

# Department of History

Newsletter—Winter 2008 to Spring 2009

## Musings from Chair



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The newsletter gives opportunity to highlight annual activities and achievements. For a vibrant department of more than forty instructors, five staff members, roughly sixty graduate students and three hundred majors and honours students, the range of these is extensive. In the pages that follow you will find, in addition to the reports of individual faculty members, features on outstanding activities and awards to faculty and students. Among these was our sixth annual book launch; celebration of a Distinguished Alumni Award to Tamara Vrooman, a former Honours and Master's student now CEO of Vancity; two distinguished prizes for the Great Unsolved Mysteries in Canadian History project; launch of the Colonial Despatches website; book and article prizes—including, as the newsletter goes to press, recognition of three colleagues in book competitions at the Canadian Historical Association (CHA) meetings in Ottawa.

The Department's vitality derives from the ongoing creativity, dedication and excellence of the people who together engage the enterprise of research, teaching and learning and administer departmental affairs. The news of the past year is first and foremost about people. It includes celebration of special accomplishments; it also includes departures and painful loss. In September the department was shocked and deeply saddened by the sudden death of Shawn Cafferky. Colleagues, students and friends joined the family in recognizing Shawn's contribution to the Department and the discipline. Thanks to Shawn's family and other donors there is an endowed scholarship in military history in Shawn's honour.

*(con't on p 2)*

### Special points of interest:

- **Shawn Cafferky Remembered (page 3)**
- **Distinguished Alumni Award (page 6)**
- **Brian Dippie Retires (page 10)**
- **Accolades (page 12)**

## Peter Baskerville Elected to Royal Society

As one of Canada's, and indeed the world's, leading historians engaged in interdisciplinary research on the making of modern society, Peter Baskerville has published twelve books and more than fifty essays recognized for their ground-breaking, innovative, and meticulous scholarship. His ongoing research includes studies of work, gender, and wealth formation that underpin the changing family in late-19<sup>th</sup> and early-20<sup>th</sup> century Canada. He is a leader in the creation of two enormous public-use samples of historical census data—the Canadian Families and the ongoing Canadian Century Research Infrastructure projects—that are transforming historical, demographic, geographical, and sociological scholarship. Congratulations Peter!

## Musings from Chair (con't)

For the first time in my tenure as chair there were no changes in personnel in the office. The team that in the past has provided unparalleled support to faculty and students demonstrated once again its remarkable effectiveness and flexibility as it managed the challenge of changes to registration and student records. There were significant changes among faculty. After his election to the Royal Society of Canada and the release of a ground-breaking book Peter Baskerville “retired”—to oversee a research project at the University of Alberta. Brian Dippie, a distinguished scholar of the American West, retires this year after a record thirty-nine years in the Department: his reminiscences on the early years, included in this newsletter, are testimony to an academic world we have lost. These departures, together with that of Angus McLaren in 2008, signify the end of a remarkable era.

It is gratifying that renewal of the department is ongoing. We welcomed two colleagues who are profiled in the following pages: Paul Bramadat, a scholar of religion and multiculturalism in Canada and new director of the Centre for Studies in Religion and Society, and Jill Walshaw, a historian of 18<sup>th</sup> century France. It is also gratifying that the Department received additional, newly furnished space for faculty, graduate students and postdoctoral fellows on the third floor of the Clearihue building.

I want to express my sincere thanks to colleagues, staff and students for making the Department a community so deserving of celebration and to Leslie Laird for editing the Newsletter.

## Faculty Year in Review

### Rob Alexander

In 2008, I taught a full load and continued to work on *Europe's Uncertain Path*.



### Sara Beam

I continued to serve as Honours Advisor until July 2008 and am very pleased to report that thirteen students successfully completed the program in that academic year. I was also able to get to know the Honours students much better as I had the opportunity to teach 480, the Honours Historiography seminar, for the first time. Another first was the offering of a new graduate seminar entitled “Religion and the State in Europe, 1400-1700”. I began presenting results from my new project on early modern European torture and physical punishment at conferences in Victoria and in Stratford-on-Avon (England). Most notably, the Sixteenth Century Society awarded my book *Laughing Matters: Farce and the Making of Absolutism in France* the 2008 Roland H Bainton Book Prize for History/Theology (see book cover p 12).

### Greg Blue

In the first term of 2008, I introduced a diverse class of first-year students to 20<sup>th</sup> century world history and led a most stimulating graduate historiography seminar for our incoming class of grad students. I also had the pleasure of working with Meleisa Ono-George and Brodie Adamson as supervisor of their honours theses devoted respectively to Chinese workers in the Reconstruction-era American South and the politics of the Thai military, 1930-1954. During the summer, my doctoral student Judith Friedman successfully defended her fine dissertation on the history of the concept of anticipation in hereditary disease. Spring brought publication of my co-authored volume *Death by a Thousand Cuts*, on a notorious late imperial Chinese execution and its reputation abroad. Having been ill from July to November, I was especially glad to return to the Department for another lively end-of-term Qualicum Conference auction.

## Dr. Shawn Cafferky Remembered

Dr Shawn Cafferky of the Department of History died suddenly on September 6, 2008. A graduate of the University of Victoria's BA and MA programs, Shawn received his PhD from Carleton University in 1996. From 1991 to 1996 Shawn worked on the official history of the Royal Canadian Navy at the Directorate of History in Ottawa. After returning to Victoria Shawn taught at UVic, Camosun, Malaspina, and for the Royal Military College's extension program. Beginning in 2005 he held a joint appointment in the Department of History and RMC's War Studies Program. Shawn was one of the leaders of the Veterans' Oral History Program, pioneering a new course in which students were trained in the methods of oral history and conducted interviews with former members of the armed forces. In 2005, Shawn published *Uncharted Waters: A History of the Canadian Helicopter-Carrying Destroyer*.



Shawn will be deeply missed by students and colleagues for his dedication, pursuit of excellence and friendliness. His close friend and colleague David Zimmerman described him as “a real mensch, a truly good and decent person.” “Shawn was the kind of professor always ready to chat or answer an email,” student Matthew Chapman wrote on the Remembrances website. “He helped shape many students’ academic and personal lives and his time with all of us is something we will never forget.” Cameron White recalled that, ““The Caff’ was probably the best prof I had at UVic. His classes were demanding, but he was always available if you needed a hand. His Oral History class was without a doubt the most rewarding history course I’ve ever taken.” The “Dr Shawn Cafferky Scholarship in Military History” has been established in honour of his contribution to the Department.

### Paul Bramadat

Since I arrived in Victoria with my wife (Karen) and six-year-old son (Max), we’ve immersed ourselves in the standard settling-in kinds of activities. I can report that we have survived the culture shock of moving from “the granola belt” of Winnipeg’s Wolseley neighbourhood to the rather tweedier Oak Bay. My work activities have revolved around the Centre for Studies in Religion and Society, where I serve as director. During this year, I’ve been to conferences in Bonn, Osaka and Tokyo, Ottawa, Vancouver and Calgary. I was honoured to be asked by the Canadian Federation of Humanities and Social Sciences to deliver the Breakfast on the Hill lecture on Parliament Hill in March. In the last few months I have been putting the final touches on a co-edited book (along with Matthias Koenig of Germany) entitled *International Migration and the Governance of Religious Diversity*. I continue to work on an article that has grown out of my SSHRC research on Indo-Caribbean Canadian Christians. I have also had my first and quite positive experience of teaching a course in the Religious Studies Program.



### *Congratulations*

***Carleigh Kotyk***  
*winner of the*  
*Daughters of the American*  
*Revolution Scholarship,*  
*pictured here with (l-r)*  
*Lil Heselton, Regent and*  
*Beverley Straub, Scholarships*

## Mysteries Project Goes Out with a Bang!

### by John Lutz

It is hard to imagine a better year for the Great Unsolved Mysteries in Canadian History project. Not only did this UVic History Department project win two top North American prizes, launch six new mystery and eighteen new mysteryquest websites (half in English/half French), and make it onto national TV news; we also wrapped up the series and moved the project into a “sustainability” phase.

Adjunct professor **Larry Hannant** led the research for the mystery “Death of a Diplomat: Herbert Norman and the Cold War” and was ably assisted by the resources of colleague **John Price’s** Herbert Norman Digital Archive. Then undergrad and now grad student **Meleisa Ono-George** assisted with research. The Norman mystery was launched at the National Library and Archives of Canada in April with a representative of the Japanese Embassy in attendance. That same week the “Redpath Mansion Mystery” and “Death on a Painted Lake: The Tom Thomson Tragedy” were launched in Montreal and Toronto respectively. The Tom Thomson mystery put the project on CTV’s Canada AM TV show and CBC’s national TV news.



*(r-l) Peter Berton awarding the Pierre Berton Prize, named for his father, to Mysteries Project co-directors John Lutz, Peter Gossage, and Ruth Sandwell*

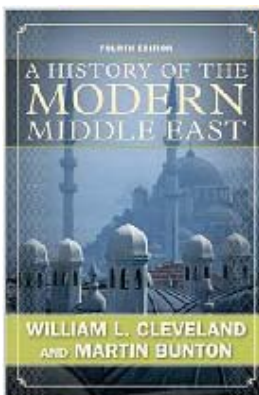
Photo credit: Linda Onofreychuk

The project, managed by executive director **Merna Forster** and co-directed by **John Lutz**, won the MERLOT award for the best history educational resource on the internet and the Pierre Berton award. John and Merna, supported by historian and Dean of Humanities **Andrew Ripplin**, attended the gala event at a popular Toronto Chinese restaurant! The late, popular historian **Pierre Berton** is an alumnus of the University of Victoria’s predecessor, Victoria College, so one hopes that he would be pleased that this UVic-based project won the National History Society’s 2008 prize for the dissemination of Canadian history, named in his honour.



### Penny Bryden

2008 gave me a number of opportunities to think about Canadian politics in a comparative perspective—not only because of twin elections in the US and Canada, but also because I taught courses in Canadian-American relations at the undergraduate level, and a comparative North American political history course at the graduate level. As I near completion of my book on intergovernmental relations in Canada, I also spent some time trying to contextualize federal-provincial relations within a broader understanding of power and power-sharing. And thinking about sharing power also came in handy as my household expanded in early 2009 to include one more tiny but powerful member.



### Martin Bunton

Spring and fall were both full and fruitful teaching terms, and I managed to carve out time to deliver papers at conferences in Boston, London and Washington. A particular highlight was hosting Harvard historian Roger Owen as a Lansdowne visitor in March 2008. The summer meanwhile was largely taken up by the writing of a 4th edition of the late Bill Cleveland’s well known textbook *A History of the Modern Middle East* (Westview) which was published in November.

## Joining the Faculty

### Paul Bramadat

Paul was born in Winnipeg and completed his BA in Religious Studies at the University of Winnipeg. He went to McGill University for his Master's degree and to McMaster University for his PhD. With his doctorate in hand he returned to Winnipeg to take up a position in the Department of Religious Studies. After a decade there he comes to UVic as Director of the interdisciplinary Centre for Studies in Religion and Society. Paul's research engages questions of religion in Canada, with a focus on fundamentalism, religion and ethnicity, and religion and public policy. In 2000 Oxford University Press published his *The Church on the World's Turf: An Evangelical Christian Group at a Secular University*. With David Seljak he has edited two books: *Religion and Ethnicity in Canada* (Pearson, 2005) and *Christianity and Ethnicity in Canada* (University of Toronto Press, 2008). His current work involves questions of religious diversity and religion and multiculturalism in Canada. Paul has taught a wide range of courses on religion and society in comparative perspective, most recently "Ways of Understanding Religion" in UVic's Religious Studies Program.



### Jill Walshaw

Jill was born in Saskatchewan and took her BA at the University of Calgary in History and French. For her Master's degree she went to Université de Toulouse to study the early phase of the French Revolution. She then crossed the channel to take a DPhil at the University of York. A successful SSHRC postdoctoral fellowship allowed her to study at Université de Montréal. She then taught briefly at the University of Alberta before coming to UVic. Jill's research area is 18<sup>th</sup> century France, with particular interest in public opinion, politics and networks of rural communication, and policing and justice. Among her publications are articles in *European Review of History* and *French History*. She is currently engaged in a book project entitled *A Show of Hands for the Republic: Rural Political Opinion in Eighteenth-Century France*. In addition to the European survey she teaches courses on 18<sup>th</sup> century Europe and comparative peasant societies.




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### Zhongping Chen

In the past year, I presented two papers at academic conferences, and participated in five panels as an organizer, chair or discussant. Two of my articles, one in Chinese and the other in English, have been accepted for publication.

### Jason Colby

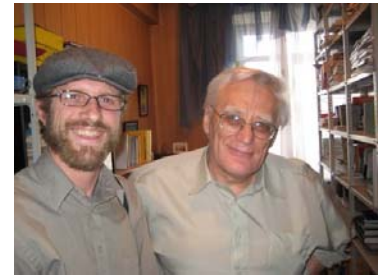
My first full year at UVic was busy and marvelous. In addition to teaching the American survey and an upper-level course on US foreign relations, I completed and submitted an article entitled "Race and New England Capital in the Caribbean" and another entitled "A Chasm of Values of Outlook?: The Challenges and Legacy of Carter's Human Rights Policy in Guatemala." In the summer, I presented my paper "Empire in Transition: United Fruit in Central America, 1920-1936" at the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations conference in Columbus, Ohio and participated in a roundtable "Out of the Shadows: Race and Gender in the Study of US Foreign Relations" at the Pacific Coast Branch American Historical Association conference in Pasadena. I also completed three book reviews on works in my field. In addition, an internal research grant enabled me to take a research trip to the British National Archives in Kew. In the coming year, I am looking forward to my first study leave, during which I plan to complete my book manuscript.



## Post Doctoral Fellows

### Ben Isitt

It has been a pleasure working with faculty, staff, and students since returning to UVic in the summer of 2008. In addition to several research projects, I have enjoyed expanding my teaching repertoire with courses on “Power and Protest” in modern British Columbia and post-confederation Canadian history. My manuscript *From Victoria to Vladivostok: Canada’s Siberian Expedition, 1918-1919* (conceived as a UVic Honours thesis) was submitted to UBC Press, while a popular article appeared in the *Legion Magazine*. A documentary film and interactive website are also moving forward (in co-operation with the Humanities Computing and Media Centre). I’ve enjoyed presenting this forgotten chapter of Canadian history to diverse crowds, including the Historical Works in Progress meeting, The History Undergraduate Students (THUGS), UVic Russian Club, Western Front Association (Pacific Coast Branch), World Peace Forum Society (Vancouver), many UVic Speakers’ Bureau groups, and the “World History and Historical Materialism” conference at the University of Manitoba. Several research trips to Ottawa straddled this and other topics, including my thesis-turned-book *Tug-of-War: The Working Class and Political Change, 1948-1972* (submitted to University of Toronto Press). I am now focusing on a new SSHRC-funded project, “Globalization on the Resource Frontier: Workers, Environmentalists, and the British Columbia New Democratic Party, 1972-2001”, which moves my long-range research on British Columbia’s social movements toward the present. A special thank you to Eric Sager and the Department’s administrative staff for all their assistance.



*Ben with Viktor Dytelef at  
Urksute State University*

### Jeremy Schmidt

I enjoyed a trip to the archives in London in the summer, which allowed me to develop my research into early modern ideas of justice and charity in quite unexpected ways. Since then, I’ve been working hard on an article on 18<sup>th</sup> century charity schools, which is far too long to publish anywhere; and teaching a very exciting course on early modern “madness” in which I’ve incorporated critical examination of cinematographic representations of early modern demonic possession. Otherwise, I’ve been cheating on my scholarly life to develop a community-based research project on parents of children with disabilities and the school system—only to discover, surprisingly, that some things have not changed since the 18<sup>th</sup> century!

## Distinguished Alumni Award - Tamara Vrooman



*David Turpin, Tamara Vrooman  
and Tom Saunders*

**Tamara Vrooman**, (BA 1991; MA 1994) was honoured in February with the University’s Distinguished Alumni Award. Tamara Vrooman completed an Honours degree with a thesis on women’s political activism in British Columbia in the 1930s. Her Master’s thesis charted the history of eugenics and eugenics in British Columbia between 1914 and 1929.

Since completion of the Master’s degree Tamara has held the highest positions in the provincial public service and in the cooperative sector. She was Deputy Minister of Health (2002-2004) and Deputy Minister of Finance and Secretary to the Treasury Board (2004-2007). Tamara is currently Chief Executive Officer of Vancity, Canada’s largest credit union. Distinguished Alumni scholarships in Tamara’s name were awarded to history students **Megan Webber** and **Meleisa Ono-George**.

## Headliners

- ◆ Professor Emeritus **Angus McLaren** was featured in the March 2009 issue of *University Affairs* as one of the world's foremost experts in the history of sexuality.
- ◆ Grad **Andrei Bondoreff** is a writer for the *Times Colonist*. Recent articles include: "City celebrates synagogue's start" (December 7, 2008) and "William Head a transit point for Chinese war labourers" (January 25, 2009).
- ◆ **Merna Forester's** website [www.heroines.ca](http://www.heroines.ca)—A Guide to Women in Canadian History—was highlighted in the March 30, 2009 *Times Colonist*. Merna is the Executive Director of the Great Unsolved Mysteries in Canadian History Project.
- ◆ Professor **John Lutz** was interviewed for the February 9, 2009 *Times Colonist* article "Housing Issue Muddied by Neglect" regarding aboriginal housing in Canada.
- ◆ Professor **David Zimmerman** is cited in the April 20, 2009 issue of the *Times Colonist* in regard to a youth Holocaust education symposium, an annual event he organizes. Guest speaker was **Leon Leyson**, the youngest survivor from "Schindler's List".



### Congratulations

#### Jason Bennett

co-winner of the University of Idaho's Institute for Pacific Northwest Studies 2008 Dissertation Prize. Jason's doctoral thesis titled "Blossoms and Borders: Cultivating Apples and a Modern Countryside in the Pacific Northwest" was selected from submissions by historians, environmental scientists, and anthropologists covering regions from Idaho and Oregon to British Columbia.



### Simon Devereaux

In 2008 my inability to write a chapter of my book, without producing an article that needs to be removed, reached a new low when *History Compass* demanded that an extract on the history of the English state be split into two installments. Another hefty contribution, this time on the 1783 abolition of the infamous execution procession to Tyburn—forthcoming in *Past & Present*—finally reached the page-proof stage. (My wife demands that my solemn vow to publish no more articles before completing the book should be formally recorded here.) Apart from proofreading and editing, my time has otherwise been devoted to producing PowerPoint presentations, spending the first installment of my three-year SSHRC project on the history of execution in 18<sup>th</sup> century London, and preparing a web-based, searchable database of every person sentenced to death at the Old Bailey from 1689 to 1837 (to be launched in late 2009 or early 2010).

### Brian Dippie

2008 was a banner year, first because I was able to return to teaching after an unwelcome interruption, and second because Donna and I along with family and friends made it to Okayama for our youngest son's wedding. I was on study

leave in the fall but am now teaching my final term before retiring after 39 years at UVic.

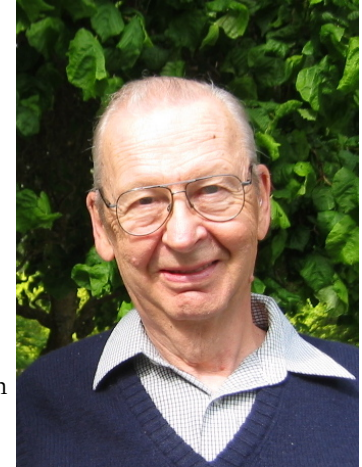
A research trip to Arizona during Reading Break will pay off in a book marking the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Desert Caballeros Western Museum in Wickenburg, outside Phoenix. Speaking engagements in Kalispell, Fort Worth, Denver and Cincinnati kept me busy, while a friend's art installation on the beach below the Cliff House in San Francisco made for a memorable occasion. My publications include a gift book of Charles Russell letters, pamphlets, and a couple of essays. It's been a good run; now I take my final bow.



Brian and Donna Dippie with artist Thom Ross  
in San Francisco, September 2008

## Despatches

When **Jim Hendrickson** retired from the Department of History in 1997 he was mid-stream in a very ambitious editorial project transcribing all the correspondence between the governors of British Columbia and Vancouver Island and their masters at the Colonial Office in England. It was a bold undertaking: the letters filled thirty-five reels of microfilm and the technology when he started was a complex software called Waterloo Script on UVic's mainframe computer. What made it worthwhile was knowing that these are the foundational legal documents for the colonies, not only containing instructions on such matters as whether or not the colonies should make treaties, but also on the reasons why decisions were made. Because the governor was instructed also to report on all matters of consequence, it is a lively and often entertaining correspondence about such key events as the 1858 Fraser River War between miners and the indigenous people of the Fraser Canyon and the 1864 Chilcotin War.



*Dr James (Jim) Hendrickson  
and his despatches data have both been  
“rescued” from retirement*

The information in the Despatches (19<sup>th</sup> century spelling of dispatches) includes correspondence from other British departments when their interests intersected with the Colonial Office. These include the Foreign Office, the Home Office, the Admiralty, the War Office, Law Office and the Treasury. Also included in the original correspondence to London (but since separated) were maps made by local officials. One of the most unique and important of these is a map of Chilcotin territory through the eyes of Chief Anaheim, which was taken down in the field in 1864.

When word came in 2007 that the UNIX mainframe was going to follow Jim into retirement **John Lutz** contacted Jim and the two, working with **Martin Holmes** in the Humanities Computing and Media Centre and **Chris Petter** in the library, began a project to finish and publish Jim's work on the web. With \$10,000 from the Ike Barber Foundation, Holmes transformed the computer files into a modern database, while history undergrad **Sean Manning**, former grad student **Patrick Szpak** and **Kim Shortreed Webb** did some mark up and added biographies of key players.



*Pat Szpak, MA grad, and the textual  
edition of the dispatches he has been marking up  
for the digital edition*

To coincide with the sesquicentennial of the Colony of British Columbia, the despatches relating to the gold rush of that year were prepared for launching in a digital edition. At a gala evening sponsored by the Vancouver Island Breweries, held in the 1885 restored courtroom in the Maritime Museum of British Columbia, sixty people from the heritage community helped launched the new project. The 1858 edition, the vanguard of the project lives at <http://bcgenesis.ca>. Fundraising continues to finish the editorial work on the remaining thirty-four reels and we live in hope that the Brewery will help us launch each one individually!

John Lutz

### Lansdowne Lecture Series

The Department welcomed **John Gillis**, Professor Emeritus at Rutgers University, who presented a public lecture on “Back to the Sea: Coasts in Human History” in the fall; and, **Sarah Carter**, Professor and HM Tory Chair at the University of Alberta who lectured on “Making Western Canada Monogamous: Polygamy and Other Cracks in the Foundation of a Nation” in the spring.



## Sessional Instructors

The Department of History benefits enormously from the dedication and professionalism of a large number of sessional instructors. These include postdoctoral fellows hosted by the Department and many of our advanced PhD students. They contribute inside and outside the classroom and are a vital part of the intellectual and social life of the Department. Listed here are those who taught one or more courses in the summer and fall of 2008, and the spring of 2009.

Jenny Clayton*	Dan Marshall	Samantha Scott*
Dave Dolff	John Measor	Kristin Semmens*
Norm Fennema	Chris Morier*	Jim Skinner
Chris Gainor	Jamie Morton	Lara Silver
Alisa Harrison	Dawn Nickel	Georgia Sitara*
Dan Hinman-Smith	Stuart Robson	Emily Spencer
Ben Isitt**	Katie Rollwagen*	Jinghao Sun
Matthew Koch	Jeremy Schmidt**	Tim Travers
Christian Lieb*	Alex Schoeber*	Andrew Wender*

\*a current or former UVic graduate student; \*\*SSHRC post doctoral fellow

### John Duder

On the whole, this was a sad year. Death reached out and struck down another History Department member. Shawn Cafferky was a superb colleague, a good friend and he will be missed. Otherwise, the usual courses were offered and taken, with the only new development being a return to the lucrative joys of teaching in summer session. A book review was also published in the *Canadian Journal of African Studies*. Strangely, this has not resulted in the fame and fortune that I'd anticipated. Many thanks to the students, staff, faculty and taxpayers for one of the planet's more enjoyable lifestyles.

### Erik Kwakkel

Apart from teaching a full course load, supervising two excellent honours papers (on 12<sup>th</sup> century humanism and medieval law), doing several public lectures for the Speakers Bureau, as well as two conference papers (including my first keynote address, at the University of Alberta), this academic year saw the completion of a lot of research. Over the summer I wrote two studies: a

(commissioned) book chapter on manuscript production in England (to appear with *Cambridge University Press* in 2010) and a long journal article on Michael Scot, philosopher-translator at the court of Frederick II (accepted for publication in *Viator: Medieval and Renaissance Studies*). For the University of Amsterdam library I described some 150 fragments of manuscripts, which recently emerged from early-modern book bindings. Deducing to which medieval texts snippets of 20x100 mm once belonged proved to be both intellectually challenging and satisfying (see image below). The fruits of this research will be published as an online catalogue later this year. I also moved up in the world: my office moved to the third floor of Clearihue (B304), and I am now surrounded by historians rather than visitors to the computer store, which is refreshing. (*Editor's note: see Erik's MVP photo p 12*)



*Regula Benedicti*  
(fragment, c 1400)

## Reminiscences Upon His Retirement by Brian Dippie

### LOOKING BACKWARD: History as an Inexact Science

I arrived at the University of Victoria for my job interview forty years ago this coming December.

Donna and I were visiting family in Seattle, en route to Edmonton for the holidays. I popped up to Victoria for the day on my own nickel because a friend who had joined the Department the previous year—Charles Cowan—had wangled a job interview for me. Charlie met me at the airport and got lost driving me to the Oak Bay Beach Hotel (alas! no more) where I was to lunch at the Snug (ditto) with the departmental search committee. Pat Roy was there, and three others—Bill Leary, Ted Wooley, and Jim Hendrickson, the Department Head (as Chairs were called back then). Bill, Ted and Jim were Americanists, but the department was looking for a fourth. We've never had that many since . . .

At lunch, I was asked a few polite questions which I tried to answer while eating a beef dip—a hard crusty roll with a few desiccated slices of meat—which was a wretched choice for someone expected to chit-chat while chewing.

After lunch, I was driven around the Ring Road—then a bumpy affair, thinly asphalted—which took me past Elliott, the McPherson Library, and Clearihue, to Cornett, home to the History Department. There were a few other buildings inside the Ring Road, but not many. Outside the Ring were architectural reminders of when the campus was a military base. Some of those quonset huts still provide homes for useful endeavors, I understand. A hangar served as the UVic gym. There, students sat in long rows to write exams every Christmas and spring (yes, they were called Christmas exams in that day) while faculty roamed the aisles armed with pistols to administer summary justice should any student be caught cheating.

The trees in the inner quadrangle were saplings in 1969, and there was an abundance of open space between most of the buildings; UVic was home to quail and pheasants and meadow larks, but nary a mallard or a rabbit.

I was shown around the McPherson Library by Bill Leary. Since the McPherson was not ensconced within a Centre of Learning, it boasted a growing collection of books and periodicals—rows of file card cabinets—and not a single computer—nor a cafeteria, for that matter. Coffee and comfortable chairs were unthinkable. UVic in 1969 was a

*serious*—and seriously aspiring—Institution of Higher Education.



There was no fountain in front of the library; a duck pond was unnecessary at that time, since there were no ducks. That's not to say UVic was entirely devoid of art. A couple of totem poles graced the Cornett complex. And complex it was—the most confusing building in Canada, designed as a rat's maze, with floors that went nowhere. A rat's maze—and thus a perfect home for the psychologists who, along with the other social scientists, eventually took it over, forcing History to make an exodus to Clearihue and the welcoming embrace of the Humanities. Bonjour, historians. Comment ca va? But all that was in the future.

On my visit in 1969, I had a short interview with Jim Hendrickson in the Head's office. I may misremember, but I think the Head Secretary, as Elaine Daniels was known, brought us coffee and cookies. And bowed—or at least curtsied. Those were the days! Staff *loved* the faculty—could barely contain their joy at doing our bidding. They took our phone messages on pink slips (no voice mail back then), typed our manuscripts in triplicate, and included us in their prayers at night. Reserved parking was virtually free. Professors could check books out for a year. Students never plagiarized their essays, and enjoyed tugging on their forelocks whenever we entered the classroom to dispense wisdom. We used chalk, not PowerPoint, of course, which may have been to our advantage. Chalk must dictate respect. Not one student wore a baseball cap in class, backwards or forwards. Without a laptop or a Blackberry or a cell phone to distract them, they hung on our every word—attentive—rapt—adoring. The grass, I should add, was also much greener back then, and the sun shone on Victoria 365 days a year—strange, because it rained all the time in Vancouver, and poured at UBC. Not that we felt competitive . . .

But let me wrap up this account of my job interview. The Head and I crossed the hall from the History Department offices to a large lounge that History considered its own, though it was supposed to serve all



## Retirement con't

the departments in Cornett. Having nothing in common with social scientists, we jealously guarded the lounge as our own, and used it for departmental meetings, visiting speakers, and undergraduate seminars, making it as unavailable to others as we possibly could. Smoking was permitted, and hard-puffing members utilizing cigarettes and pipes maintained a thick curtain of blue to ward off intruders. Even if outsiders could find their way into our inner sanctum, the hacking, coughing, spitting, hawking and pipe tamping deterred all but the hardiest. We often sat in the lounge in an impenetrable cloud of smoke sipping our coffee and contentedly musing on the uncollegial behavior of the non-historians in Cornett who never came to visit. Little did we know that they were conspiring to exile us to Clearihue.

To conclude my job interview I met a few members of the History Department who were still around marking “Christmas Exams.” They strolled in to shake hands and eat a sweet roll. (I forgot to mention this—all departmental functions were provisioned with goodies from the Dutch Bakery—take note, Tom). Reg Roy introduced himself to me as “a barbed wire and trench military historian.” Chris Rowe was on hand to say hello. His field was Expansion of Europe. That was our bow to those other areas on the globe—South America, Africa, India, etc. The Department had no historian of Japan in 1969—or China—or the Middle East. But it did need a fourth Americanist, thank goodness.

That’s all I remember of my job interview, because that’s all there was to it. I drank a cup of coffee, ate a vanilla square, and then it was time for me to fly back to Seattle. Jim Hendrickson drove me to the airport. Along the way, he pulled over to the side of the road and asked me if I would be able to accept a job offer immediately were it made.

Clearly I had eaten my beef dip and downed my coffee and pastry to the highest departmental standards. A job offer—\$9,900 a year, to be bumped up to \$10,500 when I completed my PhD—awaited me on my return to Texas. With Donna’s permission, I accepted, and in 1970 began a wonderful run that wraps up this June 30. It has been four decades of good memories, good

colleagues, good friends, good students, and good times—and not a single regret as I reach the finish line.

Well, one regret—I wish I’d not ordered a beef dip at my interview. On the other hand, had I been able to answer questions, perhaps I wouldn’t have been hired. So, let me say it again: *not a single regret!*

Editor’s note:

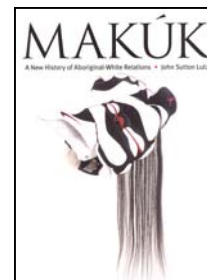
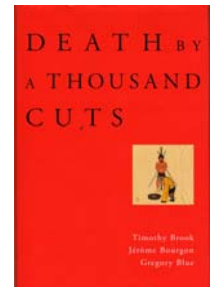
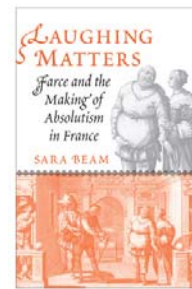
Brian has had a storied career researching the history of the American West in its art and legends and explaining American history to several generations of students. In a wealth of published work he has explored the power of images and myths to shape historical consciousness. Major studies from the first part of his career include *Custer’s Last Stand: The Anatomy of an American Myth* (1976) – a theme he revisited over the years and which featured in his address to the most recent Qualicum Conference – and *The Vanishing American: White Attitudes and U.S. Indian Policy* (1982). His later work turned to representation of the West by several prominent artists. In 1991 he published *Catlin and His Contemporaries: The Politics of Patronage* on the creation and marketing of images of the American Indian in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. He has devoted extensive research to two other artists of the West at the turn of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, Frederic Remington and Charles M Russell, publishing studies on both and editing collections on their works. Brian was the first Canadian elected President of the Western History Association (2002-03) and is a frequently invited keynote speaker at conferences and museum events. He has also been an outstanding teacher, capturing the imaginations of students and challenging them to think critically about the past. His stellar work as instructor and mentor was recognized by the Faculty of Humanities Award for Teaching Excellence in 2006.



Brian, Donna and fellow emeritus professor Angus McLaren at the 2009 Qualicum Conference

## Accolades

- ◆ The Roland H Bainton Book Prize for History/Theology was awarded to **Sara Beam** for her book *Laughing Matters: Farce and the Making of Absolutism in France* (Cornell: Ithaca & London, 2007).
- ◆ At the CHA, **John Lutz** won a regional prize, the Clio Award, for the best book on the history of British Columbia: *Makúk: A New History of Aboriginal-White Relations*.
- ◆ At the CHA, **Peter Baskerville** received Honourable Mention for his *A Silent Revolution. Gender and Wealth in English Canada, 1860-1930* in the competition for the Sir John A MacDonald Prize for the best book in Canadian history.
- ◆ At the CHA, **Greg Blue** and his co-authors won the Wallace Ferguson Prize for the best book on a non-Canadian book on a non-Canadian topic.
- ◆ The Founders' Prize by the Canadian History of Education Association was awarded to **Eric Sager** for his article "Women Teachers in Canada, 1881-1901: Revisiting the 'Feminization' of an Occupation" that appeared in the *Canadian Historical Review* 88, 2 (June 2007): 201-236.



## Myth Busters and Forgotten Histories

Our enthusiastic and active THUGS (The History Under Graduate Society) organized the following Myth Busters and Forgotten Histories presentations:

January 28th: **Ben Isitt**, Post Doctoral Fellow  
 "A Professor's Journey on the Trans-Siberian Railroad: A Look at Canada's Lost Military Expedition". Ben reflected on his adventures across Russia in the summer of 2008. While travelling by train, he looked for evidence of the Canadian military in Siberia after World War I. With the use of visual aids, he presented a piece of Canada's lost history.



January 29th: **Alisa Harrison**, Sessional Instructor

"Surviving Nonviolence: the Politics of Resistance from Civil Rights to Black Power". Alisa explored the use of violence and non-violence during the civil rights movement in the US, especially in the Deep South. She discussed the difference between non-violent activism and passivity with a closer look at the role of the Black Panthers.



THUGS President **Sam Nutbrown** presenting **Erik Kwakkel** with this year's MVP (most valuable professor) Award



## History 497: Honours Colloquium—January 2009

Early in the second term eleven honours students in their graduating year were joined by an equal number of third-year honours students and faculty supervisors at a colloquium at which they presented their thesis research. The topics they addressed ranged from history as a discipline and the relationship between nationalism and masculinity to images of the cowboy-outlaw in the US and confessionalism in Lebanese politics. Opportunity for questions made the colloquium an effective forum for feedback to the presenters. The event proved very successful and a model for next year's thesis students.



The History 480 class of 2008-09 was a remarkable, highly engaged group which tackled the challenge of theory and approaches to history with impressive acuteness and enjoyed socializing and fine desserts thanks to the culinary arts of Ryan Hunt.

*(front row) Jenny Weston, Megan Webber, Salam Guenette, Christine Fritze, Bethany Brouwer, Dana Anderson  
(back row) Marri Knadle, Patrick Corbeil, Ryan Hunt, Conor Rooney, Emily Hansen, Tom Saunders,  
Tim Paulson, Danny Garrett-Rempel, Scott Myers*

## In Memoriam

**Michael McCahill**, supporter of the Department of History, passed away suddenly on June 18, 2008. Mr McCahill's generosity to the Department's Sydney G Pettit Bursary was in recognition of the work of his former teacher Sydney Pettit and in support of students pursuing their academic studies.

**Major-General Alfred Tedlie**, supporter of the Department of History, passed away January 8, 2008. Major-General Tedlie's generous support augmented the Department's annual prizes awarded to students who distinguish themselves academically.

## Where Are They Now?

### Major James DeBruin (BA 1990)

I joined the Army full-time after graduating from UVic. In the succeeding nineteen-plus years I have had the opportunity to travel literally around the world, including a large chunk of Europe, the United States, the Balkans and now Afghanistan. I have also had the unique opportunity to travel the length and breadth of Canada, from coast-to-coast-to-coast. Along the way I have thoroughly enjoyed my career and had the opportunity to serve Canada both at home and abroad. Wearing the Canadian flag on your uniform is a pretty amazing experience; it is a universally recognized symbol and trusted worldwide for what it represents.

One of the interesting things about my degree in History is that it inclines me to read, research and question. In each instance this inclination has allowed me to arrive in a new place with an admittedly subjective but at least relatively informed frame of reference of the people, their culture(s), their social and political structures and their particular mores. At the same time, my degree has oriented me to view history within context, be it national, regional and/or global and to grasp that there a myriad of influences that go into understanding, and being understood by, people.



*James and his son Nigel, Barcelona, 2008*

If a history student is considering a career in the Canadian Forces, I would recommend that he or she research and understand the commitment required in becoming a soldier, both for themselves as well as for their family; soldiering is not for everyone and can often be as hard on the family as on the individual. Talk with soldiers to understand the implicit and explicit expectations inherent in the profession of arms. Secondly, never stop learning—challenge yourself to remain a socially aware and informed citizen so that you can better understand what you are doing and why. If it does not make sense, question it.

As for future plans, I am looking forward to returning home from Afghanistan and spending some time with my wife, Jacqueline and our newborn son, Nigel. One of the things that I have come to appreciate in travelling around the world on behalf of Canada is how lucky we are to be Canadians and live in this country, free of the type of fear and violence that pervades a large part of the world and destroys lives physically as well as socially and emotionally. I am looking forward to spending a couple of years in Canada with my wife and son before considering going on another mission overseas.

### Mitch Lewis Hammond

Alongside my teaching, I devoted considerable time this year to research projects related to my SSHRC grant. I am developing a database of patient examinations to analyze a set of over 2,000 encounters involving physicians, barber surgeons, and their clients in late-16<sup>th</sup> and early-17<sup>th</sup> century Germany. I also worked with an archive based at the Royal Jubilee Hospital to assist in the development of an oral history project involving retired members of the nursing professions.



*(l-r) Andrea McKenzie, Matthew Koch, Mitch Lewis Hammond, Susan Lewis, and Eileen Zapshala at the Qualicum Conference*

## British Colonist Goes Online

When **Dave Obee**, renowned genealogist and editorial page editor of the *Times Colonist*, came to campus for a brainstorming lunch with adjunct faculty member **Patrick Dunae** and colleague **John Lutz**, little did he know that over his Caesar salad, an amazing legacy project would be born. The three were looking for ways to mark the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the paper's predecessor, the *British Colonist* and hit on making the historic paper available online as a fitting birthday gift to British Columbia, also turning 150.

Good ideas, it seems, cost goodly amounts of money but they also seem to attract it. The *Times Colonist's* owners Can-West Global came up with \$30,000 and the University of Victoria Libraries under the project management of **Chris Petter** and **Ken Cooley**, took it on and raised another \$50,000 from a consortium of libraries. **John Durno**, the library's manager of IT, donated his time and that of his staff.

The fully searchable archive of the *British Colonist* from its inception to 1910 was launched on December 11<sup>th</sup>, 150 years to the day after Amor de Cosmos cranked over his press to put out the first issue. The champagne launch at the Maritime Museum of BC was presided over by UVic librarian **Marnie Swanson**, *Times Colonist* editor-in-chief **Lucinda Chodan** and UVic's Vice President External Relations, **Valerie Kuehne**. Amor de Cosmos and his old nemesis Governor James Douglas were re-vivified and added gravitas to the launching of [www.britishcolonist.ca](http://www.britishcolonist.ca).



*John Lutz and Dave Obee at the launch of the British Colonist online archives*

*Photo courtesy of Times Colonist*

### John Lutz

The fateful fortune cookie that shaped the year read: “All good things must come to an end.” The book that I have been working on for seventeen years finally came out as *Makúk: A New History of Aboriginal-White Relations*. I had promised my partner Cheryl that this book would be done before our son Sylvan (now nine) was born—a statement now immortalized with former Montreal Mayor Drapeau’s “The Olympics could no more have a deficit than a man can have a baby.” Another edited collection that I worked on with **Barbara Neis** and the Coasts Under Stress team came out as *Making and Moving Knowledge*. The Great Unsolved Mysteries Project, which I have spent the better part of the last decade on, launched its last mysteries while three other smaller projects—an electronic edition of emeritus colleague **Jim Hendrickson's** Colonial Despatches, a digital version of the *British Colonist* newspaper and new additions to Victoria's Victoria website—all culminated in some public wine drinking. All these things came to a “good end” so the fortune cookie wisdom was (mostly) right.



### Andrea McKenzie

2008 was a landmark year: I was promoted and received tenure, finally succumbed to the blandishments of PowerPoint, and—most exciting of all—moved into my own office (waving sadly down the hall at Simon). I began sustained work on my new SSHRC-funded project (“Playing the Man: the Cultural Politics of Courage in England, 1660-1760”), went to conferences in Chicago and Vancouver, and served on some interesting committees. On the home front, we're holding steady at five cats and five goldfish.

## Book Launch: Toasting and Roasting New Publications

In the spring the department celebrated its sixth annual book launch with twenty-three titles from regular, emeritus and adjunct faculty and from postdoctoral fellows. The books being feted treated subjects as diverse as migration, melancholy, gender, pirates, torture, race and religion.

Geographically they ranged from China and the Middle East to British Columbia and the seven seas. The department was delighted to welcome UVic's Chancellor, **Murray Farmer** and his wife **Lynda Farmer**, to the event and to recognize the achievements in particular of colleagues with more than one book. Collectively the titles toasted at the launch attest to outstanding and ongoing scholarly achievement in the department.



*Chancellor Murray Farmer and Lynda Farmer enjoying the book launch*

### Christine O'Bonsawin

Undoubtedly, the highlight of 2008 was attending the Cowichan North American Indigenous Games. I had the honour of sitting on the shores of Cowichan Bay and witnessing the landing of the canoes, watching sport events, indulging in fine cuisine, and presenting at the Cowichan NAIG Education Symposium—an event which provides a forum for researchers and others to discuss Indigenous sport. Furthermore, in 2008 I participated in the Critical Conversations Diversity Forum (Victoria, BC), the Annual Meetings of the North American Society for Sport History (Lake Placid, New York), and a commemorative research conference titled, “To Remember is to Resist: 40 Years of Sport and Social Change, 1968-2008” (Toronto, Ontario). On the whole, 2008 was an exciting year. Sporting events kept me busy in both personal and professional capacities, as I had the opportunity to travel to new places, meet new people, and take on new challenges.



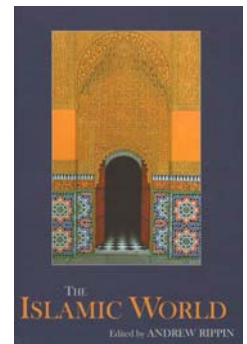
*Somewhere in the crowd of attendees is Christine!*

### Rick Rajala

Shawn Cafferky's passing reduces all of the year's events to insignificance. During 2008 I was invited to speak at the Association of BC Forest Professionals' Annual Meeting in Penticton, presented a paper at the American Society for Environmental History Conference at Boise, and addressed the “Future of Forest History in BC Conference” at UBC. Graduate students Eryk Martin and Anne Dance survived my supervision in attaining their MA degrees, and I published an article in *BC Studies*. The fall brought my first study leave, which I devoted to researching an environmental history of forestry/fisheries relationships in BC.

### Andrew Rippin

This year my major publication was an edited volume (forty-nine chapters) called *The Islamic World* from Routledge in England. There's a lot of work that goes into such volumes, both intellectually in the conceptualization of the coverage of a volume and the evaluation of contributions, and editorially in the actual physical assembling of over 1,000 pages of typescript into a uniform style and format. I was glad to see the project completed—and also very happy that I was able to include a contribution from my departmental colleague Martin Bunton. I was also pleased to have the opportunity to visit Copenhagen again to be an external examiner for a PhD thesis: as a small country, Denmark continues to put an emphasis on bringing in international examiners in order to ensure and demonstrate “world class” scholarship. That's rather nice for those of us who get invited!





## University 101 & 102: Two Student Testimonials Highlight History

By Don Cain

I guess the university adage of there never being a stupid question proved itself true. I have always been fascinated with history ever since I was a young teen, and the original question I had concerning history was “Why should I care what the King of England thought in 1600?” It was a privilege of youth and a question that seems so relevant today. In order to learn to define my world, and therefore myself, on my own terms I would discover that studying kings, Caesars, pharaohs and the rest of the main characters of history was leading me to an understanding that I couldn’t have previously imagined. Then the opportunity of a lifetime came to me and I can never look back. Due to health reasons, not historical so not worth mentioning, I found myself in University 101 and realized that I didn’t waste twenty years studying history. Through the books in public libraries and from free bins outside of used book stores, my understanding of the world was developing. I found I could define the world on my own “informed” terms. Now as an undergrad I’ve learned about such things as the female sphere, the public sphere and the effects of first contact on the Indigenous Peoples of our land; in other words the unwritten histories. I am certainly glad that old adage still stands there are no stupid questions, just unanswered ones.



*Dr Gordon Shrimpton of Greek and Roman Studies instructing a Uni 101 class*

By Darcy Merrick

At school in my youth I was quite bored with history. Over time history became one of my favourite subjects. In my eighth grade a shop teacher by the name of Mr Andrews entered my life. He would stop shop class with about ten minutes left until the bell and start telling naval history stories. He told us of the jargon used by the Royal Navy, what it meant to be “on your pins” and “pressed into service”. The pins are shaped like bowling pins and placed upside down in their place on the side of the ship to tie rope to. I am sure this is how bowling was started—cannon balls and pins. The pins were taken out of the ship and used to hit men on the head. The men were then taken back to a ship and “pressed” to man the ship as crew.

I am now in a couple of history classes at UVic. The professors at the university keep my attention for the hour and twenty minutes of their class like it was the last ten minutes of that shop class all over again. The profs are so animated by their topic that I am stimulated in every class. I am learning the proper way to write a history paper and the assignments all have a unique way of representing history.

I think history might be my major.

Eric Sager

2008: a year of struggles, on and off the golf course, and a few triumphs. Among the latter I would include my small share, as supervisor, in the brilliant MA thesis by Lytton McDonnell entitled "Singing Wet and Dry", on the music of temperance and prohibition in Canada. Among the former I include my continuing work with Statistics Canada on the wording of the "consent question" for the 2011 census, and my somewhat more successful efforts to assist the Canadian Century Research Infrastructure Project in assigning occupation codes to census microdata. I was grateful and honoured to be elected to the UVic Board of Governors, to win a prize from the Canadian History of Education Association for my article on women teachers, to get married, and to play 126 holes of golf in five days in the East Kootenays. *Sine labore nihil.*



*At the THUGS Pub Crawl (l-r Past President **Randy Neville**, Sessional Instructor **Norm Fennema**, **Jean Anne Whiteman** and **Eric Sager**)*

## Qualicum Conference—Participation is Contagious!

by Mitch Lewis Hammond, 2009 Conference Chair

The 34<sup>th</sup> annual history conference was an eventful weekend of socializing and stimulating discussion. This year the number of student presenters swelled to 64, as large contingents from UBC, UVic and Simon Fraser were joined by participants from several other provincial institutions. Talks addressed a full range of topics, including the interaction of railway and environment in BC; religious devotional literature in the later Middle Ages; and the challenges facing Cambodian society after the end of French colonization. Among the highlights were **Brian Dippie's** lecture on "Custer's Last Stand" and the tall tales that followed in its wake. Details on the Saturday night karaoke party will be withheld to protect the (not so) innocent, but I was told the dance floor was packed!

The success of the conference depends on the staff who organize the gathering and UVic's auction; faculty members who chair sessions; and of course, dozens of students who volunteer their ideas for discussion. Many thanks for a job well done!

*This year, thanks to a generous anonymous donation to the Qualicum conference, select conference proceedings will be published in a journal entitled Preteritus, which will be available in the fall both in hardcopy and online. Preteritus is being edited by a group of University of Victoria graduate History students under the supervision of Dr Lewis Hammond.*



## Graduate Student Profile— Elizabeth Della Zazzera



Elizabeth Della Zazzera entered the Master's program in 2007 on a University Fellowship after receiving her BA (summa cum laude) from the University of Ottawa, where she won the History gold medal for highest standing in the Faculty of Arts, she won a SSHRC Master's Canada Graduate Scholarship. Her thesis is a comparative study of the relationship between individualism and nationalism in Romantic historiography and literature in France, Scotland, and Germany. Its focus is how two such seemingly opposed notions as individualism and nationalism were able to co-exist in a single system of thought. It also examines how Romanticism's notions of individualism and nationalism distinguish it from both Enlightenment thought and later forms of nationalism. Elizabeth has accepted a fully-funded place in the PhD program at the University of Pennsylvania and has been awarded a prestigious SSHRC Doctoral Canada Graduate Scholarship. Building on her Master's research she plans to examine issues of collectivity and individuality more generally, while focusing particularly on Romantic clubs and journals in France and Scotland.

## Graduate Awards

### Congratulations to:

#### PhD students

**Catherine Ulmer**—Peter Cundill Scholarship

**Elizabeth Della Zazzera**—CGS Scholarship

**Stephen Fielding**—CGS Scholarship

**Sarah Lebel**—SSHRC Scholarship

**Emma Lowman**—SSHRC Scholarship

#### Masters students

**Megan Harvey**—SSHRC Scholarship

**Meleisa Ono-George**—SSHRC Scholarship

**Mathieu Robitaille**—SSHRC Scholarship

## New Medieval Artifacts in Special Collections

### by Erik Kwakkel

Those who have attended the “Fragments on Fridays” lecture series or have done “HIST 380a: Medieval Written Sources on Campus” are no stranger to the phenomenon of the manuscript fragment. These objects came to be because medieval and post-medieval bookbinders cut up manuscripts (handwritten books) and recycled them in book bindings. Despite their modest appearance, fragments can reveal a great deal about medieval society.



Looking at the specimen (*shown right*), which was recently donated to Special Collections, immediately introduces some of the challenges encountered by historians who use fragments to increase our understanding of medieval society: When and where was it made? From what kind of manuscript was it taken? And how was it originally used? The first query is quickly answered by the script of the fragment, the style of which points to France (as does the language) and the turn of the 14<sup>th</sup> century (*c.* 1400). A preliminary transcription of text reads “Sacrifice d. Abraham; Loue don de Dieu” (Sacrifice of Abraham, Praise the gift of God): evidently, the scene depicts Abraham setting out to sacrifice Isaac: wood, fire and a knife were taken to execute God’s command. The medieval illustrator exchanged the knife for a sword, in a familiar act of medievalization, but otherwise this page provides a faithful depiction of the story in Genesis 22.

Does that make this fragment a remainder of a regular Bible, the bestseller of the Middle Ages and a popular category among surviving fragments? The answer to this question is found on the other side of the page, which holds perhaps the most spectacular feature of the fragment: it is blank. Blank pages are not common but when they do occur it often means that something went wrong in the production process of the book, which was halted and commenced on a new sheet. The verso of our fragment is blank for a more prosaic reason: it was not meant to contain any text, which is evident from the absence of any page preparation, such as ruling. This observation suggests that the book to which the single leaf originally belonged was part of a family of Bible manuscripts that were primarily vehicles for images, such as the *Bible Moralisee* and *Biblia Pauperum*: in parallel with the latter Bibles types, the fragment in Special Collections was likely used to help biblical scenes come to life for a lay audience.

The growing medieval manuscript and fragment collection can be consulted in Special Collections by both students and faculty. An inventory is found at: <http://library.uvic.ca/site/spcoll/medieval/inventory.html>

#### Oliver Schmidtke

The Canada-Europe Knowledge Cluster (2008-2015), <http://www.carleton.ca/europecluster/>, for which I am responsible for the nation-wide research cluster on migration and citizenship began. In addition I am leader of the European Studies Network Canada <http://www.eucanet.org/> that, as part of the Cluster, will create a databank on experts in European Studies and provide regular “media tips” to the Canadian press. I co-organized a conference to present the results of our three-year research on migration and integration to a broader audience. Over 80 representatives from academia, politics, and the media community attended at a remote academy in a northern German forest. As a domain leader for Metropolis BC I have been busy trying to facilitate research and outreach in the field of migration.

#### Jordan Stanger-Ross

Over the past year I came to truly appreciate YouTube, a vital resource in trying to follow the most exciting US election of my lifetime. When I could tear myself away from Katie Couric interviews and Daily Show parodies, I continued to work at my various academic projects. Study leave in the fall allowed me to conduct a series of interviews with Italian residents of Philadelphia and Toronto, one of the highlights of a book project that has now come to a close. In a very memorable and sprawling interview in South Philadelphia, Cathy S. explained how she had gotten a “snit on with God”; in Toronto, photographer Vince Pietropaolo shared marvelous images and fascinating recollections. I also created a website, wrote a couple of articles, and tried to raise my kids up right. In all, a very productive and exciting year.

## THUGS (The History Undergraduate Society)

by Grant Mason, Director of Communications

THUGS has been involved in several events around the University of Victoria campus over this last year. In the first semester, we held a bake sale to raise funds for United Way and to help cover the costs of our Fall Crawl, on which many professors joined us. We restructured our executive board, with the exception of the President, **Sam Nutbrown**, and me. As a result it took a little bit of time for everyone to get to know their roles and responsibilities. However, we still managed to MUG Professors **David Dolff** and **Norm Fennema** (“MUGGING” refers to when we run into a classroom dressed in black and ambush the professor with a coffee mug filled with candy, stationery, or something else we think they’ll enjoy).



*Undergraduates at the Qualicum Conference (l-r): Tylor Richards, Ryan Hunt, Tim Paulson, Connor Rooney, Grant Mason and Alvin Ng*

The second semester was much more productive with three executive members attending the Qualicum Conference, a very educational experience and a great opportunity for us to connect with professors on a more personal level outside the classroom. We held two bake sales in the spring semester. This semester we’ve also been putting on a series of guest lectures, entitled “History Mythbusters” where we ask professors to speak about the little-known facts of history or common misconceptions that they have encountered whilst researching (*see article page 12*). We also MUGGED Professor Erik Kwakkel, in recognition of his contributions to the History Department.



*THUGS Executive at the Fall Crawl*

### Elizabeth Vibert

The past year was a time to test out my new research at conferences and lectures. In May I presented an invited lecture on my work on black settler land petitions in colonial Nova Scotia in the series “Reconfiguring the British” at the Institute of Historical Research, London. I also gave papers at the Berkshire Conference on Women’s History in Minneapolis and the OAH in New York. The highlight was the “Gendering Imperialism” conference in Edinburgh in November, where I gave a paper on gendered colonial and national identities in missionary texts. One of my articles came out in the anthology *Moving Subjects* (Illinois). Finally, in addition to teaching (including a wonderful stint in University 101) and graduate supervisions, I enjoyed my fifth and final year as Graduate Director in the department: I’ll miss (daily) contact with our terrific grad students.

### Jill Walshaw

As I try to describe my frame of mind in this, my first year at UVic, a line from “Fiddler on the Roof” comes unbidden: “I’m so happy, I don’t know how miserable I am!” Starting fresh in a new city, alone with my two-year-old daughter as my partner is delayed by work, and preparing all new courses, I am busy and occasionally swamped, but I am absolutely ecstatic to have joined such a welcoming department and to have moved to this breathtaking location. I am working hard to lay solid foundations for my core courses, to explore some interesting angles in seminars (cultural history theory and comparative peasant societies) and to keep a hand in my research. In October I travelled to Quebec City to comment on a panel at the Western Society for French History, and to catch up with friends and colleagues from my years as a postdoctoral fellow at the Université de Montréal. With the beginning of 2009, I am feeling settled, up to speed, and determined. This spring I look forward to completing work on one article and to continuing revisions on my first book manuscript.



## Undergraduate Student Awards Winners

### **Beckmyer, Stephen**

~ RUSI (Vancouver Island) Book Prize in Military History

### **Bertrand, Ashlee**

~Victoria Chapter IODE Canadian History Scholarship

### **Bienvenu, Jean-Kyle**

~ Major General GR Pearkes, VC Scholarship

### **Bienvenu, Paul**

~ RH Roy Scholarship in Military History

### **Bower, Bethany**

~ Harper Scholarship in History  
~ UVic Excellence Scholarship Renewal

### **Brunt, Emmalee**

~ Willard E Ireland Scholarship

### **Colin, Amy**

~ Kathleen Agnew Scholarship

### **Corbeil, Patrick**

~ Harper Scholarship in History

### **Corregan, Shannon\***

~ Harper Scholarship in History

### **Dale, Daniel**

~Sydney W Jackman Prize in British History

### **Gares, Stephen**

~ Prince and Princess Nicholas Abkhazi Book Prize-Russian History

### **Goad, Jennifer**

~ Ladner Book Prize for the Study of the History of BC

### **Guenette, Salam**

~ Harper Scholarship in History

### **Hoxey, Daniel**

~ United Empire Loyalists Assoc of Canada (Victoria Branch)  
Scholarship in Canadian History

### **Jaworski, Samuel\***

~ Charlotte SM Girard Book Prize in French History

### **Karmel, Ezra\***

~ Harper Scholarship in History

### **Katchur, Steven**

~ Allan and Elizabeth McKinnon Scholarship

### **Knadle, Marri**

~ Michiel Horn Scholarship

### **Koren, Jordan\***

~ Tatton Anfield Prize in American History

### **Logan, Matthew\***

~ Harper Scholarship in History

### **McGurran, Kelly**

~ Lord Selkirk Assoc of Rupert's Land (Victoria) Bompas Book Prize

### **McHaffie, Matthew**

~ Grotius Award in Modern History

### **McIndoe, Adina**

~ Ken Coates Book Prize

### **Jacopo, Miro**

~ Harper Scholarship in History

### **Morris, Samantha**

~ J Walter Grant Book Prize in British Columbia History

### **Myers, Richard\***

~ Professor Alfred E Loft Memorial Scholarship

### **Neville, Randy**

~ Sir Winston Churchill Scholarship

### **Olson, Alexia**

~ Hutchinson Book Prize

### **Ono-George, Meleisa**

~ Alfred Loft Book Prize in Canadian History

### **Paulson, Timothy\***

~ Ted and Jane Wooley Scholarship

### **Rathbone, Jon**

~ Hendrickson Prize in BC History

### **Roche, John**

~ Harper Scholarship in History  
~ Helen Jessop Ford Scholarship  
~ UVic Excellence Scholarship Renewal

### **Rooney, Conor\***

~ Harper Scholarship in History  
~ Sidney Pettit Book Prize in European History

### **Shaw, Christopher\***

~ Maureen Dobbin Scholarship

### **Smith, Cameron\***

~ Tatton Anfield Prize in American History

### **Stephen, Taylor**

~ Alexander MacLeod Baird Memorial Prize in Scottish History

### **Strickland, James**

~ Air Force Officers' Association Book Prize

### **Teague, Simon**

~ Colonel George Urquhart Book Prize  
~ Royal United Services Institute of VI Book Prize in Military History

### **Wall, Katherine**

~ Dr Toby Jackman Book Prize in British History

### **Webber, Megan\***

~ Harper Scholarship in History  
~ Nora Lugrin and Wendell Burrill Shaw Memorial Scholarship

\* denotes student who also received The President's Scholarship

## His Honour, the Sisters and the Trolley Updated Victoria's Victoria

President **David Turpin** joined Dean **Andrew Rippin**, Chair **Tom Saunders**, instructor **John Lutz** and the class of History 481 to launch the latest additions to the Victoria's Victoria website in front of about 60 members of the Victoria heritage community at a wine and cheese in the CALL facility on April 14<sup>th</sup>.

Three new microhistories were added to the site. One, created by history students **Diana Dearden**, **Leah Povey** and **Natalie Schlogl**, commemorates the arrival of the Sisters of St Ann in Victoria 150 years ago to set up a teaching and nursing order. The Sisters founded St Ann's Academy and St Joseph's Hospital, which later became the Victoria General Hospital.

A second site marks the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of BC's only francophone Lieutenant Governor with a website on the life and times of Henri Gustave Joly de Lotbinière. Three students, **Jeremy Nemanishen**, **Callie Perry** and **Tamara O'Reilly** worked on this site in collaboration with the Association historique francophone de Victoria and the Alliance française de Victoria. The students were later invited to present their work at a conference on Lotbinière.

The third website marked a departure for the project. HG Wells conjured up a time machine for his fiction but here we have the closest thing to the reality of time travel. Lost for most of a century, found in an Australian archive and now available on the web for the first time, a video of Victoria taken 101 years ago, from the front of a city streetcar. Students **Meleisa Ono-George** and **Oriane Fort**, working with **Nick Russell** and **Russ Fuller** of the Victoria Hallmark Society annotated this long forgotten footage on *A View of Victoria: Riding the Trolley through downtown in 1907*. All can be found on the "News" tab of [www.VictoriasVictoria.ca](http://www.VictoriasVictoria.ca).



*Henri Joly de Lotbinière, BC's only Francophone Lieutenant Governor*

### Wendy Wickwire

I'm spending my sabbatical leave finishing my intellectual biography of British Columbia ethnographer, James A Teit.

In June 2008, I presented a segment of this work, "He Went From Where He Came: JA Teit's "Shetland Project" in British Columbia" at the Canadian Historical Association annual conference in Vancouver. An expanded version of this paper will be presented in Lerwick, Shetland in the future.

### Paul Wood

For me the academic highlight of 2008 was the Eighteenth-Century Scottish Studies Conference held at Dalhousie University in late June. In addition to giving a paper in a session that I organized on the theme "Diaspora and Enlightenment in England, Ireland and Europe", I had the privilege of presenting my long-time friend and colleague Roger Emerson with the ECSSS Lifetime Achievement Award. In August I made my annual pilgrimage to Scotland, where I worked in libraries in Edinburgh and Glasgow.



*Paul Wood presenting Roger Emerson with the ECSSS Lifetime Achievement Award*



## Guoguang Wu

In 2008 I tried to reduce travel, conference participation, and paper-writing, while concentrating on the writing of a research monograph. Still, I had conference and research trips to various places such as Toronto, New York, Los Angeles, Hong Kong, Beijing (twice), Shanghai, Xiamen, and Xi'an.

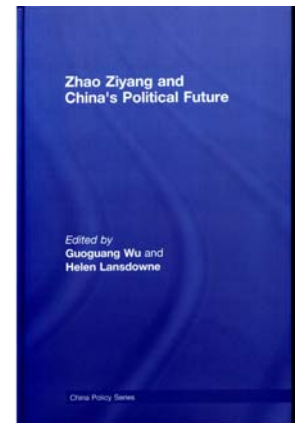
In my capacity as CAPI China Chair, I organized a symposium in April on “Foreign-domestic linkage in China’s international behaviours”, to which about a dozen scholars from Asia, Europe, and North America presented their papers. A grant of about \$38,000 was raised from external sources to support this event. Also, I joined CAPI colleagues to organize the annual conference of the Asia Studies on the Pacific Coast (ASPAC), which, held in June at UVic, attracted about 150 papers. In 2008 I published three refereed journal articles, three book chapters, and a co-edited volume (London: Routledge). In addition, several pieces came out in the Chinese language.

## Serhy Yekelchyk

It was the year of “too much.” Too much administrative work as chair of Germanic and Slavic Studies, although it was a highly rewarding experience. Too much travelling: Stanford, Cambridge, Paris, Kiev, Princeton, Vienna, Dublin, and Kiev again. Too much editing: a collection of articles, a journal’s special issue, and no fewer than two Festschriften. A bit too much teaching, too, given all the other things, but not by much. Definitely too much worrying about all the promises made at various points to various publishers. Too much time spent in my office at work and not enough at home or with friends. Too many trips to the much-appreciated University Centre cafeteria in order to sustain those much more frequent, long stays in the office. Too much eaten on each such trip. Spending way too much time on my e-mail, much more than on doing my own much-neglected writing. So much for all those New Year’s resolutions!

## David Zimmerman

It was a busy year filled with many accomplishments and a major tragedy. I spent much of the year organizing two conferences. In February Shawn Cafferky and I hosted “Between Memory and History”, the first veterans’ oral history conference. We had over eighty participants from all over North America, and as far away as Brazil. In August I hosted the annual Conference of the International Committee for the History of Technology. Over 100 delegates from sixteen countries participated. The conference marked the organization’s 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary, and was centered on a special session on the early history of ICOHTEC. This session was held at the BC Forest Discovery Centre, and delegates arrived at the conference centre riding on a narrow gauge train pulled by steam engine. We finished off this day with a visit to the historic Kinsol Trestle, a site that greatly impressed this group of historians of technology. I also managed to find time to deliver a paper at the Society of Military History’s conference at Ogden, Utah. In December I had the privilege of giving a paper in London England on Lord Beveridge and the Rescue of German Scholars at the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary conference of the Council for Assisting Refugee Academics. The tragedy was the loss of my close friend Shawn Cafferky early in the fall term. Shawn will be greatly missed by the Department and his family.



*ICOHTEC participants at the BC Forest Discovery Centre in Duncan*



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### WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Where has life taken you since leaving UVic? If you'd like to share your "history" please let us know for next spring's edition. Contact Leslie at [llaird@uvic.ca](mailto:llaird@uvic.ca).