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Introduction

Welcome to the thirty-fifth edition of *Perspectives: A Journal of Historical Inquiry*, the CSULA History Department's peer-reviewed academic journal. Under the able advisement of Dr. Birte Pfleger, and in conjunction with the Eta Xi chapter of Phi Alpha Theta History Honor Society, this journal was written, arranged, and edited entirely by students. Since 1973, *Perspectives* has provided the CSULA community with a discursive forum that has been both accessible and rigorous, as the following articles will confirm.

Matthew Coleman opens with his award-winning exploration of the causal relationship between ancient Gaul's elite consumer society and the meteoric rise of its market-driven manufacturing centers. Laura Dean examines how women in eighteenth- and nineteenth-century America forged a popular cuisine that reflected the British origins, unique values, and cultural diversity of their burgeoning nation. Next, Lucy Tambara accounts for social and political reforms that followed French women's activism from the Revolution to the end of the *Belle Époque*. In the fourth article, Kelly Rios discusses how Native American groups directly influenced public policy through the successful execution of gesture politics and radical activism. Finally, Jonathan Saxon documents the environmental, social, and personal costs associated with U.S. cross-border manufacturing in Mexico.

As the product of an upper-division history course in journal editing, Volume thirty-five's development was driven by the intense collaboration of a diverse and creative group of students. Guided by a tradition of historical inquiry, the editors are confident in this volume's contribution to scholarly dialogue within the CSULA community and beyond.

PHI ALPHA THETA
ETA XI CHAPTER
California State University, Los Angeles

Our National Mission Statement: We are a professional society whose mission is to promote the study of history through the encouragement of research, good teaching, publication, and the exchange of learning and ideas among historians. We seek to bring students, teachers, and writers of history together for intellectual and social exchanges, which promote and assist historical research and publication by our members in a variety of ways.

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- A subscription to *The Historian*, the official journal of Phi Alpha Theta, and the opportunity to submit articles for publication in the journal.

- Opportunities to meet fellow students, distinguished scholars, and future colleagues at events ranging from local meetings to national conferences.

For more information, please stop by the Phi Alpha Theta lounge (King Hall, C4032) or contact the Phi Alpha Theta advisors: Professors Birte Pfleger (bpfege@calstatela.edu) or Scott Wells (swells2@calstatela.edu).

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Please join us at the Annual Dinner Banquet
co-sponsored by the
Department of History
and
Eta Xi Chapter of Phi Alpha Theta

Sunday June 8, 2008
6 - 9 pm
Golden Eagle Ballroom

CONTRIBUTORS

Matthew Coleman is a graduate student in History at CSULA, specializing in Ancient History. He earned his B.A. in History at UC Irvine. Most of his research has been on the Gauls and their interaction with the rest of the ancient world, especially Rome and Greece. He is interested in Gaulish society as well as Medieval and East Asian History. He plans to work toward a Ph. D. in History and to become a university professor.

Laura Dean is a graduate student in History at CSULA. Her main focus is domestic history, studying the cultural and societal impact of food and cookery. She has a large collection of American cookbooks from the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, which she has studied to track the changes in American foodways. She is currently researching changes in English foodways in the latter half of the fourteenth century brought about by economic, climactic, and social changes in the rising urban merchant and middle classes. Born in Los Angeles, California, she earned her B.A. in History in June 2007 from CSULA after working for twenty years in corporate America.

Lucy K. Tambara is double majoring in both History and English and is graduating in the fall of 2008. She plans to attend CSULA for her Master's degree in History and to go on for a Ph.D. in Modern European History with an emphasis on World History. Her career goal is to become a researcher and professor in French History, focusing on French imperialism in nineteenth-century Africa. As an undergraduate student she has concentrated on French and British feminism in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. As an English major, she has focused on nineteenth-century novels and the emergence of Realism in Britain.

Kelly Rios is an undergraduate student majoring in History at CSULA while also pursuing a minor in English. After working as a business analyst in the telecommunications industry for ten years, she felt it was time for a career change. Her academic interests include political and social movements as well as cultural and American history. Upon completing her B.A. she plans to enter graduate school in addition to pursuing a career in editing and publishing. When not studying the history of the world, she enjoys a variety of activities such as traveling, running, camping, and cooking.

Jonathan Saxon is a graduate student in History at CSULA. Saxon's graduate studies focus on modern Latin America, the Middle East and Islam, and Modern U.S. History. While earning his B.A. in History at CSU Northridge, Saxon focused on African History. His special projects at CSULA include conducting research on the U.S.–Mexico border, as well as participating in a collaborative oral history project, the Baseball Reliquary, entitled *Eyes for Talent: The Art & Science of Baseball Scouting*. Saxon is the 2008 recipient of the Eugene Fingerhut Award for outstanding graduate students in the History Department at CSULA. He has published two articles for *Tape Op: The Creative Music Recording Magazine*. A Los Angeles native, Saxon is also a teacher and musician

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