

Volume 16
June 2019

PAST, PRESENT, & FUTURE

Message from the Chair, Andy Wiese

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

This has been an extraordinary year for History at San Diego State!

We congratulate THREE newly-promoted “full” professors, Paula DeVos, Angel David Nieves and Elizabeth Pollard! Their commitment to our students and to the highest standards of service, teaching and scholarship is an inspiration.



SDSU Historians produced a shelf full of scholarship (of course)! Professors Asselin, Ferarro, and Nieves published new books and scholarly volumes. Our articles appeared in the *American Historical Review*, *Historian*, and *California History*. We travelled the world for research, and we brought our work home to the classroom.

Our focus on teaching, mentorship, and innovation remained unmatched. Senate Distinguished Professor, Eve Kornfeld led campus-wide teaching initiatives for SDSU’s Common Experience and Arts Alive programs. We prepared exciting classes to meet the CSU’s new General Education guidelines: “Why Study History?,” “Science and Technology in World History,” “Comics and Graphic Arts through History,” “Sex: Past and Present,” and more. Special kudos to the ‘patron saint of curriculum,’ aka Prof. Matt Kuefler, who guided these to approval. “YES, readers, you CAN take these classes through Open University!!

History students were the talk of campus in 2019! Shannon Farnsworth, Cody Billock, Scott Thiele and others swept up a table of trophies at the SDSU Student Research Symposium, and Thiele won the grand prize for humanities research in the CSU! Peter Del Nagro, Aliyah Beiruti, and Cassie Tanks wowed the President and Campanile Foundation in special presentations, and history students were the toast of last month’s Digital Humanities Showcase. Faculty mentors were there every step of the way.

SDSU is the city’s university, and we believe that history is essential to its future. So, this year we expanded our commitment to public engagement. We filled Montezuma Hall for a conversation with history-maker, Daniel Ellsberg. Teachers rushed to campus to hear Sam Wineberg’s talk: “Why Study History? (When It’s Already on Your Phone).” Emily Bernard (“Black Women Writers on Art, Love, and Freedom”), Sebastian Junger and Karl Marlantes (“Experiencing War”), and our 2019 Appleby Speaker, Harvard’s David Carrasco (“Finding Aztlan in a Lost Mexican Codex”) brought diverse voices to campus for critical conversations.

Finally, our initiatives are thriving. In 2019, we launched the new SDSU Center for Military History (look for programming this Fall), and our partnership with the USS Midway Museum blossomed. We are thrilled to announce their major support for the USS Midway Chair in Modern U.S. Military History! Thanks especially to Prof. Asselin for his tireless effort on this initiative.

All around campus, “History” was recognized as a department on the move!

As the end of my term as department chair approaches, I am gratified by what we have accomplished together. I am grateful for the support of my colleagues. It has been my pleasure and a signal professional honor to serve in this role.

Sincerely,
Andy

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Succeeding amidst adversity: A balance of the last three years and a call for continued support from our friends

The fate of history as a discipline is at stake at all levels of education nationwide, a situation that has impacted our department at SDSU. Often marginalized from standardized testing, the importance of learning about the past has been constantly eroded. Trends undermining K-12 teaching as a profession have also contributed to take a toll on the number of history students in higher education. Mirroring the situation in the K-12 system, the number of history majors in the US experienced a steady decline, dropping ten thousand in the years between the 2008 economic crisis, when 34,642 degrees were conferred, and 2017 when the number declined to 24,266. This dramatic drop took place even as enrollment in higher education grew during the same period.

Meanwhile, events in recent history have pointed towards the need for further historical education. The increase in social inequality and political polarization, to name only two important trends in the last decades, demand a solution that only a historically informed public opinion can provide. Violence, extremism, and intolerance also require an examination of the historical roots of our present. Only in the last year two events have hit our community hard: the attack on African-American students at SDSU and the Poway Synagogue shooting. Historical knowledge is not only fundamental to promote healing when these events happen, but also to prevent them from happening again in the future.

Moreover, history is not only needed as an insightful tool to debate social, cultural, and political problems and to look for solutions. It is also highly demanded by employers seeking strong written and oral communication skills like the ones taught in our major. The growing knowledge economy demands a skillful workforce with the ability to scrutinize evidence, sort through a mass of information, interpret patterns, and put data into context. This is exactly what history students learn to do in our classes when they examine the documents of the past and write history papers.

At SDSU, this paradoxical scenario of the dropping number of students in contrast to the growing need for an historical education became especially acute towards 2016. As Professor Andrew Wiese became chair of our department in August of that year, he called for a weekend retreat to reflect on our situation and lay a plan of action. The retreat became a turning point as our department was transformed thanks to our collective effort and the leadership of Professor Wiese. Encouraged by his endless enthusiasm and energy, our department enhanced pathways for student success and strengthened community engagement while research excellence thrived. During the last three years, we launched an effort to communicate the multiple career opportunities available for history students in collaboration with Phi Alpha Theta. A series of lectures, masterclasses, and workshops addressing all periods of history and focusing on a broad range of topics sparked interest in the department among students in our university and attracted the interest of the larger public throughout San Diego. Curricular changes offered more opportunities and variety to students while streamlining their path to graduation.

After three years our departmental efforts have begun to bear fruit. Defying national trends, the number of history majors at SDSU has grown 30%. Students in the Department of History have excelled at conducting research and presenting their findings in public. History has become a leading force at the Student Research Symposium, as attested by the numerous prizes our students have garnered throughout the years. Our graduates have been accepted to prestigious graduate schools and succeeded in finding exciting new career paths, as shown in this newsletter. Observing the dynamism of our department, two faculties hired by the university to teach digital humanities chose the Department of History as their home in fall 2017: David Cline and Angel David Nieves. As a result, our department now offers classes in a cutting-edge new field of study that will greatly benefit our students. Another evidence of a surge in research excellence and teaching innovation in the last three years is attested by the promotion of six of our faculty in our department, two of us to the rank of associate professor (Ranin Kazemi and Pablo Ben), and four to the rank of full professor (Kathryn Edgerton-Tarpley, Paula De Vos, Elizabeth Pollard, and Angel David Nieves). Our outreach efforts have led to the creation of a new Center for Military History and created an endowed chair in modern U.S. military history, thanks to a donation by the USS Midway Museum that will now also allow us to hire a specialist in the field.

Having played a crucial role in our collective effort to demonstrate the importance of historical knowledge, Professor Wiese will concentrate in his research and teaching, and our department has chosen Professor Edward Beasley as the new chair. As we continue our efforts to strengthen history as a professional path, we will seek the continued support of our students and community. We urge everyone interested in the success of the history major to follow us on Facebook, stay in touch, attend our activities, and help us in our efforts to keep the importance of historical knowledge alive. *Prof. Pablo Ben, Newsletter Editor*

Faculty Publications

Working with 54 scholars from around the world and giving a state of the field in the history of marriage across cultures during the last 2,500 years, Professor Joanne Ferraro has edited a six-volume history of marriage for Bloomsbury. This is an edited series where the role of marriage is examined regarding its contributions to society, and in relation to a wide array of topics, ranging from religion and law to culture and love. Professor Ferraro's own volume (*A Cultural History of Marriage in the Renaissance and Early Modern Age, 1450-1650*) is the third one in the series. This piece will be published by the end of this year. For more information about this text and Professor Ferraro, see the article about her in this newsletter. Joanne Ferraro (ed.) *A Cultural History of Marriage*, VI Volumes (New York: Bloomsbury, forthcoming 2019), and Joanne Ferraro (ed.), *A Cultural History of Marriage in the Renaissance and Early Modern Age, 1450-1650*, Volume III (New York: Bloomsbury, forthcoming 2019).

Matt Kuefler has published a lengthy review article in the October 2018 issue of the *American Historical Review*, one of the pre-eminent journals in our discipline. Titled "Homoeroticism in Antiquity and the Middle Ages: Acts, Identities, Cultures," the article examines the impact of John Boswell's groundbreaking book, *Christianity, Social Tolerance, and Homosexuality*, published in 1980. It was one of the first book-length treatments of the history of homosexuality in English. Spanning European history from the ancient Romans to the end of the Middle Ages, Boswell argued that Europeans, including medieval Christians, were not always as intolerant of homosexuality as they later became. In the forty years since its publication, the book has been sharply criticized, but its overall message has mostly been upheld. Kuefler's article reviews more than a hundred books and articles on the topic published since 1980 to see how scholars have supported, revised, expanded, or challenged Boswell's views. Kuefler has written previously on Boswell, with whom he studied while in the Ph.D. program at Yale University, including in *The Boswell Thesis: Essays on Christianity, Social Tolerance, and Homosexuality*, which he edited in 2006. Matt Kuefler, "Homoeroticism in Antiquity and the Middle Ages: Acts, Identities, Cultures," *The American Historical Review*, Volume 123, Issue 4, October 2018, Pages 1246–1266.

A comprehensive primary source reader, the new edition of *Worlds Together, Worlds Apart: Companion Reader* co-authored by Prof. Elizabeth Pollard has recently been published by W. W. Norton & Company. The publisher describes this new 2019 edition as "This distinctive, affordable collection of more than 150 classic and contemporary primary sources shares the global perspective and chronological framework of the popular history survey text *Worlds Together, Worlds Apart*. The Third Edition offers timely new selections on a range of new topics as well as four unique casebooks that support deeper exploration of major world history developments. Thoughtful editorial apparatus provides important context and helps students sharpen their historical thinking skills." This will be an amazing tool to learn history through documents and will encourage students to develop their own analytic skills rather than only relying on what historians tell them. Elizabeth Pollard and Clifford Rosenberg (eds.), *Worlds Together, Worlds Apart: Companion Reader*, II Volumes (New York: W. W. Norton & Company, 2019).

The upcoming number of *Mora*, one of the most prestigious journals in gender studies throughout Latin America published by the University of Buenos Aires will include an article by Professor Pablo Ben analyzing Michel Foucault's approach to the history of sexuality. One of the founders of history of sexuality as a discipline, Foucault published his most influential book on the topic in 1976. The article explores the creation of the history of sexuality as a field in the United States and considers the tense relationship between later scholars and Foucault. Professor Ben argues that Foucault's approach to the history of sexuality was shaped by the Marxist and radical thinking developed in association with the May 1968 social upheaval in France, but also closely associated to the rise of Neoliberal economics since the 1973 economic crisis in the same country. Pablo Ben, "Foucault, capitalismo y sexualidad: tensiones conceptuales circa 1976," *Mora: Revista del Instituto Interdisciplinario de Estudios de Género*, Universidad de Buenos Aires, No 25, 2019.

Professor Ranin Kazemi has published a research article on the interconnections between social protests and outbreaks of epidemics in the Middle East in the late nineteenth century. The venue is the flagship journal of the history honor society, Phi Alpha Theta. Throughout a detailed analysis of a wide range of records pertaining to dead burials, sanitary files, and government documentation, Professor Kazemi examines a series of protests that broke out in important centers of population in Iran, such as Shiraz, Tabriz, Isfahan, Mashhad, and the capital city of Tehran during the 1890s. Crossing ethnic, class, and gender boundaries, popular unrest called for the cancellation of a monopoly concession over the production of tobacco that the central government had granted to a British company. Historians of the 1890s tobacco protest previously focused on internal political conflicts between government officials, merchants and clerics, the geostrategic rivalry between the Russian and British empires in the Middle East and Central Asia, and they explored how the protests would later lead to the Constitutional Revolution of 1905-11. Integrating these views into a new interpretation, Professor Kazemi examines the bottom-up forces that were equally important through an analysis of the public health crises of Qajar society in the 1890s. Ranin Kazemi, "Epidemics and Revolutions: The Case of Iran in the Late Nineteenth-Century Middle East," *Historian*, 80 (4), 749-790.

Some text provided from publishers' websites.

A Fun and Good Year for the Dwight E. Stanford Chair in US Foreign Relations! by Professor Pierre Asselin

This past academic year has been a most positive one for me, in no small part owing to the Dwight E. Stanford endowment supporting my position. Using funds from Mr. Stanford's generous gift, I have been able to coordinate a visit to campus by Daniel Ellsberg, "leaker" of the so-called *Pentagon Papers*, a top-secret Pentagon study of the U.S. government decision-making in Vietnam. Dr. Ellsberg's public talk at SDSU, attended by a crowd approximating 900, was made possible by additional funding and other support from various sources, including the History Department and the Dean's office. Dr. Ellsberg was generous enough with his time during his visit to join renowned Vietnam War scholar Larry Berman when he visited my graduate seminar on the Vietnam War, an experience none of us in attendance will soon forget.



I have been able to take advantage of personal connections to create a partnership between the USS Midway Museum and our History Department. Thanks to that budding partnership, the Museum made a very generous contribution in support of the Joan and Art Barron Veterans Center's successful effort to bring *New York Times* best-selling authors Sebastian Junger and Karl Marlantes to campus. Junger and Marlantes visited my undergraduate class on the Vietnam War prior to their public talk, affording students a unique opportunity to get a better sense of how young people live and experience war generally and combat specifically. Our Midway partnership has encouraged the History Department to do more in support of Military History. In my introductory remarks at the public session featuring Junger and Marlantes, I was pleased to announce the creation of our new SDSU Center for Military History, whose mission will be to promote the study of Military History on our campus through various initiatives, including public talks/lectures and financial support for student research in military and diplomatic archives.

Most recently, the Stanford endowment allowed me to bring to campus US Navy Captain Josh Taylor and Assistant Director General of the Diplomatic Academy of Vietnam Dr. Do Thanh Hai who, in separate instances, addressed the ongoing multinational dispute in the South China Sea.

Of all the great things I have been able to do with the Stanford gift, none has given me greater satisfaction than supporting student research and development. Stanford money partly financed graduate student Amanda Schumaker's travel to an archive at Smith College. This summer (2019), graduate student Aliyah Beiruti will mine the archives of the United Nations in New York in support of her research on Cold War Congo on Mr. Stanford's dime. Graduate student Cody Billock and undergraduate Jeremy Mazur will be joining me at a conference on the Vietnam War at Texas Tech University, their expenses covered by the Stanford endowment. Speaking of Cody: he spent the better part of the summer and fall of 2018 studying Vietnamese at the University of Social Sciences and Humanities (USSH) in Hanoi, Vietnam's most prestigious university. Cody's extended stay and studies were possible because of, on the one hand, very generous support from the Stanford fund and, on the other, the hospitality of Dr. Hoang Anh Tuan, USSH's Vice-Rector and a longtime personal friend, who opened his home to Cody and asked for nothing in return – except that Cody always be his polite self and help Dr. Tuan's family understand what exactly goes into a taco. Cody passed that test with flying colors, Dr. Tuan tells me!

To be sure, "great things are happening in History," as a man much wiser than I will ever be always says. The kindness, thoughtfulness, and generosity of Mr. Dwight E. Stanford plus the amazing students we have in our program and the remarkable support system I enjoy as the Stanford Chair in US Foreign Relations are part of the reason for that.

Albert W. Johnson Distinguished Professor Joanne Ferraro



Joanne M. Ferraro may be in the Faculty Early Retirement Program at SDSU, but the Albert W. Johnson Distinguished Professor of History Emerita and 2010 SDSU Faculty Alumni Award recipient is nowhere near putting her research and teaching interests to rest. She has just sent six volumes of *A Cultural History of Marriage from Antiquity to the Present* into production as General Editor with Bloomsbury Academic Press, also serving as editor of the Renaissance and early modern volume and co-editor of the medieval volume. This monumental scholarly anthology on a global

history of marriage through the ages is an important addition to her list of four single-authored monographs with Cambridge, Oxford, and Johns Hopkins presses and her recent study of the sex trade in early modern Venice in global comparison, which appeared in a 2018 issue of *The American Historical Review*.

Professor Ferraro's research and publications, funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities, the American Council of Learned Societies, and the Gladys Kriebel Foundation have revolved primarily around the history of the family in its urban context, to include the relations between family behavior and political power, the importance of marriage and childhood, and the condition of women in both married and unmarried states. She has also produced a comprehensive history of Venice (Cambridge 2012). Her teaching in the SDSU History program, however, is much broader, and emphasizes how critical the period between 1300 and 1700 was. Late medieval Italians ushered in a commercial revolution in the Mediterranean and adopted important aspects of material culture, knowledge, and technology from China, northern Africa, and southwestern Asia. Their Renaissance also witnessed a revival of classical models in art, history, and philosophy, a keen interest in humanistic study, and quantitative leaps in science and military technology. The period between 1500 and 1650, referred to as the Reformation era or the early modern age, was marked by dramatic religious change in the Catholic confession and the introduction of multiple Protestant denominations, European encounters and exchange with the Americas and Asia, the growth of state bureaucracies, and a resurgence of ecclesiastical authority in private life. The printing press accelerated the dissemination of knowledge, while new techniques in ship building, science, and navigation brought the globe closer to Europe. In short, the period witnessed no less than sweeping changes and thus Professor Ferraro's courses are an important part of SDSU's History curriculum.

While Professor Ferraro will still be with SDSU through 2020, when her tenure in the early retirement program ends, she has also been invited to teach elsewhere. She recently accepted a position as the Lewis P. Jones's Visiting Professor at Wofford College in Spartanburg, South Carolina. The endowed professorship, now in its twenty-second year, funds a distinguished historian to reside in Spartanburg for one semester and to teach a seminar in her or his expertise exclusively to history majors. Professor Ferraro is looking forward to the new experience of sharing her perspectives on Renaissance and early modern European history in the setting of a small, liberal arts college after 35 years of service to SDSU students and faculty.

Check out our website: <http://history.sdsu.edu>
Follow us on Facebook: @sdsuhistory



Invited Talks and Events by Guest Speakers to Campus

- John Martin of ABC News, “The Most Dangerous Man in America: Daniel Ellsberg and The Pentagon Papers,” Film Screening and Q&A, September 11, 2018
- Spy Novelist Adam Brookes and Jeffrey Wasserstrom of UC Irvine, “Big Brother States in Fact and Fiction: Thoughts on China and Other Places,” October 17, 2018
- Lissette Jimenez of San Francisco State, “The Sixth Sense: Multisensory Encounters with the Dead in Roman Egypt,” October 19, 2018
- Sam Wineburg of Stanford University, “Why Study History (When It’s Already on Your Phone),” November 15, 2018
- Danielle Bennett, “Will They Buy It? Athenian Vase-Painting As Targeted Advertising for Women,” November 30, 2018
- Phil Gioia, “Fighting & Surviving the Vietnam War: One Soldier’s Perspective,” February 5, 2019
- Andrew McClellan, “Dealing with Dead Bodies: Fact Vs. (Literary) Fiction,” March 1, 2019
- Captain Joshua P. Taylor, “US Policy in the South China Sea,” March 26, 2019
- Do Thanh Hai, “Vietnam and the South China Sea,” March 28, 2019
- David Carrasco of Harvard University, “Finding Atzlan in a Lost Mexican Codex,” Annual Appleby Lecture, April 19, 2019
- Filomena Limão, “Troia (Portugal) or the ‘Portuguese Troy:’ A Mystery on the

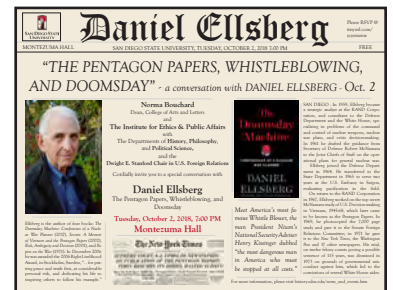
Events Co-Sponsored by the History Department

- Daniel Ellsberg, “The Pentagon Papers, Whistleblowing, and Doomsday,” October 2, 2018
- Debora D’Antonio, “Gender, Prisons, and Argentine State Terrorism in the 1970s,” November 14, 2018
- John Martin of ABC News, “Brazil Under Military Rule: 1964-1985,” January 29, 2019
- Karl Marlantes and Sebastian Junger, “Experiencing War: Our Military, Community, Families, Our Selves,” March 12, 2019
- Emily Bernard, “Black Women Writers on Art, Love, and Freedom: A personal Journey,” April 16, 2019

The 2018-2019 Masterclass Series

Designed to encourage student research and enhance future career development, these masterclasses provided our students with opportunities to network and engage in informal conversations with prominent researchers and professors invited to campus.

- Larry Berman of Georgia State University, Thoughts on Vietnam and Daniel Ellsberg, October 2, 2018
- Spy Novelist Adam Brookes and Jeffrey Wasserstrom of UC Irvine, “China’s Past and China’s Present: The Perils and Pay-Offs of Drawing Connections Between the Two,” October 17, 2018
- Lissette Jimenez of San Francisco State, “Collections in Context,” October 19, 2018
- David Carrasco, “When Strangers Come to Town: The Return of the Feathered Serpent,” April 19, 2019



USS Midway Foundation and SDSU Announce Partnership and Creation of New Endowed Chair in Modern U.S. Military History

News from The College of Arts and Letters:

San Diego State University will soon be the only public university on the West Coast with an interdisciplinary program in modern U.S. military history. Announced during a presentation aboard the USS Midway on Tuesday, June 11, the USS Midway Foundation has made a \$3 million, five-year pledge to create and fund an endowed chair in modern U.S. military history at SDSU.

Midway's board of directors unanimously approved its foundation gift during a meeting on Thursday, June 6, 2019. The USS Midway Chair gift is the single largest gift received by the university's College of Arts and Letters. The endowed chair will sit in the college's Department of History.



First Annual Dwight E. Stanford Graduate Student Conference



Report from Professor Paula De Vos:

I'm happy to report that we had a wonderful day at the Stanford Graduate history conference on Saturday. Eleven students gave a series of highly impressive presentations over the course of the afternoon. As I said in my concluding remarks, the presentations were as professional, well-researched, and effectively delivered as any that I have seen at professional conferences. The question-and-answer sessions were full of rich discussion, with the presenters further demonstrating expertise through their articulate and informed answers to the thoughtful questions presented by their peers in the audience. I'm very grateful to all of the presenters, and also to the graduate students who attended and showed so much collegiality and support. All presenters are to be congratulated, but I also wanted to single out Koba

Kay, John Gove, and Michael Campbell who won awards for outstanding presentations.

I would also like to thank Prof. Asselin for spurring us to take this on in the first place and for donating the money for refreshments and the evening reception at Oggi's, and I thank the other members of the Graduate Committee, Profs. Cline, Edgerton-Tarpley, Nieves, and Beasley as well as Brad Redmon for all of their help with the organization and execution of the conference. As I said, it was just a wonderful day - one of the highlights of my year, and in fact, a highlight of my 18-year career here at SDSU. I think I speak for everyone involved that we are really excited to make this an annual event and look forward to next year's conference!

The Editor's Note

*Editor-in-Chief of the Annual Newsletter: Pablo Ben
Associate Editor: Bradley Redmon*

We would like to receive stories from current and former students and faculty about their work and how they use their knowledge of history in different fields. Give us updates on any history related activities that you are involved with or where you are in life after graduation. You can contact us at history@sdsu.edu. You may also find an electronic version of our newsletter on our website - history.sdsu.edu/news_and_events.htm



Finding Aztlán in a Lost Mexican Codex: Places Left Unfinished at the Time of Creation

Appleby Lecture by Professor David Carrasco, Neil L. Rudenstine Professor of the Study of Latin America, Harvard University

Excited by a fascinating topic, a crowd of students, faculty, and people from throughout San Diego attended the annual Appleby lecture delivered this year on Friday, April 19th, by Prof. David Carrasco. The event was introduced by President Adela de la Torre and Andrew Wiese, Department of History Chair. Prof. Carrasco is one of the world's leading

experts on Aztec society and spirituality, and he took us through a journey of learning and personal transformation through the analysis of the history of Aztlán. An award-winning author of more than a dozen books on pre-contact Mesoamerican societies, Prof. Carrasco worked extensively on major archeological sites, including the discovery and exploration of the Aztec Templo Mayor in Mexico City. In addition to his wide-ranging historical scholarship on the Mesoamerican past, Dr. Carrasco is a prominent public intellectual, whose work on Chicano and indigenous identity and spirituality has been featured on PBS. He has also collaborated on projects with leading figures in the United States and Mexico, including Cornel West, Toni Morrison, and Carlos Fuentes. The Mexican government has awarded him the highest honor given to a foreign citizen, the Mexican Order of the Aztec Eagle, for his contributions to understanding the history and cultures of Mexico. The lecture focused on the intellectual adventure of rediscovery and group decipherment of the Mapa de Cuauhtinchan in which the search for Aztlán plays a prominent role. Dating back to the 1540s, painted on bark paper, and measuring some three by six feet, the Mapa de Cuauhtinchan is an extraordinary historical document. It contains over seven hundred images and symbols relating the story of the emergence of ancestors at Chicomoztoc, their migration to the sacred city of Cholula, their foundation and settlement of Cuauhtinchan, their community's history and claim over the surrounding landscape, and many other occurrences along the way. The talk touched upon the meanings and uses of the document, its complex narrative, and the social and ritual memory of an indigenous community struggling to hold its own in the turbulent atmosphere of early colonial Mexico.

News from Our Students

“After earning my Master's degree in history, I was appointed the Director of the USD TRIO McNair Scholars Program. Today, I help first-generation, low-income, and underrepresented students in pursuit of a PhD. It is personally and professionally rewarding work, which I would not be capable of doing without the analytical and communication skills I developed in my undergraduate and graduate training. I am absolutely certain that my academic training as a historian bestowed me with the skill set necessary for my current position. For me, studying history meant understanding how we arrived at our current situation. Most importantly, I learned that democracy is a participatory sport. I believe that an informed electorate is vital to a thriving democracy. It is the role of historians to ensure that we as a society understand the successes and failures of our past in order to create a more perfect union. Thus, one of the most exciting things I get to do in my current job is represent my students and program on Capitol Hill.” - Ramiro Frausto, B.A. and M.A. in History from SDSU



Congratulations to Ben Calabrese who is completing an internship with San Diego City Council President Pro Tem Barbara Bry, where he answers constituent concerns, researches policy issues and drafts citizens' recommendations.

Visiting Israeli Scholar Luba Levin-Banchik, Ph.D. Leading expert on world politics simulations

Dr. Luba Levin-Banchik is a political scientist and historian, studying the evolution of conflict and peace in contemporary international relations of the Middle East. Her expertise is in the field of global and regional security, international crisis escalation and recurrence, domestic and transnational terrorism, cooperation and violence between rivals, and non-state actors. Her current project focuses on what enemies do when they are not fighting and how their respite hostility affects crisis escalation into severe violence and wars. Dr. Levin-Banchik's research has been published in *Terrorism and Political Violence*, *Studies in Conflict and Terrorism*, and *Media, War & Conflict*.

Dr. Levin-Banchik's expertise also includes design, application, and study of active learning in higher education. Her book, *World Politics Simulations in a Global Information Age* (University of Michigan Press, 2015), coauthored with Hemda Ben-Yehuda and Chanan Naveh, examines face-to-face and cyber simulations in social science courses. Her recent study on a simulation of an Israeli security crisis over an Iranian plane has been published in the *Journal of Political Science Education*. Dr. Levin-Banchik is a co-founder of the World Politics Simulation project. She has been elected as a member-at-large of active learning in international affairs (ALIAS) section of International Studies Association for the 2018-2019 years.

Dr. Levin-Banchik has completed a two-year postdoctoral fellowship with the Israel Institute at the University of Toronto and the University of California, Davis. She has taught political science and international relations at Bar-Ilan University, Israel, where she has developed online courses for undergraduate and graduate students. In 2017, Dr. Levin-Banchik won the Teaching with Impact Best Syllabus prize of Israel Institute for the course she developed on "Terrorism and Counterterrorism: Israel."

Dr. Levin-Banchik will be teaching courses in the History and Political Science Departments. Her residency is also supported by the Israel Institute, the Murray Galinson San Diego-Israel Initiative, and the Lipinsky Institute for Jewish Studies endowment.



News from Our Students



We are excited to hear that M.A. graduate Emily Pace was recently hired to teach at the Lakeside School just outside Seattle (<https://www.lakesideschool.org/>), a school notable for its Global Service Learning initiative and for alums Bill Gates and Paul Allen (co-founders of Microsoft). Emily will be teaching World History and Big History, as well as a class called Bioethics and US History. Emily earned her B.A. at SDSU in 2007 and continued with us for her M.A., completing a thesis entitled "Parallel Lives: Sulpicia and Ban Zhao in a World Historical Context" in 2014, with Beth Pollard and Kate Edgerton-Tarpley as her advisors. Congratulations Emily!!!

We wish a successful career to Stephanie Griswold and Cole Parker, who will be pursuing graduate studies at two leading institutions. Stephanie Griswold (M.A. 2018) was accepted into the Graduate Theological Union and Claremont Graduate University Ph.D. programs. Cole Parker, one of our Phi Alpha Theta alumni, was accepted for graduate studies at Boston University.

Congratulations to Jeffrey Brown, one of our former students, who received his Ph.D. from the University of South Florida. His dissertation was entitled: "A Tall Ship: The Rise of the International Mercantile Marine."

Student Awards and Accomplishments

History Department's Scholarship Recipients

Rose Rastbaf: Andrew Bell Appleby Undergraduate Scholarship
Cassandra Tanks: Andrew Bell Appleby Undergraduate Scholarship
Angelica Cook: Katherine Ragen Memorial Scholarship
Tristan Whitaker: Katherine Ragen Memorial Scholarship
Christina Rhein: Kenneth and Dorothy Stott Memorial Scholarship
Victoria Chott: Lionel Ridout Memorial Scholarship
Jade Connolly-Cepurac: Lionel Ridout Memorial Scholarship
Jeremy Mazur: Lionel Ridout Memorial Scholarship
Kathya Lopez: Jon Sutherland Memorial Scholarship
Andrea Alvarado: Richard T. Ruetten Memorial Scholarship
Javier Gallardo: Colonial Latin American History Scholarship
Aliyah Beiruti: Elijah Blum Memorial Scholarship
Cassandra Tanks: Arthur C. Wimer History Prize

Matthew Trujillo: Outstanding Graduate in History
Kathryn St. Pierre: Outstanding Graduate in Social Science

Master of Arts Candidates

Alexandra Carson	Michael Lopez
Peter Del Nagro	Joshua Melendez
Stephen Dichiera	Aditi Parker
Devin Emery	Ricardo Scheller
Joanna Gardner	Amanda Schumaker
Leah Gregory	Alexandria Vasquez
Shayla Jacobs	Katie Waltman

History Honors Thesis Graduates

Johanna Bright	Javier Gallardo
Benjamin Calabrese	Jeremy Mazur
Jade Connolly-Cepurac	Lydia Ramirez
Shannon Farnsworth	Cassandra Tanks
Hannah Friesen	Matthew Wros

Student Research Symposium Awards

- **Scott Thiele, President's Award**, "Constructing a Meaning of Freedom: A Gendered Perspective of the Actions of Formerly Enslaved Men and Women in the American South, 1860-1880." **Won 1st prize at CSU SRS in Fullerton.** Mentor: Eve Kornfeld
- **Shannon Farnsworth, President's Award**, "The Fight for Tecolote Canyon and the Women Who Led It: Feminism and Environmental Politics in San Diego, CA, 1960s-1970s," **Presented at CSU SRS in Fullerton.** Mentor: Andrew Wiese
- **Cody Billock, President's Award**, "The Hue Massacre of 1968." **Presented at CSU SRS in Fullerton.** Mentor: Pierre Asselin
- **Benjamin Calabrese, Provost's Award**, "Caught between Two Worlds: The San Francisco Bisexual Center, 1976-1985." Mentor: Eve Kornfeld
- **John Gove, Library Award**, "Activism on the DL: The Gay Liberation Front at SDSU." Mentor: Paula De Vos
- **Sara Fakhoury, Library Award**, "Jewish Immigrant Children in 20th-century America: Dangling between Two Worlds." Mentor: Eve Kornfeld
- **Eric Johnson, Dean's Award**, "The Sacramento Squatters' Riots of 1850." Mentor: Eve Kornfeld
- **Cassandra Tanks, Research Award for Diversity, Inclusion, and Social Justice**, "The Black Freedom Struggle and the Cold War." Mentor: Pierre Asselin

Phi Alpha Theta

Phi Alpha Theta organized its first annual SDSU scavenger hunt on May 4. The event was open to all history majors, minors, lovers, and any SDSU students who wanted to partake in a scavenger hunt.

Members of Phi Alpha Theta were involved in a number of activities this past academic year. They took part in Explore SDSU, hosted Coffee and History Saturdays at local coffee shops, and collaborated with other Phi Alpha Theta groups at local colleges to have joint events. They were also successful in a Student Success Fee competition on SDSU campus and were awarded a grant to bring to campus Dr. Nayan Shah of University of Southern California to present on prison hunger protests on March 4. They have also partnered with Princeton Review to host a GRE workshop and got a discount code for their members.

Phi Alpha Theta is a History Honor Society with a local SDSU chapter. It is open to students who have taken four or more History classes. Being a Phi Alpha Theta member gives you the opportunity to do a lot of fun academic and non-academic activities with other fellow History students (including the opportunity to present at regional Phi Alpha Theta conferences). For more information please see: <https://phialphathetasdsu.weebly.com/> or email sdsu.pat@gmail.com.

News from Our Faculty

- Professor Ranin Kazemi was selected by Outstanding Graduate in History, Matthew Trujillo, as the Most Influential Professor
- Guided by Profs. David Cline, Angel David Nieves, and Elizabeth Pollard, several history students presented their work at the SDSU Digital Humanities Showcase on May 10th. The digital history projects developed a wide range of topics, from the San Diego LGBTQ History of resistance and segregation in Barrio Logan to the Punic wars, Roman women, witchcraft, etc.
- Professor Angel David Nieves was designated as diversity liaison officer for the College of Arts and Letters.
- On May 1 Prof. Elizabeth Pollard and Amanda Lanthorne exhibited SDSU's 15th century 'Hammer of Witches' at the Comic-Con Museum in Balboa Park while discussing "A Deep History of Witches in Popular Culture."
- On April 26-29, SDSU hosted an interdisciplinary conference named "Impact Zones and Liminal Spaces: The Culture and History of Surfing." Seventy presenters from ten countries discussed surfing from a wide variety of perspectives, such as: sustainability, history, culture, gender, race, and philosophy. The conference was sponsored by: CAL Dean's Office, School of Hospitality and Tourism Management, SDSU Center for Surf Studies, and the Departments of MALAS, History, Sociology, Women's Studies, Africana Studies, and American Indian Studies.
- Professor Sarah Elkind joined a panel discussion about the future of urban water systems at San Francisco's Commonwealth Club in March. You can hear the discussion at: <https://www.commonwealthclub.org/events/archive/podcast/water-wilderness-san-franciscos-water-supply-post-1906-and-era-climate>
- On March 18, 2019, Professor Beth Pollard represented the College of Arts & Letters at the University-Wide Assessment Forum, attended by the President, Provost, and more than one hundred fifty university stakeholders. As a part of the lightning-round session at the event, highlighting one exemplary assessment effort from each college, Pollard shared the History Department's evidence-based loop-closing related to their Historiography learning outcomes.
- As part of our effort to promote new disciplinary approaches, the department participated in the organization of a Digital Humanities Student Meet and Greet on March 13th that required no prior knowledge and was offered to everyone interested. Thanks to Professors Angel David Nieves and David Cline!
- On March 7th our students participated in an interdisciplinary history project with Professor Sarah Elkind, who shared some medieval woodworking technology with the SDSU Art Department.
- During this academic year, Profs. Eve Kornfeld, Paula De Vos and Erika Robb Larkins created new and unique courses as parts of the Arts Alive SDSU Interdisciplinary Collaborative Teaching Program. In Prof. Kornfeld's class, students led a conversation about their experiences of time in theatrical, dance, visual arts, and musical performances for the final. President Adela de la Torre and Provost Joseph Johnson participated in this conversation. Exciting interdisciplinary courses by Profs. De Vos and Larkin will be offered next year. Prof. De Vos will pair HIST 415 Pre-Contact and Colonial Latin America with Prof. Eva Strubble's Art 404, a painting class. Together, they will prepare a mural for the new Aztec healing garden planned for campus. Prof. Larkin will be co-teaching history of Brazil in collaboration with Kevin Delgado's Ethnomusicology class in the Music Department.
- On Monday, December 10th, 2018, students in HIST 574 simulated an Israeli-Palestinian Peace Conference for their class. This is a course taught by visiting Prof. Luba Levin-Banchik, who reported that it was a productive conference where "Israel and the Palestinian Authority agreed on what they disagree and outlined a list of five most urgent issues for discussions." Other participating countries in this simulated conference "offered their perspective and ideas for a solution."
- On Tuesday, December 4th, 2018, Prof. Pierre Asselin reflected on the legacy of President George H.W. Bush on San Diego Fox 5.
- Thanks to the efforts and organization of Prof. Kornfeld, on Thursday, November 15th, 2018, Prof. Sam Wineburg, the Margaret Jacks Professor of Education and History at Stanford University, lectured about the teaching of history to a large crowd of students and faculty at the Don Powell Theater on the SDSU campus. Entitled "Why Learn History? (When It's Already on Your Phone)" the lecture encouraged "a critical examination of why historical thinking is essential to critical analysis and engaged citizenship in a digital world."

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