

UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA

HISTORY

DIVE INTO THE PAST. SHAPE THE FUTURE.

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EPIDEMICS AND THE MODERN WORLD

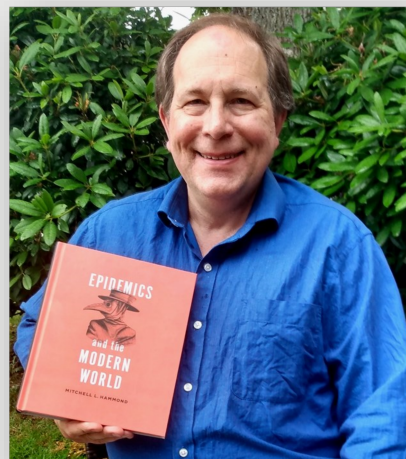
NEW PUBLICATION FORESHADOWS THE GLOBAL IMPACT OF COVID-19

It seemed like an ordinary parcel, arriving on a regular day at the UVic History Department office with the characteristic “thunk” of a weighty package as it hit the floor. Yet, the opening of this box, with the hot-off-the-press volumes of Mitch Hammond’s book *Epidemics and the Modern World*, foreshadowed a deadly pandemic which has since swept the world. Coincidence?

The handsome volume presents itself a thoughtful, well-written textbook aimed at university courses, with primary documents for students to grapple with, and scientific asides to link social and science studies. And it is that. But could it also be a how-to manual for the Corona virus to wreak global devastation?

The timeliness of this book has, unsurprisingly, caught the media’s attention. Mitch Hammond has appeared in the *Vancouver Sun*, the *Victoria News*, on *CFOX Radio* and

CHEK TV News, and in an extended examination in the *Literary Review of Canada*. He has also waded directly into the public



Mitch Hammond with his new book *Epidemics in the Modern World*.

EPIDEMICS cont.

Cont. from p.1

discussion of disease through a *Times Colonist* op ed, which warned of the historic pattern of racial scapegoating when pestilence strikes. There he reminded us that, “We encourage new diseases when we manipulate animals and ecosystems to suit our purposes with industrial farms, antibiotics and deforestation. We spread diseases (and fears) far and wide because we connect faster and more frequently than ever.”

After taking us through bubonic plague, syphilis, smallpox, malaria, yellow fever, cholera, HIV, and rinderpest, Hammond concludes with the warnings of 1992

report, *Emerging Infections*. That book’s expert panel predicted many new *zoonotic infections*, those that leap boundaries between species, and foresaw their rapid spread facilitated by global tourism, trade, and modern transportation networks. Hammond reminds us of the characteristics of the modern world that exacerbate the effect of pandemics — the growing disparity among nations in resources, infrastructure, and access to health care, as well as the wide gaps in health outcomes along the fissures of income and racial and ethnic identities.

It is *not* a coincidence that this insightful overview of the role of disease in history appeared when it did. Professor Hammond has been teaching students the history of epidemics for more than a decade. The book’s publication is the result of a well-timed reflection on the dramatic effect of pandemics on the development of our world, and it offers insights into the disruptions that epidemics like COVID-19 will bring to us. It is also a trenchant reminder of how much we need well-researched and written histories when crises hit.

John Lutz

FINAL SPUTTERINGS FROM OUTGOING CHAIR

DR. JOHN LUTZ

Five years ago I moved a dozen boxes of files into the chair’s office with the goal of sorting and disposing. A few weeks ago, I moved them out — still awaiting sorting. This might suggest to you that I am reluctant to part with any piece of paper (true) but the larger point is this department always has so much going on that it is hard for a chair to find time for such things.

Boxes aside, it has been a rewarding half-decade during which the department has changed considerably. As I started as chair, we were joined by two new colleagues: Neilesh Bose, our first Canada Research Chair, and Kristin Semmens, who transformed from continuing sessional into a teaching professor. Since then we have been joined by Beatriz de Alba Koch and Patrick Lozar, and a new staff colleague Consuela Covrig; as I leave the chair’s role, Georgia Sitara joins us as a teaching professor and we are in the midst of hiring a Canada Research Chair in ocean and climate history. While we have gained tremendously, we have also lost five colleagues to the happy land where emeritus faculty live: Eric Sager, Wendy Wickwire,

Rick Rajala, Paul Wood, and John Price. Two staff have also joined the emeritus ranks, Eileen Zapshala and, after an amazing twenty-five years in the department, Karen Hickton. Each brought their special flavour

to the departmental ratatouille which is now, sadly, less flavourful as a result of their retirements. We miss them.

Among the highlights of these years were an external review in 2017 that affirmed we were: “one of the most innovative group of historians in the country” and “an exceptionally productive and entrepreneurial department that is in many ways



John Lutz in Athens

on the cutting edge of historical research.”

The hard work of my predecessor Lynne Marks was rewarded with the launch of the Public History Master’s program. We did some major learning and relationship building with First Nations through: hosting a Kairos Blanket Exercise, co-hosting the Faculty’s Indigenous Scholar in Residence, organizing Songhees territory

tours for over 400 people, hosting a joint conference on local treaties with the Songhees, building relationships with many First Nations through John Price's Asian Canadians on Vancouver Island project, and maintaining our long-standing field school with the Sto:lo Nation. Ultimately, we were rewarded with a new hire of Patrick Lozar, an Indigenous historian to complement the ongoing work of Christine O'Bonsawin.

A few major projects stand out for their impact both on our community and the intellectual life of the department. It has been amazing to benefit from all the activity of Jordan Stanger Ross' Landscapes of Injustice Project which has provided fellowships for and employed large numbers of our graduate students, brought annual conferences to UVic, attracted much media, and produced so many books, exhibits, learning material, and its own archives. Zhongping Chen and John Price's Chinese Canadian Artifacts Project and John's Asian Canadians on Vancouver Island project also drew in many graduate students, a huge variety of community organizations, and hosted numerous events. Elizabeth Vibert's Thinking Garden documentary, her food garden tours, her conference and, now, a SSHRC project on food sovereignty, have collectively highlighted our department to local, national and international audiences.

These projects added to a flood of community activities by department members. Several make major contributions every year to Holocaust commemoration in this city, our Ideafest events have repeatedly sold out over the years, seventeen colleagues (including adjunct and emeritus) participated in the sold-out 1919 Symposium, not to mention our WWI symposium, our Controversial Characters series at City Hall, and the ongoing

sell-out success of Café Historique, which has wrapped up its seventh year.

Academically, we have been enriched by Neilesh Bose's Global South Colloquium, the annual, amazing Qualicum Conference, and one or two Lansdowne lectures a year. The productivity and quality of the department can be measured in dozens of new books, films, websites, or exhibits and a remarkable number of awards. Among these, have been several teaching honours which highlight the quality of,



John Lutz in Santorini

and importance we place on, our teaching. In the past five years, the number of our gateway courses has exploded to include courses on the history of human rights, money, food, conspiracies, hoaxes & moral panics, the environment, deportation & exile, epidemics, and we have added a new field school to our teaching roster.

The quality of our students has been outstanding, measured in 3 or 4 JCURA undergraduate fellowships each year, success in SSHRC and other fellowships at the graduate level, the Corvette and the Graduate History Review, and the engagement of the HUB and the GHSU.

As fantastic as all these are, none make me prouder than when we have stepped outside our academic roles and into our community, such as with a fund-raiser for

the Our Place Society, or for the Hleketani Community Garden, and the department's welcoming of four groups of refugees from Syria, Eritrea, and Sudan. It has been a privilege to have represented this department for these five years.

As my term came to an end, two events turned the world on its head. The COVID-19 pandemic changed everything about our teaching, much of our research, and has prevented the social and academic gatherings that provide us with so much fuel. The pandemic has also reminded us of the longstanding inequality in our society, a fact tragically illustrated by the death of George Floyd and the subsequent world-wide attention to racism. In Canada, several of our national leaders said they did not understand the term "systemic racism." As history teachers we have an amazing opportunity to make sure that future generations cannot make this claim, and Mitch Hammond's new book shows we can also teach the world a few things about pandemics. 2020 has been a hard year

so far, but it has both demonstrated the need for teaching history and produced a wealth of material for historians to digest!

In my first column as chair in 2016 I noted that I was following Jason Colby who had stepped in when Lynne Marks took a leave. I wrote then: "Clearly Jason was not really 'acting' – he was demonstrating a natural talent as department chair. Just imagine how the department would have grown had his term lasted a full year, or five years!" Welcome back Jason. You are taking on this role in "interesting times." I look forward to seeing what our department accomplishes under your leadership.

INCOMING CHAIR

DR. JASON COLBY



Well, here I am, residing in the chair's office of the History Department. It isn't exactly the Iron Throne. Rather than wielding absolute power and ruling through divine right and fear, my role seems to be primarily defined as email-in-chief. I've been chair for only a few weeks now, but the questions, big and small, leap constantly and magically from the ether into my inbox. At times, I feel like I'm being nibbled to death by ducks. Nevertheless, as I've only started, enough flesh and energy remain to make a few brief points.

First, let me extend recognition to departing chair John Lutz for his service to our department. After being constantly besieged by requests from importunate colleagues (mostly myself), he now departs for a well-deserved leave. I promise not to pester him for advice . . . much.

Second, I want to say that I'm excited to

work with such a strong administrative staff. Despite having to balance remote and onsite work, a range of administrative demands, and a new expense management system (don't drink from Chrome River!), Theresa, Consuela, and Heather have remained positive, organized, and stunningly efficient. I simply can't imagine a better staff for our department.

Third, I'd like to emphasize how impressed I am with the energy, creativity, and flexibility with which my fellow history instructors have met the challenge of shifting to online teaching in the age of Covid-19—with a new Learning Management System, no less. You have shared insights with one another, taken workshops on teaching with Zoom and Brightspace, and accepted overloaded classes in an effort to keep our enrollment numbers up. I know this has cost you precious family and research time, and I want you to know I appreciate it. I am so proud to have landed with such an extraordinary group of scholars and teachers.

Finally, let me close with a personal note. I will admit that it has been an odd experience taking these reins amid a global pandemic. Like many of my

colleagues, I became, by necessity, a homeschool instructor for my kids all spring while watching my eagerly anticipated research and conference trips evaporate. And like my fellow transplanted Yanks in the department, I've watched with angst and horror as illness and idiocy has swept the United States, where so many of my family and friends live. But I have also watched, inspired, as protests have called eloquently for racial and social justice, too long delayed and denied.

We are truly historians living in historic times, and we have a critical role to play, as researchers, teachers, public intellectuals, and citizens. Thank you for being such wonderful colleagues, and I promise to do my level best to support you in every way I can.



Jason Colby speaking at IdeaFest

NEW FACULTY MEMBER

DR. GEORGIA SITARA



It is with great pleasure that we announce Georgia Sitara's conversion to an Assistant Teaching Professor. She will split her teaching equally between Gender Studies and History but her home department and all her service will be in History.

Dr. Sitara is an award winning instructor who excels in every aspect and who is highly respected and admired by students and peers alike. Her time with

UVic Humanities is deep. Dr. Sitara earned her PhD with UVic History in 2007. She was a Sessional Instructor for 2001-2004 and again for 2008-2011. In 2011 she became a Continuing Sessional. Throughout all of this time she has taught some of the most popular and impactful courses in History, Gender Studies, and in Social Justice Studies.

We are thrilled to welcome Georgia as a permanent faculty member!

IN MEMORIAM

DR. CHARLOTTE GIRARD



The History Department at Mr. Pettit's retirement party, 1972. Back Row: Ernie Forbes, Harry Bridgman, Ken Dewar, Charlotte Girard, David Stafford, Brian Dippie, Don Senese, Terry Copp, Brian Smith [?], Stella Higgins, Bob McCue, Patricia Roy, Ted Wooley, Chris Rowe, John Money. Front Row: Reg Roy, S.G. Pettit, Toby Jackman, Alf Loft, George Shelton

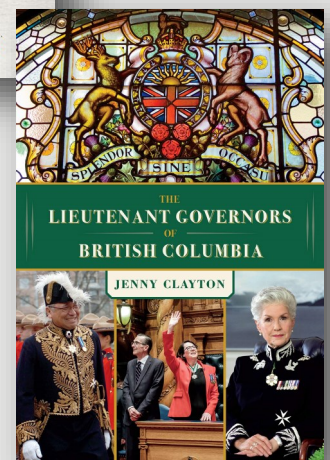
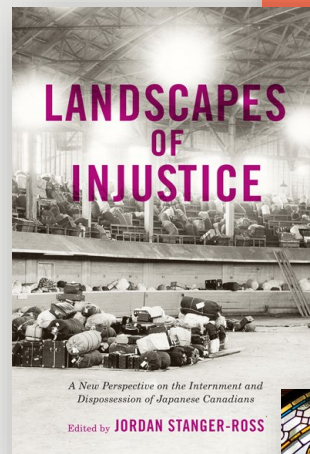
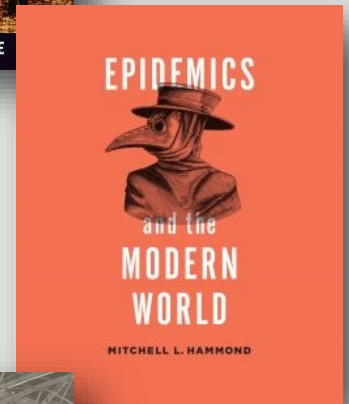
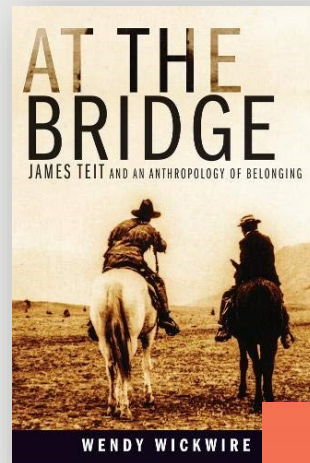
Dr. Charlotte Sylvia Marie Girard passed away peacefully in her sleep on April 27, 2020. Charlotte was predeceased by her parents Emile and Sylvia, brother John Girard (Geraldine) and sister Therese Parker. The oldest of six children, Charlotte leaves sister Marie Weicker (Wilfrid) and brothers Peter Girard (Kathy) and Joe Girard (Mickey); many nieces and nephews. Charlotte was born in France on September 3, 1924 and immigrated to Canada with her family in 1937. She deeply valued education and learning, graduating from the University of British Columbia. She then earned a PHD from Bryn Mawr University. She enjoyed a long and fulfilling career as a professor in the History Department at the University of Victoria. Throughout her life, Charlotte enjoyed travelling the world and fully immersing herself in other cultures. She was a great patron of the arts, and especially enjoyed attending the opera and ballet. Charlotte was held in high regard by her family, who admired and loved her dearly. She would often recount stories of her adventures to the younger generation. Her

humour and passion would captivate her audience. She was a long time member of Holy Cross Catholic Church and participated in the choir for many years. During this time, she made several dear friends. In 2016, Charlotte moved to St. Charles Manor in Victoria, BC. Her years there were happy ones filled with visits from friends and family. The family thanks the staff at St. Charles Manor, especially Lara and Wilma, for all their care. Her ashes will be interred at First Memorial in Victoria.

Charlotte joined the UVic History Department in 1964, becoming the first female faculty member. She taught French history for nearly 25 years, and retired in 1988.



NEW PUBLICATIONS



AWARDS AND HONOURS

DR. JORDAN STANGER-ROSS

Humanities Research Award & The Provost's Engaged Scholar Award

This year Jordan Stanger-Ross received the Faculty of Humanities Award for Research Excellence (2019) and the Provost's Award in Engaged Scholarship (2020). Both awards recognize his leadership of the Landscapes of Injustice project. As the founder and director of that project—a seven-year, multi-partner research project that explores the forced dispossession of Japanese Canadians during the Second World War—Stanger-Ross has fostered transformative relationships with local schools, museums, community members and Japanese Canadian cultural institutions. Now in its sixth year, the project has received a total of \$2.5 million in SSHRC grants and \$3 million from partnering institutions to support award-winning scholarship, teaching materials for elementary and secondary school teachers across Canada, bus tours of former internment camps within the province, and a museum exhibit that will begin its national tour in August of this year. Throughout his work, Stanger-Ross has remained committed to serving the public interest as he breaks boundaries and strengthens communities in BC.



Humanities Awards. L-R Chris Goto-Jones, Mary Elizabeth Leighton, Jill Evans, Jordan Stanger-Ross, Becky Cory, Lisa Surridge, Alex D'Arcy

DR. PATRICIA ROY

Good Citizen Award

Thanks to my colleagues in the History Department and their friends who nominated me, I have now been certified as a “Good Citizen” of British Columbia with a certificate and medal to prove it. In 2019 I was one of eighteen British Columbians so honoured. Meeting some of them at the awards ceremony in January 2020 was a very humbling experience. They included a pair of high school students whose campaigns for the environment contributed to the local ban on plastic bags; a medical student who, among many humanitarian works, organizes events for the homeless of Vancouver and promotes better mental health services for young people; and a one-time homeless drug addict, who became a successful entrepreneur, and pushed a shopping cart across Canada to raise awareness of youth homelessness.

The message from Premier John Horgan that accompanied my award read in part: Through your extensive published works, you have contributed greatly to our understanding of British Columbia's past, particularly our history with Asian immigration. In addition, you have donated many hours of your time to promoting public interest in BC's history through groups like the Friends of the BC Archives and the BC Historical Federation.

In short, my award was for doing my job, researching and writing British Columbia history, and sharing it with others through teaching, publications, and informal talks to a variety of people through the UVic Speakers Bureau and other agencies and having a good time while doing it!



Pat Roy receives Good Citizen Award

DR. RACHEL CLEVES

Royal Society of Canada

In 2019, I was elected to the College of the Royal Society of Canada. I joined four other new members of the RSC from UVic and our Vice President, Research, Lisa Kalynchuk, at the installation ceremony in Ottawa. The best part of the event was the opportunity to hear about ground-breaking research across so many disciplines. I attended lectures on urban landscapes and conservation, polar climate research, youth theatre, and new treatments for children's brain injuries. The exchange of ideas was invigorating. It felt especially fitting to receive this honor in the same season that I became a citizen of Canada. Hurray!



Royal Society elects four UVic researchers. L-R Rachel Cleves, Robert Gifford, Chris Darimont, James Tanaka

DR. GEORGIA SITARA

REACH Award (Gilian Sherwin Prize) & HUB Most Valuable Professor

2019-2020 rained teaching awards for me. My years of dedication to the craft were honoured with the university wide Gilian Sherwin Prize for teaching excellence in the spring and then feted at a gala event for the Reach Awards in the fall. When we return to campus after COVID, I look forward to seeing my portrait up in the library alongside other award winning, well-loved teachers. I am also extremely proud to have received the HUBS Most Valuable Professor award two years in a row, 2019 and 2020! It is an honour to have my work recognized and held up by our students.



Georgia Sitara at the REACH awards ceremony accepting the Gilian Sherwin Prize

DR. KRISTIN SEMMENS

CHA Award for Teaching with Primary Sources

Prof. Semmens is an assistant teaching professor in the departments of history and Germanic and Slavic Studies at the University of Victoria. Her nomination package impressed with the wide range of different types of primary sources she routinely uses in her teaching, from graffiti to musicals, 1930s travel brochures to rocket parts, oral testimonies to government documents, whether in large survey courses or smaller upper-level seminars. Interested in the area of Holocaust education, Prof. Semmens integrates concerns about public history into her courses by both leading excursions through Victoria or the Royal BC Museum and guiding her students to create their own exhibits, documentaries, walking tours and such based upon students' own engagement with primary sources. Her upper-level seminars on the history of the Holocaust showcase intense debate about the archive and the use of primary sources in creating historical argument.



BOOK AWARDS

WENDY WICKWIRE

Most historians of British Columbia know something of James Teit and perhaps a little of the debt owed him by scholars, Indigenous rights advocates, and whole communities. So much of Teit's life and contribution, however, has remained obscured. Partly this is due to Teit himself, a man who never sought the spotlight and was hugely content with his humble place in the Nlaka'pamux world. This superbly researched and elegantly presented study eases Teit out of the shadows. It is a history and a biography and it is also a study of the academy and how it is possible to do great intellectual things beyond its boundaries. Wickwire touches on many themes, including anthropology, trans-national identities, the southern Interior, Indigenous relations with the Canadian state, the processes of colonialism, and locale running up against several kinds of imperial. At the Bridge is a landmark work that, like Teit himself, serves numerous communities and contributes to our understanding of British Columbia in many ways.



Winner, Canada Prize , Book prize for the best scholarly book in the humanities and social sciences.

Winner, CHA, Clio book prize, for an exceptional contribution to BC history

Second Prize for the BC Historical Federation's Lieutenant Governor's book prize.

Shortlisted for the Roderick Haig-Brown book award for the book that contributes the most to the enjoyment and understanding of BC

Shortlisted for the George Ryga Prize for best literary offering on social justice issues in BC

Shortlisted for UBC's Basil Stuart-Stubbs book prize for the best book on BC history

Shortlisted for the Canadian Historical Association's prize for the "best scholarly work in Canadian history."

Commended: The Wilson Institute for the book that makes the best exploration of Canadian history

LYNNE MARKS

PRESIDENT OF THE FACULTY ASSOCIATION



FA president Lynne Marks (right) with former FA president Helga Hallgrimsdottir (middle).

I have served as the President of UVic's Faculty Association since July of 2019. As someone who started my career in labour history, the position is certainly giving me a new perspective on the field. The first eight months of my term were taken up with learning how things work (in the union and with the administration), and explaining our new collective agreement to our members in a range of meetings across campus. The job has felt all-encompassing since I took it on, but the intensity moved to a new level in March. With the pandemic I had to negotiate a range of new mini-agreements with the administration to address the new challenges (online teaching, no access to labs or archives, no travel, no daycare, etc, etc) faced by our members, and also try to communicate to our members as clearly as I could what the Association has been doing to try and make their lives at least a little better in a frightening and uncertain world. This role, which I have committed to doing for another two years, can sometimes be overwhelming, but it certainly feels worthwhile, and provide lots of opportunities to exercise my long-standing interest in advocacy work. It also gives me a broader and often fascinating perspective of how things work across campus, while at the same time making me very grateful that I remain part of what I see as the most collegial department at UVic.

Lynne Marks

RETIREMENT

KAREN HICKTON

Just before the unforeseen covid shut-down in March the department had a congratulatory send-off for Karen Hickton, who retired after a quarter century of remarkable service in History. Karen's career spanned a long generation of departmental growth and change. She played a central role in those developments.

Karen took her B.A. at UVic and joined the department as Undergraduate Secretary in 1995 after a decade working first in Continuing Studies and then in the Faculty of Engineering. In 2001 she became Graduate Secretary, coordinating a large, dynamic program. Six years later she assumed the role of Department Secretary. In that position she was the indispensable administrative right-hand to three department chairs over a dozen years, with responsibilities ranging from departmental finances to management of the History office. As one of those chairs I owe her an enormous debt. Karen's wide and deep knowledge of departmental operations and the university as a whole were crucial to the smooth and effective running of the department. She stood out for her superb organizational skills, her efficiency and reliability, her quiet professionalism, and her ability to anticipate and solve problems. No less noteworthy were her approachability, tactfulness, calmness and the insights she brought to challenging situations. Karen provided wisdom as well as outstanding administrative expertise and support. It is with deep gratitude that the department celebrates her long and remarkable career and wishes she and Steve all the best in retirement.

Tom Saunders



Retirement party for Karen Hickton



Retirement lunch at Artisan Bistro

LANDSLOWNE GUESTS

JEAN MOORCROFT WILSON & AARON BOBROW-STRAIN

I am thankful to the Lansdowne fund which supported two guest speakers who visited the History Department at UVic in 2019-2020. Our first visitor was Jean Moorcroft Wilson, a preeminent



biographer of the Great War poets. Moorcroft Wilson taught for many years at Birkbeck College in London. She visited Victoria for two weeks in September, offering a series of casual and more formal talks co-hosted by the Department of English and Macpherson Library, where she also spent time researching the second volume of her Robert Graves biography, to be published by Bloomsbury Press.

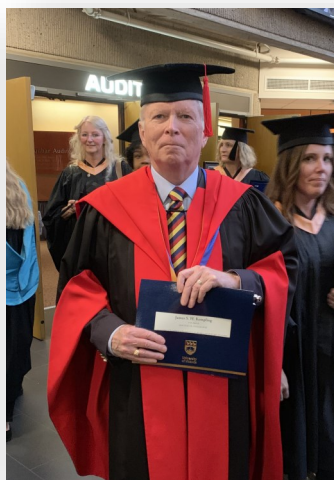
Our second visitor was Aaron Bobrow-Strain, a professor at Whitman College in Walla Walla, Washington, who offered a series of book talks and seminars related to his recent prize-winning work, *The Death and Life of Aida Hernandez: A Border Story*. Bobrow-Strain's lectures discussed the history of militarization along the U.S./Mexico border during the past several decades, placing today's immigration crisis in historical perspective. He gave one of his lectures at our annual Qualicum Conference, where he had an enthusiastic audience.

Rachel Cleves



CONVOCATION

FALL 2019



Jim Kemppling, PhD



Pia Russell, MA Public History (middle)

SPRING 2020—COVID EDITION

The University Of Victoria and the History Department had to adapt our graduation plans in 2020 and try to provide students with a positive experience and a lasting impression to replace an in-person convocation. The University has offered all the graduates the opportunity to attend a future in-person convocation over the next three years and the option to receive a graduation package in the mail. Congratulatory messages including a land acknowledgement will be delivered to each grad via online videos.

On behalf of the faculty and staff of the Department of History, outgoing chair Dr. Lutz took this opportunity to post a congratulations and thanks on social media to our 8 MAs, 13 honours, 64 major and 22 minor students graduating this spring. His message emphasized “the [students’] intelligence, creativity, self-discipline, and, the persistence to push through exhaustion” from the first day at UVic to graduation.

Elizabeth Vibert led an initiative of assembling a congratulatory video based on self-made short video recordings from faculty and staff to celebrate virtually with our students. The recordings included a variety of reactions, from the exclamation ‘You did it!’ to swapping hats, from locations as diverse as in front of a

bookshelf to a territorial acknowledgement near the water. Sincerely sharing a moment of joy.

Our students involved in The History Undergraduate Body took things into their own hands and conducted their own HUB Graduation Ceremony. Wren Shaman and Sophia Anderson organized the event, with graduation caps made of felt and fake diplomas. Rhett Mutschke delivered a very heart-warming speech following social distancing rules, two metres apart. Kate LeBere - Director of Communications, confessed: “While it was not quite what we expected our graduation to be, it was definitely an event that we (myself, Lindy Marks, Katlyn Nugent, and Hannah West) will never forget” Hopefully all of us will have the opportunity to celebrate together in the future.



L-R: Hannah West, Lindy Marks, Katlyn Nugent, Kate LeBere

LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES

BEATRIZ DE ALBA KOCH

In 19-20 I continued directing and promoting the Latin American Studies Program. In May 2019, I chaired the external review committee for the Latin American Studies Program at the University of the Fraser Valley. The LAS mural “Weaving Identities” served again as background for the Latinos Without Borders Student Club to set up an altar on November 1 for the Day of the Dead. On this occasion, the students invited the public to commemorate their deceased loved ones by placing notes on the altar. The traditional bread for the Day of the Dead, tamales, and hot chocolate were served. In collaboration with the Indigenous Education Program, I organized the visit of Diego Bolaños (U Iberoamericana), an expert in rural education in Mexico, as the Lansdowne Visiting Scholar for LAS.



Day of the Dead Celebration

EVENTS

1919 SYMPOSIUM

In 2019 we marked a century since the “War to end all wars” was concluded by the Treaty of Versailles. In 1919 the world was chastened and exhausted by the carnage of WWI as it was weakened by the worst pandemic in modern history which had killed more people than the war. The world was on the edge of a great divide. Behind it, the horrors of war and pestilence. Ahead, both the possibilities and threats seemed endless.

To consider the way the 20th century was shaped by 1919 the History Department hosted a symposium to crack the year open. An amazing total of 19 of our departmental faculty, including adjuncts and emeritus, participated in the symposium: Greg Blue, Neilesh Bose, Martin Bunton, Zhongping Chen, Jason Colby, Dave Dolf, Norm Fennema, Mariel Grant, Mitch Hammond, Larry Hannant, John Lutz, Gordon Martel, Brian McKercher, Eric Sager, Tom Saunders, Kristin Semmens, Veronica Strong Boag, Serhy Yekelchuk, Wendy Wickwire, and Andrew Wender.

Thanks to the promotional efforts of the Faculty of Continuing Studies the symposium titled “1919: On the Edge of a Brave New World” sold out at 120 people. Attendees learned the connection between WWI and the rise of worker’s and women’s rights, the origins of Nazism in Germany, the roots of current conflicts in the Middle East, the links between the Irish and the Russian Revolutions, wars and massacres in India and Afghanistan, and Indigenous rights in British Columbia.

The speakers kept their talks to 12 minutes and the feedback was glowing. Comments included “It was fantastic--so rich and varied.” “The organization was the best I have seen - I have been to quite a lot of conferences and day events in my long life.” “Beautifully done - timing was excellent, topics were relevant, facility comfortable, food delicious.” “Unequivocally I would recommend this kind of event.” Participants asked the Department to host similar events every year!



Panel speakers Larry Hannant, Greg Blue, Zhongping Chen, Neilesh Bose, and Andrew Wender



Brian McKercher



The audience at the 1919 Symposium with panel speakers Norm Fennema, Eric Sager, Wendy Wickwire, and Veronica Strong-Boag

ERASING CULTURAL MEMORY

“Erasing Cultural Memory: Music and the Impact of War” (September 11, 2019) was an evening of guest performances and lectures organized and hosted by the Departments of History (Kristin Semmens), Germanic and Slavic Studies (Charlotte Schallie) and Music (Suzanne Snizek) aimed at exploring the relationship between music history, memory and cultural trauma. A diverse group of musicians and scholars discussed historical and contemporary instances of war, and examined the impact of war-time conflict upon musicians and musical cultures. Highlights included a moving account of the meaning of music for residents of the Warsaw Ghetto by Dr. Julie Riegel, from the United States Holocaust Memorial and Museum, and a mesmerizing performance by the Orontes Guitar Quartet, whose members fled war-torn Syria for new lives in Canada. The evening’s common narrative was about hope and art persisting in the midst of calamity.



The Orontes Guitar Quartet, whose members are refugees from war-torn Syria.

EVENTS

FOUR STORIES ABOUT FOOD SOVEREIGNTY



Participants in the Four Stories workshop paddle the T'Sou-ke community canoe in Sooke River

Four Stories About Food Sovereignty is a SSHRC-funded transnational research network examining historical and contemporary food crises in four contexts: Island and arctic Indigenous communities in Canada; Indigenous Wayuu communities in Colombia; refugee communities in Jordan; and inner-city and rural communities in South Africa. The research is deeply community engaged. In keeping with that commitment, we hosted a week-long workshop in T'Sou-ke Nation territory in the first week of September, bringing together food produc-

ers, food justice advocates, and researchers working in the four settings to collaboratively identify our research questions. Many themes emerged during a week of facilitated (and translated) conversations and workshops, and while hiking in T'Sou-ke forests and journeying up the Sooke River in the community canoe.



Chief Gordon Planes shows visitors from Colombia, South Africa and Jordan the T'Sou-ke forest

As Chief Gordon Planes put it, “we can get a lot of work done when we walk the forest and paddle the canoe together.” The legacies of colonialism, land dispossession, and extractive economy, along with contemporary challenges including deepening water scarcity, erratic and extreme weather patterns, and loss of local control over food systems, will drive our research inquiry. The words of Wayuu political leader Jakeline Romero Epiayu resonate: “We have a connection through global injustice. We insist on taking care of this land because it is our territory, and it is all of our responsibility to take care of this planet.”

Elizabeth Vibert

COASTAL SCOTS SYMPOSIUM

The waves of European colonialism that shaped modern Canada struck first and most forcefully on this country's shores, where Indigenous communities on the Atlantic, Arctic, and, later, Pacific coasts had to reckon with the challenges and dangers represented by the newcomers. One settler group, originating from a small northern nation on the European periphery, played an outsized role in Canada's history from the earliest phases of colonization: the Scots.

On 29 February 2020, a day-long series of talks and performances was held at St Andrew's Presbyterian Church in downtown Victoria to explore this history and its modern legacy. Entitled “Coastal Scots: Stories of Life in Littoral Zones,” the symposium featured historians from British Columbia and Nova Scotia discoursing on topics that explored the ways in which the physical environments and cultural geographies of littoral zones shaped the experiences of Scots, Indigenous peoples, and settler societies over the past three hundred years. Among the expert historians and storytellers were Wendy Wickwire, professor emerita of the History department, and Sylvia Olsen, an alumna of our PhD programme. Organized by Peter Cook from the UVic History Department in collaboration with Dr Katie McCullough, director of the Centre for Scottish Studies at Simon Fraser University, and through the generous support of the Hugh Campbell and Marion Alice Small Scottish Studies Fellowship in the Faculty of Humanities and the CSS at SFU, the symposium was free and open to the public. Performances by the Victoria Gaelic Choir and youth members of the BC Fiddle Orchestra enlivened the proceedings and lifted the hearts of the audience.



Dr. Katie McCullough opening the symposium



The Victoria Gaelic Choir performs at St Andrew's Presbyterian Church

IDEAFEST

MARCH 2-7, 2020

Ideafest is the University of Victoria's week-long festival of research, art and innovation. Over 35 free events set to capture your imagination. This year six faculty members from the History Department took part in four of the events:

Rachel Cleves

Everything you wanted to know about sex (research) but were afraid to ask!
~Organized by Public Health and Social Policy

Elizabeth Vibert

Food sovereignty in the era of climate crisis
~Organized by the Centre for Global Studies

Paul Bramadat

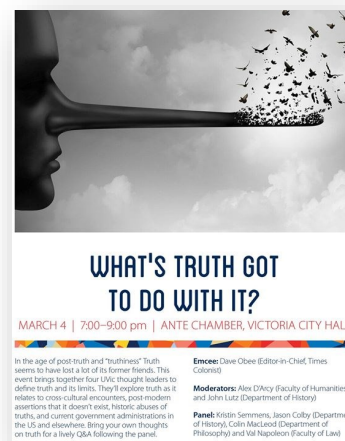
Religion, spirituality and ecology in the Anthropocene
~Organized by the Centre for Studies in Religion and Society

Kristin Semmens, Jason Colby and John Lutz

What's truth got to do with it?
~Organized by the Faculty of Humanities



John Lutz introduces the event.



Kristin Semmens and Jason Colby answer questions from the audience.

CAFÉ HISTORIQUE

ORGANIZER PETER COOK

In its 2019-20 season, the department's public speaker's series, Café Historique, featured another stellar line-up of topical and engrossing evening talks by historians, delivered in the charming ambience of Hermann's Jazz Club in downtown Victoria. Drs Jordan Stanger-Ross, Wendy Wickwire, Andrea McKenzie, Simon Devereaux, Martin Bunton, and Paul Bramadat took to the stage, alone or in tandem with collaborators like Kaitlyn Findlay, a graduate of our MA programme, to explore topics ranging from the creation of borders in the Middle East, to the myths surrounding Jack the Ripper, to the loss and legacy of Victoria's first Japanese tea house.



Andrea McKenzie presenting at Café Historique



Audience member at Hermann's Jazz Club for Café Historique



2nd and 3rd from left: Elizabeth Vibert and Pat Roy attend Café Historique

LANDSCAPES OF INJUSTICE

UPDATE BY MIKE ABE

Landscapes of Injustice, a seven-year research partnership examining the dispossession and forced sale of property owned by Japanese Canadians during the 1940s, entered its final year this spring endeavouring to distill years of research into meaningful and lasting public outputs.

We will launch a travelling museum exhibit in August 2020 at the Nikkei National Museum (NNM). It will then show at the Canadian Immigration Museum Pier 21 in Halifax before making its way back across Canada for a finale at the Royal BC Museum in Victoria in 2022. Research findings, as well as multiple consultation sessions with the general public and the Japanese Canadian community have greatly informed the telling of this important history.

After being piloted in over 30 classrooms in Vancouver and Toronto (and a couple online since March), Teacher Resources for both elementary and secondary school curricula will go live in the fall. The resources engage the hands, minds, and hearts of children, bringing history to life and preparing students to think critically, historically, and compassionately about social justice.

In association with Nikkei National Museum's Sites of Internment Bus Tour, we ran an inaugural *Canada's Internment Era Field School* in 2019. For two weeks, 10 undergraduate and graduate students and 10 teachers from five provinces travelled for a week in the interior of British Columbia. Alongside other tour participants (many of whom had family connections to the internment and even a few who had lived through internment) our students learned the history of internment in the places where it happened. The tour was followed by an intensive week at Uvic, reading, discussing, and completing group projects.



Natasha S., Lester B. Pearson CI, Toronto with Kimiko Y.
Photo credit: Greg Miyanaga

Additional grant funding has been secured to ensure that this exciting initiative will continue for the next two years.

The call for application for the 2020 Field School Canada's Internment Era attracted teachers from across Canada with 13 being selected from as far as Halifax, NS. Among them, three have family ties to the internment. Due to COVID-19 the field school has been postponed to 2021 with all funding still in place. The teachers will participate this summer in an online course as a prelude to next year's field school.

"One of the most valuable parts of this experience was having the unique opportunity to visit sites that were significant to the history of Japanese Canadian dispossession and internment. Sharing space with those who endured these injustices first-hand brought historical experiences to life for me in a way that no textbook or documentary ever could." Natasha S

An equally important output for the project is in the creation of a searchable digital archive database that will allow researchers and community members to explore the rich and extensive collection of research documents from the project. At outreach events throughout the year such as the Steveston Salmon Day Festival, Powell Street Festival, Nikkei Matsuri and Victoria Nikkei Cultural Society's (VNCS) Cultural Fall Fair, we previewed how these documents can help community members enrich their understanding of their family history by accessing over 15,000 government case files and additional archival materials related to the forced uprooting and dispossession of Japanese Canadians. As follow-up we were able to send extensive family case files and documents to over 50 members of the Japanese Canadian community and have begun a series of virtual sessions to give them an opportunity to share with others how these valuable documents benefitted their understanding of their history and heritage.

Our project began with the conviction that this history was important. We're now also confident that, working together with the community, we've found new ways of tell-



Image depicting multipurpose building to commemorate Japanese Canadian history in Gorge Park by Ireland Architecture for the Municipality of Esquimalt

ing it. And people are taking notice. In March, Dr. Jordan Stanger-Ross, project director and principal investigator on the project was honoured with the 2020 Provost's Award in Engaged Scholarship for his work on Landscapes of Injustice and on Defying Hatred, which helps combat hate crimes and antisemitism. He had also received the 2019 Research Excellence Prize in the Humanities for his "tremendous accomplishments, inspirational style, and the powerful levels of engagement he performs both within the university and without."

Our students have also won recent awards. One of the group project from the Field School developed a Twine "Choose Your Own Adventure" game. Participants were placed in the position of young Japanese Canadians during the uprooting during the 1940s and their choices interactively shaped how their stories unfolded. The result, "Into the Interior" garnered the 2020 Peter Liddell Humanities Computing Award for students Natsuki Abe, Nathaniel Hayes and Jennifer Landrey who worked with teachers Tambourine Temple and Dominique Bautista during its development.

And the partnership with the VNCS in their campaign to revive the history of the Tea house and garden in the Gorge Park has been brought to a successful conclusion with plans to build a multipurpose building commemorating the Japanese Canadian history in the park commencing this year.

Finally, our project's summative research volume, *Landscapes of Injustice: A New Perspective on the Internment and Dispossession of Japanese Canadians* (McGill-Queens) is out this summer (cover on page 5). The book is based on an analysis of the cumulative research from the project which also guide the museum exhibit, teacher resources, digital archives and a narrative website.

CONGRATULATIONS!

ROBERT (LUCKY) BUDD

Distinguished Alumni Award



Receiving the 2020 Distinguished Alumni Award from the Faculty of Humanities was a truly joyous experience for me! There was also an element of disbelief. I felt like an unlikely person to win such an honour. I was among the last students admitted to the UVic Undergrad program in August of

1995, and the path to my MA in History was not linear. I had a very clear vision and many at the University helped me to hone my craft. I am truly thankful. Storytelling has been among the passions of my life, and to be recognized by the University, which I hold in such high esteem, is humbling. Much of a person's success comes down to the solid foundation upon which it is built; I owe much of mine to what I learned and those who believed in me at UVic.

PENNY BRYDEN

Elected as President of the CHA



This was my first year as President of the Canadian Historical Association, a position that seems to carry with it a certain amount of power (at least in the “president” part, if not in the “Canadian Historical Association” part) but little in the way of guidance about what to do with it. Wanting to neither break the system (the Trump approach) nor simply criticize its shortcomings (too often the Canadian approach), I started the year by trying to open it up, expanding the services that the CHA provides to its members and encouraging more people to become members. That meant more webinars and newsletters and data-collection on the one hand, and a more open process for nominations and prizes and presentation submissions on the other. And then in March everything, and nothing,

changed. The CHA cancelled its annual conference for what I believe is the first time ever. We rescued the papers to the best of our ability, placing them in print publications and in next year’s agenda; the organizers of the 2021 annual conference scrambled to build a program that would be flexible enough to withstand the continuation of the pandemic; we rethought the cost our normal way of operating has imposed on the environment and on our own health, and committed to building a better organization in the aftermath of Covid-19. But we also just kept doing what we’d been doing – connecting historians across the country in as many ways as possible, lobbying for access to research materials and sites, and supporting the distribution of history – in the classroom, the museum, the podcast, and the academic journal. The upheaval of the last few months has illustrated the flexibility of the CHA as an organization, as well as its resilience; members have been responsible for this. Moving forward, and moving past the initial crises of the recent past, the CHA has the opportunity, and the responsibility, to reflect the strength and versatility of its members even more vigorously. So this is what I’ll keep doing for another year.

LECTURE

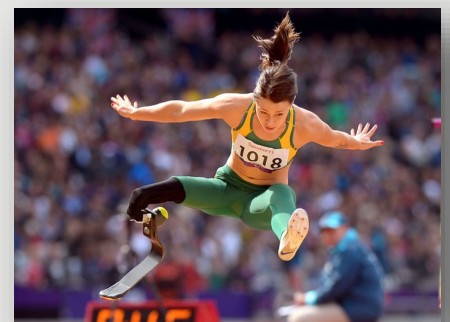
MURRAY PHILLIPS

In September 2019, Professor Murray Phillips, Interim Head and Professor in sport history in the School of Human Movement and Nutrition Sciences at the University of Queensland, visited UVic’s History Department to present research findings from the Paralympic History Project, a research collaborative he is involved in within Australia. This Australian Research Council funded project is a collaborative research initiative between Paralympics Australia and historians from the University of Queensland. The audience for Professor Phillips’s lecture at UVic included students in Dr. Christine O’Bonsawin’s History of the Modern Olympic Movement course as well as faculty and student guests from UVic’s School of Exercise Science, Physical and Health Educa-



tion and Camosun’s Centre for Sport and Exercise Education, and members of OneAbility, the Greater Victoria Collaborative for Adapted Sport and Physical Activity.

In his talk, Professor Phillips highlighted innovative approaches used by the research team to document the history of Paralympic sporting in Australia. The project includes three primary dimensions, including a traditional book, an electronic book, and Wikipedia articles. The project’s objective is to tell the story of disability sport in Australia to the broadest possible audience, in diverse ways, to enhance the public profile of Paralympic sport in the country, and more broadly.



WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

FAELAN LUNDEBERG

MA, 2019



Panj River, Badakhshan Province. Photo credit: Faelan Lundeborg

Recent History grad Faelan Lundeborg is putting the oral history skills he learned in his MA to work in Afghanistan and Tajikistan. Faelan is collecting oral histories in Afghanistan's Badakhshan Province for a local renewable energy NGO.

Faelan says "Badakhshan is very much not what people imagine when they think of Afghanistan. It's largely peaceful with lots of waterfalls and beautiful, although increasingly snowy, mountain terrain. The people are incredibly generous. It's been a really humbling experience."

Faelan's article about his MA research with South African Struggle veterans can be read in the Graduate History Review: <https://journals.uvic.ca/index.php/ghr>



Faelan in the bazaar.

PIA RUSSEL

MA PUBLIC HISTORY, 2019



Pia Russell, BA MEd MA
Coordinator, Learning and Research Resources
Education, Children's Literature, and Indigenous Studies Librarian

Pia Russell completed her Ma in Public History in 2019. She had this to say:

"UVic's history program is superb; I had a phenomenal experience. My supervisor, Lynne Marks, was patient and inspiring. And while the expectations were very high in terms of the amount of reading and calibre of writing required, I now feel so well prepared. The MA in public history gave me the knowledge and confidence to be an authoritative historian of the textbook collection; and of all my degrees, this is certainly my favourite one."

FELLOWSHIP

CARLA OSBORNE

Graduate Research Enriched Teaching Fellowship

Carla was one of ten winners of the first annual President's Fellowship in Research-Enriched Teaching awards for the 2020 Spring semester.

The award included \$10,000 in funding and extensive training workshops through the Fall semester to support integration of research activities for students as well as her own research in preparation for teaching HSTR 327A on Gender and Sexuality in Canada Before 1920 in the spring.

Congratulations Carla!

BC STUDIES SPECIAL ISSUE

GUEST EDITED BY CHRISTINE O'BONSAWIN AND JOHN PRICE

(Un)Settling the Islands: Race, Indigeneity, and the Transpacific

Co-editors, contributing authors, colleagues, and friends gathered at the UVic Student Union Building in March 2020 to celebrate the launch of BC Studies (Special Issue): (Un)Settling the Islands: Race, Indigeneity, and the Transpacific on Lekwungen and WSÁNEĆ territories (Victoria and Saanich, BC). The UVic event was preceded by a launch hosted at the Nikkei National Museum and Cultural Centre, located on the ancestral and unceded homelands of the hən̓q̓əmiṇəm and Skwxwú7mesh peoples (Burnaby, BC), a few weeks prior. In attendance at the UVic launch were co-editors, Christine O'Bonsawin and John Price, as well as some of the contributing authors, including Zhongping Chen, Margarita James, Beth Boyce, and Brian Smallshaw. Those contributing authors unable to join UVic celebrations included Neilesh Bose, Timothy J. Stanley, Nicholas XEMFOLTW Claxton, and Masako Fakawa.

This special issue is one of the numerous

projects to arise from the four-year project, Asian Canadians on Vancouver Island: Race, Indigeneity, and the Transpacific (ACVI), led by principal investigator John Price and funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council. (Un)Settling the Islands: Race, Indigeneity, and the Transpacific documents and (re)conceptualizes Asian Canadian and Indigenous histories and experiences on Vancouver Island and surrounding areas. The special issue originated with papers presented at the annual BC Studies conference themed "(Un)Settling British Colum-

bia," held in May 2017 at Vancouver Island University, located on Snuneymuxw, Snaw-naw-as, Quw'utsun (Cowichan), K'ómoks and Tla'amin First Nations territories, and includes contributions from ACVI-affiliated scholars, community researchers, and activists. As acknowledged by the co-editors in the "Introduction," in many respects, the special issue "deviates from traditional scholarly collections as it endeavours to place front and centre the voices, worldviews, histories, and experiences of community-based and community-focused researchers."



Christine O'Bonsawin and John Price speaking at the launch of *(Un)Settling the Islands: Race, Indigeneity, and the Transpacific*

REFUGEE COMMITTEE

UPDATE

The Tarrach family, who arrived on the very last day of the Canadian government's special program for Syrian refugees in early 2016, were delighted to become Canadian citizens this year. The family is thriving. The father has a full-time custodial position and is beginning study for Dental Examining Board examinations. Mother Rania volunteers as a teacher assistant and hopes to find work in this area. The eldest son has won scholarships to UVic and the two younger boys continue to enjoy school and many sports.



Tarrach family at citizenship ceremony

Alaa El Din Adam, who arrived from Sudan via Egypt, in June 2018 has over a year working at Thrifty's now and is doing well. He was delighted to be able to be at the Victoria airport to greet his sister Amani who arrived a year ago with her husband Monim and son Farouk. Monim now has full-time custodial work but also does English training full-time! Amani is working part-time at a restaurant in spite of Covid 19 and doing English lessons. Farouk has completed his first year in Canadian elementary school, quite a challenge since he has had to learn English as he goes. The first year has been a struggle for each family but has gotten easier each subsequent year. We are hopeful this will also be the case for Amani and family this coming year who have a worldwide pandemic to complicate their integration into Canadian society.

Tedros, Weyni, Meron and Maekele who arrived here from Eritrea via Israel in June 2018 are now in Halifax after spending their first year endearing themselves to us in Victoria. Tedros' work at a local restaurant (My Father's Moustache) there has been cut short by the virus but will hopefully resume. Meron is going to grade 8 and Maekele to grade 5 in the fall if Covid permits. They report that Haligonians are friendly and that the kids loved the winter.

CONFERENCES

QUALICUM

Thanks to everyone who made the annual Qualicum conference a great success again this year! We had a wonderful turn-out from both UVic graduate and honours students and a very stimulating program to boot. Thanks too to the UVic faculty who made the journey and the enthusiastic participation of our partner institutions UBC, SFU, and UNBC.



Kathryn LeBere presenting at the Qualicum Conference



Allison Eccleston presenting, with other panelists Theresa MacKay and Melissa Wing

We started the weekend out strong with a gripping Friday-night plenary given by Dr. Aaron Bobrow-Strain from Whitman College in Washington state. He spoke to an enthralled audience about his new book about US-Mexican immigration and border militarization since the 1980s. His harrowing microhistory a young

woman caught in the crosshairs of the system was an inspiring start to the weekend.

Saturday night was equally moving. We started the evening's events with a tribute to Dr. Robert McDonald, a long-time supporter of the Qualicum conference. Bob, a faculty member in History at UBC, started coming to the conference in the 1980s and remained an enthusiast to the end! Lara Campbell, Laura Ishiguro and Patricia Roy all offered moving tributes to a great historian and a generous colleague.

Dr. Erik Kwakkel, professor of Book History at the UBC iSchool, regaled us with fascinating documentary tales from the exotic realm of medieval books at the Saturday-night plenary entitled "Chance Survivors from the Middle Ages." Dr. Kwakkel has a powerful ability to bring history to life with his engaged investigative style and his unpacking of the history of tiny parchment fragments that reveal important information about daily life in the late Middle Ages.

Saturday and Sunday morning were filled with fantastic panels of students from across BC getting a chance to show off their hard-won research. There were many inspiring papers and great opportunities for people to meet and mingle at meals and beach walks. Saturday evening ended with a rousing karaoke experience. UVic in particular kept the dance floor hopping until midnight!

Sara Beam

NORTH AMERICAN BRITISH STUDIES CONFERENCE

The North American Conference on British Studies (NACBS), which publishes the *Journal of British Studies* (one of the world's leading journals in British history), is the largest association for the study of British society and culture in the USA and Canada. Each year, scholars from North America and beyond assemble in a meeting organized in rotation by one of the six regional organizations of the NACBS. In November 2019 it was the turn of the Pacific Coast Conference on British Studies to host this meeting, and while serving as president of that organization in 2015-17, the choice of venue fell to me. It was a pleasure and a privilege to be able draw upon the energy and enthusiasm of Mariel Grant and Andrea McKenzie, as well as our colleagues at UBC and SFU -- one of whom, our department will note with satisfaction, was our former Honours student Laura Ishiguro, now an Associate Professor of History at UBC. I will not bore you with any the details of the weeks of sleepless nights and fingernails chewed down to the quick. Suffice it to say that the desire of many Americans for a brief escape north of the border ensured that 2019 was one of the best-attended meetings in recent NACBS history ("Thanks, President T!"), and I'm glad that it's over.



Simon Devereaux and Andrea McKenzie at NACBS conference

Simon Devereaux

STAFF UPDATE

We have a whole new office configuration! With Karen Hickton's retirement and the pressure to reduce our staff FTEs we have reconfigured the current office positions instead of hiring someone new. Effective May 1 we have 3 full time positions. The university and CUPE waived the need to post our new position that merges Consuela's and Karen's jobs, so it is with great pleasure that we announce that Consuela Covrig is now the full-time "Chair's Assistant and Undergraduate Secretary". Theresa Gallant's position is now permanently full time and Heather remains at her post as Graduate Assistant, both with some new duties after the reshuffle. While we lost roughly half of a staff position we feel that we have one of the best admin teams on campus!



Heather Waterlander, Theresa Gallant and Consuela Covrig

HISTORIANS IN THE NEWS

History faculty members are often called on by news outlets to provide expert opinion and historical context to current events. Here is a sample of History faculty in the news this year.

- Penny Bryden was featured in the UVic news with her work on political scandals.
- Jordan Stanger-Ross and Kaitlin Findlay were interviewed on CBC on Canada's first Japanese tea room and garden.
- Oliver Schmidtke was in regular demand on CTV and CFAX Radio on Brexit.
- Oliver and Jordan co-wrote an OpEd for CBC Why the People's Party of Canada election result shouldn't be underestimated.
- Rachel Cleves published an OpEd in the Washington Post on Why Americans turn to conspiracy theories and was quoted in the Christian Science Monitor.
- Jason Colby was on CFAX radio to comment on the impeachment hearings in the US.
- John Price had a 6-part weekly series of full page articles in the Victoria Times Colonist on British Columbia's complicity in the removal of the Japanese from the BC coast in 1942 and the seizure of their property.
- John Lutz was interviewed on CFAX on the History of Victoria
- The whole department was featured in the winter issue of the Canadian Historical Association's publication *Intersections* for its efforts in decolonization.
- In the Vancouver Sun, Wendy Wickwire published an OpEd about James Teit.
- Jason Colby joined CFAX Radio to talk about Super Tuesday.
- John Lutz did a radio interview about the department's IdeaFest event on Truth.
- Elizabeth Vibert has been on BC's "All Points West" to talk about how communities can sustainably manage local food systems.
- Jordan Stanger-Ross was featured in the Globe and Mail with an OpEd on Japanese Canadians.
- Mitch Hammond was in great demand to talk about historic epidemics including interviews with CFAX, CHEK 6 news, the Times Colonist and The Hill.



Mitch Hammond



Oliver Schmidtke



Jordan Stanger-Ross

GIVING BACK

In early March, just before the COVID crisis hit Victoria, our History Department community wanted to share some of our resources with Victoria's homeless through sponsoring a meal or a day's worth of meals at Our Place Society, one of the homeless support centres in Victoria.

Then the pandemic came to town and the need, already great, become greater. So did the History community's generosity.

In sums ranging from \$10 to \$1000, department staff with regular, sessional, adjunct and emeritus faculty raised \$3,600 which was directly donated to Our Place, enough to feed 2 breakfasts, 2 lunches, and one supper to a community of about 1,600 people. This sum does not include at least one member of our community who makes a regular monthly contribution to Our Place.

Several other members of our community wanted to help by supporting the *Times Colonist's* Rapid Relief Fund Raiser, especially because their donations were being doubled for a time, and some gave to both. A minimum of another \$1,650 was donated to that fund from our History community. Collectively our community raised \$5,250 in the last two weeks in March to respond to the COVID crisis. A big thank you to every donor. Let us continue to find ways to share our privilege with our wider community.

PANEL DISCUSSIONS

TRUMP, UKRAINE, AND PUTIN

On 9 October 2019, the Center for Global Studies held a public round table on "Trump, Ukraine, and Putin." Drs. Cleves and Yekelchik discussed the American and Ukrainian contexts of the developing scandal, respectively, while Ambassador (Ret.) Derek Fraser contributed the perspective of a former diplomat. The event was well attended, the audience including former diplomats and military personnel, who made well-informed comments from the floor.

GLOBAL SOUTH COLLOQUIUM

In its fourth year, the Global South Colloquium, a public seminar series about the history of globalization, held one panel: "Development and Entrepreneurship in the Global South," co-sponsored by the Centre for Asia-Pacific Initiatives, on 21st November, 2019. This event featured Dr. Sudhir Nair, Associate Professor of the Gustavson School of Business and Dr. Shahinaz Rahman, financial and sustainable development advisor.

GRADUATE AWARDS

History Department Awards

Allison Eccleston, Katie Hughes, Dave Lang, Liam McGillivray, Aidan Moffatt, Anne-Marie Pearce, Chris Russell, Francesca Sgromo, Jeannine Worthing

Humanities Dean Awards

Francis Fang, Cheryl Wieler

President's Scholarships

Kristina Celli, Tim Cunningham, Gord Lyall, Jo Mrozewski, Carla Osborne, Jesse Robertson, Kefen Zhou

SSHRC Awards

Kristina Celli, Tim Cunningham, Gord Lyall, Jo Mrozewski, Carla Osborne, Jesse Robertson, Kefen Zhou

Graduate Entrance Awards (GEA)

Christian Fleischhaker, Wenjuan Lu, Janeththa Rajendran

UVic Graduate Fellowships

Katey Flechl, Erica Greenup, Nat Hayes, Andrew Johnston, Kelsey Lessard, Oakley Ramprashad, Rachel Schneider, Michelle Snidal, Gregory Youmans

BC Fellowships

Theresa Mackay, Darren Reid

The 1990 Learned Societies Scholarship

Nat Hayes

Landscapes of Injustice Fellowships

Nat Hayes, Gord Lyall, Josh van Es

The Leon J. Ladner British Columbia Historical Scholarship

Dave Lang

Victoria Historical Society Scholarship

Josh van Es

John and Myrtle Tilley Graduate Scholarship

Jonathan Ballin

Winnifred Lonsdale Award

Erica Greenup

Sam & June Macey Graduate Scholarship in English or History

Francis Fang

The Peter Liddell Award in Humanities Computing

Nat Hayes

Museum Studies Award in Memory of Dr. Daniel Gallacher

Katie Hughes

UVic Graduate Awards

Elyse Abma, Kristina Celli, Francis Fang, Christian Fleischhacker, Trevor Gallagher, Katie Hughes, Georgia King, Dave Lang, Wenjuan Lu, Theresa Mackay, Liam McGillivray, Aidan Moffatt, Janeththa Rajendran, Jesse Robertson, Francesca Sgromo, Josh van Es, David Vogt, Jeannine Worthing

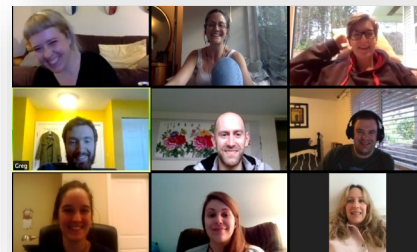
GHSU



Eric Sager and MAs Rachel Schneider & Darren Reid at the 2019 Baskerville-Sager Golf Tournament.

The Graduate History Student Union (has had another busy and exciting year! As the departmental student government for graduate students, we aim to help students balance their academic requirements with social activities in order to promote a well-rounded lifestyle. We kicked off the year in September with a pub night downtown where the incoming and 2nd year students had the opportunity to get to know each other and socialize. This was followed by the Grad Welcome Party, hosted by Dr. Beam, where faculty and students could mingle together and talk about the upcoming year. October heralded the return of the Baskerville-Sager Golf Tournament, which saw a substantial turnout from faculty and grad students, both past and present. Many of us performed much better

than expected! Additionally, the local corn maze and paint nights also provided the 1st years a chance to decompress and bond as a cohort. At our annual Christmas party everyone contributed to an amazing potluck, things got a little competitive with the gift swap game, with a particular travel mug becoming very hotly contested! Pub nights and trivia competitions continued into the new year, with many students presenting their research at the fantastic annual Qualicum Conference or at the MA Works in Progress series. Unfortunately, the unexpected arrival of COVID brought about a halt to many of the social aspects of the GHSU halfway through the semester. We continued as best we could, however, and many thanks to Kristina Celli for keeping us sane with weekly Zoom



The first of many "virtual happy hours" organized by the GHSU.

"happy hours!" Volume 9 of the Graduate History Review is coming along well, and despite the lack of access to libraries, the contributing authors have found ways to adapt to the situation and move forward with their revisions. Editor-in-Chief Darren Reid is excited to unveil this year's fantastic papers in the fall, and looks forward to reading next year's volume produced by the next Editor-in-Chief, Dave Lang! Hopefully the summer semester and the fall term will see some return to normality, and we would like to thank our outgoing Department Chair, Dr. Lutz, our outgoing Graduate Advisor Dr. Beam and Graduate Administrative Assistant Heather Waterlander for all the support they've been able to provide in these troubling times.

Andrew Johnston

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Paul Cavin

Wren Shaman

Helen Fitzgerald & Aya Timmer

Joshua Hotchin & Matthew Skalik

Harry Davies

Shirley Burstall Scholarship

Harry Davies

Kastle Van Der Meer

Callum McDonald & Julianna Nielsen

Zoe Bradshaw

Callum McDonald, Morganne Orchard & Janine Rzeplinski

Kathryn LeBere

Colin Mooney

Wren Shaman

Makayla Scharf

Wren Shaman

Matthew Skalik

Sarah Reimer

Sarah Reimer

Sarah Lindquist

Avery Nordman & Hannah-Mariah West

Zoe Bradshaw

Book Prize in Russian History

Liam Walter

Lindy Marks & Jordan Smith

Sarah Lindquist

Molly Rothwell

Jordan Kerr & Jordan Smith

James Coates

Alec Lazenby

David Weaver

David Weaver

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CONGRATULATIONS AWARD WINNERS!

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

**A HUGE THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS FOR
YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT AND GENEROSITY!**

JCURAs

Jamie Cassels Undergraduate Research Awards are intended 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.

Jennifer Landrey

Japanese Canadian Testimonies: An Oral History Inquiry
Faculty Supervisor: Jordan Stanger-Ross



Julianna Nielsen

Orientalism, Borders, & (Im)Migration: the human dimensions of East/West border-making and -crossing
Faculty supervisor: Andrew Wender



Wren Shaman

An Exploration of the Ethics of Studying Indigenous Settler Relations at the UG Level
Faculty supervisor: John Lutz



HUB

HISTORY UNDERGRADUATE BODY



The History Undergraduate Body at their Winter Formal, December 2019

The History Undergraduate Body has been thrilled to host many events this year, meant to bring together our departmental community. These included two film-lecture nights hosted kindly by Dr. Fennema, a historical costume contest, a trivia night, evening socials, and a beautiful Winter Formal at the Bateman Foundation Gallery of Nature. Additionally, we held a Super Tuesday watch party with the Undergraduates of Political Science and helped organize the inaugural Humanities Undergraduate Conference. While the Inkwell Journal Launch could not be held, we are incredibly proud to announce that our undergraduate journal The Corvette will still be published and its contributors celebrated. Our executive members wish students and professors well during this tumultuous time and look forward to seeing friends and colleagues again in the future.



Makala Scharf and John Lutz



Kate Nugent, Jennifer Landrey and Wren Shaman

FACULTY YEAR IN REVIEW



Rob Alexander



Sara Beam



Neilesh Bose



Penny Bryden

ROB ALEXANDER

During the year I wrote a long review of Christine Haynes's *Our Friends the Enemies: The Occupation of France After Napoleon*, made decent progress in writing a monograph on French public debate over military intervention from 1820 to 1833, and taught four undergraduate courses.

SARA BEAM

In Fall 2019, I attended conferences in Milwaukee and Toronto at which I presented papers drawn from a 17thC infanticide trial that I have edited and translated for the University of Toronto Press. The edition will be released in 2021. In February 2020, I gave two plenary lectures at the University of California, Santa Barbara and Reed College on new research I have done on the reluctance of criminal courts to investigate most suspected infanticide in seventeenth-century Europe. This research will be published in 2021 in *Law and History Review*.

NEILESH BOSE

During this time period, I have been focused on the research and writing of two books. One book is a research monograph, tentatively titled *Religion before Gandhi: Universalism, Comparison, and Resources for Modern Religion*, which is headed for submission later this year. The other is an edited volume forthcoming in the fall of 2020, titled *South Asian Migrations in Global History: Labor, Law,*

and *Wayward Lives*, published by Bloomsbury. During this time period I conducted research for both of these projects in India and Britain. I was supported by a US-UK Fulbright Scholar Award, based at King's College London to enable work in the British Library. I also worked in various archives in Britain with the aid of an American Institute for Bangladesh Studies Senior Fellowship during this period.

South Asian Migrations in Global History includes my introduction as well as my chapter, "Taraknath Das: A Global Biography." I also published two peer-reviewed journal articles in 2020: "Taraknath Das (1884 – 1958), British Columbia, and the Anti-Colonial Borderlands," *BC Studies* (204): 67 – 88 and the forthcoming "Lex Mercatoria, Legal Pluralism, and the Modern State through the Lens of the East India Company, 1600 –1757" (co-authored with Victor Ramraj) in *Comparative Studies in South Asia, Africa, and the Middle East*.

I also enjoyed a five week writing fellowship as a Bogliasco Foundation Fellow, near Genoa, Italy in the early fall of 2019. This fellowship supported the writing of one chapter of my monograph in progress as well as an article commissioned on religion and political thought in modern India. During the 2019-20 year, I delivered public presentations about my research in Britain (London), Bhutan (Thimpu), India (Delhi and Ahmedabad), Italy (Bogliasco), the U.S.A. (Madison, WI), and Switzerland (Zurich). In October of 2019, I delivered the keynote address for the one day workshop titled *Decolonizing the Victorians* at the University of

Lisbon in Portugal. The keynote was titled "Four Lives in the Nationalist Imaginaire: The 'Wayward Lives' of Das, Dayal, Khankhoje, and Roy." I had planned talks (currently being rescheduled for 2021) in Georgetown University-Qatar (Doha), Azim Premji University (Bangalore, India) and the Heritage Centre (Durban, South Africa).

PENNY BRYDEN

This year was the first of my two as President of the Canadian Historical Association. Navigating controversies involving the removal of statues, the closure of archives and history programs, and issues surrounding inclusivity, diversity and equity within the profession occupied a great deal of time at the beginning of my tenure; I spent the latter part of the year doing much the same thing, but over zoom with a cat in my lap, a daughter pretending to be in an on-line classroom but really posting Tik Tok videos, and a world in lockdown. A lot less time in airports has meant more time to finish my book on the prime minister's office, and root out more scandals for the next book.

ANDREW BUCK

I continued work on my book project on the law of inheritance and colonial state formation. I also continued work on the Law Foundation of BC funded project to recover unreported case law involving Indigenous people on Vancouver Island in mid-nineteenth century, aided by the invaluable research assistance of Andrew

FACULTY YEAR IN REVIEW



Andrew Buck



Martin Bunton



Zhongping Chen



Jenny Clayton

Johnston and Gregory Yeomans. Towards the end of the year, I embraced Zoom in preparation for my Fall 2020 course on Dispossession: A Legal History.

MARTIN BUNTON

In October, a WW1 conference hosted by Jagiellonian University, Krakow, offered me the opportunity to discuss the British military occupation of Palestine, and in November I delivered a paper at the annual Middle East Studies conference held in New Orleans on British colonial policies in Egypt and Sudan. It was nice to see a previous conference paper on mandate Palestine being published in *Journal of Colonialism and Colonial History*.

A particular highlight of this past year was the February inauguration of the Andrew Rippin Memorial Scholarship. And it was also a real pleasure to work throughout the year with students and faculty in the organisation of the 12th annual MEICON-BC Student conference which, sadly, was postponed at the last minute.

ZHONGPING CHEN

In the first half year of 2019, I devoted most of my time to teaching work, and three master's students under my supervision, Hairong Huang, Jill Levine, and Liang Han (co-supervised with Lynne Marks), successively graduated by the middle of the year. I was also the major organizer of the collaborative conference between UVic and Zhejiang University on April 28-30, 2019. The conference received sponsorship from the CAPI, CFGS, the Department of History, and the Faculty of Humanities at UVic, and it featured

more than twenty presentations in eight panels by a dozen Chinese scholars, especially those from Zhejiang University, and from approximately equal number of faculty members and graduate students of UVic, especially of CAPI and the Department of History.

In the second half year of 2019, I took a study leave to work on my nearly completed book manuscript on transpacific Chinese reform and revolution, but I also received invitation to attend the "Beijing Forum" hosted by Beijing University on November 1-3, 2019, and made a presentation to the conference, which attracted about 500 scholars and political figures from the world. On this trip to China from October 10 to November 5, 2019, I further served as a keynote speaker at the first international symposium on Jiangnan culture hosted by Shanghai Normal University on October 25-26, and before or after that time, delivered public speeches at Zhejiang University, Nanjing Normal University, Hunan Normal University, Henan University, Beijing Foreign Studies University, Beijing University, and the Institute of Modern Chinese History, the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences.

In this year, I also completed my eight years of research on the Chinese construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway and published two relevant articles, one in the journal of *Pacific Northwest Quarterly* and the other in a collection issued by Stanford University Press. In addition to the journal *China and Asia's* publication of my translated article on Admiral Zheng He's maritime voyages to the Indian Ocean world (1405-33), my other article on a pioneer Chinese feminist and her initiation of the first Chinese wom-

en's political organization in Victoria in 1903 appeared in the journal *Twentieth Century China*.

I received UVic's internal research grant for my new environmental study project on late imperial China in the Little Ice Age (1400-1900). This led me to take a research trip to China in early summer, and conduct my fieldwork from the eastern beginning of the Great Wall, along its key section near Beijing, up to its middle point in Shanxi province. Thereafter, I visited the ancient capital of Xi'an, including its museum of terracotta army near the tomb of the first emperor of China, took the high-speed train across the southwestern province of Sichuan, and ended the 20-day trip with a cruise (at my own expense) along the Yangzi River. On the research trip across half of China, I delivered lectures at Yanjing University, Beijing Normal University, Nanjing University, Nanjing Normal University, and Zhejiang University. For my research work, I published a Chinese article on popular culture in modern China, and completed revision of two articles on the Chinese construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway (1880-1885) and another article on the Victoria-originated first Chinese women's transnational political organization (1903-1905), all of which will be forthcoming in 2019.

JENNY CLAYTON

This past year I had the chance to combine teaching with research and writing for Parks Canada. Last May I published *The Lieutenant Governors of British Columbia* (Madeira Park, BC: Harbour Publishing, 2019). Commissioned by Govern-



Rachel Cleves



Peter Cook



(Most of) the History Department March 2020

ment House, this book explores the evolving role of the lieutenant governor, and the history of British Columbia, through the lives of the first twenty-nine individuals who held this office: from Joseph Trutch in 1871 to Judith Guichon who completed her term in 2018. To my great delight, this book was awarded third prize by the BC Historical Federation in their 2019 Historical Writing Competition.

In the fall I taught Introduction to History at Camosun College and Environmental History of Canada at the University of Victoria. From December 2019 to May 2020, I had the opportunity to work for the Archaeology and History Branch of Parks Canada. During that time, I wrote research reports on the history of trails, logging and fire in Waterton Lakes National Park, Alberta.

RACHEL CLEVES

Considering that the last three months have each seemingly lasted for a year, it's hard to put the past twelve months in perspective. Perhaps the most important thing I can say in June 2020 is that I am grateful to be able to write these words, to be healthy, to have a healthy family, and to have the privilege to continue my academic work. I'd like to acknowledge that too many others at present don't share that privilege and are suffering, both from our global pandemic and from ongoing systemic injustices. I hope that the next year will bring better health and greater justice to our world.

I was very happy, this year, to complete work on *Unspeakable: A Life Beyond*

Sexual Morality, a biography of the notorious writer Norman Douglas, which is being published by the University of Chicago in fall 2020. I also co-edited a special issue of *Historical Reflections/Réflexions Historique* on the topic of intergenerational sex, with historians Nicholas Syrett and Averill Earls, and contributed an article about "The Problem of Pederasty in Queer History" to the issue. In addition, I published two articles from my new project "Good Food/Bad Sex," one titled "The Erotic Poetry of Begué's Breakfast Register," in *Victorian Review* and the other on "Food Porn" in *Global Humanities*. I have also published two chapters in edited collections on the history of marriage and on queer material culture. Last but not least I published an op-ed in the *Washington Post* on the topic of conspiracy theories. In the classroom, I taught my first "Reacting to the Past" course in May of 2019, an experience that I enjoyed so much that I've made plans to teach two more semesters of these historical role-playing games in the upcoming academic year. I also taught my first food history course, a 100-level world history survey, in spring 2020. I hope to teach it again a year from now. I gave several academic lectures during the year – some at UVic, where I participated in Humanities Literacy Week, IdeaFest, and a Global Studies event, and some abroad before COVID-19 hit, including at a conference on queer history held at San Francisco State University and at the annual conference of the Society for Historians of the Early American Republic, which convened in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Like many of my colleagues, I was disappointed by the cancellation of several exciting conferences I

had planned to attend this spring. But if I have to stay close to home, I feel enormously thankful to live in such a wonderful place and to have such a wonderful family to pass the time with.

PETER COOK

The 2019-20 academic year began in a business-as-usual vein and ended with developments in equal part tragic and unprecedented. Topics that we, as historians, cover as a matter of course in our classrooms—the impact of epidemic diseases, the legacy of colonialism, and the history of race relations and movements for justice—will doubtless have a new poignancy for the students we teach this fall. But many UVic students were already deeply engaged in reflecting on such histories before the events of spring 2020; this was certainly the case with the superb cohort of graduate students I had the privilege of teaching in the fall term. In the spring term, my course on the role of the Scottish diaspora in the early modern Atlantic world attracted a thoughtful and diverse group of students who bravely completed their term papers under challenging circumstances, and often with truly impressive results. As the department's undergraduate coordinator, I benefitted from the unsurpassed efficiency of our administrator Theresa Gallant and enjoyed collaborating with colleagues from other units in the ongoing endeavour of refining and rethinking our curricula and programs. My own research on a case study of Indigenous-settler relations in early nineteenth-century Canada progressed remarkably through the graciousness of archivists in Quebec

FACULTY YEAR IN REVIEW



Beatriz de Alba Koch with Librarian Father Justin

and Ottawa, two cities that are beautiful to behold in winter but hard on one who has become quite acclimated to the Victoria climate. And now the summer of 2020 has sent me back to school as I learn how to teach online in preparation for the fall. Let's hope this old dog can learn new tricks!

BEATRIZ DE ALBA KOCH

The academic leave during the 2019 calendar year allowed me to advance my research agenda. At the Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences of Canada, Vancouver, I presented on the Iberian expansion and the creation of the first global culture; an expanded version of this talk is forthcoming in *Ottawa Hispanic Studies Review*. The meeting of the International Association of Hispanists took me to Jerusalem, where I discussed the 1797 "Engimas" of José Mariano Acosta Enríquez, an important member of New Spain's public sphere during the Enlightenment and pre-independence period. In this text he deployed wit, satire, and humour to promote patriotism. The trip to the Middle East allowed me to visit the St. Catherine monastery in the Sinai and its magnificent library. For Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz, the renowned poet, playwright, and feminist of New Spain that I study and teach, the Catherine after whom this monastery was named was a model of female erudition. Sor Juana was one of the figures that most captured the attention of my students in the new course HSTR 376D "The Women of Latin America." In January of 2020, I presented my book project *The Ibero-American Baroque*, under con-



Simon Devereaux

tract with the University of Toronto Press, to UVic's Latin America Research Group speaker series. In May, at the Latin American Studies Association conference, I compared the 1524 doctrinal dialogues between Aztec priests and Franciscans with similar dialogues of 1551 between Buddhist monks and Jesuits in Japan. Studying the parallels between evangelizing programs in Ibero-Asia and Ibero-America is a new research field for me and a topic that has received little scholarly attention. In June, for the Study Circle on Celestinesque and Picaresque Literature, I analyzed the engravings depicting racial tensions and denouncing Black slavery in José Joaquín Fernández de Lizardi's 1816 novel *Periquillo*, an unexpectedly topical subject given the Black Lives Matter demonstrations.

While on leave, I was honoured to again lecture on the creation of the first global culture in EUS 200 and on the fall of Tenochtitlan for the HSTR 101A fall and spring sessions. I continue to supervise my two doctoral candidates working on Sor Juana; my student Tobi Panter successfully defended her Master of Arts thesis on Aztec rituals for newborns as depicted in the Florentine Codex. I was pleased to supervise Cedar Luke's JCURA project on Indigenous governance in Cotacachi, Ecuador. See also: *Latin American Studies* page 10.

SIMON DEVEREAUX

2019-20 came in like a lion and went out like lamb. I travelled to Britain twice in the summer of 2019: first in May, to do some fast and fulfilling research in London, Oxford and Cambridge; and again in



David Dolf

July, where I served as Andrea McKenzie's arm-candy (ahem!) at the 15th International Congress on the Enlightenment, held in Edinburgh. Besides the meeting, we managed to visit three different archives while in Edinburgh, climb to the top of Arthur's Seat, and launch a personal (but sadly unsuccessful) search for the Loch Ness Monster. More scotch might have helped! November saw the culmination of two years of steadily increasing admin work as Chair of the Local Arrangements Committee for the meeting of the NACBS in Vancouver. This was the second, the largest (by far), and I sincerely hope the last conference that Andrea and I will ever organize. Spring 2020 brought the successful launch of our new 100-level course on the history of "Conspiracies, Hoaxes and Moral Panics". The reading for this course was great fun, but it was frustrating to lose the last three weeks to the COVID-19 outbreak, which also squelched plans for a return trip to Britain in May. I'm only glad that this scourge has fallen so lightly upon our family, friends, and neighbours.

DAVID DOLFF

Another year of teaching almost done! As we're all experiencing, the abrupt move to teaching online in March was a bit of a transition, to use a polite euphemism. I was able to follow this up by moving another course online in May, and now another one in June. I certainly feel like I'll have had plenty of chance to get my feet wet before the fall, even if all that I've learned is what not to do. This has been very hectic as beyond my professional life we lost our child care ar-



Norm Fennema

rangements due to the pandemic, and we're blessed to have another wee one on the way, which unfortunately combined with everything else has taken a bit of a toll on the health of my spouse. While the days are long, I'm getting to spend a lot more time with my delightful toddler, and I wouldn't trade it for the world -all in a day's work! Aside from that, I was very grateful for the opportunity to participate in the 1919 Symposium which gave me a chance to talk about things that I love to talk about, and also to learn so much from the other members of the department. On the research side of things, after a brief diversion into trying to better understand the Irish Troubles, Soviet and post-Soviet Central Asia remains a focal point of my interest. Trying to keep up with the latest escapades of Mr. Putin in the Kremlin and the strangest election ever in Ukraine last spring also helps keep me on my toes. A family vacation to the beautiful, rocky, rugged island filled with great people but on the other end (that is to say, Newfoundland) also certainly helped make the year a good one.

NORM FENNEMA

2019-2020 was a good year in spite of the way it ended. Exciting developments as a good friend and worthy colleague Georgia became ATP. The Western History Association conference in Las Vegas with explorations of Death Valley and the Grand Canyon with my son was a personal highlight. Teaching Hockey Nation, American History in Film, the American West and a directed study on Mormon feminism with Morganne Orchard were



Mariel Grant

all rewarding experiences, for me if not always for the students (lol). Though they seemed happy enough. I rounded out my UVic calendar year with my first iteration of an online course I created on Homelessness in Canada, and taught Canadian Environmentalism and Canadian Social Policy Issues for Canadian Studies. And added to my online experience with a new course on the History of Terrorism and one on Crime and Justice in Canada. The 1919 public history talk (On the Edge of a Brave New World) was a fun challenge, though I swear Kristin Semmens cut me off five minutes short of my eight minutes. I'll take my cue from Mariel Grant for how to deal with that next time. Thanks Mariel. It was a busy but good year, with my son landing a position with the Portland Hotel Society in the Downtown Eastside and my daughter pursuing work in Grant and Proposal writing. The peaceful passing of my mother at 89 at Christmas was a blessing for her and my four siblings in Alberta. My partner was laid off from the GVPL downtown due to COVID and we enjoyed a sense of what retirement will look like, while watching Bonnie Henry's daily updates and JT's morning show. Who knew that quarantine, pandemic and toilet paper would be the buzzwords of 2020. All in all another very rich and rewarding year at a great place of work in a beautiful part of the world.

MARIEL GRANT

I was on sabbatical for the Academic year 2019-2020, working on a book on the history of tourism in Britain after the Second World War. I attended several



Mitch Hammond

conferences, but had to curtail research travel plans in the Spring because of the global pandemic.

MITCH HAMMOND

My work this year went from quiet to not -so-quiet. In fall 2019, I researched for a history of modern medicine (now under contract with University of Toronto Press). In January, University of Toronto published my survey Epidemics and the Modern World, and I had the pleasure of teaching with the book for the first time. I also taught a seminar on the social history of germ theories. As the COVID-19 crisis unfolded, my lecture class had the eerie experience of studying epidemics as one gained momentum worldwide. Not an experience we hope to repeat, although the students soldiered on remotely and we considered many topics that had renewed relevance. This summer, in addition to teaching my Atlantic World class, I will go back to the history of medicine text and prepare for an invited presentation in Augsburg, Germany.

In radio broadcasts, opinion pieces and print interviews, I've discussed how history informs our life today, especially with regard to influenza in 1918 and (at least as pertinent now) polio in the mid-20th century. The publication Sanlian Lifeweek, a magazine in mainland China akin to Newsweek or Maclean's, quoted me alongside comments by Yale public health professor Chen Xi and New York Times colonist Thomas Friedman. I was also quoted alongside other historians for an article in the Washington, D.C. publication The Hill. My book was featured in a review article that appeared in

FACULTY YEAR IN REVIEW



Patrick Lozar

the Literary Review of Canada (April 2020). Along the way, I have reflected with some pride on our province's accomplishment so far in "flattening the curve" of disease cases. Truly there are fewer better places to be.

PATRICK LOZAR

My first year here at UVic has been stimulating and full of support from new colleagues and the university community. I have been fortunate to meet so many scholars, instructors, students, administrators, and stakeholders, and the introductions continue. I jumped into teaching courses on early British Columbia history and Indigenous-Settler Relations in the United States. I also was awarded a Strategic Initiatives grant for re-designing a course on Decolonizing Settler Societies that will be offered next year. On the research front, I have a journal article publication in the works that focuses on the Ktunaxa Nation's resistance to Canadian and American border enforcement in the late nineteenth century. The research for this article manuscript is related to my larger project on Indigenous peoples and international borders in the interior Pacific Northwest, which is an expansion and revision of my doctoral dissertation that I completed in 2019. I have since resumed work on the project, adding a new chapter on the social history of borders and Indigenous peoples. I shared some of this work in a paper at the American Society for Ethnohistory conference in Pennsylvania last September. Happy to relocate with me to Victoria this year are my wife and two young children. They have thoroughly enjoyed



Lynne Marks

getting to know the city and the island by going on field trips and hikes, and by relaxing on the beach (with dad, when he can of course).

LYNNE MARKS

In the spring of 2019 I presented two papers, with Tina Block of Thompson Rivers University, on research relating to how irreligion has been passed on through the generations in the Pacific Northwest. This research emerged out of the SSHRC-funded project "Religion, Spirituality, Secularity, and Society in the Pacific Northwest" (the Cascadia project), Paul Bramadat, PI. We presented the first paper at the BC Studies conference in Kamloops, and the second at the meeting of all Cascadia participants held at the University of Washington. Over the summer of 2019 Tina and I also completed an entry for a new Encyclopedia on the History of Atheism, for Cambridge University Press, focusing on irreligion in the Pacific Northwest. I presented two papers on the nature of Jewish feminism in the second wave Canadian women's movement, one at the Canadian Historical Association meeting in Vancouver, and the second at a Canadian Studies conference on women's history in Bordeaux, France (hard to believe, just a year ago...). While much of this year has been taken up with being President of UVic's Faculty Association, I also presented posters (my first posters since middle school:) as part of the Defying Hatred (Jordan Stanger-Ross, PI) project's final presentation at the Jewish community Centre in January. My posters focused on the complex and sometimes contest-



Christine O'Bonsawin

ed ways in which Jews were defined as white in multi-racial 19th century Victoria.

CHRISTINE O'BONSAWIN

The 2019-20 year was one of transition. In 2019, I returned from study leave and re-entered the university in a new capacity, as I was no longer directing the Indigenous Studies program (a position I held from 2007-18). This transition allowed for new and exciting opportunities, notably, the chance to teach a course in my area of research – Olympic history – in my home department of History in the Fall term. The Winter term tested my ability to (instantly!) transition in pedagogical approaches. My two Indigenous Studies courses began in predominantly classroom settings; however, they quickly turned experientially-based when many of my students took to the steps of the BC Legislature to stand in solidarity with the Wet'suwet'en hereditary leaders. On these steps, we all learned critical lessons and engaged in important learning opportunities. And just as my students began to refocus in the classroom setting, UVic transitioned to online instruction!

Highpoints of the year included the opportunity to serve on the review committee for Sport Canada's 'Sport for Social Development in Indigenous Communities, which brought me to Ottawa in October 2019. Also, I had the good fortune to work with respected colleagues and good friends on two special issues, including the Journal of Sport History: Indigenous Resurgence, Regeneration, and Decolonization through Sport History (2019), co-edited with Murray Phillips,



Yasmin Railton



Tom Saunders



Kristin Semmens



Georgia Sitara

Russell Field, and Janice Forsyth, and BC Studies: (Un)Settling the Islands: Race, Indigeneity, and the Transpacific (2020), co-edited with John Price.

YASMIN RAILTON

2019-2020 has largely been dedicated to curating the Landscapes of Injustice (LOI) travelling museum exhibit and its attendant education materials and outreach initiatives. My curatorial practice and public history research focus on translating historical research findings while remaining rooted in community knowledge networks. To this end, in 2019, I ran a series of community consultations with Sherri Kajiwarra (Director, Nikkei National Museum & Cultural Centre) and Kaitlin Findlay (LOI Research Coordinator). In 2019-20, I presented research at regional museums, including invited lectures at the Cowichan Valley Museum & Archives (July 2019) and a research showcase at the Royal BC Museum (January 2020). I presented a paper at the 2019 Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences. I've contributed to RBCM educational programming including an historical walking tour of the site of the former Japanese Canadian tea house in Esquimalt Gorge Park (January 2020) and an Ignite lecture on the topic of "Disruption and History" (February 2020). In addition to curating, I had the pleasure of teaching a UVIC Public History 389A course in 2020.

TOM SAUNDERS

In addition to the Honours seminar and a course on Hitler, I enjoyed offering a new

grad/undergrad seminar on European cinema and society in the first half of the twentieth century. It was gratifying that after the suspension of in-person instruction it was possible for the graduating Honours class to defend their theses online. I had opportunity to speak to high school students about how cinema shapes our understanding of past societies and to present a short talk on Hitler in the departmental symposium on 1919. A chapter on women in motion pictures of the Great War appeared in a volume revisiting the relationship between war and film. The annual research trip to Berlin and a conference on Weimar political culture were postponed until travel is feasible.

KRISTIN SEMMENS

It's hard to remember our UVic lives before Covid 19, but I have a few pre-pandemic events to report. In July, I began a three year appointment with the Department of Germanic and Slavic Studies, teaching a graduate seminar and serving as the practicum coordinator for the Holocaust Studies MA program. In September, I co-organized and co-hosted an incredible event with that Department and the Department of Music called "Erasing Cultural Memory: Music and the Impact of War". In November I presented at our Department's one-day symposium, "1919: On the Edge of a Brave New World", amidst my annual school talks on Holocaust remembrance. I supervised my first PhD comps exam in public history in the winter term (Congratulations Theresa Mackay!), spoke at UVic's "Explore UVic" event for high school students, and ex-

plored the meaning of truth according to Hitler at Ideafest. I also began work on an introductory text to Nazi Germany for Bloomsbury Press. In the midst of the "unprecedented" challenges of teaching during a pandemic, I learned I won the inaugural CHA's Award for Teaching Excellence with Primary Sources. A bright spot in an otherwise difficult time. I wonder what we will report next year about our experiences as online instructors? Stay well!

GEORGIA SITARA

2019-2020 rained teaching awards for me. My years of dedication to the craft were honoured with the university wide Gilian Sherwin Prize for teaching excellence in the spring and then feted at a gala event for the Reach Awards in the fall. When we return to campus after COVID, I look forward to seeing my portrait up in the library alongside other award winning, well-loved teachers.

I am also extremely proud to have received the THUGS Most Valuable Professor award two years in a row, 2019 and 2020! It is an honour to have my work recognized and held up by our students.

JORDAN STANGER-ROSS

2019-2020 was a remarkable year for me but also (as for all of us) challenging. I was very gratified to receive research awards from the Faculty of Humanities and the senior administration of the university. Support from my colleagues has been essential to my research, and to have those accomplishments recognized

FACULTY YEAR IN REVIEW



Jordan Stanger-Ross



Elizabeth Vibert greets Colombian visitors on arrival



Jill Walshaw



Andrew Wender

by my close colleagues was wonderful. I don't take for granted the support of the university for the work I do, particularly as it is community-engaged and collaborative (something still a little unusual in our field). At the same time, I'm delighted that a collectively created book, *Landscapes of Injustice* appears this summer. The definitive statement of our national research partnership, *Landscapes of Injustice* reinterprets the internment of Japanese Canadians by focusing on the deliberate and permanent destruction of home through the act of dispossession. And yet, I'm a parent of young children and a patient on immune suppressive medication for a chronic illness. So, these last months have been stressful and scary. During this period, I've still appreciated the support of my colleagues (not for my scholarship but for me as a person), but it hasn't been easy. So next year I'll go for a little more normalcy (fewer awards but also less pandemic?).

ELIZABETH VIBERT

This year's highlight was a workshop hosted by our Four Stories research team in the first week of September, bringing together food producers, food justice activists, and researchers from UVic and T'Sou-ke First Nation, Colombia, Jordan, South Africa and the US. (See *Four Stories About Food Sovereignty*, p. 12). Thank goodness we pulled this off before the pandemic hit. BC (Before COVID) I also made research trips to Jordan and South Africa, worked with art educator Bruno Jayme to deliver videography workshops to youth in both countries, and gave a

conference paper in Johannesburg. Back home I gave public and school talks on topics ranging from 'race' to global food systems, and helped organize an IdeaFest event on Food Sovereignty in the Era of Climate Crisis and a transnational public panel on Cultivating Resilient Communities through Food. I had two articles come out, and saw two MA students defend excellent theses (one is off to the UK on multiple PhD scholarships). I'm very fortunate to work with talented PhD, MA, and undergraduate students on the Four Stories team.

JILL WALSHAW

2019-20 has been an interesting year, to say the least. My fall semester's teaching combined two very different courses – one course (a senior grad/undergrad seminar in French cultural history) which reflected my origins and training, and another (a first-year course on the History of Money which attracts students from economics and business as well as history) which reflects the current direction of my work. On sabbatical from January 2020 onwards, I have spent the past months in fits and starts. Set to depart for a critical research trip to France on March 13th, I quickly became, instead, the full-time caregiver and teacher of my two children. I now get up at 5am to log a few hours of archival research before the day gets underway, and I appreciate uninterrupted time like never before. On another Covid-related note, the annual meeting of the Western Society for French History, set for November 2020 in Victoria and anticipated to welcome an

international group of 150-200 interdisciplinary scholars working on a myriad of topics and eras, has been postponed until Fall 2022. As my colleagues Mitch Hammond and Serhy Yekelchuk said in our department's brief Convocation video this spring, history offers many examples of how people in past eras have lived through crises far worse than this one. Take stock, keep a journal, and aim for the productivity of Isaac Newton, in quarantine during the plague outbreak of 1665-66!

ANDREW WENDER

This year brought intersecting work on a number of teaching and research initiatives. I developed a new joint History/Religious Studies seminar, "Religion and Empire in the Modern World", taught for the first time during Fall 2019. In addition, among my regular teaching on World and Middle East history, I taught the second edition of my recently established 300-level course, "Religion and the Making of the Modern Middle East". This teaching dovetailed with ongoing development in my Political Science courses like "Politics and Religion" and "Comparative Political Thought".

Thematically related progress was also made on a number of writing projects: a book on the end of the Ottoman Empire and making of the modern Middle East that is being co-authored with another Department colleague; a forthcoming book chapter on politics and religion; and reviews in *Telos* and *World History Connected*, the first involving the significance of negative theology for thinking about



Guoguang Wu



Serhy Yekelchuk



David Zimmerman

planetary dilemmas, and the second concerning the impact of Ottoman political thought on Western political thought during the early modern era. Also co-written with a Political Science colleague was a recently-submitted manuscript on the importance of teaching critical thinking during times of intense political polarization; this was initially presented in February 2020 at the American Political Science Association Teaching and Learning Conference in Albuquerque, NM.

Another especial highlight was participating in the History Department's November 2019 public symposium commemorating the centenary of 1919; my contribution focused on anticolonial revolts in Egypt and elsewhere across the Middle East.

GUOGUANG WU

During the year I taught as usual, supervised five graduate students (one with History and four with Poli), organized a number of events with CAPI, and (as everyone else) substantially reduced travel since early 2020 due to Covid-19. My publications included two journal articles, a policy piece, one book chapter in the Chinese language, and the Chinese edition (translated by a Doctoral student) of my 2017 book, *Globalization against Democracy: A Political Economy of Capitalism after Its Global Triumph* that came out in April 2020 through Oxford University Press (Hong Kong). I was the recipient of the Social Sciences Research Excellence Award 2020.

SERHY YEKELCHUK

The academic year 2019–20 started with a bang, that is, with the fallout from Trump's July phone call with President Volodymyr Zelensky of Ukraine, which became public knowledge in September. The media, ranging from the New York Times to local radio stations, called me asking for commentary, which made the hectic first weeks of the new semester more fun than they usually are. In October for the Center for Global Studies, I organized a well-attended round table on this phone call featuring my History colleague Rachel Hope Cleves. In December I published a book in Ukraine entitled *The Ukrainian Experience of World War II*. It is based on a summer lecture course I gave in Kyiv several years back and four articles that previously appeared in English. In the same month the Soviet and Post-Soviet Review published a special issue on The Eastern and Southern Ukraine in Peace and War, based on a conference that took place at UVic in 2017, which I guest-edited for them. In the spring of 2020 teaching a course on Modern Ukraine and the Russo-Ukrainian Conflict proved very helpful for the preparation of a new, much expanded edition of my book *The Conflict in Ukraine*, forthcoming from Oxford this year. However, having to finish this course (and the other one that semester) online made me appreciate how much our inspiration as historians depends on speaking to live audiences.

My book *Stalin's Citizens: Everyday Politics in the Wake of Total War* appeared in a Ukrainian translation in April 2019, and

in September received a special diploma for the best book about Kyiv at the 26th Lviv Book Forum.

DAVID ZIMMERMAN

My major accomplishment this year was completing the manuscript of my book, *Ensnared between Hitler and Stalin: Scientific Refugees in the USSR*. I also published an article,

"Neither Catapults nor Atomic Bombs: Technological Determinism and Military History from a Post-Industrial Revolution Perspective," which appeared as part of a special issue on technological determinism in the journal *Vulcan*. I also gave 10 public talks in the USA, Victoria, Vancouver and Kelowna. These talks including: "Anything but Peaceful: Victoria and Esquimalt in the Aftermath of VJ-Day," at the North American Society for Oceanic History; "Physicists Ensnared between Hitler and Stalin: German Scientists in the USSR," which I gave to the Department of Physics at UBC; and "Issues in Holocaust Education," presented to the Kelowna Jewish Community. Finally, in the age of the virus, I setup my own YouTube channel, where I posted lectures and videos of my model train layout. Proof Professor know how to have fun! https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCeEINO_kXtRGonCxdJe27cw/videos

CONTRA COLONIAL ACTIVITIES

Decolonizing the university is a very ambitious goal but working contra to the colonial heritage of the university is something we can manage. Since 2016, the Department has had an ad hoc committee inspired by the final report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. There is more to be done but since then the committee/department and colleagues have:

- hired a second Indigenous professor
- co-organized a conference with the Songhees on Indigenous land and the local treaties in 2017 with 300 people, half settlers, half Indigenous
- organized a Kairos Blanket Exercise for the Humanities Faculty
- helped fund a Humanities Visiting Indigenous Scholar continued its longstanding Ethnohistory Graduate Field School with the Stó:lō
- organized a twice annual Colonial Realities tour of Songhees Territory led by Songhees Knowledge Keeper Cheryl Bryce so now some 450 faculty and students have taken the tour
- hosted several public forums on campus and downtown on the question of whether we should rename streets named after prominent colonial figures, remove statues, and re-name buildings
- run a Decolonizing Canada/Settler Society course which has run once and will run again in 2021 with a public outreach component through Continuing Studies
- reorganized and expanded our Indigenous history offerings
- John Price's Asian Canadians on Vancouver Island project has organized a travelling museum exhibit, workshops, funded the Humanities visiting Indigenous Scholar, all focusing on a history of racism against both Asian and Indigenous Canadians
- using funding from the Victoria Foundation, the Colonial Despatches project has hired Indigenous students to work on "decolonizing the archives" to make it more useful and accessible to First Nations
- last fall the Department hosted a lunch at the First People's house to introduce all our faculty but in particular our new colleague, Patrick Lozar, to our Indigenous community on campus.



Songhees Land Manager Cheryl Bryce leads the Colonial Realities bus tour.

Keep in touch!

Online at uvic.ca/history



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