



History

College of Arts and Sciences at American University

NEWSLETTER 2011-2012

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The Initiative for Russian Culture

Promoting a greater understanding of Russian culture's rich complexity among Americans and building lasting connections between Russian and American youth

American University's Initiative for Russian Culture (IRC) debuted on September 30, 2011 with a spectacular inaugural event at the Library of Congress. The evening featured Director General of Mosfilm Studios Karen Shakhnazarov's award winning film *We Are Jazzmen* (1983), a 20,000-pound ice sculpture of an Orthodox cathedral in the Library's Great Hall, and a live performance by renowned contemporary Russian jazz pianist Igor Bril in the Members' Room. Among our 600 guests were ambassadors, AU and consortium faculty, and almost 200 AU and consortium students.

Made possible with a gift from Susan Lehrman, the Initiative for Russian Culture is directed by AU History Professors Eric Lohr and Anton Fedyashin. The Initiative allows AU's College of Arts and Sciences to work closely with the Embassy of the Russian Federation and scholars at area universities to support cultural relations and greater understanding between Russia and the U.S.

The Initiative includes the new history courses "The Cold War and the Spy Novel," "Dostoyevsky's Russia," and "Russian Politics and Film" screenings of Russian films at the Russian Embassy and elsewhere; art exhibits and musical performances; and an academic conference on the legacy of Cold War stereotypes. In summer 2012, Professor Fedyashin will take students to Dostoyevsky's Russia to walk the streets where the great writer lived and which his characters frequented.

The Initiative is greatly indebted to Susan Lehrman for her generous gift and to the Ambassador of the Russian Federation Sergey Kislyak for his unprecedented outreach to American students to explore and promote the rich cultural ties between Russia and the West.



From Left: IRC Associate Director Anton Fedyashin, Dean Peter Starr, Susan Lehrman, Ambassador of the Russian Federation Sergey I. Kislyak, IRC Director Eric Lohr

MAKING HISTORY IN THE NATION'S CAPITAL



Pamela Nadell, Patrick Clendenen Chair in Women's and Gender History

Chair's Letter

A new year, new faces, and the making of memories

This is my first column as department chair. After the late Robert Griffith fell ill and passed away, Richard Breitman graciously stepped into Bob's office. Now mine is the new face in the corner office. You will read more below about how we collectively, as a department and community, remember Bob and commemorate his memory.

Studying collective memory is an abiding interest of many of our faculty. Already, this fall, one of our newest colleagues, Professor Justin Jacobs, a specialist in East Asian history, reflected before a standing-room only crowd on the centennial of the 1911 Chinese Revolution and how it is commemorated today.

Professor Jacobs is but one of seven new faces among our faculty. We welcome: Daniel Kerr, assistant professor and interim director of our program in public history; Warren Dym, a specialist in early modern European history; Randall Geller, who teaches Jewish history; Claire Goldstene, an historian of Gilded Age- and Progressive-era America; Piotr Kosicki, who writes about modern Poland; and Brian Mann, an expert in modern Middle East history. Their scholarship and teaching immensely enrich our classrooms.

New to our front office are Tracey Livingston, a graduate student in the School of Public Affairs, and Lauren Pav, who earned her BA in history with us last May.

You will read in the pages ahead about the new books our faculty and alumni have published. Our graduate students have won fellowships, presented conference papers, and one even had a class he taught broadcast on C-SPAN. Almost fifty history students earned their BAs last May and journeyed on to graduate school and to careers in government, education, and the non-profit sector. Our faculty and students have also worked with museums, television, and filmmakers to share our knowledge of history with the broader public and help construct how it remembers the past.

Our department continues to sponsor an array of lectures and symposia, including our well-received Holocaust Studies Forum. In the new year ahead, we invite you—students, alumni, friends—to greet the new faces among us and to join us as we continue to explore history and the making of collective memory.



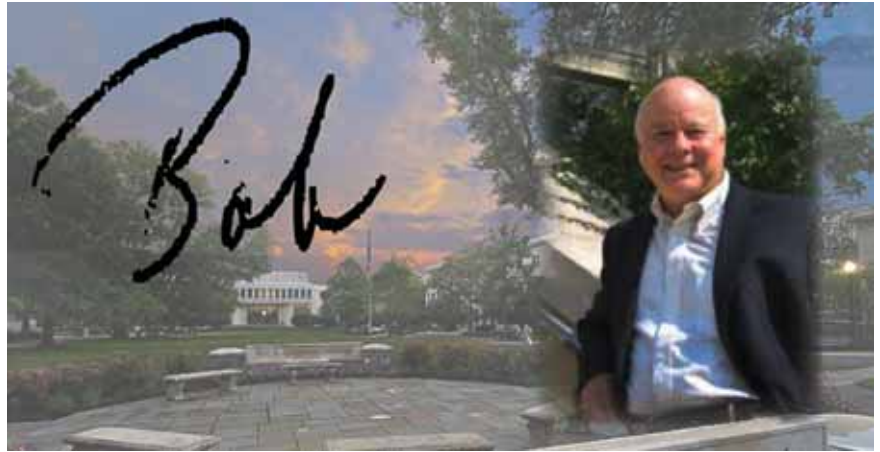
History department faculty & staff photo taken on the steps of Battelle-Tompkins on October 5, 2011

Robert Griffith Memorium

On January 25 American University lost an eminent figure with the death of Robert Griffith, professor and chair of the History Department

Robert Griffith was a distinguished political historian. The author of *The Politics of Fear: Joseph R. McCarthy and the Senate* (1970; 2nd edition, 1987), which won the Frederick Jackson Turner Prize of the Organization of American Historians, he also wrote numerous articles in leading journals, among them the *American Historical Review* and the *Journal of American History*. His edited books include *Major Problems in American History Since 1945* (1992., rev. 2001; rev. 2007). Griffith won prestigious fellowships from the John Simon Guggenheim Foundation, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Harry S. Truman Library Institute. He served on the Board of Editors of the *Journal of American History*, and won teaching awards from the University of Georgia and from the Danforth Foundation. He was also, until just shortly before his death, Treasurer of the Organization of American Historians.

Robert Griffith was born in Atlan-



ta, Georgia, and grew up in Southern Indiana. He earned his BA at DePauw University, where he was a Rector Scholar and Phi Beta Kappa. He received his MA and PhD at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, where he was a Woodrow Wilson Fellow. He taught at the University of Georgia and at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, where he also served as Chair of the Department of History.

From 1989 to 1995, Griffith was Dean of the College of Arts and Humanities at the University of Maryland at College Park. There he helped implement a rigorous new core curriculum, dramatically increased the presence of women and minority faculty and staff, and helped plan for the construction of the Clarice Smith Center for the Performing Arts. From 1995 to 1997, he served as Provost at American University, where

he improved faculty recruitment, increased the presence of minority faculty, and enhanced the role of new information technologies. In 1997 he joined our Department.

Griffith served as chair of the History Department from 2004 to 2010. A gifted administrator and consummate negotiator, Bob, with a twinkle in his eye, led the department as it grew in size and quality thanks, in large measure, to his skillful guidance. A long-time champion of public history—of training our students to engage in presenting history to broad public audiences—Bob's last request, the establishment of the Robert Griffith Fund for the Study of Public History, perpetuates his name in our department and keeps alive our memories of his days among us.

Diary Offers New Insight into Holocaust

Alumna Wendy Lower publishes *The Diary of Samuel Golfard and the Holocaust in Galicia*

Nearly 70 years after his death, the name of Samuel Golfard is now more than that of one victim among six million Jews who perished in the Holocaust. Historian and alumna Wendy Lower discussed her new book, *The Diary of Samuel Golfard and the Holocaust in Galicia*, during this year's first Holocaust Studies Forum, co-sponsored by the

Department of History, Jewish Studies Program, and the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum.

This remarkable diary had survived the war thanks to Jewish educator and Holocaust survivor Dr. Jacob Litman. One day Robert Litman, Jacob's son, mentioned to AU Professor Pamela Nadell that he had a Holocaust-era diary in his possession. Jacob Litman had known Golfard in Nazi-occupied Poland, where both men had been helped by a local family. Litman survived the war and emigrated to America. The Polish family then sent him the diary Golfard had kept before he was shot. Jacob Litman translated

SEE DIARY, 4

DIARY, FROM 3

the diary from Polish into English, but never managed to publish the diary. Robert Litman and his siblings, wanting to honor their father's last wish, contacted Nadell.

Nadell, stunned by the literary quality of the diary, asked Professor Richard Breitman to read it. Sharing her assessment, he suggested that the Litman family meet Dr. Wendy Lower, an expert on the Holocaust in Eastern Europe, who had been his doctoral student, to see if she would take on the project of editing and publishing the diary.

Lower agreed with Nadell and Breitman: Golfard's diary captures a history that has few eyewitnesses. While the history of the victims of the concentration camps and gassing centers is well documented, the history of the 1.5 million Jews murdered in Ukraine, mostly by bullets, has few voices from the victims.



Lower explained in her remarks to the AU audience: "You have populations such as Berdychiv where there were about 20,000 Jews and only some 15 survivors emerged from the rubble in 1944. Entire communities were completely wiped out. They literally had no time. They were thrown into extreme life and death circumstances in which they could hardly secure something to write on, let alone fully express and report what was going on, and then ensure that their last words got into the hands of the right person."

"Samuel wanted to bear witness to the crimes of the Holocaust," Lower says. "He already looked into the future of a post-Holocaust world. He wrote down dates and names and localities, what had happened—important details that were not put in official German documents. This is really valuable as a historical record of what happened."

Excerpted from the American University website September 2011. For the full story see: www.american.edu/cas/news/wendy-lower-samek-golfard-diary.cfm

Using the Power of Place to Teach American History

Teaching American History: The History Department Partners with AU's School of Education, Teaching, and Health and DC Public Schools

Our Teaching American History grant on "Power of Place" uses historic landscapes to connect national and local history. Its goal is to refresh the teaching of American history in primary and secondary schools. Co-Principal Investigators Adrea Lawrence (SETH) and Kathleen Franz (History) hope to infuse the DC public schools' social studies curricula using historic sites teachers incorporate into their classrooms to make the past tangible for their students. Teachers will produce on-line curricular units that will serve as models of history education in the DCPS system. Funding from the U.S. Department of Education (about \$960,000) supports the grant's intensive summer institutes and fall workshops. The institutes began last summer with Landscapes of Revolution and will continue with Landscapes of Conflict: The Civil War (2012) and Land-



scapes of Protest (2013). History Professor Kate Haulman led this past summer's institute, traveling with twenty DC Public School teachers to explore places associated with the American Revolution.

Funding for these important Teaching American History grants is in jeopardy. To follow the discussion on appropriations, visit The National Humanities Alliance: www.nhalliance.org

Fat Cats, Bodybuilders, and Corsets

By Sarah Stankorb



Before *Men's Health* and *Glamour* tempted readers with punchy offerings of “Russian Fat Loss Secrets” or “101 Ways to Look Hotter Now,” stoutness was manly and real women had curves — whether those curves were nature- or corset-made.

Dieting — that willful and dreaded process of reshaping the body through self-denial — had an early history in America. In a recent award-winning paper published in the *Journal of Social History*, History Professor and Director of American Studies Katharina Vester uncovered inch-pinching and miracle diets in early nineteenth-century America-trends predating the previously accepted timeline of dieting in the United States.

Dieting is conventionally understood as a female fixation. With evidence in hand from early men's periodicals, though, Vester offers a counterpoint: dieting was first a masculine activity.

In eighteenth-century England fat-trimming measures promised men “that their influence, political power, and social privileges would grow as their waistlines slimmed.” Prior to that time, stoutness had been viewed as a sign of masculine success. But in the early 1700s in Great Britain, medical concerns about obesity accompanied cultural complaints that “excessive fatness” equaled conspicuous consumption and self-indulgence.

It took nearly a century for concerns about obesity to cross the Atlantic, but in the 1830s articles began to appear in U.S. medical journals, prescribing dieting as a cure for congestion, indigestion, and other common ailments.

By 1842, British dieting articles reprinted in American magazines showed that the fad had struck a chord with readers on both continents. American news magazines poked fun at English gentlemen, increasingly vain about their weight and taking “sweats” to shed water weight. Vester found that discourses about manliness and dieting became a site where tensions between the hereditary nobility and the aspiring nouveau riche were expressed.

Excerpted from American Magazine, August 2011. For the full story see: www.american.edu/americanmagazine

Chasing Information Coast to Coast and Across Oceans

Aaron Bell, a U.S. history PhD student, recently traveled from New England to Central America to research for his dissertation. The dissertation involves the U.S.'s role in aiding Salvadorian political parties like Alianza Republicana Nacionalista (ARENA) during the Salvadoran Civil War of 1980 to 1992.

For Bell, U.S. foreign relations with Latin America have driven him (literally) on his research journey. Bell is particularly interested in questions of U.S. influence in Latin America. “The U.S. has had a tremendous amount of influence in the region,” Bell notes, and it's interesting to me to see how our country has understood those struggles and interacted with a variety of political and social movements.”

Bell spent two months in El Salvador, hoping to open additional research avenues there. “Going down there gives me this chance to talk and work with historians to get



Bell in El Salvador

their perspectives on things and see the circles that they've uncovered that I just wouldn't even know where to look for — you couldn't look for here. It just doesn't exist.”

Department of History News and Notes Faculty



Kimberly Sims, Pamela Nadell, Marisa Ganguzzu, & Lisa Leff



Max Paul Friedman during his lecture entitled "Rethinking Anti-Americanism"



Richard Breitman, Jürgen Matthäus, Wendy Lower, & Robert Litman

Laura Beers is on leave this academic year thanks to a Leverhulme Trust fellowship. She is spending the year at Exeter University in the United Kingdom, where she is working on her second book, a biography of the feminist and international activist Ellen Wilkinson. Beers' co-edited *Brave New World: Imperial and Democratic Nation-Building in Interwar Britain* will be published by the Institute of Historical Research in January 2012.

Richard Breitman was appointed Distinguished Professor of History. His new book, *Hitler's Shadow: Nazi War Criminals, U.S. Intelligence, and the Cold War*, co-authored with Norman Goda, was published by the National Archives. Harvard University Press will publish his new book, co-authored with Allan J. Lichtman, tentatively titled *FDR and the Jews*.

Mary Ellen Curtin continues to research "Ahead of Her Time: Barbara Jordan and the Politics of Race and Sex in America." Last summer she introduced a new online course, "Women in Modern America." She also served as an historical consultant for the PBS Documentary *Slavery By Another Name*, and appears in the film.

Warren Dym's first book *Divining Science: Treasure Hunting and Earth Science in Early Modern Germany* was recently published. His new project examines the circulation of metallurgical knowledge in the eighteenth century.

Anton Fedyashin has become associate director of the new Initiative for Russian Culture. His book, *Liberals under Autocracy*, will be published in the spring. He is currently working on his second book *Shades of Gray: the Cold War in the Spy Novel*.

During **Eileen Findlay's** two-year appointment as Clendenen Associate Professor of History, she launched an oral history project on gender and immigration to Washington D.C., recording Latin American immigrants' life histories. She also published the article "Slipping and Sliding: The Many Meanings of Race in Life Histories of New York Puerto Rican Return Migrants in San Juan." She is currently working on a book titled *We Are Left Without a Father Here: Transnational Domesticity, Colonial Populism, and Puerto Rican Labor Migration, 1935-1960*.

Kathy Franz published, with co-editor Susan Smulyan, *Major Problems in American Popular Culture* (March 2011). She has received a senior fellowship from the National Museum of American History to curate a new permanent exhibition exploring stories of American business. She was recently named exhibition review editor for the *Journal of American History*.

Max Paul Friedman finished revising his book manuscript, *Rethinking Anti-Americanism*, and published "Of Sartre, Race, and Rabies: 'Anti-Americanism' and the

Transatlantic Politics of Intellectual Engagement” in *Atlantic Studies*. His paper, “Emigrés as Transmitters of American Protest Culture,” delivered at a conference “Jewish Voices in the German Sixties,” held in Elmau, Germany, was quoted in the *Süddeutsche Zeitung* and *Die Welt*. He served on two Foreign Service Selection Boards at the State Department and continues as the History Department’s Director of Graduate Studies.

Randall Geller earned his PhD at Brandeis University, where he wrote his dissertation on “Non-Jewish Minorities and the Question of Military Service in the Israel Defense Forces, 1948-1958.”

Mary Frances Giandrea was elected treasurer of The Haskins Society, an international society for the study of Viking, Anglo-Saxon, Anglo-Norman and Angevin history. She is working on an article on episcopal piety and teaching a new course called “Vikings & Crusaders.”

Claire Goldstone is completing revisions to her manuscript “America was Promises: The Ideology of Equal Opportunity, 1877-1905.”

Kate Haulman published *The Politics of Fashion in Eighteenth-Century America*, and with Pamela Nadell, co-edited *Making Women’s Histories: Beyond National Perspectives* (in press). She presented work from her new book project on elite cultural practices in a “democratizing” nation at the Research Triangle Early American History Seminar, and taught a U.S. Department of Edu-

cation Teaching American History Grant-funded course, “The Power of Place in Eighteenth-Century America: Landscapes of Revolution.”

Justin Jacobs teaches courses on Chinese, Japanese, and Inner Asian history. He did his graduate work at UC-San Diego, where his dissertation, “Empire Besieged: The Preservation of Chinese Rule in Xinjiang, 1884–1971,” examined the integration of northwestern borderlands into the modern Chinese state. In October, he delivered a public lecture on campus for the centennial of the 1911 Chinese revolution.

Daniel Kerr, interim director of public history, published *Derelict Paradise: Homelessness and Urban Development in Cleveland, Ohio*. The book seeks to answer the question, “Who benefits from homelessness?” as it takes readers on a sweeping tour of Cleveland’s history from the late nineteenth century through the early twenty-first century.

Piotr Kosicki recently earned his PhD at Princeton University, where he wrote a dissertation on the relationship between Catholicism and socialism in 20th-century Europe.

Alan Kraut was elected Vice President of the Organization of American Historians and in 2012 will be OAH President-elect. He chairs the Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island History Advisory Committee which oversees “The Peopling of America” exhibit, which opened



Ed Smith & Alan Kraut during the Civil War Institute



Lisa Leff & Jeremy Popkin during the lecture “A New Look at the Abolition of Slavery in Revolutionary Haiti & France”



Eric Lohr, Anton Fedyaashin, & Dean Peter Starr at the Initiative for Russian Culture Inaugural Event

Department of History News and Notes Faculty



Wendy Lower (third from left) with the Litman Family



Participants visit the Summer White House with the Civil War Institute



Faculty and students attend Professor Justin Jacobs lecture on the 1911 Chinese revolution

in autumn 2011. He is completing a co-edited volume, *Ethnic Historians and the Mainstream: Shaping America's Immigrant Story*, and also writing a volume on the history of the Americanization of newly arrived immigrants from 1850 to the present. He is also a non-resident fellow of the Migration Policy Institute, Washington's distinguished immigration think-tank.

Peter Kuznick's film series, with Oscar-award-winning director Oliver Stone, *The Untold History of the United States*, will be broadcast on Showtime beginning in February. Kuznick wrote the companion volume to the series. He co-edited *Rethinking the Atomic Bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki: Japanese and American Perspectives* which was published in Japan. His *Bulletin of Atomic Scientists* article was expanded into the co-authored book, *Genpatsu to Hiroshima - gen-shiryoku heima riyō no shinso* [*Nuclear Power and Hiroshima: The Truth of Peaceful Use of Nuclear Energy*].

Lisa Leff continues to work on her book about the transfer of French Jewish archives to the U.S. after World War II. In the past year, she delivered papers about her research in Boston, Chicago, and Capetown, South Africa. This summer, she participated in a two-week intensive workshop entitled "Jews and the Law: Emancipation, Destruction, Reconstruction" at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum; papers from the workshop are provisionally

slated for publication in the *Leo Baeck Institute Yearbook* in 2013. She continues to serve as the History Department's Director of Undergraduate Studies.

Allan Lichtman has completed, with Richard Breitman, *FDR and the Jews*, soon to be published by Harvard University Press.

Eric Lohr's new book *Russian Citizenship: Empire to Soviet Union* will be published by Harvard University Press in 2012. He was appointed director of American University's Initiative for Russian Culture (IRC). He participates in discussions of contemporary U.S.-Russian relations as a member of the Dartmouth Conference. He was awarded a National Council for Eurasian and East European Research Fellowship, which he will use for research leave to begin work on his next book: "Russia's Great War, 1914-1918."

Brian Mann is completing his dissertation, "Integrating the Multi-Ethnic Nation State: Persian Iranian Nationalism, the Pahlavi State, and non-Persian Ethnic Groups," at the University of Texas at Austin. His paper "The Khuzistani Arab Movement, 1941-1946: A Case of Nationalism?" is scheduled for publication in 2012.

When the National Museum of American Jewish History opened on Philadelphia's Independence Mall in November 2010, **Pamela Nadell**, a member of the mu-

seum's Historians Team and its Consulting Historian for Media and director of AU's Jewish Studies Program, helped kick off the gala opening weekend with the panel "Jewish Encounters with Freedom." Her new co-edited book *New Essays in American Jewish History* includes her essay "Yentl: From Yeshiva Boy to Syndrome."

In connection with her new project on the Enlightenment in the eighteenth-century French and British Caribbean, **April G. Shel-ford** presented two conference papers, "Caribbean Jesuits" at the Western Society for French History and "Racializing Scripture" at the American Historical Association annual meeting. Her journal article, "Race and Scripture in the Eighteenth-Century Caribbean," is currently under consideration. She is co-editor of Volume 38 of the *Proceedings of the Western Society for French History*.

Kimberly Sims continues to teach courses in American history and African-American history and was a consultant to a PBS documentary on prohibition.

Katharina Vester, director of the American Studies Program, published "Regime Change: Gender, Class, and the Invention of Dieting in Post-Bellum America" in the *Journal of Social History*, for which she received the 2011 Belasco Prize for Scholarly Excellence by the Association for the Study of Food and Society. She also published "Queer Appetites, Butch Cooking – Recipes for Lesbian Subjectivities" in *Queers in American Popular Culture*. She received a grant from the Schlesinger Library to research ethnic community cookbooks. She presented the reforms introduced to AU's American Studies Program at the annual meeting of the Cultural Studies Association in Chicago.



Daniel Kerr, Max Paul Friedman, & Justin Jacobs



Justin Jacobs during his lecture entitled "100 Years Later: The 1911 Chinese Revolution Then and Now"

Spotlight on New Assistant Professors

The history department welcomes Justin Jacobs and Daniel Kerr

Justin Jacobs works on the incorporation of non-Chinese peripheries into the Chinese Communist state during the 20th century. He is particularly interested in the methods by which Han Chinese policymakers have appealed to the culturally alien peoples under their rule, and how they gain the cooperation of non-Han elites. His current book manuscript looks at the case study of Xinjiang, a largely Muslim province in the far north-western part of China, from about the end of the Qing empire (late 19th century) to the death of Chairman Mao (1976). It was during that time that the Chinese frontier "closed" for good. He has also begun work on his next project, which will examine the transformation of non-Han "tribute" missions to the Chinese heartland during the twentieth century.

Daniel Kerr is currently working on a manuscript addressing the research he conducted with the Cleveland Homeless Oral History Project where he has interviewed close to 200 homeless people and has facilitated dozens of workshops and meetings in the shelters and drop-in centers of Cleveland, Ohio. He addresses this work in detail in his article, "We Know What the Problem Is," in *Oral History Review*, Winter/Spring 2003. From 2005-2011, Kerr taught at James Madison University where he directed the Shenandoah Valley Oral History Project and researched and taught a class on the history of the poultry industry. Kerr specializes in the fields of environmental history, urban social history, community history, oral history, and public history. Kerr has made an active effort to make his research accessible and relevant to those who promote social justice in the community.



Erica Munkwitz researched fox-hunting in Melton Mowbray, England



Students in Japan during the Nuclear Studies Institute



Tracey Livingston, Lauren Pan, John Little & Borislav Chernev at the Initiative for Russian Culture Inaugural Event

Current Graduate Students

The Department of History's Graduate Student Council is ably led this year by **Allen Pietrbon** (president), **Jordan Grant** (vice president), and **Susan Perlman** (vice president).

Thanks to the leadership of **Kathy Franz** and **Alan Kraut**, six graduate students are currently pursuing paid internships in the Washington area. **Jen Jablonsky**, **Alexandra Lane**, and **Brittney Westbrook** are working on the inaugural exhibitions at the new National Museum of African American History and Culture; **Jordan Grant** and **Will Tchakirides** are helping to design a website at the National Museum of American History. **Katharine Orr** is beginning exhibition research for a new feature on the Magna Carta.

Nine AU history graduate students have received research funding from the College of Arts and Sciences: **Nicolas Ercole**, **Allen Mikaelian**, **Loren Miller**, **Louie Milojevic**, **Shannon Mohan**, **Anne Rothfeld**, **Lauren Stelzer**, **Leah Suhrstedt**, and **Sarah Thelen**.

Doctoral students **Borislav Chernev**, **Loren Miller**, and **Matthew R. Pembleton** won the Gondos Graduate Summer Research Fellowship. This award, made possible by a gift from Dorothy and Victor Gondos, Jr., supports research using the collections at the U.S. National Archives.

Aaron Bell received grants from the Department of History, Office of the Provost, and Tinker Foundation via AU's Center for Latino and Latin American Studies to support doctoral research on U.S.-Salvadoran relations during the Salvadoran Civil War.

Borislav Chernev published "The Brest-Litovsk Moment: Self-Determination Discourse in Eastern Europe before Wilsonianism" in *Diplomacy & Statecraft*.

Stephanie Jacobs was awarded the Roger Brown Fellowship for the 2011-2012 academic year. She also received AU's Doctoral Student Research Award for her research in Brussels and Rome. Her review of Leigh Eric Schmidt's *Heaven's Bride* appeared in *CHOICE: Current Reviews for Academic Libraries*.

Alison Kootstra participated in a panel on "Civil War to Civil Rights" at the Association for the Study of African American Life and History Annual Convention in Richmond, Virginia in October.

Erica Munkwitz presented "Aside vs. Astride: Women's Equestrian Sports and the Creation of Feminine Identities in Britain, 1880-1935," at the Mid-Atlantic Conference of British Studies. She conducted dissertation research at the British Library thanks to the generosity of an American University Doctoral Student Research Award. Her featured review of Tony Mason's and Eliza Riedi's *Sport and the Military: The British Armed Forces 1880-1960* appeared

in *Reviews in History*. Her article “Vixens of Venerly: Women, Sport, and Fox-Hunting in Britain, 1860-1914,” has been accepted for publication in *Critical Survey*. She was also awarded the 2011-2012 Richard and Carol Breitman Fellowship.

Adam M. Shery interned at the American Jewish Historical Society, where he helped catalogue its archives of the American Soviet Jewry Movement.

PhD candidate **Eric Singer** will participate in the panel “Environments of Domestic War Planning: The Unintended Consequences of Federal Policy” at the 2012 annual meeting the American Historical Association, where he will present “Baltimore’s Civil Defense Foot Soldiers and Their Role in the Anti-Civil Defense Movement.”



Alumni

David H. Onkst (PhD, 2011) began researching and writing a history of the X-34 space plane for NASA in early September. The book will be published in 2014. He has also been invited to give a presentation about his recently completed dissertation, “The Triumph and Decline of the ‘Squares’: Grumman Aerospace Engineers and Production Workers in the Apollo Era, 1957-1973” at the Society for the History of Technology (SHOT) Conference this coming November in Cleveland.

Undergraduate Students

Ryan Hunter and **Linda Monahan** won CAS Dean’s Undergraduate Research Awards for summer 2011. Hunter researched “Activities of the Labour MP Ellen Wilkinson” under the direction of Professor Laura Beers. These awards are made possible through a generous gift from AU trustee and alumna Robyn Rafferty Mathias. Monahan researched “I Yam What I Am: Stuggles over Political Identities in African American Culinary Culture in the 1960s and 70s.”

Madeline Cohen, **Kurt Karandy**, and **William Zeman** won this year’s Janet Oppenheim Prize, awarded annually for the best senior thesis. Created in remembrance of a former AU history professor, the prize carries an award of \$2,000 for each recipient.

Kurt Karandy also won the Department of History’s Dorothy and Victor Gondos, Jr. Undergraduate Research Prize for the best undergraduate thesis based on research in the National Archives for 2010-2011.

Sarah Adler won Best Oral Presentation by a Freshman or Sophomore at the April 2011 Robyn Rafferty Mathias research conference. Her presentation was entitled “The Homespun Confederacy: Patriotism or Necessity?”

The AU alumni community numbers more than 115,000 individuals in the US and abroad. We invite you to take advantage of numerous programs, benefits, services, and opportunities available through www.american.edu/alumni.

PhD Candidate Featured on C-SPAN



Terumi Rafferty-Osaki, PhD Candidate, taught “Social Forces that Shaped America” in Summer 2011.

C-SPAN came to American University and filmed the section, “The Integration of Baseball.” The course aired on its American History TV segment.



Candlelight Ceremony at the Nagasaki Hypocenter, Nuclear Studies Institute



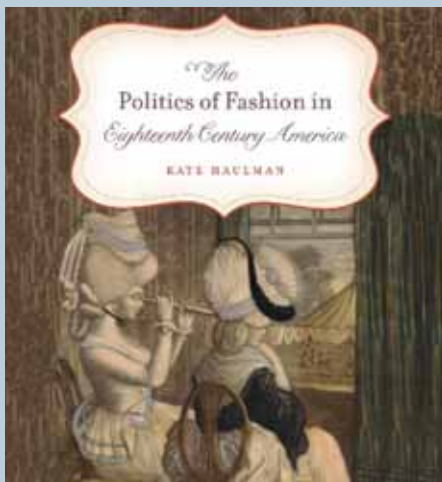
History Department
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New Faculty Books

Kate Haulman

*The Politics of Fashion in
Eighteenth-Century America*

(University of North Carolina Press, 2011)



Daniel Kerr

*Derelict Paradise: Homelessness and Urban
Development in Cleveland, Ohio*

(University of Massachusetts Press, 2011)

