

From the Coordinator....



I'm delighted to introduce our second issue of *Grad Update*—a newsletter aimed at updating and bringing together several generations of EIU Graduate history alumni. Our program continues to thrive despite ongoing economic difficulties that pose particular challenges to public education. I can also report that while quite a few of our recent graduates still seek permanent work (and we're doing all we can for them), some of our people are finding jobs despite the rough times. Richland Community College had the great foresight to hire Laura Mondt (class of 2012) as an educational librarian. Also Chady Hosin (also class of 2012) will soon journey to Japan where he will teach in Hyogo prefecture. Congratulations to both. Ideally, our alumni circle might also function as a network to provide advice and jobs contacts. If you'd be interested in helping, just let me know.

At the Midwest Conference on British Studies!

This past Fall, five graduate students—Crystal Abbey, Melissa Greco, Ben Ill, Patrick Vonesh and Paul Shakeshaft—were invited to attend and assist in administrative duties at the 57th Annual Midwest Conference on British Studies and Midwestern American Society for Eighteenth Century Studies Annual Conference held in Terre Haute, Indiana. Dr. Isaac Land, professor of history at Indiana State University and conference organizer, effusively praised the students. “On a personal note,” he wrote “I greatly enjoyed my conversations with EIU graduate students whose positive attitude was refreshing. They were excited about historiography and interpretive challenges which they clearly saw as worth the effort. Clearly you have a very successful Master’s program.” Thanks to Dr. Newton Key for arranging this opportunity for our students.



Ben Ill and Patrick Vonesh in Terre Haute for the 2011 MWCBS



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Indiana State-EIU—UI-Springfield Graduate History Symposium

Since 2008, faculty and graduate students from EIU and neighboring Indiana State have gotten together for an annual symposium. More recently faculty and graduate students at University of Illinois-Springfield began participating. This UI-Springfield played host. EIU students Benjamin Joyner and Crystal Abbey both gave well received papers. In 2013, Eastern Illinois University will again play host to the annual symposium, tentatively scheduled for March 23, 2013.

[History] may be called,
 more generally still, the
 Message, verbal or
 written, which all
 Mankind delivers to all
 men.”
 -Thomas Carlyle

Eva Pfanzelter Sausgruber: “Global Ambassador”

Eva Pfanzelter Sausgruber, EIU M.A., 1995 and currently university Assistant and Project Coordinator at the Department of Contemporary History at the University of Innsbruck, Innsbruck, Austria, has been awarded the honor of EIU “Global Ambassador” by the Graduate School. Dr. Pfanzelter will be in Charleston on September 21, 2012 to receive her award honoring “alumni who exemplify Eastern Illinois University’s definition of global citizen.” She will deliver an informal lecture that day to faculty and students at 1pm in the Booth Library Conference Room (Booth 4440). All are invited.



Jobs in Decatur, Japan...and Montana

Beginning in December, Chady Hosin, who completed his M.A. this summer, will be teaching English with a company called Amity in Kakogawa, Hyogo prefecture in Japan. He will be a Native English Teacher for younger students, primarily elementary school aged, but some 6-12 graders, as well. Also Laura Mondt (class of 2012) accepted a position as Coordinator of Instructional Services- Learning Resources Center at Richland Community College in Decatur. Congratulations to both. And this late breaking news....Ben Joyner (class of 2012) has been hired by the Farm Service Agency (a sub agency of the USDA) as a program technician. He’s off to Big Sky Country (Montana) where the oil boom has made housing a scarce commodity. In fact Ben will be living in a boarding house (an historical artifact that is apparently making a comeback!).

Class Notes....

- **Greg Aydt** (1999) academic advisor at Eastern Illinois University was named as one of the “20 under 40” by *Mattoon-Charleston Gazette-Journal* in recognition of his contribution to the community.
- **Jeff Corrigan** (2007) continues his fine work as Oral Historian at the State Historical Society of Missouri. Last February, Jeff returned to Charleston to conduct a lively on session professional opportunities in the public history world for our Historical Administration class.
- **Wade Ellett** (2006), like a homing pigeon, has returned to graduate studies at Eastern—as a member of the Historical Administration class of 2012.
- **Barry Hudek** (2001) is a doctoral candidate in English Literature at the University of Mississippi in Oxford, MS.
- **Michael Kleen** (2008) has published “Peace Democrats, Loyalty Leagues and the Charleston Riot of 1864” *Journal of Illinois State Historical Society*, Vol 105, vo 1, (Spring 2012).
- **Greg Decker** (1997) has been invited by the history department at Georgetown College, KY, has to help fill in for a sabbatical Fall 2012. He will be teaching HIS 337: History of Modern England. He is “thrilled that I’ll be putting my degree to its intended use.... I’m [still] a faculty librarian and also teach a pretty challenging freshman liberal arts/humanities course (part of our gen-ed Foundations program) every semester.”

Let Us Know What You’re Doing!

Keep us informed of developments in your life. We would be delighted to include your news in our “class notes” section and on our alumni webpage. Also if you know the whereabouts of someone not receiving graduate update, let us know, and we’ll add them to our mailing list.

- Also, you can now follow us on Facebook



Jeff Corrigan, '07, Oral Historian for the State Historical Society of Missouri and Jennifer (Lancaster) Bridges, '06, a high school teacher in Neoga, IL get caught up during Jeff's recent trip to the area.

Meet the New Graduate Students....

- **Nathan Allison**, originally from upstate New York, Nathan allowed the road of life to take him to Denver, Colorado where he earned his undergraduate degree from Metropolitan State College of Denver. After graduating, this old salty dog kicked up the dust and danced the Bear Dance with Miss Ute Mountain when one hot summer night down in the old west, opportunity knocked again. This time the ivory towers of EIU beckoned. Currently Nathan is a European history major in the graduate program.
- **Katherine Payne**, from Lake Zurich, IL, Katie did her undergraduate work at Eastern Illinois University. She studies Early Modern European history and when not reading, she enjoys watching movies and shopping.
- **Benjamin Ill**, from Arlington Heights, IL, graduated from EIU in the Spring of 2011. He is currently focusing on British Colonial and American Revolutionary history. He used to spend his free time reading, but Grad school has sucked the fun out of the written word.
- **Ljiljana Milojevic**, from Villa Park IL. Graduated from Elmhurst College. Her interest is in Medieval history of the Balkans. In her spare time, she enjoys drawing cartoons, and watching movies.
- **Philip Mohr** is originally from Maryland Heights, Missouri (a suburb of St. Louis). He attended Westminster College in Fulton, Missouri, for a B.A. in history and recently completed the M.A. in historical administration here at EIU. He is now pursuing academic study of twentieth century United States history. Otherwise, he enjoys watching Cardinals baseball, playing tennis, and cycling.
- **Patrick Vonesh**, raised in the suburbs of Chicago, Patrick came to Eastern Illinois University in the year 2007, and continues to pursue a MA in history. In terms of a main focus in history, he is interested in 20th century British history, in particular, the formation of a teenage identity after the Second World War (eg. Ted, Mod, Punk, Rudeboy). Having amassed a collection of vinyl numbering in the hundreds, it has always been his passion to try and include elements of music in nearly every paper written for history classes. After completing the program, it is his intention to acquire a job involving higher criticism of the modern music industry.

And Congratulations to our Graduates...

The History graduate program graduated a record number of students in 2012. Hats off to them all: Koromor Porri (Wehrle), Chady Hosin (Lee), Laura Mondt (Curry), Ian Nelk (Smith), Crystal Abbey (Key), Benjamin Joyner (Coit), Nicole Seraphita (Coit), Herman Ruiz (Smith), Bryant Davis (Wehrle), Jason Miller (Hubbard), Jeffery Drake (Wehrle), Thomas Kiely (Wehrle), and Jeana Callahan (Hubbard).



Celebrating at the History Department's Phi Alpha Theta Dinner (l-r) Ed Wehrle, Paul Shakeshaft, Ljiljana Milojevic, Tom Kiely, Crystal Abbey, Laura Mondt, and Koromor Porri