



# Today & Yesterday

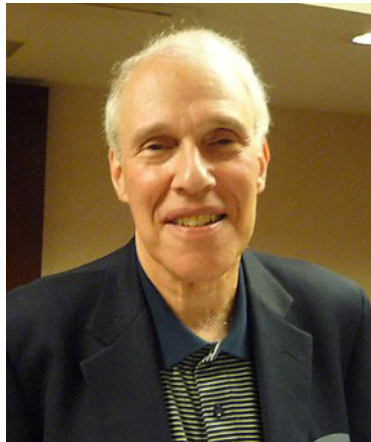
Newsletter of the Department of History

Volume 43, 2019

## Historian, Teacher, Coach, Friend, and Donor

By Monica Noraian

We wish to take this moment to celebrate the extraordinary dedication and spirit of Mr. Howard Romanek. He is a



familiar face to many people across the state of Illinois, given his long tenure as an inspiring high school history teacher and enthusiastic basketball coach (Geneva High School 1969-1971; Glenbrook High Schools, 1971-2003). His retirements have been temporary, reflecting his generous character. He continues giving to the community and particularly to young people, evident in his return to Glenbrook South High School as a substitute teacher and indicative of his love for the sport, as a volunteer basketball coach.

We have the immense good fortune to have had Mr. Romanek join our ranks in 2005 to mentor future teachers as a university supervisor until 2010. He “retired” again, but his engagement with students, faculty, and staff continues, and for that we are very grateful. He is our deeply valued colleague, guest speaker, and donor. Given

his vast experience in the classroom, he is a superb mentor to future teachers, who learn from him in his guest lectures in HIS 390 classes and as a session presenter at our annual history symposium.

Each semester the department awards the Howard Romanek Outstanding Student Teaching Award funded by his generous financial support and continued passion for the profession. Former History Department Chair Tony Crubaugh said during its conception: “The establishment of the scholarship comes as no surprise to those who know your dedication to students and to teaching. It is a great privilege to honor your legacy by bestowing upon a history-social sciences education major an award in your name.” It is a true honor and tribute that students, Romanek, and the Illinois State University History Department are forever connected celebrating with this living legacy scholarship award.

Former students used the following words in support of Romanek as their university supervisor:

- Extremely helpful, excited, and very enthusiastic.
- Could always answer questions and went above and beyond expectations.
- Mailed lessons and/or activities to student teachers according to the lessons being taught.
- Helped to relieve the stress that comes with student teaching.

Fred Walk, former History Department coordinator of student teaching, said: “I can say that Howard was one of the most conscientious, enthusiastic, and professional university supervisors I have ever worked with. He cared deeply about each of his student teachers and their professional development. He was an inspiration to all he worked with and a teacher of future teachers.”

Richard Hughes said: “Despite living much of the year in New Mexico, Howard has remained a remarkable ally to the department over the years. His continued engagement with the teaching and learning of history and, specifically, our students at ISU, remains an impressive model of life-long learning, collegiality, and a commitment to shaping the next generation of history teachers!”

Romanek fondly shared with Monica Noraian, director of the history-social sciences education program, that he gave his first history lecture at the age of 15 when his high school teacher asked if anyone wanted to share about the French Revolution during studies of *A Tale of Two Cities*.

Romanek has been a positive force in the field of teaching for many years and continues to shape the future as a friend and donor.



# Letter from the chair, Ross A. Kennedy

This past academic year has been an eventful one for the History Department, marked by a number of notable achievements. First, our enrollment continued to grow. Our undergraduate majors rose from 362 in fall 2014 to 452 in fall 2018—a 25 percent increase. Our graduate program also rebounded from a low of 26 in 2016 to 37 in 2018. These increases show the vitality of our discipline at a time when a liberal arts education has come under attack at other institutions.

The quality of our students also remains high. We have six Presidential Scholars among our majors, which is the most prestigious scholarship to entering freshmen offered by Illinois State. Noah Tang won a Robert G. Bone Scholarship, the highest honor an Illinois State University undergraduate can receive. The department has had six of its students named Bone Scholars since 2011. Our graduate students, meanwhile, continue to do well, with several accepted at full funding to doctoral programs. In fact, 12 have either been accepted to or are currently enrolled in programs at institutions such as Purdue, Michigan, and UIUC.

One of the reasons for the success of our students is the abundance of outside-the-classroom educational opportunities we provide for them. These include our internship program, which places students in organizations such as the McLean County Museum of History, the YWCA, and the Second Presbyterian Church of Bloomington; our thriving study abroad programs, which take students to Italy, Taiwan, and Barbados, among other

destinations; and our innovative teacher education experience in Brighton, England, which gives student teachers a chance to work in both the Illinois and British school systems. Thanks to our generous donors, we provided significant financial support to both our interns and those who studied abroad.

This past year we also brought several important speakers to campus. In October, Mark Steinberg of the University of Illinois helped us commemorate the 100th anniversary of the era of the Russian Revolution with a talk on utopian revolutionary art. Stefan Schlüter, former German consul general in San Francisco, gave a fascinating lecture and question-and-answer session on politics in the European Union. Contemporary politics was also the theme of our Black History Month keynote address by Briahna Joy Gray, senior politics editor at *The Intercept*. During the spring semester, History faculty members led the way in presenting ISU's International Seminar Series on "Fostering World Religious Literacy," a 13-speaker event bringing in scholars from several different disciplines to illuminate religions from around the globe. These are just a few of the examples of the department's efforts this past year to foster an exciting intellectual community for our students.

I hope you enjoy reading more about what we have been up to as you leaf through the pages that follow. And, thank you to all our friends and supporters who make our accomplishments possible!

## To Our Students

*By the Newsletter Editors*

"State Your Passion" is a phrase commonly used at ISU; as staff and faculty in the History Department, we have the happy privilege of seeing that phrase in action. Each year our community expands with the new and vital energies of the incoming classes of freshmen, transfers, and graduate students. We provide what we hope will be innovative courses coupled with core "classics," subjects that address constants in the human experience, that speak to our ethics and integrity as part of communities—as well as the challenges unique to our own time. For the latter, we endeavor to help students discern for themselves the historical roots and perhaps contemporary resolutions

to issues of inclusion and exclusion, and the struggles for equality, among others. Embedded here also are our beliefs—and yours, as you've undertaken these journeys with such dedication and enthusiasm—that we have an obligation to work toward a more inclusive, compassionate, just society. And, that knowledge of history—whether ancient Greece and Rome, early modern Europe, the U.S. during the New Deal, or Brazil under military rule—has much value in informing our present, perhaps if only to reassure us, in painful times, that we have endured and will continue to do so.

We see you: current students, recent graduates, longtime alums embracing

these subjects with such passion, interpreting evidence, gaining knowledge and perspective. Your expressions are unique and inspiring. We see this in your writing, whether an essay exam, research paper, or a poem; in the art you've painted; the music you've written and performed; your oral arguments in

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2019—Volume 43  
Published Annually

Illinois State University  
Department of History  
Campus Box 4420  
Normal, IL 61790-4420

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Patrice Olsen, Keith Pluymers

court; your caring words and nurturing of your own students. And here we celebrate you. You've been willing to expand your horizons, refusing to see your education as a series of boxes to be checked. You've been willing to engage fully in new courses, such as Kyle Ciani's HON 102A17, Exhibiting History Through Women's Eyes: Why It's Important and How to Make It Happen; and Katie Jasper's new HIS 308 special topics course on the use of digital methods in historical research. Ciani's course examined how the histories of issues central to women's lives have been marginalized in museum exhibitions and the efforts in the last decade to bring this history to the forefront of museum agendas, with attention to McLean County and ISU efforts. Jasper was awarded a College of Arts and Sciences Interdisciplinary Grant for her new course; students competed for a scholarship to attend the Medieval Academy of America conference in Philadelphia. Two students, undergraduate Logan Janicki and graduate student Elizabeth Harkert, presented posters based on their work in this course. Janicki presented a poster entitled "Contrast and Continuity in the Reigns of Irene, Visualizing Administrative Change in Byzantium through Theophanes' Chronicle." Harkert presented her work, "Papal and Imperial Travels during the Eleventh Century," drawing on her collaborative project with graduate students Mersi Curtsinger and Eylie Eastman. Seven of these students also presented their work at ISU's 2019 Research Symposium.

You join us on the road, in experiential learning with Jasper and her colleagues to study Italian history and culture. This four-week program,

based in Orvieto, includes excursions to Rome, Florence and Pompeii. Travel to multiple Western European countries in Richard Hughes' Essence of Europe summer study abroad. Focused on urban and public history for 18 days, the study abroad class visits such cities as London, Paris, Munich, and Rome and includes activities related to teaching history through field work and museums. Your dedication to your profession and desire to know your world are clear in your participation in our student teaching program in Eastbourne, England. You show your willingness to immerse yourselves in dramatically different environments in the Peruvian Amazon region, Cuba, Mexico, and Argentina and erase boundaries that had separated you from others. We are grateful, for as you grow intellectually, so do we.

We congratulate those of you who have just completed our graduate program. Our 2018-2019 Helen M. Cavanagh Award recipient (for Best Master's Thesis and Best Master's Degree Student) Emmanuella Amoh will enter a fully funded doctoral program at Purdue University this fall. Guanhua Tan, who was also a Cavanagh Award recipient (Best Master's Degree Student) will begin a fully funded doctoral program in history at the University of Massachusetts-Amherst in the fall. Mersi Curtsinger, part of the team of graduate students whose work was on display in Philadelphia, has accepted a position as a museum educator at the Cleveland History Center in Cleveland. Bradley Jorgensen began WIU's graduate program in museum studies in August 2019.

We would also like to call attention to the commitment to academic excellence of our undergraduates. Cassidy Creighton, who has served as president of the ISU History Club and as a student ambassador, participated in the Library of Congress Junior Fellow Summer Intern Program in Washington, D.C. She worked with library curators and specialists and learn about the wide variety of library work in areas such as cataloguing, research, preservation, digital initiatives, and collection display. At the 2019 Women's and Gender Studies Symposium, Emily Young presented her paper "By Any Means Necessary: An Examination of Abigail Adams's Survival During the American Revolution." Young's study of Adams' commercial activities and her relationship with an often-absent husband won the Rhonda Nicol Memorial Book Award for the Best Undergraduate Paper presented at the symposium.

It is our hope that in our ever-expanding community of scholars we can continue to come together to help make this world a better place. Please stay in touch; while the editorship of this newsletter changes from year to year, our commitment to and our interest in you does not waver. Send us an email: [History@IllinoisState.edu](mailto:History@IllinoisState.edu); letters are always welcome, too (and to the veterans of the spy class, you could use that stash of invisible ink you've been saving)!

# 2018–2019 Student Awards



HELEN M. CAVANAGH AWARD FOR  
BEST MASTER'S DEGREE STUDENT  
Emmanuella Amoh  
Guanhua Tan

HELEN M. CAVANAGH AWARD  
FOR BEST MASTER'S THESIS  
Cheryl Fogler (U.S. History)  
Emmanuella Amoh (Non-U.S. History)

LUCY LUCILE TASHER SENIOR SCHOLARSHIP  
Artur Da Silva  
Collin Marcum  
Noah Tang

GLEYNFA T. RAY AWARD  
Fall 2018  
Joseph Campbell  
Jeffrey Krause  
Spring 2019  
Matthew Gray  
Nicholas Miller  
Caitlin Smith

MARK WYMAN-STEPHANE BOOTH SCHOLARSHIP  
Megan Schmitz

JAMES TODD WILBORN SCHOLARSHIP  
Therese Rapp

SESSIONS HONORS SCHOLARSHIP  
Jennifer West

WILLIAM AND JEANNE HOWARD SCHOLARSHIP  
Austin Collins

HARMON RECRUITMENT SCHOLARSHIP  
Artur Da Silva  
Brandon Virto

DARREL A. SUTTER SCHOLARSHIP  
Mary Lesmann  
Justin Mabrey

DARREL A. SUTTER TEXTBOOK AWARD  
Jennifer Wrzala

DARREL A. SUTTER WRITING AWARDS  
Margaret Kolder  
Carter Collins  
Daniel Hixson

DARREL A. SUTTER STUDENT TEACHER AWARD  
Spring 2018  
Benjamin Gronwold  
Fall 2018  
Haley Henson

LAWRENCE W. MCBRIDE AWARD  
Spring 2018  
Megan Fleri-Somers  
Fall 2018  
Brandon Memmini

HOWARD ROMANEK HISTORY SCHOLARSHIP  
Spring 2018  
Joe Connolly  
Fall 2018  
Jennifer Morgan

## Capitol Forum on America's Future, Bone Student Center, April 2019

By Richard Hughes

Since 2013 the Department of History, together with Illinois Humanities, has hosted *Capitol Forum on America's Future* that brings high school teachers, students, scholars, activists, and history and social science teacher candidates to campus to deliberate issues of American foreign policy in a changing world. The event, funded with a generous

grant from the McCormack Foundation, involves efforts throughout the year that culminate with the forum at ISU. Despite challenges related to the renovation of the Bone Student Center, over 150 high students representing 16 high schools ranging from Bunker Hill High School near Edwardsville to Maine East High School in Park Ridge

attended breakout sessions April 11 that addressed issues such as genocide, immigration, nuclear proliferation, terrorism, climate change and the environment, and student activism related to guns and school violence. Guest presenters this year included Lawrence Leck, attorney and coordinator for the Center for Nonviolence in

Lake County; Rev. Craig Mousin from DePaul University; Ben Silver, an attorney from the Citizen Advocacy Center; Clifford Singer, director of the Program in Arms Control and Domestic and International Security at the University of Illinois; Neil Vander Most, European Union Center at the University of Illinois, and Julie Webber-Collins, Department of Politics and Government, Illinois State University.

A key component of each year's Capitol Forum has been the role of history education students from History 390 who lead small group discussions on specific case studies in American foreign policy based on the Choices curriculum developed at Brown University. Later in the day, our teacher candidates also assist high school

students as they prepare for a whole group simulation that mirrors a formal hearing in front of a U.S. Senate Committee on Foreign Relations. While students in History 390 prepare materials to promote deliberate discussions, they also collaborate with master social studies teachers from throughout the state to obtain invaluable experience about how to promote civic engagement in secondary schools. A number of teachers at Capitol Forum are alumni of our program such as Jason Klok-kenga, Deb Bertschi, Meghan (Petges) McCoy, Tyler VanLandeghem, Kimberly (Burke) Hoss, Brad Christie, and Emma (Wilson) Delgado. This spring, as in previous years, the veteran teachers commented on the success of our teacher candidates in preparing and leading thoughtful discussions about

many of the complex issues facing the nation.

Not surprisingly considering ongoing debates on numerous issues, such as immigration and gun violence, the high school students who participated in this year's Capitol Forum were highly engaged and enthusiastic about deliberating various topics. Their interaction with faculty experts and our History 390 students served as a wonderful model for our program's emerging teacher candidates. Each year ISU Admissions is especially pleased to support Capitol Forum and welcome these talented high school students as their positive experiences on campus help promote the department and the University.

For more information on the Illinois Capitol Forum, go to [ilhumanities.org](http://ilhumanities.org).

## Student Teaching in England

By Monica Noraian and Sara Piotrowski

The history-social sciences education program is the only secondary program on campus that offers the option to complete part of the student teaching semester in England. Since 2013, 20 students from our department have participated in this program. It offers students a unique opportunity to study *and* teach abroad. The University has a long-standing partnership with the Uni-

versity of Brighton in Eastbourne, England, where many students have participated in study abroad experiences, but the ability to do part of one's student teaching makes this relationship extra special. Students complete the first half of their student teaching experience here in Illinois. After teaching stateside and completing edTPA, students hop on a plane to finish the second half of the

semester.

During the spring 2019 semester, Monica Noraian, program director, and Professor Sara Piotrowski, coordinator of student teaching, were afforded the opportunity to attend orientation week with our students. Seniors Noah Tang and Zachary Maslanka student taught at St. Catherine's College, a Church of England Academy. They taught stu-

*Continued on page 6*



Sightseeing in Eastbourne.



Visiting the Abraham Lincoln statue in Parliament Square in London.



Coordinator of Student Teaching Sara Piotrowski with student teachers Noah Tang and Zack Maslanka. St. Catherine's College is a Church of England Academy for students years 7-10.

Continued from page 5

dents who were the equivalent of American grades 8-10 and were welcomed into the school and given high praise by both their university supervisor and school personnel. During orientation week, the students got acclimated with the British Education System, the University of Brighton, the beautiful seaside town of Eastbourne, and their host families. Because the experience begins halfway into the semester, students cannot live in the university's dorm.

Students are matched with a host family that provides meals, directions around town, and helps students feel at home.

Our orientation week continued with a trip to London to see all the city had to offer. From Buckingham Palace and the changing of the guard to the British Museum and Piccadilly Circus, our students made sure to "mind the gap" while traveling on the tube. During the course of their stay, students were given the opportunity to

travel to famous sites and cities around Europe. These experiences include Stonehenge, Bath, London, and Paris. Over the years, students have dubbed this a "once-in-a-lifetime opportunity" and commented how much they grew as educators. The student teaching experience in England is just one of the many unique opportunities available to history-social sciences education majors at ISU.

## History Symposium 2019

On February 8-9, the History Department sponsored a professional development weekend for teachers and students. Partnering with the Illinois Council for the Social Studies, the McLean County Museum of History and the Regional Office of Education #17 expanded the professional network and outreach. Over 350 educators participated in events over the two days.

On Friday ISU hosted the History Symposium with the theme of "Building your History & Social Sciences Tool Kit." Over 50 sessions facilitated by teachers, alumni, and faculty were well attended followed by a luncheon where Kathy Swan, from the University of Kentucky delivered an engaging keynote presentation. Friday evening was Department of History Night at Redbird Arena where students, alumni, and faculty cheered on the ISU women's

basketball team.

Saturday the department co-hosted a professional development workshop for teachers drawing attendees from all over to learn about "Teaching Contested Issues: The Choices Approach." The workshop was sponsored by The Choices Program, Brown University. Materials and teaching strategies on such controversial topics as Immigration, U.S. Policy Debates, and the Civil War were provided along with hands-on activities to help teachers better reach the needs of their students in these challenging times for teachers.

We believe more tools a teacher has access to and the more content and strategy knowledge the more effective they can be in the classroom. Our goal as a program is to remain a partner and support for our students at all points in their career. It is wonderful to see

alumni return as both participants and presenters and serve as mentors to our current students who are just beginning the journey of teaching.

The History Department has hosted the teacher symposium for over 12 years and helps shape how history is learned, interpreted, and taught to thousands of teachers and teacher candidates across the state of Illinois. As the largest producers of history-social sciences teachers in the state and among the top five in the nation, we at ISU are proud of the work we do and the teachers we work with. We look forward to seeing many of you next year at our 2020 History Teacher Symposium. Like us on Facebook, and watch for future department events and the "save the date."

## Faculty Award

Katrin Paehler received her M.A. from the Philipps Universität Marburg, Germany, in 1994 and her Ph.D. from American University in Washington, D.C., in 2004. She joined the History Department in August 2004. Her scholarship focuses on modern Germany; Nazi Germany and the Holocaust; intelligence history; history and memory; and film and history. Her recent scholarship includes her monograph *The Third Reich's Intelligence Services: The*

*Career of Walter Schellenberg*, published by Cambridge University Press in 2017. Her book is the first analytical study of Nazi Germany's political foreign intelligence service, Office VI, and its founder, Walter Schellenberg. Paehler spent years studying declassified documents about Office VI in the United States, Russia, and Germany. The book exposes the origins of Office VI and Schellenberg's rise to power among Nazi intellectuals, including his patron

# You make history too!

We'd love to hear from you. Please send us your news for inclusion in future newsletters:

**History@IllinoisState.edu**



Katrin Paehler, one of three professors to receive the Outstanding College Researcher Award, 2018-2019.

Heinrich Himmler. Although not much intelligence emerged from Office VI, its history offers a different perspective of the demise of the Nazi party. She co-edited (with David M. Messenger) *A Nazi Past. Recasting German Identity in Postwar Europe*, published

by the University of Kentucky Press in 2015. Her recent articles, published in diverse forums, reflect her multifaceted interests and approaches to scholarship. These include “Gender and Espionage: Hildegard Beetz, the Ciano Affairs, and Female Agency,” published in *Gender and the Second World War: Lessons of War*, eds., London, UK: Palgrave Macmillan, 2016; a chapter written with Peter Hayes, “Verhaftungen, Internierungen, Repatriierungen” and “Verhöre in der ‘Mülltonne’” Eckart

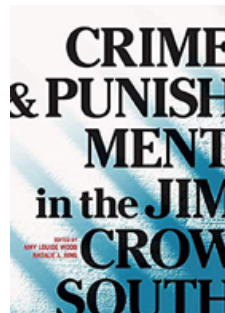
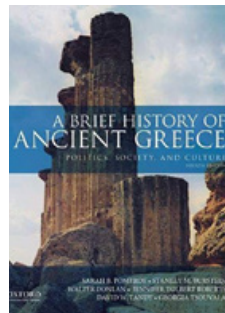
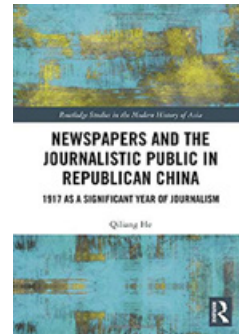
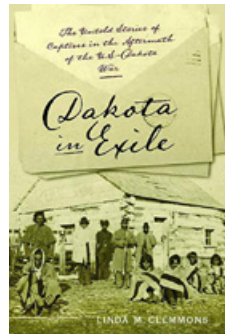
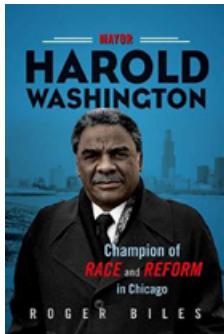
Conze, Norbert Frei, Peter Hayes, and Moshe Zimmermann, *Das Amt und die Vergangenheit: Deutsche Diplomaten im Dritten Reich und in der Bundesrepublik*. Munich: Karl Blessing Verlag, 2010, “Breaking the Post-War Goose-Step: Three Films by Michael Verhoeven,” *Shofar: An Interdisciplinary Journal of Jewish Studies*, 28/4 (Summer 2010); and “Creating an Alternative Foreign Office: A Reassessment of Office VI of the Reich Main Security Office,” *Journal of Intelligence History* 8 (Winter 2008/2009).

## Books Published

The History Department is pleased to announce the following faculty book publications: **Roger Biles**, *Mayor Harold Washington: Champion of Race and Reform in Chicago* (University of Illinois Press, 2019); **Linda Clemmons**, *Dakota in Exile: The Untold Stories of Captives in the Aftermath of the U.S.-Dakota Wars* (University of Iowa

Press, 2019); **Andrew Hartman**, co-edited *American Labyrinth: Intellectual History for Complicated Times* (Cornell University Press, 2019); **Qiliang He**, *Newspapers and the Journalistic Public in Republican China: 1917 as a Significant Year of Journalism* (London: Routledge, 2018); **Issam Nassar**, co-authored *The History of the Palestinians and Their*

*National Movement* (Institute for Palestine Studies in Beirut, 2019); **Georgia Tsouvala**, co-authored *A Brief History of Ancient Greece: Politics, Society, and Culture* (Oxford University Press, 2019); **Amy Wood**, co-edited *Crime and Punishment in the Jim Crow South* (University of Illinois Press, 2019).



## Graduate History Thesis Wins University Award

By Amy Wood

Former graduate student, Erin Barr (M.A. '17) won the University's James L. Fisher Outstanding Thesis Award



for the best master's thesis written in 2017-2018. Her thesis, "Fortune 'Favours the Brave': Irish Women Come to America, 1845-1870"

used the letters of Irish women in the mid-19th century U.S. to understand their experiences as immigrants, as women, and as Catholics. She focused on how they depicted their relationships with their employers, their lives outside of work, and their emotional lives.

Early histories represented Irish immigrant women's lives as entirely circumscribed by oppressive conditions, while more recently, historians have argued that immigration became an avenue for independence and advancement for these women outside the confines of Irish patriarchal culture. Barr, however, concluded that they were often conflicted about their lives in America. Although they relished their newfound autonomy in America, they were still constrained by overbearing employers and were very much still tethered to their families back home and the church. She showed how these women negotiated between their own desires and the expectations of work, church, and family.

"This was a nuanced piece of scholarship. Erin is a sensitive reader of texts, attuned to the complexities of

human motivations and travails," said her thesis advisor, Amy Wood. Another committee member, Linda Clemmons, praised the thesis for its use of "previously unexamined sources," including not only letters, but diaries, newspaper records, sermons, and genealogical records. "Erin attempted to reconstruct each of the women's backgrounds, family histories, and stories to provide context for their letters," wrote Clemmons. Alan Lessoff was the third member of Barr's committee.

In 2017, Barr took second place in the University-wide Three Minute Thesis Competition and, in 2018, she won the departmental award for Best Master's Thesis. She is currently pursuing her doctorate in history at Purdue University, where she is studying 19th-century U.S. social and cultural history.



For more information, visit  
[Homecoming.IllinoisState.edu](http://Homecoming.IllinoisState.edu)



# Student accomplishments

## Student Spotlight: Erin Jessop, 2019-2020 Robert G. Bone Scholar

Erin Jessop, a Presidential Scholar majoring in history and languages, literatures & cultures with a focus on



Left to right, Kyle Ciani, Erin Jessop, Ross Kennedy

French, and minors in anthropology and Native American Studies, has been named a Robert G. Bone Scholar for 2019-20. This highly competitive scholarship recognizes students' academic and co-curricular achievements. Being named a Bone Scholar is the highest award that an Illinois State University undergraduate can receive; it is awarded only to the top 14 juniors each year.

Jessop has devoted herself to pursuing her academic interests at ISU and beyond. In her sophomore year, Jessop tackled the difficult challenge of taking all of her study abroad courses in French rather than attending courses taught in English. She spent the summer of 2018 interning at the Chickasaw Cultural Center in Sulphur, Oklahoma. In addition to these transformative experiences, she has been active on campus, holding leadership positions on the Student Alumni Council, membership in History's Phi Alpha Theta, the French National Honor Society, and InterVarsity Christian Fellowship. Jessop expects to graduate in May 2020 and plans to pursue a museum-based career.

## History Club President to Intern as Library of Congress Junior Fellow

Cassidy Creighton, president of the ISU History Club and a student ambassador, spent the summer of 2019 in Washington D.C., as part of the Library of Congress Junior Fellow Summer Intern Program. Junior fellows work with library curators and specialists and learn about the wide variety of library work and have the opportunity to work with curators cataloging, researching, preserving,

and displaying collections. Their projects include work on the library's digital initiatives and a presentation and display of their most significant discoveries and accomplishments.

## Students Showcase New Work in Digital History

In March 2019, Dr. Kathryn Jasper brought two students, undergraduate Logan Janicki and graduate student Elizabeth Harkert, to the Medieval Academy of America national conference in Philadelphia to present posters based on their work in her new, interdisciplinary course, Digital Methods in Historical Research. Janicki presented a poster entitled "Contrast and Continuity in the Reigns of Irene, 775-811: Visualizing Administrative Change in Byzantium through Theophanes' Chronicle." Harkert presented a poster, "Papal and Imperial Travels during the Eleventh Century" drawing from her collaborative project with graduate students Mersi Curtsinger and Kylie Eastman.

## History Major Wins Women's and Gender Studies Award

At the 2019 Women's and Gender Studies Symposium (the 24th edition of this annual event), Emily Young, presented a paper "By Any Means Necessary: An Examination of Abigail Adams's Survival During the American Revolution." Young's study of Adams' commercial activities and her relationship with an often-absent husband won the Rhonda Nicol Memorial Book Award for the best undergraduate paper presented at the Women's & Gender Studies Symposium.

## Master's Students

Students completing our graduate program have had great success this year. Our 2018-2019 Helen M. Cavanagh Award Winner (Best Master's Thesis and Best Master's Degree Student) Emmanuella Amoh will be entering into a fully funded doctoral program at Purdue University this coming fall. Guanhua Tan, who also won our Helen M. Cavanagh Award (Best Master's Degree Student) will be entering a fully funded doctoral program in history at the University of Massachusetts-Amherst in the fall. Mersi Curtsinger, part of the team of graduate students whose work was on display in Philadelphia, has accepted a position as a Museum Educator at the Cleveland History Center in Cleveland.

## Schroeder Hall Exhibit

*By Stewart Winger*

Along with students Tyler Palak and Tayler Hagerdorn as well as graphics designer Amber Thomas from CTLT and website designers Michael Regilio and Zachary Stella from CAS-IT, Stewart Winger supervised the creation of an interactive wall exhibit now gracing the central waiting

*Continued on page 10*

room area of the History Department on the third floor of Schroeder Hall.

By examining a piece of pulp fiction (literally) from the 1850s, the exhibit explores the possibility of viewing the American Civil War as a gender crisis. This is not to say the Civil War did not have deep economic, political, and constitutional causes. But virtually nobody would argue that the election of 2016 was not impacted by gender and race politics. Could similar dynamics have been at play in the 1850s and 1860s?

To explore this possibility, be sure to scan some of the eleven QR codes on the exhibit itself. (There is a “take home” version of the exhibit at the bottom of each exhibit webpage.) In addition to further images, information and storytelling, each QR web link includes Socratic questions viewers can answer to sharpen their understanding. Viewers can then compare their conclusions with the ways other people reacted.

One major panel concentrates on portrayal of women in the 19th century South, while the other focuses on the construction of masculinity. Each culminates in a contemporary African-American response to these racialized gender constructions. Hopefully the exhibit reveals previously hidden depths of their thinking as well.

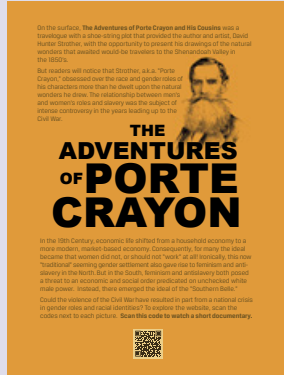
## History Department T-shirts

Studying history provides a much greater depth of understanding our world than simply reading stories of the past. Through studying history, we can improve our understanding of current events and apply that knowledge to better our future. Illinois State University’s Department of History provides students a link between our past, present, and future. Additionally, the History Department’s

courses on politics, economics, religion, and society allow the chance for students to explore the human condition throughout history as well as contemporary times.

This design incorporates thick, geometric lines to represent the significance of history and the power that the knowledge of history provides us. The thick lines also reflect the idea that history is a stable foundation for all subjects of study.

The style of illustration utilized in this design references the 1920s Art Deco style, a movement that



U-High teachers wearing our new t-shirt from left to right are: Bob Fitzgerald, David Harnish, Megan Fleri-Somers, Morgan Schmidt, Kirsten Hany, Ricky King (Intern), and Kate Pole

blended the lines of modernism and antiquity. The representational imagery included in the design is an open book and a globe, representing our endless journey of learning and the worldliness gained through studying history.

The typeface featured in this design is sans serif, which is a simplistic and modern style of type. The text neatly lines up with image to create a rectangular shape, providing balance and stability to the design, much like how studying history provides a stable foundation for all learning.

If you are interested in purchasing a T-shirt stop by the Department of History office, Schroeder 301, or drop us a line at [History@IllinoisState.edu](mailto:History@IllinoisState.edu).



Fine Arts student Alyse Lanier and her t-shirt design

# Faculty accomplishments

**Roger Biles'** new book, *Mayor Harold Washington: Champion of Race and Reform in Chicago*, was published by the University of Illinois Press in May 2019.

**Kyle Ciani** served as acting director of the Women's and Gender Studies Program and continued her service in the History Department as Honors advisor. She gave three media interviews during the 2018-2019 academic year. She appeared on WTVP's show *At Issue* in the program "Women in the Workplace." The video can be viewed at: [wtvp.org/at-issue](http://wtvp.org/at-issue); scroll down for episode S30 E30. She was interviewed by TV-10 regarding the Senate Judicial Committee hearing testimony of Christine Blasey Ford and Judge Brett Kavanaugh. This broadcast can be viewed at: [isu10news.com](http://isu10news.com). She also gave an interview regarding mentorship with Scott Jordan (Psychology Department) on WGLT, [wgl.org](http://wgl.org). She continues her consulting work with the National Women's History Museum.

**Linda Clemmons** had two articles published: "'The young folks [want] to go in and see the Indians': Davenport Citizens, Protestant Missionaries, and Dakota Prisoners of War, 1863-1866," in *The Annals of Iowa* 77:2 (Spring 2018): 121-150; and "'[B]usiness is business even if we are Christians': The Politics of Grant's Peace Policy in Dakota Territory, 1870-1880," in Jon K. Lauck, John E. Miller, and Paula M. Nelson, eds., *The Plains Political Tradition: Essays on South Dakota Political Culture*, vol. 3 (South Dakota Historical Society Press, 2018). Her book, *Dakota in Exile: The Untold Stories of Captives in the Aftermath of the U.S.-Dakota Wars* was published by the University of Iowa Press in April 2019.

**Tony Crubaugh** gave a paper, "Geography Lessons for Peasants: The Nationalist Project of *La Feuille villa-geoise*," at the European Studies Conference in Omaha. He also organized and was a presenter on a panel, "Property, Modernity, and the French Revolution: A Roundtable Discussion of Rafe Blaufarb's *The Great Demarcation*" at the Consortium on the Revolutionary Era Conference in Atlanta.

**Doug Cutter** gave a presentation on the Mexican Revolution at Normal Community High in the AP Spanish Class taught by Julie Horton.

**Andrew Hartman's** co-edited book, *American Labyrinth: Intellectual History for Complicated Times*, has been published by Cornell University Press. In addition to co-editing the book, he also co-authored the introduction and wrote one of the chapters: "Against the Liberal Tradition: An Intellectual History of the American Left." In April 2019 the University of Chicago Press published the second edition of his book *A War for the Soul of America: A History of the Culture Wars* with his new epilogue. During

the spring 2019 semester he conducted research at the British Library in London, supported by the Fulbright-British Library Eccles Centre Award.

**Qiliang He's** book, *Newspapers and the Journalistic Public in Republican China: 1917 as a Significant Year of Journalism* (London: Routledge, 2018), has been published. This was the second of his books to be published in 2018.

**Richard Hughes** presented five papers: "Encountering History and History Instruction: Perceptions of Emerging Teachers," SoTL Commons Conference: A Conference of Teaching and Learning, Savannah Georgia; "Taking Your Teaching to the Next Level: The Instructional Skills Workshop (ISW)," University-Wide Teaching and Learning Symposium, Illinois State University; with Lendol Calder, Peter Burkholder and Natalie Mendoza, "Three Enduring Problems for History Teachers (And How to Manage Them)," American Historical Association Annual Conference, Chicago; "Historians, Teachers, and Students: Impact of Students' Perceptions on Classroom Instruction and Curriculum Development," Research on Teaching and Learning Conference, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada; and with Monica Noraian and Sara Piotrowski, "So Many Standards: Infusing NCSS & edTPA into Teacher Preparation," Annual Conference of the National Council for Social Studies, Chicago. He also gave the Keynote Address at the ISU Campus Chapter of the National Society of Collegiate Scholars Annual Ceremony: "Now that You're Home from the Hospital: What is Success in Higher Education?" His recent publications include "New Guidelines for SoTL in History: A Discipline Considers the SoTL Turn?" *The SoTL Advocate*, Blog Entry, February 2019: [illinois-stateuniversitysotl.wordpress.com](http://illinois-stateuniversitysotl.wordpress.com) and with Sarah Drake Brown, "'It's Not Something We Thought About': Teachers' Perception of Historiography and Narratives," *Social Studies Research and Practice*, 13: 1 (2018): 16-30.

**Katie Jasper** presented her paper "Remembering Romualdian Reforms in the Vita Romualdi" at the 25th International Medieval Congress, University of Leeds, Leeds, UK. With Lea Cline and Erin Mikulec she presented "A Learning Culture through Learning Culture: Campus Wide Outcomes of Participating in Study Abroad" at the International Society for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning held in University of Bergen, Norway; they also presented their paper "Assessing Student Learning Outcomes of Participation in Study Abroad Programs at ISU," at the CTLT Teaching and Learning Symposium. In addition, she gave an invited talk to the Moses Montefiore Temple entitled "From Religion to Race: The Medieval Origins of Anti-Semitism." Her recent publications include "Peter Damian and the Communication of Reform," *The Catholic Historical Review* 104:2 (2018): 197-222, and

*Continued on page 12*

“Peter Damian and the Language of Friendship: The Polysemy of Caritas,” in *Quasi Labor Intus: Ambiguity in the Latin Language*, edited by Michael Fontaine, Charles McNamara, and William Short and published by the Paidéia Institute for Humanistic Study (2018).

**Janice Jayes** was an invited guest for a day of workshops at the Council on Foreign Relations in New York City and will present a paper on Oman’s use of soft diplomacy in foreign relations at the conference “Understanding Oman” at the University of Illinois, Center for South Asian and Middle East Studies.

**Larissa Kennedy, Stewart Winger, and Daniel Breyer** (Department of Philosophy) were awarded an OISP grant to sponsor the Spring 2019 International Seminar Series, on the topic of “Fostering World Religious Literacy.”

**Ross Kennedy’s** article, “The United States and Britain’s Victory,” was published in Peter Liddle, ed., *Britain and Victory in the Great War* (Barnsley, England: Pen & Sword Books, 2018). He had a book review published by *H-Diplo Roundtable Review*; the other participants of the roundtable were John Milton Cooper, Adriane Lentz-Smith, and John A. Thompson. For the article text, see [tiny.cc/Roundtable-XX-4](http://tiny.cc/Roundtable-XX-4). His article “Strategic Calculations in Woodrow Wilson’s Neutrality Policy, 1914-1917,” was published in *The Journal of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era* 17:4, 608-18. He delivered two public lectures at the “History Alive and Armistice Day Celebration” at the State Historical Museum of Iowa; both talks dealt with the end of World War I and U.S. relations with Europe in the 1920s. He was interviewed by Anne Gearan, White House correspondent of the *The Washington Post*, for a story on President Trump’s handling of the Khashoggi murder: [washingtonpost.com](http://washingtonpost.com). He also presented a paper at the colloquium *The Peace Treaties (1918-1923): Making Peace Against Each Other*, hosted by Sorbonne Université in Paris; the paper was titled “The Greatest Hypocrite in History: Woodrow Wilson, U.S. Policy toward German Democracy, and the De-legitimation of the Versailles Treaty.”

**Issam Nassar’s** chapter “The Wasif Jawharriyeh Collection: Illustrating Jerusalem during the First Half of the 20th Century” was published by Brill in the edited book *Ordinary Jerusalem 1840-1940: Opening New Archives, Revisiting a Global City* (Angelos Dalachanis and Vincent Lemire, editors). It can be accessed at: [brill.com/view/book/edcoll](http://brill.com/view/book/edcoll). His co-authored text book, *The History of the Palestinians and Their National Movement*, was published in Arabic by the Institute for Palestine Studies in Beirut.


**Katrin Paehler** delivered a paper “The Space Between: Hildegard Beetz, Espionage, and Gender, 1944-1949” at The Second World War Research Group—North America Workshop, at Mississippi State University and chaired a panel at the German Studies Association conference. She also presented her work “The ‘Gestapo Handbook’ for the Invasion of Great Britain,” at the Society for Military History Conference. She was invited to participate in the Silbermann Faculty Seminar, “Displacement, Migration, and the Holocaust,” at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in June 2019.

**Keith Pluymers** presented a paper, “Cow trials and climate change: understanding the 1641 Uprising,” at the North American Conference on British Studies annual meeting in Providence, Rhode Island. He gave a workshop on two papers at the University of Chicago’s Environmental Humanities Workshop [voices.uchicago.edu/environmentalstudies/calendar-of-meetings](http://voices.uchicago.edu/environmentalstudies/calendar-of-meetings); his presentation was titled “Abundance, Scarcity, and Vulnerability in the Early Modern English Atlantic.”

**John Reda** presented his work “Becoming the Land of Lincoln” at an Illinois Bicentennial event at Rock Springs Nature Center at the Rock Springs Conservation Area in Decatur.

**Touré Reed** was quoted by Briahna Joy Gray, in her article “Beware the Race Reductionist,” in *The Intercept*, August 26, 2018. Gray is senior politics editor with *Intercept*. For the article text see: [theintercept.com](http://theintercept.com). His essay, “The Philadelphia Negro and W.E.B. DuBois,” was published in the Wiley-Blackwell *Encyclopedia of Urban and Regional Studies* (edited by Anthony M. Orum). His article “Black Exceptionalism and the Militant Capitulation to Economic Inequality” was published in *New Politics*, VOL 17, No. 2 (Winter 2019). The article is included in a special symposium on Cedric G. Johnson’s award winning “The Panthers Can’t Save Us Now: Anti-Policing Struggles and the Limits of Black Power.” He emceed the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Dinner featuring Michael Eric Dyson’s keynote address on January 25, 2019. He also gave a talk, “The Conservative Implications of Liberal Race Reductionism” at IWU, derived from his recently submitted book manuscript *Why Liberals Separate Race from Class: The Conservative Implications of Race Reductionism*. He was recently elected to the Labor and Working Class History Association’s executive board.

**Georgia Tsouvala** presented different versions of her research on women’s athletics in the Hellenistic and Roman periods at Macquarie University in Sydney, Australia, and at the University of Canterbury in Christchurch,



New Zealand. Additional presentations include “The Susa Marriages and Gifts in Alexander’s Campaign” at the *Money and the Military in Antiquity* conference at the University of Auckland in Auckland, New Zealand, and her new work on women athletes in the Graeco-Roman world at the Netherlands Institute in Athens. With L.L. Brice she presented “Agrippina and Company: Elite Women at the Castra,” at the 120th Annual Meeting of the Archaeological Institute of America in San Diego. Her co-authored (with Sarah B. Pomeroy, et al.) textbook, *A Brief History of Ancient Greece: Politics, Society, and Culture*, 4th edition, was published in 2019 by Oxford University Press. She was also recently elected to the Council of General Education Committee and the Graduate Council Membership and Development Committee.

**Christina Varga-Harris** published two book reviews, one on Mark Meerovich, “Gradostroitel’naia Politika v SSSR, 1917-1929” in the *Slavic Review*, and one on Andy Wilimott, “Living the Revolution: Urban Communes and Soviet Socialism, 1917-1932,” in the *English Historical Review*.

**Stewart Winger** presented “The Role of Government in Lincoln’s America: Lincoln’s internal improvements Politics Reconsidered,” for a panel titled “New Perspectives on the Illinois Legislature in the 19th Century” at the 2018 Conference on Illinois History in Springfield.

**Amy Wood** gave two invited talks and participated in other events as part of Chattanooga’s remembrance of the lynching of Ed Johnson in 1906. She gave a public talk at UT-Chattanooga on “The Lynching of Ed Johnson in Historical Perspective.” She delivered another public talk at Sewanee, University of the South, on “The Legacy of Lynching in American Life.” She also participated in a panel discussion after a screening of a documentary on the lynching, a live radio interview at a local NPR station, and presentations to classes/students at UT-Chattanooga and at Sewanee. She attended the Southern Historical Association Meeting in Birmingham and delivered a paper titled, “Prison Reform and the Limits of State Power in Jim Crow South Carolina.” Her recent publications include an invited article, “Rituals of White Supremacy in the Jim Crow South,” in the *American Journal of Economics and Sociology*, vol 77, no 3-4, pgs 757-788. She was asked to provide an historical overview of Southern lynching practices for a special double issue on racism and racial violence. Her new book, *Crime and Punishment in the Jim Crow South* was recently published by the University of Illinois Press. She co-edited it, wrote the introduction, and contributed a chapter, titled, “Cole Blease’s Pardoning Pen: State Power and Penal Reform in South Carolina.”

# Alumni accomplishments



Dana Starkey (left) and Fred Walk

## NCHS Alumni Foundation Awards

Congratulations to NCHS teacher Mr. Dana Starkey and former NCHS teacher Fred Walk. They were awarded the Excellence in Education and Service to NCHS awards, respectively. Both were recognized at the NCHS Alumni Foundation banquet at Illinois Wesleyan. We are certainly proud of both of them. Walk was one of Starkey's history teachers at NCHS.

## Mayor Appoints Simon Rodriguez as Aurora's New Youth Manager

The Department is delighted to share a press release from the city of Aurora on the new appointment of our grad, Simon Rodriguez '13. We would like to share this press release about this extraordinary young scholar with you: Mayor Richard C. Irvin has appointed award-winning teacher Simon Rodriguez as the new youth services manager for the City of Aurora.

Born and raised in Aurora, Rodriguez is a graduate of East Aurora High School and Illinois State University where he earned a Bachelor of Arts in history and social sciences education, with secondary and bilingual education teaching certifications. For the past four years, he has taught bilingual social studies and led co-curricular activities at East Aurora High School.

In his new role, Rodriguez will manage the city's youth leadership development programs, implement new initiatives to help prepare youth for lifelong success, evaluate the city's outsourced youth programs, and develop collaborations with area stakeholders that benefit all youth in Aurora.

"This position is key to rebuilding Aurora's youth division, and certainly Simon Rodriguez has the proven results to do just that," Irvin said. "We've watched him work in the schools and in the community for a number of years. His ideas are innovative, and his passion is unmatched. Simon is a role model for our youth and an example of what dedication, education, and a commitment to excellence can produce."

Following in the footsteps of his mentor and longtime educator Arlene Hawks, Rodriguez made an impact on the lives of his students in and out of the classroom. In addition to his teaching duties, Rodriguez was an advisor for the school's drama club where he directed musicals and prepared competition-level productions.

In 2017, Rodriguez made headlines when he led students on a study abroad trip to Cuba. Rodriguez brought the trip idea to the East Aurora School District 131 board for approval months after the U.S. and Cuba officially restored diplomatic relations in 2015. He and his students spent two years raising tens of thousands of dollars and completing the required paperwork and necessary procedures for the unprecedented trip, a first for high school students in Illinois.

He plans to use his classroom, co-curricular, and community development experiences to help develop a world-class youth services division.

"I am extremely excited to bring my passion for youth development to a citywide level," said Rodriguez who began his new role during the summer. "As a proud product of Aurora and as an educator, it is an honor to be given the task of expanding services for our youth and fostering partnerships that will help to empower them in the present and the future."

A former program counselor for Communities in Schools of Aurora, Rodriguez previously organized summer school programs, worked with parents, and supervised summer staff. Earlier in his career, he also served as a summer camp counselor for the City of Aurora working alongside and learning from former city youth director Fred Rodgers, the namesake of the Fred Rodgers Magnet Academy in Aurora.

Rodriguez served in the United States Army after high school and currently serves as a mentor for youth in Aurora, a board member on the Aurora Hispanic Heritage Advisory Board, director of communications for the Illinois State University Latino Alumni Network, and is an elected precinct committeeman for Aurora's 3rd Ward, 4th Precinct.

In 2012, he was named a Mary Wyman Scholar at Illinois State University. Two years later, he earned the 2014 Phenomenal Man of the Year Award in Aurora. Earlier this year, he was featured on the WGN Morning News as he provided back-to-school advice for parents in the greater Chicago area.

Rodriguez spent the first days at his new job touring schools with Mayor Irvin, distributing school supplies, and meeting with stakeholders.

"There's going to be even more amazing things happening for our Aurora youth in the very near future," said the new youth services manager."

[www.aurora-chamber.com/blog](http://www.aurora-chamber.com/blog)



## The State Farm Storyteller

By Linda Spencer

From small-town guy to aspiring history teacher to archeologist to claims representative to historian ... lots of adventures have led Buck Farley '01 to his dream job.

Farley started out at Illinois State University as a history-social sciences education major. However, right before it was time to student teach, he decided he didn't really want to teach high school students. He changed directions, added an anthropology degree to his history degree and upon graduating got a job with a cultural resource management firm ("a fancy name for archeologist"), and found himself based in New Orleans and working at dig sites in Texas, Wisconsin, and Georgia. After that contract work ended, he went to work for the Illinois Transportation Archaeological Research Program at the University of Illinois. When he left that job and got hired in the claims department call center at State Farm, he figured his days as a historian and anthropologist were over. Then he discovered that corporations had historians, introduced himself to long-time State Farm historian, Dan Barringer, and shadowed Barringer in his job. While Farley considered that this would be his perfect job, he did not expect it to ever become a reality. It was a lengthy process, given the desired qualifications and the number of candidates, but Farley found himself the new State Farm Insurance Company historian.

As one of the largest companies in the U.S., nearly 95 years old, with nearly 70,000 employees, and nearly 19,000 agents State Farm has a lot of history. Farley believes less than 5 percent of the papers, photographs, and film in its collection is digitalized, meaning that many days he finds himself in the basement going through papers dating back to the company's beginning in 1922. He is often asked to fact-check executive speeches and provide historical interpretations of industry standards.

In addition to research, his days are filled with leading tours of the downtown building and corporate headquarters for new employees and visiting employees, and on occasion, even the public. He also runs internal historical programs on the company, often on special topics. In honor of Black History Month, he presented the history of African-American State Farm employees. Caribel Washington, the third African-American woman hired at the company, was a secretary for an executive and actively involved in the local community. She was

recently honored posthumously with her name on a company park.

Another part of his job is doing research for legacy family members. Often employees will share information about a family member and former employee,

and Farley will help them confirm or locate information. Recently an employee mentioned that a family member may have been one of the State Farm "skaters." Farley was able to confirm this and share information about how, in 1939, in an effort to improve efficiency of in-house mail delivery, mail carriers were given roller skates. While the measure did improve efficiency, it also created problems like employees devising obstacle courses and tripping skaters; the program was halted in 1944.

In addition to all these duties there is always a new request or opportunity. For example, State Farm—one of the top 10 business mail users in the United States—worked with the Smithsonian Institution to develop an online exhibit with the National Postal Museum about business mail use.

Farley says of people with the kind of job he has: "We are the storytellers of our culture and who we are as a people. The way we tell the story helps people understand their past." Fittingly, oral history was his capstone project as a student at ISU, and now he is completing an oral history of former chairman and CEO Edward B. Rust Jr. for internal use, the first such CEO history for the company. Farley also collects oral histories of other employees and associates.

Thinking back on his time at ISU, Farley appreciates the research skills he learned in the Department of History and now uses every day on the job. He also has fond memories of classes taken with David Chesebrough, Donald Davis, Lou Perez, Sharon MacDonald, and David MacDonald. His advice to current students is: "Don't narrow your sights to teaching—there is so much you can do with a history degree."





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