseen the growth the past year of the IPFW History Department’s public history program, including the first Introduction to Public History class, field trips and collaboration on two public history projects in the IPFW community, one dealing with factory life in Fort Wayne and the other the history of North Side High School.
Memorial for Gary Blumenshine, History Department

(November 23, 1944–May 18, 2017)

In May 2017, Gary Blumenshine died peacefully in his home in Michigan at the age of 72.

Gary came to IPFW in 1971, after earning a BA in History at Northwestern University, and an MA and PhD from the University of Illinois. He retired in 2008, after more than 35 years of outstanding service to IPFW. He specialized in Ancient and Medieval history. He was a respected scholar who wrote on a range of topics. Among his numerous publications are his 1980 edited edition (including his critical introduction) of Alcuin’s Liber Alcuini contra haeresim Felicis, and his article entitled “Sources and Meaning of the Marian Hemicycle Windows at Evreux: Mosaics, Sculpture and Royal Patronage in Fifteenth-Century France,” which appeared in Fifteenth Century Studies in 2007.

Gary was a passionate, talented, and committed teacher who cared deeply about his students. He taught numerous classes, including Western Civilization, Western Europe in the Early Middle Ages, Western Europe in the High/Late Middle Ages, Roman History, and many more. A testament to his outstanding teaching, many comments posted after his passing were from former students who praised his classes and explained the important impact that his teaching had on their lives, inspiring some to go on to careers in education.

Along with teaching, Gary made additional significant contributions to the department, including serving as Department Chairperson on occasion. He also made meaningful contributions to IPFW though service on committees and in other capacities. Reflecting his concern about students, he was a member (and served as Vice-President) of the Brown Ink Society, and also a member and chairperson of the Honors Council. In keeping with his concern with enriching the intellectual environment, he served on the Omnibus Lecture Committee and the Distinguished Lecture Committee.

Along with history, another passion of Gary’s was the arts, and he had an especially deep knowledge of and love for classical music. He shared his knowledge with the community by hosting a weekly classical music radio show for Fort Wayne local public radio. He also sang in choir of St. Paul’s Lutheran Church in Fort Wayne.

Gary made important contributions to the History Department, IPFW, and Fort Wayne. He will be greatly missed by his students, colleagues, and the Fort Wayne community.
Special Announcements

Did you enjoy today’s presentations? Interested in learning about presentations from earlier conferences? Information about the 2009-2017 History Department Undergraduate Conferences is available through Helmke Library on Opus: Research and Creativity at IPFW (opus.ipfw.edu).

You can find more information about the History Department, as well as the conference, on the department’s website ipfw.edu/history.

This year's conference material will be uploaded in the next few weeks.

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Looking for an exciting way to earn one credit? The Department of History has the answer. 1968: Fifty Years Later will explore on a global scale one of the most extraordinary years in our history. Professors Deborah Bauer, Quinton Dixie, Christine Erickson, David Schuster, Richard Weiner, and Deanna Wooley will discuss the most seminal events, people, and movements of that year, including the Vietnam War, the assassinations of Martin Luther King, Jr. and Robert Kennedy, presidential politics, China’s cultural revolution, Prague Spring, the Paris riots, and much more. Requirements include excellent attendance, a willingness to participate in class discussions, a careful reading of the required sources, and one final exam. The class will meet on Wednesdays from 12:00-12:50. Questions? Email Prof. Erickson at ericksoc@ipfw.edu

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Public History Program

The IPFW History Department's public history program has expanded tremendously in the past year. In the Spring 2017 semester we had two students attend a historical preservation conference while Prof. Wooley and student intern Jessie Cortesi attended the National Public History Council conference in Indianapolis; Jessie Cortesi is currently enrolled in the IUPUI public history graduate school program. Fall 2017 saw the inaugural semester for the Introduction to Public History course, where four groups mapped the history of student life at IPFW by doing archival research, conducting oral histories, presenting exhibits at Helmke Library and writing the organizational histories of the Theater Department, the Anthropology Club, the Communicator, and Student Government (IPSGA). We took a field trip to Ball State to view their university archives and also hosted numerous guest speakers for the class, including Robert Jones from the Old Fort living history museum in downtown Fort Wayne. We also started our pilot PH-Option program, where students can incorporate public history elements into classroom-based research projects. We are currently developing two community-based projects, one collecting
memorabilia and interviews on factory life in Fort Wayne in collaboration with Helmke Library, the International Language and Cultural Studies department at IPFW, and the Allen County Public Library Genealogy Center; as well as a project on the upcoming centenary of North Side High School, also in collaboration with the ACPL Genealogy Center.

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The IPFW History Club is a student-run organization that brings together lovers of history to: discuss topics of contemporary and historical significance; develop further knowledge of local history; take field trips to regional museums and archives; engage in lively play in the form of board games.

For more information on how to get involved, contact the president of the club, Traci Henning-Koblerg (henntl01@ipfw.edu) or History Club Advisor, Dr. David Schuster (schusted@ipfw.edu). There is also a new website to keep up to date with events and information: ipfwhistoryclub.weebly.com. They are always looking for more members to join in the fun.

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The Department of History is on Facebook! (www.facebook.com/IPFWHistory) This is a great way for current students and alumni to keep in touch with the IPFW History community. The page aims to keep students up to date with more than just the happenings of the department by offering posts about the use of technology in our field, job offerings, local events to participate in, and connects you to other organizations that love History as much as we do. Don’t miss out! Like our page today.

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The Department of History continues to offer credit and non-credit internship opportunities for history majors. If you are interested in doing a history internship for credit, please contact Professor Christine Erickson. The Department of History has partnered with Career Services to expand a number of internship opportunities available to students. Check out www.ipfw.edu/career/students/job/historyinternships.shtml for more information.
Thank You!

Conference Planning Committee

Dr. Deborah Bauer
Teri Luce
Traci Henning-Kolberg

Master of Ceremonies

Dr. Deborah Bauer

Department of History Full-Time Faculty

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