Spring 2020 Newsletter

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

A MESSAGE FROM THE DEPARTMENT

In these last few months the world has experienced the kind of disruption that we typically only learn about in class. The department has been impressed by the dedication and resilience that our students have shown in the face of this crisis. The faculty will continue to provide the best education it can while meeting the needs of students facing unprecedented circumstances. At times like these, it's particularly important to celebrate the achievements of our community.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS



Congratulations to the latest recipients of the Phi Alpha Theta scholarship awards:

Michael Kimmel Award: Alexander Berry and Abigail Calderon
Eugene Fingerhut Award: Josthin Amado Hernandez
David Woessner Award: Jewelyn Mims

(PAT Award Winners for 2020: l-r: Abigail Calderon, Jewelyn Mims, Josthin Amado Hernandez. Not pictured: Alexander Berry)

Congratulations to the new class of inductees to the Eta Xi Chapter of Phi Alpha Theta!

Karina Aldana
Josthin Amado Hernandez
Wendy Avelar
Eric Barnett
Dagoberto Bobadilla Jr.
Alexia Bravo
Dezarae Calvillo
Julio Cervantes
LeeRoy Collins III
Skyler Diaz
Chris Fennessy
Gilbert Gutierrez
Trenton Hart
Fernando Jauregui
Andrea Mansoorian
Rebecca Galvan
Nathen Loya
Aaron Lugo
Miyako Martinez
Jewelyn Mims
Maria Nolasco
Candido Pinto Jr.
Diego Salazar
Jerman Vasquez
Alicia Vera

28th Annual Student Research Symposium

Abigail Calderon, Josthin Amado, Rebecca Galvan, Fernando Jauregui and Jewelyn Mims presented their research at the 28th Annual Student

Symposium on Research, Scholarchip, and Creative Activities held on February 28, 2020 at the Golden Eagle Ballroom.

Abigail Calderon and Rebecca Galvan both received Outstanding Presentation Awards in their respective panels.

Even by the high standards of the department, an unusually large number of graduates were accepted into Ph.D. programs this year. **Josthin Amado Hernandez** is weighing offers from University of Chicago at Illinois, Indiana University, UC Riverside, and UC San Diego. **Nancy Escalante** will be attending Yale University's American Studies Program. **Alejandro Guardado** is weighing numerous offers from Duke, Emory, and Notre Dame universities. **Alex Jreisat** was accepted at the University of Michigan.**Tara Kendall** was accepted at UC Santa Barbara and**Michael Duchesne** will be attending Stanford University. Congratulations to all!

ALUMNI NEWS

Alumni Profile: Stefan Ogbac (B.A. 2011, M.A. 2014)



So what are you doing these days?

I've been an associate online editor at Motor Trend for over five years now and my work has evolved so many times already. Originally I was hired to research and update the website's buying guide pages and write new vehicle reviews. For the last two years I've been responsible for covering Hyundai Motor Group (Hyundai, Kia, and Genesis), and the small Japanese automakers (Mazda and Subaru). As a result, I also wear the reporter hat these days because of my contributions to the daily news output and interviewing key automotive executives. The latter is one of the most fulfilling parts of job because it allows me to get the inside scoop on future products and the direction an automaker is headed.

Outside of work, you'll find me up on the mountains (usually Angeles Crest Highway) on a relaxing drive, going to car meets looking for that one oddball/unique vehicle that's highly significant to the auto industry, or in the kitchen cooking up Filipino food you can't find in Filipino restaurants in the U.S.

I didn't know history graduates went into journalism! How are you using what you learned in history at Motor Trend?

I didn't either! That is until I realized all of the research and writing I've been doing during my undergraduate and graduate programs are easily applicable to the work journalists do. Since future products are one of my main interests, good research skills have come in handy in creating compelling stories and finding out what automakers don't want you to know. All of the writing I did during my time in the program helped especially when reviewing subpar vehicles, because I can get my criticisms across without sounding overly negative. The public history class I took was crucial since it forced me to interview people, something I've been doing for the last three years now in my profession.

Favorite memory of the program?

Taking Professor Chatterjee's classes three quarters in a row. I came to Cal State LA to learn and she was one of the professors that would push you to take one topic from a previous class and expand on it in two other research-focused seminars. I did the same thing again in my graduate program with Professor Chatterjee and Professor Yao twice in a row each. That's on top of taking Professor Wild a few times and Professor Endy, too. Yes, I got pushed hard but I came out of it a flexible writer who can handle even the most unfamiliar topics.

Carrie Glenn (M.A. 2013) has accepted a tenure track position at Niagara University. She is defending her dissertation at the University of Delaware this spring and will complete a postdoc at the Library Company of Philadelphia before starting her new job.

FACULTY NEWS

Stan Burstein delivered the keynote address entitled "The African Encounter with Greece: The Case of Kush" on November 10 at the 2019 meeting of The Classical Association of South Africa at the Stellenbosch Institute for Advanced Studies.

Azalea Camacho, Cal State LA University Library faculty and special collections archivist, who has been instrumental in creating opportunities for historians to work and do research in the library, was awarded a three-year Andrew Mellon Fellowship on Diversity, Inclusion, and Cultural Heritage.

Dawn Dennis was invited to join the Programs and Publications Committee for the Historical Society of Southern California.

Angela Vergara received a Rockefeller Archive Center Research Stipend to support research project “Chilean Scientists, Global Networks, and the Modernization of Agriculture (1930s-1950s)."

Ping Yao presented her paper “Female Associations in Medieval China” at the NZASIA 23rd Biennial International 2019 Conference in New Zealand in November 2019.

Publications

Choi Chatterjee, Steven Marks, Mary Neuberger and Steve Sabol edited, *The Global Impacts of Russia’s Great War and Revolution. The Wider Arc of Revolution*, volumes 1 and 2 (Slavica Publishers, Indiana University, Bloomington, 2019).

Choi Chatterjee, “Lady in Red. Russian Revolutionary Language in the American Imagination, 1917-1939,” in Choi Chatterjee et al eds. *The Global Impacts of Russia’s Great War and Revolution, Book 2: The Wider Arc of Revolution,* Part 1 (Slavica Publishers, 2019, 263–86.)

Christopher Endy, Bridget Ford, Katherine Chilton, Michael Henderson and Brad A. Jones, “Beyond Big Data: Teaching Introductory U.S. History in the Age of Student Success,” *Journal of American History* 106 (March 2020): 989-

1011.

FORTHCOMING

In an effort to promote social distancing, the on-campus presentation of the exhibit, “The Ground Beneath Our Feet: A Hundred Years of Earthquakes in Los Angeles,” has been postponed. However, stay tuned for an planned online version.

The exhibit is curated by **Choi Chatterjee**, **Eileen Ford**, **Nichole Aros** (M.A. student), and **Jewelyn Mims**(M.A. student). However, plans are in the works for an online version. Stay tuned!

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