

KANSAS STATE
UNIVERSITY

Department of HISTORY



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

In Memoriam: Albert N. Hamscher (1946-2019)

It is with a heavy heart that I find myself beginning this year's message with some very sad news. Longtime History faculty member and friend Al Hamscher passed away on June 06, 2019 after a short battle with cancer. Al had been a member of the History faculty since 1972. His expertise was in the institutional, legal, and social history of early modern France. In recent years, he also developed a specialty in the cultural history of U.S. cemeteries.

Al prided himself on producing quality scholarship and striving for excellence in teaching. His most recent book, *The Royal Financial Administration and the Prosecution of Crime in France, 1670-1789* (2012) used an extensive array of French national and regional archives to illuminate the workings of justice in France's *ancien régime*. Reviews of the book celebrated it for its "complexity," "innovation," "spectacular detail," and "exceptional clarity." Benoît Garnot of the Université de Bourgogne in Dijon, France praised the book as representing "the fruits of over thirty years of research." Professor William Doyle of the University of Bristol touted the book as the defining accomplishment of Al's impressive career. "Al Hamscher has long enjoyed an outstanding reputation among specialists on seventeenth-century France," Doyle explained in his effusive praise of a volume he characterized as a "lifetime's achievement."

In the context of Al's stellar scholarly accomplishments, it was his complementary dedication to teaching that earned him the selection as the department's first Kenneth S. Davis Professor of History in 2008. The endowed "Davis Chair" is named after the former History faculty member whose substantive donation established the honor. The late Professor Davis wanted this endowed chair to recognize a History faculty member who "compiled a general record of professional excellence and has shown special success in teaching." No one was better suited than Al to be the inaugural holder of the Davis Chair.

If teaching and scholarship were his top professional priorities, Al's passion for his beloved hometown Philadelphia Eagles loomed especially large when he was not in the classroom. At one point he even named one of his cats Asante after one of his favorite Eagles players, Asante Samuel. Outside of Kansas State University, several other local Manhattan residents knew him as "Eagle Al" from his many calls into local sports radio programs, often to vent about his Eagles. It is fair to say that this football franchise tortured Al for much his life, particularly by always seeming to fall just short of winning the big game. Those frustrations finally came to an end just last year, when his Eagles finally won their first Super Bowl on February 4, 2018.

Al was devoted to his wife Claire Dehon, a Professor of French who retired from the Department of Modern Languages last year. They both arrived at Kansas State University in 1972, where they met shortly thereafter. In recent years, a typical Friday would find Al and Claire winding down the week at the Little Apple Brewery, sharing drinks and conversation with an eclectic group of friends and colleagues who all enjoyed that end-of-the-week respite from the daily grind.

Al is survived by Claire. One might also say he is also survived by the successive generations of students who benefitted from the chance to learn from one of the best teachers this program has ever known. Professor Doyle, in his review of Al's last book, remarked that "for decades he has been a familiar face at conferences and in the French archives, and the depth and range of his knowledge has consistently impressed everybody in the field." That same sentiment also captures the magnitude of his presence in the halls and classrooms Department of History for the past forty-seven years. We will all miss him dearly. (*cont. on page 2*)

This annual newsletter was slated to be distributed just before we learned of Professor Al Hamscher's passing. The original message that was intended to appear in the space above began with this sentence: "The History Department is in the midst of a generational

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- Our academic advisor won a prestigious award! (pg. 3)
- An undergraduate student placed first at a forensics tournament (p.5)
- New faculty members welcomed to the Department! (p. 7-8)
- Notre Dame discussion hosted after tragic fire (p.9)
- Check out the list of recent graduates (pg. 9 sidebar)

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR (CONTINUED)

transition.” While saying farewell to Al seemingly punctuates that point, the substance of the original message was primarily intended to illuminate a combination of retirements and new hires that are reshaping our program. Last year at this time we bid farewell to Robert Linder, the longtime foundation of our program’s strength in religious history. Professor Linder retired after fifty-three years at Kansas State University. His impact on our program and overwhelmingly positive influence on successive generations of K-State students was evident at his retirement ceremony held last May. The outdoor event included a tree planting and dedication so that future generations of K-State students can be reminded of his enduring legacy. The festivities were held in the commons area between Hale Library (where the tree was planted) and Eisenhower Hall, where Professor Linder’s office was located for more than fifty-one of his fifty-three years at Kansas State. Nearly 100 people attended the ceremony. His former students were especially well-represented, coming from as far as California and Texas to show their appreciation for the outsized influence Professor Linder had on their careers and lives. If you missed the ceremony, you can see the video here: <https://mediasite.k-state.edu/mediasite/Play/41966287a10a40da987479936e21b7b61d>. His retirement notwithstanding, Professor Linder is still working hard. His latest book, *The Fountain of Public Prosperity: Evangelical Christians in Australian History 1740-1914* (co-authored with Stuart Piggin) was recently released by Monash University Publishing in Australia.

This year Lou Williams, our expert in constitutional history, is calling it a career after twenty-eight years on the faculty. Charles Sanders, who strengthened our department with his expertise nineteenth century American history is slated to retire at the end of the 2019-20 academic year after nearly two decades on the faculty. We are going to greatly miss their contributions to the intellectual vitality and rigor of our program.

As much as we will miss our retiring faculty, we are also very excited about the new additions to our program and the new strengths they provide. We’ve welcomed Ben McCloskey this past year. He’s a Classicist who earned his PhD at Ohio State University and has expertise in ancient history, especially Greece. Professor McCloskey joins the History Department through a joint-appointment with Modern Languages. His welcome addition to our faculty allows our program to regularly teach for the first time in a decade the always-popular ancient history courses. Ginette Aley, who earned her PhD at Iowa State University and studied under KSU History alum R. Douglas Hurt, is an expert in nineteenth century US history. In addition to teaching, Professor Aley’s responsibilities also include serving as the associate managing editor of the journal *Kansas History: A Journal of the Central Plains*, which is published out of our department. And starting in 2019-20, we are excited to welcome Mary Elizabeth Walters, whose military history expertise focuses on humanitarian interventions in the 1990s Balkans. Professor Walters joins us from the University of North Carolina, where she just completed her dissertation. Her emphasis on more recent history is an exciting addition to our curriculum that expands the breadth of our popular military history program. For more on these new additions to our program, see the stories on pages 7 - 8.

We are bidding farewell to 2018-19 academic year on a decidedly sad note as we come to terms not just with our recent and pending retirements but with having to unexpectedly say goodbye to Al Hamscher. At the same time, we are also looking forward to an exciting 2019-20 with all the intellectual energy our new additions will bring to our program, building on the contributions and accomplishments of all those they are succeeding.

INSTITUTE FOR MILITARY HISTORY LECTURE DRAWS A CROWD

The History Department is in the process of reinvigorating the Institute for Military History after several years of dormancy. Professors David Graff, Andrew Orr, Don Mrozek and Nadia Oweidat have been working hard to revise its mission statement and elevate its profile. As part of this effort, on 31 October 2018, the Institute hosted a well-attended lecture, “Black Texans and the Great War,” by Dr. Lila Rakoczy of the Texas Historical Commission. Dr. Rakoczy used a study of African-American soldiers from Texas to explore the experience of African-American men in the U.S Army and Navy during World War I, including their decisions to enlist, their combat and non-combat roles, and the ways racism shaped their military service. Here are some pictures from the event:



This classroom seats 48 students, and the event was so well-attended that students and faculty members present were standing, sitting on the floor, and even taking notes on walls.

(Above) Dr. Rakoczy speaks to a packed classroom in Calvin Hall on African-American men in the U.S. military during World War I.

ACADEMIC ADVISOR HONORED WITH STAMEY AWARD

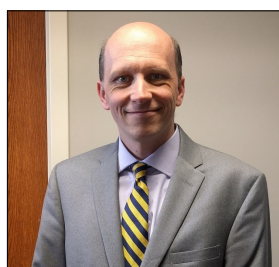
Kathy Lillich, the academic advisor for the History and Political Science programs, won KSU's prestigious William L. Stamey Award for Undergraduate Advising. Kathy joined the Department of History in the Spring of 2017. She typically advises nearly 100 History majors each term alongside a comparable number for Political Science. This award was well earned. Kathy's overall commitment to the principle and practice of good advising informs her engagement with students. In the past year, she has started pursuing a Master of Science degree in Academic Advising through the College of Education with the intent of continuing through the doctorate. Kathy is especially committed to supporting first-generation students. She, a "first-gen" student herself, has attended multiple forums dedicated to sharing knowledge on how to better serve these students. Overall, Kathy is a terrific spokesperson for the History major at KSU as she guides current students through our program and visits recruiting fairs and high schools to bring more on board. In the relatively brief period that she has been a member of our department, the faculty have embraced her, while students – and often their parents too – love her. And why wouldn't they? Kathy has a masterful command of College and major degree requirements of both the disciplines for which she is responsible. She complements this mastery with a depth of knowledge about the practice and profession of advising that is unmatched by anyone else in both departments. And both those strengths are rooted in her infectious enthusiasm for engaging, counseling, and assisting our students, even via email after hours. She is, in short, the ideal recipient for this year's Stamey Advising award. Kathy was honored with this richly-deserved award at the Fall 2018 KSU Arts and Sciences graduation ceremonies on Saturday December 8, 2018.



ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR AWARDED FULBRIGHT SCHOLARSHIP

Prof. Phil Tiemeyer was awarded a prestigious Fulbright Scholarship for 2017-2018. He used it to spend the Spring 2018 semester in Belgrade, Serbia. While there, he taught a class on the history of US aviation at the Faculty of Political Sciences at the University of Belgrade and conducted research for his next book on global aviation and flight attendants. That research took him to the Serbian Foreign Ministry and the National Library of Serbia. His research also involved conducting interviews with pilots and flight attendants who once worked for JAT Yugoslav Airways. Phil reports that the highlight of his time in Serbia was being accepted as an honorary member of the Serbian Air Line Pilots Association.

ANDREW ORR AWARDED FRENCH HISTORY FELLOWSHIP



Andrew Orr, associate professor of history, has been awarded a fellowship to spend spring 2020 at the Centre for French History and Culture at the University of St. Andrews, Scotland. The Centre awards only one visiting fellowship every other academic year. It is a globally competitive fellowship open to scholars of French history and culture, including sociology, anthropology, literature, and language. The University of St. Andrews is the highest-ranking university in Scotland and the third-oldest university in the English-speaking world. Orr's work focuses on the 19th and 20th centuries and explores the boundaries of civilian and military identity. His current projects include a book on French involvement in the Turkish War of Independence and a cultural history of the military in American life since 1973. "It is a great honor to be invited to St. Andrews and to join such a distinguished list of visiting fellows," Orr said. "While there I will focus on my book *Facing the Victorious Turks: France, Mustafa Kemal, and the Turkish War of Independence*."

SANDERS NAMED PROFESSOR OF THE WEEK

Prof. Charles Sanders was named Professor of the Week for the week of 17 December 2018. This honor is coordinated by Faculty Senate, the president's office, K-State Athletics and the Division of Communications and Marketing. Recipients are faculty members selected by Faculty Senate caucuses. Chuck was recognized at halftime during the men's home basketball game on 15 December 2018.



Congratulations to our 2019 –2020 History Department undergraduate scholarship winners!

The Robert Linder History Scholarship

Tara Dorsch

The Golda M. Crawford History Scholarship

Joshua Kelley, Zoe Nicolet

The Lois B. Turner Memorial Scholarship

Caitlin Radonich

The Charles M. Correll Memorial History Scholarship

Nathan Dowell

The Josie S. Sanders Memorial Scholarship

Sydney Wolgast

The Leo and Irene Chapman Excellence in History Scholarship

Molly Black, Jeremy Cox, Tara Dorsch, Ethan Levin, Ethan Powell, Caitlin Radonich, Benjamin Ristow, Rebekah Zwink

The Cora Stewart Wilcoxon Undergraduate Scholarship

Nathan Dowell, Joshua Kelley, Zoe Nicolet, Sydney Wolgast

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHTS

- ◆ Travis Donnelly (1997)
- ◆ David Vail (2012)
- ◆ John T. Keuhn (2007)
- ◆ Phillip Cunningham (2011)
- ◆ Jared Tracy (2012)
- ◆ Michael Hankins (2018)
- ◆ Pat Proctor (2014)

TRAVIS DONNELLY (1997)



I graduated from K-State with a History degree in 1997. I'm currently living in Los Angeles and work as a writer and producer on the CBS television show, "Bull". My other writing and producing credits include "Medium", "Hawaii 5-0", "Deadliest Catch", and "Jay Leno's Garage". While many people in my business take a route through English departments or Film schools, I have found that my History background has been a true asset in the art of story telling. (Check out Travis' IMDB page at <https://www.imdb.com/name/nm2641379/> to see his complete record of writing, producing, directing, and editing credits).

DAVID VAIL (2012)

David earned his doctorate in 2012 and then joined the K-State library faculty until 2016. In August 2016, David joined the History faculty at the University of Nebraska at Kearney. Success has followed him ever since. In 2017, he won the 2017 Michael Schuyler Award for Excellence in Teaching. 2018 saw the publication of his first book, *Chemical Lands: Pesticides, Aerial Spraying, and Health in North America's Grasslands since 1945* by the University of Alabama Press. Phi Kappa Phi *Forum Magazine* selected this acclaimed study as a "Bookshelf" selection in summer 2018, and the University of Nebraska's Center for Great Plains Studies selected it as the "Book of the Month" for June 2018. *Chemical Lands* can be previewed on its Amazon.com website: <https://www.amazon.com/Chemical-Lands-Pesticides-Spraying-Grasslands/dp/0817319735>



JOHN T. KUEHN (2007)

I am the General William Stofft Professor of Military History at U.S. Army Command and General Staff College. In 2017, the Naval Institute Press published my book *America's First General Staff: A Short History of the Rise and Fall of the General Board of the U.S. Navy, 1900-1950*.



PHILLIP CUNNINGHAM (2011)

I received my BA in History from KSU in 2011 and my MLIS from Pratt Institute in 2015. I am currently the Head of Research Services at the Amistad Research Center (<https://www.amistadresearchcenter.org/>), the nation's largest independent archive of African American history, civil rights, and social justice movements, located in New Orleans, Louisiana. My writing has been included in the Chapman Center for Rural Studies (writing on the Exodusters who settled in Manhattan, 1879-1880). The archival collections at the Amistad Research Center contains valuable primary sources documenting the early U.S. History of the state, Bleeding Kansas, and the lives of African Americans in the state. I would like to see KSU History students conducting archival research at the Amistad Research Center and I would love to discuss ways to make that possible.

JARED TRACY (2012)

I am a Psychological Operations Historian with the History Office of the United States Army Special Operations Command (USASOC) at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. I joined the office in 2010 soon after passing my doctoral preliminary exams. My article "More Than 'Shoot and Salute': U.S. Army Psywar in Laos", the second in a pair on special operations in Laos, appeared in *Veritas: Journal of Army Special Operations History*, Vol. 14, No.2 (2018). I am currently conducting research on Joseph Kony and the Lord's Resistance Army, which conducted guerrilla warfare aimed at turning Uganda into a theocracy.

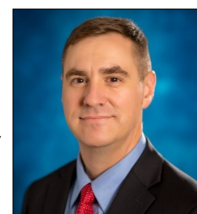


MICHAEL HANKINS (2018)

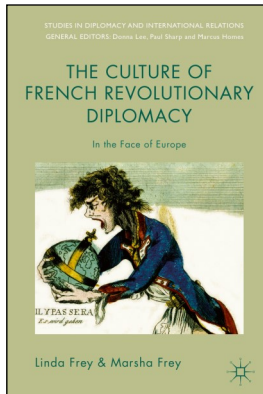
Michael earned his doctoral degree in 2018. He completed his dissertation while on a year-long appointment to the History faculty of the U.S. Air Force Academy. In July 2018, he joined the teaching faculty at the Air Command and Staff College of the U.S. Air Force at Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama as Assistant Professor of Strategy. His time in Alabama, however, will be brief. In July 2019, Michael joins the Smithsonian Air & Space Museum as their Curator of Modern Military Aircraft.

PAT PROCTOR (2014)

Pat Proctor joined came to K-State in 2006 as an active duty officer and earned his PhD in 2014. A veteran of both the Afghanistan and Iraq wars, he has authored numerous books that collectively encompass both his personal combat experiences and his academic interest in the military history. *Containment and Credibility: The Ideology and Deception That Plunged America into the Vietnam War* (Carrell Books, 2016) is based on the 2014 dissertation he completed in the History program. *Task Force Patriot and the End of Combat Operations in Iraq* (Government Institutes, 2011) is based on his experiences as a member of Battalion S3. His article, "Lessons Unlearned: Army Transformation and Low-Intensity Conflict" was published in *Parameters* 47, no. 4 (Winter 2017-18). His latest book, *Blameless? The 1990s and the U.S. Army's Role in Creating the Forever-Wars in Afghanistan and Iraq*, will be published by the University of Missouri Press later this year. Pat retired from the Army this past spring. To learn more about Pat's writing, check out his Amazon.com page https://www.amazon.com/Pat-Proctor/e/Boo3OIGF2W%3Fref=dbs_a_mng_rwt_scns_share

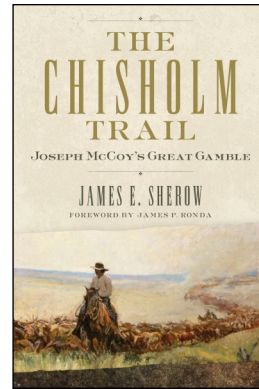
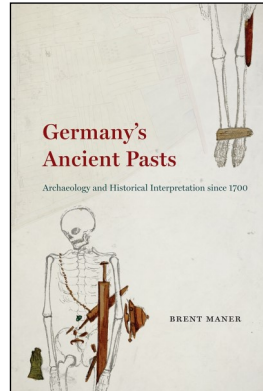


RECENT PROFESSIONAL PUBLICATIONS: BOOKS



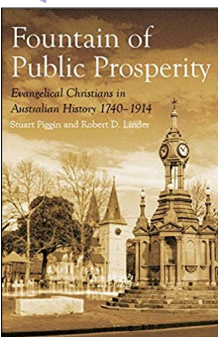
Linda and Marsha Frey, *The Culture of French Revolutionary Diplomacy: In the Face of Europe* (Palgrave, 2018). This monograph focuses on how the culture of the revolutionary diplomats changed radically during the Revolution and meant not negotiation, but confrontation and led in part to 23 years of conflict.

Brent Maner, *Germany's Ancient Pasts: Archaeology and Historical Interpretation since 1750* (University of Chicago, 2018). Just how old is Germany? This is the question explored in *Germany's Ancient Pasts*. Maner examines the work of antiquarians, historic preservationists, and archaeologists and their efforts to present the ancient past to a wider public. From exhibits at local and regional museums to the plotlines of popular historical novels, archaeology became a central part of how people thought about the past and serves as an ideal place to study the interaction between regional and national history, as well as the ways that scholarly debates were used to address questions about race, ethnicity, and national belonging.



James Sherow, *The Chisholm Trail: Joseph McCoy's Great Gamble* (University of Oklahoma Press, 2018). *The Chisholm Trail* follows McCoy's vision and the effects of the Chisholm Trail from post-Civil War Texas and Kansas to the multimillion-dollar beef industry that remade the Great Plains, the American diet, and the national and

international beef trade. At every step, both nature and humanity put roadblocks in McCoy's way. Texas cattle fever had dampened the appetite for longhorns, while prairie fires, thunderstorms, blizzards, droughts, and floods roiled the land. Unscrupulous railroad managers, stiff competition from other brokers, Indians who resented the usurping of their grasslands, and farmers who preferred growing wheat to raising cattle all threatened to impede the McCoys' vision for the trail. As author James E. Sherow shows, by confronting these obstacles, McCoy put his own stamp upon the land, and on eating habits as far away as New York City and London.



Stuart Piggin and Robert D. Linder, *The Fountain of Public Prosperity: Evangelical Christians in Australian History, 1740-1914* (Monash University Publishing, 2018). The official religion brought to Australia with the First Fleet was Evangelical Christianity, the 'vital religion' then shaping public policy through William Wilberforce and his fellow evangelicals. That it has shaped Australian history ever since, making a substantial contribution to the public prosperity of the nation, is an untold story. Christian values and identity were the main components of Australian values and identity. The major component of the humanitarian movement, evangelicals ensured that the convict settlement of Australia was more humane than is generally recognised. They did most of the all-too-little that was done to protect the Indigenous population and to educate settlers, keeping alive in the latter a conscience over maltreatment of the former. *The Fountain of Public Prosperity* presents propositions which require a radical revision of received understandings, an appreciation of unmined riches in the Australian experience, and reconnection with an often buried past. Drawing on these untapped resources is the safest route to reimagining a future for Australia. (Text from Amazon page)

RECENT PROFESSIONAL PUBLICATIONS: ESSAYS & ARTICLES

- Eric Brandom, "Le mot du poète, le mot primitif: Aimé Césaire and Vico's Civic Humanism," in [History, Imperialism, Critique: New Essays in World Literature](#) (Routledge, 2018)
- David A. Graff, "The Reach of the Military: Tang," *Journal of Chinese History*, vol. 1, no. 2 (July 2017), 243-268.
- Michael A. Krysko, "[American Radio and Technological Transformation from Invention to Broadcasting, 1900-1945](#)," *Oxford Research Encyclopedia for American History* (April 2018)
- Michael A. Krysko, "[US-Cuban Relations, American Identities, and the 1946 North American Regional Broadcasting Agreement](#)," *Journal of Contemporary History*, vol. 53, no. 4 (October 2018), 762-787.
- Ben McCloskey, "[Xenophon's Democratic Pedagogy](#)" in *Phoenix*, vol. 71, nos. 3-4 (2018).
- Andrew Orr, "The Myth of the Black Sea Mutiny: Communist Propaganda, Soviet Influence and the Re-Remembering of the Mutiny," *French History*, vol. 32, no 1 (March 2018)
- Andrew Orr, "Dealing with the 'Victorious Turks': French responses to Mustafa Kemal and the Turkish War of Independence, 1919-1924" in *Regional Wars, Global Consequences* (Sofia Bulgaria: Veles, 2018)
- Andrew Orr, "Plan Z: The Popular Front, Civil-Military Relations and the French Army's Plan to Defeat a Second Paris Commune, 1934-1936" *The International Journal of Military History and Historiography*, vol. 39, no. 1 (April 2019)

K-STATE HOSTS KANSAS ASSOCIATION OF HISTORIANS FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE 1995

Kansas State University's Department of History hosted the Kansas Association of Historians annual meeting on 29-30 March 2019 with University Distinguished Professor Dr. James Sherow as current KAH president. As the tradition goes, each year the KAH has a new president, who is the previous years' vice president, and the new president's home institution hosts that year's KAH conference.

KAH has been meeting annually since 1927, which makes the 2019 meeting the organization's 93rd annual conference. The last time Kansas State University hosted this conference was when now-Professor Emeritus John McCulloh was president in 1995.



History Department graduate student Melanie Highsmith poses for a picture. She was one of the many volunteers who helped make KAH a success.

The conference was held at the K-State Alumni Center on campus, with the Sponsorship Tables in the Tadtman Boardroom overlooking the Old Memorial Stadium. Although the weather had previously been warm and spring-like, that weekend was rainy, cooler, and it even snowed on Saturday morning.

The History Department had planned campus tours, tours of the Marianna Kistler Beach Museum of Art, and hiking and van tours of the beautiful Konza Prairie reserve on Saturday afternoon. Unfortunately, due to the inclement and cold weather, all of the outdoor activities were cancelled, and only a few people took a walk over to the Beach Museum for the Pete Souza exhibit. Souza, a KSU alum and photographer, served as the Chief Official White House Photographer for Presidents Ronald Reagan and Barak Obama. The presentations, however, were very well-attended.

We had 25 panels with 84 scheduled presenters. Panel topics varied greatly, from Latino Stories of Kansas, Military History, 16th Century Religion and Politics, Health and Medicine, Ancient History, Teaching Approaches, Race and Gender in 19th and 20th centuries, environmental history, colonialism, European law and politics, security studies and two roundtable discussions: "Reverse Engineering the Historic Graphic Novel: Using Luke the Longhorn for Primary Source Education" and "Unpacking the Goodnow House Library: Reflections from the Trenches of a Local Archive Collaboration". There were so many panels we had to host the overflow in three classrooms in Calvin Hall.

The catered banquet dinner on Friday evening was held at the Flint Hills Discovery Center. An evening of good food and conversation was capped with a special presentation by Pauline Sharp of the Kaw Nation, re-enacting a historical time period where her grandmother, Lucy Tayiah Eads, was the first woman chief of the Kaw.

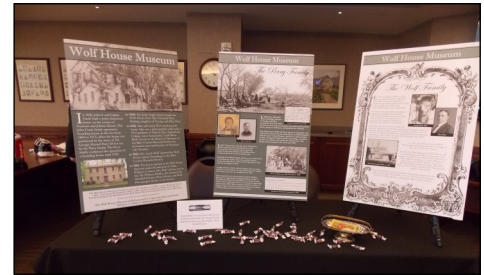


Current KAH president and University Distinguished Professor of History Dr. James Sherow.

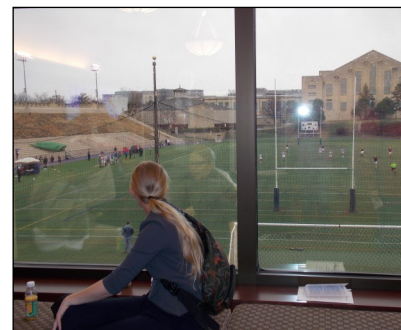
The next morning, conference attendees munched on fresh fruit and donuts, and in between panels watched the rugby matches in Old Memorial Stadium while the snow came down. Lunch was served at the Konza Prairie Biological Station Meeting Hall.

The History Department would like to thank the following volunteers for all their help in preparing for and running the conference: Emily Petermann, Joshua Kelley, Brad Galka, Cole Kruger, Suzanne Pohlman, Melissa Janulis, John Dotterweich, Scott Moseman, Lisa Caitlin Highsmith, Melanie Highsmith, Samuel Young; also the volunteers and staff of the Manhattan Area Chamber of Commerce for the conference packets, nametags, and volunteers at the registration table. We would also like to commend the hard work of Dr. James Sherow as KAH President, for his part in hosting this conference.

We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to our wonderfully generous sponsors: the Kansas State University President's Office—President Richard B. Myers, the Kansas State University Provost's Office—Provost Charles Taber, Kansas State University College of Arts & Sciences Dean's Office, The Chapman Center for Rural Studies, the Department of History, *Kansas History: A Journal of the Central Plains*, *Visit Manhattan*, the Marianna Kistler Beach Museum of Art, the Manhattan/Riley County Preservation Alliance, the Riley County Historical Museum and the Riley County Historical Society, and Claflin Books and Copies.



The Riley County Historical Society & Museum's sponsorship table on display at the Kansas Association of Historians conference.



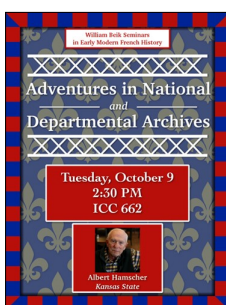
Conference attendees watched a snowy rugby match on Saturday morning from the Tadtman Boardroom in the Alumni Center.

HISTORY MAJOR PLACES FIRST AT FORENSICS TOURNAMENT

Some of you might recall from our last newsletter that History major Nathan Dowell, then a sophomore, placed 2nd in the nation in Extemporaneous Speaking at the American Forensics Association-National Individual Events Tournament on April 9, 2018. This year, as a junior, Nathan placed first! The event took place this year at the University of Alabama at Tuscaloosa from April 5-7. Nathan was the national champion in Impromptu Speaking. Nathan advanced to quarter-finals (top 24) after three preliminary rounds against over 100 students from over 80 schools in attendance. He then advanced to the semi-finals (top 12) into finals. Nathan was also a quarter-finalist in Extemporaneous Speaking and After Dinner Speaking. For Impromptu, speakers are given two quotations. They are then given seven minutes to select one and develop a speech around that quotation, and then give the speech. Good speakers typically prepare two minutes and speak five. Nathan consistently prepares for one minute and speaks for six. Students are judged on their ability to make an intelligent argument about the quotation and their ability to bring a variety of intellectual ideas to the speech as support for their claims. Nathan's final quotation was: "To err is human, but when the eraser is gone before the pencil, you're overdoing it," by Laurence J. Peter.

FACULTY LECTURES AND PRESENTATIONS

In February of 2019, Prof. Ginette Aley gave the Lincoln Lecture at the University of St. Mary. The title of her lecture is "Challenges on the Home Front: Union and Confederate Women and Families Respond to War". Dr. Aley's presentation explored how Midwestern and, by contrast, Confederate Virginia communities responded to the Civil War, along with addressing the dozens of issues any society is confronted by in wartime, including how war affects family roles, gender identities, economic practices, and political discourse. Her presentation wove in research from her co-edited book, *Union Heartland: The Midwestern Home Front during the Civil War*, the first book of its kind to look at the Northern home front from a regional Midwest perspective. Dr. Aley also incorporated new research on Lincoln's interactions with women while president.



The following story was written and intended for publication in this newsletter prior to Professor Hamscher's passing in June 2019. In honor of his memory and in celebration of his career, we have chosen to leave this story in this space unchanged from its original version. On October 9, 2018, Prof. Al Hamscher gave a talk at Georgetown University titled "Adventures in National and Departmental Archives" as part of the William Beik Seminars in Early Modern French History. Prof. Hamscher regularly refers to himself as an "archive rat," but having spent what he reckons as 12 years in French archives, "archive sage" might be a better term. Over the course of an hour and twenty minutes, he regaled graduate students and fellow French early modernists at Georgetown with stories of his experiences in 36 departmental archives while also dispensing advice to the students. Aside from alerting the audience to the many benefits of getting to know the archivists who run the institutions where they research, one of his most important pieces of advice was to "follow the marginalia." That is, be alert to the evidence that officials scrawled in the margins of official records. The talk was recorded; you can listen to the lecture on Professor Hamscher's faculty page here (scroll down to Presentations): <https://www.k-state.edu/history/faculty-staff/hamscher.html>

DEPARTMENT WELCOMES NEW FACULTY: MARY ELIZABETH WALTERS



The Department of History is delighted to announce the hiring of Mary Elizabeth Walters (Ph.D., University of North Carolina, 2019). She is a US military historian who specializes in humanitarian interventions with a particular emphasis on the 1999 Kosovo Refugee Crisis in Albania. Professor Walters currently has a fellowship at the University of Texas' Clements Center for National Security.

Her dissertation, "Unexpected Humanitarians: Albania, the U.S. Military, and Aid Organizations during the 1999 Kosovo Refugee Crisis" examines the emergence of military humanitarianism and a grassroots Albanian practice of humanitarianism centered on *mikpritja* (hospitality). Using archives in five countries and roughly 100 oral histories, Walters examines how culture and capacity shaped refugee assistance, international politics, and military alliance. Walters' research places the 1999

Kosovo Refugee Crisis within a broader narrative of changing military roles in the 1990s and peacekeeping. The efforts of the U.S. military, Albanians, and aid organizations to navigate the complex multinational and interagency operating environment of Albania help to illuminate a broader challenge of peacekeeping operations and refugee crises, namely the need for militaries, local communities, and international aid organizations to learn and relearn how to work together. Walters spent a year conducting her research in Albania and Kosovo on a National Security Education Program Boren Fellowship and has received several FLAS awards and research fellowships. Previously she served as the Graduate Student Representative for the Society for Military History between 2013-2016 and is currently a member of the Finance Committee. (Text adapted from the website of the Clements Center for National Security at the University of Texas at Austin)

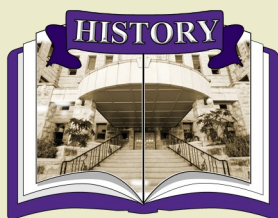
We are excited to have Mary Elizabeth Walters begin teaching on campus in the Fall 2019.

HISTORY DEPARTMENT

Our 20 full-time faculty members have written award-winning books and articles on research topics ranging from the military in ancient China to public health in Latin America to the grasslands of the Great Plains. The majority of our classes are small, and undergraduate history majors are assigned to our dedicated History advisor, Kathy Lillich, to help them navigate their way to successful completion of their degree. Our major is designed to be broad, requiring students to take classes that vary widely across time and place, but the department has particular strengths in military, agricultural/environmental, and religious history. We are pleased to also offer history as a minor with a requirement of 21 hours of coursework.

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WELCOME NEW FACULTY

Ben McCloskey earned his BA in Classical Studies from the University of Missouri, Columbia and his MA and PhD in Greek and Latin from The Ohio State University in 2012. His dissertation, “Xenophon’s *Kyrou Amathia*: Deceitful Narrative and the Birth of Tyranny,” reevaluates the fourth-century Athenian soldier and philosopher Xenophon’s *Cyropaideia* (*The Education of Cyrus*). It argues that rather than depicting Cyrus, the sixth-century founder of the Achaemenid Persian empire, as the model of a good ruler, the text “sees him as a vicious figure and a model for avoidance, not imitation” because his behavior was “selfish, vicious and utilitarian.”



Professor McCloskey has published several articles in prestigious journals (see pg. 5). He is currently hard at work on a new article about ancient paradoxography – ancient “miracle” stories – in relation to their authors’ political ideologies and a monograph, tentatively titled *Xenophon’s Polyphonic Leadership*.

History courses taught by Professor McCloskey include the ever-popular *HIST 565: History and Culture of Greece* and *HIST 566: History and Culture of Rome*, and *HIST 597: Gender and Sexuality in Greece and Rome*, among others.

Professor McCloskey’s primary appointment is with the Department of Modern Languages, where he teaches courses in Latin & ancient literature. After not having an ancient historian on the faculty for a decade, the History Department is excited to welcome Prof. McCloskey and excited for the opportunity to again offer courses that remain enduringly popular among undergraduate students.

Ginette Ale studies westward expansion, settlement, and related federal policies, as well as the rural home front during the US Civil War. She earned her BA and MA at the University of Virginia, and her PhD in History at Iowa State University under Doug Hurt, an alumnus of KSU’s History Department. Her dissertation, “Westward Expansion, John Tipton, and the Emergence of the American Midwest, 1800-1839,” analyzes the circumstances and consequences of Euro-American expansion into the Old Northwest, particularly early Indiana. It does this through an exhaustive examination of the public and private papers of John Tipton, a state official and federal Indian agent. As such, it explores several key roles he played: during and after the Battle of Tippecanoe; in mediating race relations between Euro-American settlers and fugitive African-Americans; and, in his political life in the state and after becoming a US Senator (and being called back to Indiana to organize one of the Indian removal events). Her dissertation also considers concepts of Euro-American masculinity, and challenges traditional notions of Euro-American men as “distant husbands and fathers.”

Prof. Ale co-edited the book, *Union Heartland: The Midwestern Home Front during the Civil War* (Southern Illinois University Press, 2013), which was the first book to consider the Northern home front during the US Civil War from a regional Midwest perspective. She has also published 11 essays or articles, including most recently, “Inescapable Realities: Rural Midwestern Women and Families during the Civil War,” in *Union Heartland* and “The Disagreeablest Night I Ever Saw”: John Tipton, Tippecanoe, and the Dissolution of the Middle Ground,” in *The Battle of Lake Erie: A Reassessment* (Kent State University Press, 2013), pp. 126-42. She is currently working on at least 3 projects: the impact of homesteading in Kansas and the Great Plains on women, families, and the environment; women’s roles in agricultural colleges (for example, Mary Van Zile at Kansas State Agricultural College); and Midwestern Civil War soldiers’ reactions to encountering the Confederate South and slavery. (see pg. 7)

In addition to serving as the Associate Managing Editor of *Kansas History: A Journal of the Central Plains* and the Chapman Center, Prof. Ale also teaches several courses in U.S. and Kansas history for the Department.

Eric Brandom is not so much ‘new’ faculty - he has been a valued instructor in our program since 2013 - but rather was elevated to a new position. Based on his outstanding record of teaching and scholarship since he first joined our program as a part-time instructor, the College approved Eric’s full-time appointment as a Visiting Assistant Professor of History starting in Fall 2018. He earned his BA in History from Oberlin College and his MA and PhD in History from Duke University. His dissertation, “Georges Sorel, Autonomy and Violence in the Third Republic,” contextualizes Georges Sorel’s philosophy of violence in the early Third Republic in France. It argues that although Sorel is known for his inspiration of Lenin and Mussolini as a radical Marxist, he approached the Dreyfus Affair and Revisionism as a political liberal.



Prof. Brandom has published 6 essays or articles in leading venues. He has also completed manuscripts for two books—a monograph titled *Autonomy and Violence: Georges Sorel and the Problem of Liberalism*, and with Tommaso Giordani, *Georges Sorel’s “Study on Vico”: A Translation and Critical Edition* (Brill).

Prof. Brandom teaches courses in the history of modern Western Civilization and in World history, as well as *HIST 533: Pirates, Plantations, and Empire: Caribbean History 1450-1950*, *HIST 572: 19th-Century Europe* and *HIST 573: 20th-Century Europe*.

FIRE SPARKED HISTORICAL DISCUSSION OF WORLD LANDMARK



On April 15, 2019, a fire destroyed a good portion of the Notre Dame cathedral in Paris, France. As a response to this tragedy, the Department of History hosted a public discussion that delved into the history and influence of the cathedral, as well as it's future impact on culture and the world society. "Notre Dame: The Past, Significance, and Future of the World's Cathedral" was hosted on May 01, 2019 in Leadership Studies Town Hall and was well attended. Speakers David Defries, Andrew Orr, and Eric Brandom joined the panel discussion, which was free and open to the public.



DAVID DEFRIES EARNS TENURE & PROMOTION

Prof. David Defries has earned tenure and promotion from assistant to associate professor. Dr. Defries studies the history of the Middle Ages, especially the intersection of the cult of the saints, collective memory and identity in early medieval Flanders. His first monograph, *From Sithiu to Saint-Bertin: Hagiographic Exegesis and Collective Memory in the Early Medieval Cults of Omer and Bertin* will be published in the summer of 2019 with the Pontifical Institute of Mediaeval Studies Press. Dr. Defries teaches a range of courses, including ones on the Vikings, medieval Christianity, the Crusades and medieval military history.



Associate Professor David Defries (far left) with wife Wendy Matlock of the Department of English, and History Department Chair Michael Krysko (far right).

Congratulations to our 2019 –2020 graduate student award recipients!

Krysti Carlson-Goering - Shirley A. Martin Scholarship

Tim Gresham - Ina Belle (Wilson) Mueller Graduate Scholarship, Cora Stewart Wilcoxon Graduate Fellowship

Cole Kruger - A. Bower Sageser Teaching Award, Colonel Peter Cullen Military History Scholarship

Scott Moseman - James C. Carey Research & Travel Award, Colonel Peter Cullen Military History Scholarship, Florence Hamscher Graduate Student Travel Award

Ben Richards - Robin Higham Military History Graduate Student Research & Travel Fund, Kenneth W. Jones Graduate Student Travel Award, Leroy E. & Mary Sullivan Page Fund

Katelyn Tietzen - Shirley A. Martin Scholarship

History alumni - Join the Friends of History listserv: Sign up by emailing 'sub hist-friends' in the subject line to listserv@listserv.ksu.edu. Keep up on public events and news!

CONGRATULATIONS!

The History Department would like to congratulate and recognize the following students who have recently completed Masters degrees or PhD's this year:

MASTERS:

Cameron Stutzman (2018)
James Mark Graham (2019)
Samuel Young (2019)
Kimberly Joubert-Cashman (2019)
Jorden Pitt (2019)

PHD:

Daniel Tim Gresham (2019)
Mack Scott (2019)
James Tindle (2019)

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WELCOME!

The History Department would like to welcome graduate students who will begin their MA or PhD programs in the Fall 2019:

MASTERS:

Antionette Betasso
David Leach
Alec Loganbill
Robert Mahoney
Thomas Skjerning
Katherine Sundgren
Alex Turpin
Jordan Weaver

PHD:

Bryant MacFarlane
Phillip Morgan
Rich Myrick
Michael Santana
Ken Smith
Roberta Meloni