



MILLERSVILLE

History Department Newsletter
September 2021 Issue #8

The Marauding MU Historian

LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

By Erin J. Shelor

The 2020-2021 academic year was, as all of us are tired of hearing, unprecedented. The department has experienced numerous changes since our last newsletter. Our beloved secretary, Maggie Eichler, retired after the 2019-2020 academic year, and we miss her immensely. Tina Gorodensky worked with us this past year but is moving to the Biology Department, so we will welcome Marty Devlin to our department in early August. Dr. John McLarnon retired at the end of the '20-'21 academic year, which is why he is no longer writing this column. We will miss John's presence in McComsey Hall!

Having moved suddenly to online classes in the middle of spring semester of 2020, we spent all of this academic year fully online. This has brought many new talents and technologies to the forefront—we are all quite good at telling each other “you’re still muted” on Zoom, and many of us have discovered functions in D2L we never knew were there. I was particularly worried about teaching HIST 406 Senior Seminar online in the fall—it had been a while since I had taught Senior Sem, but I also couldn’t quite imagine students being able to figure out access to sources when most libraries and archives were closed. What I learned, though, is how much progress has been made in the past few years in digitalization by libraries and archives across the globe. I was amazed with the work students produced, entirely from home and on Zoom! I still don’t love teaching online, but I have been impressed with the hard work, patience, and perseverance students embraced this past year. While we weren’t able to do some of the things we have come to expect, such as the reception honoring department awards winners, we were able to participate in the Made in Millersville program fully online and host speakers for university-wide and in-class presentations. In some cases, Zoom actually made this easier rather than harder.

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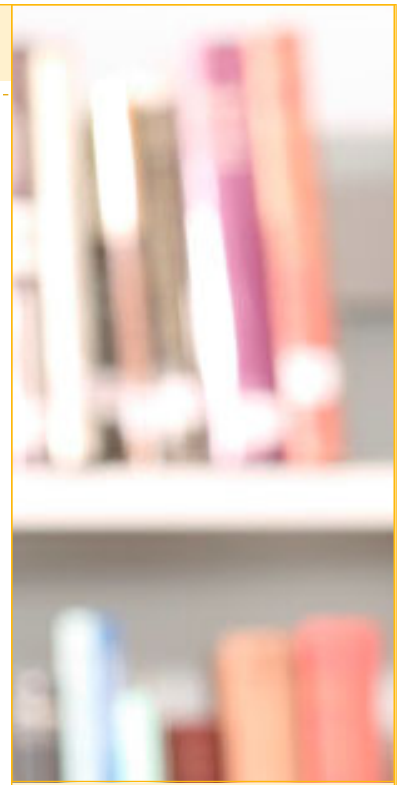


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INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Faculty News

In the past year our Faculty published and prepared for publication books, a book chapter, and book reviews, hosted a lecture on the Holocaust, and this October will host a conference/teachers' workshop on the Holocaust and Genocide

Students' News

Some of our most accomplished students won History Department Awards and other Honors and Awards.

Alumni News

Our alumni tell us about their experiences and give advice for current students.



LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

For the upcoming academic year, we are planning and hoping to return to a more “normal” balance of face-to-face, blended, and online instruction. I can’t wait to *see* students in a classroom and on the hall again, and I am truly hopeful that these plans will come to fruition. You will see a few changes—the Philosophy Department and the History Department now share the hall, and several History faculty have switched offices, so if

you find someone unexpected, just keep looking. The student lounge will also be moved—if you start in the original space, say hi to Dr. Weis and then look across the hall. Alumni, we are always glad to see you or hear from you about what you are up to. I’m sure many of you have been experiencing some of the same kinds of challenges in teaching and research as we have this year.

“I can’t wait to see students in a classroom and on the hall again, and I am truly hopeful that these plans will come to fruition ...”

Faculty News

Dr. Ronald Frankum wrote a book review on Luke A. Nichter, *The Last Brahmin: Henry Cabot Lodge Jr. and the Making of the Cold War*. (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2020) to be published in the *Journal of American History* (forthcoming).

Dr. Tanya Kevorkian’s second book, *Music and Urban Life in Baroque Germany*, will be published in March 2022 by the University of Virginia Press. The book has received a publication subvention award from the Margarita M. Hanson and Donna Cardamone Jackson Funds of the American Musicological Society. More information about the book: <https://www.upress.virginia.edu/title/5057>

Dr. Kevorkian participated in a roundtable discussion of Sarah Eyerly's book *Moravian Soundscapes* at the 7th Bethlehem Conference on Moravian History and Music, held on Zoom in April 2021.

Dr. Jeffery S. Prushankin participated in a virtual session “She Outranks Me: A Roundtable on Gender and Military History in Honor of Anne Bailey” at the June 2021 meeting of the Society of Civil War Historians.

Dr. Victoria Khiterer

Published a book chapter “Not so Silent: Jewish Religious and Cultural Life in Kiev, 1945-1970s,” in Leonard J. Greenspoon, ed., *Authorities and Dissent in Jewish Life. Studies in Jewish Civilization*, Vol. 31 (West Lafayette, Indiana: Purdue University Press, 2020), 131-146.

Dr. Khiterer also published a book review on Kiril Feferman, “*If We had Wings We Would Fly to You*”: *A Soviet Jewish Family Faces Destruction, 1941-42* (Boston: Academic Studies Press, 2020), *The Russian Review* 80, no. 2, (April 2021): 340-341.

Dr. Khiterer presented papers at Millersville University, national and international conferences and chaired conference sessions:

Presented “Kyiv as a Center of Soviet Jewish Culture in the 1920s-1930s” to the 2021 Virtual Annual Association for the Study of Nationalities (ASN) World Convention, May 5-8, 2021.

Presented “Multi-Ethnic Empire: Ukrainians, Poles and Jews under Tsarist Rule” to the Russian Program of the University of Arkansas, April 14, 2021.

Presented “The Rise and Fall of Jewish Scholarly Institutions in Kiev in the 1920s-1940s” to the 25th Virtual Annual Western Jewish Studies Association Conference, March 14-16, 2021.

Chair of the session “Holocaust in Eastern Europe” at the 25th Virtual Annual Western Jewish Studies Association Conference, March 14-16, 2021.

Work-in-progress presentation “Echo of Babi Yar: Commemoration and Memorialization of the Holocaust in Kiev” to Millersville University, January 28, 2021.

Presented “The Babi Yar Holocaust Memorial Museum and the Struggle for Memory in Ukraine” to the 52nd Virtual Annual Conference of the Association for Jewish Studies (AJS), December 13-17, 2020.

Chair of the session “Jewish Testimony, Justice, and Commemoration of the Holocaust” at the 52nd Virtual Annual Conference of the Association for Jewish Studies (AJS), December 13-17, 2020.

Presented “The October 1905 Pogrom in Kiev as a Mirror of Jewish Revolution” and “Victor Nekrasov and the Babi Yar Massacre Commemoration” to the 52nd Virtual Annual Convention of the Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES), November 4-8, 2020.

Dr. Khiterer also made a public presentation “Siege of Leningrad” to the Quest for Learning Program, Lancaster, PA, October 1, 2020 (Virtual presentation).



Dr. Clarence Maxwell Named as Hamilton Princess & Beach Club's Black History Month Honouree

Dr. Clarence Maxwell is a noted academic who is an assistant professor of History at Millersville University in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, USA, where he teaches on topics concerning Latin American and Caribbean History, the African Diaspora, and the Atlantic World. He taught a course on Latin American history for the Bermuda College and Millersville University. He is a co-director of the Atlantic World Center, which is concerned with managing research, instruction and presentation of 1,000 years of Atlantic World History at Millersville University. He is also co-advisor for the university's new multidisciplinary Atlantic World Studies Major, which offers courses and instruction on Atlantic history and archaeology. Formerly, Dr Maxwell worked for the Bermuda Maritime Museum (now the National Museum of Bermuda) as Registrar and Director of Historical Research. He serves as associate editor of the *Bermuda Journal of Archaeology and Maritime History*, an annual multidisciplinary peer-reviewed publication of the National Museum of Bermuda.

Dr. Mary Sommar translated (from the original German) the book Wilfried Hartmann, *History of Medieval Canon Law in the early Middle Ages, 300-1200* (Washington DC: Catholic University of America Press, forthcoming).

She also developed a new graduate course "Foundation of the Modern West." The course looks at sources from Aristotle to the European Enlightenment that discuss the structure of society.

MU SPECIAL EVENT: VIRTUAL HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL LECTURE

Millersville University hosted the Virtual Holocaust Memorial Lecture by Dr. Martin Dean, Historical Researcher for the Babyn Yar Holocaust Memorial Center (Kyiv, Ukraine) "**Following the Evidence to Babyn Yar**" on April 8, 2021. The lecture was devoted to the 80th anniversary of Babyn Yar massacre (1941). Babyn Yar is the largest Holocaust site in Ukraine.

Dr. Dean examined the landscape of Babyn Yar on the basis of new research into the location of the infamous massacre. The presentation used ground and aerial photographs together with witness testimony and images from a 3-D model to trace the final steps taken by the Jews on September 29-30, 1941.

The lecture was well received and attended by over 120 scholars, faculty and students. The event was organized by **Dr. Victoria Khiterer**



Dr. Martin Dean, Historical Researcher for the Babyn Yar Holocaust Memorial Center

EVENT ANNOUNCEMENT

The MU Conference on the Holocaust and Genocide will be held **October 17-19, 2021.**

The conference will focus on teaching, and we encourage teacher alumni to participate! Workshops will be conducted by Yad Vashem (Jerusalem) and the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, as well as by local educators with expertise in this area. The conference director this year is **Dr. Tanya Kevorkian**. More information is available on the registration site: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/millersville-university-conference-on-the-holocaust-and-genocide-tickets-156525326465?aff=ebdssbeac>



For more information, scan the QR code

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

MCNEIL CENTER UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH WORKSHOP

Two seniors, history minor **Ashley Jumbelick** and history major **Michaela Mills**, were accepted to participate in the Twelfth Annual Undergraduate Research Workshop at the McNeil Center for Early American Studies of the University of Pennsylvania. Along with undergraduates from around the country, they gave informal presentations on their honors theses in February. After working with graduate mentors and further developing their theses, they made more formal presentations in April, receiving feedback from other students and faculty. Most years, participants in this workshop go to Philadelphia to present and tour archives and museums. This year the workshop was conducted in remote format. Ashley's thesis, supervised by Dr. Marlene Arnold of the department of Criminology, Sociology, and Anthropology, is *Caught in the Crossfire: Early and Trade Relationships Between Cultural Groups in the Area of Lancaster County, 1681-1730*. Michaela's thesis, supervised by Dr. Tanya Kevorkian, is *Sound, Dance, and Diplomacy: An Analysis of Eighteenth-Century Intercultural Diplomacy Through Performance*. Ashley's and Michaela's faculty mentor for the workshop was **Dr. Kevorkian**.

THE McNEIL CENTER FOR
EARLY AMERICAN
S T U D I E S

AFTER GRADUATION/ CURRENT EVENTS

Megan Stump (BSE Social Studies) has been accepted to the MU Student Teaching - VACorps for Spring 2022. She'll be working in South Africa.

Melissa Bryson, a current MA student was selected to present at History Camp America 2021.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS CONT.

Student Award Winners

Maxwell and Edna H Myers History Award – **Rhys Wallace**

Dr. Abram Foster Scholarship for Excellence in History award –
Benjamin Perlis

Dr. Richard C. Keller Award in American History – **Michaela Mills**

Dr. Robert D. & Roma J. Sayre Excellence in American History
Scholarship – **Devon Lewars**

John W. Loose History Research Award –**Jordan Ames**

Joseph E. Walker American History Scholarship – **Maggie Ross**

Lyman R. Brenner '71 History Scholarship – **Sarah Davis**

The Joan M. Williams Scholarship Endowment – **Nicholas Blair**



Congratulations

To Our New Graduates

Congratulations on your graduation. We regretted not being able to congratulate you in person at commencement but wish you all the best as you embark on your post-baccalaureate careers in this challenging time. You are welcome to email your former advisor and other professors if you have questions.

ALUMNI NEWS

ALUMNI NEWS

Tracy Barnett (inducted into PAT (Phi Alpha Theta) at Millersville University in November 2013) has been awarded one of this year's PAT Doctoral Scholarships.

ALUMNI SHARE THEIR STORIES

Brooke Clouse, BA History, BA Sociology, minor in Government, 2020

Current position: I am currently a rising 2L at Widener University's Delaware School of Law.

I was admitted to law schools after I graduated from Millersville University (May 2020).

I believe the faculty and staff at Millersville University gave me the support and motivation I needed to continue my degree and encouraged me to pursue higher education. Their kindness and understanding is what I attribute to my success rather than course work I could have taken at any other university.

Advice to Students: Some people may think that they're doing you a favor by telling you to hedge your expectations, but you know your worth, your skills, and your potential better than anyone else. Find mentors and friends that will support your dreams and passions when you are experiencing doubt and imposter syndrome. Continue to tell yourself that you are capable, and you will be. Best of luck, Marauders.

Cameron Miller, German Bachelor of Arts and History Bachelor of Arts, 2016

Current position: I am currently the German customer support lead at a video game company, and I deal with answering game support questions, translations for our website, managing the German customer support team among other things. It took me a year after graduation to find this position.

I believe Millersville University helped guide me to acquiring the knowledge I needed to get to the position I am in today as I am the only non-native speaker on the language team.

Advice to Students: Always pursue your dreams even if you are told you may not be good enough to do what you want yet. You can always improve yourself even if you find your dream job immediately. Continue to work hard and be open to learning as much information as you can.

Ariel Rosenthal, B.A. in History, 2018

Current position: History Teacher— Currently, I teach 7th grade World History in Palm Springs, California. I am responsible for covering the world starting in Rome and ending with the Age of Exploration. Last academic year, I had to teach remotely until April and then I started hybrid instruction. I received my position in 2020 right after graduating from the University of California, Riverside with an M.Ed. in General Education. I student taught from 2019-2020 in Riverside, California.

I believe that Millersville and UCR were both equally responsible for my success. Millersville taught me the subject matter that I needed to know to be an effective teacher and UCR taught me how to present that subject matter.

Advice to Students: Take time and enjoy your college years because life gets a lot harder once you leave.

MILLERSVILLE UNIVERSITY

Mission: Millersville University provides diverse, dynamic, meaningful experiences to inspire learners to grow both intellectually and personally to enable them to contribute positively to local and global communities.

Vision: We will transform each learner's unique potential into the capacity for successful engagement in career and life opportunities.

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