Dear Alumni, Friends, Colleagues and Students,

I write to you just as my third and final year as Chair of Cornell’s History Department is coming to a close. It has been an honor to serve a department that continues to have such an outstanding group of faculty, staff and students. This year has flown by, and much has been accomplished because of the collegial efforts of all. We conducted three very exciting and successful searches. In fact, we couldn’t be happier with the results. In 2019-20 we will welcome Cristina Florea (PhD, Princeton University) as Assistant Professor of European History. Cristina’s research focuses on Eastern Europe from the late 19th century to the end of the Cold War, a region that experienced tremendous change as it sought to adapt to imperial collapse, two world wars, revolution, various occupations, Nazism and the Holocaust, and the rise of communism. Also joining us this coming academic year is Nicholas Mulder (PhD, Columbia University). His research interests focus on placing European history in the broadest international context while emphasizing the role of law, political economy, and the history of ideas. He will begin his time at Cornell as a post-doctoral fellow, and will transition immediately, in 2020-21 to be Assistant Professor of European History. Both will bring renewed strength to our modern European history section of the department, which has seen a number of recent retirements and departures. Finally, we have responded to increasing student interest in engaged learning opportunities, by hiring our first public historian, Stephen Vider (PhD, Harvard). Stephen’s research focuses on sexuality and domesticity in the United States. Besides his numerous publications, he has curated or co-curated several museum exhibitions including “AIDS at Home” and “Gay Gotham”, both at the Museum of the City of New York.

Just as we welcome new colleagues, we also bid a healthy and happy retirement to others. Mary Beth Norton, Mary Donlon Alger Professor of American History, will now have the opportunity - after 47 years of teaching here at Cornell- to spend more time on Martha’s Vineyard while continuing to research and write, now that she has also completed this year her term as president of the American Historical Association. Joining her in retirement is John Weiss, Associate Professor of European History, a 45-year member of Cornell’s History Department who has been especially supportive of those students interested in human rights activism. With sadness, we also mark the passing on

Chair’s letter continued on page 10
Trained in Jewish history at Columbia University, I work at the intersection between Jewish experience and Jewish expression. My principal subject and the focus of my writing and teaching lies in the east of Europe, where Jewish people — readers and writers, husbands and wives, fathers and sons, scholars and mystics, prophets and poets — created a culture that now lives on three continents and speaks at least twice as many languages. What continues to draw me to the study of this culture is the way in which it seems to nourish the radical contradictions that gave the world both the politics of Leon Trotsky and the fancy of Marc Chagall, both the “value pluralism” of Isaiah Berlin and the “objectivism” of Ayn Rand, both Portnoy’s Complaint and Fiddler on the Roof. How could the same place be the home of both Jewish nostalgia and Jewish revolution? In the course of writing two books and multiple articles that, in one way or another, attempt to answer this intractable question, I have had to grapple with a variety of themes that engage all modern historians — social fracture and economic mobility, mass migration, sexual anarchy, the rise of ideology, and the impact of catastrophic violence. In my new project, a book on the Russian origins of Jewish nationalism, I return to the battleground of modernity in order to find the historical traces of another Eastern European Jewish paradox: how a movement intended to liberate the Jewish body served to discipline the Jewish mind.

Mara Du’s research focuses on the history of modern China (17th century – present), particularly on law, gender, and state-building. Her book manuscript in process, State Is Family: State-Sponsored Filiality and China’s Empire-to-Nation Transformation, explores how the Qing empire (1644-1911) legitimized itself and governed its subjects through the legalized cult of filial piety. In the first half of the twentieth century, builders of the Chinese Republic fundamentally altered the logic of state legitimation from “ruling all under Heaven through the principle of filial piety” to popular sovereignty. At the same time, the new Republic endeavored to separate adult citizens from familial authority in order to subjugate them to direct state control, with legal reforms of family relations playing a critical role in political and social reconstructions.
MARY BETH NORTON BY ED BAPTIST

Mary Beth Norton retires after a career as one of the leading scholars in early American history, and in women’s history generally. The first woman history professor in our department, she holds the Mary Donlon Alger Chair here at Cornell, where she has taught since 1971. She’s also held the Pitt Chair at the University of Cambridge, elected society memberships, and numerous prestigious fellowships. Most recently she was President of the American Historical Association (2018.) Her field-changing monographs helped create the field of early American women’s and gender history, including Liberty’s Daughters: The Revolutionary Experience of American Women, 1750-1800 (1980); In the Devil’s Snare: The Salem Witchcraft Crisis of 1692 (2002); Founding Mothers and Fathers: Gendered Power and the Forming of American Society (1996); and Separated by Their Sex: Women in Public and Private in the Colonial Atlantic World (2011.) Mary Beth’s teaching inspired thousands of Cornell students, and she has served in department offices, university committees, and as speaker of the Faculty Senate. Those with whom she’s shared her women’s history bibliography, or her updates on the profession’s activities, understand her commitment to scholarship as community. They also know that her AHA presidential election was the elevation of a citizen in a sense of that word that some of her historical subjects held as an ideal. If her civic activities in Ithaca community continue and even expand in retirement, we can anticipate that the town will be the beneficiary of what we of the gown side of things have enjoyed for years.

JOHN WEISS BY SANDRA GREENE

John Hubbel Weiss, will be retiring from Cornell as Associate Professor of History on June 20, 2019 after a long career teaching such popular courses as the History of World War II, Genocidal Regimes, and the History of International Humanitarianism and Human Rights. He has served three times as the Director of the Western Societies Program (later named the Institute for European Studies). More recently, he has been active both on campus with student groups and in the larger world (co-producing plays, videos, radio programs, and publicity campaigns) in support of efforts that highlight the kinds of human rights abuses that have taken place in war-time Bosnia, in the Darfur and Nuba regions of Sudan, and those experienced by the Rohingya of Myanmar. In 2007, he received the Kendall S. Carpenter Advising Award in recognition of his sustained and distinguished contribution to undergraduate advising. In 2010, a student who was a Merrill Presidential Scholar also recognized John as having played a significant role in ensuring that student’s success. So much more could be said about John’s career of 45 years here at Cornell. Suffice it to say that we will miss his ever-positive attitude and enthusiasm for life, his love of cannons and military technology, and his commitment to making this world a better place. We wish you well in retirement, John.
Joel H. Silbey
August 16, 1933 – August 7, 2018

Joel H. Silbey was a prolific scholar of American history and political behavior, with a particular focus on the 19th century. His teaching and scholarly interests included the Jacksonian era, sectional controversies, the Civil War and Reconstruction, and quantitative methods in history.

Born August 16, 1933, in Brooklyn, New York, he was educated at Brooklyn College, graduating in 1955. He then earned his master’s degree in 1956 and Ph.D. in 1963 from the University of Iowa.

Prior to joining Cornell in 1966, Joel taught as an assistant professor at San Francisco State College (now San Francisco State University), the University of Pittsburgh, and the University of Maryland.

He joined the Cornell faculty in the summer of 1966 and rapidly climbed the ranks. He was promoted to Associate Professor just one year later in 1967, and then to Full Professor in 1968. In 1986, Cornell honored him with the appointment as the President White Professor of History, a position he held until his retirement in 2002. He served as director of the Cornell in Washington Program from 1992 to 1998, and was one of the program’s initial faculty.

Over the course of his 36-year career at Cornell, Joel became a nationally recognized scholar of American political history. His work incorporated quantitative analysis methods from the social sciences, which he used to examine American politics and political parties in the nineteenth century.

The groundbreaking nature of Joel’s research won him numerous fellowships, including ones from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the National Science Foundation, the American Philosophical Society, and the Social Science Research Council. Additional honors included his selection as a Fellow by the Guggenheim Foundation and the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences, as well as his designation as a Visiting Scholar and the Harmsworth Visiting Professor of American History by the Russell Sage Foundation and Oxford University, respectively.

As a highly productive historian, Joel authored or edited 16 books, including The American Political Nation, 1838-1893 (1991), Martin Van Buren and the Emergence of American Popular Politics (2002), Storm Over Texas: The Annexation Controversy and the Road to Civil War (2005), and the 10-volume series, the Congress of the United States, 1789-1989 as well as A Companion to the Antebellum Presidents, 1837-1861 (2014).

A respected and beloved teacher, his courses were always popular with Cornell students. The university recognized his talents in the classroom with the Clark Distinguished Teaching Award in 1986. As an advisor, he chaired the graduate committees of 10 doctoral students and served as a minor member on 6 more. In recognition of his impact on students, Martha and David Maisel ’68 established in 1996 a fund, The Walter LaFeber and Joel Silbey Fund in American History, to honor Joel and his colleague and friend, Walt LaFeber, because of their life changing influence on the lives of so many who studied with them.

Following his retirement, Joel led programs for Cornell Adult University and returned to campus often to lecture on politics and participate in faculty panel discussions. As remembered by his colleague, Professor Isabel Hull, Joel “was a fine historian and an acute analyst of political behavior, with a marvelous, irreverent sense of humor and terrific judgement. The History Department will miss him.”
Undergraduate News:
Announcing Honors Students and Award Recipients

2019 Honors
Ann Balzer: Cum Laude
Meredith Chagares: Magna Cum Laude
Rebecca Frank: Magna Cum Laude
Justin Hill: Cum Laude
Elizabeth Kelley: Magna Cum Laude
Marcellin Ma: Cum Laude
Sarah Meidl: Summa Cum Laude
Moushmi Patil: Summa Cum Laude

2019 Department of History Awards, Class of 2019
Messenger Chalmers (Undergraduate)
Awarded to an undergraduate with the thesis giving evidence of the best research and most fruitful thought in the field of human progress and the evolution of civilization during some period in human history or during human history. Three awards given in 2019.
Meredith Chagares, Sarah Meidl, and Moushmi Patil

Bernard and Fannie Lang
Awarded for best senior honors thesis in US History or American Studies.
Lilian Klatskin (AMST)

Anne Macintyre Litchfield
Awarded to top outstanding woman senior majoring in history.
Laurel Fox

George S. Lustig
Awarded to the outstanding senior who intends to continue the study of history at the graduate level.
Sarah Meidl

Mary Beth Norton
Awarded to the research request for funding judged best and most worthy/needy by the honors committee.
Ann Balzer

Bernard E. West
Awarded competitively to the most promising undergraduate research scholar specializing in American history.
Lilian Klatskin (AMST)

2019 Department of History Awards, Class of 2020
Martha Barrett
Awarded to an undergraduate major (junior) interested in European History.
Two awards given 2019.
Anna Kline and Claire Walton

Cornelis W. DeKiewiet
Awarded to an outstanding history major (junior) who has demonstrated unusual promise and excellence in the field. Two awards given in 2019.
Carolyn Bell and Stephanie Bell

Clyde A. Duniway
Awarded to one student (junior), who is deemed to be the best history/government student in the College of Arts and Sciences graduating with the respective majors.
Claire Walton

Graduate Students
Job Placement/Awards Information
2018-19

Tenure-track Positions
Shiau-Yun Chen – Ball State University
Kyle Harvey – Western Carolina University
Osama Siddiqui – Providence College

Other Academic & Non-Academic Positions
Matthew Minarchek - Woodland Park Zoo, Seattle, WA
Matthew Reeder - 2 yr Post-doc Fellow, Inter-Asia
Engagements at the Asia Research Institute, National University of Singapore
Joshua Savala - Visiting Assistant Professor, Rollins College

Fellowships/Awards
Nicholas Bujalski – Cohen-Tucker Dissertation Completion Fellowship, ASEEES; Sidney Tarrow Paper Prize, Cornell Institute for European Studies

Sebastian Diaz – International Dissertation Research Fellowship/Social Science Research Council

Jonathan Lohnes – Institute for Turkish Studies Koç-Holding Fellowship; Einaudi Center Comparative Muslim Societies Program International Research Travel Award; Judith Reppy Peace & Conflict Institute Jesse F. & Dora H. Bluestone Studies Fellowship

Joshua Savala – Best Graduate Student Article Prize from the Labor Studies Section of the Latin American Studies Association for article which appeared in the Journal of Social History

Christopher Szabla – Mellon-CES Completion Fellowship; the 2018 Morris Cohen Paper Award from the American Association of Law Libraries

Hoang Vu – Lee Teng-hui Fellowship, East Asia Program

Samantha Wesner – Mellon Graduate Fellowship, Society for the Humanities

Messenger-Chalmers PhD Dissertation Awards
Kyle Harvey (Advisor: Raymond Craib)
Thesis Title: "Prepositional Geographies: Rebellion, Railroads, and the Transandean, 1830s-1910s"

Matthew Reeder (Advisor: Tamara Loos)
Thesis Title: “Categorical Kingdoms: Innovations in Ethnic Labeling and Visions of Communal States in Early Modern Siam”

Congratulations to all of our Graduates!!
The undergraduate student organization Cornell Historical Society (CHS), now in its eighth year, once again energized the department’s intellectual life. The current elected CHS officers — Co-Presidents Ephraim Gau and John Sullivan, Vice President Kaamiya Hargis, Treasurer Regan Murray (continuing next year as CHS President), and Editors-in-Chief for Ezra’s Archives Elle Rothermich and Max Fernandez — performed outstanding leadership for the group. They were models of inclusiveness, creativity, and efficiency in organizing their varied activities. While some student organizations flounder on the details, I was proud to see CHS officers handling event and publication logistics, budgeting, their own public speaking, and keeping up with bureaucratic hurdles with impeccable professionalism. I personally found participating in these students’ events greatly rewarding, and learned a great deal from this group.

CHS members contributed invaluable outreach and mentoring to newer students who are still learning to navigate a large research university. Vice President Kaamiya Hargis organized CHS’s mentoring program, which matched upper class history majors with more junior students. In addition, on the Sunday before the start of classes, Co-President John Sullivan accompanied me, as the Director of Undergraduate Studies, to the Arts and Sciences College’s pre-semester majors fair. In addition to giving new freshmen a student’s perspective on the history major, the history of capitalism minor, and on CHS activities, John impressed me by his ability to articulate the value of college-level historical studies and of CHS, and by his proactive approach to reaching out to freshmen who might be shy about approaching our table. We had a busy afternoon; it was encouraging to see how many of our new freshmen came in this year with a strong interest in history.

CHS hosted six faculty at dinners this year, and I tagged along when I could. In these more casual settings, the CHS students were good at drawing out professors’ more self-reflective sides, and conversations tended to weave between the development of research interests and life trajectories. Most faculty guests came from the History Department, but CHS also invited Professor Suzanne Mettler from the Government Department. As Co-President Ephraim Gau reported, “It was a treat to be able to learn about one of history’s sister disciplines, as well as explore how history and government intersect and work together.”

For the third year of CHS’s Making History Accessible Speaker Series, CHS expanded from an annual public lecture to one each semester. On November 8, Professor Robert Self, Chair of History at Brown University, presented “The Unhappiest Place on Earth: The Family Economy in the American Century.” On April 11, University of Michigan Professor of History Valerie Kivelson spoke on “Erotic Magic in 17th-Century Russia: The Art of Witchcraft.” Both highly engaging talks drew robust audiences, including faculty, graduate students, and undergraduates, and generated lively discussions.

This spring CHS also performed great service for the Department’s modern Europe and public history faculty searches, for which the Department brought nine candidates to campus (see “Chair’s Letter”). CHS representatives met with each candidate to ask them about their research and undergraduate teaching, and collected student observations into judicious, well-written reports.

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**Grad Student Shares Experience**

In February 2019, the Department wrote graduate student, Benedetta Luciana Sara Carnaghi, who is currently conducting archival research in Vienna, and asked her some questions about her graduate student experience at Cornell. Her full responses are on the website.

**Cornell Historical Society Interview**

An interview with Ephraim Gau and John Sullivan Baker.

The Cornell Historical Society (CHS) has been in existence since 2011. There are currently seven highly-engaged members on the Executive Board. On January 30, the department spoke with Ephraim Gau and John Sullivan Baker who are currently co-presidents.

**Freedom on the Move launches database of fugitives from American slavery (FOTM), an online project devoted to fugitives from slavery in North America, is enlisting the help of the public to create a database for tens of thousands of advertisements placed by enslavers who wanted to recapture self-liberating Africans and African-Americans. ...“This is a crucial set of sources about black people’s resistance to slavery, so we think it’s particularly appropriate to launch it during Black History Month,” said Ed Baptist, professor of history in the College of Arts and Sciences. (Source: A&S Communications/Author: Linda B. Glaser)**
Many Alums write and ask us about the availability of History talks online. As digital media becomes more prolific, we are pleased to share some of the many resources you can visit to keep up on your love of history.

Below is a partial list of some of the talks and videos given by our faculty. If you are on Facebook, Instagram or Twitter, be sure to Like or Follow us to hear about events and articles as they are posted.

**Chat in the Stacks at Olin Library with YouTube Access**

**Ed Baptist** ~ *The Half Has Never Been Told: Slavery and the Making of American Capitalism*

**Ray Craib** ~ *The Cry of the Renegade: Politics and Poetry in Interwar Chile*

**Maria Cristina Garcia**’s~ *The Refugee Challenge in Post Cold War America*

**Sandra Greene**’s~ *Slave Owners in West Africa*

**Julilly Kohler Hausmann**~ *Getting Tough Welfare and Imprisonment in 1970s America*

**Larry Moore and Issac Kramnick** ~ *Godless Citizens in a Godly Republic*

**Aaron Sachs**~ *My Atlantis Complex*

**Durba Ghosh**~ *Colonial Love*

**Eric Tagliacozzo**~ *Historian of water looks at Southeast Asia in podcast*

And...

**Barry Strauss**~ *Leadership Lessons from Ancient History*

**Mary Beth Norton**, *Reflections on Gender in Early North America (CPAN)*

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**College of Arts & Sciences Podcast Series: What Makes Us Human, Etc.**

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GRADS AND ALUMS...KEEP US UPDATED ON YOUR NEWS.
History of Capitalism initiative takes big-picture view

by Linda Beltz Glaser
this article originally appeared in The Cornell Chronicle on December 19, 2018

The study of the history of capitalism at Cornell is fueled by insightful, big-picture questions, many of which were raised during the Nov. 15 roundtable discussion, “From Slavery to Trade, From Segrenomics to the Gig Economy: Approaches to the History of Capitalism at Cornell.”

Can democracy and capitalism survive? Can the economy be based on something besides extraction, besides enslavement, oppression and war?” asked Louis Hyman in his opening statement. “These are questions we should be asking ourselves as we think about the future of capitalism and the history of capitalism.”

For most of the history of capitalism, the panelists noted, those who benefited were members of the white ruling class. Would it be possible to construct a capitalism based on inclusivity?

For interdisciplinary scholar Nowlie Rooks, who sees white supremacy (not racism) inextricably intertwined with capitalism, the answer is no. “Capitalism is a system but also an ideology,” said Rooks, professor of Africana studies. “How do you tell the story of those on whom the house of capitalism has fallen? ‘How does capitalism shape your world’ is not a question that always makes it into academia.

Slavery, and the end of slavery, is deeply entwined with the history of capitalism. “Some came to believe that ending slavery would be an economic benefit because it’s not an efficient form of capital and they were ready to submit all their moral calculations to economic ones,” said panelist Edward Baptist, professor of history. “But attitudes about slavery were driven by many factors that can’t be disentangled from cultural and economic ones.” He described the histories of capitalism, finance and slavery as parts of a Venn diagram that often overlap.

“Is there a capitalism that’s not based on stealing land or people?” asked Hyman, associate professor in the ILR School and director of ILR’s Institute for Workplace Studies. “I’m more optimistic than my colleagues, because the engine of capitalism today is not based on slavery.”

But panelist Sandra Greene pointed out that the unregulated capitalism today has resulted in a massive gap of have and have nots, a situation that has arisen before. “What do you do with profits? Right now, there is no redistribution. How is society to be ordered? The wealthy didn’t achieve their status all by themselves; they benefited from societal goods, like roads. Do you pay back what society itself enabled you to achieve?” said Greene, the Stephen ’59 and Madeline ’60 Anbinder Professor of African History and chair of the Department of History.

“One way of understanding the history of capitalism is the continuous discovery of new things people, areas, concepts, ideas to be turned into market goods,” said Baptist, pointing to Facebook as an example. “What is capitalism but a continuous series of finding new frontiers or bodies or land to be disrupted, things that are not market goods to be seized in one way or another and turned into market goods?”

Cornell’s History of Capitalism initiative is a collaboration between the Department of History in the College of Arts and Sciences, the ILR School, and faculty in other departments and programs across Cornell. The Nov. 15 roundtable, moderated by history postdoctoral associate Adrienne Bitar, was part of the American Studies’ Fall Colloquium series, “The History of Capitalism: New Approaches.”
The department’s faculty read the CHS comments and took these into serious consideration during our difficult deliberations. From the student side, Treasurer Regan Murray remarked, “I think all of us who participated in the faculty searches walked away with new insights into the career trajectories of historians. … We also appreciated having our voices heard in the hiring process and it certainly got us excited about the new hires!” Finally, this spring Ezra’s Archives published its ninth edition of rigorously peer-reviewed, curated, and edited history articles by undergraduates. The journal continued and strengthened its commitment to seek contributions from a diverse array of institutions and on a wide range of topics. They succeeded in drawing excellent contributions from students at Georgetown University, Hamilton College, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Vassar College, and Carleton College. As for the articles, as Editors-in-Chief Elle Rothermich and Max Fernandez put it in their preface letter from the editors:

We were heartened to see a shift away from traditional presidential biographies and similarly valuable yet well-studied topics in favor of lesser-told stories. This year, we are proud to offer new research on civilian casualties of the Korean War, colonial water policy in Qingdao, Protestant missionary education in nineteenth-century India, the consequences of the U.S. Act of 1807 on the American slave trade, and the relationship between the National Woman Suffrage Association and fringe marriage ideology suffragists. (Ezra’s Archives, Volume 9, p. 1)

The editors have ambitious plans, along with detailed strategies, for expanding the journal’s scope and diversity, so stay tuned! You can find past journals, and should soon find the most recent issue, on Cornell’s eCommons digital repository, linked at https://history.cornell.edu/ezras-archives.

On the behalf of an appreciative faculty, congratulations, Cornell Historical Society members, on all your fine accomplishments this year!

August 7, 2018 of Professor Joel Silbey, the President White Professor of History Emeritus and a member of the Cornell faculty since 1966.

Good fortune has allowed the department to manage the comings and goings of our tenure track faculty by the hiring of a number of post-doctoral fellows, all of whom have brought wonderful energy to the department. Mackenzie Cooley (Presidential Post-doctoral Fellow / Early Modern History of Science) has been an active member of our intellectual community, participating in the comparative History Colloquium, while using the time offered by her post-doctoral fellowship to work on her book manuscript. Marysia Jonsson (Early Modern European History) did the same while teaching “Histories of the Apocalypse” and “Magic and Demonic Creatures between the Reformation and the Enlightenment.” Ian Merkel (European and Brazilian Intellectual History), Maximilian Peter McComb (Medieval History), and Kim Todt (U.S. History of Capitalism) provided wonderful assistance to the department by offering a number of freshman writing seminars and courses designed specifically for first year students in their areas of specialization. All will move on to different academic opportunities here and abroad. We wish them the very best. Remaining to spend another semester or year with us is Adrienne Johnson (U.S. Food History) and Nel de Múelenaere (Modern European and U.S. History Relations).

Our faculty continue to distinguish themselves through their publications, grants, awards and honors. We are especially pleased to congratulate Judith Byfield who has been officially promoted to full professor, this year on the completion of her second book, The Great Upheaval: Women and Nation in Postwar Nigeria. Durba Ghosh’s book, Gentlemanly Terrorists: Political Violence and the Colonial State in India, 1919-1947, has received Honorable Mention by the Association of Asian Studies’ Ananda Kentish Coomaraswamy Book Prize Committee that awards the best book on South Asia. Mara Yue Du has been named a Himon Brown Faculty Fellow. These fellowships recognize talented faculty in a broad range of disciplines. Mara will hold the title Himon Brown Faculty Fellow for a five-year period, retroactive to July 1, 2018. We also congratulate two of our retirees, Isabel (Itsie) Hull and Mary Beth Norton. The Provost approved their requests for emeritus status, effective 01/01/19. Itsie is now the John Stambaugh Professor
of History Emerita, and Mary Beth is now the Mary Donlon Alger Professor of American History Emerita.

With regard to our undergraduate curriculum, department faculty voted this year- after many months of deliberation- to update the requirements for the major, an exercise that was at least 25 years overdue. Whereas History majors were once required to take four courses on the history of any area outside the United States, the new requirement recognizes the importance of exposing our students to the histories of the many different world areas from which their fellow students come, and where they themselves may work or visit. We live in an increasingly global world and we seek to prepare our students for this new reality. With this in mind, students are now required to take one course from the many listed under four out of the five different categories: (1) North America, (2) Europe, (3) Asia, (4) the Global South (here defined as Africa, Caribbean, Latin America, and the Middle East), and (5) Trans-regional Histories /Comparative Histories/ Historical Methodologies. Still required are three courses that focus on the pre-1800 period, courses that can also meet the requirement for global breadth.

While teaching and research constitute the primary activities of our faculty, the department functions smoothly only because of the administrative services provided by our faculty. Among those who provided important leadership roles this past year were TJ Hinrichs (assisted by Russell Rickford), Director of Undergraduate Studies (DUS), Derek Chang (Fall 2018) and Claudia Verhoeven (Spring 2019), Directors of Graduate Studies (DGS) and Maria Cristina Garcia, Associate Chair. It goes without saying, but I say it here nevertheless, the Department is most grateful for their outstanding service. It also goes without saying that neither I nor the faculty who serve in administrative roles would have been able to successfully complete our tasks this academic year without our extraordinary support staff. Michael Williamson serves as our Administrative Manager while Georgiana Saroka serves as our Accounts Coordinator and the Chair’s Administrative Assistant. Barb Donnell is our Graduate Coordinator, Judy Yonkin is our Undergraduate Coordinator, and Claire Perez is our Communications Assistant. We thank them for their outstanding service.

Finally, the support we have received from our alumni has been very important. We are especially grateful for Giving Day contributions and contributions to funds like the Rosemary and Joel Silbey Fund, which help us to enrich the undergraduate and graduate experiences. With the support of our Alumni, we are able to fund such things as travel research grants, field trips, attendance at conferences, lectures and faculty-student lunches and dinners.

As this academic year ends, let me thank all of you for your continued interest in and generosity toward the department and its students. It has been a pleasure to serve as the Chair of the Department and I wish our new chair and my colleague, Tamara Loos, much success as she begins her term on 1 July 2019.

Sincerely,

Sandra Elaine Greene

Sandra E. Greene
Chair, Department of History
Stephen ’59 and Madeline ’60 Anbinder Professor of African History
Faculty Books