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LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

By Dr. Andrew Hurley

All good History majors know that Lucas Hall, home of the UMSL History Department, is named for J. B. C. Lucas. He is not to be confused with James C. Lucas, the Alcatraz inmate who stabbed Al Capone in the prison laundry room. Our Lucas was a prominent political official during the early territorial and statehood period of St. Louis's history. One historian described him as “tactless, but talented and politically incorruptible.” When we hear mysterious groans and the rattling of chains emanating from the air ducts late at night, we hold Lucas’s lack of tact responsible.

It is fitting, however, that our hallways are haunted by the ghost of such a notable St. Louisian because our faculty is deeply engaged in the study of the region’s past. I am certain that no other college or university can boast a higher concentration of experts; UMSL professors have authored books and articles on a wide range of local topics including the founding of St. Louis (Fausz), the Civil War era (Gerteis), the German-American experience (Rowan), the African American experience (Dowden-White), and environmental change (Hurley.) Not only do we generate original scholarship about St. Louis but we also collaborate with a multitude of civic and cultural organizations to engage the community-at-large with our shared history. I will provide just a few examples. Louis Gerteis runs the Friends of Tower Grove Park Lecture Series. Virtual City software created at UMSL to display digital reconstructions of lost landscapes is currently being used by the Old North St. Louis Restoration Group to help plan for the redevelopment of abandoned property.

Fred Fausz delivers numerous artifact-based public lectures on the St. Louis fur trade. In April, I was honored to assist the Scott Joplin House State Historic Site unveil a community curated exhibit on neighborhood history. One of our top priorities as a department is to involve our students more fully in community-sponsored history, particularly though internships.

Next Spring, the department’s commitment to local Continued on next page
Letter from the Chair, Con’t...

history will be showcased at a two-day conference to commemorate the 250th Anniversary of St. Louis. The conference will be open to the public and will feature both indigenous and out-of-town speakers, covering topics from the entire 250-year span. The program will conclude with some reflections about how our understanding of the past can help us meet contemporary challenges. For more information on the conference, watch for postings on our website: www.umsl.edu/history.

Speaking of our website, we have expanded our presence in the world of social media with a page on Facebook. I have never visited this page because I am afraid of Facebook, but I understand that it is an exciting place for students, faculty, and alums to interact. There is a link on our website that will take you there.

Each year the department distributes awards and scholarships to deserving students. Almost all of these awards restrict eligibility to undergraduates. To reward excellent work at the graduate level, the department recently established the Ted Listerman Award for best paper produced in a graduate seminar. Ted Listerman is an alumnus of our MA program and he has been a steadfast friend and supporter for many years. The first winner will be announced in August.

It is my sad duty to announce the retirement of Jack Gillingham after nearly 40 years of service to the University. His contributions to the department have been many. In addition to teaching undergraduate courses in European History, he has offered an array of inventive graduate seminars on topics ranging from unknown literary figures of the Lost Generation to the history of food. Gillingham was instrumental in creating the Frederick Hayek Professorship in Economic History. Perhaps most notably, his many books and articles have established him as the world’s leading authority on the topic of post-World War II European integration, a status that was recognized last summer in his invitation to an exclusive summit on the fate of the European Union in Siena, Italy. Fortunately for us, Gillingham will continue to teach two courses a year for the History Department under the auspices of a Founders’ Professorship.

On a brighter note, I am delighted to welcome Joyman Lee to our department. Lee is finishing up his Ph.D. at Yale University and will join us in the fall as a Visiting Professor to teach courses on East Asian history. His research focuses on the transfer of ideas about industrialization from Japan to China in the early 20th century. We look forward to having him on board.

This will be my last “Letter from the Chair” column. In August, my term as department chair comes to a screeching halt and the venerable Louis Gerteis will reclaim the throne. We can all look forward to his florid prose in this space next year.

My appearance in this newsletter as a member of the History department could serve as an apt epilogue for 2012-2013’s academic highlights. I came to UMSL last fall, via Corinth, Greece, in a bid to broaden the Hellenic and European repertoire of History; my abiding commitment to modern Greek, byzantine, and ancient history, as always, in tow. Needless to say, I am really quite thrilled to be here.

While I am held accountable for an inordinate stretch of Greek culture and history dating from pre-classical Greece to the (second) fall of Constantinople, and from the Greek War of Independence to the current economic crisis in the Eurozone, I tend to linger in the genres of historiography, cultural politics, Greek-American studies, and texts of indeterminate intentions historically consigned to “mere literature.” In the fall I presented a paper entitled “Transatlantic Fighters and Diasporic Politics: Missouri Greeks in the Balkan Wars” to a conference here at UMSL; an expanded version of that paper will appear in a forthcoming edition on the history of the Balkan Wars.

Most of my summer will be invested on research at the diplomatic archives of the Greek Foreign Office in Athens, while a monograph on the Greek-American relations in the early twentieth century will be hopefully taking its final shape! In the upcoming fall, two more papers are due, one on the Greek poet Constantine Cavity for a conference I am organizing under the aegis of the Greek Chair at UMSL, and a second one on the early history of socialism and anarchy in Greece for a Modern Greek studies conference at Bloomington, Indiana. In the Spring of 2014, I will have the chance to present vignettes of my current research on the early Greeks in St Louis and their contribution to the local economy and culture—a study that has reached almost book-length proportions! But I will drop everything to talk about contemporary Greek politics anytime.

Continued on next page
**Deborah Cohen**

During the academic year 2012-2013, Deborah Cohen’s book, *Braceros: Migrant Citizens and Transnational Subjects in the United States and Mexico* (UNC Press, 2011), was the finalist for two prizes, the prestigious Weber-Clements Book Prize (Western History Association/Clements Center for Southwest Studies) and the CLR James Award (Working Class Studies Association). The paperback edition will be out this August. She submitted for publication two papers, “The Global Sixties, the Cold War, and Rethinking Scale as a Sixties Concept” (co-authored Lessie Jo Frazier) and “Cosmic Race: The Life and Times of a (Trans) National Concept.” Cohen also gave invited talks at Wayne State University in its labor studies program; at Indiana University as part of its Latin American Studies Lecture Series; and at Rutgers for its Center for Race and Ethnicity; and presented papers at the American Studies Association conference and the Newberry Library’s Borderland and Latino Studies Seminar.

**Fred Fausz**

“Professor Fred” Fausz was quoted extensively in the January 2013 issue of St. Louis Magazine about his 2011 book, *Founding St. Louis: First City of the New West*, now in its third printing and also available as an e-book. Listed on both the U.S. and French versions of Amazon.com, *Founding St. Louis* was a finalist for the French Colonial Historical Society’s Boucher Prize for the “Best Book on the French Colonial Experience, 1500-1848.” Fred is completing another book, *Historic St. Louis: 250 Years Exploring New Frontiers*—officially sanctioned by the STL250 Committee as the only comprehensive popular history of the city by a professional historian—which will appear in the anniversary year of 2014. Fred published four book reviews, reflecting his wide-ranging interests: an anthropological study of *The European Invasion and Transformation of the Mississippian World*, for the journal *Ethnohistory*; Patricia Cleary’s history of colonial St. Louis for the *Western Historical Quarterly*; a comparative study of 17th century Virginia and Bermuda, for the *Virginia Magazine of History and Biography*; and an analysis of Indian peace medals for the *Indiana Magazine of History*. In addition to teaching HIS 2999 and 4999, Fred offered two new courses: “Creating Early America: Native Nations, European Empires, and Colonial Cultures” and a 5-credit M.A. research seminar, “The Centuries of St. Louis.” He also directed two masters theses (in preparation); taught two sessions of the First Year Experience program; served as the UMSL representative on the official St. Louis anniversary committee; organized the History Day hospitality and book sale table; and worked with other colleagues in planning a St. Louis History conference for 2014. Finally, Fred delivered public lectures on St. Louis history for the National Park Service, Landmarks Association, Oasis Institute, St. Louis Chapter of the Lewis and Clark Trail Heritage Foundation, and Road Scholar Programs of St. Charles Community College, as well as conducting a day-long National Park Service Teacher Institute.

**Carlos Schwantes**

Carlos Schwantes developed a new online course for Fall Semester called “The Great Twentieth Century War.” For Spring Semester he adapted three of his previously taught courses to the online format. To illustrate his online presentations he continued the process of creating a huge image bank devoted to preserving the extensive visual culture created during the past 150 years by the travel and transportation industries around the globe. Augmenting the rapidly expanding collection of historic paper ephemera are the many digital photos he has taken that relate to these topics. In his spare time he continued his lifetime pursuit of “history on the hoof” by exploring and photographing during this past year places as diverse as Singapore and Samarkand.

**Poulopoulos Cont.**

Since my arrival, besides courses in Greek and Balkan History, I offered last fall a course on the idea of the hero in the Greek culture and in the spring I introduced a new vibrant course in the history of Byzantium. I also taught a great group of students a seminar in Oral History. For next fall, more books on the Wonders of Greece and on Balkan and European history are currently sitting on my desk. If you think our interests intersect, if you have any questions, or better yet, answers, please drop by Lucas Hall 419.

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**FACULTY NEWS**

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Kevin Jon Fernlund

Kevin Fernlund, Professor, has developed and taught two new courses: *A History of the American Frontier, 1763 to 1890* (HIST 2010) and *U.S. Foreign Relations and Military History Since 1900* (HIST 2014). He serves on the Financial Advisory Board of the Western History Association ( WHA) and is Co-Chair of the 2015 St. Louis Local Resource Committee of the Organization of American Historians (OAH). In August 2012, he delivered a paper in Grand Rapids, Michigan at the 2012 Meeting of the International Big History Association. It was entitled, “Big History and Big Teaching: Desegregating Content in the College Curriculum.” His article, “Frederick Jackson Turner and the Problem of American Historiography,” is being translated from English into Chinese and will appear this fall in *Historiography Quarterly*. He is currently doing research for a book on the evolution of Western culture in Latin and Anglo America.

Laura Westhoff

Laura Westhoff has continued research on her book project, “Educating for Activism,” a monograph on alternative democratic political projects in the twentieth century examined through case studies of Myles Horton and the Highlander Folk Center, Fred Ross and the Community Service Organization, and Dorothy Day and the Catholic Worker Movement. Her article “Seeing Through the Eyes of a Teacher,” was published in the August 2013 volume of *The History Teacher*. This past year, she was one of five faculty nationwide invited to serve on an advisory panel for an American Historical Association initiative to rethink history graduate student teaching preparation. Funded by the Teagle Foundation, the project worked with University of California, Berkeley faculty to redesign a required course on teaching for doctoral students. This work will continue at next year’s AHA Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C. where Dr. Westhoff will participate in a State of the Field session on the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning in History.

Louis Gerteis

Louis Gerteis published *The Civil War in Missouri: A Military History* with the University of Missouri Press in 2012. He will become Chair of the Department of History beginning in August 2013.

Adell Patton, Jr.


Andrew Hurley

In April 2013, Andrew Hurley presented a paper at the National Conference for Public History in Ottawa, Canada, titled, “Digital History as Community Planning Tool in Distressed Urban Neighborhoods.” His essay, “Gateway Arch, St. Louis, Missouri,” appeared in *American Tourism: Constructing a National Tradition*, eds. J. Mark Souther and Nicholas Dagen Bloom (Chicago: Center for Continued on next page
American Places, 2012). He is continuing his work on the Virtual City Project, with colleague Louis Gerteis, along with his research on the history of industrial suburbs in the twentieth century.

Mark A. Burkholder

Mark Burkholder, Professor, published Spaniards in the Colonial Empire: Creoles vs. Peninsulars? (Wiley-Blackwell, 2013). The book examines the complaint of creoles (Spaniards born in the Americas) that the Spanish crown discriminated against them in offices of church and state and considers why holding these positions were so important to them from the sixteenth century to independence. It argues that patriot leaders in the wars of independence in the early nineteenth century quickly identified peninsulars (Spaniards born in Spain) as the enemy and shattered colonial elites long comprised of Spaniards born in both the Old World and the New.

Steven Rowan

Steven Rowan is almost done with his translation of a 1000-page French description of American canals and railways by Michel Chevlier, published 1840-1843 in Paris (Carlos Schwantes expects to write the introduction). A manuscript has been submitted of a translation and edition of Michel Chevalier’s Letters on North America, a series of essays published in French newspapers during and after his 3-year visit to the United States, Canada and Mexico. Currently, the University of Washington Press has the manuscript under review. Additionally, with his very busy schedule, a manuscript of Adelbert Count Baudissin’s guide to settling in Callaway County in the 1850s has been submitted to the University of Missouri Press. A course is being prepared on the history of the Christian Church from Jesus to Martin Luther for presentation in the Fall Semester of 2013, in addition to teaching a course in 16th century paleography at Concordia Seminary this July 2013.

2013 NATIONAL HISTORY DAY

By: Dr. Peter Acsay
Associate Teaching Professor and National History Day in Missouri Region V Coordinator.

Almost 300 middle and high school students came to the Millennium Student Center and Clark Hall on our campus Saturday, February 23rd to participate in Region V in Missouri National History Day 2013. The theme for 2013 was “Turning Points in History: People, Ideas, Events.” Students presented historical papers, displayed exhibits, showed documentaries, staged performances, and presented websites. Congratulations to the seventy-seven middle and high school students from our region who advanced to the state finals of National History Day 2013 which was held at the University of Missouri-Columbia Saturday, April 20th. Advancing to the national finals of History Day from our region are: Leah Koch (Kirkwood High School) for Senior Individual Documentary, Sophia Compton (Kirkwood High School) for Senior Individual Exhibit, Sawyer Judge (Cor Jesu Academy) for Senior Historical Paper, Jaden Nilsen (Holy Infant School) for Junior Individual Website, Caroline Goeddel, Kara Tsikalas, and Katie Vollmer (St. Raphael the Archangel) for Junior Group Performance, Sam Goedeker and Ryan Cierpont (St. Raphael the Archangel) for Junior Group Exhibit, and Claire Schulte (Holy Infant) for Junior Individual Exhibit. Congratulations to the national delegates from our region! The national competition will take place June 9-13 at College Park, Maryland. Watch for news of the St. Louis delegates at National History Day.

Others from our region who placed third at the state competition and will serve as alternates were Alison Tielking, Abigail Schroeder, and Tyler Raclin (MICDS) for Senior Group Exhibit, Allison Politsch (Kirkwood High School) for Senior Individual Exhibit, and Emma Andrews (St. Margaret of Scotland) for Junior Individual Performance.

I would like to thank the faculty, staff, and especially the many department alumni who served as volunteers and judges at History Day. This event is a success only through the support of the UMSL History community. The 2014 Region V History Day contest will be held on the campus of the University of Missouri-St. Louis on Saturday, February 22, 2014. Anyone interested in serving as a volunteer or judge, or would like to recommend a judge, should contact me at 314-516-5700 or email acsayp@umsl.edu. Volunteering for History Day at UMSL is a lot of fun, is a great opportunity to renew old friendships and make new ones, and helps maintain interest in and commitment to history among young people in the St. Louis region. I hope to see you Saturday, February 22, 2014! I recently learned that Sean Seyer (BA, MA 2009) ABD in the doctoral program at Auburn University has been awarded the William R. Castle, Jr. Memorial Fellowship from the Herbert Hoover Presidential Library. Sean was also awarded the Graduate Instructor Fellowship at Auburn. His dissertation examines the development of the prewar international air regime. It continues work he began at UMSL under Dr. Rust.

Continued on next page
on campus activities, and volunteered at local historic institutions. Perhaps our greatest achievement was the creation of the UMSL History Guild. The Guild is an unofficial club for UMSL graduate and undergraduate students interested in history, art history, gender studies, museum studies, library sciences, and/or social studies education. It strives to build a sense of community amongst UMSL graduate and undergraduate students by encouraging social and academic interactions throughout the school year. The decision to create the Guild came after several interested students were unable (for a variety of reasons) to join Phi Alpha Theta. We hope that this unofficial subsidiary of PAT will create interest in the discipline, increase student achievement, connect students with the department, and expose career options earlier in the college experience.

As the school year closes, Phi Alpha Theta is preparing for change. Several members and officers are scheduled to graduate in May and December of 2013, leaving an administrative vacuum. While new officers were elected in April, we are actively searching for dedicated students to continue the organization. The 2013 – 2014 officers are as follows: President – Lara Kuehling, Vice President – Jessica McCulley, Secretary/Treasurer – Ashley Ray, Publicity/Webmaster – Daron Dierkes and Adam Borrego. It is our hope that the creation of the Guild and continued efforts to incite interest will sustain the Psi Psi Chapter of Phi Alpha Theta well into the future.

STUDENT AWARDS

By: Dr. Andrew Hurley

Thomas J. Knapp Scholarship: Mallory Jansen
R. Gene Burns Scholarship: Amy Wilson
Alumni Scholarship: Rebecca Iglesias


SPECIAL FEATURE: The 55th Annual Missouri Conference on History

By: Dr. Kevin Jon Fernlund

The Missouri Conference on History was held on March 21-22, 2013, in Cape Girardeau at the Drury Inn. The conference was hosted by Southeast Missouri State University. Three of UMSL’s history faculty participated in the event as well as four graduate students. Prof. Louis Gerteis was chair and commentator of the session, Winds of Civil War in Missouri. Prof. Kevin Jon Fernlund was chair and commentator of America in the Early Cold War, and Prof. Steven Rowan was the chair of German American Patriotism in Antebellum Cincinnati, Civil War St. Louis, and World War I St. Charles.

Daron Dierkes, an UMSL history graduate student, moderated the session, Roundtable: Missouri Natural History and the History of Missouri. Daron also gave a paper entitled, “1859: The Year nature Changed.” So did Nuala Caomhanach. Nuala completed her master’s degree in history and now is at the American Museum of Natural History. Her paper was entitled, “The Growth of Botanical Thought in St. Louis during the 19th Century.” Daron also presented a paper in the session: The Formation and Uses of Historical Myths: Heroes, Rape, and Antiquity. It was called, “Black Legend, White Legend, Nationalism, and the Great Man View of History.” Two other UMSL history graduate students participated in this session. Jessica McCulley read the paper, “The ”Rape Myth” in the Reconstruction South” and Ashley Ray read the paper, “The Myth of Continuity between Ancient and Modern Greeks.

The conference included a field trip to, and reception at, Cape Girardeau’s Oliver-Leming House, “Home of the Missouri State Flag (see on page 7).
New Graduate Certificate Program in History Education!

The History Department offers work in Asian, African, and African American, European, Latin American, Mexican, World, and United States history from ancient to modern times. At the bachelor's level, the department offers the B.A. in history; and, in cooperation with the College of Education, the B.A. in history with teacher certification and the B.S. in education with an emphasis in social studies. At the graduate level, the department offers an M.A. in history with work in U.S. and World history. The department also offers the option of an M.A. in history with a concentration in museum studies.

And now, starting this fall, the History Department and the College of Education will offer a Graduate Certificate in History Education. The program is designed for practicing teachers, instructional coordinators, and history educators in the community who are seeking to deepen their knowledge of history education. It will offer history and social studies educators a program that integrates historical and educational knowledge, theory, and practice. The purpose of the certificate is to improve the practice of history education in schools and the community, to introduce history educators to meta-historical theory and practice, to deepen their historical knowledge, and to encourage sophisticated teaching and curriculum development built on research at the intersection of history and the learning sciences. The first course offered in the program, HIST 6013, will be offered this Fall on Thursdays, 4:15-6:50. The course will be in a hybrid format, meeting approximately seven Thursdays on campus, with the remainder of the class meetings conducted online. Any History M.A. or M.Ed. students are welcome to take this course. For More information, contact Dr. Laura Westhoff (westhoffL@umsl.edu).
Enclosed is my contribution of $ _______            ___ Yes I work for a matching gift Corporation.

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Department of History
University of Missouri-St. Louis
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INFORMATION UPDATE 2013

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