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# KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY

## History Department

*Primary Source, Winter 2009*



### Welcome from the Chair...

The first six months of my tenure as department chair have passed more quickly than I could have imagined. Taking up the baton from our former chair, the enormously talented Sue Zschoche, during a time of financial difficulties no less, was daunting. But I am happy to say that the department has made exciting strides despite recent budgetary setbacks.

The fall 2009 semester was an eventful one. The department revived its Parrish Lecture and Colloquium Series, and co-sponsored, with Manhattan Christian College, a public talk by Asbury Theological Seminary Professor Ben Witherington III, who spoke to a packed house on the theme “Was Jesus a Feminist?” Four of our colleagues — Derek Hoff, Michael Krysko, Heather McCrea, and M.J. Morgan — were offered book contracts from major academic presses. And Professor Stone, our expert in Soviet military history, was appointed Director of our Institute for Military History & 20th Century Studies, where he has already initiated a series of small grants designed to support the research of faculty members and graduate students. In addition, the K-State Office of International Programs selected Professor Stone to participate in its Faculty Development trip to India, which will allow him to make contacts beneficial to the Institute’s popular Security Studies program.



The department welcomed two Carey Fellows, scholars who reside in the local area and wish to affiliate with the History Department. This year we have Sara Smith, a PhD candidate in History and Philosophy of Science from Indiana University at Bloomington, and Dr. David Defries, who received his PhD from The Ohio State University in medieval history. Dr. Defries will teach two courses for the department during the spring term: the History of Early Christianity and The Crusades.

Our office staff has undergone a transformation since the summer. Shelly Reves, who formerly worked part time in the departmental office, was named Office Manager at the beginning of the fall term. Ms. Reves guides the office efficiently, and with great good humor, always capable of solving problems great and small. Our new half-time administrative assistant, Lindsey Aytes, a recent transplant to Manhattan, has been doing a wonderful job helping faculty members and students accomplish their daily tasks. Shelly and Lindsey make all of our jobs go more smoothly, and their hard work is much appreciated.

It is my great pleasure in this column to outline the accomplishments of our faculty and graduate students, and describe our departmental activities. But we also would like to hear from YOU, our alumni, about your achievements and milestones since last we saw you. It is therefore my pleasure to announce that a new feature — “Alumni News” — will debut in the Summer *Primary Source*. I encourage you to e-mail news items concerning your careers, further academic attainments, or family, to [histolum@ksu.edu](mailto:histolum@ksu.edu), so that we can include you in the newsletter. We welcome anything you would like to share with former professors and classmates, including pictures.

On behalf of the History Department at Kansas State University, I wish you a safe, productive, and happy new year. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,  
Louise Breen

## Department Re-launches Parrish Colloquium



On October 15 and 16, 2009, the History Department re-launched the Fred L. Parrish Colloquium as the Fred L. Parrish Lecture in Religious History. The Parrish Lecture Committee (Professors Linder, Al-Salim, and McCulloh) invited Professor Ben Witherington III of the Asbury Theological Seminary in Wilmore, Kentucky as the initial Parrish Lecturer. Witherington, a well-known New Testament scholar and one of the world's leading authorities on early Christian history, is the author of more than forty volumes in his field. On the evening of October 15, Witherington spoke to a crowd of 275 people at the Alumni Center on the topic of "Was Jesus the First Feminist?" Answering this question in the affirmative, Witherington highlighted what he argued was Jesus' unique relationship with women for first-century Palestine.

Witherington also led a lively discussion of the works of Dan Brown of *Da Vinci Code* fame for the specially invited guests of the Parrish Colloquium on October 16. In addition, he gave presentations to two history classes and met with graduate students interested in religious history. He also dined on several occasions with KSU faculty. Many of those who experienced the Parrish Lecture and Colloquium expressed their gratitude to the History Department for bringing Witherington to campus. The next Parrish Lecture is scheduled for the autumn of 2011.

Ethelinda Parrish Amos and Wendell Amos established the Parrish Colloquium in 1984 in honor of Ethelinda's father, who was for many years a distinguished member of the KSU History Department. Fred Parrish had earned his doctorate in the history of religion at Yale University in 1923. He served as Head of the Department of History, Government and Philosophy at K-State (then know as Kansas State Agricultural College) from 1942 until his retirement in 1958. The original purpose of the Colloquium was not only to honor Professor Parrish but also to continue a campus tradition that he founded. Parrish was well known at K-State and in the Manhattan community as an avid conversationalist. For many years he was the guiding light for a local Conversation Club that met monthly to discuss and debate creative and controversial ideas in religion and religious history. The Parrish Colloquium was discontinued from 1995 until its revitalization this year as both a lecture series and a colloquium.

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## John Dredger Begins as Chapman Doctoral Fellow

The Mark A. Chapman Doctoral Fellowship was established in 2008 and provides \$100,000 for four years of PhD study in the Department of History. The recipient for the 2009-2010 academic year is John R. Dredger.

John's journey to a PhD program in history has been a bit unique. He earned an Associate of Arts in Liberal Arts from St. Mary's College in 1991, and in 1993 he completed the requirements for a Bachelor of Arts in Education from that same institution. He then shifted his emphasis to the study of languages, and in 1995 was awarded a Master of Arts in Classical Languages from the University of Kansas. At Kansas State John has selected a concentration in European History. His primary interest is Austrian military history during the 19th century.

Although John is new to Kansas State, he is certainly no novice when it comes to classroom instruction. As a middle school and high school teacher he has taught Latin, English, mathematics, history, geography, science, literature and music, and at the college level he has taught classes in world history, U.S history, literature, classical and patristic Latin and Shakespeare. At KSU John hopes to increase his knowledge so that he can contribute to his field of study through publications, and enhance his varied and extensive experience in the classroom.

The Mark A. Chapman Doctoral Fellowship has afforded John the incredible gift of uninterrupted time to study and do his research.

Mark A. Chapman of Cat Spring, Texas, a 1965 graduate of K-State with a dual Bachelor's degree in History and Political Science, has been a wonderful friend to the History Department. A native of Clay Center, Kansas, Chapman established funds that have supported historical research and learning at all levels, including the Mark A. Chapman Excellence Fund for History, the Leo and Irene Chapman Excellence in History Scholarship, the Chapman Scholars Program, the History Faculty Research Fund, and the Chapman Center for Rural Studies. Faculty members, graduate students, and undergraduate majors have all benefitted from his generosity.

## Congrats are due to ...

Professor M.J. Morgan has published “Indians On Trial: Crime and Punishment in French Louisiana on the Eve of the Seven Years War,” *Louisiana History* L (Summer 2009): 293–329; and a chapter, “The French in the Illinois Country, 1699–1735: Using Historical Geography to Understand European–Indian History,” in John Heppen and Sam Otterstrom, eds., *Geography, History, and the American Political Economy* (Lexington Books, 2009).

Professor Bonnie Lynn-Sherow, on behalf of the Chapman Center, received a \$14,000 grant from K-State’s Center for Engagement and Community Development to document the early-twentieth-century history of grocery stores and community cooks in rural Kansas. The Chapman Center will be partnering with Jane Marshall, an instructor in American food writing in the College of Human Ecology. The title of the project is “Filling the Larder: Feeding our Families.”

Barry Hankins, Professor of History and Director of Graduate Studies at Baylor University and 1990 KSU PhD, published two books and edited a third in 2008. His *Francis Schaeffer and the Shaping of Evangelical America* (Eerdmans, 2008) won the 2009 John Pollock Award for Christian Biography.

Professor Derek Hoff has an article appearing in the current (Winter 2010) issue of the *Journal of Policy History*: “‘Kick That Population Commission in the Ass’: Richard Nixon, the Commission on Population Growth and the American Future, and the Defusing of the Population Bomb.”

Professor David Stone published “Stalingrad and the Evolution of Soviet Urban Warfare,” *Journal of Slavic Military Studies* 22 (April–June 2009): 1–13; and “The Eastern Front in American History Textbooks: A Glass Half-Full,” in V. I. Zhuraleva and I. I. Kurilla, eds., *Россия и США на страницах учебников [Russia and the United States in Textbooks]* (Woodrow Wilson Center/Volgograd State University Press, 2009).

PhD candidate Brian Laslie has accepted a position as the historian with the 1st Fighter Wing, Langley Air Force Base, Virginia.

In September, Professor Don Mrozek presented “Athletes, Scholars, and Warriors: Sport, Physical Education, and Institutional Unity at the United States Air Force Academy” at the triennial military history symposium at the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs.

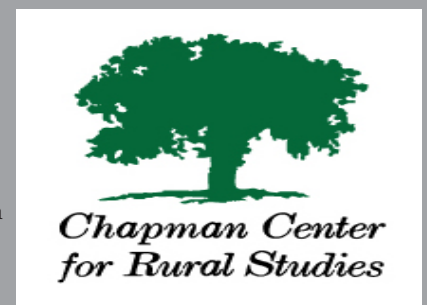
MAJ David Oakley, PhD student in Security Studies, published a revised version of his HIST 912 paper on the Church Committee and the CIA as “Taming a Rogue Elephant,” *American Intelligence Journal* 26 (Winter 2008/9): 61–67. Congratulations also to Professor Michael Krysko, who taught that section of HIST 912.

Doctoral candidate Kelly L. Sartorius has an article, “Experimental Autonomy: Dean Emily Taylor’s Administrative Action and the Roots of the Second Wave of the Women’s Movement at the University of Kansas,” forthcoming in the journal *Kansas History: A Journal of the Central Plains*. Ms. Sartorius appreciates the guidance she received in Professor Al Hamscher’s Publishing in History course, a writing seminar that has been instrumental in helping a number of our students get published in scholarly journals.

## Chapman Center Announces New Graduate Fellowship

The first contributors to the Chapman Center for Rural Studies Graduate Fellowship Fund are Ralph and Susan Willard of Fort Scott, Kansas. The Willards have donated \$10,000 to help support graduate level research in Kansas History, under the direction of the Chapman Center for Rural Studies. The first fellowship will be awarded during the fall 2010 semester to a master’s level student at K-State with a strong interest in regional history. Subsequent fellowships will be awarded as applicants, donors and projects are matched to one another.

The inaugural fellowship recipient, to be selected by the Chapman Center faculty, will study the life and works of J.S. Penney, a native Kansas poet and author from Fort Scott. The Chapman Center wishes to thank the Willards for their generous contribution to graduate student research in history. Anyone wishing to make a donation to the new Chapman Center Graduate Fellowship Fund should contact the director of the center, Professor Bonnie Lynn-Sherow, at 785 532-6730 or at blynn@ksu.edu.



## History Major Enjoys 15 Minutes of Fame Researching KSU-KU Rivalry

Andrew Hartley, a senior from Belle Plain, never thought he would end up in the media spotlight when he enrolled in Professor Lynn-Sherow's capstone seminar (HIST 586). But after the President's office heard about his research paper on the history of the KU-KSU rivalry, Andrew found himself being interviewed on local radio station KMAN and then interviewed by Topeka television station KTKA.



**K-State fans marching into Lawrence, Fall 1929**

The first KSU-KU football game was played in 1902 (6 years after the introduction of football at KSU), but, Hartley discovered, the rivalry became much more intense during the 1920s, a period of rapid growth for the game. Hazing and pranks became such a problem that a "peace pact" was signed by the student governments at KSU and KU, which could levy fines and other consequences against students who vandalized and or otherwise took the rivalry too far. KU actually stole the KSU mascot at one point, and another time some KSU men caught a group of KU students on campus up to no good and sent them home to Lawrence—minus all their hair. By the way, though KSU still trails in the all-time series, it has won 21 Governor's Cups (awarded to the winner since 1969) to 19 wins for KU.

## STAY in TOUCH!

We are adding a new column to the *Primary Source* called "Alumni News." But we can't write it without you! We would love to hear about what you have been doing since your days at K-State, and how you are using your history major (either in traditional or unexpected ways).

Please e-mail us [histalum@ksu.edu](mailto:histalum@ksu.edu) and share your updates.

And as always, we hope you will stay in touch with the department via our webpage: [ksu.edu/history](http://ksu.edu/history).

Thanks for your support!

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## Department and Institute Welcome New Tech Assistant

Our new computer wiz and troubleshooter is Murali Vupputuri, who's pursuing a master's degree in Computing and Information Sciences. His broader expertise resides in Information Security, especially network protocols enhancement. Murali has made many significant improvements to the departmental webpage, and he is currently working on a major redesign of the Institute's webpage as well

as launching the online presence of the Chapman Center for Rural Studies.

Murali is a native of a small village called Gopannapalem in Andhra Pradesh, a province in Southern India. Though he admits that he misses the beaches of eastern India, Murali finds "Manhattan very peaceful. People here are very amicable ... I feel like I'm back in my village." Starbucks has been his favorite hangout



spot, but sadly he finds the food in Manhattan "kind of bland."

Murali plays cricket and soccer and is also trying to learn U.S. football. Eventually he dreams of visiting Niagara Falls, the Grand Canyon, and Yellowstone National Park, and he also plans to travel to San Francisco and New

York. For now, he enjoys hanging out in Kansas City with his friends.

Murali is available in Room 317 of Eisenhower Hall, and he welcomes any comments on the Department's and Institute's web pages. You can reach him at [muraliv@ksu.edu](mailto:muraliv@ksu.edu).