Our latest newsletter focuses largely on faculty as the exciting process of renewal continues. We welcomed three new colleagues in September 2006: Dimitri Krallis in Byzantine History, Helena Pohlandt-McCormick in South African History, and Paul Sedra in modern Middle East History. Introductions to all eight of our newest colleagues are featured within and more change is in the air. Dr Andrew Ede, a historian of science, joins us this September from the University of Alberta as does the new Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Professor Lesley Cormack. We are sadly saying farewell and best wishes to Nick Guyatt, who leaves us in September to take up a position at the University of York in the UK. And it was a sadness of a different kind that beset us almost a year ago now with the passing of William Cleveland, who gave so much to the department, the university, and the world of Middle East scholarship. The brief account of his time in the department found within (pp. 4-5) only scratches the surface. With our colleagues in Middle East history, we celebrated the inauguration of the new Centre for the Comparative Study of Muslim Societies and Cultures. Warmest congratulations to Derryl MacLean, who has worked so tirelessly to see this to fruition, on becoming the first director of the Centre. Plaudits too go to Dr Janice Matsumura on her much deserved receipt of tenure and promotion to the rank of Associate Professor. We had sparkling success in the most recent round of standard SSHRC grants with awards going to Jacob Eyferth, Andre Gerolymatos, Jack Little, and Jay Taylor and a clutch of small SSHRC awards won by four other colleagues. Our graduate students continue to shine. It was a delight to attend the most recent convocation in early June when Theresa Mulligan and Lesley Morden took their doctoral degrees along with a crop of fine Masters students. At the risk of being invidious, heartiest congratulations go to Miles Powell, Megan Prins, and Meridith Sayre, all of whom have been awarded handsome scholarships to pursue doctoral degrees at UC Davis, University of Arizona, and University of Wisconsin, Madison respectively. Thanks to the tremendous help from Costa Dedigikas, we have done much to transform our website (see right) into a more user-friendly and accessible source of information about all matters departmental. A highlight of the past year for me was the happy realization of just how far the scholarly reputation of my colleagues had spread, in this instance, the fame of Professor Luke Closey, whose forthcoming work, *Salvation and Globalization in the Early Jesuit Missions* (Cambridge, 2008) is eagerly awaited. Last August, I discovered that Norwegians are so in awe of our colleague that they display his name prominently within their trains. It needs to be seen to be believed (p. 10). More seriously, it has been a wonderful boon, as chair, to maintain my own research with regular stints of work in the county record offices of England and I am conscious of how much I owe to the good humour and patience of my colleagues and all the staff. I am particularly grateful to Emily O’Brien for selflessly editing this newsletter. Our alumni now stretch back over forty years. In our rapidly changing world, the importance of understanding the pleasures and perils of history remains as vital now as it did when the university first opened. We would be delighted to hear from any of you and there is always a warm welcome to be had on the sixth floor of the AQ.
Mirhady Lecture and Hutchinson Lecture

Dr Abbas Amanat delivered this year’s Drs Fereidoun and Katharine Mirhady Endowed Lecture in Iranian Studies on November 23, 2006. Dr Amanat is Professor of History and International Studies at Yale University and chair of the university’s Council on Middle East Studies. He is also considered a primary architect of the new Qajar history. Dr Amanat spoke to a large and enthusiastic audience on “Nonconformity and Toleration in the Persianate Cultural Climate.”

On March 16, 2007 Hannah Gay, a former member of the SFU History department, returned to Simon Fraser to deliver this year’s Hutchinson lecture. Dr Gay is now a Senior Research Fellow at the Centre for the History of Science, Technology and Medicine, Imperial College London. The topic of her lecture was “Higher Education and the State: Britain, 1945–2000.”

The Centre for the Comparative Study of Muslim Societies and Cultures

On the evening of February 22, 2007, SFU’s Centre for the Comparative Study of Muslim Societies and Cultures held its inaugural reception at Centre A, the Vancouver International Centre for Contemporary Asian Art. The evening included musical and dramatic performances, and an auction featuring the artwork of internationally acclaimed and award winning artists. The first of its kind in North America, the Centre has been established at SFU to encourage academic discussion and public understanding of the diverse cultures and societies of Muslim peoples. Thanks to the generous support of private donors and to SFU’s matching grant program, an endowment fund has been created to support the Centre’s plans for a wide range of programs and activities. These include conferences and workshops, an annual public lecture series, a distinguished visiting scholar program, undergraduate and graduate student scholarships, an expansion of library holdings, facilities for visiting scholars and artists, international exchange programs and field schools, and a summer language institute. To learn more about the Centre, please visit its website: http://www.sfu.ca/history/ccmsc/index.html

Derryl MacLean, Director of the Centre for the Comparative Study of Muslim Societies and Cultures (left), with Parviz Tanavoli, featured artist and speaker at the Centre’s inaugural event. Tanavoli’s bronze piece, ‘Standing Poet III,’ (shown here) was auctioned for $17,000.
Sex at SFU conference

“Sex at SFU” was one of two conferences co-sponsored in the fall of 2006 by the Department of History. Faculty member Elise Chenier served as co-organizer of this interdisciplinary symposium that featured SFU scholars engaged in research related to sexuality. African historian Felicitas Becker and History graduate student Rachel Torrie were among the presenters, while Willeen Keough and Alec Dawson chaired sessions. The day-long event was a tremendous success, drawing a large audience from universities and colleges across the Lower Mainland.

Costa Gavras at SFU

In the fall of 2006, the History Department and the Hellenic Studies Program were delighted to bring Costa Gavras back to SFU for his second visit. Gavras, an internationally acclaimed filmmaker and winner of both a Palme d’Or and an Oscar, received an honorary degree at SFU’s convocation ceremonies on the morning of October 5. Earlier, he joined faculty and graduate students for a reception and led an informal seminar on “Politics and Film.” Costa Gavras’s visit was made possible by the University Seminars Program of the Alexander S. Onassis Public Benefit Foundation. SFU was the first university to participate in this groundbreaking program, which funds distinguished scholars on visits to academic institutions across North and South America.

Bridging National Borders in North America Conference

On September 15 and 16, 2006, the Department of History hosted “Bridging National Borders in North America.” This public symposium, co-sponsored by the department and co-organized by our own Joseph Taylor, was designed to bring together leading scholars of the Canada-U.S. and U.S.-Mexico borders. The two-day seminar, which consisted of a series of presentations and discussions, marked the first time when borderlands historians were able to engage one another in conversation about their research. Andrea Geiger and Alec Dawson joined Joseph Taylor in representing the SFU History department at the event. Revised versions of the symposium papers are to be published as a volume of collected essays by Duke University Press.

The History Department Colloquia Series: Fall 2006–Summer 2007

Thanks to the hard work of the organizing committee, Willeen Keough and Andrea Geiger, this year’s History Department Colloquia Series proved to be a great success. Faculty and graduate students from across the university gathered together every few Thursdays at 11:30 a.m. for a scholarly presentation or workshop and a friendly discussion. Our line-up of speakers included scholars from the U.S., England, and eastern Canada, as well as local talent from SFU and other Lower Mainland institutions. “Race and Gender in Classical Hollywood Cinema,” “The Politics of Remembering and Forgetting in Canada’s Police Museums,” and “The Geometry of God and Angelic Frontiers in the Early Modern Hispanic World”—these are just a few of the titles from this year’s exciting and wide-ranging program of talks.

As part of the Colloquia Series, History faculty members organized a series of successful workshops over the course of the year for graduate students, undergraduate History majors, and colleagues in the department: SSHRC grant-writing workshop – Alec Dawson
Teaching portfolio workshop – Luke Clossey
TA workshop on grading student writing – Emily O’Brien
History career workshop – Jacob Eyferth, Thomas Kühn, and Janice Matsumura
Faculty teaching workshop series – Nick Guyatt and Roxanne Panchais
Bill was one of the History department’s most loyal as well as most distinguished citizens. He arrived as a freshly minted PhD when the university and the department were three years old; and his career and the institution matured together. One always had a sense from Bill that the projects of building an academic home (SFU) and an area of study (the Middle East) and teaching were equally important. He has left his mark on the department and the faculty and with generations of student who showed extraordinary appreciation for his commitment and excellence as a teacher. And, as a publishing scholar, he has had an impact in classrooms throughout North America, particularly through his widely-used text on the modern Middle East, which is valued for its clarity and balance in treating a subject for which there has generally been little common ground between opposing perspectives. Bill was a pioneer in teaching Middle East History in Canada. When he came to SFU, he joined a department that was unique in the country in offering a rich program that went well beyond the traditional emphasis on Europe and the Americas. Throughout Bill’s career, the Middle East has been in a state of continuing crisis; and his voice has been one of the few that Canadian media could resort to to gain some depth of understanding. Bill was a warrior himself in meeting the challenge of his illness over the past several years—always positive and always moving forward with his life and goals.

Hugh Johnston
Professor Emeritus of the
Department of History
Simon Fraser University
William Cleveland: scholar, professor, mentor, and friend

William L. Cleveland was an intellectually rigorous scholar, a clear and engaging lecturer, and an interested and encouraging mentor. In a professor, this combination of qualities is not just good, it’s wonderful. To me, though, it’s not what was most important about Bill Cleveland. Bill was a decent, reasonable, compassionate, and forthright human being. He could feel outrage at an unjust situation, past or present, and he could also communicate the human significance of that situation in ways that any thoughtful person could grasp.

By bringing his human qualities with him into his classroom, Bill astonished me — a new student burnt out on the Palestine-Israel struggle as waged in U.S. streets and schools — with his ability to handle even that incendiary subject sensibly and sensitively throughout an intensive seminar course. In all his classes, we saw the people we were studying, not in light of their nationalities or allegiances, but in that of their past experiences and of the human consequences of their choices. Scholars, Bill showed me, could — in fact, must — demonstrate such a high level of commitment to the facts that the rancor and disruption I’d so often seen elsewhere simply would not occur. That example gave me heart to choose Palestine as the topic of the studies I was beginning.

Bill Cleveland accepted his students with the same openness and decency that he accorded the subjects of his research. Intelligence and intellectual honesty were all he asked of us, in return for generous portions of time and thought. He was proud of his students’ achievements — and remained proud after they left SFU, or even academic life. Strongly committed to family and long-time friends, he understood that a full human life was not bounded by scholarship. As an increasingly old lady with a career completed, I treasured the fact that he accepted that even someone whose other commitments were paramount could legitimately claim research as a challenge and a joy.

Anywhere that Middle East scholars gather, a student can be proud, in the future as in the past, to claim Bill Cleveland as a mentor. Practicing the research and analytical skills Bill taught us remains a delight. Still, to me, Bill Cleveland’s humane sensibility will always be his most important distinction.

Jane Power, PhD candidate
Department of History

This piece was originally published as the “Letter of the Week” in the SFU student newspaper “The Peak,” issue 7, vol. 124, October 16, 2006.
Andrea Geiger
Modern Canada, immigration

Andrea grew up around the world, attending school in places as distant from one another as Amsterdam, Pennsylvania, Hiroshima, and Bangalore (she still has fond memories of learning to herd water buffalo in India). She graduated from the University of Washington School of Law in 1991 after serving as editor-in-chief of the Washington Law Review, and then spent several years clerking for Federal and Appeals Court judges in Washington State. She also served as Reservation Attorney for the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation (WA), before reaching the conclusion that history offered a more effective way than law to explore the question that interested her the most: in what ways has law been used to create and maintain racial boundaries in North America, and particularly in the United States and Canada? In 2005, Andrea completed her dissertation at the University of Washington on Meiji-era immigrants in the North American West and joined the faculty at SFU. Over the last year, she has traveled to Japan to give a talk on “Imagined Landscapes: the North American West” and presented a paper on Japanese immigrants in North America at SFU’s “Bridging National Borders” symposium.

Felicitas Becker
Modern East Africa

I have no family connection to Africa and had never been there before I took up African history. It was the apparent contrasts between Europe and Africa (which, after all, is just next door) that initially got me interested. As an undergraduate, I studied at Humboldt University, Berlin, and then did my graduate work at the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), London, and Cambridge University, from where I obtained my PhD in 2001. This was followed by three years as British Academy postdoctoral fellow at SOAS, researching why and how rural people in Tanzania have become Muslim in recent decades. The results of my postdoctoral research are to be published as a British Academy monograph. My most recent work includes an article on rural Islamism in Tanzania during “the war on terror,” published this summer in the journal African Affairs; a book chapter on rural-urban relations on the southern Swahili coast in the twentieth century; an article on Muslims and AIDS in Tanzania; and co-editorship of “AIDS and Religious Practice in East Africa,” a special issue of the Journal of Religion in Africa, where my AIDS article appears.

Mary-Ellen Kelm
Modern Canada, indigenous peoples, health and gender

Born in Windsor, Ontario, Mary-Ellen moved to the west coast to do her Master’s at Simon Fraser University in the late 1980s. She completed her PhD at the University of Toronto in 1995 and, with a NHRDP Post-doctoral award, moved to the University of Northern British Columbia where she was a founding faculty member in the History Program. In 2006, she returned to the coast to take up a Canada Research Chair in Aboriginal Peoples at SFU. Mary-Ellen’s work has examined the impacts of colonization on Aboriginal health and healing in British Columbia, and in March 2006, she received a SSHRC Standard Research Grant to continue her work on medical history. Most recently, she delivered papers at SFU and the University of Warwick, and has had two edited volumes come out in print: The Letters of Margaret Butcher: Missionary-Imperialism on the North Pacific Coast (Calgary, 2006) and In the Days of our Grandmothers: A Reader in Aboriginal Women’s History in Canada (Toronto, 2006). Mary-Ellen is currently writing a book on rodeo as an example of Bhabha’s ‘third space’ of cultural production. She and her dog Rusty can often be seen on campus, as well as on local hiking trails.
Willeen Keough
Atlantic Canada, rural women, Ireland

Willeen was born on the eastern edge of the easternmost province, where iron cliff-face meets the roiling waters of the North Atlantic. She is the granddaughter of fishers, and the daughter of a one-room-schoolteacher (later, human rights commissioner) and a cooperative fieldworker/labour newspaper editor (later, cabinet minister). Her own working background has been eclectic: she has been a barmaid, a teacher of music and dance, a researcher/writer, copy-editor, legal assistant, and secondary teacher before settling into academia. Willeen completed her PhD at Memorial University of Newfoundland in 2002 and went on to hold two postdoctoral fellowships (with ISER and SSHRC) before joining the SFU History faculty in 2005. Her current research interests involve the negotiation of gender and ethnicity in early Irish-Canadian populations. Willeen’s doctoral thesis won the AHA’s prestigious Gutenberg-e Award and became part of a pioneering e-publication initiative by Columbia University Press. Her e-book, The Slender Thread: Irish Women on the Southern Avalon, 1750-1860 was published in 2006.

Dimitri Krallis
Byzantium

Born and raised in Greece, Dimitri Krallis holds a doctorate in History from the University of Michigan. He joined the History Department and the program of Hellenic Studies at SFU in the fall of 2006 as a Byzantine historian. Focusing on the work of the judge and historian Michael Attaleiates, Dimitri’s doctoral research examined the uses of history and historiography in the context of eleventh-century political and intellectual debates. His research interests extend into the social and intellectual history of the Byzantine world. Dimitri is currently working on notions of informality within the Byzantine court and on a project charting the literary and political uses of the Byzantine and Modern Greek memory of Romanos Diogenes, a defeated Byzantine hero. In addition to teaching courses in Byzantine History at SFU’s Burnaby and Harbour Centre campuses, he serves as director of the Hellenic Studies Program Field School in Greece. This summer, he is teaching his first group of SFU students on the beautiful Greek islands of Lesbos and Kephalonia.

Emily O’Brien
Renaissance Italy, later Middle Ages

I came to SFU in the fall of 2005 as a joint appointment in History and Humanities. A life-long easterner, I grew up in Toronto, did my BA at U of T, and then headed south to Brown University for my graduate work. My research interests in Italian Renaissance humanism took me still further east to Rome, where the Vatican Library quickly became my second home. While finishing my dissertation on the fifteenth-century humanist pope Pius II, I worked for several years in Harvard’s Expository Writing Program. There, I taught seminars on academic writing and researched how undergraduates learn to write in the discipline of History. Since completing my doctoral work in spring 2005, I have continued to plumb the depths of Pius II’s rich corpus of writings. Among other projects, I am currently working on a book manuscript about Pius’s autobiography and a Latin-English edition of his and other humanists’ romantic novellas. A longtime resident of New England, I am thrilled to be back home in Canada (though I miss my beloved Boston Red Sox). And as a fan of all things Italian, I am delighted to have Vancouver’s Commercial Drive on my doorstep.
Helena Pohlandt-McCormick  
Modern South Africa

I was born in Germany and grew up in Johannesburg, South Africa. After completing an MA in Communications at the Ludwig Maximilians University in Munich in 1984, I moved to Michigan where I studied journalism and worked for the Detroit News. I returned to graduate school in the 1980s when the crisis in South Africa provoked by resistance against apartheid had caused the South African government to impose a series of states of emergency. My hope was to make a contribution to the understanding of South African and African history through teaching and research. I completed my PhD in 1999 at the University of Minnesota and came to SFU in the fall of 2006. My recent publications include “I Saw a Nightmare …” Doing Violence to Memory: The Soweto Uprising, June 16, 1976, an e-book published under the auspices of the Gutenberg-e prize by Columbia University Press. My new research focuses on exile in South Africa between 1960 and 1990. In particular, I am exploring the history of the nature and experience of exile and of its association with loss and the politics of memory.

Paul Sedra  
Modern Middle East

Born and raised in Toronto by a couple of academics, I headed south of the border to Princeton for my undergraduate work and then on to Oxford for my Master's Degree. I was enticed back to the United States for my PhD by New York University’s pioneering joint program in History and Middle Eastern studies. I defended my dissertation in late 2005, and after teaching at U of T and Dalhousie University, I made the move from coast to coast and assumed my current post at SFU. The principal focus of my research is the social and cultural history of the modern Middle East. Most recently, I have examined the connections between education and the rise of the modern state in nineteenth-century Egypt. Because of my longstanding interest in the popular culture of the Nasser era, I am also undertaking both teaching and research in the history of Egyptian cinema — specifically, the film culture of the 1950s and 1960s. I am particularly interested in exploring the images of village poverty, colonial violence, family discord, and the subjugation of women that pervade such films.

History meets Art

In the final weeks of the 2006 summer semester, students in Roxanne Panchasi’s HIST 417 seminar, “Problems in Modern French History,” abandoned their computers for clay, papier-mâché, and other art media. Their final project asked for a creative interpretation of the course’s central theme: the strikes and riots in France in May 1968. Each student chose a slogan from the political graffiti of the time and designed a work of art that spoke both to the slogan’s original context and to contemporary politics. At the end of the semester, History faculty, staff, and students were invited to an exhibition of this impressive collection of projects at the SFU art gallery in the Academic Quadrangle.

History meets Film

Committed to helping students explore the relationship between history and film, faculty members Paul Sedra, Thomas Kühn, and Jacob Eyferth organized a new History department film series in the spring of 2007. Students, faculty, and staff from across the university community were invited to the screening of two films: “The Battle of Algiers” and “West Beirut.” Question and answer sessions followed each film, allowing the audience to learn more about the film’s context, reception, and competing interpretations. The department hopes to carry on the tradition in the fall semester — stay tuned!
Convocation — June 2007

SFU History Students: 
Awards and Grants

Undergraduate Students
• Gold Medal and Stephen McIntyre Book Prize (top graduating student in History, $400): Troy Baril
• Margaret Ormsby Prize (best essay in Canadian history, $275): Robynn Gill
• European History Prize (best essay in European history, $250): Jennifer Bancroft
• William L. Cleveland Essay Prize (best essay in African/Middle Eastern/Asian history, $200): Natalie Brown
• Richard Morgan Memorial Book Prize (best essay in Canadian Native History, $250): Troy Baril
• World History Association and Phi Alpha Theta Essay Prize – Kyle Jackson

Graduate Students
• SSHRC grant winners, 2006: Anne Cummings, Stephen Fielding, Laura Ishiguro, Jeremy Milloy, Bonnie Schmidt, Anne Toews, Rachel Torrie
• SSHRC grant winners, 2007: Emilie de Rosenroll, Miles Powell, Julia Smith
**Faculty Updates**

**John Craig**

This past year has been stuffed with conference papers. It began with a January paper at the American Historical Association in Philadelphia, continued with two papers in Oxford in April and ended with papers at the Sixteenth Century Studies conference in Salt Lake City in October and at the North American Conference on British Studies in Cambridge, Massachusetts in November. The subjects ranged from the cultural politics of prayer to parish church interiors. But the highlight of the year had nothing to do with scholarship. An unusual family holiday took us to Norway in August where we spent a few days in the remote settlement of Finse with Toby Thorliefsson, one of our graduate students.

**Elise Chenier**

This past year, I attended the annual meeting of the Canadian Historical Association where I presented a paper on debutantes, citizenship, and the Montreal Junior League. I also wrote a book review of the recently re-issued classic *Disorders of Desire*, by Janice Irvine. In the fall, I, along with some tremendously dedicated and hard-working graduate students and with the further assistance of members of the Departments of English, Women’s Studies, and Criminology organized a one-day colloquium where SFU students and faculty presented their latest research on issues relating to sexuality. During my research term, I travelled to New York City where I read the diaries of early twentieth century New York debutantes, and archival records relating to gay marriage after World War Two. I am currently completing revisions to my manuscript, *Stranger in our Midst: Sexual Deviancy in Postwar Ontario*, forthcoming from University of Toronto Press.

**Luke Clossey**

I spent the spring semester of 2006 in Rome, where I was doing research on Jesuit history and “research” on pizza and pasta. My article on globalization in the early-modern Pacific Ocean helped kick off the new *Journal of Global History*. In October, I chaperoned the SFU contingent of students to the World History Association’s affiliate meeting in Seattle, where their presentations on early-modern history brought great honour to our department. In the fall, I continued to prepare for a new project on the global cult of Jesus, and for more research (and more “research”) in the spring of 2007 in Italy and Croatia. At the beginning of the summer semester, I submitted my book manuscript, *Salvation and Globalization in the Early Jesuit Missions*, to Cambridge University Press (forthcoming in 2008).

**David Delafenêtre**

I presented a paper entitled “‘New Wizards of Oz?’: Reflecting on Recent Scholarship in Australasian History” at the Annual Conference of the Australian & New Zealand Studies Association of North America (ANZSANA), at the Fairmont Queen Elizabeth Hotel, Montreal, on April 7, 2006. On May 5, 2006, I served as a judge at the *Rivers to Sea Historica Fair*, organized by the Burnaby Village Museum. On June 3, 2006 I took part in the information session organized by the Office of Francophone and Francophile Affairs at the SFU Open House.

**Nick Guyatt**

I was on leave from SFU in 2006 from January until August, so I had the chance to work on a lot of things. I put the final touches to my book, *Providence and the Invention of the United States*, which is now in production at Cambridge University Press. I wrote a review of Simon Schama’s *Rough Crossings* for the *London Review of Books* and another *LRB* review of several recent books which deal with race and slavery in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. I’ve also written a short book about apocalyptic Christians in the contemporary United States, which is based partly on some traveling and interviewing that I did during the summer. This isn’t really a history book, though it has a couple of history chapters and explores some of the themes that I’ve engaged in my formal academic research. The book is entitled *Have A Nice Doomsday* and it will be published by Random House in the UK, and HarperCollins in the U.S./Canada. Finally, I’ve been editing a contemporary history book series for Zed Books in London. The first five books in the series have just been published, including “Mexico since 1989” by our very own Alec Dawson. This project has been a lot of fun, and there are plenty more of these books in the pipeline.
Mark Leier

Jack Little
In 2006, I published The Other Quebec: Microhistorical Essays on Nineteenth-Century Religion and Society (University of Toronto Press, 2006) and two edited documents: “‘An educator of modern views’: The (Auto)biography of Margaret Ross, 1862-1943,” Historical Studies in Education, 17, no. 2 (2005): 337-61 (with Jean Barman); and “A Wilderness Boyhood: The Lake Megantic Memories of James S. Ramage, 1868-82,” Journal of Eastern Townships Studies, no. 28 (2006): 5-22. Last October, I was an external assessor of Queen’s University’s History Department and I’ve been appointed to the Aid to Scholarly Publications Committee of the Canadian Federation for the Humanities and Social Sciences. I’ve also completed a monograph titled Loyalties in Conflict: The Eastern Townships in War and Rebellion, 1812-40, and I am planning to begin researching the life and career of the Quebec seigneur, politician, and pioneer conservationist, Sir Hector-Gustave Joly de Lotbinière.

Hilmar Pabel
In 2006, Hilmar Pabel traveled to Rome and Florence thanks to a Senior Scholar Research Fellowship from the Renaissance Society of America. He assures us that he dutifully analyzed editorial practices in medieval and Renaissance manuscripts of the letters of St. Jerome and went sightseeing when the libraries were closed. Pursuing his interests in the reception of the Church Fathers in the early modern period, Hilmar joined an international team of scholars to co-edit the multi-volume Oxford Guide to the Historical Reception of Augustine. On study leave until August 2007, Hilmar is completing a book, under contract with Brill, entitled Herculean Labours: Erasmus and the Editing of St. Jerome’s Letters in the Renaissance.

John Stubbs
For John Stubbs, 2006 was a much welcomed and much appreciated research leave. Considerable progress was made on a book-length manuscript history of the British Sunday newspaper, “The Observer”, covering the period 1914 to 1948. Two of his graduate students, Theresa Mulligan (PhD) and Toby Thorleifsson (MA) successfully defended their fine theses in lively and stimulating examinations.

Joseph Taylor
Joseph Taylor published three articles: in Journal of Historical Geography, Environmental History, and an online exhibit for the Oregon Historical Society. He also published three book reviews and gave seven talks. He received a Discovery Park Grant to conduct more research for his history of the Northeast Pacific Ocean fisheries. In September, he hosted the first of a two-part workshop and conference, “Bridging National Borders in North America,” in conjunction with the William P. Clements Center for Southwest Studies at Southern Methodist University. The second conference was held in Dallas in March 2007.

Ilya Vinkovetsky
My short discussion article, “Why Did Russia Sell Alaska?” was published in Acta Slavica Iaponica, vol. 23 (2006). I spent the fall 2006 semester as Resident Research Fellow of the Institute for Historical Studies at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. I used this as an opportunity to finish up my manuscript on the place of Russian America within the Russian Empire. On October 4, 2006, I presented a chapter of my manuscript for discussion at the University of Michigan Russian/Soviet History Workshop.

Volume 5, July 2007
FACULTY GRANTS, AWARDS, and PUBLICATIONS

Standard SSHRC grants, 2007:
Jacob Eyferth, Andre Gerolymatos, Jack Little, Joseph Taylor

Small SSHRC grants, 2007:
Elise Chenier, Luke Clossey, Hilmar Pabel, Ilya Vinkovetsky

Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
Dean’s Medal for Academic Excellence, 2006: Mark Leier

University Publications Fund Grant:
Dimitri Krallis

Best unpublished manuscript in Italian history, 2006 (awarded by the Society for Italian Historical Studies):
Emily O’Brien

SSHRC travel grant: Andrea Geiger

Alan Aberbach Award in History
Donors as well as recipients deserve recognition, and for this reason we applaud Alan Aberbach, recipient of the first Excellence in Teaching Award and our colleague in U.S. History from 1966 to 1998. Currently director of SFU’s Seniors Program (http://www.sfu.ca/seniors/), Alan made to the department an exceptionally generous gift of $50,000. By matching this donation, the university created an endowment of $100,000 to establish a bursary fund for undergraduate students in U.S. History. The Alan David Aberbach Undergraduate Award in History is open to all students who have taken a course in U.S. History at SFU.

Calling all Graduate Students!

Meet Toby Thorliefsson, former graduate student of John Stubbs, and his dog, Bella. History chair John Craig met up with Toby while traveling in Norway last summer. Were you an MA or PhD student in History at SFU? If so, we’d like to hear about your graduate school experience and find out what you are up to now. Please send an update for our next newsletter to eobrien@sfu.ca

Primary Source

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