

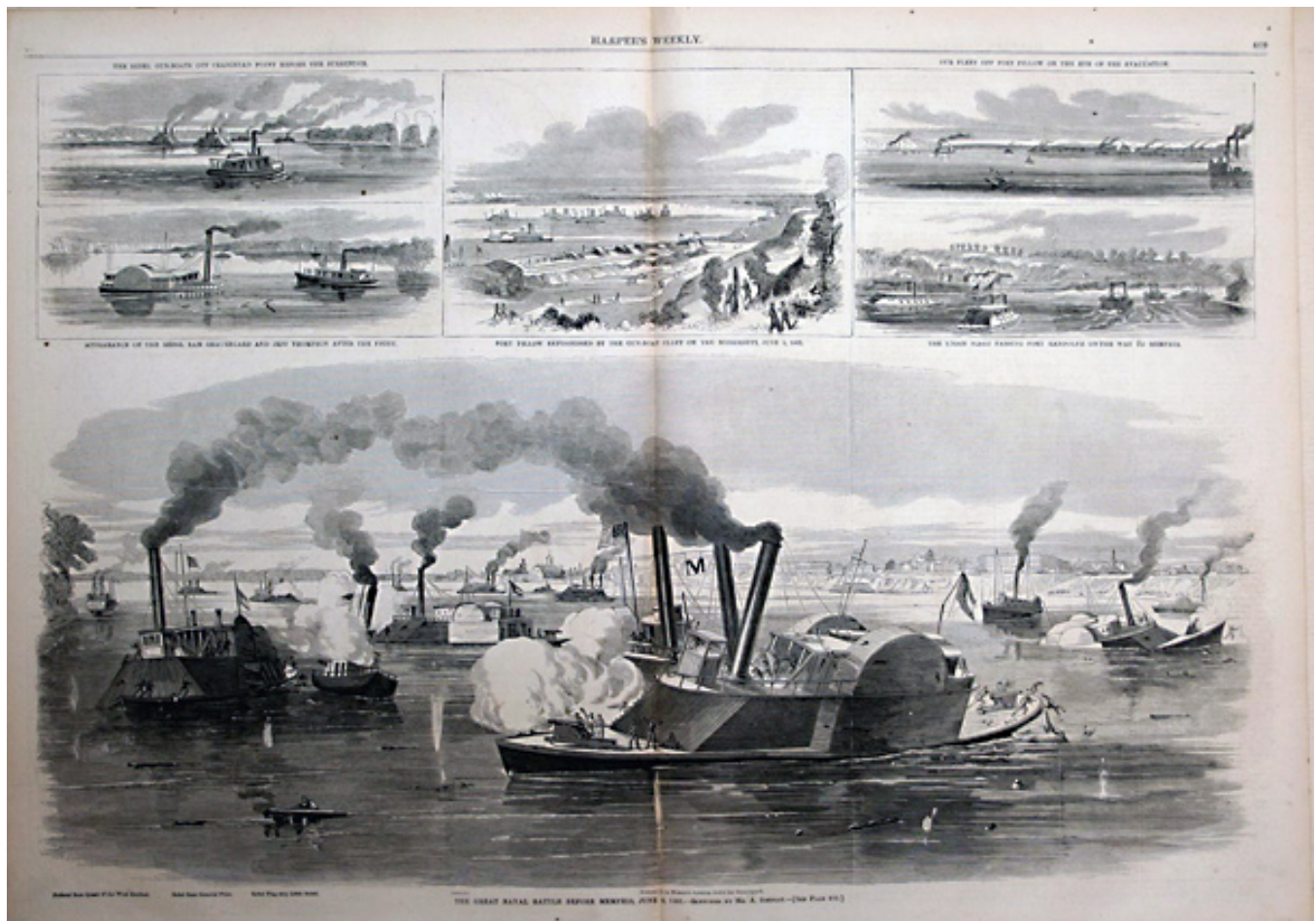
History Happenings

Faculty Edition

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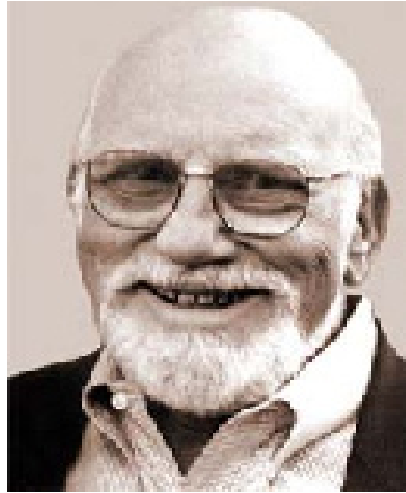
THE UNIVERSITY OF
MEMPHIS
Dreamers. Thinkers. Doers.

Scholar, Mentor, Critic

By Robert Frankle

*Of all those arts in which the wise excel
Nature's chief masterpiece is writing well.*

These words, written in 1682 by the third Earl of Mulgrave, serve as a fitting retirement tribute to Professor Abraham Kriegel, for very few write as well, or as wisely, as he does. He not only is a superb stylist, but also uses his facility with language to communicate information and ideas effectively to diverse audiences. His scholarly articles are models of clarity, lucidly narrating and interpreting historical events. His occasional opinion pieces for local media convey provocative insights into important issues of the day to a larger public. More recently, he has taken to writing for literary journals, usually with verve, often with wit, and always with a jargon-free style that edifies while it engages. This varied yet consistently interesting corpus of work reflects a keen intelligence and wide-ranging intellect that has made Abe Kriegel an outstanding scholar and teacher.



Abe Kriegel

Abe joined the History Department in 1964 and received his Ph.D. from Duke University the following year. He quickly established himself as a major scholar of nineteenth-century British history, publishing in such leading journals in the field as *The Journal of British Studies* and *The English Historical Review*. In 1977, he produced a meticulously researched and much praised edition of *The Holland House Diaries*, making this important source more accessible to scholars. The continuing high quality of his work has been recognized by a host of authorities. He won the prestigious John Simon Guggenheim Fellowship for 1979-80, and he received the Walter Love Prize for the best scholarly article in British history in 1987.

Abe's scholarship has naturally informed his teaching. He has not only engaged his graduate students with the latest cutting-edge research, but also stimulated and challenged all his students with provocative ideas and searching criticisms. Abe Kriegel has the reputation of being a demanding teacher. He has insisted that his students be thorough in their research, critical in their evaluation of sources, and rigorous in the arguments they developed. It is thus not surprising that some of his graduate students have gone on to teach history at the college level, nor that he inspired his daughter Lara to become a first-rate British historian in her own right. But just as important, countless students, undergraduate as well as graduate, have become more critical thinkers and better writers as a result of having taken a course from Abe Kriegel.

Abe has also performed his share of service to the university, the profession, and the community. He helped develop the University's Judaic Studies program, reviewed numerous books and grant applications for various journals and agencies, and has taken a leading role in promoting Christian-Jewish dialogue in the Memphis area. Especially noteworthy is that he chaired the History Department from 1988 to 1992, encouraging it to strive for excellence.

As Abe's career progressed, his intellectual curiosity prompted him to move beyond his specialty of British history to explore other interests. His recent publications range over an impressively wide array of subjects from changing generational values to conversational lunch. He also developed and taught new courses on topics such as "The Intellectual and the Academy" and "Why War?" Such continuing and indeed expanding intellectual activity suggests that although Abe Kriegel may have formally retired, his mind has not. As a participant in the university's post-retirement program, he will continue to stimulate and challenge students for the next four years. And don't be surprised if more gems don't flow from his powerful and pleasing pen.

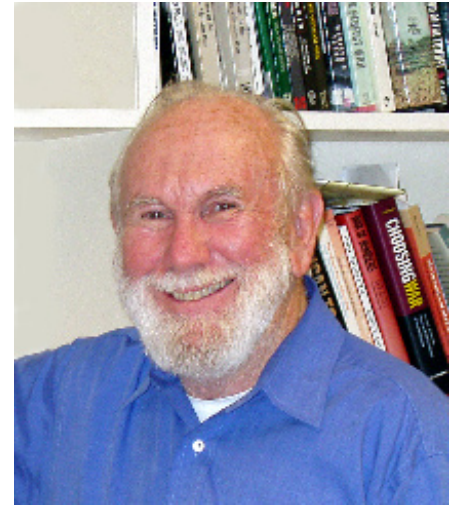
A Model Citizen

By Bob Brown

When I joined the faculty of the History Department almost forty-five years ago, one of the first colleagues I met was Kell Mitchell, a slender, red-haired, mustachioed fellow southerner who was then a seasoned veteran, having arrived two years earlier. We soon became not just colleagues, but close friends, and have remained so for many seasons since, thanks to his tolerance, patience, modesty, and unfailing good humor.

Reared on a farm in Georgia, Kell worked in Atlanta before earning his B.A. at the University of Georgia. After a year as an elementary school teacher and principal, he returned to his alma mater, where he received the M.A. and Ph.D. degrees, specializing in United States diplomatic history and writing a dissertation on Frank Polk and the Paris Peace Conference of 1919.

After teaching for a year at Limestone College in South Carolina, in 1963 Kell joined the faculty of our department, introducing undergraduate and graduate courses in United States diplomatic history. While he continued his work in this area, writing a number of scholarly articles on American diplomatic relations after the conclusion of World War I, he soon branched out in his teaching. Recognizing a long-standing failure to address the critical role of women and gender in the study of the past, in the early 1970s Mitchell helped initiate a Women's Studies program on our campus, creating a course in the History of Women. After the Vietnam War, as a result of his interest in it and its influence in international relations and the changing attitudes and life in the United States., he introduced a provocative course on the Vietnam War from a global perspective, in which he has challenged large numbers of interested students to evaluate this controversial war and America's role in it. Kell's global outlook and inquiring mind have led him to regularly offer World Civilizations since 1500, as well as both halves of the survey in United States history. Throughout, he has remained a demanding teacher with high expectations and uncompromising standards of performance.



Kell Mitchell

When student interest in history reached a nadir twenty-five years ago, the department's undergraduate advising system was centralized to help foster greater interest and provide each major informed academic advice and mentoring. Kell volunteered to serve as one of four faculty members advising our sixty majors. As interest increased and the number of advisers decreased to two, Kell has advised around 150 majors since 1990. This responsibility requires a heavy commitment of time and ready availability throughout the year. He has fulfilled this formidable task with distinction as a concerned, highly knowledgeable adviser, who patiently helps students negotiate the complexities of the university's curriculum and bureaucracy.

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A model citizen, Kell has served on and often chaired numerous committees and organizations in the department and university. In my various administrative capacities in the department, I have exploited him mercilessly by asking him to take on extra tasks. Without exception I received willing, cheerful, able support. Kell has been a relentless defender of high academic standards and the lofty principles of a liberal education. In his early days at the university, when academic freedom, due process, and faculty involvement in decision-making were sometimes challenged and often limited, he was an outspoken leader in the efforts to win and defend those rights, with little fear or regard for personal consequences. His concern for freedom of expression and a responsible, critical citizenry, both in the university and the broader community, was vividly portrayed in the early stages of the Vietnam War when, as one of a tiny group of protesters in a highly conservative community, he courageously marched down Union Avenue, surrounded by hostile crowds, some of whom late that night drove by his home, pelting it with eggs and shouting threats.

Thus, I celebrate the contributions of this modest, highly principled colleague and wish him a long and happy retirement; thank him for his unfailing support and warm friendship; look forward to his continued good company, whether at the Cupboard or in London; and tell him how pleased I am that he will continue for a few years to advise history majors and teach his special subjects.

Faculty Happenings

James Blythe's two-volume study of Tolomeo Fiadoni (1236–1327)—*The Life and Works of Tolomeo Fiadoni (Ptolemy of Lucca)* and *The Worldview and Thought of Tolomeo Fiadoni (Ptolemy of Lucca)*—is now in press at Brepols, a major publisher of medieval sources and scholarship in Belgium. The books will appear in September 2009. This past spring he presented a paper, “J.G.A. Pocock’s Thesis on Metahistorical Views of Empire: Another Dubious Medieval/Modern Turning Point” at the New College Conference on Medieval and Renaissance Studies. There he also participated in honoring one of his teachers, John Najemy of Cornell University, to whom his students presented a Festschrift, *Florence and Beyond: Culture, Society, and Politics in Renaissance Italy*, edited by David S. Peterson with Daniel E. Bornstein. It contained his article (with John La Salle), “Did Tolomeo Fiadoni (Ptolemy of Lucca) Insert ‘Civic Humanist’ Ideas into Thomas Aquinas’s Treatise on Kingship? Reflections on a Newly-Discovered Manuscript of Hans Baron.” In May, at the 43rd International Congress on Medieval Studies in Kalamazoo, he spoke on “Tolomeo Fiadoni (Ptolemy of Lucca) and the Controversy over the Reception of Aristotle’s Politics.” He continues to be Graduate Coordinator in the history department, and this year he taught a graduate course in Medieval and Renaissance history and a required Ph.D. course in Global History. In addition to his academic interests, Blythe continues to be an active photographer specializing in abstract images. He is currently preparing a large exhibit with the abstract painter Gail Buckman, which will open at the Jack Robinson Gallery in downtown Memphis on March 27.

Peter Brand will publish in the first half of 2009 an edited volume of essays by Egyptological colleagues in memory of the history department’s own William J. Murnane. Entitled *Causing His Name to Live: Essays in Egyptian History and Epigraphy in Memory of William J. Murnane* (E. J. Brill Academic Publishers, Leiden 2009), the collection includes Dr. Brand’s article on erased inscriptions of the pharaoh Merenptah and the history of Egypt’s late 19th Dynasty. Until the book is published, an online version of the volume will be available at <http://history.memphis.edu/murnane/>. A related article by Dr. Brand on war inscriptions of Ramesses II and Merenptah will appear in a book of essays in honor of the British Egyptologist Kenneth A. Kitchen. Dr. Brand is currently completing a manuscript started by the late Dr. Murnane based on work with the Karnak Hypostyle Hall

Project (<http://history.memphis.edu/hypostyle/>). He has also appeared in a few documentaries for National Geographic Channel, including forthcoming shows on Ramesses II and the Tutankhamun Succession. He will be leading a study abroad program in Egypt during the 2009 winter break.

Margaret Caffrey had articles on anthropologists Ruth Benedict and Margaret Mead published in the *Encyclopedia of Gender and Society* (2008). She is also the director of the regional West Tennessee History Day competition.

Maurice Crouse continues as Webmaster for the Web pages of the Department of History and as technical producer for the departmental newsletter. He also serves on the Faculty Senate’s committee on information technology and at the departmental level on the Endowment Committee and the search committee for a position in southern U.S. history.

Eda C. Fain has entered her third year in the History Department as a full-time instructor, having previously taught both Unites States History and Tennessee History for seven years as a departmental adjunct. She has recently taught honors sections of American History surveys and an undergraduate/graduate special topics course in the History of American Childhood. She is currently teaching another special topics course in U. S. Material Culture. Dr. Fain is continuing her consultation with a Florida genealogist, as they



Mardi Gras

co-author a volume on history and genealogy in Tipton County, Tennessee. She is also researching a children’s story, based on a study of five trunks belonging to her mother, as a way to introduce young audiences to material culture and the care, display, and preservation of family artifacts. Dr. Fain will present a workshop on crafting antique-styled valentines in February at the Germantown Community Library. Her research interests include the nineteenth-century Memphis Mardi Gras, Shelby County ghost lore,

American representations of the Christmas Fairy, and local celebrations of traditional holidays during the last quarter of the nineteenth century.

James Fickle published reviews in the *American Historical Review*, the *Journal of Southern History*, and the state journals in North Carolina and Louisiana during the past year. He also wrote the sectional essays and edited the entries on business and industry, workers, and forests and natural resources for the *Mississippi Encyclopedia of Culture and History*, which is a project of the Center for Southern Culture at Ole Miss and is being published this year by the University of Mississippi Press. As a member of the board of the new National Museum of U.S. Forest Service History, Dr. Fickle attended a planning meeting in Missoula, Montana, to determine the contents of the museum. He also traveled this year to Alaska, Oregon, Washington, Vermont, Connecticut, New Hampshire, Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Boston to conduct oral history interviews with academics, foresters, environmentalists, U.S. Forest Service administrators, and others centering around the broad subject of natural resource management. He presented a paper at a regional meeting at Toledo Bend on the Louisiana/Texas border and spoke at a forest products industry meeting in Birmingham. Dr. Fickle attended meetings in Juneau, Alaska, where he is coordinating a project to produce a state forest history. He is also the lead researcher and writer for joint projects of the Forest History Society at Duke University and the U.S. Forest Service to document the histories of hardwood research, the forest survey system, and the Forest Products Laboratory. He is currently finishing a state forest history of Alabama that should be in press later this year, and he is continuing work on a history of the forestry and environmental studies program at Yale, where he serves as a Visiting Professor. He also helped prepare an article on the history of the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies for the *Yale Alumni News*. Dr. Fickle recently learned that an article he published several years ago on a pioneering scholar of forest and environmental history in Texas will be republished as part of a collection in that state, and that an essay on the I.W.W. in the South, which was included in a book on the "Wobblies," will also be republished. In May, he was awarded the Alumni Association Award for distinguished research in the humanities by The University of Memphis.

Aram Goudsouzian spent the fall 2008 semester on a Professional Development Assignment, nearing completion of a biography of the basketball star and political activist Bill Russell. The book is under contract with the University of California Press. He presented "The State of Basketball History" at the Mid-America History Conference, delivered "The Tennessee Tornado: Wilma Rudolph and Her Olympic Icon" for the Samuel Shannon Lecture Series at Tennessee

State University, and spoke about Barack Obama and African American History to fourth and fifth graders at St. Stephen's Armenian School in Watertown, Massachusetts. He also chaired panels for the Mid-America History Conference, the Critical Race Studies Conference, and the Graduate Conference in African American History. He is the advisor to the Graduate Association of African American History, and he is serving as the chair of the search committee for a position in the history of the United States South. The School of Liberal Arts and Sciences recently gave him the Early Career Research Award.

Jonathan Judaken started a busy fall semester with the publication of his second book, an edited collection entitled *Race After Sartre: Antiracism, Africana Existentialism, Postcolonialism* (SUNY Press, "Race and Philosophy" series). He also published two articles, "So What's New?: Rethinking



the 'New Antisemitism' in a Global Age" and "Between Philosemitism and Antisemitism: The Frankfurt School's Anti-Antisemitism." He gave the first annual Karl Schleunes Lecture at Greensboro College and gave invited lectures at University of Manchester, University of Florida, and University of California, Los Angeles. In the spring, he will participate in the French Historical Studies Conference and the International Conference on

"Vladimir Jankélévitch and the Question of Forgiveness" at St. Francis College. His third book, another edited volume, will come out with Routledge in May. It is entitled *Naming Race, Naming Racisms*. He continues to serve as Director of the Marcus W. Orr Center for the Humanities.

Dennis Laumann serves as Chair of the Ghana Studies Council, an international organization of scholars that produces the academic journal *Ghana Studies*, published by the University of Wisconsin Press. He chaired the organization's annual meeting in Chicago in November 2008 and he will travel to Leipzig, Germany, this June to lead a GSC-sponsored panel entitled "New Research in Ghanaian Colonial History" at the Third European Conference on African Studies. In October 2008, Laumann participated in the Third Chimalpahin Conference: Colonial and Post-Colonial Remembering and Forgetfulness in Mexico City, presenting a paper entitled "Gender, Oral History, and Remembering German Colonialism in Ghana." Dr. Laumann was awarded a Faculty Research Grant by The University of

Memphis to support his research at the Tamiment Library at New York University on relations between the Communist Party USA and African liberation movements during the Cold War. His first book, *Remembering the Germans in Ghana*, will be published by Peter Lang this year. An article, entitled “Narratives of a ‘Model Colony’: German Togoland in Written and Oral Histories,” is included in *German Colonialism and National Identity*, edited by Michael Perraudin and Jürgen Zimmerer (Routledge, 2009). This spring, Dr. Laumann is co-teaching a special honors course, Genocide in German History, with his colleague, Dr. Dan Unowsky, culminating in

a Spring Break trip to Germany, Poland, and the Czech Republic. Dr. Laumann also will lead the seventh annual study abroad program to Ghana this summer, which is offered through the university’s African and African American Studies



Flag of Ghana

program. Dr. Laumann is a finalist for the 2008-2009 Alumni Association Distinguished Teaching Award.

Suzanne Onstine has had a busy travel year, spending time giving papers in Toronto at the Society for the Study of Egyptian Antiquities and doing fieldwork and lecturing in Luxor, Egypt. She just returned from the first official University of Memphis season of epigraphic work in Theban tomb 16, that of Panehsy, a priest and chanter who lived during the reign of Ramesses II. Photography and epigraphic drawings were begun that will eventually record all the decorated and inscribed material in the tomb. Plans were also made for future conservation work to protect the fragile painted plaster from further degradation. Accompanying her on this trip was graduate student Katarzyna Scherr, who learned valuable lessons about fieldwork and life in modern Egypt. Several future seasons will be necessary to complete the documentation and conservation.



Dr. Onstine in the Tomb of Panehsy (TT16)

Sarah Potter joined the faculty of the History Department in fall 2008. She specializes in the history of gender, sexuality, and family in the twentieth-century United States. She completed her Ph.D. at the University of Chicago in August 2008, receiving distinction for her dissertation, “Family Matters: Domesticity and the Everyday Life of Race, Class, and National Belonging in Postwar Chicago.” In 2008, Dr. Potter presented her work at the University of Chicago’s American Political History Workshop and at the Social Science History Association’s annual meeting. She is currently working on an article about working-class domesticity in the 1950s and plans to complete the research for her book manuscript this summer. Alongside teaching courses on family and childhood, Dr. Potter is currently working with the Memphis Center for Reproductive Health to offer a graduate course in engaged scholarship about the history of the reproductive rights movement next fall.



Logo of Memphis Center for Reproductive Health

Kent Schull is enjoying his second full year as a faculty member of the Department of History. He is actively engaged in the department’s new online BA program in history having developed and taught an online course on the modern Middle East this past fall. Dr. Schull teaches on the Arab-Israeli Conflict, World Civilizations, and now a new course on the Ottoman Empire. During pre-session 2009, he will be leading a group of students on a travel study program to Turkey where they will study and experience the various civilizations that contribute to Turkey’s unique culture and history. Regarding research, Dr. Schull and Dr. Jeffrey Byford



Symbols of the Ottoman Empire

(from the Department of Instruction and Curriculum Leadership) were awarded a Diversity Grant for \$100,000 from the Tennessee Board of Regents. Their project, “Integration through Education: Muslims of Memphis and America,” involves collecting oral histories from the Muslim population of Memphis in order to write its history and to develop a supplemental social studies curriculum for Memphis City and Shelby County high schools on Islam, the Middle East, and Islamic history. This past summer Drs.

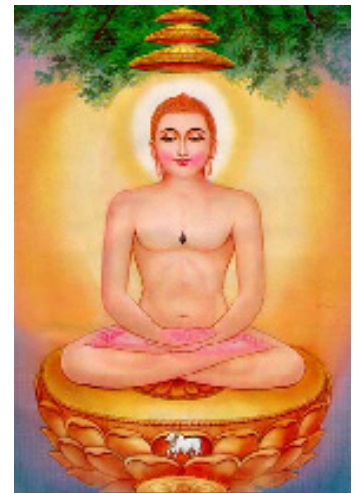
Schull and Byford presented “Integration through Education: Muslims of Memphis and America” at the University of Oxford, from which an article will soon be published. Dr. Schull also presented “Legal Reform in the Late Ottoman Empire: The Rationalization and Centralization of Criminal Law and Punishment during the Second Constitutional Period” at a conference this past summer in Istanbul, Turkey. Additionally, he is working on his book manuscript entitled “Laboratories of Modernity: Prisons in the Late Ottoman Empire” and is awaiting the publication of a book chapter entitled “Conceptualizing Difference during the Second Constitutional Period: New Sources, Old Challenges” in *Religion, Ethnicity and Contested Nationhood in the Former Ottoman Space* from E.J. Brill. Most recently, he presented “Identity in the Late Ottoman Empire” at the Middle East Studies Association annual conference in Washington, D.C. in November 2008.

Stephen Stein became the director of the History Department’s new online BA program, which launched at the start of the 2008-2009 school year. One of only a handful of online undergraduate history programs in the nation, it will allow students to complete all the requirements for a history BA online. For spring 2009, the History Department offered eight different courses online, and more courses are under development. Stein wrote the chapter “Interventions in Asia, 1899-1927” for James Bradford’s *A Companion to American Military History* (Blackwell, forthcoming) and will be writing the first chapter for an as-yet-untitled history of naval aviation that will be published by the Naval Institute Press in 2011 to mark the centennial of naval aviation. He also authored several entries for encyclopedias during the past year, including “T. B. M. Mason” in *American Espionage: A Historical Encyclopedia* (ABC-CLIO, forthcoming), “Warships” in *Discovery and Invention: An Historical Encyclopedia of Science, Technology, and Society* (M.E. Sharpe, forthcoming), and a 4500-word analysis of George Marshall in *Milestone Documents of American Leaders* (Schlager, forthcoming). He continues to develop new courses for both the classroom and the online program. He also teaches courses on military strategy for the Naval War College’s distance education program.

Daniel Unowsky, supported by a Faculty Research Grant, conducted research in Vienna, Austria, in July 2008. In Vienna’s libraries and archives, Dr. Unowsky found many documents and photographs related to his current book project on the 1898 anti-Jewish riots in what is now southern Poland. Dr. Unowsky has two articles currently in press: “Dynastic Symbolism and the Limits of Habsburg Loyalty” will be published later this year in *Rule and Conflict, Representation and Crisis: Multi-Ethnic Empires since the Nineteenth Century*. The volume is edited by Jörn Leonhard and Ulrike von Hirschhausen and will be published by Brill.

“Peasant Political Mobilization and the 1898 anti-Jewish Riots in Western Galicia” will come out in 2009 or early 2010 in the *European History Quarterly*. Dr. Unowsky’s review of Werner Telesko, *Kulturraum Österreich. Die Identität der Regionen in der bildenden Kunst des 19. Jahrhunderts* (Vienna, 2008) was published in late 2008 by H-Soz-u-Kult, the most important German language academic listserv. Dr. Unowsky has also recently reviewed Tara Zahra’s important new study *Kidnapped Souls: National Indifference and the Battle for Children in the Bohemian Lands, 1900-1948* (Harvard, 2008). This review will be published in the spring 2009 edition of the *Austrian Studies Newsletter*. In April 2009, Dr. Unowsky will attend the annual convention of the Association for the Study of Nationalities. He will serve as discussant for the panel “Constructing Catholic Identities: Antisemitism in the Habsburg Empire at the End of the 19th Century.” This spring, Dr. Unowsky and Dr. Laumann are co-teaching a course in the honors program on Genocide in German History. They and approximately fifteen students will travel to Germany, Poland, and the Czech Republic over Spring Break, visiting sites related to the course.

Robert Yelle completed in 2008 his first full year as Executive Secretary of the North American Association for the Study of Religion, an organization of about 130 members of scholars of religion that hosts panels at the American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting and sponsors a journal, *Method & Theory in the Study of Religion*, published by Brill. As Executive Secretary, Dr. Yelle is responsible for organizing panels and other meetings, and serves as liaison with other organizations and businesses, as well as with the organization’s members. The website is



Mahavira

www.naasr.com. In addition to finishing the manuscript for a book, which is currently under review, Dr. Yelle co-organized and presented at a conference in March at the law school of the University at Buffalo. “Re-describing the Sacred/Secular Divide: The Legal Story” brought together a number of distinguished scholars of law, religion, the humanities, and the social sciences. Dr. Yelle and his colleague Dr. Winnifred Sullivan wrote a successful grant application to the American Academy of Religion to fund the second round of the conference, which is scheduled for April 2009. Currently they are working on a book proposal for a conference volume.