

ANNUAL REPORT HISTORY PROGRAM 2008-2009

1. Program mission statement

As a discipline that documents and interprets continuity and change through time, the History program prepares students to search into the human experience, as well as to communicate and analyze historical interpretations and ideas, verbally and in the written form. An emphasis of the program is to examine events from local and global perspectives, which informs the required fields of the program: North American History, World History, Thematic History, and Historical Methods. A strong history program is an integral part of a liberal arts education for any top-rank university, and our mission and curriculum and excellent faculty provide this to students at CSUCI.

2. Degrees offered: B.A. in History; minor in History

3. Summary of significant program accomplishments for past year

a. Student engagement and success

Romelia Richman, "That Piru Water," paper accepted/delivered at CSU-wide Student Research Conference,

Dustin Russell, accepted into Master's program at American University, Washington, D.C.

Forty five seniors completed Capstone projects: 29 primary source-based research papers and 26 internships at a variety of community institutions, including the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library, the Museum of Ventura County, the Ventura County District Attorney's Office, the CSUCI University Archives, the Pleasant Valley Historical Society, Olivas Adobe, and Ojai Historical Society.

b. Research, Scholarship, Creative Activities

Collectively, history faculty published one monograph, 5 scholarly articles, and 2 book reviews, and gave 11 papers at scholarly conferences, among other research activities and works in progress.

Frank Barajas

Conference panelist: "Crossing Borders in Building Chicano/a Studies in Ventura County," California American Studies Association Santa Barbara April 11, 2009.

Michael Blodgett, publications:

"Deus Irae: Attila and Leo in Italy, 452" *Festschrift für Hal Drake* ed. Beth Digiser and Justin Stephens, forthcoming

"Attila in Gaul: Personal Choice and Strategic Necessity" *The Ancient World*, in press

Rainer Buschmann

Publications:

Anthropology's Global Histories: The German Ethnographic Frontier in New Guinea (1870-1935) University of Hawaii Press, December 2008.

Review of Hans van Tilburg, *Chinese Junks on the Pacific: Views from a Different Deck* published in *Bulletin of the Pacific Circle*. 21 (2008). 13-15.

"The Pacific Ocean Basin to 1850" in *Oxford History Handbook on World History* ed. Jerry H. Bentley (New York: Oxford University Press), book chapter submitted May 2009.

Submitted book review "When Asia was the World" by Stewart Gordon to H-Maritime.

Conference Papers:

"Teaching World History as if the Pacific Mattered (a lot)." Paper delivered at Pacific Coast Branch of the American Historical Association. Pasadena, CA. Aug 9, 2008.

"Literature and World History." Panel discussion at California World History Association. San Francisco, CA. Nov 15, 2008.

"The Pacific Ocean in Global Historical Perspective." Paper delivered at Purdue University. West Lafayette, Indiana. Jan 28, 2009.

"Imperial Amnesia and Encountered Knowledge in British Eighteenth-Century Pacific Exploration." Paper delivered at Pacific Coast Conference on British Studies. San Diego, CA. Mar 14, 2009.

"Easter Island Moari and the 18th century exploration of the Pacific." Paper delivered at Permanence and the Built Environment. University of Southern California. Apr 17, 2009.

(<http://oieahc.wm.edu/conferences/permanence/pacificbasin/friday.html>)

"The Pacific Ocean and World History." Presented to History Faculty Community Seminar. California State University Channel Islands. Apr 24, 2009.

Interview: "Columbus and trade winds & Polynesians and El Nino." Phone interview. BBC's "How the Earth Made Us", Feb 2009.

"Mutiny or Death: Comparing James Cook and William Bligh in the Pacific" invited lecture at the Society of Colonial War in the State of California, October 3, 2009

Compilation, submission, and acceptance of panel "Debating, Defending, and Negotiating the Spanish 'Lake'" including paper presentation on "Pacific Chimeras: Spain and Oceania's Eighteenth-Century Exploration" for the American Historical Association Conference in San Diego, January 2010.

Formal invitation to present a paper on Alexander von Humboldt at the "Race, Encounters, and the Constitution of Human Difference in Oceania" conference at Australian National University in Canberra Australia, 20-22 January 2010.

Invitation to participate in the book review forum on "Foreign Bodies: Oceania and the Science of Race, 1750-1940" edited by Bronwen Douglas and Chris Ballard to appear in the *Journal of Pacific History*.

Amy Caldwell

Conference paper: "Diplomacy, Faith, and Scandal: Zurich and the Württemberg Marriage in the Reformation Era." Sixteenth Century Studies Conference in October 2008

List and review editor: H-HRE (Holy Roman Empire)

Marie Francois

Conference papers:

"Washing, Drying and Ironing in Mexico City: Work, Culture, and Class Relations in the Eighteenth and Nineteenth Century." Presented to the Conference on Latin American History at the American Historical Association Annual Meeting, New York City, January 2008

panelist: "Crossing Borders in Building Chicano/a Studies in Ventura County," California American Studies Association Santa Barbara April 11, 2009.

Compilation, submission, and acceptance of panel "Gender and Space in Mexico and Argentina 1700-1950: Identity, Sociability, and Modernity" including paper on "Laundering Identities in the Americas: The Production of Individuals and Class in the Eighteenth and Nineteenth Centuries" for the American Historical Association Conference in San Diego, January 2010.

Invitation to chair and comment on panel "Goods and Bads: The Uses of Market Forces in Mexican Markets, 1765-1960," accepted for the American Historical Association Conference in San Diego, January 2010.

Nian-Sheng Huang

Publication: "Benjamin Franklin and the American Dream," with C. Mulford. *Cambridge Companion to Benjamin Franklin*. Edited by C. Mulford. (Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press, 2008), pp. 145-158.

Manuscript reviewer: for American Philosophical Society, Philadelphia, PA, October 2008.

James H. Meriwether

Publications:

"'Worth A Lot of Negro Votes': Black Voters, Africa, and the 1960 Presidential Campaign," *Journal of American History*, 95 (December 2008) 3: 737-63

"'The Most Magnificent Thing': Kenya, the United States, and the Student Airlifts," in Mwanzia D. Kyule and George M. Gona, eds., *Mizizi: Essays in Honour of Godfrey Muriuki* (University of Nairobi Press, forthcoming 2009)

review of Jason Parker, *Brother's Keeper: The United States, Race, and Empire in the British Caribbean, 1937-1962*, (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2008), published by *H-Diplo*, forthcoming 2009

Conference panelist: "The Early Years of the U.S. State Department's African Bureau: A Roundtable in Honor of its 50th Anniversary," Annual Meeting of the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations, June 2009

c. Community engagement activities

Inaugural History Faculty Community Seminar, April 24, 2009: History program hosted dinner for county high school history teachers (10 attended), community college instructors (3 attended), museum/archive personnel (3 attended), Cal Lutheran University history faculty (1 attended) and CSUCI interdisciplinary faculty (9 attended) to hear a talk by Rainer Buschmann on "The Pacific Ocean and World History," followed by Q and A on applications of his research to classroom teaching and public history forums.

Bracero Oral History Project, partnering with the Smithsonian Institute in Washington, D.C., the Center for Community Engagement, Center for Multicultural Engagement, and Chicana/o Studies, 2nd town hall meeting in Santa Paula, sponsored visit of Smithsonian oral historian to train for students to take oral histories

Barajas, public lectures: A Curious (Re)Union: Cesar Chavez's Organizing in Ventura County, 1958-59." Oxnard Public Library March 28, 2009 and Conejo Valley Democrats March 31, 2009

Buschmann, public lectures:

"Captain Cook's Last Voyage (1776-1780) and the American Revolutionary War." Paper delivered at General Patton Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution. Ventura, CA. Nov 14, 2008.

"Charles Darwin's Explorations." Presented to Rotary Club of Ventura East. Ventura. Apr 23, 2009.

"Darwin's Pacific." Paper delivered at CSUCI's Darwin Day. Camarillo, CA. Feb 12, 2009.

Francois, "'A Costa de Dinero': Who Did Housework and What it Produced in 18th and 19th Century Latin America," Presentation to the UCLA Latin American Institute's 2008 K-12 Teacher Summer Workshop *Con Mis Manos: A History of Labor in Latin America*, Los Angeles, July 2008.

Huang, public lectures:

"The Poor in 18th-Century Massachusetts," paper delivered at Ventura East Rotary Club, September 25, 2008 and at the Santa Paula Rotary Club, October 13, 2008

Invited speaker at Symposium on the Global Revolutions of 1989 on May 29, 2009, Viewpoint School, Calabasas

Meriwether, op/ed and public lectures:

"Just One Man," Op/Ed, *Bakersfield Californian*, January 18, 2009, B7

"It's Not A War': Three Elections, Two Obamas, One Fulbright," Fulbright Presentation, California State University Channel Islands, April 2009

"Todii: AIDS in Southern Africa," Town Meets Gown, Camarillo, CA, February 2009

4. Major faculty and student awards

a. Faculty recognition and awards:

Francois, Interdisciplinary Grant-Writing Stipend Award, CSUCI Center for Integrative Studies, May 2009
Meriwether, Faculty Development Mini-Grant, CSU Channel Islands, awarded in Spring 2009 for AY 2009/10

b. Student recognition and awards:

History program honors, Dustin Russell and Alison Paroda
Romelia Richman, CSU Student Research Competition

5. Summary of program assessment activities and results for past year

Processing in fall 2008 of student survey conducted end of Spring 2009 directed at measuring degree to which last student learning outcome was accomplished. Report submitted to Harley Baker. Began review of the now completed cycle of the program's five student learning outcome assessments (covered in 3 distinct reports) in preparation for formal History program review, beginning Fall 09.

6. Goals for the next year

a. students

Graduate students with a B.A. in history and send them on to graduate and post-baccalaureate studies or lucrative employment.

Increase number of history majors and history minors (and keep better track of the minors).

Improve the program website for better communication and access to forms and other resources for students.

b. program

Have successful program self-study in advance of visits of off-campus reviewers in 10-11.

Develop M.A. graduate program long form for CSUCI, CSU, and WASC approval.

Finish proposal for History-Social Science Subject Matter Waiver emphasis within the history major, which involves coordination with other social science programs (Chicana/o Studies, Political Science, Anthropology, Economics). Get proposal through CSU and CCTC oversight committees.

Continue the History Faculty Community Seminar each semester.

Establish History Community Advisory Board.

c. faculty

Barajas: Continue work on book manuscript on southern California labor history and submit for publication.

Buschmann: Continue work on monograph "Debating Pacific Chimeras: Spain and Oceania's Eighteenth-Century Exploration"

Francois: See through to publication, "Housekeeping and Development on the Northern Mexican Frontier," revision based on peer reviews submitted to *Estudios Mexicanos/Mexican Studies*, June 2009.

See to publication article "Maintaining Whiteness in Mexico City: Laundering, Identity, and Material Culture". Continue work on book manuscript on the history of laundry and housekeeping in the Americas.

Huang: Offer new team-taught course, "Business in China: Heritage and Change" (approved 08-09). See to publication book manuscript on the poor in colonial Massachusetts, under consideration by University Press of New England

Meriwether: See to publication article "'When We Needed Those Students The Most': Kenya and the Student Airlifts." Continue work on book manuscript "The United States and the Decolonization of Africa"

7. Long-range goals

In five years, the CSUCI History Program will:

- have a reputation for the highest quality of scholarship, teaching, and learning.
- be a destination and resource for diverse constituencies and communities, including but not limited to inviting outside speakers on campus for the broader community as well as our student body, hosting historical and cultural events, and building student internship partnerships
- be a magnet for both B.A. and M.A. students from Ventura County, California, the United States, and internationally.

8. Challenges/opportunities

Challenges:

- uncertain budget environment.
- holes in curriculum: Ancient, Middle East, Central Asia, South Asia, Islam, Asian-American, Native American, and Canadian history among the courses that need to be developed.
- we have more part-time lecturers than full time tenure-track faculty. This poses many challenges, ranging from offering a full curriculum and developing the needed infrastructure as the program grows to simply scheduling regular faculty meetings with so many part-time faculty.

Opportunities:

- hiring more tenure track faculty to complement existing areas of expertise.
- collaboration with other disciplines, programs, and the mission-based Centers.
- more cross-fertilization with faculty coming on board across disciplines.
- broader coverage of world history and multicultural North American history, including gender history
- develop a niche M.A. program focused on particular World History (i.e. colonialism/empires, interdisciplinary approaches to World History, etc.) and Local/California History themes, including an interdisciplinary public history/archival track.
- develop more ties in the community – shared events with CC and CLU faculty, museums, archives, etc.
- encourage majors to take advantage of study abroad opportunities.
- encourage majors to acquire proficiency at the intermediate level (equivalent of 3 or 4 semesters) in a second language.
- encourage students to participate in research competition.