

DEPARTMENT
OF
HISTORY
The University of Montana

May 2011



Program growth and development mark new year

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New giving opportunities for alumni and other history department supporters

In this issue we mark significant developments in the History Department. In addition to changes in faculty with the announced retirements of Professors Bill Farr and Paul Lauren, we highlight the vision and direction of the department's co-directors of Graduate Studies, Robert Greene and Jeff Wiltse. In addition, we announce new giving opportunities for alumni and other interested supporters. As always, if you would like a paper copy of this issue, we'd be glad to send you one. Just contact us by email with your name and mailing address. And, send us your updates for our alumni section. We look forward to hearing from you.

Retirements Usher in Interesting Times



Retiring Professor Bill Farr

"May you live in interesting times." So, we are told, goes an ancient Chinese curse. In fact, we are living in interesting times here in the History Department, and I, for one, wouldn't have it any other way.

First, these are times of transition. Two longtime colleagues are leaving the hall and trading up to emeritus status after eighty years of combined service to the department and university. Paul Lauren, UM's first Regents Professor, as well as the inaugural director of its Mansfield Center, retires at the end of this year after three and a half decades as the conscience and compass of the department. Bill Farr, founder and co-director of the O'Connor Center for the Rocky Mountain West, has been in the department long

enough to remember Paul Lauren as a newly-minted assistant professor with a brand new PhD. Bill arrived as the Summer of Love cooled into autumn, and selflessly taught medieval history even as his ardor for it cooled, and his research interests evolved in entirely different directions. The voids they leave behind will be difficult to fill, not only on account of their size, but their unusual shape. In common with many of our faculty, they reconfigured their positions in ways that defied conventional categories.

But consequently, these are also times of opportunity. We have risen to the challenge of thinking creatively about how to fill the considerable vacancies that retirements, both known

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Retiring Professor Paul Lauren

By

John Eglin

and anticipated, are leaving. The direction of the department will be as significantly reconfigured as its personnel in the next half decade. We have also been looking very closely at our curriculum. We seek to convey to our undergraduate students, majors and non-majors alike, a sense of how societies function, and change, and evolve, as well as a grasp of the methods, tools, and resources that historians use to study the past. Beginning next year, all new history majors will take a basic course on historical methodology as preparation for upper division coursework. In addition, all history majors will take a capstone research seminar focused in a particular subject field. The graduate program will expand as well, with the inauguration of the Dennison doctoral fellowships in the near future. We hope that the additional human resources thus created will allow us to expand the global component of our curriculum, by enabling the institution of a world history survey, giving graduate students the kind of teaching experience now essential on the academic

job market.

We face challenges as well. In the age of the still-transpiring information revolution, access to source material is available as never before, leveling the research playing field in ways unimaginable when many of us began teaching. It is no longer enough to acquire books and journal subscriptions for the library – now the library must purchase databases at many times the cost, but with infinite advantages over old media. The

electronic resources we have already acquired now afford our students research opportunities once undreamt of, and are well worth the (often quite steep) price.

We invite you, as a friend of the UM History Department, to join us in facing these challenges and taking advantage of these opportunities. Interesting times, indeed.

We seek to convey to our students...a sense of how societies function, and change, and evolve, as well as a grasp of the methods, tools, and resources that historians use to study the past.



New Directors of Graduate Studies Build Toward Bright Future

by

Tobin Miller Shearer

When Robert Greene and Jeff Wiltse first considered taking responsibilities as Co-Directors of the History Department's Graduate Program, they both were told the same thing, "The program pretty much runs itself."

The reality, however, has not lived up to the hype.

Wiltse and Greene have discovered that the bureaucratic and relational challenges of running the program offer an ongoing "testament to [former director Mike Mayer's] service." Wiltse noted, "I can't believe that Mike did this by himself for twenty years."

In their new roles, the two professors point to a series of opportunities. Former UM President George Dennison has established three new doctoral fellowships that will, as Greene explained, make it possible for both the Masters and PhD programs to "grow and develop in tandem." Given the strong track record of Masters students, Wiltse emphasized the need to "maintain the vitality" of that program while simultaneously expanding the doctoral track.

Key to the growth of both programs will be the ability to recruit students in an increasing broad range of historical specialties. Up to the present, the majority of the students have worked in the fields of western and environmental history. With the anticipated hire of a new western historian following the approaching retirement of Hammond Chair Dan Flores, that strength will continue. Wiltse and Greene also anticipate that increasing strength in the areas of women's, modern U.S., and modern European history will attract new students.

Amid this new growth and development, both Greene and Wiltse emphasized how much they have enjoyed increased contact with graduate students. Greene added, "The most rewarding part of the position is being able to talk more with the graduate students about their research interests. Our

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[The directors]
anticipate ...
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European history

students are doing very important research that will contribute significantly to their respective fields."

And many alums have already done so. History masters students from UM have earned PhDs at Arizona State, Case Western Reserve, Stanford, Temple, UC Davis, Yale, and the universities of Arkansas, Colorado, Kansas, New Mexico, Ohio, Virginia, and Wisconsin. In terms of job placements, graduates of the History Department now hold tenure-track positions at Bucknell, Flathead Community, Georgia Gwinnett, Indiana/Purdue at Fort Wayne, Stony Brook, and the universities of Cincinnati, Missouri, North Texas, Oregon, and Virginia with others holding visiting positions at Meredith,



Masters student Cody Ewert

Prescott, and the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. The graduates' publication record is likewise impressive with ten articles spread among *Environmental History*, *Oregon Historical Quarterly*, *Western Historical Quarterly* and the *American Indian Culture and Research Journal*. Notable presses that have published books by the department's graduates - or will do so in the near future - include Harvard, Kansas, Oklahoma, Oxford, and Yale. One graduate, Jared Farmer, garnered the Francis Parkman Prize from the American Historical Association for his book, *On Zion's Mount: Mormons, Indians, and the American Landscape* (Harvard University Press, 2008).

A final challenge faced by Greene, Wiltse, and the other members of the History Department's Graduate Committee is to choose among an increasingly strong pool of program applicants. Greene noted, "Many of our applicants are coming out of very good undergraduate program with a clearly defined sense of the field. In a year when we had only three funding packages to offer, we had to choose among a talented and competitive pool." After selecting their top candidates, Wiltse explained that they then had to "compete with graduate programs throughout the country to be able to land those students." That the department is attracting students who are also being sought by other nationally

ranked programs is itself an indication of the program's growing stature.

Under Mayer's past leadership and the current capable direction of Greene and Wiltse, the program has long left behind the errant assumption when the program was first initiated that only hobbyist historians would be attracted to the



Masters student Nichole Mikko-Causby

program. Today and for the foreseeable future, as Greene indicated with a smile, the program is living up to its current reputation as an "accomplished little program."

New Opportunities to Support the History Department



The Department of History at the University of Montana is a community of thirteen faculty members, sixteen graduate students, and more than 450 undergraduate majors and minors within the University's College of Arts and

Sciences. The faculty is composed of accomplished and award-winning scholars and teachers who make themselves accessible to the more than 1,600 students who register for their courses each semester. Their research and teaching interests range widely but cover key areas of American, European, and world history. In the last four years alone, faculty members have published more than seventeen new books and editions, many of which have won national and regional awards. Their creation of new knowledge is matched only by their passion for teaching. UM students regularly attest to history classes as being the best and most challenging they have taken in their undergraduate careers. The faculty **needs financial support** to sustain this high level of scholarship and instruction. To that end, we invite donors to consider contributing to the following opportunities:

Giving opportunities

\$10,000 – helps purchase an on-line research database

\$5,000 - allows all 13 faculty members to buy ten new books for the Mansfield Library

\$2,500 – covers the costs of two faculty members to attend a professional conference

\$1,000 - purchases a new computer for graduate students to use in the history office

\$500 – sends two undergraduate students to a regional history conference

\$250 – pays for digital recorder to archive and make talks available from a new department speaker series for graduate students

If you would like to support the History Department, please send a check or money order to The University of Montana Foundation, P.O. Box 7159, Missoula, MT 59807-7159, with a note in the memo line designating it for the History Department. Contributions are also accepted online at: <http://www.umt.edu/UMf/>. For more information about making a gift (with no obligation to do so), please contact Kelley Willett of the UM Foundation at Kelley.Willett@mso.umt.edu or (800) 443.2593, (406) 243.2646.

Student News

Presentations

Brooks, David. Round-table presenter on teaching environmental history in the field, American Environmental History Society conference in Phoenix, April 14, 2011.

La Pier, Rosalyn. "David Duvall: Blackfeet Storytaker," American Anthropological Association, Annual Meeting, Presidential Series, New Orleans, LA, November 20, 2010, (Invited).

The following students presented papers at the Phi Alpha Theta Northwest Regional Conference, held this year in Seattle, WA, April 7-9:

Bailey, Shawn. "Precarious Precedents: the Sherburne Dam and Shifting Conceptions of Preservation in Glacier National Park, 1907-1927"

Blackman, Kayla. "Maimie Pinzer's Road to Reform: How One Ex-Prostitute Faced the Economic Demons of the Progressive Era" [undergrad]

Ewert, Cody. "The 'Antidote for Anarchy': Enforcing Patriotism in New York Public Schools, 1895-1905"

Hall, Jonathan. "Rapid Republic: Mad Dogs and Men in America, 1800-1860"

Mikko-Causby, Nichole. "Supreme Triumph: Pearl Hart and U.S. v. Witkovich"

Mulliner, Heather. "Transitions

in Twentieth-Century American Courtship Practices: The Courtship Correspondence of Robert Campbell Line and Louise Chapman, 1914-1918"

Siron, Eli. "The Panel Panic: Dr. Fredric Wertham, EC Comics, and the Comic Book Hysteria

Davidson Honors College, and the Provost's Office for supporting this trip.

The following students presented papers at the UM Conference on Undergraduate Research, April 15, 2011:



Doctoral student Happy Avery takes notes as part of her assignment as a grader for the History Department.

of the 1950s" [undergrad]

Summey, Virginia. "Unsung Pioneer: Judge Elreta Alexander Ralston and the Civil Rights Movement"

Students will be accompanied by Harry Fritz, Anya Jabour, Robert Greene, and Kyle Volk - all of whom will serve as chairs & commentators on panels at the conference.

The UM Chapter of Phi Alpha Theta and faculty advisors Robert Greene & Kyle Volk thank the History Department, African American Studies, Women & Gender Studies,

Ainsworth, Tori. "Hunger on the Isles: The Potato Famine that left Ireland Starving for Control and Scotland Suffering in the Shadows"

Blackman, Kayla. "Stars, Stripes and Strumpets: The American Campaign Against Venereal Disease During WWI"

Kieser, Joshua. "Conjuring Social Control & Cultural Continuity"

Ramos, Adriana. "The Black Christian Dilemma: Civil Rights, Black Power and Black Theology from 1955 to 1969"

(continued)

Yerger, Jacob. "Constitutive Identity and the Evolution of Tribal Sovereignty"

Publications

Brooks, David. "Wielding the Red Ink: Teaching Assistants Talk Endlessly About How to Grade Properly but We Don't Talk About Our Personal Stake in the Exercise." *Chronicle of Higher Education* (2011), <http://chronicle.com/article/Wielding-the-Red-Pen/126200/>.

———. "As Smart as I'll Ever Be." *Chronicle of Higher Education* (2011), <http://chronicle.com/article/As-Smart-as-III-Ever-Be/125792/>.

———. "Getting Students to Talk." *Chronicle of Higher Education* (2011), <http://chronicle.com/article/Getting-Students-to-Talk/126826>.

Honors and Awards

Mikko-Causby, Nichole. Received a 2011 fellowship for a National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Seminar.

Varley, Molly. Phi Alpha Theta Northwest Conference Best Graduate Student Paper, April 2009 for "The Habits of Civilization: Americanism and the Memory of Indian Captivity in the Early Twentieth Century."

Employment

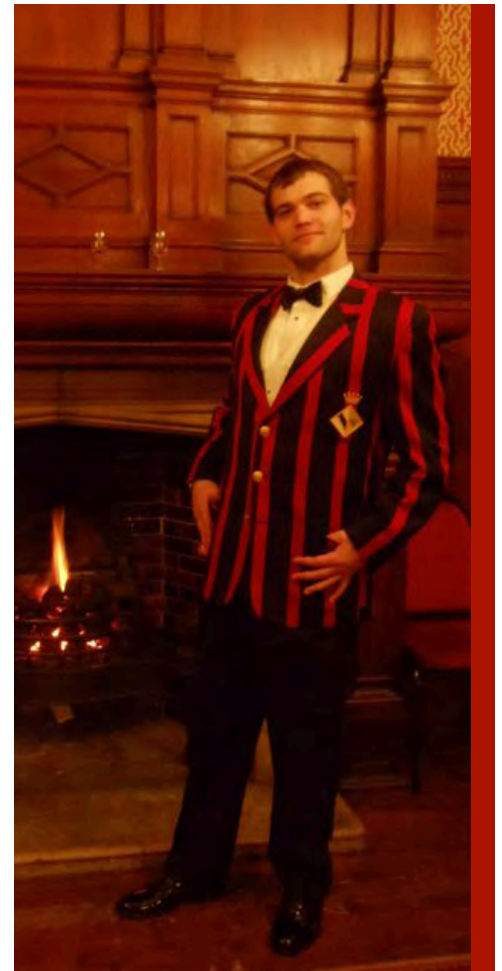
La Pier, Rosalyn. Adjunct instructor, Native American Studies, University of Montana. Teaching NAS/RSTS 301 American Indian Religion and Philosophy, Fall 2010, Spring 2011, Summer 2011.

2010 outstanding senior Sam Rostad takes a break from studies to pose in the Sidney Sussex College rowing colors

A UM History Alum at Cambridge

After graduating *magna cum laude* from UM last year, Sam Rostad matriculated at Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge, where he is working toward a Master of Philosophy (MPhil) degree. While completing his thesis, Sam has found time to row for his college, earning the right to

wear the Sidney Sussex crew colors, a dinner jacket sporting brilliant blue and red vertical stripes. Next year, Sam will enroll in the PhD program at Notre Dame University in South Bend, Indiana, where he will pursue a doctorate in medieval European history.



Faculty News

Awards and Honors

Drake, Richard. Elected President of the Society for Italian Historical Studies, at the January 2011 meeting of the American Historical Association in Boston, MA.

———. Awarded the Governor's Humanities Medal in Helena, MT, on February 24, 2011.

———. Served on review committee for American Council of Learned Societies that screened research proposals in modern European languages, December 2010.

Flores, Dan. His *Visions of the Big Sky: Painting and Photographing the Northern Rocky Mountain West*, published in 2010, was one of five books honored at the annual Montana Book Awards on April 7, 2011, and was announced in January by the *Missoulian* as one of the ten top-selling books in Missoula in 2010.

———. His published work on the Great Plains was discussed in some depth in the October 4, 2010, issue of *The Nation*.

Lauren, Paul. Shared in the Gustav Meyers Outstanding Book for Human Rights Award for his contribution to *Bringing Human Rights Home* (2010).

———. Honored by the University and the Davidson Honors College with the founding of the

Paul Lauren Undergraduate Research Faculty Mentor Award.

Poyraz, Serdar. Successfully defended his PhD dissertation, "Science versus Religion: The Influence of European Materialism on Turkish Thought, 1860-1960," at Ohio State University, Fall 2010.

Civic Involvement

Jabour, Anya. Member, Missoula International Women's Day Planning Committee, 2011 (Coordinated events with WORD, YWCA, PRIDE, Jeannette Rankin Peace Center, PRIDE, Community Action for Justice in the Americas, Africa, and Asia, WGS, and Women's Resource Center for programming on March 8, 2011)

Lauren, Paul. Served as a Member of the U.S. Delegation to the North American Council at the World Economic Forum's World Summit and as its Ambassador to the Human Rights Council, November 24 - December 2, 2010.

Interviews

Jabour, Anya. "This Is What a Feminist Sounds Like," KGBA, October 26, 2010;

Panels/Papers

Frey, Linda. "Those Miserable Quarrels of Etiquette: The French Revolutionaries Abroad," with Marsha Frey,

Consortium on the Revolutionary Era, 1750-1850, Tallahassee, FL, March 4, 2011.



Congratulations to Visiting Assistant Professor Peter Staudenmaier on his tenure-track appointment in Marquette University's History Department.

Greene, Robert. Presented excerpts from ongoing research into saints' lives and canonization policies in late imperial Russia at a research workshop entitled, "Christian Narrative in Imperial Russia," University of Alberta, October 1-2, 2010.

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Jabour, Anya. Panelist, "Getting Published," UM Provost's Faculty Development Series, November 5, 2010.

Shearer, Tobin. Presenter, "More than Fresh Air: African-American Children's Influence on Mennonite Religious Practice, 1950-1979," African-American Religious History Section, American Academy of Religion, Atlanta, GA, October 31, 2010.

———. Presenter, "Prayer, Guns, and Civil Rights: Beyond the Grassroots-Elite Debate over Civil Rights Movement Leadership," Association for African American Historical Research and Preservation, Seattle, WA, February 6, 2011.

Volk, Kyle. "Moral Majorities & the Reformation of Early American Government," presented at the American Antiquarian Society Fellows' Seminar, Worcester, MA, February 2011.

———. "Jim Crow Travel & Rights Politics in the Mid-Nineteenth Century American North," presented at the American Antiquarian Society Academic Seminar, Worcester, MA, December 2010.

———. "Travelin' Jim Crow & the Politics of the Racially Integrated Public," presented at the Upstate Early American History Workshop, Binghamton, NY, October 2010.

———. "Tyrannies of Moral

Majorities," presented at the American Antiquarian Society Lunchtime Seminar, Worcester, MA, October 2010.

———. "Taking Anti-Reform Seriously: Anti-Sabbatarianism and the Politics of Moral Freedom in Antebellum America," presented at the Society for the History of the Early American Republic (SHEAR) Annual Conference, July 2010.

Presentations/Guest Lectures

Flores, Dan. "Bison, Their History and Present Prospects in Montana," Kalispell, MT, for state-wide conference, February 24, 2011.

———. Plenary keynote address at the Georgia Historical Association's annual meeting in Savannah, GA, February 25, 2011.

———. Principal commentator in High Plains Films bison documentary, *Facing the Storm*, released in October 2010.

Fritz, Harry. "The Literature of Lewis and Clark," Traveler's Rest Chapter, Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation, Lolo, MT, March 3, 2011.

Jabour, Anya. "The Professor and the Prostitute: Sophonisba Breckinridge and the Morals Court in Prohibition-Era Chicago," November 12, 2010, Newberry Library Seminar on Women and Gender, Chicago, Illinois (invited lecture).

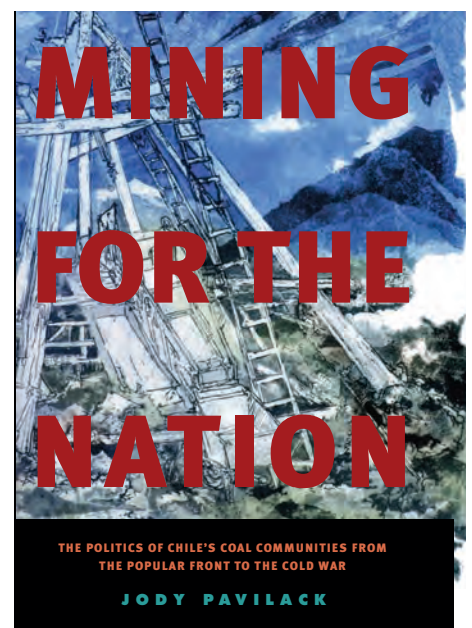
———. Guest Lecture, "Seeking Sophonisba: Researching a Forgotten Feminist, Pioneering Social Worker, and Social Justice Activist," History of Social Policy, UM School of Social Work, January 28, 2011.

———. Presenter, "C.V. Building," Graduate Student Professional Development Seminar Series, UM History Department, February 3, 2011.

Price, George. "The Betrayal of Enlightenment Egalitarianism: How what happened after 1783 led to our present ecological crisis," UM Mortar Board Society "Last Lecture Series," December 1, 2010.

———. "Why African American History is Relevant to All Americans." Black History Month lecture to the National Forest Service Northwest Regional Office, Missoula, February 17, 2011.

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Shearer, Tobin. Spring Forum Guest Lecturer, "Prayer, Guns and the Civil Rights Movement: Disrupting the Grassroots/Elite Leadership Debate," Bluffton University, January 11, 2011.

———. Book reading and signing of *Daily Demonstrators: The Civil Rights Movement in Mennonite Homes and Sanctuaries*, Fact and Fiction Bookstore, Missoula, MT, April 1, 2011.

Publications

Drake, Richard. "Apostoli Del Meridionalismo: Crisi Del Liberalismo E Marxismo Nella Napoli Post-Risorgimentale." *Nuova Storia Contemporanea: Bimestrale Di Studi Storici E Politici Sull'età Contemporanea* (2011): 17-34.

Flores, Dan. "Earthlings: Evolution and Place in Environmental History." In *A Companion to American Environmental History*, edited by Douglas Sackman, 595-614. London: Wiley-Blackwell Publishers, 2010.

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———. "When Buffalo Roamed." In *Western Heritage: A Selection of Wrangler Award-Winning Articles*, edited by Paul Andrew Hutton. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 2011.

———. "Bringing Home All the Pretty Horses." In *Western Heritage: A Selection of Wrangler Award-Winning Articles*, edited by Paul Andrew Hutton. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 2011.

Frey, Linda, and Marsha Frey. "Global Insider: Diplomatic Immunity." *World Politics Review* (2011), <http://www.worldpoliticsreview.com/trendlines/8042/global-insider-diplomatic-immunity>.

Jabour, Anya. Review of *Revolutionary Conceptions: Women, Fertility, and Family Limitation in America, 1760-1820*, by Susan E. Klepp. *Journal of the Early Republic* 30, no. 4 (2010): 655-57.

———. "Grown Girls, Highly Cultivated: Female Education in an Antebellum Southern Family." In *The Girls' History and Culture Reader: The Nineteenth Century*, edited by Miriam Forman Brunell and Leslie Paris, 31-68. Champaign, IL: University of Illinois Press, 2011.

Lauren, Paul. *The Evolution of International Human Rights: Visions Seen*. 3rd ed. Philadelphia: University of PA Press, 2011.

Pavilack, Jody. *Mining for the Nation: The Politics of Chile's Coal Communities from the Popular Front to the Cold War*. Philadelphia: Penn State Press, 2011.

Shearer, Tobin Miller. "Whitening Conflicts: White Racial Identity Formation within Mennonite Central Committee, 1960-1985." In *A Table of Sharing*, edited by Elaine Epp Weaver, 215-38. Scottsdale: Cascadia Press, 2011.



Past President George Dennison, History Department Chair John Eglin, Regents History Professor Paul Lauren, Alumni honoree John Badgley (History Class of '52), Alumni honoree Patrick Cheney (English class of '72), and current President Royce Engstrom enjoy a reception in Badgley's and Cheney's honor, September 24, 2010.

Alumni News Requested

In addition to reporting on faculty and students, we would like to hear from History Department alumni. Send us news about your publications, honors, awards and employment. Updates can be sent to: tobin.shearer@umontana.edu.

Alumni News

Awards

Fogo, Bradley (MA in history, Mike Mayer advisor; Paul Lauren Committee Member). Received the 2010-2011 PDK International Outstanding Doctoral Dissertation Award. His dissertation examines the creation of history-social science standards, tests, and curriculum frameworks in California over the past two decades. Fogo will receive a \$5,000 award from the PDK Educational Foundation. A summary of his dissertation, "What Every Student Should Know and Be Able to Do: The Making of California's Framework, Standards, and Tests for History-Social Science," will be published in the May 2011 issue of *Kappan* magazine, the nation's leading journal on education policy and practice.

Presentations

Gordon, Greg. Round-table presenter on teaching environmental history in the field, American Environmental History Society conference in Phoenix, April 14, 2011.

Publications

Gordon, Greg. Review of *Sawdust in the Western Woods* by Lionel Youst. *Oregon Historical Quarterly* 110, no. 4 (2009): 641-42.

----- "A. B. Hammond." In *The Oregon Encyclopedia*, 2010.

----- "Astoria and Columbia Railroad." In *The Oregon Encyclopedia*, 2010.

----- "Corvallis and Eastern Railroad." In *The Oregon Encyclopedia*, 2010.

----- Review of *Beyond Naturalness: Rethinking park and wilderness stewardship in an era of rapid change*, David Cole and Laurie Yung, eds. *Ecology* 91, no. 10 (2010).

Updates

Melosi, Martin (BA in History in 1969; MA in History 1971). Directs the Center for Public History at the University of Houston, and has just been named the Hugh Roy and Lillie Cranz Cullen University Professor. In a few months, his sixteenth book, *Precious Commodity: Providing Water for America's Cities*, will be published by the University of Pittsburgh Press.

Stentiford, Barry (MA in History in 1995). Earned a PhD in military history from the University of Alabama in 1998. He spent 11 years at Grambling State University, in Louisiana, but in December 2008 gave up tenure to accept a position at the U.S. Army's School of Advanced Military Studies, also known as SAMS, at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. He notes, "SAMS awards a Master's of Military Arts and Sciences degree. My students are mostly the top graduates from the main course for Army majors, and being active duty officers, they come to class on time, do all the readings, and turn in assignments when they

are due. Most are U.S. Army officers, although a few come from other branches, civilian agencies, and allied militaries. Most of my students have been through numerous tours in Iraq and Afghanistan, and bring a level of experience and purpose to their studies that makes for great classroom discussions. I have one of the best jobs a military historian can have." He had a book published by Texas A&M Press in 2002 (*The American Home Guard: The State Militia in the Twentieth Century*), co-edited a reference work for Greenwood in 2008 (*The Jim Crow*

Encyclopedia), and is currently working feverishly to complete a contracted book on the Tuskegee Airmen for ABC-CLIO. He adds, "The experience I had at Montana was solid preparation for what came later. I discovered that the Montana MA program was far more rigorous than what most of my peers in my Ph.D. program had been through, and I was well prepared for my doctoral program. I have always tried to follow Dr. Drake's Brasidas Principle—giving the most sympathetic telling to the side I disagree with the most in everything I write. If eastern Kansas just had a few mountains

nearby, all would be perfect." Zierler, David (MA in history in 2004; advisor, Paul Lauren). Has worked at the Office of the Historian since 2008, immediately after he completed his doctoral work at Temple University. His book *Inventing Ecocide: Agent Orange, Vietnam and the Scientists Who Changed the Way We Think About the Environment* will be published by University of Georgia Press in Winter 2011. He adds, "If there's room for editorializing, feel free to add that studying at UM remains the wisest academic choice I've ever made. (It's true!)"

DEPARTMENT
OF
HISTORY

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