

History

The mission of the History Faculty is to promote advanced research and undergraduate teaching in a broad range of fields, including American, ancient, East and South Asian, European, Latin America, Middle Eastern, and Russian history. The faculty includes joint appointments in Urban Studies and in Science, Technology, and Society, and it participates in the joint doctoral program in History, Anthropology, and Science, Technology, and Society (HASTS).

T. T. and Wei Fong Chao professor of Asian civilizations Peter C. Perdue published “Where Do Incorrect Political Ideas Come From? Writing the History of the Qing Empire and the Chinese Nation” in *The Teleology of the Modern Nation-State: Japan and China* and “Identifying China’s North West: For Nation and Empire” in *Locating China: Space, Place, and Popular Culture*. Professor Robert Fogelson published *Bourgeois Nightmares: Suburbia, 1870-1930* (Yale University Press). William R. Kenan, Jr. professor of history Pauline Maier published an essay, “Take this or Nothing,” on the Antifederalists as founders in *Forum*. Assistant professor Christopher Capozzola published “Jacob Lawrence: Historian” in *Rethinking History*, “A Rough Draft: Selective Service in the Women’s History Classroom” in *Georgetown Law Journal*, and “Life and Limb: Pain, Capitalism, and Citizenship in Industrializing America” in *Georgetown Law Journal*.

Professor Maier spoke on the ratification of the US Constitution at the University of Virginia and presented a lecture on the Declaration of Independence for teachers in Westfield, Massachusetts. Class of 1947 career development associate professor Meg Jacobs spoke on “The Energy Crisis of the 1970s Revisited” at Harvard Business School and “Project Independence: The Energy Crisis and the Rise of a Free Market Ideology” at the American Historical Association. Professor Capozzola spoke on “Uncle Sam Wants You: Rights and Obligations in America’s First World War” at Harvard Law School, “Mary Pickford Saves (for) America: Political Obligation and the Liberty Loan in the First World War” at the Library of Congress, and “German Enemy Aliens in the First World War and the Making of Modern American Citizenship” at the Massachusetts Historical Society. Leverett and William Cutten professor of the history of technology Merritt Roe Smith spoke on “Technology in the Civil War Era” at the University of Massachusetts. MacVicar Faculty Fellow and associate professor Anne McCants spoke on “Exotic Goods, Popular Consumption, and the Standard of Living: Thinking about Globalization in the Early Modern World” at Yale University and “Global Consumers in Unexpected Places: Working Class Consumption of Tea and Coffee in 18th-Century Amsterdam” at the University of Utrecht. Associate professor Elizabeth Wood spoke on “Power and Performance in Putin’s Russia: Centralization in Historical Perspective” at the Conference on States and Societies in Transition, Durham, UK. Arthur J. Conner professor of history Harriet Ritvo spoke on “Nations, Nationals, and Environmental History” at the American Society for Environmental History and “Animals on the Edge” at the University of Texas. Assistant professor David Ciarlo presented a paper on “Packaging Empire” at the Empire, Borderlands, and Border Cultures Conference at California State University.

Professor Jacobs's book *Pocketbook Politics: Economy Citizenship in Twentieth-Century America* was awarded the Ellis Hawley Prize by the Organization of American Historians and she received the d'Arbeloff Award for Excellence in Education. Professor McCants received a grant from the Class of '51 Fund for Excellence in Education, the Class of '55 Fund for Excellence in Teaching, the Class of '72 Fund for Educational Innovation, and the Class of '99 Fund for Excellence in Student Learning. Professor Capozzola received the Lister Brothers career development professorship. Ford International professor of history John Dower's project *Visualizing Cultures* has been selected by the National Endowment for the Humanities as "one of the best online resources for education in the humanities." Professor Perdue's book *China Marches West: the Qing Conquest of Central Eurasia* was named an Outstanding New Book by *Foreign Affairs*.

Kenan Sahin dean Philip S. Khoury has been appointed as the Ford International professor of history and associate provost, effective July 1, 2006. Assistant professor Haimanti Roy began her first year of teaching. The subjects Professor Roy taught included 21H.571 The Making of Modern South Asia, 21H.573 Religion and Politics in Modern South Asia, 21H.575J Women in South Asia From 1800 to the Present, and 21H.577J Re-casting the Past: Film, Fiction and History in India, 1905-2005. Professors McCants and Wood were promoted to the rank of full professors: Professor McCants on the basis of her research on early modern Dutch history, and Professor Wood on the basis of her research in the field of Soviet history. Professor Jacobs was promoted to associate professor with tenure on the basis of her research on American economy and society in the 20th century. Professor Capozzola was promoted to associate professor without tenure on the basis of his research on the political and cultural history of the United States in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Professor Ritvo stepped down as section head. Professor McCants will become the new section head, effective July 1.

Professors Maier, Perdue, Ritvo, and Jacobs participated in the joint doctoral program in History, Anthropology, and Science, Technology, and Society by teaching graduate seminars and reading courses, setting general examinations, and supervising dissertations. Professors Dower and Ritvo and Dean Khoury advised Harvard graduate students in Japanese, British, and Middle Eastern history, respectively. Dean Khoury joined the board of overseers of Koç University in Istanbul and became a trustee of the Boston Museum of Fine Arts.

History enrollments totaled 432 in the fall semester and 449 in the spring. Two history majors graduated in June 2006. Benjamin J. Kochan's senior project, supervised by associate professor Jeff Ravel, was entitled "Following the Flag: Baseball and National Identity in Foreign Lands"; and Miranda Knutson's senior project, supervised by Professor McCants, was entitled "The Refractive Properties of Warped Glass: Understanding Chivalric Principles in Shakespeare's *Henry V*."

Three undergraduates submitted winning essays in the annual Bruce Mazlish History Prize: John Bergin, "Fort Peck Dam: America's Symbol of Hope in a Barren West"; Brian Chase, "The Soda Pop War: How the No-Strike Pledge Hurt the CIO"; Katonio Butler, "Defining Affirmative Action: Black Economic Self-Determination vs. Jewish Neoconservatism."

Professor Maier is serving as chair of the School of Humanities, Arts, and Social Science dean search committee. Professors Ritvo, Perdue, McCants, Ravel, Jacobs, and Capozzola supervised Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program projects. Professor Perdue served on the Edgerton award committee. Professor Jacobs served on the Humanities, Arts, and Social Science oversight committee and the HASTS graduate curriculum committee. Professors Ciarlo, Jacobs, and Roy served as chairs of the Bruce Mazlish History Prize committee. Assistant professor William Broadhead and lecturer Steven Ostrow ran a new IAP travel program, IAP in Ancient Italy. Professor McCants served as president of MIT's Phi Beta Kappa chapter and was director of graduate studies in the HASTS program. Professor Wood served as chair of the Women's Studies program. Professor Capozzola ran the freshman pre-orientation program, *Discover History in Boston*.

The Sahin Lecture Series for 2005–2006 included the following presentations: Amanda Vickery on “His and Hers: Gender, Consumption, and Household Accounting in 18th-Century England”; Kathleen Canning on “The Gender of Citizenship: Bodies, Subjects, and Publics in Weimar Germany”; Ellen Fitzpatrick on “The Widening Historical Crevasse: Contemporary America and Conceptions of the Past”; Carol Anderson on “Bourgeois Radicals: the NAACP and the Colonial Liberation Struggles during the Early Cold War”; and Bryna Goodman on “Appealing to the Public: Newspaper Presentation and Adjudication of Emotion in 1920s Shanghai.” Dean Khoury directed the Bustani Middle East Seminar. Professor Ritvo was co-organizer of “Modern Times, Rural Places,” a seminar series on environmental and agricultural history.

Harriet Ritvo
Section Head
Arthur J. Conner Professor of History

More information about the History Faculty can be found online at <http://web.mit.edu/history/www/>.