

From the Coordinator....

For the past nine years it has been my pleasure to serve as graduate coordinator for the History Department. During that time, our program became the first on campus to earn the designation of “First Choice”—denoting an outstanding program that meets or exceeds all goals set by our Graduate School. Nearly 100 students have graduated our small program during the past decade. Those students are out there doing some very exciting things. Whether or not they are in the historical field, I have utterly



On Quemoy Island, August 2014

no doubt they are using the skills, mindset, and habits they developed as graduate students in our program. I’m proud to say that our current crop of students—many of whom are profiled in this newsletter—have continued that tradition. It has been my privilege to have helped students through the program, watched them grow, and set them off on a new course in life. Next semester, Dr. Sace Elder will take over as graduate coordinator. I know she’ll do a fine job, and I know she’ll look back on the experience as a highlight of her career at Eastern Illinois University!

Congratulations to Our Program Graduates!

Cheers to students who successfully completed their master’s degrees this year. They include:

Aaron Psujek, who worked with Professor Brian Mann, wrote a thesis entitled “Anglo-American Relations between the 1953 Coup and the 1956 Suez Crisis.”

Noah Sangster, who worked with Dr. Roger Beck, is now living in beautiful Portland, Oregon!

Emily Scarbrough, mentored by Dr. Lynne Curry, wrote a thesis entitled “‘Fine Dignity, Picturesque Beauty, and Serious Purpose:’ The Reorientation of Suffrage Media in the Twentieth Century.”

Jon Burkhardt, who worked with Dr. Newton Key, actually began his graduate work over a decade ago, but family and work got in the way until now!

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Digitizing the Past: Preserving and Sharing the History of Jasper County’s “Greatest Generation”

The scrapbooks had been sitting at the Newton, Illinois, Public Library for some time. While they offered a window into another era, they were almost too delicate to open. That’s why a unique partnership between the EIU History graduate program and the Newton Library was formed. It set in motion a project that would make the scrapbooks and the remarkable newspaper clippings they contained available forever—and not just for library patrons, but interested researchers anywhere.

During World War II, a Newton resident with a sense of history clipped thousands of newspaper articles about Jasper County men serving overseas and assiduously pasted them into several scrapbooks. Eventually the scrapbooks found their way into the hands of the Newton Library.

Seeking some way to preserve and share the several scrapbooks (containing the yellowing delicate clippings), library board members approached Lori Henderson, director of EIU’s Integrative Policy Institute and a graduate of the History Department’s Historical Administration program. Lori, in turn, contacted Ed Wehrle with the idea of scanning and digitizing the collection. With funding from the Newton Library Board, Tyler Custer, a History graduate student with some background in the digital humanities, undertook the delicate task of scanning the clippings into searchable pdfs then routing the files through google custom search. The result is “With the Colors,” a remarkable searchable collection telling the story of the hundreds of Jasper County young men who served their country under trying circumstances during WWII—40 of whom gave their lives. The collection is hosted on EIU’s server and can be accessed by anyone anywhere. Be sure to check out Tyler’s outstanding work at: <https://castle.eiu.edu/newtoncollection/>



“THE WISDOM OF
ONE ERA IS
THE FOOLISHNESS OF
ANOTHER.”

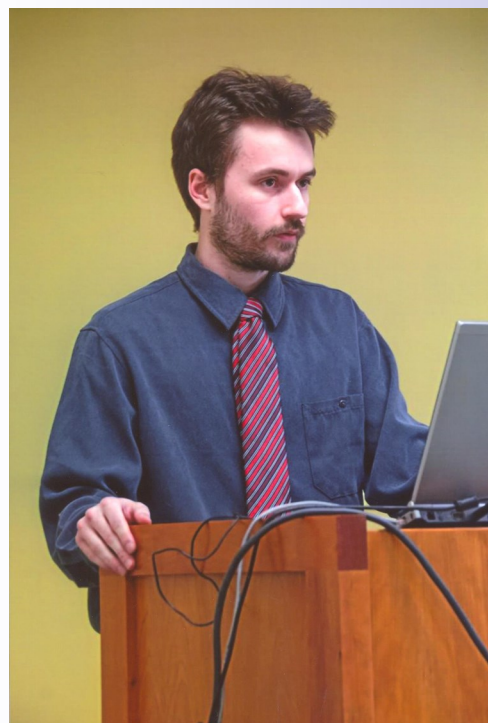
— [LOUIS R. HARLAN](#)

Class Notes....

- **Josh Fulton** (2007) is tenure-track professor of history at Moraine Valley Community College in Palos Hills. In November, his former teachers, Edmund Wehrle and Newton Key were guest lecturers for two of his classes at Moraine. **Matthew Berry** (also MA in History, 2007), an analyst and modeler at the Argonne National Laboratory, joined the mini-reunion. Later **Melissa Greco** (MA 2010), who also teaches at Moraine, stopped by to say hello after teaching her African History class.
- **Amanda Terrell** (2006), recently graduated from the Indiana University McKinney School of Law in Indianapolis. She passed the bar exam in February and is now clerking for the Chief Justice of Indiana (Chief Justice Loretta Rush).
- On April 7, 2015, **Jeff Corrigan** (2006), the state oral historian for Missouri, gave a workshop entitled "Introduction to Oral History and the Environment" at the Annual Meeting of the Organization of American Historians.
- **Ron Keller (1991)** continues as history professor at Lincoln College where he is also director and curator of the Lincoln Heritage Museum. Next year, Southern Illinois University press will publish Ron's book entitled *Abraham Lincoln as Illinois Legislator*.
- **Dan Tomar** (2012) is now living in Denver where he recently accepted a position at the Omar D. Blair Charter School as a sixth grade language arts teacher.

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.



Graduate student Michael Ludwinski (above) discusses the close relations between U.S. President John F. Kennedy and British Prime Minister Harold MacMillian at Booth Library. Michael, alongside Adam Mohebbi, and Kim Jones delivered papers as part of a Booth Library program entitled "The 1960s: Revolutionary Decade." The grad student papers were part of a panel on "Global Diplomacy in the 1960s." The papers all derived from Edmund Wehrle's Spring 2014 seminar on American International Relations.

Meet the New Graduate Students....

- Andrea Morgan, a resident of Saint Joseph, IL, is a graduate of EIU's history/social science teacher certification program. Andrea did her student teaching in Ireland prior to beginning grad school. She is a recent hire at Westville High School teaching upper level history courses. Andrea hopes to use her master's degree to teach dual credit courses and make herself a better secondary education history teacher.
- Tyler Calvert is from Marshall, IL, and completed his BA in history across the border at Indiana State University.
- James Bishop, from Springfield, is known for his collection of collegiate sweatshirts; he is studying the early modern world.
- Daniel Swindel, also from Springfield, is focusing her studies on 19th Century America; during the 2014-2015 academic year, Dani worked as the graduate student coordinator of the Humanities Center.
- Dana Jarrard hails from Freeport, IL, and is studying Modern Germany with Dr. Sace Elder; she will spend part of the summer 2015 touring Germany as part of a study abroad program.
- Curtiss Cline teaches history at Marshall High School and is a graduate of Illinois State University.
- Daniel Eppel, graduate of University of Illinois-Springfield, is from Freeburg, IL. Mr. Eppel worked this year as an editorial assistant for the *Journal of Illinois History*.
- Mark Stanford, an EIU graduate and Air Force veteran, will be focusing on the early national period, under the guidance of Dr. Charles Foy.

And Congratulations to Kimberley Jones...

Graduate student Kimberley Jones has been chosen as a Mellon Scholar at the Library Company of Philadelphia. She will take part in a week long internship program this summer that will "include research talks, CV-building, an introduction to the African Americana holdings at the Library Company and at area repositories, training in the creation of competitive fellowship and graduate program applications, and mentoring and networking with African American history scholars." This program is an important component in the Mellon Foundation and the Library Company's efforts to increase minority participation in the field of Early American History. In 2014, Kim was awarded a Yale University Walpole Library's Fellowship.



Our Award-winning Kim Jones!