



Montana State University

HISTORY AND PHILOSOPHY

OCTOBER 2008

Greetings from the Chair

Brett L. Walker

Last spring, I went sailing with my father and brother in the Gulf Islands, off Victoria, BC. It occurred to me that, at least metaphorically, chairing a department is a little like navigating a sailboat in stormy waters. Despite some fiscal rough seas over the past year, the department has successfully set a course for excellence and has sailed a tightly trimmed beam-reach, powered by winds of faculty and student success. In short, it has been another superb year.

Indeed, the department continues to deliver on its core mission to serve as a “gateway department” at Montana State. By gateway department, I mean a department that prepares students for their future career endeavors, provides them with the tools to understand their local communities and the world, and steadies them to face life’s formidable challenges. The success of our students demonstrates the department’s ability to serve as a gateway for our graduates.

Take some prominent examples. Recent graduate Patrick Linn was chosen for a highly competitive “Humanities in Action” Fellowship, while Tory Lodmell and Sadie Tynes earned prestigious Chamber of Commerce/Alumni Association Awards for Excellence. Justus Johnson will pursue philosophy graduate studies at the University of Wyoming, while Peter Faggen will continue his graduate studies of Tibet, only now at Columbia University. Karen Gaulke was admitted to Harvard Divinity School as a Presidential Scholar, and Joe Parrish is pursuing his PhD in U.S. history at the University of Florida. In whatever pursuits they discover, our students continue to achieve a level of excellence equaled by few departments on campus.

Doctoral student E. Jerry Jessee won a prestigious Smithsonian Fellowship, which permitted him to work in Washington DC; doctoral student Robert Gardner received a Kranzberg Dissertation Fellowship for his PhD research. Diane Smith, another doctoral student, received a NSF Doctoral Dissertation Research Improvement Grant for her work on Yellowstone National Park. These are nationally competitive awards and truly impressive achievements for our first crew of doctoral students.

In the classroom and beyond, we celebrate our students’ accomplishments and hope that, as friends and alumni of the department, you will, too. Please consider a gift to the Department of History and Philosophy to ensure that we can continue to create opportunities for future generations of students. With more majors than ever before, it is imperative that we prepare these young people to grapple with the formidable challenges of the future and send them forth with fair winds and following seas.



Captain Brett Walker
Photo by Aaron Walker

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Katie Baldwin: Dual Internships in Africa



Katie, center with knife, in Kenya, expands her skills to include goat skinning.

“Living there for three months is a tease: you begin to understand the groundwork and framework and itch to know intricacies.”

I’m an MSU senior, studying history and modern languages, but during the summer, I got to test out two different approaches to development work. I first spent three months in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia working as an intern for the Clinton Foundation. In August I flew to Kenya, and worked with MSU’s chapter of Engineers Without Borders on our water & sanitation project there.

President Clinton established his Foundation to address HIV/AIDS care and treatment and top-down systemic health care reform. In the ocean of aid organizations, the Clinton Foundation (CF) is an anomaly because they partner with governments and take a private-sector approach to development. In Ethiopia, the CF Office partners with Ministry of Health on nine projects, including a medical equipment initiative, hospital management, and medication procurement and distribution. I supported several programs, like the medical equipment initiative which coordinates donated medical equipment from the US to outfit rural health centers in Ethiopia. I did research, wrote reports and conducted meetings—I worked as a young professional in an office with a ‘business casual’ dress code.

Living there for three months is a tease: you begin to understand the groundwork and framework and itch to know intricacies. The name Ethiopia stems from Greek, meaning ‘burnt faces,’ which is how the Egyptians described these fiercely proud people. The country is 2 times the size of Texas, has 81 million people, 69 million of whom live as subsistence farmers in the rural areas. Thirteen percent of the nation is accessible via paved road. I lived in the capital city of 5 million with nightclubs, the UN Compound and slums. I worked at some rural health centers, but lived comfortably and worked in an office with wireless internet. I liked the local people and traditions; I even tried the delicacy Kourt—sliced raw beef.

After Addis, I went rural: I flew to Kenya and met up with our Engineers Without Borders team from MSU (EWB). Our project is in the Western Province, a dusty 13-hour bus ride from Nairobi. The Khwisero district is rural, mostly subsistence farming. The EWB commitment is long-term: to provide the 58 schools in the district with a source of clean water and improved sanitation. The area is lush (formerly a rainforest) but the sources of water are inconsistent and unclear. Typhoid outbreaks and fecal contamination are normal. So our EWB chapter raises money to drill borehole wells: \$15,000 each. This summer, EWB funded wells at three schools, and the engineers worked on the plans for biogas and composting latrines at the sites. As non-engineers, several of us worked on demographic data collection. We trained locals to conduct 750 homestead surveys on water use habits. We need the data to track our progress, give us better background, and use in grant applications. But the act of the survey “empowered” (as Kenyans love to say) community members to participate, and sparked discussion. This semester we will analyze the data, and [re]direct the project accordingly. Working with EWB empowers us MSU students, too: We are student-run but engage in real work with our Kenyan partners and the Khwisero community. We agree to pilot ideas and projects, then adjust, abandon or replicate what does/doesn’t work. In Ethiopia and Kenya, I learned that flexibility is a key to development—grass roots or systemic. —Katie Baldwin

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Karen Gaulke: Harvard Presidential Scholar



Karen Gaulke Photo by Michelle Maskiell

Karen Gaulke graduated this spring with a 4.0 GPA in religious studies and history. Our department gave her the Johnstone Academic Scholarship in 2007, and recognized her as a co-winner of the “Outstanding Graduating Senior in Religious Studies” (along with Meekyung Macmurdie) in 2008. Phi Kappa Phi named her the Outstanding MSU Junior in 2007 and bestowed one of only sixty Phi Kappa Phi National Graduate Fellowship Awards (\$5000) in 2008. Karen is attending Harvard this fall as one of seventy-five Presidential Scholars, a high honor within the University’s eight graduate schools, given to “the most outstanding applicants who demonstrate a concern for and interest in public service, broadly conceived.”

Karen joined MSU as a sophomore in the fall of 2006, after having been out of college for more than 2 decades, raising a family, and having a successful career, but one that left her intellectually unsatisfied. In preliminary meetings about her intended program, both Susan Cohen and Lynda Sexson assuaged her fears about retackling academics as a non-traditional student, and offered additional support and guidance should she need it in the future. Karen was part of the MSU Undergraduate Scholars program both years she studied here; her project focused on *Corona*, the experimental journal exploding text and image, with Lynda as her mentor. Karen praises both Lynda and Susan for what she learned in their classes, as well as for their unstinting support of her work. She says that both her success at MSU and her opportunity to do graduate work at Harvard reflect the combination of the very high quality teaching in our department, the extremely effective mentoring from her instructors, and her own hard work.

At Harvard, Karen will combine her interests in religion and politics by taking classes at both the Divinity School and the Kennedy School of Government. “Religion and politics conflate and confuse in a myriad of unknown (and perhaps unknowable) ways,” according to Karen. “If understood, however, I believe it is possible to build a powerful and pluralistic body politic—a government that is capable of confronting extremes, but one that also refuses arrogant hegemony. Whether we like it or not, religion informs, affects and gives spirit to political life. As long as we hold on to traditional narratives of peace and war, and the fiction that ‘the secular’ is dissociated from ‘the sacred,’ we cannot get to the work of understanding conflict and constructing peaceful ways of being. This is my passion.” —Michelle Maskiell

Patrick Linn: Humanity in Action Fellowship

"I've heard it said that history is not for wimps, and I am beginning to see the truth in that."

Greetings from Germany, my current home. After graduation last spring I spent two months moseying around the Gallatin Valley, climbing when possible, and in July, I stuffed my most professional-looking shirts and sweater into a backpack to begin my Humanity in Action Fellowship in New York City.

In New York, I lived in a dorm with 30 other students – 12 from the US and 18 from the countries of Denmark, France, Germany, Holland, and Poland, and everyday we dug into the guts of minority rights issues in America. Seminars with writers (David Levering Lewis and Kai Wright), historians, sociologists, some of the bright lights in Manhattan civil society, journalists, teachers, social workers, law professors and civil rights lawyers, politicians, and the list goes on. Our days were full, but this definitely helped us to see a pretty broad picture of life in America. We heard from African American, Native American, and Latina scholars, heard the stories of immigrants and refugees from Iran, Iraq, Sierra Leone, and Cambodia, and met with people from the International Rescue Committee, the Center for Constitutional Rights, and the US Immigration Court. We put this newly acquired perspective to work researching for a couple weeks on the streets of NYC to write a journalistic essay about a specific question of minority-rights. I wrote about the (social, legal, political) experience of immigrant street vendors selling food and merchandise in lower Manhattan. This was an exhausting but fulfilling time; it ended when I was only beginning to feel at home in New York.



Patrick in the Baltic Sea Area.

The Humanity in Action Fellowship, Germany assignment, immediately followed my New York experience. This fellowship included the opportunity to intern in the fall with a human rights-focused non-governmental organization (NGO) in Berlin. I now wear my professional-ish button down shirts daily to work. Luckily Berlin is a very casual city and I feel like I fit right in, except that I still wouldn't say I "speak" German. Lots of people here commute by bike and so I ride in a peloton (tight group of bike riders) to work; my route goes past the largest still-standing chunk of Berlin Wall, the east-side gallery! At the Kreisau Initiative I research 20th century historical issues pertaining to both human rights and Europe. I've heard it said that history is not for wimps, and I am beginning to see the truth in that. The fellowship in New York also affirmed this sentiment.

My temporary home is a renovated flat *with* central heating (no coal shoveling for us!) in the district of Prenzlauerberg – a bakery, coffeeshop and bookstore filled area towards which Prof. David Large pointed me. If you have never been to Berlin before, just imagine a sprawling, much more diverse Missoula. Last night I attended an impromptu dance party in Mauer park just blocks from my flat. Hundreds of grungy twenty-somethings bounced to Euro-beats drinking quality beer and eating hunks of organic game meat or veggies on a stick. The same weekend, I was invited by friends to a Potsdam wagonburgen for breakfast. Berlin houses more than 60 of these commune-villages built of campers, vans, and trailers housing free-schooler, slow-foodies who raise milking goats and large gardens. We whiled away the day eating organic salad and rough whole wheat bread. Days here are interesting, but frequently for me, sobering. The day before this hippie-fest I visited Sachsenhausen, the concentration camp on the outskirts of town. I guess this is part of life in Germany. Good times can be had everywhere, everything seems to reference a sometimes fun and left-ish but usually dark and always heavy history.

—Patrick Linn

Student Organization News

Ethicats

To what extent does the U.S. government have moral obligations to protect and provide immigration priority to Iraqi translators who often risk their lives to provide crucial intelligence? Do universities have an ethical obligation to refrain from purchasing and selling sportswear that is produced by sweatshops? Is the use of adjunct faculty in higher education exploitative? Under what conditions do “revisionist” accounts of historical events become morally problematic?

This past year, a group of six undergraduate philosophy majors from MSU (otherwise known as the “Ethicats”) tackled these sorts of questions while competing in the Northwest Regional Ethics Bowl in Seattle, Washington.

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 business ethics, environmental ethics, and biomedical ethics. Teams are scored on their ability to identify morally relevant issues, the quality and depth of their reasoning, clarity, and consistency. During the competition, students must respond to objections and questions from other teams, as well as a panel of judges.

The 2007-8 team included returning team members Justus Johnson and Kevin Lande, as well as first-time competitors Garrett Bloom, Sarah Garrott, Olin Robus, and Brit Turner. The students worked tirelessly researching, discussing, and analyzing cases for approximately three months prior to the competition (with sometimes only pizza, caffeine, and a genuine love of philosophy to sustain them). The mighty Ethicats won a commanding victory against Washington State University to earn sixth place in Northwest Region (but, frankly, we think they got robbed by some of the judges.)

A new team is currently preparing for this year’s competition, which will be held on Boeing’s Seattle campus on November 15th.
—Kristen Intemann

Phi Sigma Tau

Phi Sigma Tau is meeting this semester from 2:10 until 3:25 on selected Tuesdays. At our first meeting, which took place on October 7th, we watched a replay of the first presidential debate. The debate was stopped and discussed when anyone thought that either of the candidates had committed a logical fallacy. We have scheduled our Halloween meeting for October 28th. Following the pattern we set last year, members of Phi Sigma Tau and other interested students will give short talks on Halloween subjects, such as zombies, out of body existence, and monsters. We are also exploring the possibility of debates with philosophy students at the University of Montana.

Phi Sigma Tau meetings are open to any interested students. Official membership is open to students who 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 Kevin Lande, President, Sarah Garrott, Vice-President, and Britney Turner, Secretary/Treasurer. Prof. Jim Allard is the Chapter Advisor.
—Jim Allard

Faculty Books

Dan Flory

Philosophy, Black Film, Film Noir

(Pennsylvania State University Press, 2008).



In the past two decades, African American filmmakers such as Spike Lee have made significant contributions to the dialogue about race in the United States by adapting techniques from classic film noir to black American cinema. *Philosophy, Black Film, Film Noir* is the first book to examine these artistic innovations in detail from a philosophical perspective informed by both cognitive film theory and critical race theory. Dan Flory explores the techniques and themes that are used in black film noir to orchestrate the audience's emotions of sympathy and empathy felt toward morally complex characters whom people might not typically find appealing in real life, such as thugs, drug dealers, or murderers. Using an approach that combines the cognitive insights of theorists like David Bordwell, Noël Carroll, and Murray Smith with the reflective Wittgensteinian methods for considering film employed by Stanley Cavell, Stephen Mulhall, and William Rothman, Flory shows how these films scrutinize the state of race in America, induce their viewers to do so as well, and illuminate the ways in which categories of race have defined and continue to direct much of our vision of the moral self and what counts as appropriate moral sensibility.

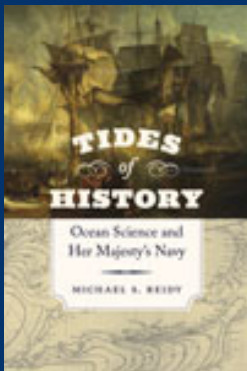
"The darkness of film noir was always meant to illuminate as well as reflect the shadows of the mean streets of Gangland USA. Now, in this fascinating synthesis of philosophy, film studies, and critical race theory, Dan Flory reveals to us the significance of the deeper blackness of African-American noir - a light 'doubly' black aimed at exposing the larger crimes of White America itself."

—Charles W. Mills, Northwestern University, and author of *The Racial Contract*.

Michael Reidy

Tides of History: Ocean Science and Her Majesty's Navy

(University of Chicago Press, 2008).



Analyzing the economic, geographic, social and scientific changes on which the British sailed to power, *Tides of History* shows how the British Admiralty collaborated closely not only with scholars, such as William Whewell, but also with the maritime community – sailors, local tide table makers, dockyard officials, and harbor masters – in order to systematize knowledge of the world's oceans, coasts, ports, and estuaries. As Michael S. Reidy points out, Britain's prosperity as a maritime nation depended on its ability to maneuver through the oceans and dominate coasts and channels. The practice of science and the rise of the scientist became inextricably linked to the process of European expansion.

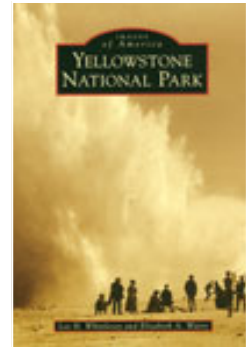
"*Tides of History* take us deep inside nineteenth-century science, following the theorists and calculators who took up the maddening challenge of mapping the fluid boundary between water and land. By showing how the temporal and vertical variability of that boundary forced major innovations in cartographic practice, Reidy pushes the history and even the concept of mapping in new directions. A major contribution."

—Kären Wigen, Stanford University.

Faculty Books Continued

Lee H. Whittlesey and Elizabeth A. Watry
Images of America: Yellowstone National Park
 (Arcadia Publishing, 2008).

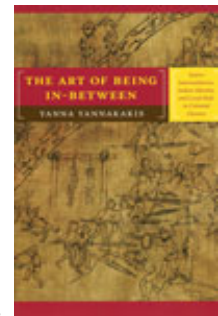
Images of America: Yellowstone National Park is more than just a book of photographs; it is a way for readers to sense the experiences of explorers, pioneers, employees, sagebrushers, stagecoachers, rangers, and visitors through a visual and textual interpretation of Yellowstone's long historical journey. Authors Lee Whittlesey and Elizabeth Watry strive to give all readers, from the general public to serious Yellowstone aficionados, a glimpse into the photographic memory of Yellowstone's cultural and natural history by showcasing little-known episodes from the park's yesteryears as well as revealing a visual representation of change over time.



"This newly released photographic rendition of Yellowstone's history utilizes many heretofore unseen images from private collections and university libraries, all of which greatly serve to expand the photographic legacy of one of America's best ideas."
 —Yellowstone National Park.

Yanna Yannakakis
The Art of Being In-between
 (Duke University Press, 2008).

In *The Art of Being In-between* Yanna Yannakakis rethinks processes of cultural change and indigenous resistance and accommodation to colonial rule through a focus on the Sierra Norte of Oaxaca, a rugged, mountainous, ethnically diverse, and overwhelmingly indigenous region of colonial Mexico. Her rich social and cultural history tells the story of the making of colonialism at the edge of empire through the eyes of native intermediary figures: indigenous governors clothed in Spanish silks, priests' assistants, interpreters, economic middlemen, legal agents, landed nobility, and "Indian conquistadors." Through political negotiations, cultural brokerage, and the exercise of violence, these fascinating intercultural figures redefined native leadership, sparked indigenous rebellions, and helped forge an ambivalent political culture that distinguished the hinterlands from the centers of Spanish Empire.



Through interpretation of a wide array of historical sources – including descriptions of public rituals, accounts of indigenous rebellions, idolatry trials, legal petitions, court cases, land disputes, and indigenous pictorial histories – Yannakakis weaves together an elegant narrative that illuminates political and cultural struggles over the terms of local rule. As cultural brokers, native intermediaries at times reconciled conflicting interests, and at other times positioned themselves in opposing camps over the outcome of municipal elections, the provision of goods and labor, landholding, community ritual, the meaning of indigenous "custom" in relation to Spanish law, and representations of the past. In the process, they shaped an emergent "Indian" identity in tension with other forms of indigenous identity and a political order characterized by a persistent conflict between local autonomy and colonial control.

"The *Art of Being In-between* is a very important contribution to understandings of the role of indigenous intermediaries in political and everyday life and of their agency in responding to, even shaping, the colonial legal system as it evolved over a long period of time. Scholars specializing in colonial Mesoamerica, as well as other parts of the Americas, will find Yanna Yannakakis's arguments highly pertinent to current discussions about law, politics, and state building."
 —Susan Kellog, Author of *Law and the Transformation of Aztec Culture, 1500—1700*.

Faculty News

Jim Allard continues to study the wonders of nineteenth century logic and he has been promised that another of his papers on this subject will appear by Christmas.

Susan Cohen published the final report on the Geshner Excavations in November and then directed the third season of archaeological excavations at Tel Zahara in June. Her research was followed by spending part of the summer in Jerusalem, with a side-trip to Istanbul with Profs. Walker and Intemann for a judicious combination of sight-seeing and shopping intermixed with significant eating and drinking. A fabulous time was had by all. Now, however, she is happily beginning her sabbatical year.

Dan Flory spent his sabbatical last year in Cairo, Egypt, finishing his book and writing a couple of other articles. While traveling with his family, he also experienced first-hand the Egyptian version of Islamic holy month (fast all day, eat all night - Egypt is one of the few places where Muslims often gain weight during Ramadan), visited ancient sites such as the Pyramids, the Sphinx, Luxor Temple, Alexandria, Siwa Oasis, and Valley of the Kings, had a taxi catch on fire while he was in it, rode the Cairo subway (about 16 cents per trip),

were treated to 10 Iftars (breakfasts) at sundown during Ramadan, and learned a lot about Egyptian day-to-day life.

Kristen Intemann's most impressive and challenging accomplishment this year was learning how to downhill ski (and managing not to break anything.) Off the slopes, she continued to work on her research on objectivity and values in science, publishing articles in *Philosophy of Science*, *Science & Education*, and the *Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology Journal*. After spending time on Professor Susan Cohen's dig in Israel this past summer, she is now working on a new project on objectivity and values in archaeology.

Timothy J. LeCain completed his book, *Mass Destruction: The Men and Giant Mines that Wired America and Scarred the Planet*, which will be published this spring by Rutgers University Press. The book reveals the development of a system of "mass destruction" used in open-pit mining, forest clear cutting, and other extractive industries that provided the nation with cheap and abundant raw materials but at great cost to the environment. The better-known phenomena of mass production and mass consumption, LeCain ar-

gues, were thus built in part on a foundation of environmental mass destruction. Further, similar ideas were applied in the use of weapons of mass destruction during the twentieth century, suggesting that the devastating modern wars against humanity were paralleled by an equally destructive war on nature.

Michelle Maskiell's latest publication is entitled "Phulkaris: The Crafting of Rural Women's Roles in Sikh Heritage," and will appear in an edited volume published by Oxford University Press in late 2008 or early 2009. She has started a new research project focused on British imperial plant transfers and 19th-century global biopiracy.

Mary Murphy received a Beinecke Fellowship at Yale, which allowed her to enjoy the fabulous resources of the university's many libraries, although her lack of tweed made her feel woefully underdressed. In June, she presented a paper at the International Maritime Economic History Association Congress in Greenwich, England, and her essay, "Montana Quilts and Quiltmakers: A History of Work and Beauty" will appear in the fall issue of the *Montana Magazine of Western History*.

Faculty News Continued

Carla Nappi spent the year settling into MSU and trying to find room for all of her books. She won the 2008 Jerry Stannard Memorial Award in the history of *materia medica* and gave several lectures stemming from a new research project on Chinese-Arabic and Chinese-Tibetan medical exchange. She spent the summer (and will continue in the fall) as a Visiting Fellow at Cornell University's East Asia Program, finishing the manuscript for her book *The Monkey and the Inkpot: Natural History and its Transformations in Early Modern China*, presenting her research at conferences, and working on the history of colonial medicine in China. She also made a summer pilgrimage to the El Bulli restaurant in Barcelona as part of a new project on elementality, the senses, and modern science...and to eat flavored foam.

Michael Reidy spent his sabbatical in the United Kingdom where he immersed himself in the archives and personal correspondence of prominent Victorian scientist-mountaineers. He is now back to teaching and preparing to give papers at several national conferences, including this year's History of Science Society meeting in Pittsburgh. He led his first 5.10 "trad" route this summer and hopes to push the envelope even further next summer without dying. Arlo is rather sick of sitting at the bottom of climbs but is otherwise doing extremely well.

Lynda Sexson published "Sally, Lucky, Ghost, and Spot," a story in which the author theorizes the gospel tradition while the protagonist kidnaps imaginary dogs from the Humane Society, in *IMAGE*. The World Premiere of her film (written and directed by Lynda) about early children's books, *MY BOOK AND HEART SHALL NEVER PART*, will be October 23rd. Also this Fall, *CORONA*, the journal that "marks the edges of many circles" will be unveiled, in all its parts and pieces. Lynda is the co-editor of *CORONA*.

Billy Smith co-edited with Simon Middleton, a new book, *Class Matters: Early North America and the Atlantic World*, (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2008) which investigates how class operated on the larger stage of human history as well as how it shaped the lives of individuals who lived in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. This collection of fifteen scholarly essays confronts the devaluation of class and seeks to reinvigorate its study. Although differing in their interpretative approaches and priorities, the contributors to this collection all strongly agree that class analysis is indispensable to understanding the larger Atlantic World stretching from North



Figure 8 (Aug 25, 1775) "Europe Supported by Africa and America," in *Walden*, 629

Europe supported by Africa & America

America to Europe to Africa. The authors likewise seek to explain the historical processes that marked the transition

from the early modern to the modern eras in Western Europe and the new United States. The book's goal, ultimately, is not to prescribe strict, dogmatic guidelines about one correct approach to class analysis, but rather, by considering various possibilities, to water with interpretations, fertilize with ideas, and otherwise quicken the flowering of class studies that once again are beginning to take root among historians.

Billy continues his work on *Ship of Death: The Voyage that Changed the Atlantic World* and his outreach to our graduate students through the weekly meetings of the Marxist Chess Club.

Yanna Yannakakis spent the summer in Oaxaca, Mexico researching a new project "Babel: Language Use and Power in Colonial Oaxaca." Her book, *The Art of Being In-Between: Native Intermediaries, Indian Identity, and Local Rule in Colonial Oaxaca* (Duke University Press) was published this spring.

The newest member of the department, Maeve Jordan Downey (Yanna Yannakakis's daughter), was born in Edmonton, Alberta on January 25th, 2008 on a COLD and SNOWY night (it was 45 degrees below zero the following day, and blizzard-ing!). After five days of confinement with her infant sister, Marianna (Yanna's 6 year old) asked if Maeve could be sold at the farmer's market poultry stand, and was dismayed when her parents said "no." The whole family traveled to Oaxaca, Mexico this summer where Yanna did research, and Maeve wowed the crowds with her cooing and waving as she was pushed through the city streets by her dad. As for entrepreneurial Marianna, she settled for selling grapefruits, grown in the courtyard of the house, on the street corner for 3 pesos (30 cents) each.

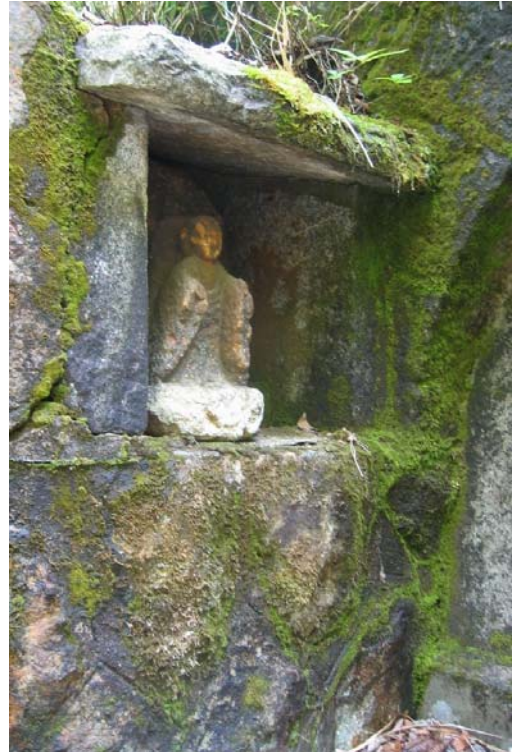
Walker and LeCain Investigate Ancient and Modern Japanese Mines

This past May, Professors Brett Walker and Tim LeCain traveled to Japan to explore the fascinating remains of the once-great Ashio copper mining complex north of Tokyo. The trip was part of their three-year project funded by the National Science Foundation to compare the environmental and technological history of the Ashio site with the very similar complex in nearby Butte and Anaconda.

Walker and LeCain began their visit on foot with a circumnavigation of Bizentateyama, the principal ore-bearing mountain mined by the Ashio operations. This day-long hike provided an invaluable sense of the topography and environment of the region, which are distinguished from those of the Deer Lodge Valley by narrow valleys and steep slopes as well as dense forest growth supported by abundant rain fall. However, during the mining era, smelting operations and the use of trees for mine timbers and fuel deforested much of the region, which in turn led to massive soil erosion.

The professors also spent several days hiking up into some of the smaller watersheds on Bizentateyama to investigate several abandoned mine portals. One of these gave a sense of the early medieval techniques of hand-hewn mining. Another, now capped with concrete, was striking for the small niche at its entrance that sheltered a badly decomposed but still recognizable sandstone statue of the Buddha. Similar Buddhist and Shinto shrines are found at all the Ashio mine portals, and the marked similarity between the classic Shinto *torii* or gate and traditional cap and pillar underground mine timbering was frequently recognized.

These fascinating cultural expressions address a key research aim of the project: the interactions of modern mining technologies and ideologies with very different religious and cultural settings. Early European mining was also associated with religious rituals. Christian ceremonies were held for the opening of new mines, and miners typically met for daily prayers in chapels built near mine portals well into the 19th Century. Miners frequently erected shrines in or near mines to the Christian Saint Barbara, who they believed to be the patron saint of their dangerous trade. Though western mining has long been associated with Christian rituals, by the early twentieth century few ex-



Buddhist shrine at the entrance of an ancient Ashio mine portal
Photo by Tim LeCain

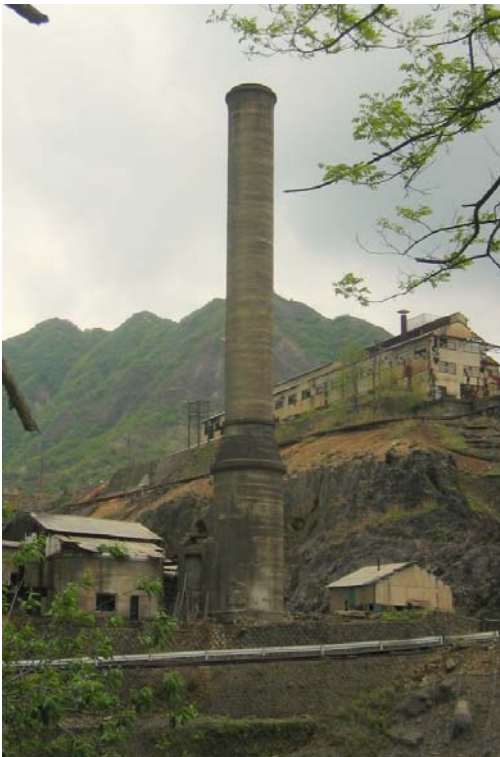
“Yet, further investigations of the site also revealed that, however great the religious and other cultural differences, the technological developments and environmental consequences at Ashio were striking similar to those at Butte and Anaconda.”

—Timothy LeCain

Investigation Continued

Further investigations of the Japanese site also revealed that, however great the religious and other cultural differences, the technological developments and environmental consequences at Ashio were strikingly similar to those at Butte and Anaconda. Walker and LeCain saw firsthand the large-scale deforestation of the hills caused by sulfur dioxide pollution from the Ashio smelter. Recent efforts at reforestation have had only limited success, in all likelihood because of soil erosion and impregnation with heavy metals—a problem that has plagued Anaconda's Deer Lodge Valley as well.

The trip to Ashio provided Professors Walker and LeCain with a detailed and visceral sense of both the technological similarities and the many cultural and environmental differences between the two mine sites. The results will be reflected in academic articles and their co-authored book.



One of the big smokestacks at the Ashio smelting complex
Photo by Tim LeCain



The only remaining open entrance into the Ashio mine complex
Photo by Tim LeCain

Graduate Student News

Graduate Students New to the MA Program, Fall 2008

Michael
Barton

Hans Peter
Grav

Cory
Heller

Steven
McCormick

Ivy
Merriot

Jacob
Rubow

Jameson
Sweet

Shannon
Zera

History MA student, **Denzil Ford's**, research interests focus on mid-twentieth century oceanography and the birth of climate science. In February of 2008, she visited climate scientists at the University of Washington and 3Tier-Group, a private company that uses climate models to predict weather patterns for alternative energy technology, to participate in opening dialogue between climate scientists and the humanities. Denzil gave a talk to the scientists at 3TierGroup that covered some basic ideas about how historians might interact with climate scientists to further integrate these two disparate fields. In June, she visited the Scripps Institution Archive where her project on Roger Revelle began to take shape. Revelle was a prominent oceanographer during the mid-twentieth century who became an instrumental advocate for carbon cycle monitoring. Denzil aims to show how one scientist created his own rules for navigating the boundaries between pure and applied knowledge, science and society, and experts and lay-people. Her working title is *One Obligated Egghead: Roger Revelle, Science and Politics During the Emergence of Global Warming Theory*.

The Society for the History of Technology has awarded **Robert Gardner** the Melvin Kranzberg Dissertation Fellowship. This fellowship is presented each year to a doctoral student preparing a dissertation on the history of technology. Funding from the fellowship will support Robert's research on the envirotechnical aspects of the first Forest Service nursery, the hand-planted Nebraska National Forest, and the Great Plains Shelterbelt Project.

Frank Johnson, who is currently working on his MA degree in history at MSU, presented a paper at the 35th Annual Montana History Conference. Frank will analyze the often contentious relations between one of the Treasure State's most formidable entities and the federal government in "The Montana Power Company and the New Deal."

Ph.D. student **Paul Sivitz** presented the paper, "The Scientific Community and Identity in America, 1765-1768" at the Barnes Club Conference at Temple University (Philadelphia, PA) in April 2008. Paul's research took him to the Botany Library at the Natural History Museum in London, England the previous month. In October 2008, he presented the paper "Epidemic Disease East and West: America, Japan, and Eighteenth -

Century Medicine" at the Texas Asia Conference at the University of Texas-Austin. In November, Paul will travel to Paris, France to present "The Scientific Public Sphere: Making English the Language of Science in Eighteenth-Century Britain and America." His was one of only two graduate student papers selected for the Public Opinion, the Press and Journalism in the 18th Century conference at the University of Paris.

Elizabeth Watry, a third year history department master's student, worked as an intern at the Buffalo Bill Historical Center in Cody, Wyoming, from June 2, 2008 through August 22, 2008. Her tasks included assisting registrar, Ann Marie Donoghue, with the seasonal exhibit installation of the Joseph Sharp Cabin in the Cody Firearms Museum courtyard and learning the BBHC procedures for object condition reporting and data entry into the ARGUS Collections Management System. Elizabeth's main project for the summer was to accession a portion of the recently acquired Paul Dyck Plains Indian Buffalo Culture collection. This collection, which consists of over 2,000 Native American artifacts, has been recognized by many scholars as

Graduate Student News continued

one of the most significant collections of Native American artifacts in the world. War shirts with exquisite quill work, tanned hide and wool dresses with rare dentalium shell and elk ivory yokes, beaded rifle scabbards, muslin Ghost Dance shirts and dresses from the 1890s, and an otter and bear claw necklace from the 1850s represent only a small sample of the collection that Elizabeth processed over the summer. Elizabeth felt privileged to be given the extraordinary opportunity to further her depth and breadth of knowledge of Native American cultural materials with such a rare collection.



In September, Elizabeth moved to the high plains city of Great Falls, Montana to work as an intern for the Charlie Russell Museum until October 31, 2008. As the recipient of the 2008 Dufresne Scholar Award, she will assist Special Projects Curator, Lynne Spriggs, with the installation of a new permanent museum exhibit focusing on Native Americans and bison.

Pawnee Bear Claw Necklace



Nez Perce Man's Shirt

Elizabeth has contracted with Riverbend Press to write a book on women in Yellowstone entitled, *Women in Wonderland: Lives, Legends, and Legacies in Yellowstone National Park*, forthcoming in 2009.

“Finest Panel at the Conference” at ASEH Annual Meeting

In March 2008, the American Society for Environmental History held its Annual Meeting, titled “Agents of Change: People, Climate, and Places through Time,” in Boise, Idaho. The Department of History & Philosophy rented a van from the Montana State Motor Pool, and hit the road for the yearly academic event.

The department had a memorable presence at the conference. Past department postdoctoral fellow, Robert Wilson (Syracuse University), presented a paper on Japanese internment for a panel titled, “Nature behind Barbed Wire.” Bob flew into Bozeman and road-tripped with the department crew on our big adventure. Doctoral student Robert Gardner presented a truly outstanding paper, titled “Technological Timberlands: Making the Nebraska National Forest,” which was enthusiastically received. Panel discussant and President of the ASEH, Nancy Langston (University of Wisconsin), praised the paper’s importance, and an acquisitions editor from *Environmental History* cornered Bob after the talk, seeking a draft of the paper. Later, Bob would receive word that he had earned the Society for the History of Technology’s Kranzberg Dissertation Fellowship for his Ph.D. research work on the same topic. It was a superb research presentation and a breakout performance.

The department also sponsored an all-Montana State panel, titled “Arthropod Agents in Global History,” which was hailed by several leading environmental historians as the “finest panel at the conference.” Brett Walker presented a paper on chemicals and insect eradication in Japan. Billy Smith rocked the audience with a paper on insects that “bit back” at Europe’s Atlantic empires. Carla Nappi presented a provocative paper on caterpillars, empire, and traditional Chinese medicine. The presentations were followed by comments from Montana State entomologist Kevin O’Neill, who tied the evolution of certain insects to humanity’s historical interaction with them. The panel concluded that, just as natural forces can shape insect evolution, so, too, can human forces, which demonstrates that history shapes the evolution of life on Earth. The panel opened up a new front in the discussion regarding how we understand the role of culture in shaping natural history.

Along with the above department members, Michael Reidy, E. Jerry Jessee, Denzil Ford, and Bradley Snow

also attended the conference.

—Brett L. Walker

Alumni News

"Thank you for contacting me for the update. Although I rarely get to Montana, I have very fond memories of my time at MSU and the education I received there has served me very well over the years!"

—Steve Hinman

Michael D. Barton, BA History, minor Museum Studies, '08.

Michael joined the History MA Graduate Program, Fall 2008. He works with Professor Michael Reidy as a Graduate Research Assistant on the John Tyndall Correspondence Project, which seeks to transcribe and publish the letters of the nineteenth-century physicist John Tyndall. His paper about religious language in descriptions of Yellowstone National Park, which he wrote for a history YNP internship during the summer of 2007, will appear as a shorter article in *Yellowstone Science* this fall.

Stacy Blasiola, BA, Philosophy, '01.

Stacey currently works as the Director of Interactive Revenue Development for Journal Broadcast Group in Milwaukee, WI. In 2008, Stacy was called upon to speak about Interactive Marketing at numerous industry events including the Radio Advertising Bureau, the American Marketing Association, the National Association of Broadcasters, and the Wisconsin Broadcasting Association.

Bob Brown, BA, History, '70, BA Political Science, '74.

Since 2005 in Missoula, Senior Fellow at the University of Montana O'Connor Center for the Rocky Mountain West.

Steve Hinman, B.A. History, '89.

Following a year of graduate school in Economics at MSU, Steve attended the Henry M. Jackson School of International Studies (East Asia) at the University of Washington from 1984-1987. He is currently a lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Army stationed in Camp Zama, Japan. He has 24 years of military service and has completed tours of duty in Korea, Japan, Afghanistan, and Iraq, in addition to assignments in the U.S. Steve is married to Fumi Kaneko, formerly of Tokyo, Japan.

Bill Huntzicker, BA, History, '68.

Teaches journalism and mass communication at St. Cloud State University about 70 miles from his home in Minneapolis, where he has lived for 32 years. In July, he joined an NEH summer institute at Harvard University to study the history of civil rights. Bill's biography is in *Who's Who in America*.

Molly Kline, BA, History '03, MA, Native American Studies '05.

Molly is a seasonal Park Ranger at the West Gate of Yellowstone National Park. She lives full-time in West Yellowstone, Montana.

Elliott Nowacky, BA, History '88, Second major in German.

Elliott has retired from a 20 year military career in the US Army as a Field Artillery Officer/Russian Foreign Area Officer. His last duty assignment was in Heidelberg, Germany. He spent a total of 12 years serving overseas with assignments in Germany, Iraq, Kuwait, Ukraine, and Kazakhstan. In the United States he served at Fort Sill, OK; Fort Polk, LA; Fort Hood, TX, and the Defense Language Institute in Monterey, California.

Elliott intends to pursue an advanced degree in either History or International Relations with a long term goal of teaching at the university level or pursuing a second career with the US Government as a Foreign Service Officer with the State Department. He now resides in Issaquah, Washington.

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<i>Gordon & Vanessa Brittan</i>	<i>Charles Pierson</i>
<i>Charles & Sally Broughton</i>	<i>Linda Skaar</i>
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