

UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA

# HISTORY

DIVE INTO THE PAST. SHAPE THE FUTURE.

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University  
of Victoria  
History

## New Faculty

DR. ADEBISI ALADE



*Adebisi Alade*

**Adebisi Alade** joins the UVic Department of History from McMaster University in Hamilton, where he received a PhD in History in 2022. His research and teaching interests are in British imperial history, urban history, history of health, medicine, and environment in Africa and in the broader colonial world. Previously, Adebisi was a Water Without Borders scholar at the United Nations University - Institute for Water, Environment and Health, where he studied International Policy Development. He's currently working on his first book manuscript, which examines

how subaltern politics and resistance in colonial Nigeria shaped public health programs designed to transform Africans into “environmentally responsible subjects” during the first half of the twentieth century. The decolonizing project demonstrates how the British colonial officials mobilized European knowledge of sanitary science and disease-causing germs to delegitimize and suppress African understanding of disease causation and hygiene practices.

... *cont page 2.*

# FROM THE CHAIR

DR. JASON COLBY

It is a delight to introduce this newsletter. It has been an honour to serve as department chair for the past three years, and I look forward to my last two. I simply could not ask for better colleagues, among both the faculty and the office staff. The History Department had a wonderful 2022-2023 academic year. We began by welcoming our new Africanist colleague **Dr. Adebisi Alade**. Hailing from Nigeria and having just completed his PhD at McMaster, Adebisi has brought not only new research and teaching expertise but also new energy to the department. We are delighted to have him here. That same summer, we also celebrated the appointment of **Dr. Kristin Semmens** as a full-time, research-stream faculty member as well as our new undergraduate coordinator.

In addition, beginning this year, **Dr. Christine O'Bonsawin** takes over as graduate director after three years of strong leadership from **Dr. Penny Bryden**. I look forward to working with Kristin and Christine to strengthen our new undergraduate program and reimagine our graduate program in order to make it more accessible to students unable to move to Victoria.

In this same period, we saw significant changes to our office staff. Although we had to say goodbye (sort of) to beloved administrative

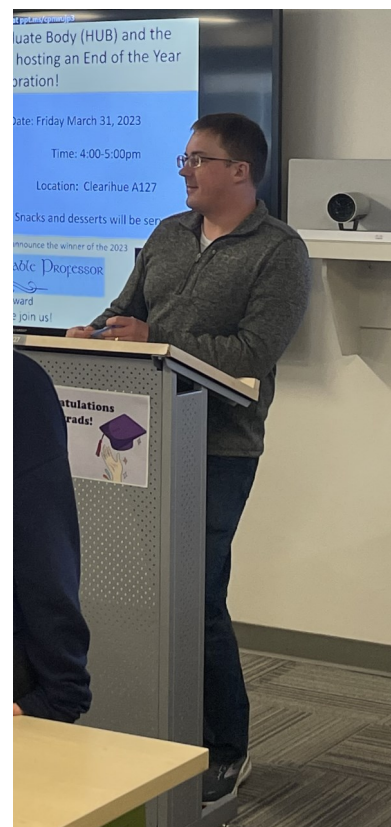
officer **Theresa Gallant**, we had the great fortune to hire **Consuela Covrig** to replace her. In the past year, Consuela has proved extraordinarily dedicated, resourceful, and organized. In turn, we were delighted to hire **Alison Hogan**, a former History graduate student familiar to many of us, in the position of undergraduate secretary and assistant to the chair. Along with **Heather Waterlander**, Consuela and Alison have ensured a seamless transition and a smooth operation in the office.

We also faced a number of challenges this year, including falling enrolments across the university and two rounds of budget cuts. It was certainly not how I envisioned the year going, but I was consistently heartened by the generosity and support of my colleagues in the department. We very much came together in hard times, and I salute you all for it.

In closing, I extend a big "thank you" to Consuela for putting this newsletter together within her busy schedule. This department simply wouldn't function without the efforts of her, Heather, and Alison.

I wish you all a wonderful academic year, and I look forward to seeing you soon.

Jason



## New Faculty

DR. ADEBISI ALADE

*Cont. from page 1*

A big part of this project, which received the UVic 2023 Research/Creative Project Grant (RCPG), tells the lesser-known social history of medicine, focusing on African engagement with the interconnected and contested issues of disease control, clean water supply, waste management, health inspection, and the surveillance of African hygiene practices by British-trained sanitary inspectors. Adebisi's background and experiences growing up in Africa, complemented by his curiosity-driven interdisciplinary research, sparked his interest in the

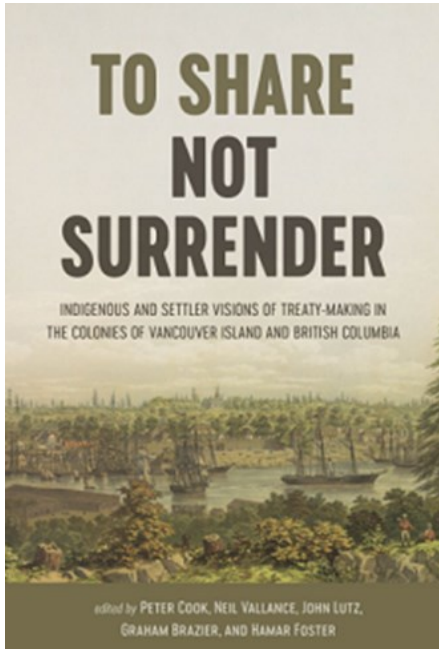
complex role of Africans in shaping the success/failures of British colonial hygiene and other public health initiatives. In the postcolonial context, Adebisi's research provides insight into the nexus between improved sanitation and the control of old and newly emerging diseases like malaria, Ebola, and Lassa fever, which continued to impede Africa's socio-economic development.

Since arriving at UVic, he has mentored students in conducting their own research projects on topics related to colonial health in Africa. Apart from supervising an honours thesis that received the

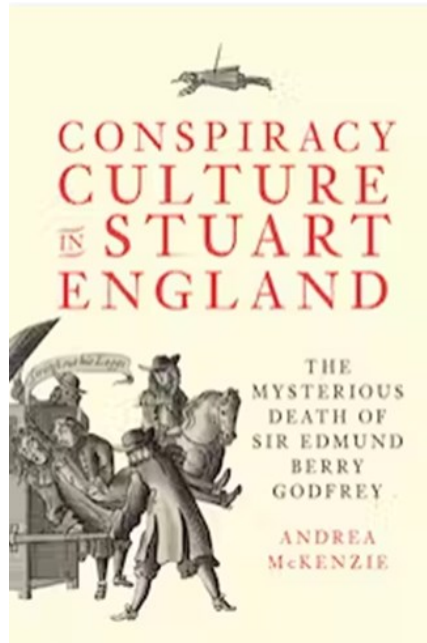
prestigious Hannah Award from the Canadian Society for the History of Medicine, Adebisi also introduced three new courses from his regional and thematic fields. Throughout his first year in the department, he participated in professional development workshops in Africa, discussed his research at conferences in Europe and North America, and gave guest lectures in and outside UVic while developing relationships with the Victoria local communities. This year, He will teach courses on African History, Black Diaspora, and health and medicine in the colonial world. #

# BOOKS PUBLISHED (2020–2023)

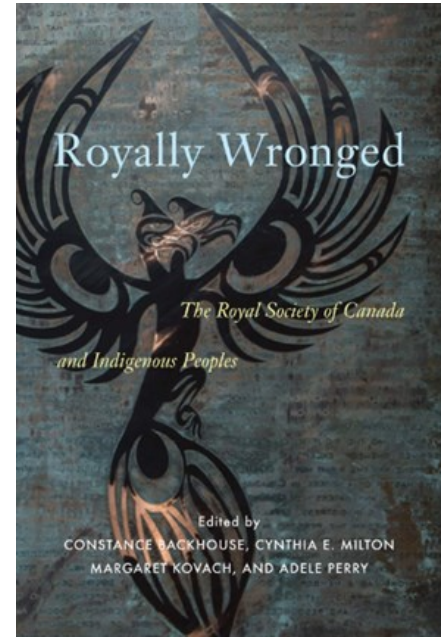
## CONGRATULATIONS!



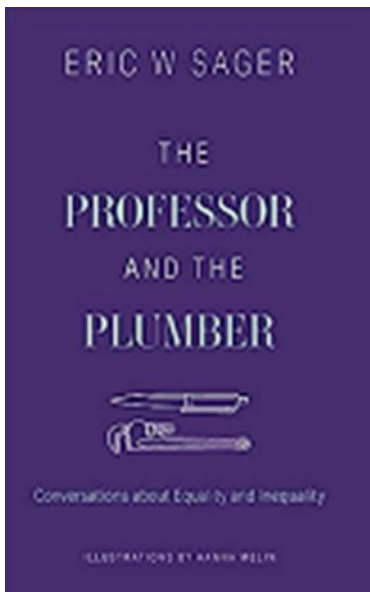
PETER COOK



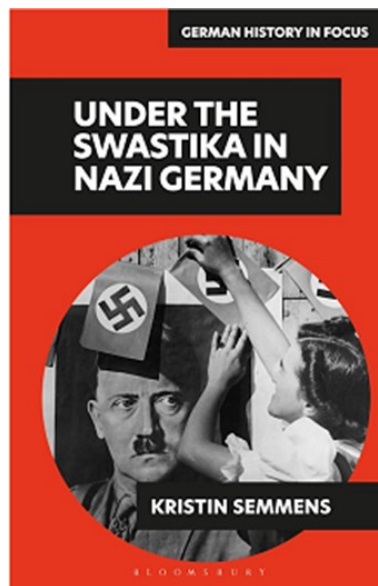
ANDREA MCKENZIE



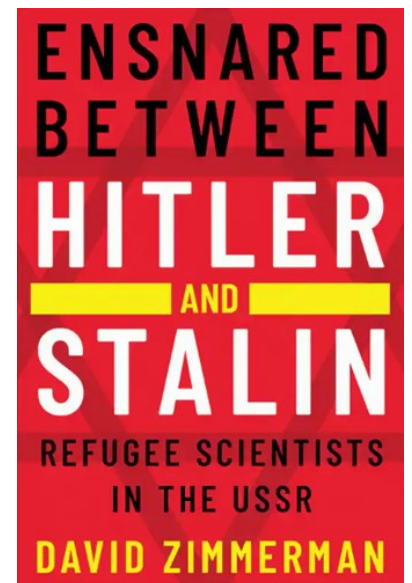
CYNTHIA MILTON



ERIC SAGER

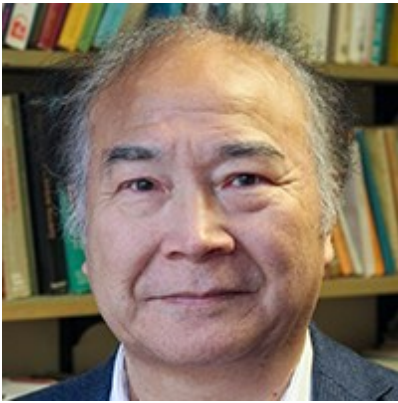


KRISTIN SEMMENS



DAVID ZIMMERMAN

# HUMANITIES AWARDS



Dr. Zhongping Chen has received the 2022 Faculty of Humanities award for Excellence in Research.



Jordan Stanger-Ross is one of five academics from across Canada receiving a prestigious Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) Impact award, which is one of the highest national awards for Canadian humanities researchers.

# MOST VALUABLE PROFESSOR AWARD



Congratulations to **Dr. Semmens** for winning this year's Most Valuable Professor award!! and congratulations to **Dr. Sitara** and **Dr. McKenzie** who received honourable mentions. It was an incredibly tight race this year!!!

# FOUR STORIES ABOUT FOOD SOVEREIGNTY

DR. ELIZABETH VIBERT

2022 brought whiplash. The sudden return to research travel and in-person teaching highlighted how relatively – quiet? – life was in my little home office and in the Zoom-sphere. Research trips to Jordan and Colombia and filming trips to Jordan and T’Sou-ke quickly revived the *Four Stories About Food Sovereignty* project (with a few alterations as a result of the challenges faced by our community partners). An exciting week was the long-delayed Lansdowne visit of White Mountain Apache chef **Nephi Craig** – a food sovereignty activist, educator, and finalist for a 2023 *James Beard Award* – a visit I co-hosted with Jeff Corntassel. Chef Craig helped at a pitcook on campus and had rich conversations with Indigenous food and plant specialists from around the region; our team had fun filming his fishing trip and conversations about resurgent food systems with T’Sou-ke Chief **Gordon Planes**. I developed and

offered the first go of our new required first-year course, ‘History, Power, and Justice’ and taught it to a too-large class in an impersonal auditorium (most of the students engaged and keen, nonetheless). It was a pleasure to resume public talks, including a national webinar (Zoom again) on ‘*Global Food Justice: Decolonizing Paths Forward.*’ I co-edited a special issue of *Canadian Food Studies* on the theme ‘*Toward Just Food Futures*’ and published an article, ‘*Transformation or the Next Meal?*’, growing out of early research in our community-driven network. I’ve spent much of the past year filming, writing, and co-editing ‘*Aisha’s Story*,’ a documentary about the efforts of Palestinian miller **Aisha Azzam** to keep her food culture thriving in exile. #

[www.uvic.ca/news/topics/2023+vibert-palestinian-food+news](http://www.uvic.ca/news/topics/2023+vibert-palestinian-food+news)



Palestinian miller **Aisha Azzam** in her mill in Baqa’a Camp, Jordan.



Elizabeth Vibert with (L-R) film crew members Amal, Shatha, Isaac, Afnan, Chen, and Alaadin.



Crew at work filming an interview with Aisha Azzam, Baqa’a Camp, Jordan.

# GLOBAL SOUTH COLLOQUIUM

## DR. NEILESH BOSE

In its seventh year, the Global South Colloquium has begun a new initiative of workshopping books by junior scholars in the field of Indian Ocean history. Extensive planning led to the first meeting in June with three junior scholars and a lively set of interlocutors culled from the University of Victoria and beyond. Designed for a three-year period (2023, 2024, and 2025), this annual workshop brings together ongoing

discussions in the World History Caucus, the Global South Colloquium, the South Asia Global Forum, and discussions in the Faculty of Humanities, Social Sciences, and Law regarding the role of the Indian Ocean as an entry into the study of globalization in and of Asia Faculty of Humanities, Social Sciences, and Law regarding the role of the Indian Ocean as an entry into the study of globalization in and of Asia. #



Canada Research Chair, Neilesh Bose

# LANSDOWNE LECTURE

## DR. JILL WALSHAW

In early November 2022, we were thrilled to welcome **Professor Colin Jones** as a Lansdowne visitor. Professor Jones is a world-renowned scholar of eighteenth-century and revolutionary France. He was educated at Oxford and has taught at Newcastle, Exeter, Warwick, Stanford, Renmin, Paris-VIII and Queen Mary University of London. He has held research positions at Princeton, the Collège de France, Columbia University's Paris campus and the National Humanities Centre in North Carolina. He is currently Professor Emeritus at Queen Mary and has been Visiting Professor in the History Department at the University of Chicago since 2017.

Professor Jones' deep interest in the social and cultural history of France has led him to make key contributions in areas as diverse as the history of medicine, the history of Paris, physiognomy and caricature, and the Terror in the French Revolution. He has published 12 monographs, including *The Longman Companion to the French Revolution* (an indispensable resource for all graduate students in the field) and innovative scholarly studies such as *The Medical World of Early Modern France* (1997), *Madame de Pompadour and her Image* (2002), and *The*

*Smile Revolution in 18th-Century Paris* (2017). His most recent research project focuses on the day of 9 Thermidor when Robespierre was overthrown; his book, *The Fall of Robespierre. 24 Hours in Revolutionary Paris* was published by Oxford University Press in 2021, and was the subject material for his on-campus research talk. The Lansdowne public lecture was combined with the Department's *Café historique* lecture series at Hermann's Jazz Club: our friendly Victoria audience was treated to a 2000-year history of the smile, an engaging topic that even caught the attention of the local CBC morning show, for which Professor Jones did a rousing interview the morning before the event.

In addition to his astounding academic record, Colin Jones stands out as a kind and generous mentor, a friendly and relaxed colleague, and an extraordinary communicator. During his visit, he gave a guest workshop in inviting faculty member **Jill Walshaw's** History 342A (Eighteenth-Century Europe) on archival materials and "how we find great research topics", and he made himself available to meet with graduate students. Everyone who attended one of his talks was touched by his thoughtful and enthusiastic scholarship, and it was a great honour to host him at UVic. #



# PAST WRONGS FUTURE CHOICES

## DR. JORDAN STANGER-ROSS AND ANTHONY AUCHTERLONIE



*Back row from left to right: Anthony Auchterlonie (Project Manager), Michael Prior (Artist in Residence – USA), Tianna Killoran (Scholar in Residence – Australia), Renay Egami (Artist In Residence – Canada), Dr. Andrea Mariko Grant (PWFC Postdoc), Jordan Stanger-Ross (Project Director)*

*Past Wrongs Future Choices* has just begun its second year, and so far, it has been exciting and eventful! From September to April the Project hosted two exceedingly successful residency programs featuring artists and scholars from around the world, brought together at UVic in the Centres for Asia Pacific Initiatives and Global Studies and with support from the faculty of Fine Arts.

In each case PWFC has been privileged to host two scholars and two artists, each of whom is expected to produce a working paper or artistic project by the time their residency concludes. It has been a great joy to see creative and scholarly minds mingle and exchange thoughts and ideas and in doing so, elevate the scholarship and the art that has flowed from engaging with the

legacies and histories of global Nikkei dispossession, internment/incarceration.

In December of 2022 Project Manager **Mike Abe** accepted a secondment to the JC Legacies Foundation monument project. Mike will be in this position for one year and is expected to return to his role as Project Manager in December of 2023. In the meantime, the project has hired a former History student, **Anthony Auchterlonie**, to occupy this role.

The project has also been building out its networks and making connections. In April 2023 Project Co-directors **Jordan Stanger-Ross** and **Audrey Kobayashi** traveled to Los Angeles and Sao Paulo, Brazil with Museum Exhibitions Cluster Chair **Sherri Kajiwara** to meet with project partners. The team has walked away from these meetings feeling

energized and excited about the future directions the project may take.

The project office has also taken meetings in Vancouver and Toronto, and Project director Jordan Stanger-Ross is looking forward to traveling to Australia in the new year to further facilitate relationship building with partners in the Pacific.

In the immediate future PWFC is looking forward to continuing its residency program with two new sessions in May and September. The project is also looking forward to the return of the Internment Era Field School which, after a hiatus caused by Covid-19, will be running once again this July. We look forward to offering this opportunity every year for the duration of the project! #



**Past Wrongs  
Future Choices**

# WHERE ARE THEY NOW

ROB DUMONT, MA UVIC HISTORY

CATHERINE GILBERT, MA UVIC HISTORY



Since June 2022, I have been working as a policy analyst for the Ministry of Energy, Mines and Low Carbon Innovation's new MTA Modernization Office. I am leading jurisdictional research on competing jurisdictions' mineral tenure systems to ensure British Columbia's (BC) mining industry remains competitive as well as to learn how other jurisdictions deal with the two issues of

the issuance of mineral tenures and consultation with Indigenous peoples.

This information will be used to help ensure that BC is able to fulfill its commitments to align BC's mineral tenure legislation with the principles of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous peoples and the Declaration Act that was passed in 2019. #

THESIS: <https://dspace.library.uvic.ca/handle/1828/11687>



After graduating from UVic in 2018, Catherine began working on a book based on her MA thesis, that was published by Heritage House in May 2021. Entitled *A Journey Back to Nature, a history of Strathcona Provincial Park*, the book won the Lieutenant Governor's Finalist award for historical writing in 2022 and is a BC Bestseller. In the winter of 2022, she participated in the filming of a documentary about the Myra Falls mining operation in the park, and in April 2023 appeared on CHEK TV's *Inspiring Island Women*.

Since 2020, Catherine has been working on the life story of environmental activist David (aka Walrus) Garrick, a former Greenpeace director and specialist in identification of culturally modified trees, and expects to have this completed by fall 2024. She currently works with Wells Gray bus tours as a historian/ guide on their west coast trips into Nootka Sound on the coastal freighter Uchuck III. She has also been teaching history sessionally at North Island College at the Comox Valley Campus since 2019. #

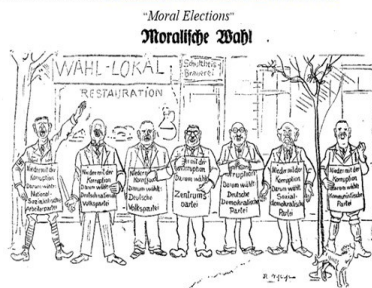
WEBSITE: <https://catherinegilbert.ca/>

# WORKS IN PROGRESS

DR. ANDREA MCKENZIE, WORKS IN PROGRESS COORDINATOR

Tom Saunders, Department of History, Uvic,  
"Villains, Victims, Saviours: Corruption & Scandal  
in a Weimar Hall of Mirrors"

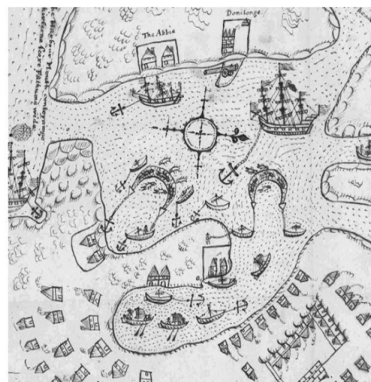
The talk uses an unconventional framework to raise questions about how scandal serves historical moralizing and historical narrativizing in general. It is less about specific cases of corruption than how to imagine scandal historically. The "hall of mirrors" reference is to a famous sequence in Charlie Chaplin's *Circus* (1928) – the 3-minute clip is here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G094fRcUxUM>



HISTORY WORKS IN PROGRESS SEMINAR SERIES:  
1:30-2:20pm Tuesday 18 October 2022, Clearihue B215

The cartoon above highlights both the moral consensus in calls for cleaning up corruption and the rivalries to win popular support spawned by those calls, while caricaturing the social profile of each party. The seven major German political parties are shown appealing to voters in the Berlin municipal elections of 18 November 1929. They are arranged in reverse political order. From left in the image: NSDAP, German National People's Party; German People's Party; Centre Party; Democratic Party; Social Democratic Party; Communist Party.

Patrick Hayes, Department of History, Uvic,  
The Environment and Economics of Ireland's Marine  
Fisheries, 1400 to 1600



HISTORY WORKS IN PROGRESS SEMINAR SERIES:  
1:30-2:20pm Tuesday 20 September 2022, Clearihue B215

In the fifteenth and early sixteenth centuries, fisheries were one of the largest, most diverse, and profitable industries on the island of Ireland, but by 1600 they had suffered a near total collapse. This talk explores the environmental and economic consequences of these fisheries and examines the many reasons for their failure, including the influence of war and piracy, colonial expansion, and oceanographic change.

Jason Colby and Tim Cunningham (History)  
"Devilfish Coast: Mapping the History of Gray  
Whales and People in the North Pacific"



Gray whale skeleton, Puerto San Carlos, Baja California

HISTORY WORKS IN PROGRESS SEMINAR:  
1:30-2:50pm Tuesday 4 April 2023 DSB C116

This presentation will explore the shared history and shifting relations of gray whales and humans. Hunted nearly to extinction in the nineteenth century, gray whales became environmental icons by the 1970s, transforming cultural and spatial relations along the Pacific Coast. The centerpiece of the talk will be the new Devilfish website, featuring an animated digital map that juxtaposes human and gray whale history since 1840.

Dr. Jason Colby is professor and chair of History (Uvic) and principal investigator of the SSHRC-funded project *Devilfish: The History and Future of Gray Whales and People*. Timothy Cunningham (BA, MA UVic) is a specialist in environmental and digital humanities and director of the *Devilfish* project.





# HUB

This past year the History Undergraduate Body (HUB) welcomed 11 new, and three returning members to our executive team! We held many successful social events for history students throughout the year including game nights, movie nights, group outings to local restaurants and establishments, and even a cross-department trivia night which we hosted alongside the Greek and Roman studies student union. Working with department staff, HUB also helped organise and host the History department's Most Valuable Professor celebration where we presented **Dr. Kristin Semmens** with the award based on student votes.

In addition to social events, HUB also held weekly peer-tutoring sessions for students, and our journal committee is currently in the end stages of publishing our peer-reviewed undergraduate journal, the *Ascendant Historian*. The HUB executives would like to thank everyone for the great year and we are looking forward to next year! #



**HUB 2022-2023:** Sakiko Noda, Jakob Svorkdal, Lily McCartney, Maggie Dennis, Emily Romonko, Anna Steverding, Alicia Singh, Yuto Wei, Grace Charness

## JCURA JAMIE CASSELS UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH AWARDS

The goal of this award is to encourage undergraduates to pursue innovative and original research to enhance their learning while at the University of Victoria and to provide a valuable preparatory experience towards graduate studies or a research related career. #

### Daniel Davenport

Project title: [Under New Management: Energy Resource Allocation in Great War Britain](#)

Faculty Supervisor: Dr. Mariel Grant

### Samantha Olson

Project title: [Political Agitators to Ideological Enforcers: Representations of the Brownshirts in Germany 1921-1938](#)

Faculty Supervisor: Dr. Kristin Semmens

### Tamara Wallace

Project title: [The Witch-Finder King: King James I and His Relationship to Witchcraft](#)

Faculty Supervisor: Dr. Andrea McKenzie

### Jacob Moreno

Project title: [Modernist Imaginaries of Crisis: The Function of Crisis in Weimar](#)

Faculty Supervisor: Dr. Tom Saunders

### Peter Kruschke

Project title: [Remembering Loss: Effects of Internment and Dispossession on Japanese Canadian Collective Memory](#)

Faculty Supervisor: Dr. Jordan Stanger-Ross

# GRADUATE AWARDS

**SSHRC Awards**  
Andrew Johnston

**Presidents Research Scholarships**  
Andrew Johnston

**UVic Graduate Fellowships**  
Natasha Danais, Baktash Goudarzi, Catherine Reardon,  
Jesse Robertson, Ana Paula Santana Bertho

**UVic Graduate Awards**  
Ben Dippel, Jerry Flexer, Kristen Fontaine, Yixiong Fu, Abby Goldstein, Ireland Good, Mateos Hayes, Caitlin Humber, Jamey Jespersen, Andrew Johnston, Wenjuan Lu, Theresa Mackay, Andrew Muchin, Nick Paquin, Chris Pihlak, Brian Pollick, Abby Romano, Pia Russell, Ana Paula Santana Bertho, Nkosilathi Shangwa, Katherine St Arnaud, Meg Warhurst, Melissa Wing, Eric Zadavec, Milan Zec

**UVic Graduate Entrance Awards (GEA)**  
Abby Goldstein, Caitlin Humber, Abby Romano,  
Eric Zadavec, Milan Zec

**Falkenstein Fellowships**  
Ben Dippel, Yixiong Fu, Ireland Good, Mateos Hayes, Jamey Jespersen, Wenjuan Lu, Nick Paquin, Chris Pihlak, Jesse Robertson, Eric Zadavec

**Cassels Shaw Graduate Scholarship**  
Jamey Jespersen

**Donald Wagg Graduate Scholarship**  
Baktash Goudarzi

**Humanities Dean's Dissertation Year Scholarship**  
Kefen Zhou

**Hutchinson Graduate Scholarship**  
Natasha Danais, Wenjuan Lu

**John and Myrtle Tilley Graduate Scholarship**  
Baktash Goudarzi

**Kalman Award for International Heritage Studies**  
Pia Russell

**Leon J. Ladner British Columbia Historical Scholarship**  
Ben Dippel

**Museum Studies Award in Memory of Dr. Daniel Gallacher**  
Meg Warhurst

**Nimrod Hungarian Mobility Award**  
Ana Paula Santana Bertho

**Otto and Joan Bekius Scholarship**  
Andrew Johnston

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## GHSU

### CHRIS AINO PIHLAK, PRESIDENT



Katherine St. Arnaud, Nick Paquin, Chris Aino Pihlak

The Graduate History Student Union had a wonderful year as we made the transition back to in-person events. We had a range of successful social events that included Pub Nights and Trivia with the History Undergraduate Body. Academically, we worked with the Grad Chair and Graduate Student Society to provide subsidies to UVic presenters at this year's successful *Shifting Tides* conference. In addition, the *Graduate History Review* put on a Spring Speaker Series that featured six engaging long form talks on the research of both doctoral and master's students. We ended the year with a survey on Teaching Assistant conditions that is soon to be distributed. The *Graduate History Review* will release its much-anticipated special issue titled, "*Trans Histories by Trans Historians*," in the Fall. The outgoing exec looks forward to seeing how next year's GHSU continues to foster grad student community in the department. #

# UNDERGRADUATE AWARDS

THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR DONORS FOR YOUR SUPPORT AND GENEROSITY!

**Alexander & Phyllis MacLeod Baird Memorial Prize in Scottish History**

Melanie Warwick

**Allan and Elizabeth McKinnon Scholarship**

Devin Gough

**Barry Gough Scholarship in History**

Angelina Schwarz

**Canadian History Scholarship**

Peter Kruschke, Kiri Heeren-Powell

**Charlotte S.M. Girard Book Prize in French History**

Kimberly Aerts

**Churchill Foundation Vancouver Island's Shirley Burstall Scholarship**

Samuel Holland

**Dr. Shawn Cafferky Scholarship in Military History**

Samantha Olson

**Dr. Toby Jackman Book Prize in British History**

Sydney Shaw

**Gregory Blue Scholarship in Global History**

Jenaya McRorie, Frances England

**Grotius Award in Modern History**

Rebecca Hartley

**Harper Scholarship in History**

Samantha Olson, Tamara Wallace ,  
Sarah Wilkinson , Daniel Davenport,  
Samuel Holland

**Hendrickson Prize in B.C. History**

Charlotte Conn

**Hutchinson Bekius Scholarship in History**

Peter Kruschke

**Inspiring Historians Legacy Scholarship**

Jamie Hellard

**J. Walter Grant Book Prize in British Columbia History**

Massimo Calabrese

**John Money Memorial Prize in British History**

Tamara Wallace

**Kathleen Agnew Scholarship**

Kiri Heeren-Powell

**Ken Coates Book Prize**

Massimo Calabrese

**Ladner Book Prize for the Study of the History of British Columbia**

Massimo Calabrese

**Leon J. Ladner B.C. History Scholarship**

Massimo Calabrese

**Lord Selkirk Association of Rupert's Land Bompas Book Prize**

Austin Follestad

**Major-General G. R. Pearkes, V.C. Scholarship**

Samantha Olson

**Maureen Dobbin Scholarship**

Samuel Holland

**Michiel Horn and Cornelia Schuh Scholarship**

Kiera Clark , Sarah Wilkinson

**Nora Lugin Shaw and Wendell Burrill Shaw Memorial Scholarship**

Tylor Mathers

**Prince and Princess Nicholas Abkhazi Book Prize in Russian History**

Tylor Mathers

**Professor Alfred E. Loft Memorial Scholarship**

Katelyn Luymes

**R.H. Roy Scholarship in Military History**

Samantha Olson

**Sydney G. Pettit Book Prize in European History**

Kimberly Aerts

**Sydney W. Jackman Prize in British History**

Francesca Constancon

**Tatton Anfield Prize in American History**

Katherine Foreman , James Coe

**Ted & Jane Wooley Scholarship**

Vanessa Aase

**United Empire Loyalists' Association Alvin Huffman Scholarship**

Peter Kruschke

**Victoria Historical Society Scholarship**

Devin Gough

**Victoria Municipal Chapter, IODE Canadian History Scholarship**

Kiri Heeren-Powell

**Willard E. Ireland Scholarship in History**

Samantha Olson

## FELLOWSHIP

HUGH CAMPBELL AND MARION ALICE SMALL  
GRADUATE TEACHING FELLOWSHIP  
IN SCOTTISH STUDIES

Theresa Mackay

CONGRATULATIONS!

# FACULTY YEAR IN REVIEW



Neilesh Bose

## NEILESH BOSE

During this time, I have finished the writing of a monograph as well as focused on revising articles, book chapters, and review essays. One area of current research is the subject of modern religious reform in nineteenth century India. My monograph, tentatively titled *Religion before Gandhi: Meanings and Ends of Religion in Nineteenth Century India*, has been submitted for publication and hopefully will emerge in print next year. I am currently developing a related piece of work, about religious reformers in the early twentieth century, as a journal article to be submitted to *Modern Intellectual History*. Also currently in development is an online review essay discussing religion and nationalism for the Social Science Research Council, expected to appear online in fall 2023. Finally, a roundtable I have edited for the *Journal of American Academy of Religion* is slated for publication in late 2023.

Other works forthcoming includes a book chapter about two nineteenth century Indian religious reformers, and their studies of comparative religion, titled “*Vernaculars across Texts: Modern Islam and Modern Literature in Bengal*” in *Language Ideologies and the Vernacular in Colonial and Postcolonial South Asia* (Routledge, 2024).

I’ve also completed the research for a new book, a biography of the anti-colonial nationalist Taraknath Das (1885 – 1958). This research features a study of global migration, immigration law in the United States and Canada, and diasporic nationalism. Based on this research, I have recently published a book chapter titled “*Taraknath Das: Race and Citizenship between India and the U.S.A.*” in *The United States and South Asia from the*



Andrea McKenzie, Simon Devereaux, Rachel Cleves, Theresa Gallant, Eric Sager, Penny Bryden, Jordan Stanger-Ross

*Age of Empire to Decolonization* (Leiden, 2022).

Bringing together my interests in world history and South Asian history is my edited volume published as *India after World History: Literature, Comparison, and Approaches to Globalization* (Leiden, 2022). I also published book reviews in the *Journal of World History*, the website <https://maidaanam.com/about/>, a website focused on cultural history and contemporary politics in South Asia, as well as an entry in the *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Asian History*.

### Presentations and Fellowships

During this time, I’ve delivered numerous public presentations in person and via Zoom for audiences in several different universities. These include conferences at Cambridge, MA and Varanasi, India, as well as an invited lecture in Tübingen, Germany. Victoria, BC, on topics ranging from South Asian migration in North America to aspects of South Asian migration in global history. In Victoria, I presented a part of research I conducted stemming from a fellowship I held in the Spring 2023 semester with the *Past Wrongs, Future Choices* partnership project led by **Dr. Jordan Stanger-Ross**. In this capacity as a PWFC fellow, I am writing a book chapter for one of the edited volumes to be produced by the project. This chapter will contextualize the global history of Japanese internment and dispossession within the larger twentieth century context. Additionally, I am working with Dr. Stanger-Ross and **Dr. Masumi Izuma** to produce a separate journal article based on our reflections on nationalism emanating from our work on the project.

### Teaching

I taught my undergraduate course HSTR 375, “Decolonization in Asia and Africa.” #

## PENNY BRYDEN

In 2022 I formally took up my position as co-editor of the *Canadian Historical Review*, a job I had been shadowing for the previous year. This has given me a wonderful opportunity to see the range of work that Canadian historians are doing, whether it’s a longue duree history of food production in the Canadian Shield, or a micro-historical look at the performance of citizenship. Similarly, chairing the Canadian Political History Book Prize committee for the second year has also introduced me to a number of new authors and new themes. Some of that innovative scholarship made it into courses I taught on pre-19th century Canada, and on Canada in the 1960s; some of it has also informed my own research on political scandals in Canada and on proselytizing peace in the 1980s. I have published articles this year on various topics, including foreign policy, cabinet government, scandal and constitutional culture – it sounds a bit scattered, but I think it will all come together in my forthcoming book on the PMO and the not-quite-finished book on scandals. I hope. #

## MARTIN BUNTON

After years of lockdown, I was able to travel again to the Middle East in Fall 2022, spending time in Tunisia, Egypt, Oman and Jordan. I also returned to the archives and libraries of my old Oxford college, St. Antony’s, and participated in conferences spending time in Tunisia, Egypt, Oman and Jordan. I also returned to the archives and libraries of my old Oxford college, St.

# FACULTY YEAR IN REVIEW

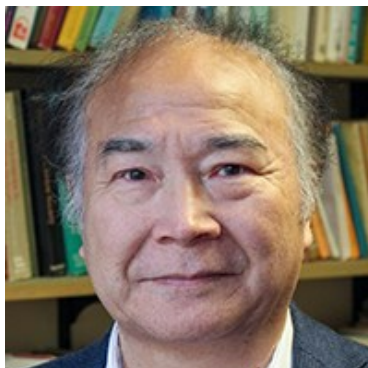


Martin Bunton

Antony's, and participated in conferences hosted in Tunis and Ramallah. Back in Victoria for Spring 2023, I submitted manuscripts for two projects: one, with **Andrew Wender**, on the *End of the Ottoman Empire*; the other, a 7th edition of a Modern Middle East History textbook, co-authored with **Bill Cleveland**. #

## ZHONGPING CHEN

The 2022–2023 academic year witnessed the return of normalcy after the Covid-19 pandemic and the harvest of my research efforts that took place behind closed doors during the past two years. I translated my first English book, *Modern China's Network Revolution* (Stanford University Press, 2011), into Chinese, and it will be released by Jiangsu People's Press in July 2023. My new book, *Transpacific Reform and Revolution: The Chinese in North America, 1898–1918*, is also being published by Stanford University Press and will come out in July. In addition to the publication of two articles in China, my another Chinese article (coauthored with **Wu Yan**), "*The Chinese 'Discovery' of the Americas, Zheng He's Voyages to the Indian Ocean, and Early Globalization*," has been translated and will be published in the journal *China and Asia* 5 (2023): 3–49. In 2022 I received the Faculty of Humanities' Award for Research Excellence, and also worked as a faculty fellow at the Centre for Studies in Religion and Society, UVic. During the first five months of my study leave in spring 2023, I completed a new book manuscript, "*The Transpacific Chinese Diaspora in Canada: From Origins to Rise and Reform, 1788–1898*," and it is under consideration by a university press. My next endeavor will focus on the SSHRC-funded five-year research project, "*Human-Environment Interactions and Rural China's Transition during the Little Ice Age (1400–1900)*." #



Zhongping Chen

## RACHEL CLEVES

2022–2023 has been an academic year of tying up old projects and starting new ones. In April 2022, I received a SSHRC Insight Grant for my new research project, "*To Russia With Love: A True Story of Sex, Stolen Diamonds and Spycraft*." In the summer I made research trips to Washington D.C. and Philadelphia, the latter in the company of my Ph.D. student **Jamey Jespersen**, to begin research. After a productive fall of teaching, including working with five graduate students, I used a spring sabbatical to finish a draft of my next monograph, "*Perverved Appetites: Good Food and Illicit Sexuality, 1750 to 2000*," which will be published by Polity Press (UK). Now I'm preparing for another summer of research trips and conference presentations to develop my new SSHRC project. It's a whirlwind! On a personal note, I also have my first novel, co-authored with my brother **Aram Sinnreich** under the pen name R. A. Sinn, coming out in August 2023 from Solaris Books. The title is *A Second Chance for Yesterday* and it will be distributed in Canada by Simon & Schuster. #

## JASON COLBY

Although chair duties occupied much of my time in the 2022–2023, I had the opportunity to be a researcher and teacher here and there. With the sad departure of **Dr. Patrick Lozar**, I decided I should put my money where my mouth was and pick up his spring classes. As a result, I had the unique experience of teaching 2-2 as a chair. I don't recommend it). Among these courses was HSTR 201: Intro to Historical Research, now required of all history major and honours students. It was a terrific experience, and it was made possible by my wonderful colleagues providing guest lectures on their research and intellectual



Jason Colby

autobiographies. In addition, I presented papers at several conferences on my new SSHRC-funded project on the history of people and gray whales on the Pacific Coast. This culminated in the launching of the project's new website and animated digital map, which I presented at two conferences this past summer. #

<https://www.devilfish.site/intro.html>

## BEATRIZ DE ALBA KOCH

During the Spring study leave of the 2022–23 academic year I took two field trips for my research project on open-air stone crosses of the Iberian world. In December I documented the monumental seventeenth- and eighteenth-century atria crosses erected by the Franciscans in their Brazilian *nordeste* monasteries of Olinda, Guarapes, Recife, Igarassu, Goiana, João Pessoa, and Salvador de Bahia. In February, I returned to the central Puebla region of Mexico to further study the Nahua symbology in the sixteenth-century monasteries of Cholula, Calpan, and Huejotzingo. At Cholula's Biblioteca Franciscana, I had the opportunity to discuss the documentation on these crosses with the director and the coordinator who offered useful observations. Drafting chapters for the monograph "*Crosses of Conversion and Resistance*," under contract with Toronto University Press, is ongoing. My book chapter, "*El Periquillo de Lizardi y la picaresca de la Ilustración en Nueva España*" was published in *Pícaros y picarsismos (Iberoamericana/Vervuert, 2023)*; I began preparing a new course on early modern Portuguese expansion. #

## JOHN LUTZ

Reconciliation or at least anti-colonial work was the theme that tied together my work last

# FACULTY YEAR IN REVIEW



Beatriz de Alba Koch  
Atrium cross at São Francisco  
in João Pessoa, Brazil



Lynne Marks



Andrea McKenzie

year. In May-June 2022 I co-supervised the Ethnohistory Field School with the Sto:lo, a course I have co-taught in alternate years since 1998! Three different community organizations focussed on reconciliation here in the Greater Victoria area invited me to present to them, one using the book arising from the conference we co-hosted with the Songhees on the local treaties as a foundation for a free online course. My main scholarly work focused on the impact of smallpox on First Nations in the Pacific Northwest, a multi-year SSHRC funded project co-directed with Keith Carlson of the University of the Fraser Valley. We have supervised student researchers, submitted an article, and given a number of presentations from this ongoing project. #

## LYNNE MARKS

In 2022 and 2023 I continued to devote far too much of my time to the UVic Faculty Association. I continued in my role as President of the FA, and from March 2022 to the end of January 2023 I served as Chief Negotiator for the FA bargaining team. I certainly learned a lot in that role, and the best part of it was working closely with an amazing group of FA members on our bargaining team, including our wonderful, smart, and very strategic History colleague **Christine O'Bonsawin**. The worst parts of the bargaining process probably shouldn't be mentioned in print, although in the end we were very proud of the Collective Agreement we achieved, which includes significant improvements for all of our colleagues, and begins to address inequities faced by Indigenous and BPOC faculty and librarians, and teaching stream faculty. Somehow I presented two papers in the fall

of 2022 while bargaining. Both emerged out of the SSHRC funded Alternative Visions project on elements of second wave feminism, that I collaborate on with **Margaret Little** of Queen's and **Sarah Nickel** of the U of Alberta. One of these papers, presented at a Calgary labour history conference, focused on an important and understudied 50-year-old South Asian women's organization in Vancouver, the India Mahila organization, and its relationship to another understudied feminist group, *Wages for Housework*. I presented this paper with **Cherene Aniyam**, a brilliant Mitacs intern I worked with in the summer of 2022, from IIT Madras. I was also very pleased to present a paper on the stereotype of "pushy Jewish women" in the second wave Canadian women's movement at a conference in Toronto in honour of amazing historian, friend and mentor, **Franca Iacovetta**. In the spring of 2023 Cherene and I presented another version of the India Mahila paper at the Canadian Historical Association meeting at York University, and at the end of June I travelled to the Berkshire conference on women's history in California to present a paper with Queen's student **Lori Oliver** on Black Nova Scotia women's activism in the United African Baptist Association and the Black United Front. This was another piece emerging from the Alternative Visions project – a project that is certainly expanding my horizons, and we hope, helping to expand historians' understanding of the diversity and complexity of the Canadian women's movement.

I was also very pleased that in 2022 two of my MA students completed, **Christine Hughes** and **Cassandra Hadley**. 2022 was also the year that a number of

writing projects that I've worked on over the last several years finally made their way into print:

Linda Ambrose, Tina Block and Lynne Marks, "Forum Introduction: Challenging Orthodoxies: Religion, Secularism and Feminism Among English-Canadian Women, 1960s-1980s," *Gender and History* Volume 34, 2 (July 2022), 317-324.

Lynne Marks and Margaret Little, "In the Forefront and on the Margins: Jews, Secularism and Women's Liberation in Ontario and British Columbia, 1960s-1980s," *Gender and History* Volume 34, 2 (July 2022), 325-338.

Tina Block and Lynne Marks, "But People Tend to Go the Way Their Families Go: Irreligion Across the Generations in the Pacific Northwest," in *Religion at the Edge: Nature, Spirituality and Secularity in the Pacific Northwest*, Paul Bramadat, Patricia O'Connell Killen and Sarah Wilkins-Laflamme, eds., (UBC Press, 2022).

Lynne Marks, Margaret Little, Marin Beck, Emma Pazat and Taylor Antoniazzi, "Jesus is Not Part of This Collective": *Secular Passions and Religious Alienation Among the Sisterhood*," in *Feeling Feminism: Activism, Affect and Canada's Second Wave*, Lara Campbell, Michael Dawson and Catherine Gidney, eds., (UBC Press, 2022)

Lynne Marks and Jordan Stanger Ross, "White Jews of Victoria, 1858-1914," in Ellen Eisenberg ed., *Jewish Identities in the American West: Relational Perspectives* (Brandeis University Press, 2022). #

## ANDREA MCKENZIE

2022 was a busy year, with a monograph and two articles -- one on rumour, arson

# FACULTY YEAR IN REVIEW



Kristin Semmens

prosecutions and fake news, the other on “secret writing”, or shorthand, and the “Popish Plot” and conspiratorial politics -- seeing the light of day. I continued to wade in conspiracy theories (many of these much more modern) while teaching HSTR 122: Conspiracies, Hoaxes and Moral Panics in Spring 2023, learning a lot about such topics as alien abduction, cryptozoology and JFK’s assassination. In December 2022, my book *Conspiracy Culture in Stuart England: the Mysterious Death of Sir Edmund Berry Godfrey* was published with Boydell and Brewer/University of Rochester Press. This study uncovers new evidence, including previously undeciphered shorthand and documents in Latin and French, offering a solution to a famous “whodunit” that has baffled scholars and armchair detectives for centuries. More importantly, the book provides an anatomy of a conspiratorial and political crisis that shook the foundations of late seventeenth-century England -- a story of how investigations into, and speculations about this most partisan of murder mysteries eroded public faith in authority and official sources of information, stoked political passions and divisions and culminated in the Exclusion Crisis, the most serious threat to the British monarchy since the Civil War. #

## CHRISTINE O’BONSAWIN

Consult, develop, propose, listen, counter, disagree, agree (sometimes reluctantly). These words best describe my activities throughout much of the 2022-2023 academic year, having joined my colleague and friend, **Lynne Marks**, on the FA collective bargaining negotiating team, as she adeptly and expertly led our UVic faculty and



Oliver Schmidtke with the European Memory Politics Study Tour participants. The photo was taken at the Persmanhof in Austria.

librarians through collective agreement negotiations.

While I dedicated a significant portion of my time throughout the year to these negotiations, I was able to engage in research, attend a few conferences (in person!), teach, and revel in the satisfaction of seeing two journal articles, one in *Sports History Review* and the other in the *Journal of Olympic Studies*, and one chapter contribution to *Indigenous Resurgence Edited Collection* published in 2022. Further highlights of the year included receiving the 2022 Distinguished Scholar Award from the Center for Sociocultural Sport & Olympic Research at California State University, Fullerton and delivering the John R. Betts Honor Address at the 2023 North American Society for Sport History annual conference in Washington, D.C.

Nonetheless, the most gratifying accomplishment of the year is not mine to own. In April 2023, I, along with co-supervisor **Peter Cook** and committee member **Elizabeth Vibert** were involved in the doctoral defence of our student, **Carla Osborne**, who successfully defended her dissertation titled “‘We Know Where We Are’: The Role of Place in Indigenous Historiography By Haudenosaunee and Northwest Métis Historians.” A superb written piece and an exceptional oral defence indeed. #

## TOM SAUNDERS

A year-long study leave allowed me to focus on research and writing. In the fall I had opportunity to present in the departmental workshop series, which proved very helpful for integrating the conceptual elements of the book project. Late in the study leave I

was able to return to Berlin for the first time in several years to access parliamentary and newspaper sources useful for understanding financial scandal as political contest. #

## OLIVER SCHMIDTKE

The academic year 2022/23 proved to be extremely busy and productive in particular with regard to the Jean Monnet Network ‘European Memory Politics: Populism, Nationalism, and the Challenges to a European Memory Culture’ (see: [www.eucanet.org](http://www.eucanet.org) for details). We organized two conferences drawing on the Network’s transatlantic partnerships in Europe: First, the UVic conference *European and North American Perspectives on Commemorating and Addressing Past Injustices* (UVic October, 21-23, 2022) brought together researchers debating memory cultures and politics from a comparative perspective. The second event took place in Budapest at the Eötvös Loránd University (June 14-16, 2023) discussing *Memory Politics in Europe – Towards a Deepening East-West Divide?* At various fora, researchers explored the ways in which collective memory shapes current events and political loyalties on the European continent in a comparative perspective.

The third activity was a three-week long *Study Tour in European Memory Politics*. 18 UVic students had the outstanding opportunity to visit sites of commemoration in Austria, Hungary, Poland, Slovenia and Italy. They learned about different approaches to addressing an often challenging collective memory. The experiential learning experience allowed the students to engage with contemporary European history through the lens of guided tours, contested memorialization practices,



# FACULTY YEAR IN REVIEW



Georgia Sitara



Jill Walshaw and Colin Jones



David Zimmerman

participation in public events with politicians and memory activists. A series of blog posts provide a glimpse into what students encountered and how they reflected on their experience in Europe.

Related to my current projects I also published two co-edited books last academic year:

Tully, James, Keith Cherry, Fonna Forman, Jeanne Morefield, Joshua Nichols, Pablo Ouziel, David Owen, and Oliver Schmidtke. *Democratic Multiplicity: Perceiving, Enacting, and Integrating Democratic Diversity*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Carpenter, M., Schmidtke, O., and M. Kelly (eds.). *Borders and Migration: The Canadian Experience in Comparative Perspective*. Ottawa: University of Ottawa Press. #

## KRISTIN SEMMENS

2022/2023 was the first year in my new fulltime position in the research stream. During my study leave in the fall term, I travelled to Vancouver to be the keynote speaker at a conference of pediatric anaesthesiologists, where I discussed science in Nazi Germany. I also journeyed to Peterborough, Ontario, and gave several presentations as a visiting scholar at Trent University. I returned in January to teach three classes in the spring term. Most excitingly, in February, I welcomed my second book into the world. *Under the Swastika in Nazi Germany* is a short introduction to the Third Reich. My publisher, Bloomsbury, told me to self-publicize and so I did: I hosted a book launch and public talk event in March which attracted an audience of 175. I also did my usual rounds of invited talks at middle and high schools, my annual Kristallnacht

presentation at the synagogue, a *Café Historique* talk and several guest lectures for colleagues. I look forward to my first summer in three years NOT working on a book about Nazi Germany. #

## GEORGIA SITARA

The 2022-2023 year began with the submission of my reappointment file and was followed with the successful launch of the *Antiracist History and Theory* website. Years in the making, the project features student-produced factsheets which distill complex academic articles into accessible snapshots, mobilizing student work for teachers, policy makers and the public. The project will be ongoing with future students (enrolled in Race and Ethnicity in Canada To and Since 1900) contributing to this important resource for years to come.

As part of the take home exam for my Social Justice Studies capstone seminar (cross listed with Gender Studies), students were given the opportunity to write a panel presentation using course material to share their learning from the course with other students, professors, and TAs. Six student papers, in addition to my own, were presented in January 2023 to a fully enrolled workshop entitled “*What’s Love got to do with Teaching Antiracism, Decolonization, Antisexist and Gender Inclusive Content*” at UVIC’s Centre for Learning and Teaching.

Both the website and the LTSI workshop create spaces for students to teach, to practice leadership, and to see themselves as agents in the world, while making their course work meaningful to themselves and to others in the here and now.

In addition to teaching seven courses, I delivered six public lectures to a variety of

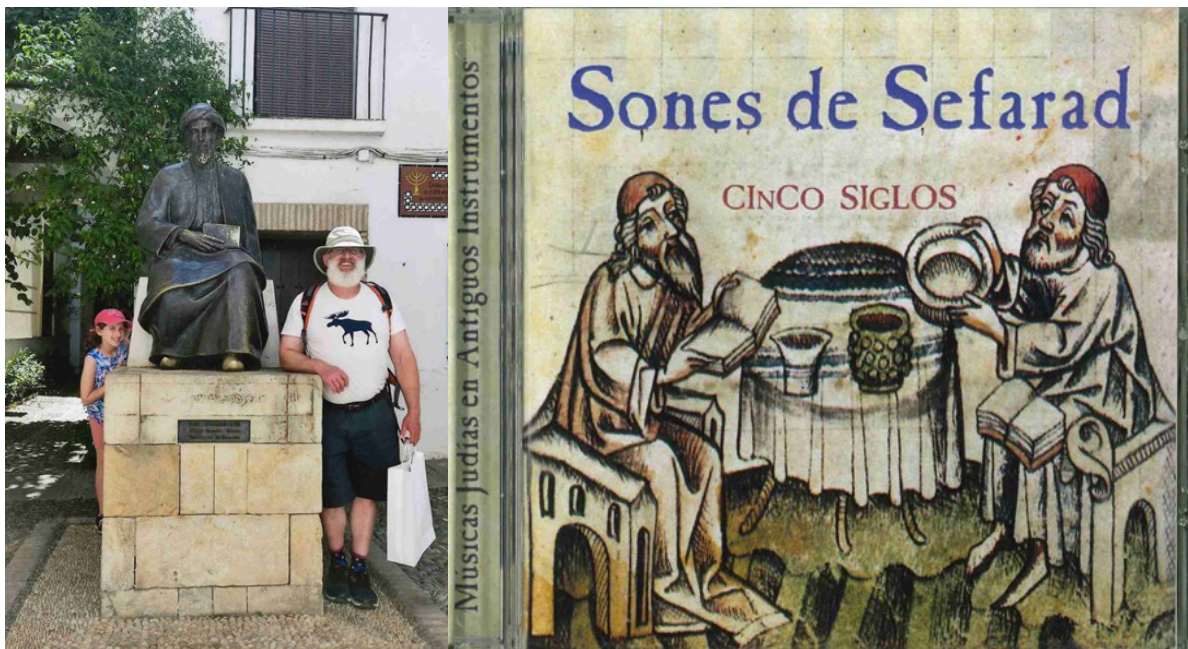
groups — government policy researchers, high school students, seniors, and community organizations— on topics ranging from intersectionality, the history of colonialism in Canada and strategies for decolonization, as well as a fun talk on film adaptations of 19th century women’s novels. I was also honoured to deliver a lecture on the history of courtship and dating for the Humanities recruitment event, which was so well-received, there is already a plan for a repeat performance next year.

Next to being reappointed, perhaps my greatest achievement for 2022-23 is getting an honourable mention for the History Undergraduate Body’s MVP award. Having my deep engagement valued by our students means so much to me. It fills my cup and I have more to give. #

## JORDAN STANGER-ROSS

The year 2022 came to a close with an unexpected honour, as I received, on behalf of with the *Landscapes of Injustice* research collective, one of five Impact Awards from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, the first ever awarded to a UVIC faculty member. A call of congratulations from the President of the Council was followed by an invitation to Ottawa, an ovation in Parliament, and a celebration with colleagues who made it possible. The award also afforded me a chance to convey publicly my alarm about the proposed “Enemy Agent Registry” in Canada and to discuss the importance of learning Canada’s histories of racism with my long-time collaborator and friend **Audrey Kobayashi**. There were other, also gratifying, accomplishments this year – an article here, a chapter there, and the continued tour of

# FACULTY YEAR IN REVIEW



Andrew Wender

the *Broken Promises* exhibition (which is currently at the Galt, if you're passing through Southern Alberta). But, the one I'll remember is walking into a grand hall to receive an award that I never imagined I would get, a boutonniere pinned to my breast by a staff member at the country's leading research agency, the first I'd worn since my wedding some years ago. (See also *PWFC* page 7) #

## JILL WALSHAW

]The highlight of this year for me was hosting 160 French historians at the Laurel Point Inn for the 49th Annual Conference of the Western Society for French History. The conference was originally supposed to take place in 2020, but was postponed due to Covid. The 2021 conference was held online, so by November 2022, the group was thrilled to be meeting in person again. The staff at the Laurel Point Inn were lovely and accommodating – what a gem of an establishment we have there in the Victoria Harbour! Their excellent pastry chef even catered to the Francophiles in attendance, producing some of the best croissants and macarons I've ever tasted. There are always hiccups in any large event, however, and one

of our two plenary speakers was unable to attend for family reasons. Luckily, our Lansdowne visitor, Professor **Colin Jones**, was able to step in and give an excellent talk on his recent book on the Terror in the French Revolution. Rounding out the event was Professor **Matt Matsuda**, from Rutgers, whose keynote on French colonial history in the Pacific sphere was captivating and thought-provoking. Once the conference dust settled, the rest of the year was enjoyable and relaxing, with great students and continued work on my project on counterfeiters and the French state. #

## ANDREW WENDER

During 2022-2023, a busy and rewarding year centered on my teaching in History, Political Science, and Religion, Culture and Society (RCS), together with my Directorship of the RCS program. In the latter connection, I was especially glad to teach the RCS 450 Capstone Seminar, which invites students who are nearing graduation to critically engage with key questions surrounding the interdisciplinary study of religion, and to apply these to their own research projects.

My involvement with the World History Association (WHA) saw me attend the June 2022 conference in Bilbao, Spain, where I delivered a workshop on teaching comparative political thought (and also had the chance to visit a place like Cordoba, where the accompanying photo shows my daughter Sophia and me visiting with the medieval Jewish sage Maimonides). In June 2023, the WHA conference in Pittsburgh offered a long-awaited chance to develop a paper applying quantum theory to the study of world history, especially involving religious and political themes, as well as a paper in which I applied historiographical debates around presentism to the contemporary phenomenon of global backsliding. I also continued my involvement with the critical theory journal *Telos*, at whose annual New York conference in April 2023 I delivered a paper on spiritual motivations for contemporary warfare.

I am delighted that History colleague **Martin Bunton** and I have now almost seen through to the end our book manuscript, *The End of the Ottoman Empire and Forging of the Modern Middle East: A Short History with Documents*. Far from least, I was grateful to be granted tenure on July 1, 2023. #

# HONOURS

DR. JILL WALSHAW

2022-23 was my first year as Honours Advisor, and I inherited from **Tom Saunders** not only big shoes to fill, but a great group of students. The seminar itself was taught by **Justine Semmens** in the first term and by **John Lutz** in the second term. It was a small group, with only six students; Covid and other interruptions meant that different honours applicants had delayed their seminar year. The thesis-writing group was similarly select, with eight defending in the spring of 2023. The Honours Colloquium, taking place in January, was a somewhat hybrid affair, not because of Covid this time, but because two students (**Sam Holland** and **Daniel Davenport**) were on exchange in the U.K. while writing their thesis, allowing them to incorporate local research and hands-on understanding into their projects. This year's theses covered a wide range of periods and themes: James I's

relationship to witchcraft, indigenous slavery in BC, colonial medicine in early 20<sup>th</sup>-century Uganda, representations of the SA in interwar Germany, the incidence of BC trees in Scotland, energy resource allocation in Britain in World War I, a deconstruction of the theme of "crisis" in modern historical writing, and the history of the Women's Centre at UVic. Heading into 2023-24, we have a larger group of 18 in the honours seminar, which will be taught by Tom Saunders, and 12 thesis-writers. I look forward to hearing about their projects and helping to guide them through their programs. Back in 1994, it was a professor's suggestion that I apply for the Honours program at the University of Calgary that launched me on my career path, and I am thrilled to be part of that same journey for this strong cohort of UVic students. #



# GRADUATE PROGRAM

DR. PENNY BRYDEN

The graduate program continues to undergo changes, but the one constant remains the calibre of the students. The cohort is a bit smaller than in previous years – 11 new students joined the program in September 2022 – but still the graduate program nevertheless continues to flourish. I think that is a testament both to the skills and resilience of the students, and the real scholarly integrity of the program in terms of the courses that are offered and the high quality of the supervision that students receive.

however, the pandemic has clearly had an effect: on students' experience in the program, when so many things (including classes, research, conferences, and social events) had to be either cancelled or altered during the last three years; on the sorts of projects that students have been undertaking thanks to constrained travel opportunities and reduced funding; and on the number of applicants

we have had to our program. Nevertheless, 2022 saw the return – slowly – to a degree of pre-pandemic normality that I think everyone has been grateful for. Classes were fully, if not exclusively, in-person. The party at the start of the year returned. The GHSU was able to host regular events both on campus and off. The *Shifting Tides* conference returned to its usual late-January time slot in Parksville, and attracted close to 100 attendees. And perhaps most happily of all, so many students have been able to complete degrees in the last year: 14 MA students successfully submitted their projects and defended their theses – congratulations to all! And **Carla Osborne**, **Zsofia Surjan** and **Kefen Zhou** can now put "Dr" before their names! Finishing a PhD is a long and sometimes lonely process, and these three should be as proud of themselves as we are of them. Well done! #



Keep in touch!

Online at [uvic.ca/history](http://uvic.ca/history)

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