

HGSA NEWSLETTER

FALL 2015 ISSUE 21



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

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome (back) to WSU!

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 2015-2016 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.

With a new department chair in Dr. Kale, and other coming changes, it is vital that HGSA continues to have input on the issues impacting us as graduate students.

Ultimately, 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 26th from 10:00 to 11:00 am in Wilson 333. We hope see you there!

Brian Stack
2015-2016 HGSA President

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History is relentless—once made, it cannot be unmade.” —Walter J. McConnell

HGSA 2015-2016 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



Brian Stack—Graduate Studies Representative

PhD Student working with Dr. Peter Boag
Office: Wilson 317; Email: brian.stack@wsu.edu

I am a first-year PhD student working with Dr. Peter Boag. I completed my MA here in the spring, but this is my first semester at WSU without a mohawk. My research interests include the history of sexuality, animal studies, and adult correctional institutes. I am currently working on an article examining the intersection of social fears concerning sexuality and the Monroe Reformatory. I grew up in the Northeast but I have made a new home in the Pacific Northwest. When not buried in work I enjoy watching hockey and Netflix, playing Civilization, and generally nerding out.

Fred Hardyway—Faculty Representative

PhD Student working with Dr. Candice Goucher
Office: Wilson 344 Email: fredrick.hardyway@wsu.edu

I am a third year doctoral student working under the supervision of Dr. Candice Goucher who is on the Vancouver Campus. I am the HGSA faculty representative and attend all Faculty meetings in order to be the voice for the history Graduate students to the Faculty. While a world historian, my primary field and focus lay in the iron/military technology of West Africa, centered around the blacksmiths of the Maghreb and Central and Western Sub-Sahara who controlled societal utility of hunting and military technologies. I am particularly interested in the transition of West African nations from bow and arrow technology to firearm technology. A secondary area of my study examines the roles gender plays in honor in hunting and militaristic expressions and the changes these roles underwent with interactions with Muslim and later European traders, missionaries and Colonist.

HGSA Vacancy

The MA Student Representative position on the HGSA Agenda Committee is vacant. The officer in this position presents issues of concern among MA students at committee meetings. And collects and disseminate information about upcoming funding opportunities and conferences. If you are interested, contact an officer for more information.



Reneé Torres—Colloquium Representative

MA Student working with Dr. Jennifer Thigpen
Office: Wilson 306-A Email: renee.torres@wsu.edu

I am a second-year Master's student working with Dr. Jennifer Thigpen. My research focuses on American missionary women's public writings during the 1930s. I am interested in how these women describe and discuss foreign peoples, especially foreign women, and the changing nature of the foreign mission enterprise in relation to American foreign policy and the international political climate. As colloquium representative, I look forward to organizing events that will benefit my fellow students' desires for professional and academic development as well as understanding the university system. The colloquium agenda is not set in stone, so if you have ideas, please let me know! In my free time I enjoy reading comic books, anything Harry Potter, trying new foods, and traveling.

Daniel Fogt—PhD Representative

PhD Student working with Dr. Jesse Spohnholz
Office: Wilson 344 Email: daniel.fogt@wsu.edu

I am a second year PhD student and I hold degrees from Wheaton College and the University of Idaho. My research centers on the marriage practices of Dutch Reformed refugees in early modern Europe, though I have broader interests in world history and other manifestations of religious exile.



Calen Rau—RCI Representative

MA Student working with Dr. Raymond Sun
Office: Wilson 306-B Email: calen.rau@wsu.edu



I am a second-year Master's student working with Dr. Raymond Sun. My research is focused on the ways in which the traumatic events of the twentieth-century have been commemorated and remembered through monuments, museums, and memorials in the city of Budapest, Hungary. In particular, I am interested in how politicians in the post-communist Hungarian government have attempted to create a cohesive national identity and how these efforts have undermined, both intentionally and unintentionally, the memory of Hungarian participation in acts of mass violence, ethnic cleansing, and even genocide. Additionally, my work pays close attention to the Hungarian radical right and groups like the Arrow Cross (*Nyilas*) Party of the 1930s and 1940s and the contemporary Movement for a Better Hungary (*Jobbik*). I am a native of the greater Los Angeles area and received my B.A. in History and Religious Study from Cal State Fullerton in 2014. It was during my tenure at CSUF that I studied in Budapest for the first time, as part of a study abroad program. As RCI representative, I am excited to be a part of the development of the WSU's Roots of Contemporary Issues course, one of the most dynamic and innovative that our university has to offer. I hope help provide insights into how we as teaching assistants can better be utilized to improve the overall RCI experience for all involved.

Jason Hogstad—GPSA Representative

MA Student working with Dr. Peter Boag
Office: Wilson Email: jason.hogstad@wsu.edu



I am a second year MA student in the Department of History currently working on my thesis "Splitting Hares: Ritual Rabbit Slaughter and Homesteader Identity in Eastern Oregon, 1900-1920" in which I explore Oregonians' peculiar, and violent, relationship with the environment in the arid portions of the state. I have also worked as a history educator at the High Desert Museum and with the WSU Athletics Department as a tutor.

Carey McCormack—Vancouver Representative

PhD Student working with Dr. Candice Goucher
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As a teaching assistant, I assist students in general research in world history for RCI 105. As a historian, my research includes the development of colonial botany and the interaction between science, gender, race, and class in nineteenth century British Empire. My master's thesis analyzed nineteenth century British literary representations of colonial Burma in gendered and racial categories. Similarly, my PhD dissertation explores the development and expansion of colonial botany during the long nineteenth century. Particularly, this study includes the role of indigenous guides and cultivators as well as the gendered professionalization of botany as a British male endeavor.

HGSA 2016 Interdisciplinary Conference

Last year, HGSA worked with graduate students from other departments to host our first interdisciplinary conference titled "Tolerance, Discrimination, and (In)Equality." The conference was well attended and offered students here and elsewhere in the Pacific Northwest a chance to show off their current research. The second conference is set for March 6th, 2016. We are looking for graduate students interested in volunteering to sit on the organizing, programming, and reading committees or helping out in other ways. Please contact Brian Stack at brian.stack@wsu.edu if you are interested in helping with the conference.

Important Information

Department Colloquia

Five or six times a semester, René Torres, 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 René for an opportunity to present at a department colloquium. Last year, there were more requests than colloquia to 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:

- Review the information at <http://libarts.wsu.edu/history/graduate-studies/language.asp>
- Talk with your adviser and complete the Translation Exam Form.
- 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

Student Happenings!

- Jennifer Binczewski, History PhD candidate, presented a paper titled "The Widow's House: Shifting Strategies of Post-Reformation Catholics in England" at the annual Catholic Record Society Conference in Cambridge, England. Jennifer received a research grant from the society last year and she accepted their invitation to present her research at the conference.
- Greg Atkins, PhD candidate, presented "The Colorado Springs Chamber of Commerce and the Modern Military Garrison, 1940 to 1950" on Saturday, June 6 at the Pikes Peak Regional History Symposium. The symposium is sponsored by the Pikes Peak Library District. Eleven others delivered presentations, and over 200 people attended.

New Student Trainings and 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 21-22; therefore the Department of History's annual picnic is scheduled for **AUGUST 28**. The shelter at Kruegel Park is reserved for August 29 from 3:00-6:00p.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.