



# Montana State University

HISTORY AND PHILOSOPHY

OCTOBER 2007

## No Refuge: Some research notes for an Arctic history.

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For the past several summers I have traveled to the Arctic, exploring the rivers running through the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and paddling solo along the Beaufort Sea coast. When historians head off for their summer research, libraries and archives are the usual destinations. Exchanging the risks of paper-cuts and archival mold allergies for cold-water immersion and polar bear encounters, these northerly visits have served as the basis for my research. It is through these trips that I have begun to imagine a book that will consider the history of the refuge.



I want to adopt an approach from the roots of environmental historical writing, what a group of early twentieth-century French historians called *la longue durée*. What happens when we consider changes in this northern environment over hundreds, even thousands of years? Casting the book's coverage over centuries allows one to interpret change in critically different ways. Northern native people emerge as central actors over the long human history in the Arctic, as do the swings of climate change that have long influenced the region.

Much of the present discussion concerning the Refuge considers the region as pristine, an untouched and un-peopled space. But such conclusions ignore this other history of earlier human impacts. Beginning in the nineteenth century the western Arctic and its peoples experienced the first sustained contact with Europeans: fur traders, occasional gold prospectors, and



New England whalers pursuing their oil-rich quarry into the Arctic Ocean. During this period, the migratory caribou were over hunted as native people supplied the intruders with meat. Earlier, the region's musk-ox had been eliminated by native hunters.

Accurate understandings of long-term historical processes will allow for less ideological and more precise understandings of what is at stake in the Arctic. The Arctic is not some remote region. The age of oil has brought this northern periphery into the center of

global economic change, as well as global climate change. If once there was *la longue durée*, then that era in human time has ended. If once human societies experienced change over broad sweeps of time and reacted to the slow undulations of earth climate, then that time has passed. History, specifically two hundred years of industrial civilization, appears to have inaugurated a new phase. In this new era there is no refuge.

-Robert Campbell



# Greetings from the Chair

I'm not exaggerating when I say that we owned last spring's Honors Night banquet. The banquet is the occasion when the President, Provost, and MSU Foundation honor faculty, graduate students, and bestow honorary doctorates on friends of the university. Our Department was recognized all night long.

Susan Cohen was chosen for the prestigious Cox Family Faculty Excellence Award, which recognizes creative scholarship and teaching. Mary Murphy was chosen for the James and Mary Ross Provost's Award for Excellence, which recognizes excellence in teaching and scholarship. Megan Raby, an MA student in the Department, received an Outstanding Graduate Student Award from the Division of Graduate Education. And, if those prizes were not enough, dear friend of

the Department, Adrienne Mayor, received an honorary doctorate from President Gamble. To say that the Department was well represented would be an understatement.

Shortly after the Honors Night banquet, I traveled to Israel to visit Cohen's archaeological site at Tel Zahara. Under a blazing sun, I dug for several days and watched students from Montana State University participate in this once in a lifetime experience.

What an opportunity

for young Montanans. I returned to find that David Large had published *Nazi Games*, which had already received rave reviews from the *New York Times*. Philosopher Kristen Intemann had published in the journal *Nature*, the indisputable gold standard for most scientists. Several Department members were finishing books with prestigious publishers: Michael Reidy with Chicago, Dan Flory with Penn State, Yanna Yannakakis with Duke, and Robert Campbell with Penn. Tim LeCain and I had just been awarded a \$306,000 NSF grant and Robert Rydell landed his third Teaching American History grant, which will funnel millions to bettering K-12 education in our community.

This summer my mind raced with the dizzying success of our graduate students. One of the best of the litter, Jerry Jesse, decided to stay at Montana State and pursue his PhD with us. His colleagues, James Allison, Michael Wise, and Megan Raby accepted offers from Virginia, Minnesota, and Wisconsin, respectively. Our students distinguished themselves mightily at the Fourth Annual Michael P. Malone Conference, which we jointly undertook with the University of Wisconsin at Chico Hot Springs. It's little surprise that they were so superbly placed.

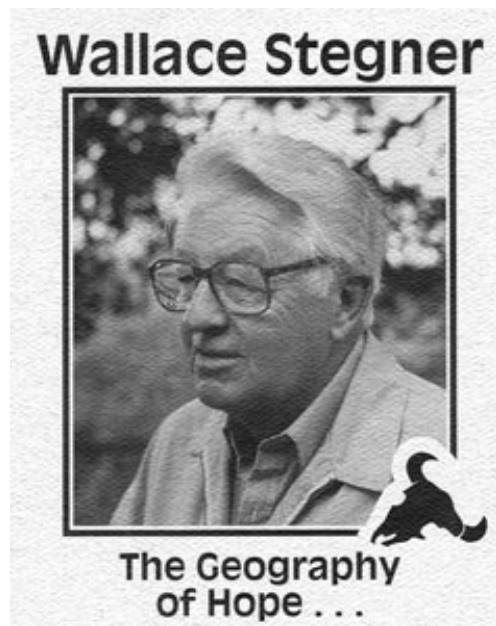
Every year, the Department reestablishes its reputation as one of the finest academic units at Montana State. As alumni, I encourage you to remain involved with the Department. I know many alumni practice law, teach in high schools and universities, work in the public sector, and engage in lively businesses, but staying involved with the Department is one way to remind yourself of what made you fall in love with the study of history, philosophy, and religion in the first place. After all, it's our alumni's successes – and there're many of them – that remind us of why we fell in love with teaching. So, check out our website for upcoming lectures and functions and stay in touch.



**Brett L. Walker, Chair**

Photo by Susan Cohen

## Wallace Stegner Chair of Western Studies



This academic year will be a spectacular one for the Stegner Chair. The Department is proud to announce that David Quammen will once again serve as the Distinguished Professor of Western American Studies, and that he'll present two Stegner Lectures at the Hager Auditorium in the Museum of the Rockies. The fall lecture is slated for October 11, 2007, and is titled "Thirteen Dead Gorillas: Zoonotic Disease and the Future of Human Health." It corresponds with a forthcoming *National Geographic* article, for which David spent time in Africa researching Ebola disease. The spring lecture has yet to be announced, so stay tuned to the webpage, but it will likely reflect one of David's ongoing scientific or literary research interests. Last spring, his lecture on "Darwin and Religion" drew hundreds to the Museum of the Rockies and, sadly, not everybody was able to attend. The Department expects a similar turnout for this year's events.

Last year, David and his wife Betsy Gaines-Quammen hosted the Stegner Seminars, which explored the topic of disease and history, at their home. This year, they will again host separate Stegner Seminars during the fall and spring semesters, the first one on biography. Just imagine it: sitting down with David in his home, sampling aromatic cheeses, drinking fruity red wines, and thinking big thoughts. It would be a rare opportunity for anybody, and it's one of the activities that make the Department's MA and PhD programs so special.

On April 28, 2008, the Department is privileged to announce that Dr. Jane Goodall will give a "Friends of Stegner Lecture" at the Brick Breeden Fieldhouse. This event will also be sponsored by the President's Office, the Provost's Office, the College of Letters and Science, the ASMSU/Leadership Institute, and the Tributary Fund. Stay tuned to the Department webpage for more information regarding this important event.

Finally, at the same time that the Stegner Chair is celebrating new heights of student and community-oriented intellectual life, this year will see Gordon Brittan's retirement from Montana State University. As most of you know, Gordon was responsible for bringing Wallace Stegner to campus and he began the fund-raising for the Stegner Chair. Gordon is a friend and mentor, and the university will sorely miss his Stegner leadership. It is imperative that Gordon's work not go partially completed, and the Department will spare no effort to see to the completion of the Stegner Chair. It is important that events such as those listed above become a regular part of our community.

-Brett L. Walker

If you are interested in giving to the Stegner Chair, visit the website at <http://cls.wilson.montana.edu:16080/stegner/>

**Compiler:**

Diane S. Cattrell

**Editors:**

Diane S. Cattrell  
Mary Murphy

**Images By:**

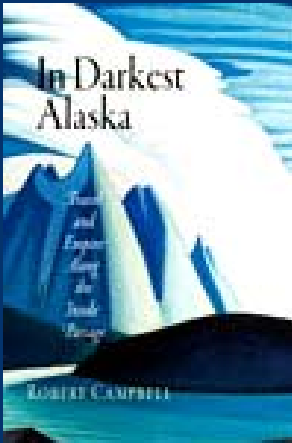
Robert Campbell  
Deidre Manry

*Newsletter to be published  
annually by the Department of  
History and Philosophy*

# Faculty Books

## Robert Campbell

*In Darkest Alaska: Travel and Empire Along the Inside Passage* (Penn Press, 2007).

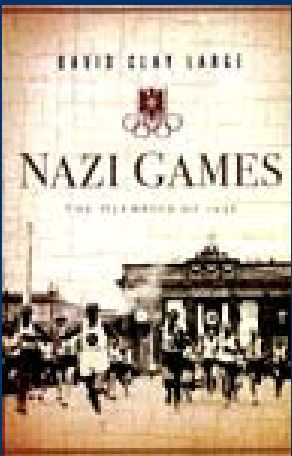


Before Alaska became a mining bonanza, it was a scenic bonanza, a place larger in the American imagination than in its actual borders. Prior to the great Klondike Gold Rush of 1897, thousands of scenic adventurers journeyed along the Inside Passage, the nearly thousand-mile sea-lane that snakes up the Pacific coast from Puget Sound to Icy Strait. Both the famous, including wilderness advocate John Muir, landscape painter Albert Bierstadt, and photographers Eadweard Muybridge and Edward Curtis, and the long forgotten, a gay ex-sailor, a former society reporter, an African explorer, and a neurasthenic Methodist minister, returned with fascinating accounts of their Alaskan journeys, becoming advance men and women for an expanding United States.

*In Darkest Alaska* explores the popular images conjured by these travelers' tales, as well as their influence on the broader society. Drawing on lively first-hand accounts, archival photographs, maps, and other ephemera of the day, historian Robert Campbell chronicles how Gilded Age sightseers were inspired by Alaska's bounty of evolutionary treasures, tribal artifacts, geological riches, and novel thrills to produce a wealth of highly imaginative reportage about the territory. By portraying the territory as a "Last West" ripe for American conquest, tourists helped pave the way for settlement and exploitation.

## David Large

*Nazi Games: The Olympics of 1936* (Norton, 2007).

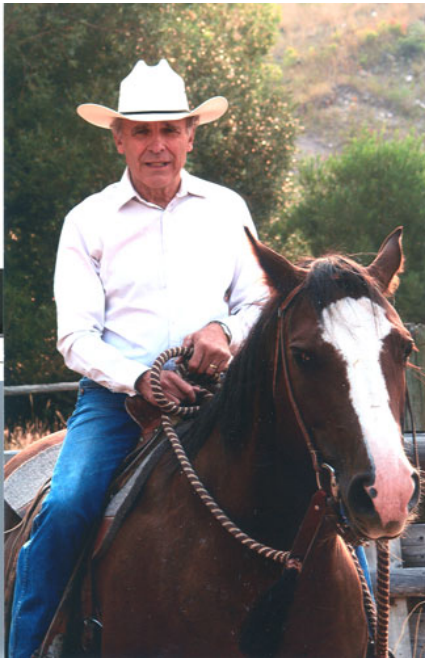


*Nazi Games* is the first comprehensive history of the most controversial of all modern Olympic festivals, those of 1936, which were held in Garmisch-Partenkirchen (Winter Games) and Berlin (Summer Games). According to Geoffrey Wheatcroft, in the *New York Times*, "Over and again the words 'sports must be kept free from politics,' have been intoned; over and again, as David Large shows in his informative and stimulating '*Nazi Games*', the two have been inextricably mixed, never more so than at the 1936 Olympics held in Berlin."

This book examines in detail the politics surrounding the games, focusing on the international effort to stage a boycott of the Berlin Olympiad. It seeks to dispel many lingering myths about these games, including the one that Jesse Owens was "snubbed" by Adolf Hitler after winning his four gold medals. (In fact, Owens turned out to be an admirer of Hitler.) In an epilogue, *Nazi Games* discusses the impact of the 1936 festival on future Olympiads and draws parallels between the controversies surrounding the award of the games to Nazi-governed Berlin and Communist-controlled Beijing.

# A Scholar-Citizen

by James Allard and Robert W. Rydell



Corky Brittan, with his regular riding horse, Blaze.

This academic year marks Gordon Brittan's last year of full-time teaching at Montana State University. How do we encapsulate the career of a man who is self-described as "The luckiest man alive?" He may well be and we, through association, consider ourselves to be the most fortunate department on campus.

"Corky," as he prefers to be called by his friends, arrived at Montana State in 1973 and since then he has probably taught close to 20,000 undergraduates. Corky has been a model both for his students and his colleagues by virtue of his engagement with intellectual issues, his willingness to experiment with his courses, and his commitment to his students. Hearing Corky praised by students is a common occurrence; hearing Corky praise the fine intellects and insightful writings of his students is as common. Predictably, he has received all of the University's major teaching awards.

Corky received his B.A. from Amherst and his Ph.D. from Stanford, working with Donald Davidson, the most important American philosopher of his generation. Corky took a position at the University of California at Irvine, where he received tenure. After he and his wife Vanessa bought a ranch on Mission Creek, Corky applied for a position at Montana State. The Department knew that it was getting a brilliant philosopher when it hired him. What it didn't know was that it was getting a scholar-citizen who would help transform the Department into one of the University's finest.

Corky has received all of Montana State's major research awards and also received the University's main outreach award. He wrote the 1992 \$750,000 National Humanities Challenge Grant that was awarded to the University, working heroically to raise the matching funds. He also serves as the Executive Director of the Burton K. Wheeler Center for Public Policy, which has held numerous conferences on public issues of concern to citizens of Montana. His service includes the Mellon Fellowship Selection Committee, the North American Kant Society, the American Philosophical Association Committees, and editorial boards of philosophical journals. In recognition of his stellar achievements, Corky was named the University's first Regents' Professor in 1986.

The focus of Corky's scholarship is the intersection of the philosophy of science with the history of philosophy, particularly eighteenth-century philosophy. The philosophy of science text he wrote with Karel Lambert has gone through four editions and has been translated into five languages. His book, *Kant's Theory of Science*, is now a classic. Corky has also published on an unusually diverse number of issues that range from algebra to environmentalism and from cosmology to the minds of antelope.

Corky has spoken at numerous American and European universities; he personally knows many of the foremost philosophers in the world. After one of his lectures at Tufts University, Daniel C. Dennett, then the Director for the Center of Cognitive Studies, wrote in a thank you letter to Corky: "We've had lots of 'distinguished' philosophers give colloquium talks at Tufts, and a few of them have been as philosophically acute and interesting as yours, but I can't remember one that was as gracefully presented...It reminded me instantly and happily of many moments of Brittanic majesty back at UCI. Back then I thought it was the good old Amherst influence: casual, tweedy, but deeply learned and effortlessly eloquent...a performance of academic theater, and yet so natural and straightforward. I was very proud of the example you set – Montana reminding Massachusetts of what Massachusetts used to be capable of!"

That is our tweedy Corky and we look forward to his continued influence on the Department. As he says, "He will still be 'around,' no doubt teaching part-time, writing, and continuing his civic engagement. Just as he helped to redefine the Department, it appears that he will be giving new meaning to the word "retirement."

“The Way, after all, rests with those who are princes and teachers. Accomplished teachers always take their audiences into consideration and, applying gentle care over a long period of time, foster intellectual growth of the listeners and alter their way of thinking and of understanding things.”

Ogyu Sorai  
(1666-1728)

## Faculty News

**Jim Allard** has had three papers published this year and he continues to glory in the wonders of nineteenth-century logic.

**Gordon Brittan** gave lectures in March in Paris at the Ecole Polytechnique and in Aix at the Universite de Provence on the topic of “Liberte et Fatalite.” The CD version of “Isaac Newton’s New Physics”, which was narrated by Edwin Newman, was issued by Blackstone.

**Susan Cohen** directed the second season of archeological excavations at Tel Zahara, got tenure, and muddled about Jerusalem for the summer, with frequent side-trips to different beaches throughout the Mediterranean and Red Sea.

**Dan Flory** is on sabbatical in Cairo, Egypt and copy-editing the manuscript of his forthcoming book, *Philosophy, Black Film, Film Noir* (Penn State University Press). He has an essay on race and racism forthcoming in *The Routledge Companion of Philosophy and Film*, a reprint of an earlier essay forthcoming in *The Spike Lee Reader* (Temple University Press), and published two essays this year, one on Alfred Hitchcock's

*Vertigo* and one on the African-American film noir *Deep Cover*. While in Egypt he plans to research whether Cleopatra was ever considered a *femme fatale*.

**Kristen Intemann** had the pleasure of coaching the undergraduate Ethics Bowl team as they took second place in the regional Ethics Bowl competition and competed at the national level. She also has been working on a series of articles demonstrating cases where scientists must (and should!) make ethical and social value judgments. These include an article “Can Ethical Reasoning Contribute to Better Epidemiology? A Case Study in Research on Racial Health Disparities,” which was published this past spring in the *European Journal of Epidemiology* and a recent correspondence piece in *Nature* on financial conflicts of interest in science. This summer she began research on a new case study in stem-cell research with Professor Inmaculada de Melo Martin of Cornell University Medical School.

**David Large's** recently published book, *Nazi Games: The Olympics of*

*1936*, has been well reviewed in major newspapers in the US and UK. Large has signed contracts for Japanese and Italian translations of the book. He recently submitted an article to the magazine *Historically Speaking* (Boston University) on America in the 1936 Olympics. Large will be attending a conference in Vienna in November focusing on Germany's and Austria's role in the E.U. and in late December, he will deliver a paper in Athens entitled “‘A Bridge to the Ancients’: Nazi Germany and the Legacy of the Classical Olympic Games.” The newly revised Sixth Edition of his textbook, *The End of the European Era: Europe, 1890 to the Present* (Norton) goes into production in October.

**Tim LeCain** collaborated with Brett Walker to win a major three-year research grant from the National Science Foundation. LeCain also published an article in the January issue of *Montana: The Magazine of Western History* entitled, “‘See America the Bountiful’: Butte's Berkeley Pit and the American Culture of Consumption.” His book manuscript, “Mass Destruction: How Open Pit

## Faculty News Continued

Mining Built the Modern World and Scarred the Planet,” is currently under review by a university press.

**Carla Nappi** finished a post-doctoral fellowship at the Rutgers Center for Historical Analysis. While at Rutgers, she began work on early modern Chinese-Arabic medical exchange. This is part of a new project on changes in Chinese medicine and natural history that came with expansion of the Chinese empire in early modernity; Carla will be presenting that research at three conferences this year. She has received an advance contract from Harvard University Press for her book manuscript, “The Monkey of the Inkpot: Natural History and Transformations in Early Modern China,” and spent the summer writing three articles and a painting/fiction project based on that work.

**Michael Reidy** published *Exploration and Science: Social Impact and Interaction* with ABC-CLIO in December, 2006, and has just recently finished his manuscript, “Tides of History: Ocean Science and Her Majesty’s Navy,” to be published by the University of Chicago Press in January, 2008. This term he is on sabbatical to begin researching a new topic. He will travel to London, Cambridge, and Oxford during the fall semester to look at the letters and corre-

spondence of British mountaineers in the nineteenth century - from Charles Darwin and Joseph Hooker to Edward Whymper and Halford John Mackinder - in the archives of the Royal Geographical Society and the Alpine Club. His research will focus specifically on the relationship between science and mountaineering in the age of empire. He is also working on creating a course on the history of mountaineering, which he hopes to teach as a Capstone Seminar. Arlo, his faithful companion, is staying put in Bozeman; he is excited about all those willing to walk him and keep him company through the cold winter days.



Arlo, listening to a description of Michael’s research.

**Robert Rydell** continues his efforts to raise money for the Humanities Institute. This past year, the Institute helped sponsor lectures by Harvard biologist E.O. Wilson and Stanford stem-cell researcher Irving Weissman. Prof. Rydell continues to work on “Teaching American History” projects and, along with Jim Bruggeman, wrote a new grant for \$1M that was just funded. This new three-year project is dedicated to “The West as U.S.” In addition, Bob continues work on several world’s fair exhibits and has received a sabbatical for the Spring

term to begin work on a new book that looks at the past and future of world’s fairs.

**Billy G. Smith** edited an issue, “Class in Early America,” of the *William and Mary Quarterly*, widely acknowledged as the best journal in early American history. His edited book, *Class Matters: Early North America and the Atlantic World*, will be published by the University of Pennsylvania press early next year. Billy also undertook research in archives in London, gathering material for his *Ship of Death*, the deadline for which will be going whishing past before he’s ready (his prediction, not ours.)

**Brett Walker** finished his manuscript “The Toxic Archipelago,” which will be published by the Weyerhaeuser Series at the University of Washington Press, and has several article-length projects underway, including a chapter titled “Animals and the Intimacy of History” for the Oxford Compendium for Environmental History. He likes riding mountain bikes, particularly at night.

**Yanna Yannakakis’** book “The Art of Being In-Between: Native Intermediaries, Indian Identity, and Local Rule in Colonial Oaxaca” will be coming out in Spring 2008 from Duke University Press. She will also have a chapter in the book *Indian Conquistadors: Native Militaries in the Conquest of Mesoamerica* forthcoming from University of Oklahoma Press this fall. During the spring semester, she will have research leave to work on her new book project “Travel, Landscape, and Territoriality in Colonial Oaxaca.”

# Student Organization News

## Ethicats

### GO ETHICATS!

A new team is now gearing up for this year's regional competition, which will be held in Seattle, WA this November. The top three teams from there will advance to the national competition in San Antonio, Texas in February 2008. The team is being coached by Kristen Intemann, Assistant Professor of Philosophy.

Is it ethical for rare art to be cremated with its owner? Does banning protests at military funerals violate the right to free speech? Should deaf couples be allowed to select a sperm donor who's likely to give them a deaf child?

This past year, a group of five undergraduate philosophy majors from MSU (otherwise known as the "Ethicats") tackled questions like these while competing in the Intercollegiate Ethics Bowl put on by the Association for Practical and Professional Ethics.

The Ethics Bowl is an academic competition where teams of students are asked questions about a series of "real life" ethical cases from a variety of areas including biomedical ethics, environmental ethics, business ethics, Constitutional rights, and other contemporary moral issues. A panel of judges scores each team's answer for quality and depth of reasoning, consistency, focus, clarity, and their ability to draw on moral theories and principles. During the competition, students must respond to objections and questions from other teams, as well as the panel of judges.

Last November, the team from Montana State University earned second place in the Northwest Regional Ethics Bowl, and was one of the top thirty-two teams in the country at the National Ethics Bowl in February 2007. So, hearty congratulations are in order to team members Liz Arce, Roger Hunt, Justus Johnson, Kevin Lande, and Denean Standing.

"It has been a great experience to develop arguments with other students," says junior philosophy major Roger Hunt. "Initially philosophy seems like an individual practice. That is misguided. Through this experience, I have learned how philosophy is a product of group work, much like a lab team in a science course."

Senior philosophy major Denean Standing agrees, "I enjoy it very much. I don't think we take the time in our lives to think if things are ethical or unethical, so it's fun to think about ethical things in the real world."

-Kristen Intemann



**The ETHICATS raised provocative questions about the ethical implications of stem-cell research with Dr. Irving Weissman.**



# Student Organization News Continued

## Phi Sigma Tau

We are very happy to announce that Montana State University has received a charter from Phi Sigma Tau, the international honor society in philosophy. The detailed petition for the charter was prepared by Justus Johnson and it was accepted at the very end of the semester last spring. The Society was founded at Muhlenberg College in 1930 as a regional society and incorporated in 1956 as a national society. It became international in 1991 and there are now over 200 chapters. The purpose of Phi Sigma Tau is to develop and honor academic excellence as well as to promote interest in philosophy among college students. Students are eligible for membership if they have completed two semesters or the equivalent at an accredited university, rank in the upper 35% of their class and have completed two semester courses in philosophy with a mean average higher than a "B." The one time initiation fee is \$25.00. Members receive the journal of the society, *Dialogue*, published twice yearly, which contains papers, discussion notes, and book reviews written by students. Members also receive the society's newsletter published two or three times a year.

Current officers are Justus Johnson, President, Kevin Lande, Vice-President, Olin Robus, Secretary, and Evan Johnson, Treasurer. Additional members include Chris Hensleigh and Blake Thompson. Jim Allard is Chapter Advisor.

-James Allard

## Phi Alpha Theta

Phi Alpha Theta's three main events in the year are the silent auction in December, the Spring lecture series, and the PAT Northwest Regional Conference in April. The one thing these all have in common is that we could not do them without faculty support. In December we ask you for money, in March we ask you to give us your time, and in April we ask for critical assessment of our work.

In regard to the past year's conference, I want to single out our advisor, Yanna Yannakakis, who was great to work with and even more fun to travel with. I also want to thank Brett Walker for going to bat for us with the Dean and getting extra money so that we could get three extra students to the Conference. Montana State had one of the largest groups of students present at the conference outnumbering schools in Oregon and Washington that were much closer to Lincoln City. I think this not only reflects the great support we receive here, but also shows the quality and depth of the History Program at Montana State. As an undergraduate you always like to think the program you're in is a good one, and yet unless you've transferred from other schools you don't really have a sense of how your school stacks up. Well, in addition to having a chance to present your work in a professional public forum, the PAT conference also lets you have a peek at how you and your school does stack up. I can honestly say that I feel very good to be in the History Program at Montana State and after attending the PAT conference and seeing what else was out there I feel even more so.

The interim student president is Medellee Antonionli, and the PAT email address is:  
msu\_phialphatheta@yahoo.com

-Chris Hensleigh

## Historian Goes to Jail

Michael Reidy  
on teaching  
Jail House  
Philosophy:

“Some of the inmates read the entire entry several times and come to the class with copious notes and questions.”

Although education has a proven track record in helping with the rehabilitation of inmates, almost all education in our jails is either religious based or practical/vocational. There is very little else around the nation and absolutely nothing else at the Gallatin County Jail. Courtney Duchin, a psychologist working for Gallatin Mental Health, approached me this summer with the idea of offering inmates a six-week liberal arts class that focuses specifically on topics other than religion or the practical arts. I began teaching the course, “Jail House Philosophy,” in mid-August and will continue until early October. The course focuses on questions of ethics and social justice by writers from the Enlightenment through the twentieth century. I picked texts or essays that were written either while the author was incarcerated or at least outlined while in prison, including Voltaire’s *Candide*, Thoreau’s “Essay on Civil Disobedience,” and King’s “Letter from a Birmingham Jail,” to name a few. The Department paid for the purchase of texts and materials. Inmates read the selection for the week and come prepared to discuss the issues on Friday evenings between 7:00 and 8:30 pm. All I do is give a quick background to the readings and lead discussion. The pilot class includes seven inmates ranging in age from twenty to sixty, though future classes may increase in size. Some of the inmates read the entire entry several times and come to the class with copious notes and questions. As some of the readings (*Candide*, for instance) are openly hostile to religion, the course not only generates animated discussions and ruffles some feathers, but I also believe that it is achieving its goal: to give inmates alternative ways of looking at the world and acting in a socially conscious manner. It has been an extremely positive experience already, and I hope to continue teaching the class in the future. If others would like to teach a similar class, please contact me or Courtney Duchin (cduchin@att.net). We are in need of a replacement teacher while I am on sabbatical.



**1117890000462**

-Michael Reidy

## History Detectives Put on the White Gloves

Professor Mary Murphy and Michael Wise, a recent graduate of our M.A. program, both spent several weeks this summer as Resident Fellows at the Buffalo Bill Historical Center (BBHC) in Cody, Wyoming. Hosted by the Cody Institute for Western American Studies, Murphy and Wise both completed research on L.A. Huffman, a nineteenth-century photographer from Miles City, Montana. Unlike many other well-known, early Montana photographers, Huffman is not noted for his landscapes. Rather, his work focused on the people and the labor that transformed central Montana from a wild grassland to a bounded region of roads, bridges, ranches, and oil derricks.



Huffman corresponded with some of the most influential scientists, politicians, artists, conservationists, and industrialists of his era. He also took hundreds, perhaps thousands, of pictures—many preserved only as photographic negatives. BBHC's Huffman Collection consists of hundreds of photographs, negatives, and letters that help document the social, economic, and environmental transformations that affected Montana during the years between the Civil War and the Great Depression. Even more exciting, this rich assortment of material had been unavailable to the public until recently.

Professor Murphy concentrated her research on Huffman's many professional and personal relationships with various western artists, writers, and politicians. Murphy is working on a book about photography and gender, and she plans to incorporate her research on Huffman. Michael Wise, currently a PhD student at the University of Minnesota, is not writing a book, and is not yet even writing his dissertation, but maybe someday his research will find its way into book form. Wise researched Huffman's involvement with conservation organizations like the American Bison Society and his simultaneous investment in several oil development projects northwest of Miles City: endeavors that Huffman tried to reconcile through appeals to early-twentieth-century visions of science and modernity.

Murphy and Wise enjoyed their fellowships and assisted one another during the research process. Interestingly, however, they only learned that they both had applied after they had been selected.

- Michael Wise

### Walker and LeCain Win Major NSF Grant

Professors Brett Walker and Tim LeCain received \$306,000 from the National Science Foundation to conduct a three-year project comparing historical pollution problems at copper mines in Japan and the United States. The grant provides funding for two MSU graduate students each year who will assist Walker and LeCain in an intensive search of archival sources. The project will compare how Montanans and Japanese residents dealt with the technology, science and pollution associated with two huge copper mines, one at Butte/Anaconda and the other at Ashio, Japan. The ultimate product of the grant will be a co-authored book by Walker and LeCain.

The entire process will also continue to develop MSU's graduate program in history. "The grant funds our research, but also funds what is a very vibrant, active graduate program," Walker said.

-Timothy LeCain

### Teaching American History Grant

#### TAH III

The Department is once again partnering with the Bozeman School District on a new Teaching American History Program dedicated to helping K-12 teachers better teach their students about American history. The US Department of Education has awarded the District another \$1M grant for this project, which explores the significance of the American West for American history. This grant involves both Bozeman-area teachers and teachers from across central and eastern Montana who will have the opportunity to work with MSU faculty through a series of workshops and seminars that will take place in various venues around the state. This grant will build on the success of our earlier TAH projects that focused on the rise of Modern America and teaching history with biography.

-Robert W. Rydell

## Graduate Student News

### Graduate Students New to the Program, Fall 2007

#### MA Students:

Hali Camper

Heather D'Orazio

Denzil Ford

Virginia Genito

#### PhD Students:

Jerry Jessee

Paul Sivitz

**Patrick Callaway** is working on a paper for publication about law, focused in early modern England and on how English legal traditions evolved in the American colonies. Specifically, the paper explores the use of capital punishment, how the use of capital punishment evolved in the colonies, and the creation of colonial slave law codes.

**Pete Faggen** received his M.A. in May 2007 and entered an intensive two month summer language institute at the University of Virginia to begin further study of Tibetan. He intends to spend much of this year in India familiarizing himself more with the Tibetan culture for future scholarly research while applying to PhD programs, both in cultural anthropology and Religious Studies.

**Michael Fox** visited several tribal cultural sites and museums over the summer. As Curator of History at the Museum of the Rockies, he is working closely with tribal representatives and the Montana Office of Public Instruction to ensure that the Museum's Native American galleries are in accord with the state's Indian Education for All initiative. Additionally, Fox will be working with the MOR's Native American

Advisory Council on the reinterpretation of its Native American exhibitions.

**Bob Gardner** organized a panel for the ASEH conference in March 2008, entitled "Constructing Forests: The Nature of Science, technology, and Ideology in North American Timberlands."

**Alicia Murphy** was a summer intern at Yellowstone's Heritage Research Center museum in Gardiner, MT. She cataloged and housed objects from the Davis Collection, which includes everything from early tourist photo albums to Haynes' prints to Pendelton blankets. She also assisted with the annual inventory and designed an exhibit featuring Yellowstone's first naturalist, Milton P. Skinner. This experience will be invaluable as Alicia begins work on her Master's paper, which will deal with early Park concessionaire workers and will rely heavily on the HRC's materials.

**Bradley Snow** is officially ABD, as he passed his oral and written examinations. Bradley has been boning up on the histories of lead, lead mining and smelting, and their connections to human health. He has made two forays into the University of Idaho Library's archives, digging into the records of the Bunker Hill & Sullivan Min-

ing Company, a major lead producer that operated in and around Kellogg, Idaho for much of the 20th Century.

**Constance Staudohar** packed her Spanish dictionary, a couple of swimsuits, and insect repellent and headed to Universiudad Veritas in San Jose, Costa Rica to study Espanol Basico and Agricultural and Environmental Issues. The experience jump-started her foreign language study, provided an awareness and appreciation of Costa Rica's role in creating sustainable environments, and allowed for lively weekend getaways to both the Caribbean and Pacific Coasts.

**Wendy Zirngibl** spent her third summer in YNP researching and cataloguing wolf skulls for further study and storage at the Heritage & Research Center, where she works as a seasonal museum technician. Zirngibl processes each of the skulls by compiling each animal's life history and relevance to the population and recording the skull's unique physical characteristics. This work supplements her ongoing study of the Yellowstone elk and its relationships to these reintroduced predators, other ungulates, and humans.

## Emerti Corner

**Jeff Safford's** recent activity includes:

- Teaching an Advanced Tutorial, History 489, Fall Semester;
- Organizing a humanistically-centered, interdisciplinary symposium commemorating Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy's 200<sup>th</sup> birthday in 2009;
- Spinning off articles from studies of 1860s Montana Gold Mining, and U.S. Maritime Policy and Diplomacy, 1936-1950;
- Historian to the MSU Field House 50th Anniversary Committee;
- Member, MSU Music Advisory Committee; and
- Board Member, Wonderlust: Journeys for the Mind.

**Thomas Wessel** spends his days playing golf, reviewing manuscripts for history journals, writing book reviews, planning trips, and continues to teach Constitutional History for our Department. He asks: "Is that enough to make me sound a lot busier than I am?" Sounds like a full life to us!

**Pierce Mullen**, A life spent working with students simply translated into a life spent working with the later-in-life crowd. A decade of Lewis and Clark Elderhostel folks brought some of these wonderful people into my life. Continued work in the biomedical areas introduced me to a wonderful retired pathologist/physician who sponsors a series on the subject of Medicine in the West, which is held annually at the Museum of the Rockies. Cosponsored by WWAMI and our Department, this series has brought us outstanding scholars in a number of areas relating to medical/historical topics: most recently public health, asbestosis, and political reality in Libby and with Prof. Brett Walker, comparisons to Japan. Finally my old tie to John Opitz, MD, a great historian and founding editor of the *American Journal of Medical Genetics*, has strengthened over the years. Thanks to all you students who probed and helped me learn.

*Thank you to the following individuals whose donations this past year have supported our students and programs in so many ways!*

<i>Carroll Brown</i>	<i>James Kolokotronis</i>
<i>William Dakin</i>	<i>Cynthia Karen Kosso</i>
<i>Dennis Daley</i>	<i>William (Parker) &amp; Colleen Lee</i>
<i>Jeanne Eder</i>	<i>Gisele Magnuson</i>
<i>Louise Engelstad</i>	<i>Ronald Matelich</i>
<i>McAllister Faron</i>	<i>Larry Mavencamp</i>
<i>James &amp; Danielle Gilbert</i>	<i>Elizabeth &amp; Raymond Mentzer</i>
<i>James &amp; Karen Gransbery</i>	<i>Jeffrey Sinnott</i>
<i>Keith Harney</i>	<i>Linda Skaar</i>
<i>Edward Harri</i>	<i>Bonnie Steingruber</i>
<i>Francis Johnson</i>	<i>Deborah &amp; Carson Taylor</i>
<i>Robert Kailey &amp; Christine McLaren</i>	<i>Susan Thomas &amp; Curt Kochner</i>
<i>David &amp; Linda Keller</i>	<i>George Williss</i>
<i>David &amp; Heidi Kennedy</i>	<i>Joan Wilson</i>

## Alumni News

“My academic experience in the Montana State history department allowed me to pursue the career I have chosen and gave me a perspective on life that I would not have otherwise had.”

-Luke Casey

### Jessica Amende

(BA History, 1999)

I live just outside of Belgrade with my husband Kevin, and our three children: Avery, Wyatt, and Kameron. I work from home, part-time, as a Community Liaison for a homecare company. I organize and implement educational programs within the bleeding disorders community. My husband is an adjunct professor in M&IE and I am often on campus with my three little ones.

### Michael Andrews

(BA History, 1992)

I attended graduate school at Tulane University in New Orleans, matriculating in 1994. I completed my Masters Thesis in 1998 in German intellectual history and my Ph.D. in American intellectual history in 2005. In 2002 I landed my first tenure-track academic position at St. John's College, Santa Fe campus - the great books school (the other campus is in Annapolis, MD). It is not easy to describe the uniqueness of St. John's in a short space, nor for that matter, the city of New Orleans, a town I love. Since 2005, I have

been on leave from St. John's working at the Intercollegiate Studies Institute. My mission there is to revive the teaching of the liberal arts, the beauties of which I encountered in an arresting form at St. John's. But, truth be told, my professors at Montana State deserve much of the credit for preparing me to understand and appreciate the liberal arts. David Large, Tom Wessel and Najaria Esty in history, and the great and redoubtable MT State honors program.

### L. Jason Bryan

(BA History, 2000)

After graduation, I went to the University of Miami and received an MA in 2002. In 2004, I began law school at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. I graduated this past May and now work for the law firm of Liden and Dobberfuhr in Barron, WI.

### Hallie Caron

(BA History, 2007)

Portland is wonderful; the city is great and I'm finally making a new home for myself. As

for what I've been doing since graduation: enjoying the time off. I took employment at Starbucks for the summer and I've taken time to contemplate my future. As for now, I'm considering returning to school to finish my teaching certificate. I plan to substitute teach, if possible, to get a feeling for the teaching lifestyle. Please tell everyone in the history department hello and they are missed!

### Luke Casey

(BA History, 2006)

I was accepted to four of the five law schools to which I applied, and for a combination of reasons have chosen the University of Idaho. My academic experience in the Montana State history department allowed me to pursue the career I have chosen and gave me a perspective on life that I would not have otherwise had.

### Sharon Dunn

(MA History, 1993)

Since graduation, I have had three children. I work part-time in the MSU Writing Center. I have also been writing.

# Alumni News continued

My fourth mystery, *Death of a Garage Sale Newbie*, was released in March 2007, published by Random House Imprint. You can read more about my books at [www.sharondunnbooks.com](http://www.sharondunnbooks.com). My husband and I celebrated our 20<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary in August.

## Holly (Huston) Flick

(BA Philosophy, 2003)

I am currently living in Cashmere, Washington with my husband Chris Flick and our 7 month-old son, Camden Fisher Flick. My husband is in real estate development and I am a stay-at-home mom. I enjoyed a brief stint in corporate sales in Portland, Oregon after college and am now thoroughly immersed in dirty diapers and teething toys. I could not be happier. Please send my regards to Profs. Allard, Bandyopadhyay, Brittan, Cohen, and Sexson. I remember them fondly.

## Christine (Westbrook) Howell

(BA History 1969)

I am currently a Senior Legal Assistant in the Finance Department of Qwest Communications in Denver, CO.

## Christian Johnsten

(BA History/Music, 1996)

Profession: Singing Gondolier for the Venetian Hotel, Las Vegas, NV. Currently serving in Macau, China, as lead trainer for the gondola program. Grand opening of Venetian Macau is Aug. 28, 2007.

## Molly Park Kline

(BA History, 2003, M.A. Native American Studies, 2005)

I am a National Park ranger in Yellowstone National Park, in the Cody, Wyoming area.

## Scott E. Mato

(BA History, 1984)

I live in Riverside, Pennsylvania. I'm the Principal of the Donald E. Schick Elementary School in Montoursville, PA.

## Dennis Seibel

(BAs 1969, 1973, MA History, 1990)

I am a three degree holder of MSU, dating back to the Civil War (I was in Booth's Theater with Lincoln.) After receiving an MA in History and being involved in museums, documentary production, and historical entertainment, I am now teaching with Pueblo Community College in Colorado. My wife Carole and I live in beautiful Cortez, in southwestern Colorado. I owe it all to MSU!

## Joel Steinmetz

(BA History, 2005)

After MSU, I went to the University of Montana and graduated with a Masters in Public Administration. I moved back to Bozeman in August 2007 to attend MSU to earn a few educational credits in order to achieve a Class-2 teaching license in elementary and secondary teaching. In addition, I will finish up on several other classes in order to earn another degree (Social Studies Broadfield). Currently, I'm a consultant and mediator.

## David Weber

(MA 1993)

After leaving MSU, I received a PhD from the University of Durham (UK) and began teaching in 1998. I am now a lecturer in Theology at Valparaiso University, Valparaiso, Indiana. In January I will read a paper at the National Conference of the Society of Christian Ethics entitled, "Works of Love: Ressentiment or Repetition."

## Dr. Joseph Owen Weixelman

(MA History, 1992)

I completed my PhD in history in 2004. My dissertation, " 'Hidden Heritage' Pueblo Indians, National Parks, and the Myth of the Vanishing Anasazi," will be published by UNM Press. I have accepted a tenure-track position at Wayne State College in Nebraska, teaching U.S. History and Social Studies Methods for Secondary Teachers.

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