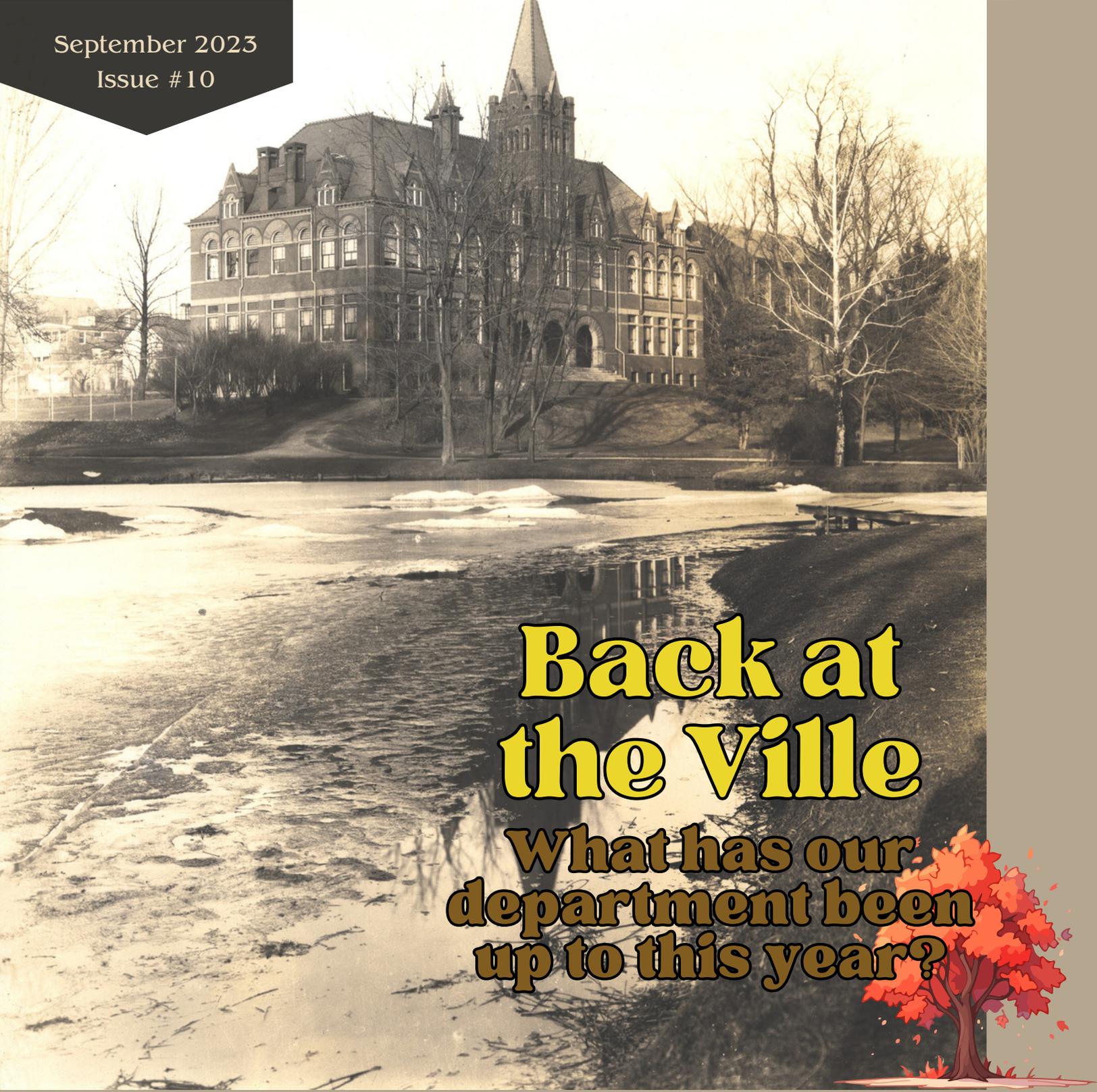


# The Marauding MU Historian

## History Department Newsletter

September 2023  
Issue #10



# Back at the Ville

What has our  
department been  
up to this year?



Editor-in-Chief  
Dr. Victoria Khiterer, Professor of History

Managing Editor  
Amanda Hardin, Graduate Assistant



MILLERSVILLE

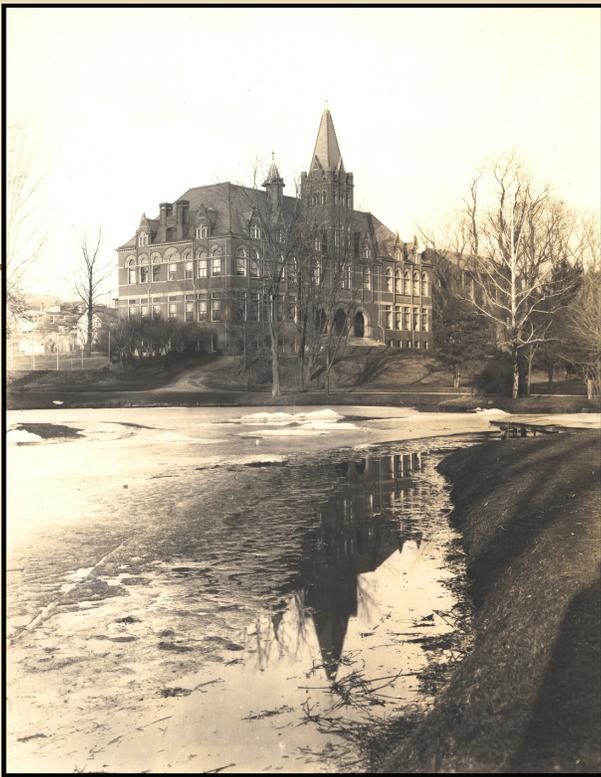


Photo courtesy of Archives & Special Collections, Millersville University Library, Millersville University.

## On the Cover

You may or may not have recognized the image on the cover of this issue of the *Marauding MU Historian*. This beautiful structure, believe it or not, was once the science building on Millersville University's campus. An article in the *Normal Journal* (available in MU's digital archives) from November of 1892 mentions anticipation of the completion of the "building for the physical sciences and mechanical arts." Today we can only imagine how it would be to have the privilege to study in such a beautiful example of Romanesque architecture, as the building was, sadly, demolished in 1962. While we may not have this piece of our campus' past remaining, we do still have Dutcher, Biemsderfer, Hash, and Luek Halls, which each represent a piece of Millersville's history to be treasured.

## In This Issue

Letter from the Chair .....Page 2  
*Dr. Robyn Davis*

Faculty News.....Page 3  
*In the past year our Faculty worked on book manuscripts, published articles and book reviews, and hosted the Careers for History Majors Panel and the 38th MU Conference on the Holocaust and Genocide.*

Students' News.....Page 7  
*Some of our students presented their papers, conducted international research, won History Department Awards and other Honors and Awards.*

Alumni News.....Page 10  
*Our alumni told us about their experiences and gave advice to current students.*

# Letter from the Chair

## by Dr. Robyn Davis



Howdy! It's a daunting responsibility to step into the Chair's role.

In May, Dr. Shelor – truly an excellent administrator – returned fully to the faculty and I was elected the new chair of the History department. It's my goal to model my leadership after Dr. Shelor's executive competence and compassionate pedagogy. We really were so very fortunate to have had her guiding the department during the late, tumultuous times, and on behalf of students, faculty, and alumni, I thank her.

In other personnel news, Dr. Frankum is serving as Faculty Advisor for Phi Alpha Theta – which has a splendid group of students serving as officers this year. Last year, PAT led field trips to the Museum of the American Revolution in Philadelphia and the Smithsonian Institute's National Museum of the American Indian and LancasterHistory (formerly Lancaster County's Historical Society, a History Museum and Research Center). Dr. Tanya Kevorkian took her classes to the Hans Herr House. COVID-19 of course interfered with all our plans in every dimension, but in the before times we toured Valley Forge and Mount Vernon, the National Archives in both Maryland and Washington, D.C., several archives in the Philadelphia consortium (American Philosophical Society, Library Company, Historical Society of Pennsylvania), among other informative and fun venues. If you're at a public facing history site – museum, library, archive, historic house – and can host a field trip of budding historians, please be in touch and we'll make a plan!

Dr. Kevorkian (who was promoted to Full Professor this summer, the highest distinction in the academy, and a well-deserved honor for such an accomplished scholar!) continues her important outreach to alumni (have you given her your deets? If not, send her an update of your current situation and future plans at [Tanya.Kevorkian@millersville.edu](mailto:Tanya.Kevorkian@millersville.edu)). Perhaps you be willing to be on a panel during our Career Night for Historians next spring? Let her know.

And Dr. Sommar has been developing an online journal to feature our strong student work. If you have an original research paper you're particularly pleased with and would like to have it considered for publication, please email her at [Mary.Sommar@millersville.edu](mailto:Mary.Sommar@millersville.edu).

*continued on page 3*

# Faculty News

*Letter from the Chair continued from page 2.*

Finally, Dr. Maxwell has stepped back into the role of graduate coordinator. Have you been considering returning for your M.A. in History? Have we got a refreshed curriculum for you! Hot on the heels of the BSE Social Studies and BA History curricular changes that Dr. Shelor wrote you about last year, we have updated our MA program to bring it in line with national standards. Fewer credits to graduate, vastly more choice in the courses offered, and fewer requirements mean you can study the history that is most interesting to you while strengthening your skills in research, analysis, and writing – and do it all in less time. Recent seminars include Dr. Adyanga's British Imperialism, Dr. Maxwell's Atlantic World, Dr. Khiterer's topical history of Ukraine-Russia relations, and a course on Indians and Empires that I develop at the request of the grad cohort. Dr. Kevorkian will offer a class on mid-Atlantic environmental history next spring and Dr. Maxwell is planning a course on pirates. If you're interested in learning more about the MA program, please write to Dr. Maxwell at [Clarence.Maxwell@millersville.edu](mailto:Clarence.Maxwell@millersville.edu).

If you have any questions, if you have recommendations for how we can improve the student experience in the History department, or if you just want to say "hello" and let me know how you're doing (one of my former advisees popped up on Facebook [I know I'm a dinosaur] last week married and with a baby! A baby I tell you!). Write to me and let me know how you're doing. I'll go first. I got married in June. :)

Wishing you as always a rewarding and fulfilling year and sending you my warmest regards, Dr. Davis. Who can be reached at [Robyn.Davis@millersville.edu](mailto:Robyn.Davis@millersville.edu). ■

**Dr. Ronald Frankum** during the academic year 2022-2023 worked on two manuscripts. The first examined the seven-month period that General J. Lawton Collins served as the United States Special Representative to Vietnam (November 1954-May 1955) and the second explores the ambassadorship of Frederick Reinhardt who served in that position from May 1955 - March 1957. He also reviewed Luke Nichter's *The Last Brahmin: Henry Cabot Lodge Jr. and the Making of the Cold War* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2021) for the *Journal of American History*. In addition, he served as a consultant for a children's book on the Vietnam War and reviewed additional manuscripts for publication (all of which related to the Vietnam War). He also created a new course in early American Foreign Relations that he hopes to teach in the Spring 2024.



**Dr. Tanya Kevorkian** gave four presentations related to her book *Music and Urban Life in Baroque Germany*, which was published by the University of Virginia Press in October 2022. In October, she gave a paper titled "J. S. Bach: In a Web of Authority Relations" at the American Bach Society biennial meeting in Philadelphia. Also in October, she gave introductory comments for Episode 17 of the online *Tiny Bach Concerts*, on the wedding cantata "O holder Tag, erwünschte Zeit," BWV 210. In March 2023, she gave a paper on "Urban Baroque Musicians Sharing Spaces" at *Frühe Neuzeit Interdisziplinär*, an interdisciplinary early modern German conference, at the University of Arizona. And in July, she gave a paper on "Munich's Catholic Baroque Town Musicians" at the biennial International Conference on Baroque Music in Geneva.

*continued on page 4*

Faculty News continued from page 4.

**Dr. Tanya Kevorkian** (continued)

Related to her current book project, an environmental history of the Lancaster area from about 1300 to 1850, she gave a talk on “The Susquehannocks: Land, Identity, and Regional History” for the Manada Conservancy at the Hershey Conservatory in Hershey, PA in February 2023.

**Dr. Victoria Khiterer** published three peer-reviewed articles and one book review:

Peer-reviewed articles:

“In the Shadow of Babyn Yar: Anatoly Kuznetsov's Eyewitness Account of the Betrayal and Rescue of Jews during the Holocaust in Kyiv,” *Eastern European Holocaust Studies*, 2023-01-20 (online), DOI: 10.1515/eehs-2022-0013.

“Unwelcome Return Home: Jews, anti-Semitism and the Housing Problem in Post-war Kyiv,” *Eastern European Holocaust Studies*, <https://doi.org/10.1515/eehs-2022-0001>

“Jewish Education in the Ukrainian People's Republic,” *Harvard Ukrainian Studies*, Volume 38, no. 3–4 (2021): 271-295 (The publication of the journal was delayed until Spring 2023).

Book review:

Crispin Brook and Kiril Feferman, ed., *Beyond the Pale: The Holocaust in the North Caucasus* (Rochester: University of Rochester Press, 2020), *Central European History* 55, no. 4 (December 2022): 637-639.

She also submitted one peer-reviewed article and one book chapter for publication:

“For Fear of Babyn Yar: Why did it Take so Long for a Monument to be Built in the Largest Holocaust Site in the Soviet Union?” accepted for publication in *Shofar: An Interdisciplinary Journal of Jewish Studies*, will be published in 2025.

“Kyiv as a Center of Soviet Jewish Culture in the 1920s-1930s,” submitted for publication in *Jews and Urban Life*, (West Lafayette, Indiana: Purdue University Press, 2023) The chapter will be published in 2023.

Dr. Khiterer also gave five scholarly presentations and two public talks:

Scholarly Presentations:

- Presented “Kyivan Jews - Holocaust Survivors' Odyssey: Evacuation and Return Home” to the 2023 World Convention of the Association for the Study of Nationalities (ASN), Columbia University, New York City, May 17-20, 2023.
- Presented “We did not Have a Childhood': Jewish Children-Holocaust Survivors' Memories” to the 27th Western Jewish Studies Association Conference, Las Vegas, NV, March 12-13, 2023.
- Presented “Echo of Babyn Yar: Commemoration and Memorialization of the Holocaust in Kyiv” to the Davis Center for Russian and Eurasian Studies, Harvard University, November 30, 2022.
- Presented “The Queen and King of the Russian Underworld: Son'ka the Golden Hand and Mishka Iaponchik” to the 34th Annual Symposium on Jewish Civilization “Chronicling Jews and Crime: From Law-Makers to Law-Breakers,” Creighton University and University of Nebraska at Omaha, October 23-24, 2022.

continued on page 5.

Faculty News continued from page 4.

**Dr. Victoria Khiterer (continued)**

- Presented “Commemoration of the Babyn Yar Massacre during World War II and in the First Post-War Years” to the 18th World Congress of Jewish Studies, Jerusalem, Israel, August 8-12, 2022.

**Public presentations:**

- Presented “The Russian War Against Ukraine” to the Quest for Learning Program, Lancaster, PA, October 13, 2022.
- Presented “The Holodomor: Food as a Weapon” to the Mercer Holocaust, Genocide & Human Rights Center, Mercer Community College, NJ, on October 12, 2022.

Dr. Khiterer was also the Committee Chair of the 38th Millersville University Conference on the Holocaust and Genocide. As the Committee Chair, she was responsible for planning, scheduling and organization of five conference events during 2022-2023 academic year. Dr. Khiterer co-organized four conference events with other MU faculty members and solely organized the conference P. Alan and Linda Loss Keynote Lecture “Atrocity Crimes in Ukraine: Lessons of the Holocaust and the History of Genocide” by Dr. Norman Naimark. ■

History is:

“The study, interpretation, and presentation of the truth of past events through factual, buildable narrative.”

*Millersville 2023 History Graduate Cohort*



Mr. Fischel makes history fascinating.

Dr. Myers at work.

These images are from the 1966 edition of the Millersville University yearbook, “Touchstone,” and feature faculty from the Social Studies Department. You may recognize some names as we now have awards and scholarships named and given in their honor.



SOCIAL STUDIES DEPARTMENT—First Row: Dr. Virginia Beck, Mr. Ronald C. Green and Dr. Valborg Fletty. Second Row: Mr. Robert R. Barnes, Dr. Charles A. Lord, Mr. John E. Winter, Mr. Robert A. Rotz, Mr. William S. Boisko and Mr. Clarence E. Goode. Third Row: Dr. C. Maxwell Myers, chairman; Dr. George L. Young, Mr. John R. Moore, Mr. Jack Robert Fischel, Dr. Joseph E. Walker and Mr. Thomas C. Tirado. Absent when picture was taken: Dr. Abram J. Foster, Dr. Richard C. Keller and Dr. Charles D. Spotts.

*Photos courtesy of Archives & Special Collections, Millersville University Library, Millersville University.*

# SPECIAL EVENTS

## Careers for History Majors Alumni Panel:

On March 27, the history department sponsored the 4th Careers for History Majors alumni panel, preceded by a reception. The alums shared their professional, academic, and life advice with current students. Many thanks to all the alums who participated!

Mary Nolt, MA '16, history teacher and department chair at Manheim Central High School, moderated the panel.

Panelists were Sarah Alberico, BA '12, the curator at Historic Rock Ford; Geoffrey Beers, BSE '96, the CEO of MU Student Services and Student Lodging, Inc.; Jennifer Craighead Carey, BA '90, a partner at the

Lancaster law firm Barley Snyder LLP; Justin Neideigh, BSE '12, MA '19 a social studies teacher and the department chair at Donegal High School; Brian Pearson, BSE '16, a social studies teacher at Warwick High School; Meagan Schulman, BS '20 (Atlantic World Studies), MA '22, collections coordinator and research librarian at the Lancaster Medical Heritage Museum from 2022 to 2023 and currently entering the Ph.D. program at Fordham University; and Greg Szczyrbak, BA '95 an MU learning technologies librarian.

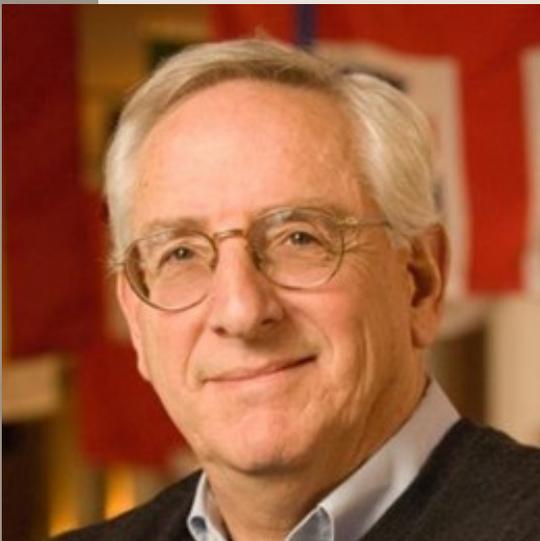
## **The 38th Millersville University Conference on the Holocaust and Genocide:**

This year's conference theme was "Never Again? Genocide in the 21st Century." The conference was centered around the question of how and what we have learned and understood about the Holocaust can help in appropriately addressing outbreaks of genocide in the contemporary world. The conference addressed the relevance of the horrifying hi-



story of the Holocaust to the current political situations in many parts of the world. One area where the questions of genocide are becoming increasingly dire is the war in the Ukraine.

Dr. Norman Naimark presented P. Alan and Linda Loss Keynote Lecture "Atrocity Crimes in Ukraine: Lessons of the Holocaust and the History of Genocide" on April 20, 2023. Dr. Naimark, is one of the most internationally well-known scholars on genocide, Professor of East European Studies at Stanford University and senior fellow at the Hoover Institution. He is an author of such widely recognized books as *Fires of Hatred: A History of Ethnic Cleansing and Stalin's Genocides*. He also gave a master class for MU students. ■



*Dr. Norman Naimark*

# Student News and Achievements



Millersville University students photographed in the student center ("Rat Race") in Dutcher Hall in 1966.

Photo courtesy of Archives & Special Collections, Millersville University Library, Millersville University.

## 2022-2023 History Department Award Recipients

### Student Accomplishments

Atlantic World Studies major **Claire DeVinney** and BA in History major **Grace Celley** gave undergraduate Lightning Round presentations at the American Historical Association conference in Philadelphia in January. Grace Celley presented her paper Two Quaker Women in Philadelphia, 1777 and Claire DeVinney presented her paper "To Apply Thy Best Endeavors": The Political Influence of Hannah Penn. Their starting point was Fall 2022 projects in History 453: Indians and Colonists in PA. Dr. Robyn Davis and Dr. Tanya Kevorkian were mentors for the AHA presentations. Additionally, **Claire** presented a paper, "To Apply Thy Best Endeavors": The Political Influence of Hannah Penn, at the Made in Millersville student research showcase in April and published the paper in the 2023 MiM Journal. Her mentor was Dr. Tanya Kevorkian.

*continued on page 8*

Lyman R. Brenner '71 History  
Scholarship  
**Reilly Parker**

Dr. Abram Foster Scholarship for  
Excellence in History  
**Dane Leong**

Dr. Richard C. Keller Award in  
American History  
**Allison Cook**

John W. Loose History Research  
Award  
**Joseph Blauberg**

C. Maxwell & Edna H. Myers  
History Award  
**Jillian Bergin**

Dr. Robert D. & Roma J. Sayre  
Excellence in American History  
Scholarship  
**Avery Frankel**

Joseph E. Walker American  
History Scholarship  
**Mackenzie Ricketts**

Joan M. Williams Scholarship  
**Alexandriya Lebo**

# Student News and Achievements (continued)



*Some of the students and Dr. Kevorkian are shown with Dr. Wubah, who delivered the keynote address at the conference.*



*Intern Grace examines a book pulled from the open stacks in the Library.*

Students in Dr. Tanya Kevorkian's History 218: People and the Environment class designed and presented posters on Pennsylvania environmental themes to members of the public at the Lancaster Earth Day Climate Summit on April 22. The posters were based on papers they wrote for the class.

**Grace Celley** received an internship at the LancasterHistory, formerly Lancaster County's Historical Society, a History Museum and Research Center. During her internship in the Library, Grace worked under the guidance of Aimee Caya, the Director of Library & Research Services. Grace has been spending much of her time going through family files and updating the Library's database to help patrons find the names of ancestors through LancasterHistory's online databases. In the process, Grace has also been examining primary and secondary sources and learning about the history of central Pennsylvania.

#### About Grace:

Grace is a rising senior at Millersville University studying history with a minor in Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies. She's specifically interested in the intersection of gender and class in the history of the Atlantic. Grace is also involved with Phi Alpha Theta, honors society for history, where she will serve as their secretary for this upcoming academic year. She's also a fellow with the Center for Civic Responsibility and Engagement at Millersville University. After she graduates, Grace hopes to become a certified genealogist before pursuing a Master's degree in History and Information & Library Science.

*continued on page 9*



# Student News and Achievements (continued)



Intern Amanda with a statue greeting visitors in Bermuda’s capitol city, Hamilton. (Intern Zach provided vital assistance in getting onto the “M”).

## Bermuda Internship Summer 2023

On July 1, 2023, six Millersville students—**Jill Bergin, Jack Feinberg, Amanda Hardin, Zachary Kelly, Kaleb Swartz, Ty Tempalski**—undertook a research consultancy at the National Museum of Bermuda and on behalf of the Millersville University Atlantic World Center. The Center is engaged in research on pirate communities in Bermuda, specifically the actions of Red Sea pirates who lived in North America in the late 1600s. For that research, they examined primary and secondary sources at the Bermuda National Archives: activities that included collection, transcription, and cataloguing of data. At the National Museum of Bermuda, they provided support for its activities, which familiarized them with the work of a typical mid-sized museum. They also met and had lunch with Karen Grissette, US Consul General in Bermuda and were able to discuss their work and activities with her. They left as a group on July 31, 2023.

## Students’ Honors Theses

The following undergraduate students successfully earned Departmental Honors:

**Allison Cook**, Sp’23 “Soviet Propaganda: Anti-religious Propaganda Posters during the 1920s and 1930s” Thesis advisor Dr. Victoria Khiterer.

**Jillian Bergin**, Fa’22 also wrote an honors BA thesis: “Mirrored Lives: The Impact of Two Indigenous Women on European Narratives of Colonization and Conquest of the Americas.”

The following students defended MA theses:

**Joseph Blauberg**, Sp’23: “Liberty from the Gutter: the Slow March to Criminalize Poverty in Eighteenth-Century Pennsylvania”

**Samantha Borry**, Fa’22: “From Sitting Rooms to Street Corners: Pittsburgh’s Suffragists and the Transformation of Pennsylvania’s Suffrage Movement into a Publicly-Centered, Political Movement, 1869-1915”

**Melissa Bryson**, Fa’22: “The Battle after the War: How the Men of Virginia and Massachusetts Went from Allies to Political Adversaries While Forging a New Republic”

**Shane Moran**, Sp’23: “A Fleeting Alliance: Emperor Hirohito and the American Occupation of Japan”

**Kyle Thomas**, Sp’23: “Dueling Hydrarchies: Inter-Imperial Competition and the Rise of the British Maritime State” ■



# ALUMNI NEWS



*Jake McCorkle, BA'23 in his official Colonial Williamsburg portrait, on the streets as Apprentice Coachman.*

**Jordan Ames**, MA'22 – is now the Executive Director for Veteran's Outreach of Pennsylvania.

**Jill Bergin** BA'23 was accepted by Rutgers, American, and Maryland Universities for their Public History programs. She accepted the offer from the graduate program at The University of Maryland.

**Melissa Bryson** MA'22 - Director, 1881 Courthouse Museum in Custer, South Dakota.

**Abigail Gruber**, MA'17 has been promoted to Program Manager in the Education Abroad and Overseas Campuses at Temple University.

**Shane Moran**, MA'23 accepted a position as a Project Archivist for the Lamar Alexander Papers at Vanderbilt University.

**Meagan Schulman**, MA'22 was accepted to Fordham University for her Ph.D. in History.

## Alumni share their stories:

**Donna M Molloy**, BA History, 2019

Current position: Representative of Turning Point USA. I received my position before graduation. I civically engage communities to promote freedom, personal responsibility and small government. All the MU professors were amazing and truly great people.

**Hannah K Davis**, BA History 2021

Current position: Customer Service Representative at the Eurofins Lancaster Laboratories. I received my position within six months after graduation. I coordinate the overall operation as a client liaison and project manager within the laboratory by communicating client's requirements to the technical staff.

**Ashley M Jumbelick**, BA History 2020

Current position: Receptionist at the Carty Eye Associates. I check in at an eye doctor's office. I do contract archaeological work but that is not my primary position.

Advice to students: Do tons of internships and presentations. Interact with your local history as much as you can so that you can get your foot in the door. Work in the field now. ■