

History is All Over

MACALESTER COLLEGE HISTORY DEPARTMENT NEWSLETTER FIND YOUR PLACE IN HISTORY

FALL 2019

History is All Over is a publication of the Macalester College History Department, sharing student, faculty, and alumni news; and highlighting opportunities, classes, study away, and research.

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Above: Professors Karin Velez, Maria Fedorova, Naomi Sussman, and Linda Sturtz before a department meeting.



At left: History students and faculty at our Fall Pre-registration Lunch.

OUR SENIORS SHINE

Senior Capstone Conference and Reception

History Senior Capstone Conference presentations took place at night on Friday, December 6, where we enjoyed talks by our seniors. Please join us in congratulating our seniors on these presentations:

Keaton Belbas, *The Dying Confession of Pomp Revisited*

Beatrice Chihak, Narratives of Disability Activism at Macalester College, 1907 to the 1990's

EJ Coolidge, "A Battle of Neighborhood Narratives: Defining Loring Park through AIDS, Police Violence, and Community Resistance"

Oriana Galasso, Female Empowerment in the Male World of Athletic Administration: A Case Study

Melanie Guardado, The Myth of *Brasil Nunca Mais*: The Brazilian Military Regime and the Creation of a Public Memory

Marley Higbee, Report on Iron Mountain on the Plausibility and Believability of Narrative: The reception of *Iron Mountain* among the left and right

Isaac Hoehn, What Resistance Looks Like: Hizbullah's Role in Countering Israeli Occupation and Aggression in Lebanon, 1982-2006

Spencer McAllister, Heretic or Hermaphrodite? Medieval Society and the Natural World

Liam McMahan, "Can you please get my family justice so we can rest in peace?": The Pat Finucane Centre's 'In Their Footsteps' archive and the fight for truth and justice in Northern Ireland

Michael Milner, Imagining Transnistria: Memorializing Tragedy and Sacrifice Through Monumental Sculpture

Samuel Nail, From Nationalist Holiday to Commercial Tourist Trap: St. Patrick's Day in the 1990s

Maria Peterson, "In Union There Is Strength": Race, Organized Labor, and Contested Americanness in the Appalachian Crucible

Lydia Sulik, Stories about stories about nature:" An examination of *Song of Hiawatha* and historical narrative told by Minnehaha Falls Park

Benjamin Trumble, Mining, Murals, and Memorials: Historical Memory on the Mesabi Iron Range

The capstone presentations were followed by a reception where we celebrated the accomplishments of our seniors presenters and the end of the semester.



Above: Pictures from the capstone conference

Blog Home on the Iron Range

Ben Trumble '20 kept a blog last summer, posting about the people and the history of Minnesota's Iron Range. He conducted oral histories, putting into practice methods he learned in the Oral History class taught by History Professor Amy Sullivan. Ben says the oral history method "puts narrative power back in the hands of the community." He examined the public history of the area, through museums, monuments, and landscapes. His project was done with funding from Student Faculty Summer Research grants. Find his posts from The Range, and occasional posts from the Twin Cities too, here:

<https://ironrangeobservations.home.blog/>

SPOTLIGHT ON RUSSIAN HISTORY



Students in History's Revolutionary Russia and the Soviet Union class, and Advanced Russian students, and Professors Maria Fedorova (history) and Valeria Wietzig and Tatiana Markova (both Russian studies) visited the Museum of Russian Art to see three exhibitions: Soviet posters, the Chernobyl plant cleanup, and Christmas with the tsars.



The "Revolutionary Russia and the Soviet Union" class did archival research and examined the 1950s origins of the Russian studies program here at Macalester and other colleges in the Twin Cities. They looked at reports, brochures, invitations, class lists, and paper topics from the 1950s.

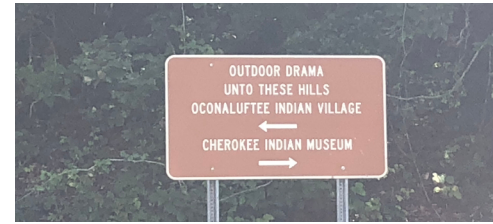
Away, Not at Play

Four of our faculty are on sabbatical leaves this year. Here, Professors Phillips, Wells, and Pearson share a little news about their projects.

Katrina Phillips reports "Most of my attention has gone toward finishing my manuscript revisions, which are due in December. I've also reviewed a few articles for publication, and I was asked to write a book review for a scholarly journal. I've worked with my children's schools on ways they can celebrate Native American Heritage Month. I've got a big stack of books waiting for me, and I can't wait to start reading them. In the spring, I hope to finish an article, and I'm co-editing a special issue of a journal. I'll present at the American Indian & Indigenous Studies Seminar Series at the Newberry Library in Chicago, and I'll start researching my next book project."

Chris Wells is finishing work on a co-edited book with George Vrtis (Carleton College), *Nature's Crossroads: An Environmental History of the Twin Cities and Greater Minnesota* and beginning preliminary work on a new book about the industrial revolution. He looks forward to returning to full-time teaching next year.

Jess Pearson has spent her sabbatical working on her new book project, "Traveling to the End of Empire: Tourism in the Era of Decolonization." She's split her time between London's National Archives, and Washington D.C., at the Library of Congress. She received a National Endowment for the Humanities summer stipend and a grant from Macalester to support her London research, about hotel segregation in the British empire and the expansion of air travel in the former empire after decolonization. At the Library of Congress, she's been using their "magical treasure trove of historical sources" to try to understand how the end of empire shaped travel and tourism. One interesting document she's found is an interview by an editor of an Ivorian women's magazine with the CEO of Air Afrique, about the working conditions of Air Afrique flight attendants. She learned that flight attendants were only allowed to have two children, or they would lose their job. When the Pope traveled to Abidjan in the early 1980s, the flight attendants asked him to intervene to change this policy. She's also been drinking a lot of cocoa and reading a lot of Sherlock Holmes.



Professor Phillips did research on the Qualla Boundary in Cherokee, NC.



Part of Professor Pearson's to-read list. Did she break the Library of Congress?

Congratulations to Professor Karin Vélez!

Karin Velez's book, *The Miraculous Flying House of Loreto: Spreading Catholicism in the Early Modern World*, received the American Academy of Religion's 2019 award for the Best First Book in the History of Religions. They wrote: "A work of engaging and deeply imaginative scholarship, Karin Vélez's monograph analyzes not simply the most improbable devotion in early modern Europe—the cult of the "flying" house of Loreto—but offers a compelling new account of the popular globalization of post-Tridentine Catholicism. Rich with imagery and insight and studded with fascinating ethnographic nuggets, it is a book that rewards multiple readings." The book has also been awarded The 2019 John Gilmary Shea Prize by the Catholic Historical Society.

Introducing Our Visiting Professors

Maria Fedorova arrived at Macalester in Fall 2019 as a Wallin Postdoctoral Fellow in Russian and Modern European History. A Moscow native, she came to the United States as a Fulbright Fellow, receiving an MA in History at Washington State University and a Ph.D. at the University of California, Santa Barbara. Fedorova teaches courses on Russian history and the transnational history of food and agriculture. Fedorova's research focuses on the transnational circulation of knowledge and technologies between Russia and the world during the twentieth century.

Naomi Sussman (History '12) is teaching in a one-year position. In Fall she taught "Introduction to Latin America and the Caribbean," and "Indigenous Americas." In Spring she will teach "The Native Southwest," "Many Mexicos: Social Movements and Nation-Formation since Independence," and "Transnational Latin Americas."

Awet Weldemichael is here in a one-year position as Humphrey Professor of African History. His book, "Piracy in Somalia," was nominated for an African Studies Association's (ASA) 2019 Book Prize, one of the major national prizes in the field of African History. In Spring he will teach "Introduction to Africa," and "Piracy, Terrorism and Insurgency in Modern Northeast Africa, 1850s to Present."

REPORTS FROM HISTORY ALUMNI

In response to the Spring 2019 newsletter, **Beryl Flathman-Braaten, '53** says, "It is nice to read that the History Department is alive and well."

Dee Mehl Ban, '77 tells us "My Macalester history degree is actively in use when I take primary source music from various time periods of American history into classrooms, national park sites, historical societies, and other venues. I am a folk singer, educator, and historian. Lively discussions ensue as students encounter differing points of view, passionately expressed in music. History comes alive as students of all ages learn that there are many voices of the past and they do not always agree. My website is <http://www.teachable.music.com>. Have autoharp, will travel."

Benjamin Dille, '82 graduated in 1982 with dual History and International Relations majors and a French minor, and went to the U of M Law School. He tells us, "I joined the State Department as a Foreign Service Officer in 1991. I have served in Caracas, Mexico City, Shanghai, Managua, Prague, Minsk, Washington, Kazakhstan, and Iraq, have served as Charge d'Affaires (acting Ambassador) in Minsk, Prague and Astana (Nursultan) and have reached the Senior Foreign Service as a management officer (administrator). My current position as Executive Director of the Bureau of African Affairs has brought me to 20 African nations. I feel my history degree has been invaluable in understanding different cultures, but also because it taught me to write well and is the degree that is most comprehensive in studying humanity in that it offers case studies of leadership, geography, economics, and different societies, as well as loads of human stories from different times and places, which is very relevant to anyone working around the world and managing and negotiating with all kinds of people. Along the way, I have also picked up a PhD in International and Comparative Law from the London School of Economics which, dealing with Sandinista land expropriations, was as much a history PhD as a law one. History remains my first love. Anyone interested in the Foreign Service can write me at dillebb@state.gov or at ben_dille@yahoo.com."

Pauline Knaeble Williams, '88 was a History Minor and Sociology Major. Pauline says, "I have used my affinity for learning about the past to write two books of historical fiction. *Finding Hollis* (2014, Forty Press) is set in the 1940s in North Minneapolis, where I grew up and my family has lived for five generations. My second novel (September 2019, Forty Press) travels back one hundred years further to explore life in Philadelphia in 1850, the year the Fugitive Slave Law was altered. The history classes I took from Macalester professors Peter Rachleff and Mahmoud El-Kati influenced me to view history from the lens of race, gender and class, themes reflected in my writing."

Maggie Weber, '17 wrote that she, "just started graduate program at Trinity College Dublin, pursuing an MPhil in Public History & Cultural Heritage. The program is one year long (September to September) and I'm super excited!"



ABOVE: Emily Nadel '17 (pictured above left with Herta Pitman) during a visit to Mac at the end of the semester. **Sarah Kolenbrander, '17** (pictured above right with Annette Gordon-Reed) Sarah met Gordon Reed during a professional development session she attended in the summer in preparation for becoming a classroom teacher.

WHERE WILL YOU GO WITH HISTORY?

Students, and parents, often ask where a future with a History major might lead. Answers to that question are far-ranging, and depend quite a bit on the individuals and their interests. If you are looking for the big picture answers, our Career Development Center provides access to this What Can I Do With My History Major? list. You can also visit History's "After Macalester" webpage to see what some of our graduates have reported they are doing now. Our "Jobs and Internships" page has links to sites, on-campus and off, that can help you address your own questions about where studying history can take you. It's a good place to look when you wonder about your future in history. There you will find links to the American Historical Association's "Careers for History Majors" mini guide, and their "What to Do with a BA in History" blog, and more links to multiple organizations that share listings of job, internship, publication, conference, networking, and other opportunities. Of course, our best resource is our professors. Make time to have a conversation with one or more of them to talk about your particular interest in history, and where it could lead.



Above: History students enjoy lunch, while Professor Linda Sturtz provides information about History course opportunities.

Visit History's Opportunity Update Listings to Find These Options, and More

(Volunteer) Be a History Day Judge at State and Regional History Day events this spring. This year's theme is "Breaking Barriers in History." Training is available to those who are interested, or who want to be a State History Day judge.

(Grad Program) Columbia University Master's in European History, Politics, and Society is now accepting applications for Fall. Programs of study on topics related to modern Europe can be completed in one year, or on a part-time basis. Applications due March 12.

(Fellowship) Historic Deerfield Undergraduate Fellowship in Early American History and Material Culture is accepting applications to their Summer 2020 session. Students graduating in 2020 and 2021 are welcome to apply for the 9-week opportunity. Tuition, room and board, and field trip expenses are covered. Applications due February 7.

(Call for Papers) Tufts Hemispheres Journal of International Affairs is seeking submissions of 5000-8000 word for their 2020 issue. The theme is Growing Pains. Submissions due January 25.

Student Opportunity Updates

We are often asked to share opportunities with our students. We do that by adding them to the ["Opportunity Updates" on our web site.](#)

Opportunity Updates is where we consolidate announcements and information for your convenience, and try to avoid inundating you with frequent emails that are not about our own events. The updates include calls for papers, internships, job opportunities, grad programs, volunteering opportunities, fellowships, research/project opportunities, events, study away programs, and more.

<https://www.macalester.edu/history/studentopportunities/#updates>

SPRING 2020 HISTORY CLASS SCHEDULE

HIST 194-01 First Encounters in History	T R	9:40-11:10 am	Karin Velez
HIST 194-02 Introduction to Africa	M W F	9:40-10:40 am	A.Weldemichael
HIST 251-01 Pirates, Translators, Missionaries	T R	8:00-09:30 am	Karin Velez
HIST 260-01 Rise/Fall of Tsarist Russia	M W F	10:50 -11:50 am	Maria Fedorova
HIST 271-01 Uses and Abuses: Drugs, Addiction and Recovery	W	7:00-10:00 pm	Amy Sullivan
HIST 275-01 The Rise of Modern China	T R	1:20-02:50 pm	Yue-him Tam
HIST 290-01 History: Then and Now	T R	3:00-04:30 pm	Linda Sturtz
HIST 294-01 The Native Southwest	M W F	10:50 -11:50 am	Naomi Sussman
HIST 294-02 Food, Science and Technology (1914-1939): A Transatlantic Perspective	M W F	2:20-03:20 pm	Maria Fedorova
HIST 294-03 "Many Mexicos": Social Movements and Nation-Formation since Independence	M W F	3:30 -04:30 pm	Naomi Sussman
HIST 294-05 U.S. Imperialism from the Philippines to Viet Nam	T R	9:40 -11:10 am	K. Aguilar-San Juan
HIST 350-01 Race, Gender, and Medicine	M	7:00-10:00 pm	Amy Sullivan
HIST 376-01 Public History	M W F	3:30-04:30 pm	Amy Sullivan
HIST 378-01 War Crimes and Memory in East Asia	T R	3:00-04:30 pm	Yue-him Tam
HIST 381-01 Transnational Latin Americas	W	7:00 -10:00 pm	Naomi Sussman
HIST 394-01 Piracy, Terrorism and Insurgency in Modern Northeast Africa, 1850s to Present	M	7:00-10:00 pm	A. Weldemichael
HIST 394-02 Festive Turmoil: Holidays, Protests and Riots in Medieval and Early Modern History	T R	1:20-02:50 pm	Linda Sturtz

The East Side Freedom Library

The East Side Freedom Library was founded by Macalester professors Peter Rachleff and Beth Cleary. Its mission is to inspire solidarity, advocate for justice and work toward equity for all. The ESFL offers community events, internships, volunteering opportunities, and more, that our students engage with. Contact Peter Rachleff at rachleff@macalester.edu for details, or to learn more about the East Side Freedom Library visit the web site here <https://eastsidefreedomlibrary.org/>

The Humanities Building is The Humanities Building Once More

Six years ago, the building formerly known as Humanities, was renamed Neill Hall, in honor of the college's founder and first president. That name was revoked this fall, when awareness of Neill's mixed legacy became more widely known through the efforts of current students. Mac Weekly articles like this one "[Who was Edward Duffield Neill?](#)", that was researched and written by History senior major William McMahan, provided insight into Neill's wider role, and helped lead to the decision to revoke the Neill name. President Rosenberg announced that after reading a number of Neill's published writings, it was clear that Neill's racism —particularly his statements disparaging indigenous people— were damning. The building formerly known as The Humanities Building is now again known as The Humanities Building.