NEWS/EVENTS:


**ALSO FREE PIZZA ON MONDAY, February 19, after the book party!!!** The History Department SDAs, Andrew Ladner, Robin Anderson, and Annie Perkins will hold **PIZZA OFFICE HOURS from 6-8 p.m.** in Upper Sayles for all students wishing to discuss registration or ask other questions about the department.

**Friday, February 23:** Luncheon with Professor Ellen Kennedy's friend Alice. Alice Musabende was 14 years old in 1994, the year of the genocide in Rwanda. Her entire family was killed - grandparents, parents, and sister and brother. Alice finished high school and graduated from the National University in Butare, Rwanda with a major in journalism, writing her thesis on the French media's coverage of the genocide. She is currently in graduate school at Carleton University in Ottawa, Canada. She recently met with former Secretary of State Madeleine Albright to talk about recent killings of those who have spoken out against perpetrators of the genocide. The luncheon will include a combination of Alice telling her story and informal discussion about Rwanda. In **LDC room 51 from 12-1.**

**Wednesday, February 28 and Thursday, March 1:** The Fund for Public Interest Research is conducting an **info session and interviews on campus.** The Fund helps some of the top progressive groups in the country wage the campaigns that help preserve the environment, protect human rights, clean up politics, and challenge corporate power. They are hiring Citizen Outreach Directors to run regional field offices across the country next year -- running campaigns for groups like the Sierra Club, the Human Rights Campaign, and the State PIRGs. **Info session February 28th, interviews March 1. ?s pgoyette@ffpir.org**

**PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS!** Andrew Ladner, Robin Anderson, and Annie Perkins have organized **SOMETHING TO LOOK FORWARD TO THIS SPRING!** Sunday, May 20, History Majors, Faculty, Families EVENT - ST. PAUL SAINTS GAME. Everyone will receive a voucher for a free St. Paul Saints logo baseball with ticket! [www.saintsbaseball.com/tickets/group/](http://www.saintsbaseball.com/tickets/group/)

**OPPORTUNITIES:**

**PLEASE SEE PAGE THREE FOR COMPLETE INFORMATION ABOUT OUR NEW Edward H. (Ted) Mullin Prize in History at Carleton College (for junior majors)**

**APPLY to Teach for America—the final deadline is this Sunday, February 18th.** Seeking all academic majors. Full salary and health benefits. No education courses or experience necessary. Be placed in one of 25 regions around the country including New York City, Rio Grande Valley, Las Vegas, Chicago, LA, the Mississippi Delta, Hawaii, and South Dakota. More information at [http://www.teachforamerica.org](http://www.teachforamerica.org)
SUMMER FELLOWSHIPS with the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History. 15 History Scholarships for 5-week research program in NYC from June 24-July 28, 2007. Each student is awarded a fellowship worth $10,000 that includes tuition, books, field trips, travel to and from NYC, room and board, and a $2,200 stipend. 50 Finalists are invited to a one-week program in NYC from June 9-June 16, 2007. Each student is awarded a fellowship worth $1,500 that includes tuition, field trips, travel $, and room and board. **Deadline for applications is THURSDAY, MARCH 1st!** Go to: [www.gilderlehrman.org](http://www.gilderlehrman.org) or come to History department office, see Nikki.

STUDENT CONFERENCE OPPORTUNITY:  Washington University in St. Louis Colonialism and Empire Undergraduate Conference, April 7, 2007. The contemporary world has been dramatically shaped by the economic, political, epidemiological, and cultural consequences of colonial enterprises. The Washington University Department of History and African & African American Studies Program invite you to submit a paper for a conference that seeks to explore these historical changes. Submit a paper of about 8 pages dealing with any aspect of imperialism or colonialism in any region of the world. **PLEASE SUBMIT A ONE PARAGRAPH ABSTRACT FOR CONSIDERATION BY MARCH 1, 2007** electronically to: jakobus@wustl.edu or send it regular mail to COLONIALISM CONFERENCE, History Department and African & African American Studies Program, One Brookings Drive, Campus Box 1109, 226 McMillan Hall, St. Louis, MO 63130.

HISTORICAL FACTS OF THE DAY

**February 16:** 1959 - Fidel Castro becomes Premier of Cuba after President Fulgencio Batista was overthrown on January 1.

**February 17:** 1753 - February 17 is followed by March 1 as Sweden moves to the Gregorian from the Julian calendar.

**February 18:** 1901 - Winston Churchill makes his maiden speech in the British House of Commons.

**February 19:** 1847 - The Donner Party is rescued. It is noted that some of the survivors seem to be remarkably well-fed considering their ordeal.

**February 20:** 1947 - State of Prussia ceases to exist

**February 21:** 1965 - Malcolm X is assassinated at the Audubon Ballroom in New York City by members of the Nation of Islam.

**February 22:** 1915 - Germany institutes unrestricted submarine warfare.

1969 - The last time all four Beatles were together for a recording session.

TRIVIA QUESTION OF THE WEEK: What did the P. in Huey P. Newton stand for?
(email abramow@ or feders@ with the answer BEFORE ALL OTHERS and win COOKIES! Come on guys, it doesn’t take that much work to google the answer.)

Answer for last week’s question: (Congratulations to Hannah Ewing!)

**Q:** What Roman Emperor was once captured by pirates and held for a 12,000 gold-piece ransom?

**A:** Julius Caesar. On his way home from the siege of Miletus, Julius Caesar was captured by pirates and held hostage for about forty days. Caesar insisted that his captors double their ransom demand (he was, after all, an aristocrat) and promised to return and punish them. True to his word, Caesar returned after his release, hunted the pirates down, and had them crucified.
Announcing our new History prize!
The Edward H. “Ted” Mullin Prize in History at Carleton College
(For junior history majors)

The Carleton College History Department invites junior history majors to submit applications for the 2007 Edward H. “Ted” Mullin Prize in History. Ted entered Carleton with the Class of 2006, and despite time lost while fighting cancer, was on track to graduate in the spring of 2007. Sadly, Ted lost his battle, passing away in September 2006. He was deeply committed to his life at Carleton, both as a history major and three-year letter winner on the men’s swim team. While at Carleton, Ted also co-captained two American Cancer Society Relay-for-Life teams.

The Ted Mullin Prize in History, established in 2007, is an endowed fund awarded each year to the junior history major who most exemplifies Ted’s love of history, academic excellence, selflessness, courage, and tenacity. This prize fund is to be used to support travel and/or research opportunities that enhance the student’s academic or broader learning journey.

The prize will be awarded by a committee of history department faculty. The selection criteria will include academic excellence (a GPA of at least 3.5) and personal qualities of character similar to the ones that we cherished in Ted: integrity, academic and/or athletic drive and competitiveness, selflessness and generosity, an inquiring and flexible mind, religious and/or broader ethical inquiry, and tolerance and curiosity.

In the year 2007, the amount of the Ted Mullin Prize in History will be $250. To make an application, please submit the following to Nikki Lamberty in the History Department Office by 4:30 p.m. Monday, March 5, 2007 (paper copies only please; no electronic submissions):

i. Project Proposal and Budget

Provide a 2-3 page description of your project, including your research topic; the methodological approach you plan to use; and the specific research activities you hope to carry out with the support of the Ted Mullin Prize. For example, these activities might include: transportation to a research site; living expenses; purchase of microfilm or archival materials; videotape for carrying out oral interviews. Include a one-page project budget that details these proposed expenses.

ii. Personal Statement

Write a one page personal statement in which you explain the way your proposed research project fits into your larger academic goals, including your intellectual journey as a history major.

iii. Unofficial Transcript

Include a copy of your unofficial transcript with your proposal.

iv. Faculty Letters of Recommendation

Provide two letters of recommendation from Carleton faculty who know you and your academic work well, including at least one from the History Department.

Proposal Submission Deadline: Monday, March 5 by 4:30 pm

Submit paper copies only to Nikki Lamberty in the History Department Office, Leighton 210.

The Edward H. “Ted” Mullin History Prize winner will be announced early in Spring term.
SENIOR BIOGRAPHY: ROBIN ANDERSON

Robin, rocking out with Vaclav Havel

Q: If you could meet anyone from history, who would it be? Alternately, who would you definitely NOT meet?
A: I would love to chat with people involved with the Orange Alternative, a group in Poland in the 1980s who protested Communism by mocking it. They sometimes dressed up as elves, staged fake riots with shields and stones made out of styrofoam, etc. Now that's witty yet sincere protest!

Q: What is your primary field? Why is it so fascinating?
A: My primary field is Modern Europe. I am particularly in awe of the changes in Central Europe over the past sixty or seventy years, from World War II to Communism, to the struggles with democracy.

Q: So what’s your comps on? Why’dya pick it?
A: I am looking at Czech playwright-turned-politician Václav Havel, and how his devotion to the philosophical ideals which initially earned him support caused him to lose respect once president. I picked it because I am fascinated by the idea of a "philosopher king."

Q: What remnant of your youth are you still obsessed with?
A: Cards made with crayons, the Muppets, and sandwiches cut into quarters.

Q: Do you have any advice for juniors trying to make their way in the major?
A: Apply what you learn in 298 to other courses, and go to as many guest lectures as you can. Try using historical approaches outside of your comfort zone in order to more carefully consider their pros and cons. Also, help out with the Northfield Historical Society --they have some treasures hidden in their basement!

Q: What makes you so special?
A: I am always willing to listen to what others have to say.
Q: How did you become interested in history? Were you always interested in American history?
A: As I recall, I think I became interested in reading historical novels from my early years when I was introduced to such works as Plutarch's *The Lives of the Noble Grecians and Romans* or Luo Guanzhong's *The Romance of the Three Kingdoms*. These readings stretched my imagination beyond bounds. I declared my major in history during my college days when I was attracted to the historical works of those whose lives were fatefully enmeshed with certain historical moments in time. Among them, I particularly liked Marc Bloch's *The Historian's Craft* or Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru's *Letters from Prison to My Daughter*. These were the types of works that led me to the joy of studying history, relaying simple but profound messages that transcended time and space. I chose to write my senior thesis on Sino-Japanese history because of my extremely limited mastery of European languages. It was during my graduate years when I switched from Japanese to Chinese history as my specialty area.

Q: What is the best book you've read in the last year?
A: I enjoyed reading a manuscript by Philip Kuhn, a history professor at Harvard, on the overseas Chinese in the past five centuries. His work has made me rethink, among other themes, what we mean by nation and nationalism, free labor and forced migration, and colonialism and industrialization. Even though I began reading his work thanks to my duty as a host of a conference held in Korea last year, I liked it a lot because it lifted my understanding of the subject matter to a higher ground.

Q: Is there anyone in particular whom you've studied that would be especially good to have to dinner? How about especially bad?
A: I like having dinner with any of my former teachers as long as time allows. In particular, I once again would like to refer to Philip Kuhn with whom I shared many dinner tables recently: He even tried raw fish! I can't think of anyone who would be especially bad to have dinner with.

Q: Any current projects that you'd like to talk about?
A: Currently, I'm trying to finish up a conference paper that I'm reading next month in Boston. My paper examines the transformation of literary motifs in the late Qing times by examining the anthologies and poetics composed by scholar-poets who serve as private secretaries for Zhang Zhidong (1837-1909), the viceroy of central China. While their verses relating to "current affairs" remained a politicized genre of writing, the newness of their literary activities rests neither on style nor choice of themes. Their anthologies invoke the notion of poetry-as-statecraft and are deeply grounded in the style of High Tang poems of medieval China. I'm grappling with the question: How do their concern with contemporary affairs and the old-style poetry go together? In so doing, I'm going to redefine Chinese nationalism in its own terms with a focus on a specific mode of communication, that is, classical-style poetry composition.

Q: What was the coolest thing you've gotten to study?
A: I like studying history in that it enriches my understanding of human beings and their various societies better than ever by learning from the past historical agents' frailties as well as their wisdom. The cool thing is that I can share some of my findings with my students in classrooms. The cooler moment is when I learn from them even
Q: Do you have any advice for undergraduates trying to make their way in the world?
A: I believe studying history is one of the most precious "diamonds" in the jewel box of liberal arts education: First and foremost, its emphasis on empathy with historical agents across time and space provides you with an ample chance to free yourself from the confines of your immediate experience and a fixed opinion. In other words, a historically minded person won't be easily swayed by prevailing stereotypes and preconceptions in the world. Secondly, you as a historian will develop better interpersonal skills with nuanced understanding of twists and turns, and even ironies of human existence. Finally, as those who are writing their comps might have already experienced, historians would arrive at the "dark area" of an event (or a person) if they are diligent enough to have exhausted all the sources available, both primary and secondary. You know you can write an original piece of history at the very moment when you encounter this impassable spot over which you sense that there should be what you may call the truth of the matter you have been investigating. At the same time, however, we also know that we have to stop there because we, as historians, know that historical truth is not the same as the absolute truth. How often do we realize that the more we study the intricacies of a historical moment, the less we know! Learning history has indeed made us humble. I believe that humility is our greatest asset to make this world livable.