

# History Graduate Student Association

## HGSA NEWSLETTER

August 25, 2014

*Fall 2014*

### Message from the President

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Summer flies by pretty fast, doesn't it? Hopefully this summer has been productive in terms of research, writing, reading, and most importantly, relaxing.

Get ready to ramp up the pace again! With the start of the semester, we will acquaint ourselves with new faces, reacquaint with former colleagues, and begin the frenzied pace of another school year. As a harbinger of that transition, it is my honor as the president of HGSA to welcome all of you to the 2014-2015 year. HGSA is here to inform graduate students of changes to the program and to represent student concerns to the department and the university. All history graduate students enrolled in the department are part of HGSA, and we welcome each of you to attend the meetings and get to know the officers. By availing yourself of these resources, you can better insure that your opinion is heard. Ultimately, these conversations help our department to run smoothly, so please direct questions or concerns about program changes, requirements, deadlines and other matters to HGSA representatives.

HGSA will hold regular meetings throughout the semester. We have scheduled the first meeting for Wednesday, August 27th from 10:00 to 11:00 am in Wilson 333. We hope see you there!

Greg Atkins  
HGSA President, 2013-2014

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### HGSA Vacancy

The position of the PhD Student Representative on the HGSA Agenda Committee is vacant. The officer in this position presents issues of concern among PhD students at committee meetings. In addition, the committee has discussed adding other duties to this position such as reminders for upcoming funding opportunities and conferences. This position requires a **minimum of one year** of enrollment in the doctorate program. If you are interested, please contact an officer for more information.

### Graduate Student Happenings

Our graduate students have been busy over the summer. Here are three of the highlights:

- Congratulations to Dr. Laura Arata (PhD, Summer 2014) on her newly-minted doctorate and landing a tenure-track position at Oklahoma State University.
- Best wishes also to Dr. Phil Travis (PhD, Spring 2014) on receiving his doctorate and taking a one-year appointment at Eastern Oregon University.
- Kudos to Mandy Townsley (PhD Candidate) for presenting her paper, "Surreptitious Remembrance: The Great War and the Anglo-Irish War, 1919-1921" at Cambridge University in May.

*"History is relentless—once made, it cannot be unmade."*

—Walter J. McConnell

# **MEET THE 2014—2015 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

## **Greg Atkins—Graduate Studies Representative**

**PhD Student working with Dr. Matthew Sutton**

**Office: Wilson 317**

**Email: [gregory.atkins@email.wsu.edu](mailto:gregory.atkins@email.wsu.edu)**



Greg

I am a third-year PhD student studying with Dr. Matthew Sutton. My research focuses on how Colorado Springs carved out a national reputation over the last 150 years. Initially touted as a refined resort in the West, boosters of Colorado Springs later emphasized health, tourism, the defense industry, and evangelical Christianity to promote the city. Throughout these iterations, boosters and religious leaders worked closely. As these campaigns built upon and constrained each other, they also fed and set important precedents for what became the "Sunbelt." It was a pleasure to be elected the Graduate Studies Representative, and I look forward to serving as a bridge between graduate students and the faculty to further strengthen the department overall. In another life before the all-consuming responsibilities of graduate school, I hiked, biked, and remodeled cars and houses. Given the right amount of peer pressure and favorable social conditions, my friends and colleagues can still lure me back into these pastimes.

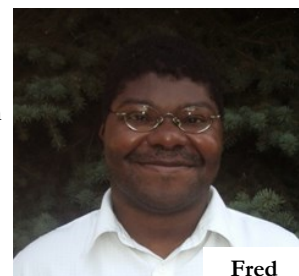
## **Fred Hardyway—Faculty Representative**

**PhD Student working with Dr. Candice Goucher**

**Office: Wilson 344**

**Email: [fredrick.hardyway@email.wsu.edu](mailto:fredrick.hardyway@email.wsu.edu)**

I am a second year doctoral student working under the supervision of Dr. Goucher of the Vancouver Campus as well as being the HGSA faculty representative. Originally, I hail from the flat state of Kansas, and I am trying to adjust to the hills! While a world historian, my primary field and focus lay in the iron/military technology of West Africa, and thus far centered around the Nations and peoples of Nigeria and Benin. I am interested in the transition of West African nations from bow and arrow technology to firearm technology, which I am examining through the medium of the blacksmith- primarily through their creation/symbiosis with warriors and hunters in the development of arrowheads and later firearms. A secondary area of my study examines the roles gender plays in military technology in the aforementioned region.



Fred

## **Joni Ford—Colloquium Representative**

**MA Student working with Dr. Jennifer Thigpen**

**office: Wilson 330**

**Email: [joni.ford@email.wsu.edu](mailto:joni.ford@email.wsu.edu)**



Joni

I am a second-year Master's student working with Dr. Jennifer Thigpen. My research focuses on missionary women in the Pacific Northwest in the mid-nineteenth century. Specifically I study how the "traditional" gender roles of the white Christian middle class influenced the gendered development of the American West. As colloquium representative, I look forward to creating opportunities to talk with and learn from professors as well as our peers on many different facets of academia, from creating a CV to publishing books. In my free time, I love cooking, watching too much tv, and spending time with my husband and our dog, Raymee.

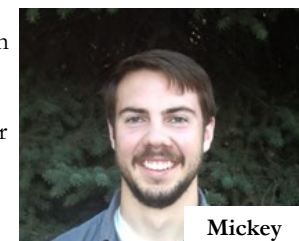
## **Mickey Dennis—MA Students' Representative**

**MA Student working with Dr. Orlan Svingen**

**office: Wilson 307**

**email: [michael.dennis@email.wsu.edu](mailto:michael.dennis@email.wsu.edu)**

I am a second year public history Master's student studying with Dr. Orlan Svingen. My research is focused on Mennonite Conscientious Objectors during World War I in Kansas and how their ethno-religious differences affected their treatment at the hands of other Kansans, the military, and the government. I'm looking forward to being the M.A. Student Representative and helping other Master's students with their potential questions or concerns. I grew up in Carbondale, Illinois, before moving to St. Louis to attend Webster University where I graduated with a B.A. in History in 2013. Soccer is my favorite hobby. I have developed a love for the game after playing for 16 years including 4 in college. I support/watch Arsenal when I can find the time (although it's often not relaxing!).



Mickey

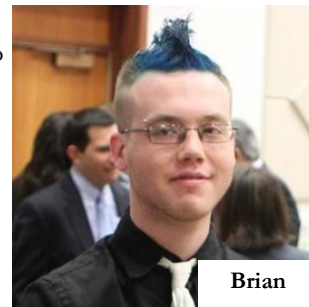
# **MEET THE 2014—2015 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

## **Brian Stack—GPSA Representative**

**MA Student working with Dr. Peter Boag**

**office: Wilson 330 email: [brian.stack@email.wsu.edu](mailto:brian.stack@email.wsu.edu)**

I am a second-year MA student studying with Dr. Peter Boag. My research interests are focused around the construction and regulation of sexuality in the Pacific Northwest. My thesis explores the social, legal, and political implications of the Washington State sodomy law at the turn of the twentieth century. I intended to narrow the scope of this research in future projects by looking at the relationship between bestiality and the construction of modern sexual categories. I am excited to represent the History Department in the Graduate and Professional Students Association (GPSA) by advocating for issues important to the department and promoting the humanities. Before pursuing a history degree I taught philosophy, worked in technical support, and studied judo and karate. Although free time in the program is limited it is always nice to talk about ideas, nerd out, or just burn off some steam by working out with new people.



Brian

## **Sarah Schraeder—GPSA Representative**

**MA Student working with Dr. Ray Sun**

**office: Wilson 330 email: [sarah.schraeder@email.wsu.edu](mailto:sarah.schraeder@email.wsu.edu)**



Sarah

I am a second-year M.A. student working with Dr. Raymond Sun. My research fields include Modern Germany, Modern Europe, memory and world history. I received my B.A. in history with a minor in political science from California State University Stanislaus in Turlock, California in 2012. My current research focuses on the memorialization of a set of smaller concentration camps developed under the Nazi regime beginning in 1933 called the Emslandlager (camps in the Emsland region located in north-western Germany). I am specifically interested in the process of memorialization in this region and how it compares to larger memorialization projects in Germany before and after unification. I am looking forward to representing the History Department Graduate Students this year as one of the two GPSA Representatives. Outside of my studies, I enjoy biking, running, swimming and watching soccer.

## **Hans Petter-Grav—Vancouver Representative**

**PhD Candidate working with Dr. Laurie Mercier**

**office: VANC email: [hans-petter.grav@email.wsu.edu](mailto:hans-petter.grav@email.wsu.edu)**

Hans-Petter Grav is a Doctoral Candidate working with Dr. Laurie Mercier. His research interests include race, ethnicity, and migration, particularly in the U.S. context and from the second half of the nineteenth century through the first half of the twentieth. His dissertation project is tentatively entitled *Vesterheim in Red, White, and Blue: Becoming Norwegian-American in the Pacific Northwest*. This project builds upon his MA-paper from Montana State University, "The First and the Sixth Pearl Harbor: Norwegian-American Identity at the Onset of World War II." He published the paper "When the Beast Saved the Day and Yellow Jack Got Lost: The Story of General Butler and the Yellow Fever Epidemic That Never Took Place" in the spring 2012 issue of the *Southern Historian*, and presented the paper "August Werner: An Ambassador of Norwegian Culture and a Model U.S. Citizen?" at the 2014 Pacific Northwest History Conference. During the 2013/2014 academic year, he was a Fellow of the American-Scandinavian Foundation and the Norway House Foundation, and in the summer of 2014, he taught HIST 314 American Roots: Immigration, Migration, and Ethnic Identity on the Vancouver campus.



Hans

*History is a guide to navigation in perilous times. History is who we are and why we are the way we are.*

—David C. McCullough

# Miscellaneous Notices

## Changes in HGSA

Changes are coming to HGSA. Over the summer, the incoming HGSA officers have presented several new ideas and we plan to take action on them. We want to hear your ideas and concerns, so please attend the meetings. Emails will go out on the graduate student list serve, and the president will post flyers in the hallway. Here are a few changes we have discussed:

- Streamlining the election process
- Adding new duties to the MA and PhD Rep positions
- Petitioning the GPSA for funding

Please show up and give your input!

## Department Colloquium

Five or six times a semester, Joni Ford, the HGSA Colloquium Representative, will host a colloquium for graduate research presentations, professional development, and roundtable discussions. We encourage both students and faculty to contact Joni for an opportunity to present at a department colloquium.

Last year, there were more requests than colloquia, so make sure to get your requests in early!



## Language Exams

All doctoral students must pass a language exam before the end of their third semester. If you wish to take an exam:

- Download the Language Exam form <http://libarts.wsu.edu/history/graduate-studies/language.asp>
- Talk with your adviser.
- Arrange a time and place to take the exam with the appropriate language professor
- Pick out material from the library in the language and leave it with the language professor
- Pay the \$90 charge at French Admin
- Take the exam

## New Graduate Adviser

A hearty welcome to Dr. Steven Kale who will fill in as Graduate Studies Director while Dr.

Matthew Sutton is teaching abroad. The Graduate Studies Director heads the Graduate Studies Committee, which sets policies that most affect graduate students. As such, the Graduate Studies Director and HGSA work closely to discuss changes to the graduate program, clarify policies, and keep each other informed.

We look forward to working with you this year, Dr. Kale!



## In-State Residency

All new students to the program: Be sure to visit all the lovely government offices around Pullman to begin the process of establishing residency.

- Complete the Responsible Research Training
- Make sure to complete the Residency Checklist at <http://residency.wsu.edu>

Students who are beginning their second year and thought they were done with residency:

- You're not.
- You must send in all the paperwork that came back from those lovely government offices.

## Department Picnic

The Pullman Lentil Festival is on August 22; therefore, the Department of History's annual picnic is scheduled for **AUGUST 29 not August 22**. The shelter at Kruegel Park is reserved for August 29 from 2:30-6:30 p.m. (Friday). Everyone is welcome. A sign-up sheet is in the main office. Please sign up to let us know how many in your party will attend, and what you'd like to bring to share. The Department provides meat, beverages, plates, and cutlery.

