

2024 NEWSLETTER



History

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER

An historic transformation of Hellems continues



- ◆ The Beatles Arrive in America
- ◆ The Civil Rights Act
- ◆ The Wilderness Act

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Front Cover image:

Opening January 2026—Hellems third floor graduate center. Image courtesy of Hacker+Handprint



Phoebe Young

Notes from the Chair

As the newly elected chair of the History Department, I hope this year's newsletter finds everyone in our History Buffs family well and thriving. I am honored and humbled to succeed my colleague, Marcia Yonemoto, who smoothly guided us through the past three years as we emerged from the pandemic. Amidst ongoing challenges in higher education, as well as national and global events, Marcia kept us moving forward and making a difference. I am confident I can speak for all of my colleagues in thanking Marcia for her three years of leadership and wish her the best as she heads into a well-earned sabbatical next year.

Let me just take a moment introduce myself. I've been at CU Boulder since 2009 and I am an historian of environment and culture in the modern U.S. I'm currently working on a couple of new research projects, one related to an art heist of a John James Audubon painting of a buffalo calf, and the other uncovering the historical roots and implications of the growing belief that time spent outdoors is beneficial for our physical and mental health.

I served as the associate chair for undergraduate students from 2018-2021, and after the tumult of the pandemic and a sabbatical year, I am rejuvenated and eager to dive into the work and life of the department. Leadership is changing in the College of Arts and Sciences and on campus as well, as a new chancellor, Justin Schwartz, arrived this

summer, a new interim dean, Daryl Maeda, took the helm at the College of Arts and Sciences as fall semester began, and a search for a new provost is underway. We are all getting to know the new leaders, and I look forward to sharing our meaningful work with students and many successes with them.

At the top of that list was the welcome news that Paul Suter, U.S. environmental historian and former chair (2017-21), has been named a college Professor of Distinction. This is an honor that only three other History Department faculty have held since the designation was created in 2006: Susan Kent, Fred Anderson and Bob Schulzinger. Faculty in and beyond the department, along with a group of Paul's current and former graduate students, collaborated on the nomination dossier and kept it secret for six months while we waited for the college to announce the result. Paul joins his colleague, European historian David Paradis, who was named a Teaching Professor of Distinction in 2022 (an honor introduced in 2017 to recognize outstanding instructors/teaching professors).

We are extraordinarily lucky to have colleagues like Paul and David doing such valuable work in the classroom, the archives and on campus, where they each contribute major service to multiple efforts. They would also be the first to say that they are not alone; that, across the board, our faculty and students are doing amazing things. You can see this in the long lists of publications, awards, public engagement and media appearances found in every corner of this newsletter.

One of my most enjoyable tasks as chair to date has been to hold one-on-one meetings with each faculty member to get a sense of what they're excited about in their teaching or research, what they think the department does well, and what we might focus on in meeting new challenges. Nearly everyone has put at the top of their list of what we do best is our robust sense of collegiality and support for each other. As one put it: "We get stuff done and still like each other!" I can assure you that this is not the case in every department at CU or elsewhere, and especially noteworthy given such success at research and dedication to teaching. Indeed, we know that it is relatively rare and we are determined to nurture this community. Maintaining these positive vibes is at the top of my list of priorities as chair as well.

We continue to sustain this sense of collegiality including faculty at all ranks, students, and our remarkable staff – Kellie Matthews, Cherise Lamour, and Ted Lytle – as we enter our second year of exile from Hellemes. In cubicles and shared working spaces, we are finding ways to make

Chair . . .

community in our temporary digs in Muenzinger, and in the seminar rooms other departments have been kind enough to lend us. We are, of course, looking forward to the return to a refurbished Hellems, which seems to be on track for an on-time reopening for spring semester 2026. The office spaces, lounge areas, new café, and in particular, updated classrooms will be most welcomed. Despite our relocation, our students have been eager to find us and engage with History Club, *The Colorado Historian* journal, and other opportunities. A host of undergraduate and graduate students even volunteered to contribute their time and perspectives to our required external program review and goal-setting exercise this year, as well as to advise us on some modest redesign of our major and minor programs, and we're thrilled to have their input as we take stock and plan for the future.

As I sat down to write this column in late October, I was cognizant that an uncertain future weighs on many of our minds – with a consequential presidential election at home and major wars raging abroad. While more will be known by the time you are reading this, I am sure that we here in the History Department will be busy working with our students and engaging the public to interpret the results of what promises to be a historic election season. Whatever the outcomes, we'll continue to examine the past to help us understand the complicated present-day worlds in which we live.

This is work we can't do without the help of many of you, and I want to express our collective gratitude to our donors, who so generously fund History Department efforts, and most especially our undergraduate and graduate scholarships. I hope you'll read our faculty, student, and alumni updates for more details on what we've been up to. And, if you are inclined, do check out and follow our new [LinkedIn page](#), where we're hoping students, alums, and friends of the History Department can connect with us and each other. We look forward to keeping up with this remarkable community of History Buffs in 2025!

—Phoebe Young



The transformation of Hellems Arts & Sciences

May 2023



West wing



May 2024

Photo credits: Ted Lytle

Hellem's renovation features multiple upgrades that enhance sustainability, inclusivity.

From **CU Boulder Today**

Completed in 1921 with wings added in 1938, Hellem's Arts & Sciences is the first building on CU Boulder's campus that embodied Charles Klauder's signature Tuscan vernacular style. In addition to an overall refresh, the 95,000-square-foot facility needed health and safety improvements, accessibility improvements and energy-efficiency upgrades.

Sustainability upgrades

Enhancing the building envelope is one of the key initiatives to make Hellem's more efficient. This includes adding spray foam insulation to all exterior walls, many of which lacked insulation. There will also be a new layer of insulation on the roof, which required removing the original clay tiles and adding a new waterproofing layer. In an effort to repurpose materials, more than 80% of the original tiles will be reused, and hardwood floors, terrazzo and transoms will be refurbished instead of replaced.

The Hellem's renovation will reduce the building's energy use intensity (EUI)—a measure of how much energy a building uses relative to its size, measured in kilo British thermal units (kBtu) per square foot—by 68%.

"Our target EUI was 50, but with all the upgrades, we are trending toward 35 EUI, down from 109, even with the addition of air conditioning," Vice Chancellor for Infrastructure and Resilience Chris Ewing said. "Adding insulation and high-performance windows allowed us to remove perimeter heating systems from the outer walls of the building, which is a big factor that contributes to the EUI decrease."

ABOVE: Opening for spring 2026 - Hellem's north wing looking south toward Mary Rippon theater from the main stairs. Image: courtesy of [Hacker + Handprint](#)

All original windows in Hellem's were single pane and will be replaced with triple-pane glass. Fluorescent lights will be switched out for LEDs and new skylights will bring in natural light. Corridors are also being relocated to exterior walls in the classroom wing and additional windows on the basement level will bring in more daylight.

"An important part of the Hellem's design was prepping it for our eventual low-temperature hot-water heating conversion, which is a critical strategy toward our [campus decarbonization efforts](#)," said Ewing, who also noted the university is targeting LEED Gold certification for the building through the renovation.

Inclusivity improvements

The north entrance to Hellem's originally faced a blank wall, behind which originally sat the dean's office. The redesign includes removal of the wall to create an open, bright and welcoming entry lobby with a view out to Mary Rippon Theatre. New outdoor patios will further enhance the space for all users.

"The design has turned this space back over to the students," Assistant Vice Provost for Academic Resource Management Zack Tupper said. "This big entrance will now be a communal area that belongs to everyone, creating more flow through the building with better wayfinding."



ABOVE: Opening for spring 2026 - overview of Mary Rippon theatre facing north. Image courtesy of [Hacker + Handprint](#)

Renovation . . .

Previously, Hellems had only one ADA-accessible entrance. When the building reopens, four of the building's entrances will be accessible for everyone. The increased accessibility into Mary Rippon Theatre will be a major benefit for the Colorado Shakespeare Festival as well. Both existing elevators are also being upgraded to access every floor.

Several of Hellems' restrooms will be all-user, multi-stall with shared sinks. These all-user restrooms will be accompanied by single-stall and binary restrooms. A wellness suite will accommodate nursing parents and those otherwise in need of a quiet space.

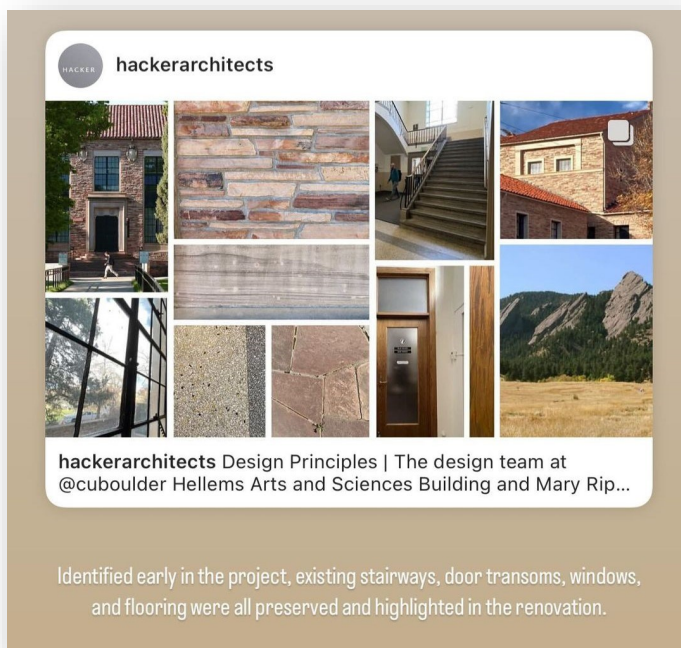
"The Hellems renovation is more than just an upgrade of bricks and mortar—it's an investment in the future of the humanities," said Dean of Division, Arts and Humanities John-Michael Rivera. "It reflects our belief that the study of human culture, history and thought is not just essential, but vital to shaping a thoughtful, informed society. By creating an environment that fosters creativity, dialogue and scholarly growth, we are investing in the minds that will shape the future of our world."

Project managers have been particularly thoughtful about honoring the land's history. CU Boulder's land acknowledgement will be at the main entrance and on the east side of the building, where medicinal and native plants will be planted, along with engravings in seating areas and indigenous art.

"At least 85% of students who graduate from CU Boulder

take a class in Hellems, so it needs to be inclusive," Tupper said. "This design was a collaborative effort; we held more than 30 workshops with building occupants and various student groups who helped with design recommendations."

The \$105.2 million Hellems renovation is receiving 40% of its funding from the state of Colorado, with the university covering 60%. Construction updates are being posted on the [Facilities Management Cone Zone website](#). Hellems is scheduled to reopen for the spring semester of 2026.





Sungyun Lim • director of graduate studies

Graduate Program

With the suddenly cooling weather reminding us that the end of the year is indeed upon us, it is exciting to look back on our eventful year.

In February, we had our first in-person recruitment event after a long hiatus during the COVID years. In order to highlight the greatest strength of our program, we put on a graduate student presentation workshop. The following are the list of presentations: **Ben Clingman**, “Dreams of an Indigenous West: Migration, Sovereignty, and Nationhood in the Early American Midcontinent, c. 1770-c. 1830”; **Katie King**, “Radicalized in Raleigh: How Black Activists Turned White Terrorism into Militant Abolitionism”; **Kimberly Jackson**, “Moral Obligation to Our Farmers: American Food Aid in World War I”; **Vi Burlew**, “Mothers of the Code: Comics Censorship and Cultural Maternalism”; **James Willetts**, “A Glorious Sight ... When It’s on Our Side in the Struggle for World Peace’ - Superheroes Confront Cold War Nuclear Optics.” It was an excellent opportunity to highlight the amazing research that our students are doing to our admitted students.

In May, we celebrated our first commencement ceremony in our temporary home in Muenzinger. Muenzinger Auditorium is not the same as the Mary Rippon Theater, but we appreciated the cool air conditioning. Dr. Marcia Yonemoto presided over her last commencement as chair with her usual efficiency. Two PhD recipients, **Alan Cohen** (advisor,

Dr. Phoebe Young; dissertation title, “Across the Country and Back for Dinner: A History of the Beginning of Jet Air Travel in the U.S.”) and **Catherine A. Costley** (advisor, Dr. Thomas Andrews; dissertation title, “Border Town, Native Nation: Rights, Sovereignty, and Proximity in the Four Corners Region”) were hooded by their advisors. We also had two MA recipients this year: **Marni Trowbridge** (advisor, Dr. Thomas Andrews; thesis title, “Building a Necropolis: Life, Death, Newspapers, and Marginalization in Early Denver and Its Pioneer Cemetery”) and **Sophia Teed** (advisor, Dr. Phoebe Young, thesis title, “A Lesser Injustice: The Indian Residential School Settlement Agreement and the Price of Remembering.”)

In May, the department also hosted a donor appreciation party, where we expressed our gratitude in-person to the Thompsons, among others, who are the benefactors of the Jack C. and Jean L. Thompson Endowed Graduate Fellowship in American History, which has and continues to fund many of our graduate students in their various research endeavors. It is precisely gift funds like this that enable many of our summer funding programs.

In addition to the Thompson Fellowship, funds were drawn from Lois S. Corriell Scholarship Fund, John K. Rice Graduate Fellowship Fund, Aspen-Roaring Fork Scholarship Fund, and Douglas A. Bean Memorial Fund to support eight students for graduate research mentorships, two students for Roaring Fork internships, and eight students for summer research travels and foreign language studies. Other funds, such as Joan L. Coffey Fellowship Fund, Louise C. Lefforge Scholarship Fund, Gloria Lund Main and Jackson Turner Main Graduate Fund in History, Cynthia H. and John H. Schultz Graduate Fellowship Fund and William E. Wright Endowed Graduate Fellowship Fund for History, were drawn on to support our students during the academic year for research trips and conference presentations.

We are grateful for the generous donors who make it possible for us to provide our graduate students excellent support for their research. Such funding sources are crucial for the successful training of our students, and what bolsters the excellence of our graduate program.

Many of our students won awards and fellowships this year, which was exciting. **Cate Costley** won the GPTI Teaching Excellence Award. **Katie King** is the recipient of the Center for Humanities and the Arts Fellowship, and **Ben Clingman** won the British and Irish Studies Fellowship. Four of our students received the Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowships, which is the largest cohort amongst all departments: **Aaron Bhatoya** (Hindi),

Jeanne Cho (Japanese), **Nico Jones** (Japanese) and **Emily Swertfeger** (Arabic).

In August, we welcomed four new students, **Kyna Bullard** (PhD; Europe), **James Kolb** (PhD; U.S.), **Casey Ringer** (MA; Asia), and **Emily Swertfeger** (PhD; U.S.). We look forward to seeing all the exciting research these students will conduct.

In October, we held the 25th Annual Rocky Mountain Interdisciplinary History Conference. The organization committee, **Maggie McNulty**, **Augusto Rocha**, **Aaron Bhatoya**, and **Casey Ringer** expertly organized the conference, featuring seven panels and two breakout sessions. The breakout sessions were led by Dr. Jason Herbert on podcasting and Dr. Ashleigh Lawrence-Sanders on pedagogy. The keynote address was delivered by Dr. Erin Hutchinson.

Several papers were recognized with prizes: First place went to **Chloe Zehr**, "Phrasing Insurrection: Concatenations of Enslaved Resistance," published in the *Virginia Gazette 1735-1775*"; second place was tied between **Trevor Egerton**, "Playing on a Plantation: Labor and Recreation at Tennessee's T.O. Fuller State Park" and Lizzy Adams (Columbia University) "Structural-Bias Feminist Arguments: From Anti-Pornography in the U.S. to Sexual Violence"; third place went to Alara Ucak (UC Berkeley), "The Cosmic Paradox: Human-Nature Relations on Johann Goffried Herder's Outlines of a Philosophy of the History of Man (1784-1791)."

By the time this newsletter is published, we will have just two more semesters to go before we move back into the newly renovated Hellems. I want to commend the remarkable resilience of our graduate students, who have managed to continue to build a strong and supportive community in a challenging temporary environment. This is all thanks to our graduate student leaders who take on the extra work to put on social and informational events and sit on the Graduate Studies Committee as graduate student representatives. For their service for the academic year of 2024-25, I want to thank **Augusto Rocha**, **Isabella Montero**, **Ben Stewart**, **Nico Jones** (History Graduate Student Association leaders), as well as **Trevor Egerton** and **Hannah DeVecchio** (GSC representatives).

Miles Hubble, one of our PhD students, whose article "[Let Them Have the Cities: Inflation, Collapse, and Retreat in the Postwar Survivalist West](#)," was just published in the Fall issue of the *Western Historical Quarterly*!

—Sungyun Lim



Photo credit: RMIHC committee

The 25th Annual Rocky Mountain Interdisciplinary History Conference (RMIHC) was a great success! RMIHC 2024 featured a number of high points over the weekend of Sept. 27-29.

First, Professor Erin Hutchinson gave a fantastic keynote address on Friday evening, entitled, "Defending the Nation: Soviet Writers' Activism During Glasnost and the Breakup of the USSR," which was followed by a brief reception.

Professor Ashleigh Lawrence-Sanders led a brilliant pedagogy workshop focused on using newspapers to create classroom assignments while Dr. Jason Herbert from Historians at the Movies gave a very informative workshop on podcasting.

Outside of these special events, RMIHC featured six panels with 20 panelists, six graduate student commentators and six faculty chairs. These panels' topics ranged from discussions of race, space, and resistance, women's and sexuality studies, and approaches to East Asia, to name a few.

The RMIHC executive committee would like to thank all of the people who helped make our conference a success. We thank our panelists who traveled near and far, from Colorado to Switzerland, to be with us. We would like to thank members of the History Department who helped support RMIHC, including our faculty chairs, graduate student commentators, presenters, paper prize judges, and our department staff—Ted Lytle, Kellie Matthews and Cherise Lamour. Our conference would not exist without you!

—The RMIHC Executive Committee,

Aaron Bhatoya, Casey Ringer, Maggie McNulty
and Augusto Rocha



Matthew Gerber

- director of undergraduate studies

Undergraduate Program

Our undergraduate program graduated 126 new historians in 2024, including 93 majors and 33 minors. Eight of them received Latin honors, while 15 graduated with distinction. Although our fast-changing world continues to be a challenging place in which to begin professional careers, we are confident that the critical research, writing and thinking skills acquired by these students will serve them well in the future. We look forward to hearing from them as they undertake new jobs, pursue further educational opportunities and embark on myriad adventures!

This year, the History Honors Thesis Prize went to **Ryan Joseph Oshinsky** for his substantial, research-based essay, "Antichinismo and the Birth of Modern Mexico." The Middleton Award was split among all nine of the outstanding students who completed the challenging task of writing and defending an honors thesis: **Hannah Chavez, Ryan Oshinsky, Dillon Otto, Madeleine Panek, Miriam Perelson, Ethan Provos, Kailynn Renfro, Casey Ringer** and **Sam Senseman**. Two students shared the Philip Mitlering Paper Prize, awarded for the best course paper submitted by a history major or minor: **Beth Felice Amsel** won for her essay, "Women on Fire: History, Identity, and the Social Construction of Aging and Menopause in America," while **Lily Micahla Nichols** won for "Women's Work, Women's Worth: Medieval Laundresses in England between the 13th and 16th Centuries."

Three students shared the Katherine J. Lamont Scholarship, awarded to continuing students for academic performance and dedication: **Christine Jordan Bolt, Ellie Anderson** and **Lexy Rose LeBlanc**. The James Field Willard Service Award was given to **Samuel Lewis Senseman** for his innovative service as editor-in-chief of *The Colorado Historian*, our undergraduate journal, as well as for his

outstanding contributions as departmental ambassador.

Thanks to the generosity of private donors, we had the privilege of distributing many scholarships to new and ongoing history majors. **Jack Pardew, Micah Friedman, Riley Larsen, Charlotte Motte, Charles Hill, Jo Axel** and **Emma Consiglio** all received four-year Carol J. Ehlers Scholarships for the study of European history. Scholarships from the Robert C. Rogers Endowment went to **Jonathan Wiemer, Emma LeDent, Shanna Welch** and **Shay Markgraf**.

The Erickson Memorial Scholarship, which honors 2017 graduate Colton Erickson, goes to a history major who has achieved excellence in the face of adversity. This year's winner was **Daisy Vu**. Virginia and Fred Anderson Scholarships, established by two beloved and much-missed emeritus professors, went to **Sandra Benotham** and **Shanna Welch**. **Shanna Welch** also was awarded a Pearson Scholarship from a fund established by alumni Cliff and Carol Pearson to support first-generation history majors. History Matters Scholarships, established by alumni Louise and Mark Bohe and dedicated to juniors and seniors enrolled in the major, were awarded to **Shanna Welch, Madelynn (Maddie) Sanchez, Jackson Moore** and **Allison Bosworth**. We are deeply grateful to our donors and we congratulate the recipients of these awards!

The history internship program provides history majors and minors with opportunities for exploring real-world applications for their coursework, putting historical skills to work both inside and outside the classroom. During the past year, our students have been involved in internships with the CU Library & Archives, the Lafayette Historical Society, the Carnegie Library for Local History, the Digital Slavery Research Lab, and the Museum of Boulder.

If you would like to support our students, please consider acting as an internship supervisor, offering informal guidance about life after graduation, or donating to support their work. Information about giving is available at www.colorado.edu/history/giving.

We always regret the departure of our graduates, but we are pleased to welcome 47 newly declared history majors in this fall's incoming class. While this number represents a slight dip from last year, it is still superior to averages of the pre-COVID and COVID years, suggesting that interest in history continues to grow. The number of our history minors also continues to rise, increasing from 66 in fall of 2023 to 104 this fall.

This year's incoming class of history majors stands out for being evenly split between men and women, suggesting a welcome increase in female interest relative to previous years. As a discipline exploring the emergence of human diversity over time, we strongly welcome and encourage the multiple perspectives brought to us by curious, hardworking students from a wide variety of backgrounds. Given the multiple challenges currently facing our world, there is more value than ever to the study of history!

—Matthew Gerber



Undergraduate history

Student Ambassador

Over the past year, undergraduate history students have enjoyed a plethora of exciting opportunities focused on creating positive spaces for interaction and further learning. These include: The Fall Welcome Event, History Club, *The Colorado Historian*, AHA Conference, and more!

The History Club was revitalized after almost a year without official meetings. Emma LeDent and I are running the club together with the help of our stoic treasurer, Jackson Moore. We want to continue building on the early success of a history murder mystery, trivia night, and Jackbox history game competition. The History Department has been imperative to the newfound stability of the club and early success. Cherise Lamour, Ted Lyle, and Kellie Matthews have all provided advice and assistance to aid the club in reaching its current form. We are super excited to keep expanding our network and events to an even larger undergraduate population, drawing more minor and non-majors into our meetings. Look for the History Club around campus doing exciting, historically related events!

Our more serious undergraduate student organization is *The*

Colorado Historian. The *Historian* prides itself with being the only undergraduate historical journal at the University of Colorado Boulder. We have successfully published yearly since 2011 with research collected from the undergraduate population here at CU Boulder. Over the winter, we reach out for submissions for any historically related research; papers written for a class or enjoyment are encouraged.

Our diligent team of editors will start the review process by placing each submitted sample through a period of evaluations. We first look at the strength of writing and research, plus topics that expand our geographic, cultural, and methodological perspectives.

Once we have chosen our desired papers, we begin the editing process. Multiple editors make up each team to dissect a paper according to historical guidelines. The first changes include correcting simple grammatical errors and formatting articles according to *The Chicago Manual of Style*. The second round is clarifying any section to improve comprehension. Our goal is to keep as much of the author's original intent as possible through the editing process. We work collaboratively with our selected authors to let them affirm or deny our proposed changes to keep a healthy understanding before being published.

We have our full archive of past journal publications available on the History Department website, with physical copies of the current edition being released every spring. If you are interested in joining either of the undergraduate programs, feel free to reach out to the History Department or *The Colorado Historian* on social media or via email. Stay tuned, as the request form for undergraduate papers will be sent out and made available in the coming weeks.

Make sure you make the most of your time here in Boulder and Be Involved!

—Hayden Fox, undergraduate history ambassador

PHOTO: Our CH team under the entrance of Chinatown in San Francisco while attending the AHA National Conference. L-R: Hannah Chavez, Oliver Schantz, Dillon Otto, Sam Senseman, Hayden Fox.

Commencement 2024



The 2024 commencement was held in Muenzinger auditorium for the first time, as the traditional outdoor locale, Mary Rippon Theater undergoes a facelift as part of the Helms remodel project. **TOP LEFT:** graduates file in. **TOP RIGHT:** professor and department of history chair, Marcia Yonemoto welcomes the graduates. **BOTTOM LEFT:** professor and director of undergraduate studies, Miriam Kingsberg Kadia presents graduating students. (photos credit: Ted Lytle)





Photo credit: Ted Lytle



Photo credit: Ted Lytle

Fall welcome



TOP LEFT: Myles Osborne, associate professor of history and co-founder of Tails of Two Cities animal sanctuary, is always a big hit with students at the A&S academic fair. His goats were a big draw and a secret weapon in recruiting. **TOP RIGHT:** professor and new department chair, Phoebe Young assists students interested in learning more about history as a major. **BOTTOM RIGHT:** history students and faculty come together for food and conversation at the fall welcome party.



Photo credit: Hayden Fox

The Wilderness Act Turns 60.

By Daniel Long
Colorado Arts and Sciences Magazine

CU Boulder's environmental historian Paul Sutter looks back on the Wilderness Act as it approaches its diamond jubilee.



Passage of the [Wilderness Act](#) was anything but a foregone conclusion.

First introduced in Congress in 1956, the “often-sidetracked Wilderness Bill,” as *New York Times* writer William M. Blair [called it](#), underwent 65 revisions before finally surviving the House and the Senate and being signed into law by President Lyndon B. Johnson on Sept. 3, 1964.

“It was an eight- or nine-year period,” says [Paul S. Sutter](#), professor of environmental history at the University of Colorado Boulder and author of [Driven Wild: How the Fight against Automobiles Launched the Modern Wilderness Movement](#). “There are not too many pieces of legislation with such a lengthy history.”

Paul S. Sutter, a professor of environmental history in the CU Boulder Department of History, notes that understanding the 60-year history of the Wilderness Act requires understanding what wilderness is.

A lengthy history and a rocky one, with as many ups and downs, peaks and valleys as the terrain the Wilderness Act protects. But to understand that history, says Sutter, one must first understand what wilderness is.

The modern wilderness idea

The Wilderness Act defines “wilderness” as follows:

A wilderness, in contrast with those areas where man and his works dominate the landscape, is hereby recognized as an area where the earth and its community of life are untrammelled by man, where man himself is a visitor who does not remain.

That peculiar word, “untrammelled,” is crucial, says Sutter. “A lot of people assume it means ‘untrampled,’ but it doesn’t.”

To “trammel” something, Sutter explains, is to hinder or restrict its freedom of action. “So to trammel wild nature is effectively to harness it to human economic forces and activities.”

This desire to safeguard large stretches of land against such forces led to what Sutter calls the modern wilderness idea, or “the idea that we ought to be protecting lands from modern development as much as possible.”

That means, among other things, no roads. Roads are the oil to wilderness’s water.

“[T]here is no use fooling ourselves,” [wrote Ansel Adams](#), whose photography captured the ethos of the modern wilderness idea and posthumously earned him a [wilderness area](#) in his name, “that nature with a slick highway running through it is any longer wild.”

It’s this roadlessness, along with prohibitions against motorization and mechanization, that distinguishes wilderness areas from other nationally protected lands, says Sutter.

“A wilderness area doesn’t have visitor centers, doesn’t have bathrooms, doesn’t have the amenities we come to expect when we go to somewhere like Yellowstone or Yosemite. You have to go into a wilderness area either carrying everything you need or living off the land.”

Howard Zahniser, Washington wizard

Once it became law, the Wilderness Act immediately protected just over 9 million acres and established the National Wilderness Preservation System (NWPS), which consists of congressionally designated wilderness areas within the lands controlled by the National Park Service, U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Bureau of Land Management.

Now, six decades later, the Act protects 111 million acres



“
A wilderness area doesn't have visitor centers, doesn't have bathrooms, doesn't have the amenities we come to expect when we go to somewhere like Yellowstone or Yosemite. You have to go into a wilderness area either carrying everything you need or living off the land.”

—Dr. Paul Sutter

*A sign at the boundary of Colorado's Collegiate Peaks Wilderness.
(Photo: Tyler Lahti/Wikicommons)*

(about 173,000 square miles), a marked increase made possible, Sutter says, by mechanisms within the act itself that allow Congress to add more wilderness to the NWPS over time.

The man behind those mechanisms was [Howard Zahniser](#), former executive director of The Wilderness Society, the Wilderness Act's primary author and someone who, according to Sutter, didn't quite fit the environmental-activist mold.

“When you look at the pantheon of famous wilderness activists in American history—from John Muir and Henry David Thoreau to Aldo Leopold and Bob Marshall and Olaus and Margaret Murie—they tended to be these rugged outdoor people. Many of them were trained foresters or avid hikers. Zahniser was different.”

Though Zahniser—who wore a specially tailored overcoat with four large inside pockets for carrying books, Wilderness Act propaganda and Wilderness Society membership information—felt comfortable in the outdoors, his real strength was his political savvy, Sutter claims.

“He was this Beltway insider who was a mastermind at pulling together support for this bill.”

And pull together support he did, from both sides of the aisle.

“One of the most fascinating things about the Wilderness Act, and really all of the major environmental legislation that came after it—the [Endangered Species Act of 1973](#), the Clean Air Act, the Clean Water Act, all of the hugely important environmental legislative achievements of that era—is that they were overwhelmingly bipartisan.”

Not so anymore, Sutter says, noting that environmental politics now is far more polarized and partisan than it was in Zahniser's day.

“When I teach this to my students, that's one of the things I really harp on—whether there's any way we can reclaim some of that bipartisanship.”

Loving nature to death

The Wilderness Act has met its share of resistance over the years. One major source was the [Sagebrush Rebellion](#) of the 1970s and 1980s.

The Sagebrush Rebellion, says Sutter, sought to transfer

ownership of western federal lands to the states. “A lot of people in the West had come to rely on public lands for their well-being and saw the Wilderness Act as a major threat.”

Though it eventually fizzled out after gaining little traction in Washington, D.C., the Rebellion did manage to garner a fair amount of support, most notably from Ronald Reagan, who [said](#) during a July 1980 campaign speech in Salt Lake City, “I happen to be one who cheers and supports the ‘Sagebrush Rebellion.’ Count me in as a rebel.”

Another challenge that has continuously dogged wilderness activists is how to strike a balance between making wilderness accessible to as many people as possible without simultaneously undermining its wilderness qualities.

“Back in the early years of wilderness advocacy, one of the frequent critiques of wilderness was that it was elitist, that it was a way of preserving nature for people who wanted to access it in a certain way,” says Sutter.

A wilderness area doesn’t have visitor centers, doesn’t have bathrooms, doesn’t have the amenities we come to expect when we go to somewhere like Yellowstone or Yosemite. You have to go into a wilderness area either carrying everything you need or living off the land.”

“So critics of wilderness would say, ‘Well, if we build a road into a wilderness area, far more people are going to be able to see it and experience it.’ And the wilderness advocates would say, ‘But if you build a road into it, it’s not wilderness anymore.’”

This tension between preservation and accessibility—between loving nature and loving it to death—has always been central to discussions about wilderness, says Sutter. And it’s a tension he predicts won’t slacken any time soon. Currently, for example, there are debates about whether fixed rock-climbing anchors ought to be allowed in wilderness areas or whether areas long used by mountain bikers ought to be added to the NWPS, as the Wilderness Act prohibits any form of mechanized or motorized transport.

“We think of wilderness politics as being about environmental preservation and recreation versus mining, timber-cutting, grazing. But there are conflicts within the recreational community that have always demanded subtler forms of preservation. The modern wilderness idea emerged from such conflicts.”

And so, 60 years on, the work of the Wilderness Act continues, adapting to the demands of the present moment yet remaining rooted in the belief that wilderness areas provide an essential, if intangible, service—a service perhaps best articulated by none other than Zahniser himself, who died four months before the bill he’d spent the better part of nine years defending graduated into law.

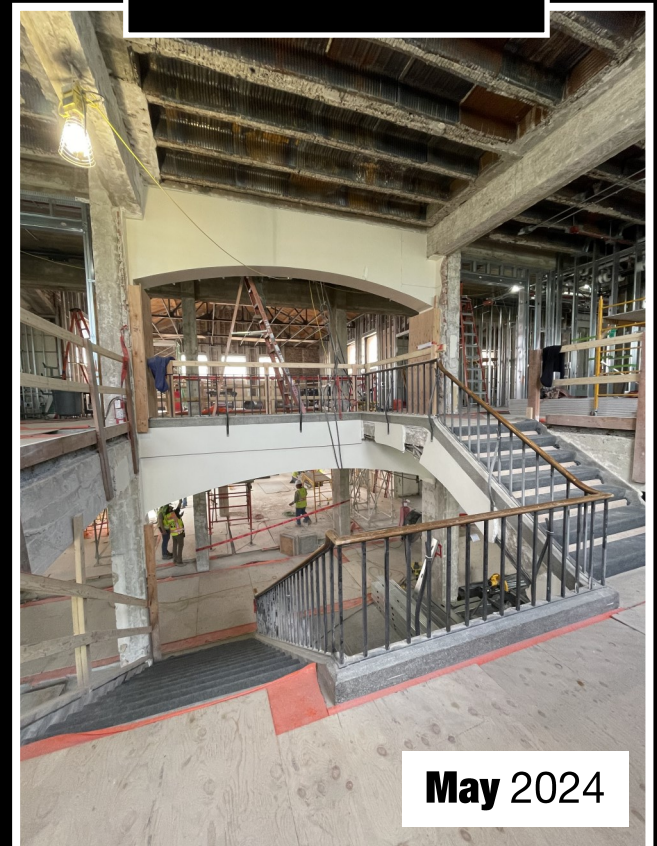
“We have a profound, a fundamental need for areas of wilderness,” Zahniser [wrote](#), “a need that is not only recreational and spiritual but also educational and scientific, and withal essential to a true understanding of ourselves, our culture, our own nature, and our place in all nature.”

The transformation of Hellem Arts & Sciences



May 2023

North stairwell



May 2024

Photo credit: Ted Lytle

Photo credit: Dena Heisner



Dr. Thomas Andrews is the new director of the Center of the American West

Thomas Andrews, University of Colorado Boulder professor of history, has been appointed faculty director of the Center of the American West. His appointment became effective in July.

Andrews' research and teaching focus on western American, environmental, animal, Indigenous and 19th- and 20th-century U.S. history. He is the recipient a Guggenheim Fellowship, a National Library of Medicine/National Institutes of Health Grant for Scholarly Works in Biomedicine and Health, a National Endowment for the Humanities Public Scholars Award and other fellowships.

He is the author of *Killing for Coal: America's Deadliest Labor War*, which won six awards, including a Bancroft Prize; *Coyote Valley: Deep History in the High Rockies*; and a book in progress about the Great Horse Flu of 1872-73.

Andrews was born and reared in Boulder and graduated from Fairview High School in 1990 before earning his BA

Faculty news

at Yale and his MA and PhD at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Before joining the CU Boulder Department of History in 2011, he taught at CU Denver.

Andrews is one of only a handful of second-generation faculty members at CU Boulder. His mother, Martha Andrews, was a research librarian at the Institute for Arctic and Alpine Research (INSTAAR), and his father, John T. Andrews, joined INSTAAR and the Department of Geological Sciences in 1968 and is an emeritus faculty member.

"Professor Andrews is an exceedingly skilled and respected historian who has helped broaden and deepen our understanding of the history of the American West," said Daryl Maeda, interim dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.

"The Center of the American West makes critical contributions to national thought and discourse about the American West, and Professor Andrews is particularly well suited to stand at its helm."

The [Center of the American West](#) is a nationally recognized hub for illuminating the role of the western United States in regional, national and global issues, describing its mission as bringing people together to "explore the ongoing complexities of and challenges facing the western United States through education, research, programs and projects."

—Colorado Arts and Sciences Magazine



On Colorado Day, Aug. 1, 2024, [Dr. William Wei](#), professor of history at the University of Colorado Boulder, succeeded Dr. Claire Oberon Garcia as state historian and leader of [History Colorado's State Historian's Council](#).

Founded in 2018, the five-person State Historian's Council is made up of interdisciplinary scholars who provide complementary perspectives and rotate the state historian position every year on Colorado's birthday. Dr. Wei, a founding member of the State Historian's Council in 2018, has served in this capacity from 2019-2020 and will exit the council following this stint as state historian.

"William brings a broad global perspective, alongside an encyclopedic interest in Colorado to the role of state historian," said Jason Hanson, chief creative officer and director of interpretation and research at History Colorado. "He is passionate about how historical perspective can help us see the present more clearly and in ways that can truly improve people's lives. I am excited for him to share his knowledge and passion with the people of Colorado as the state historian once again."

A distinguished scholar, Dr. Wei has held various national and international fellowships, authored multiple books and dozens of articles, and is recognized as one of the foremost authorities on Asian American and Asian immigrant History in Colorado, as well as an expert on Chinese history. In addition to his work on the State Historian's Council, Dr. Wei is the founding editor-in-chief of History Colorado's [Colorado Encyclopedia](#), was the lead advisor for the organization's **Zoom In: The Centennial State in 100 Objects** exhibition, and authored the exhibition's companion book – [Becoming Colorado: The Centennial State in 100 Objects](#).

Among Dr. Wei's focuses for the coming year are promoting a historical record that is diverse and inclusive, evaluating the role immigration played in the development of Colorado, and facilitating a broader look at America's foundational principles.

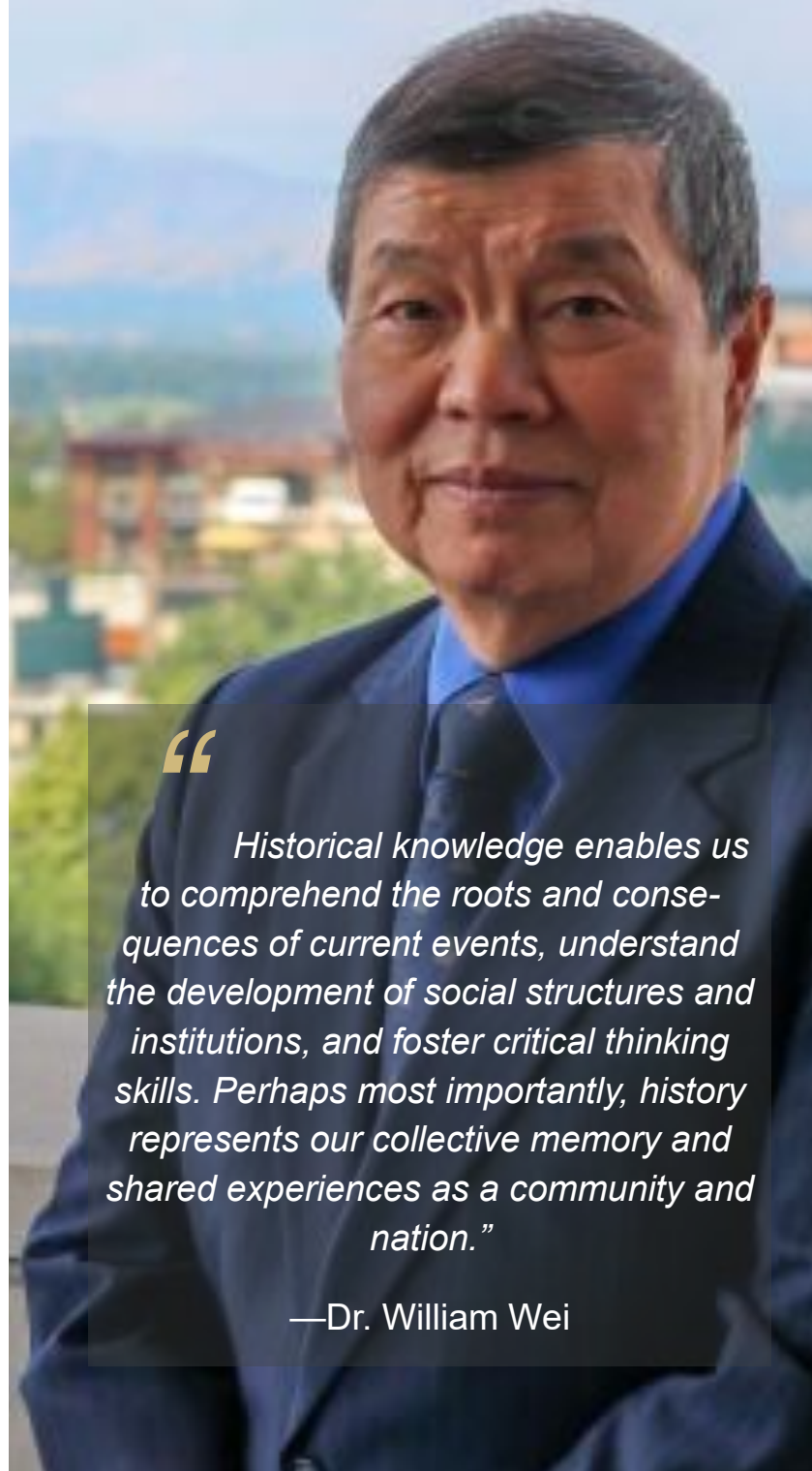
"I want to focus on the evolution of American democracy, especially our long-term experiment, as set forth in the preamble to the Constitution, 'to form a more perfect union' appropriate for the age," Dr. Wei said.

This exploration of Colorado's development and the foundational idea of our nation is something Wei hopes will inspire others to understand the privileges and obligations of citizenship better.



Faculty news

Dr. William Wei Returns as Colorado's State Historian.



“*Historical knowledge enables us to comprehend the roots and consequences of current events, understand the development of social structures and institutions, and foster critical thinking skills. Perhaps most importantly, history represents our collective memory and shared experiences as a community and nation.*”

—Dr. William Wei

Where is Denver's Chinatown?

Stories Remembered, Reclaimed, Reimagined.



History Colorado Center opened [Where is Denver's Chinatown? Stories Remembered, Reclaimed, Reimagined](#), a new exhibition inviting visitors to uncover the history of Denver's Chinatown, discover what happened to it, and help imagine what it might become. This exhibition takes visitors into one of the largest Chinatowns in the American West during the late 1800s and early 1900s to share stories from the thriving community that called it home, while also exploring contemporary efforts by Colorado's Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander (AANHPI) communities' to preserve and reclaim this history.

More with Dr. Wei

How Chinatowns Nationwide Are Finding Ways to Thrive Into the Future.

By Lydia Lee

When you walked into [Ting's](#), whose bright red storefront at the corner of Pell and Doyers streets in New York City is impossible to miss, you entered a time capsule. The small shop was filled with tin wind-up airplanes, toy wooden alligators, playing cards with photographs of historic Hong Kong, wood-and-bone mahjong sets, silk brocade coats, and other first-hand vintage goods produced in the 1950s and '60s.

Opened in 1958 by a Chinese immigrant couple, Tam

Ting and Yu Hong Ting, the store became a fixture of New York's Chinatown. It catered to those looking for something special and served as the Tings' sole source of income for many years. After they both died, their daughter Eleanor, who grew up playing with the toys in the shop as a form of quality control, kept the business going. As of press time, she planned to close the storefront in March. "I would like to continue running it, but I'm looking every month at numbers in the red," says Eleanor Ting, age 66.

Continue reading in [Preservation Magazine](#)



Q&A with historian Erin Hutchinson: The Legacy of Russian leader, Vladimir Lenin.

Vladimir Lenin giving a speech in Moscow, Russia, May 5, 1920. (Photo: Grigory Petrovich Goldstein)

By Bradley Worrell

Colorado Arts and Sciences Magazine

This year is the 100th anniversary of the death of the Soviet Union's first communist leader, whose legacy in Russia and former Soviet republics is complicated; CU Boulder researcher Erin Hutchinson studies the former Soviet Union and how its legacy affects Russia today.



When [Erin Hutchinson](#), an assistant professor in the University of Colorado Boulder Department of [History](#), visited Russia and former Soviet republics in the mid-2010s for her research on the former Soviet Union, statues of Vladimir Lenin were ubiquitous.

"When I first started traveling to Russia and the former republics in the 2010s, every town and village had their own statue. I had so many photos taken of me and my friends with Lenin statues that I have a (good-sized) photo collection," says Hutchinson, whose area of specialty is the cultural and political history of the Soviet Union, with a particular focus on nationality and empire.

Today, many of those statues featuring the goateed face and the intense stare of the founding father of communist Russia have been torn down—especially in former republics like Ukraine. The statues, Hutchinson says, signify Lenin's complicated legacy in post-communist Russia and eastern Europe.

January marked the 100th anniversary of Lenin's death. *Colorado Arts and Sciences Magazine* recently spoke with Hutchinson about the leader's legacy in Russia and its former republics, why leaders after Stalin wanted to return to Leninism and how he is viewed today in Russia. Her answers were lightly edited for style and condensed for

space limitations.

Question: *Set the scene for what was happening in Russia in the time leading up to the tsar's abdication in early 1917, specifically as it relates to Lenin and his political party, the Bolsheviks.*

Hutchinson: The Bolsheviks were one of many different groups that existed in the Russian empire. And the Russian empire under the tsar is a really oppressive place where you don't have freedom of speech, or freedom of assembly or other basic rights. So, this oppressive government gives rise to these various political movements—a lot of which were either socialist or anarchist. Lenin is a Social Democrat. He is a polarizing figure and, ultimately, he ends up splitting the party in two groups: the Mensheviks, which are the majority group, and the Bolsheviks, which are the minority.

Lenin is very driven and motivated to make revolution happen in Russia and he has the idea of having a small, disciplined, militant political organization rather than a broad-based party.



Vladimir Lenin giving a speech in St. Petersburg, Russia, in 1917. (Photo: public domain)

Question: *A provisional government was formed after the abdication of the tsar. Many groups in Russia were vying for control at the time, so how is it that Lenin and the Bolsheviks were able to seize power?*

Hutchinson: Without Lenin, the Bolsheviks probably would not have taken over in October of 1917. He's the one who's constantly pushing the Bolshevik faction within the Social Democrats to seize power. So, in that regard, he's a central figure.

They (Bolsheviks) staged a coup in October, which had popular support. They kick out the provisional government that had been running the country since February and they take over all the important communication points and the seat of government, the Winter Palace.

Lenin is really the only person who has the vision to see, 'If we want to take over, we just need to seize power now.'

It's Lenin's drive for power—along with his ability to see things that other political parties did not and to exploit the weaknesses of the other parties—that gives the Bolsheviks the advantage.

For example, the Bolsheviks were the only party that (advocated) for Russia to pull out of the war (World War I, fighting Germany), because they recognized that the war was extremely unpopular in Russia. The country was getting defeated left and right on the eastern front, so this was a popular opinion with the masses. It's a reflection of Lenin's political cunning to espouse policies the other political parties were not but which were popular with the masses.

Question: *What are some of the biggest legacies Lenin left on Russia and its territories?*

Hutchinson: Lenin has a really big impact in terms of how the Soviet Union is structured, which is what I study. He's the one who believes the Soviet Union needs to be structured as one country with many republics in it. He was the one who said that instead of unitary government, the different ethnic groups should have their own republics within the USSR. And he did this because, during the civil war that followed the 1917 revolution, he had seen the strength of separatist nationalists in the borderlands of the Russian empire, because he fought against them.

So, he knew that nationalism was strong, and this way (having independent republics) was his way of appeasing them. He said, 'OK, we'll have these different ethnic groups have their own little republics. They're not going to be politically independent, but they will have their own institutions and culture.'

Stalin (Lenin's successor) actually didn't want that. He didn't want to be organized along ethnic lines, which is interesting, because Stalin was Georgian.

Lenin established many things that determined the very structure of the USSR until it collapsed. And indeed, many have argued that the structure was the reason the USSR collapsed. It was relatively easy for the Soviet republics to break away because they already had ethnically consolidated populations and many of the same institutions as independent states.

Question: After Lenin's death, he became a cult-like figure in the Soviet Union, correct?

Hutchinson: He's definitely this ubiquitous figure in the Soviet Union. They called him Uncle Lenin. Every place where Lenin ever slept had a plaque that said, 'Lenin slept here.'

Every school child learned about Lenin and his positive qualities that they should emulate. The myth of Lenin was very much a part of every Soviet child's experience growing up; you can compare it to George Washington in the U.S.—but maybe on steroids.

And, of course, everyone knows that his body is preserved in a mausoleum (in Moscow) and that's where Soviet leaders would stand when they had parades in Red Square. They would stand in Lenin's mausoleum and wave to people. It was just a ubiquitous part of everyday life.

Question: Lenin was essentially a follower of the political philosophy of Karl Marx. At what point did he become elevated to where people talk about Marxism-Leninism as a political philosophy?

Hutchinson: I think we would use a term like Marxism-Leninism to describe

what Lenin added to Marxism. Because in many ways, you can see Lenin is going against some of the original ideas of Marx, because Marx thought that the working class revolution was going to happen in the most advanced industrialized countries in Europe, like Germany and Britain. Well, that didn't happen.

Lenin believed that would eventually happen, but he also argued that the proletarian revolution could happen in places that did not have these advanced industrial economies. And Russia was still a country in 1917 where about 80% of the population were peasants and occupied with agriculture.

Workers made up about 10% of the population of Russia at the time of the revolution, so it's really audacious to say that this relatively small working class can take over a whole country. But the idea that you didn't have to be an advanced industrialized country to have a communist revolution does spread to other countries.

In many ways, his ideas sort of deviate from the original Marxism, but in a way that ends up being really productive in that other people kind of glom onto them and they make their own changes, like Mao in China, who had the idea of a communist revolution driven by the peasantry, which Marx definitely didn't think was possible.

Question: After Stalin's reign, some of the Soviet Union's leaders talk about wanting to return to Leninism. What do they mean by that, exactly?

Hutchinson: After Stalin's death, (Soviet Premier Nikita) Khrushchev gives his famous secret speech in 1956 about all the Stalinist crimes that were committed and all the people that were killed in the terror of 1937. And Khrushchev does this under the name of a return to Leninism.



A statue of Vladimir Lenin in Osh, Kyrgyzstan.
(Photo: Adam Harangozó)

So, he's actually repudiating Stalin, but then he goes back to some of those more original policies of Lenin, including reviving official atheism and persecuting the church, saying that this is what Lenin really wanted; saying that atheism is an official part of the Communist Party program.

It's fascinating, even with Mikhail Gorbachev in 1985, he was reading all the writings of Lenin and thinking 'We need to go back to the original ideas of Lenin.' So, he sees himself initially as a Leninist revolutionary, but working from within the system.

In some sense, every Soviet leader after Stalin is wanting to get back to Leninism.

Question: *Russia stopped being a communist country with the breakup of the Soviet Union in 1991. How do Russians regard Lenin today?*

Hutchinson: Today, the attitude of Russians toward Lenin is kind of complex, I think.

If you look at things from the perspective of the Russian regime today, (Russian President Vladimir) Putin wants to claim some of the positive parts of the Soviet legacy, such as the Soviet victory in World War II (even though) Lenin was long dead by then and Stalin is more closely associated with the war.

But there is also some ambivalence to Lenin because the central part of Putin's ideology is that he is opposed to revolution. Just a couple of years after he came to power, there started to be revolutions in former Soviet republics, like Ukraine, and similar things happen in Georgia and Kyrgyzstan.

Putin perceives these as happening in his backyard, and he also doesn't want them happening at home. Liberal groups oppose him, and some conservative nationalist groups oppose him and he's stomping on all opposition. So, a figure like Lenin—who is a revolutionary—fits awkwardly with his worldview.

The other issue is that Putin's ideology is increasingly influenced by Russian nationalism, which also has a very ambivalent attitude toward Lenin. Russian nationalists increasingly reject Lenin, seeing him as having destroyed the great Russian empire and many aspects of traditional Russian culture, like the church, the traditional village and these kinds of things.



Vladimir Lenin
(center) in
Moscow's Red
Square.
(Photo: public
domain)

The transformation of Hellems Arts & Sciences

May 2023



Southwest wing



May 2024

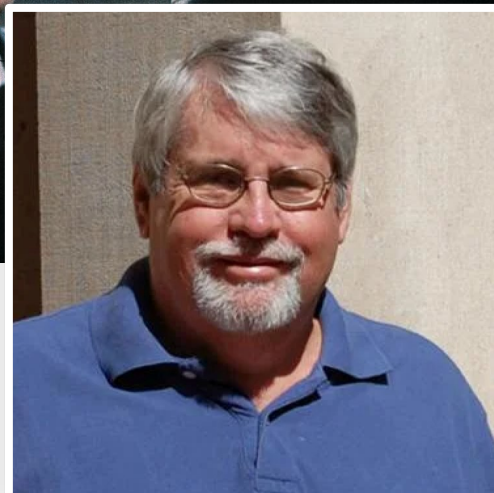
Photo credits: Ted Lytle

Sixty years after The Beatles' first appearance on 'The Ed Sullivan Show,' CU Boulder historian Martin Babicz reflects on their impact on U.S. culture and politics.



By Rachel Sauer
Colorado Arts and Sciences Magazine

CU Boulder historian Martin Babicz researches The Beatles' impact on U.S. culture and politics in 1964.



There are certain indelible moments in life, certain shared experiences, that only need a prompt of “Where were you when...?” to bring forth a torrent of memory.

So, find the nearest Baby Boomer and ask them where they were at 8 p.m. EST on Feb. 9, 1964—60 years ago this week. That Sunday night, about 45% of U.S. households turned their TVs on to CBS for [“The Ed Sullivan Show.”](#)

An audience of 73 million people heard Sullivan open with, “Now, yesterday and today our theater’s been jammed with newspapermen and hundreds of photographers from all over the nation, and these veterans agreed with me that this city never has witnessed the excitement stirred by these youngsters from Liverpool...”

And then there they were—the Fab Four, the Lads from Liverpool, The Beatles performing “All My Loving.” In memory, the ecstatic screams still echo.

Just 77 days before that evening, President John F.

Kennedy had been assassinated in Dallas, Texas. Still staggering from that, the United States also was seeing increasing involvement in Vietnam, growing a civil rights movement and facing what would become an extremely contentious presidential election.

“There was a lot going on in 1964 in the United States,” says [Martin Babicz](#), a University of Colorado Boulder teaching associate professor of [history](#) who researches The Beatles’ effect on U.S. culture and politics in 1964. “Their tour in 1964 fits right into the issues of the time.”

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RELATED see: ‘Faculty in the media’
watch Dr. Babicz’ interview on 9News-KUSA TV.



60 years after the Civil Rights Act, 'the activism continues'

By Rachel Sauer
Colorado Arts and Sciences Magazine

CU Boulder historian Ashleigh Lawrence-Sanders reflects on what has and hasn't changed since

Over a five-year span between 1865 and 1870, following the end of the Civil War, three constitutional amendments were ratified to end slavery ([the 13th](#)), make formerly enslaved people U.S. citizens ([the 14th](#)) and give all men the right to vote regardless of "race, color, or previous condition of servitude" ([the 15th](#)).

In the decades that followed, however, and despite provision that "the Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation," various states and municipalities passed "Jim Crow" laws, abused poll taxes and literacy tests to limit voting and condoned racially motivated violence to enforce segregation and disenfranchise African Americans.

But on July 2, 1964, in the midst of a civil rights movement that had been growing in voice and numbers for many years, President Lyndon Johnson signed the [Civil Rights Act of 1964](#) (CRA) into law. This act integrated public schools and facilities; prohibited discrimination based on race, sex, color, religion and national origin in public places and in hiring and employment; and created the Equal

Employment Opportunity Commission.

Sixty years later, the Civil Rights Act is still considered a landmark of U.S. legislation, but does it mean today what it did in 1964?

"Similar to the Voting Rights Act of 1965, the CRA is something we almost take for granted as something that has existed for a good chunk of most people's lifetimes," says [Ashleigh Lawrence-Sanders](#), an assistant professor of [African American](#) and U.S. history in the University of Colorado Boulder [Department of History](#). "Everything from Brown v. Board on—the Montgomery bus boycott, sit-ins, all these things were leading to this Civil Rights Act."

"I think for civil rights activists, though, it's a complicated



Ashleigh Lawrence-Sanders, a CU Boulder assistant professor of African American and U.S. history, notes that the Civil Rights Act of 1964 "shows what a major legislative change can accomplish, but beyond that, what else happens? The activism continues."

story. A lot of the actual issues that lead to material conditions being different for Black people still have not changed enough. We haven't closed the racial wealth gap, there's still structural racism in policing, housing and employment. As violent as the moments at lunch counter sit-ins were, in a way the harder thing is saying, 'Black people should be able to live in this neighborhood' or 'Black and white kids should be going to the same schools' or 'Black people are experiencing discrimination at these jobs and people in positions of power are keeping them away.' People now are being told it's either unfixable or it's not a problem, and this is where we're at 60 years later."

Protecting civil rights

For almost 100 years following the end of the Civil War and Reconstruction, and despite three constitutional amendments that ostensibly ensured equal rights and legal protections for African Americans, most experienced anything but—and not just in the South, but throughout the United States. In [Plessy v. Ferguson](#) in 1896, the U.S. Supreme Court even ruled that segregation didn't violate the 14th Amendment.

So, it wasn't just a culmination of big events that occasionally garnered media attention—Ku Klux Klan marches, the Tulsa and Rosewood massacres, the murder of Emmett Till—but the daily experiences of "redlined" neighborhoods, "sundown" towns, denial of employment, wage inequity, separate entrances and a hundred other inequalities and injustices that germinated the civil rights movement.

"One of the things I always show my students about the March on Washington is what people were actually asking for, and that the desire for jobs and equal employment were such a huge part of why the march occurred," Lawrence-Sanders explains. "We get caught up in MLK's famous speech about integration, but one of the demands of the march was an end to police brutality and police violence, which is something they wanted in the Civil Rights Act that didn't make it in there."

As the civil rights movement increasingly gained footing and voice, federal officials were increasingly called on to respond. In the [Civil Rights Act of 1957](#), Congress established the [civil rights division](#) of the Department of Justice as well as the [U.S. Commission on Civil Rights](#) "to provide means of further securing and protecting the civil

rights of persons within the jurisdiction of the United States."

When John F. Kennedy took office in 1961, he initially postponed supporting anti-discrimination measures, but soon couldn't ignore the state-sanctioned violence being perpetrated against civil rights activists and protesters throughout the country. In June 1963, Kennedy proposed broad civil rights legislation, [noting in his announcement](#) that "this nation, for all its hopes and all its boasts, will not be fully free until all its citizens are free."

After Kennedy's assassination, Lyndon Johnson continued pursuing civil rights legislation. After a 75-day filibuster, the Senate voted 73-27 in favor of the bill and John-



Residents of Montgomery, Alabama, walk to work during the 381-day bus boycott that began in December 1955. (Photo: Don Cravens/LIFE Images Collection/Getty Images)

son signed the Civil Rights Act of 1964 into law July 2.

'The activism continues'

"Now we tend to forget that this was not the end of the movement," Lawrence-Sanders says. "A lot of further legislation followed. We were still seeing violent desegregation and busing well into the '70s."

Housing discrimination, addressed in the [Civil Rights Act of 1968](#), was another big issue—and remains one today, Lawrence-Sanders says. "We still deal with housing segregation and discrimination, and it's often treated as the exception instead of structural racism, which has become a boogeyman term. The act in '68 had provisions about how renting and selling and financing a house can't be discriminatory based on race or sex, and people violate

Civil Rights Act . . .

that constantly. There was [an article in *The New York Times*](#) last month about a woman trying to buy a condo and the seller backed out because she's Black.

"The frustrating thing about this is that Black people have always suspected that these incidences of racism happen and been called crazy or paranoid, and when these articles appear, Black folks are saying, 'No, we've proven it, not just with the knowledge of how we've been treated over time, but it's finally been exposed by data.' When I was living in New York City, there were undercover investigations that discovered that taxis don't stop for Black people, rental apartments don't rent to Black people at same rate as white people, real estate agents are steering Black people to certain places and steering white people away."

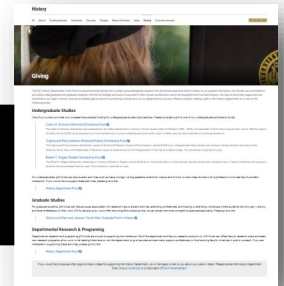
An important legacy of the CRA is that it established enforcement mechanisms for addressing discrimination, but it stopped short of addressing all the ways structural rac-

ism exists in society, Lawrence-Sanders says. It also often gets caught in selective historical memory.

"I think that's why people tend freeze Martin Luther King in 1963 and the March on Washington," she says.

"Because after the CRA passed, activists were asking for things that went too far for the government. Collectively, we tend to have no use for activists when they demand more and say, 'That wasn't enough, we want more, we want to go further.' The CRA shows what a major legislative change can accomplish, but beyond that, what else happens? The activism continues."

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The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. at the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom Aug. 28, 1963. (Photo: AFP/Getty Images)

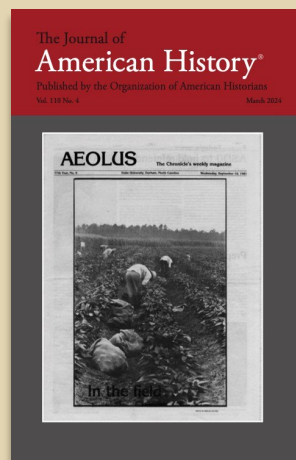
The Journal of American History publishes article on CU's History Teaching and Learning Project.

During the fall of 2017, the History Department embarked on the History Teaching and Learning Project (HTLP), a multi-year, department-wide pedagogy project aimed at rethinking and improving undergraduate history education at CU Boulder. HTLP focused on several central goals: developing a set of department-wide Student Learning Objectives (SLOs) for our courses and our major, assessing how we teach our courses and how we might improve our pedagogy by engaging with the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL) in history, and communicating the value of an undergraduate education in history to our students and the public at large. A grant from the College of Arts and Sciences' Undergraduate Education Development Program supported the project, including the hiring of Dr. [Natalie Mendoza](#), a pedagogical expert who served as project lead from 2017-2019 and is now an assistant professor in our department.

In March 2024, *The Journal of American History*, one of the flagship journals in our field, published an article titled, "[The History Teaching & Learning Project: Laying the Groundwork for Departmental Change at the University of Colorado Boulder](#)," which featured our efforts as part of a larger roundtable, titled, "Where the Action Is: Departments Transforming the History Curriculum." The article – co-authored by Natalie Mendoza, Phoebe Young, and Paul Sutter – presented our project as a potential model for other departments to follow. In April, Natalie Mendoza represented us on a panel discussing our article and the *JAH* roundtable with colleagues during the annual meeting of the Organization of American Historians.

The COVID-19 pandemic diverted our attention from HTLP for several years, but we are now working to reorganize our major to better reflect the SLOs we developed during the first phase of the HTLP process. While we still have work to do, we are thrilled to see our department's innovative curricular reform efforts highlighted in such a prestigious journal.

—Natalie Mendoza



Faculty updates

Paul Sutter honored as 2024 Professor of Distinction.

We were delighted to learn this fall that Professor Paul Sutter has been honored as a College Professor of Distinction by the College of Arts and Sciences. The title of Professor of Distinction is one of the highest honors bestowed by the college and is "reserved for scholars and artists of national and international distinction who are also recognized by their college peers as teachers and colleagues of exceptional talent."

Professor Sutter's impressive research record includes two highly regarded, single-authored books and a third well in progress, one co-authored book, two co-edited volumes, and more than two dozen single-authored peer-reviewed articles and book chapters. Beyond his individual research, however, Professor Sutter has influenced the fields of environmental and Southern U.S. history through his work as editor of two major book series, the Weyerhaeuser Environmental Books Series, published by the University of Washington Press, and the Environmental History of the American South series, published by University of Georgia Press. As editor of the Weyerhaeuser series, Professor Sutter has written a substantial introduction to every book published in the series since he assumed the editorship—now about 21 forewords and counting, and includes books whose topics range from nuclear waste in the Midwestern U.S. to forestry in colonial Korea and in early modern China, animals in 20th century East Germany, wetlands in Australia, landscape in postwar Vietnam and in Valencia, Spain, and whaling and environment in early modern Japan.

Accolades from undergraduate and graduate students attest to Professor Sutter's knowledge, pedagogical skill, attentive mentorship and compassion as a teacher and adviser. Undergraduates in large classes remark on Professor Sutter's ability to draw them in through carefully crafted lectures and also to communicate that he cares about their success. Graduate advisees speak about how they benefit from his deep knowledge of the field, his extensive professional connections, his incisive constructive criticism of their work, and his involvement in pedagogical innovation at graduate and undergraduate levels.

David Ciarlo

(associate professor, modern Germany) gave a talk at Frasier Meadows Retirement Community, titled, "The Rise of Hitler and the Nazi Party in 1930s Germany: New Research and Its Implications for Contemporary Politics." The talk was very well attended (about 120 people) and the audience was quite engaged, posing excellent questions in the Q&A following the talk. Many among the audience had personal experiences with fleeing the Nazi regime or with the Second World War, and it was educational and inspirational (and sometimes saddening) to hear these firsthand.

Céline Dauverd

(professor, early modern Mediterranean) edited a volume with *Mediterranean Studies* <https://scholarlypublishingcollective.org/psup/mediterranean-studies/issue/32/1> (August 2024) based on a symposium on "The Premodern Spanish Empire" she organized at CU Boulder in 2022 (supported by the ASFE, CHA and PFH).

She delivered three papers at Columbia University, two in Rome (Italy), and additional ones at Stony Brook, Florence (Italy) and Valencia (Spain).

Dauverd is currently working on a book, entitled *All the Kings of the Mediterranean: Iberian Kings, Renaissance Popes, and Maghrebi Shariffs During the North African Conquest, 1450-1630*. She spent the summer 2024 as a Fernand Braudel Fellow of the European University Institute in Florence researching for this book.

While on sabbatical leave this academic year 2024-25, Dauverd obtained visiting professorships in the Department of Civilizations and Forms of Knowledge at the University of Pisa and in the Department of History at the University of Rome La Sapienza (both in Italy).

Vilja Hulden

(teaching associate professor, modern U.S., digital history) received a NEH Chair's Grant to continue working on her project, *Speaking to the State*, which uses computational techniques to examine group representation at U.S. Congressional hearings over the past century and a half. The grant builds on a NEH Digital Publications grant she held in 2021.

Henry Lovejoy

(associate professor, African diaspora, digital history) has received an Arts & Sciences Fund for Excellence grant and a Kayden research grant.

Natalie Mendoza

(assistant professor, Mexican-American history, modern U.S.) has received a Kayden research grant.

Sutter . . .

In addition to his achievements as a researcher and teacher, Professor Sutter also has contributed many years of service to the Department of History, the campus, the historical profession, and the larger Boulder community. As our department chair during the worst of the pandemic decades, we all benefitted enormously from Professor Sutter's omnicompetence and calm judiciousness, traits that have made his counsel sought after by numerous high-level committees and organizations in and outside of CU. Please take a look at the [Colorado Arts and Sciences Magazine](#) profile of Professor Sutter published after the award announcement and join us in congratulating him on this well-deserved honor.

Mithi Mukherjee

(associate professor, modern India) won the Albert Smith Nuclear Age Fund, from the College of Arts and Sciences for work related to the ability of the human race to survive in the nuclear age.

Thomas Pegelow Kaplan

(professor, Singer Chair in Jewish History; interim director of the Program in Jewish Studies 2023-24) published "[Global Transit, Imperial Performativity and Survival: European Jewish Refugees in the Philippines Under U.S. Tutelage and Japanese Occupation, 1937-1946](#)" in the *Leo Baeck Institute Year Book* LXIX (2024) and "Reexamining the Transatlantic Scholarship on Jewish History" in Karen Hagemann, et al. eds. *German Migrant Historians in North America: Transatlantic Careers and Scholarship after 1945* (New York: Berghahn, 2024). He also submitted two revised co-edited volumes with works by leading Israeli, U.S. and European scholars to the production departments of publishers in New York and London. Pegelow Kaplan also presented papers at the GHI West's Germanists' Workshop at UCLA and Holocaust Educational Foundation's Lessons and Legacies XVII in LA. He also gave lectures in the NC German Studies Workshop Series at the Free University of Berlin; Center for Research on Antisemitism, TU Berlin; Goethe University Frankfurt, Germany; and at synagogues in Boulder. He was invited to and served on the selection committee for Yad Vashem's International Book Prize, Jerusalem, and the hiring committee for the new genocide studies professorship at SciencesPo, Paris. He (co-)organized a series of programs on the CU Boulder campus, including a screening and panel discussion on *The Zone of Interest* and visits and talks by Michael Berkowitz (London), Shaul Magid (Cambridge), Guy Miron (Jerusalem), Paul Nolte (Berlin), Roberta Pergher (Bloomington), Mark Roseman (Bloomington), Edward Serotta (Vienna), and Holocaust survivor Otto Verdonker. Finally, Pegelow Kaplan received a CU Center for Humanities & the Arts Small Grant and several external travel grants for his new project on a global history of the Shoah.

The transformation of Hellems Arts & Sciences

May 2023



Photo credit: Ted Lytle

North wing



May 2024

Photo credit: Dena Heisner

Tim Weston

(associate professor, modern China) organized and chaired a panel entitled, "The Politics of Information, Knowledge, and Propaganda in Modern China," presented at the 2024 Biennial Conference of the Historical Society for Twentieth Century China conducted at Lehigh University, Sept. 13-15, 2024. The title of Weston's paper is "The West to China on the Eve of the Opium War: Develop a Periodical Press and Join the World."

Peter H. Wood

(adjunct professor, early / modern U.S.) delivered book talks in the spring at the Atlanta History Center and in Columbia and Charleston, South Carolina, to celebrate the new and revised 50th-anniversary edition of his 1974 book, *Black Majority*, exploring enslavement in early South Carolina. He returns to the Charleston Library Society in January 2025 for a joint appearance with Ted Rosengarten, author of another important and enduring Black History volume from 1974, *All God's Dangers*.

Wood has recently submitted for publication a co-authored article (shared earlier with the department's Faculty Seminar) on the importance of slave-dug canals in the rise of Charleston as a colonial port. In October, he presented a paper at a public history conference in Philadelphia on Slavery in the North. His talk was entitled, "A Philadelphia Story: Uncovering the True Narrative of 'Old Blind Hawkins,' a Northerner Involved in the West African Slave Trade in the 1790s."

Tony Wood

(assistant professor, modern Latin America) just published an article on the Cuban 1930s magazine *Mediodía* in *Radical History Review*. It's in a special issue on "[Revolutionary Papers: Anticolonial Periodicals from the Global South](#)." The special issue itself is part of a bigger project that has its own separate website (with color photos of the magazines too –see the [page for the Cuban magazine](#)).

Follow us on social media



Faculty emeriti

Bob Hohlfelder

(*professor emeritus, ancient Mediterranean*), and currently a visiting research scholar and member of the Common Room at Wolfson College, University of Oxford, published two articles in 2024.

The first, "Was Roman Marine Concrete Used in Byzantine Harbour Construction? An Unanswered Question," appeared in the proceedings volume of a Byzantine harbor symposium at the Hanse-Wissenschaftskolleg, Delmenhorst, Germany. The second, "The Sudden Emergence of Sebastos, The Harbor of King Herod's Caesarea," appeared in [Hispania Antiqua. Serie Arqueologica 15](#). He also reviewed research proposals for the Austrian Science Fund. His research on his 10th book, tentatively entitled *The Julio-Claudian Emperors and the Sea*, continued with the assistance of a grant from the Colorado University Boulder Retired Faculty Association (CUBRFA), for research at Oxford on "Nero's Contribution to the Roman Imperial Maritime Infrastructure: Deeds and Dreams." He continues to serve on the UNESCO/ICOMOS International Committee on Archaeological Heritage Management and presented a popular talk, "Tales from Under the Mediterranean Sea," at several venues in the U.S., including one in Boulder at the invitation of CUBRFA.

Susan Kent

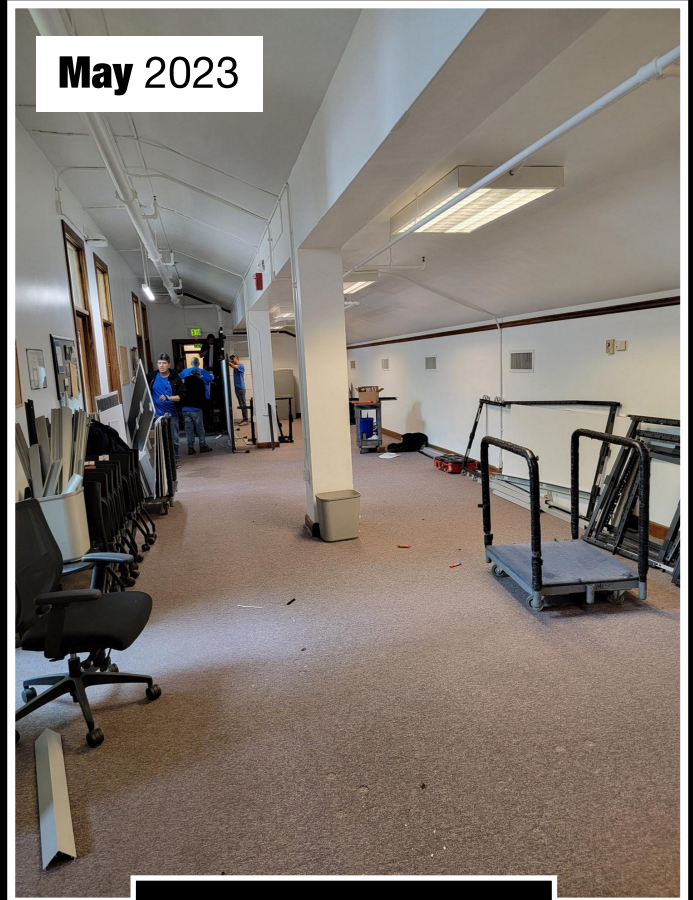
(*professor emerita, modern Britain / British Empire*) submitted her book manuscript--*Anglo Settler Colonialism Since 1530: Indigeneity in an Imperial World*--to Bloomsbury Press.

Mark Pittenger

(*professor emeritus, US intellectual/cultural history*) has published "[Bloodshot: Reflections on a Mass Shooting](#)," about the King Soopers shootings in November 2024, on the Against Professional Philosophy website. He continues his research on left-wing Unitarianism and on the coming of modern dance to the Rockies, and hopes soon to spend more time reading, listening to music, and staring blankly out the window.

The transformation of Hellems Arts & Sciences

May 2023



Third floor north



October 2024

Photo credits: Dena Heisner



ON AIR

Faculty in media

Radio

New State historian wants to get Coloradans thinking about America's democratic roots

Interview with William Wei

Colorado's newly-appointed state historian, [William Wei](#), says democratic governments are facing the worst crisis since the 1930's and he hopes to get Coloradans thinking about threats to democracy at home and abroad. Wei also served as state historian from 2019-2020 and is an expert in Chinese history, [Asian immigrant history in Colorado](#), and the author of "Asians in Colorado: A History of Persecution and Perseverance in the Centennial State."



Colorado Public Radio

[Listen to Interview](#)

State historian William Wei discusses the Alien Enemies Act

When former President Donald Trump spoke in Aurora recently, he pledged to use the Alien Enemies Act to rid the city of violent gang members. The measure, first introduced in the late 1700s, was used in one of the darkest chapters in Colorado history -- the formation of an internment facility, called Camp Amache, where thousands of Japanese-American citizens were held during World War II.

William Wei, Colorado's state historian, spoke about the genesis of the act, its origin and why its application has been controversial.

[Listen to Interview](#)

Related quote

Is ugly chapter in US history going to repeat? Actor George Takei worries it will.

... **William Wei**, a historian and Asian-American history expert at the University of Colorado Boulder, said the Alien Enemies Act was misused to round up people of Japanese descent back in 1941 because two-thirds of those arrested were American citizens.

“The moment you begin holding groups of people collectively responsible for crimes,” he said, “it’s a violation of our ideals of individualism.”

[Read article in USA Today](#)

By: [Karen Weintraub](#) & [Lauren Villagran](#),



Television

The Beatles appear on 'The Ed Sullivan Show'

Interview with Martin Babicz

Martin Babicz (teaching associate professor, modern U.S.) appeared on NBC affiliate KUSA-9News Denver, to discuss the 60th anniversary, and the historical impact of The Beatles' arrival in the U.S. and their debut appearance on the Ed Sullivan show in 1964. Dr. Babicz is currently working on a book exploring the impact of the Beatles' 1964 north American tour on American culture and politics.

Podcast

"Soviet DIY Folk Museums"

Interview with Erin Hutchinson

The Eurasian Knot Podcast, Oct. 2024

Erin Hutchinson (assistant professor, Soviet Union, modern Europe)

Synopsis: In the 1960s, Soviet intellectuals began creating do-it-yourself museums to preserve national folk cultures. They scoured village attics, abandoned churches, and rural homes to gather artifacts. In a recent article in the *Russian Review*, Erin Hutchinson tells the story of three of them—the Russian writer Vladimir Soloukhin's efforts to collect religious icons, the Ukrainian artist Ivan Honchar's mission to hunt down folk art, and the Gagauz poet Dmitri Kara Coban's efforts to preserve Gagauz artifacts in Moldova. All three were dissatisfied with how the Soviet state represented their national cultures in official museums, viewing them as ideologically distorted or incomplete. Why did and how did they do this? What was the point and larger meaning of their DIY museums? And what was their fate? To get answers, the Eurasian Knot spoke to Erin Hutchinson to discuss her prize-winning article, "[Gathering the Nation in the Village: Intellectuals and the Cultural Politics of Nationality in the Late Soviet Period](#)" in the January 2023 issue of the *Russian Review*.





Podcast

The Bosses' Union: How Employers Organized to Fight Labor Before the New Deal

History Hangout:

Conversation with Vilja Hulden

A Hagley Museum & Library Podcast

Vilja Hulden (teaching associate professor, modern U.S., digital history)

In this episode Roger Horowitz interviews Vilja Hulden (University of Colorado-Boulder) about her [2023] book, *The Bosses' Union: How Employers Organized to Fight Labor before the New Deal*. Her book explores how business organizations, especially the National Association of Manufacturers, sought to weaken labor unions in the first quarter of the 20th century.

Podcast

AHA Congressional Briefing: History of U.S.-China Relations

With Dr. Tim Weston, panelist

American Historical Association Podcast

Tim Weston (associate professor, modern China)

The AHA hosted a Congressional Briefing on September 29, 2023, on the history of relations between the United States and China. Moderator Tobie Meyer-Fong (Johns Hopkins Univ.) and panelists Kenneth Pomeranz (Univ. of Chicago), Shellen Xiao Wu (Lehigh Univ.), and Tim Weston (Univ. of Colorado, Boulder) provided historical context on US-China scientific exchanges, Chinese nationalism in relation to Sino-American relations, and recent demographic and political changes within China.



Listen to Podcast



Podcast

Black Majority: A Conversation with Peter Wood

Take on the South Podcast
University of South Carolina Institute for
Southern Studies

Peter H. Wood (adjunct professor, United States,
Slavery)

Mark Smith is joined by one of the most talented historians of the American South and author of the one of the most important books ever written on the region: Peter H. Wood. Professor Wood is author of *Black Majority: Race, Rice, and Rebellion in South Carolina, 1670-1740*. A landmark work published fifty years ago, *Black Majority* has stood the test of time. Find out why on this episode.

Podcast

How Wild An NPR Podcast

Phoebe Young (department chair and professor, environmental history, modern U.S.) appeared in three episodes of the NPR podcast, *How Wild*. This series was produced by Marissa Ortega-Welch out of KALW in California and, as a [Ted Scripps Fellow in Environmental Journalism](#) here at CU, sat in on professor Young's class on Environmental History of North America a couple of years ago as she was conceptualizing this podcast exploring the meaning of wilderness. She compiles stories and interviews from rangers, scientists, hikers, historians environmentalists, and Tribal leaders as they grapple with the realities of wilderness on a changing planet, and whether the concept of "wilderness" has ever really existed. Young is featured in **Ep. 2 - Undeveloped**, **Ep. 3 - Natural**, and **Ep. 7 - Wild Ideas**.



Listen to Episodes

Wild Idea - Undeveloped - Natural

Faculty update books

Thomas Pegelow Kaplan



The Center for Research
on the Holocaust in Germany



11

Jewish Press in Nazi Germany
Texts and Research

Thomas Pegelow Kaplan

Taking the
Transnational Turn

The German-Jewish Press
and Journalism Beyond Borders,
1933-1943

The International Institute
for Holocaust Research

Thomas Pegelow Kaplan (professor, Singer Chair in Jewish History; interim director of the Program in Jewish Studies 2023-24) published [Taking the Transnational Turn: The German-Jewish Press and Journalism Beyond Borders, 1933-1943](#), in Hebrew (Yad Vashem Publishers, December 2023).

About the book.

Taking the Transnational Turn:

The German-Jewish Press and Journalism Beyond Borders, 1933-1943

(Yad Vashem Publishers—December 2023)

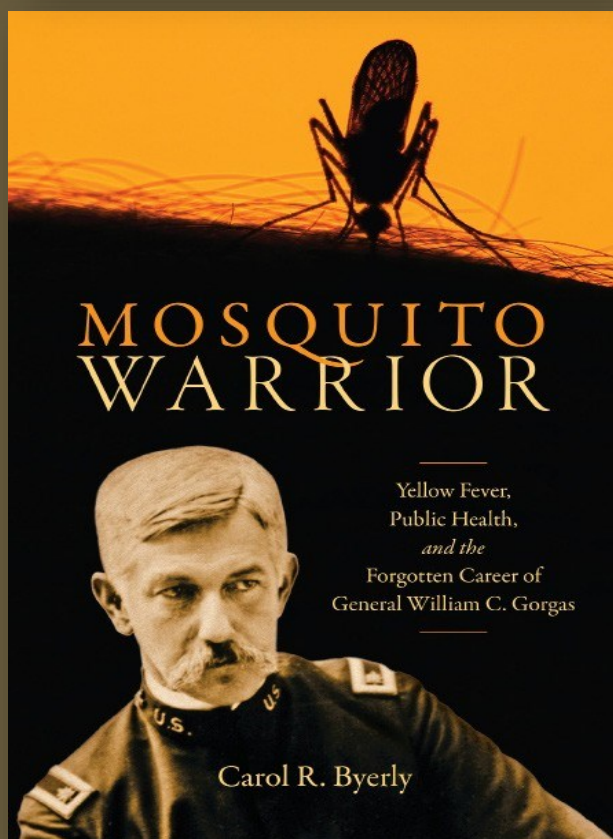
Thomas Pegelow Kaplan

This volume offers a new view on the German Jewish press in and beyond the Nazi state during the 1930s and early 1940s by demonstrating how many of its periodicals participated in establishing transnational spaces in which their readers had access to trans-European and global networks, verbiage, strategies, and support. However tentative and shifting, these forms of communication and networks helped many in their daily struggles against harassment and persecution within and far beyond the German borders. The volume demonstrates which genres, ranging from letters to the editor to foreign correspondents' writings, and what strategies editors, contributors, and readers relied on to create and expand these transnational webs of communication and transfers that, by 1937, had even risen to a key practice in publications once almost exclusively geared toward life in the diaspora. It includes a substantial collection of sources that not only reveal these phenomena on the pages of a series of periodicals in the Reich and recent émigré communities abroad. The volume also shows how Jewish readers, editors and authors, as well as aid organization and even fascist officials, participated in the expansion and transformation of transnational communication and space by including and analyzing excerpts from memoirs, diaries, letters and other ego-documents.



Alumni update books

Carol Byerly



Carol Byerly (HistPhD'01) a former instructor in the department, specializing in military medicine, published her new book, [*Mosquito Warrior: Yellow Fever, Public Health, and the Forgotten Career of General William C. Gorgas*](#) (University of Alabama Press, 2024).

About the book.

***Mosquito Warrior:
Yellow Fever, Public Health, and the
Forgotten Career of
General William C. Gorgas*
(University of Alabama Press — 2024)**

Carol R. Byerly

Mosquito Warrior tells the engrossing story of General William C. Gorgas (1854–1920), the once-renowned pioneer in tropical disease research and public health. His fascinating life illuminates vast transformations in the United States, including the end of the Civil War and the industrialization of the US military and economy, the emergence of germ theory and the modernization of the public health system, and the rise of the United States as a world power.

A scion of Confederate elites, Gorgas came of age amidst war and disease and the politics of racial segregation. He followed his father into military service as an army medical officer, treating troops on America's western frontier posts. During the US occupation of Cuba, Gorgas applied Walter Reed's research on the theory of mosquito-borne disease transmission, ending centuries of yellow fever in Havana through the eradication of the deadly *Aedes aegypti* mosquito. Applying similar strategies on the isthmus of Panama against yellow fever and malaria, Gorgas enabled the completion of the Panama Canal, then the largest engineering project in the world. Hailed a hero, he pursued his fight against mosquito-borne disease throughout the tropics, expanding American interests as he went. Appointed as US Army surgeon general on the eve of World War I, Gorgas resumed work modernizing the army health care system, strengthening US medical and military authority on the world stage. [READ MORE](#)

SPACES OF TREBLINKA

Jacob Flaws



SPACES OF TREBLINKA

RETRACING A DEATH CAMP / Jacob Flaws



Jacob Flaws (PhDHist'15) recently accepted a tenure-track job offer at Kean University in New Jersey. His book, [*Spaces of Treblinka: Retracing a Death Camp*](#), was published by University of Nebraska Press.

About the book.

Spaces of Treblinka:

Retracing a Death Camp

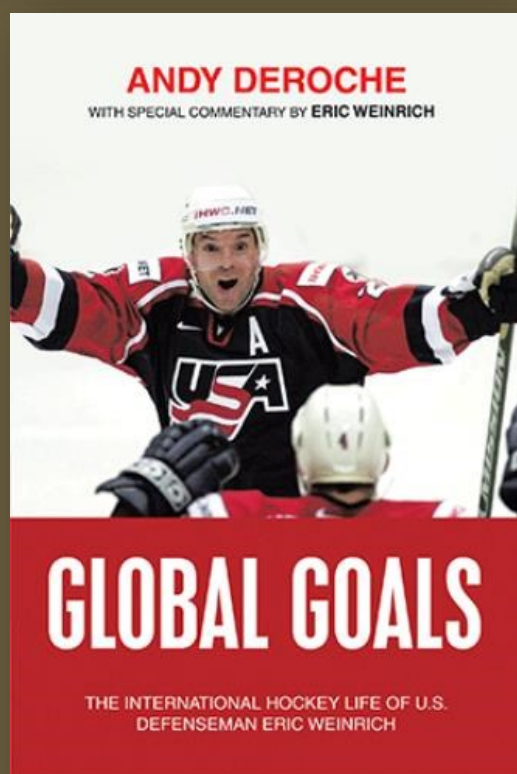
(University of Nebraska Press — 2024)

Jacob Flaws

S*paces of Treblinka* utilizes testimonies, oral histories, and recollections from Jewish, German, and Polish witnesses to create a holistic representation of the Treblinka death camp during its operation. This narrative rejects the historical misconception that Treblinka was an isolated Nazi extermination camp with few witnesses and fewer survivors. Rather than the secret, sanitized site of industrial killing Treblinka was intended to be, Jacob Flaws argues, Treblinka's mass murder was well known to the nearby townspeople who experienced the sights, sounds, smells, people, bodies, and train cars the camp ejected into the surrounding world.

Through spatial reality, Flaws portrays the conceptions, fantasies, ideological assumptions, and memories of Treblinka from witnesses in the camp and surrounding towns. To do so he identifies six key spaces that once composed the historical site of Treblinka: the ideological space, the behavioral space, the space of life and death, the interactional space, the sensory space, and the extended space. By examining these spaces Flaws reveals that there were more witnesses to Treblinka than previously realized, as the transnational groups near and within the camp overlapped and interacted. *Spaces of Treblinka* provides a staggering and profound reassessment of the relationship between knowing and not knowing and asks us to confront the timely warning that we, in our modern, interconnected world, can all become witnesses.

Andy DeRoche



Andy DeRoche (PhDHist'97, lecturer) recently published his latest book, *Global Goals: The International Hockey Life of U.S. Defenseman Eric Weinrich*, (iUniverse, 2024).

About the book.

Global Goals:

The International Hockey Life of U.S. Defenseman Eric Weinrich

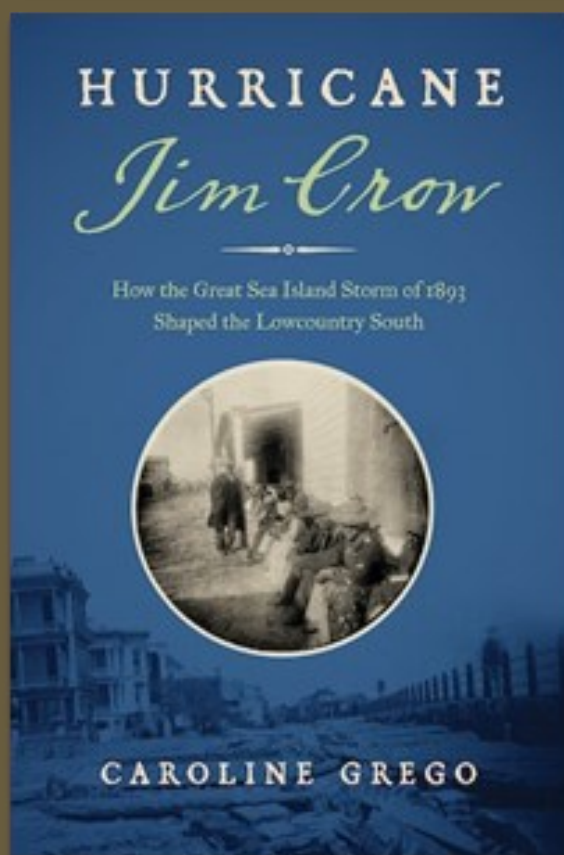
(iUniverse — 2024)

Andy DeRoche

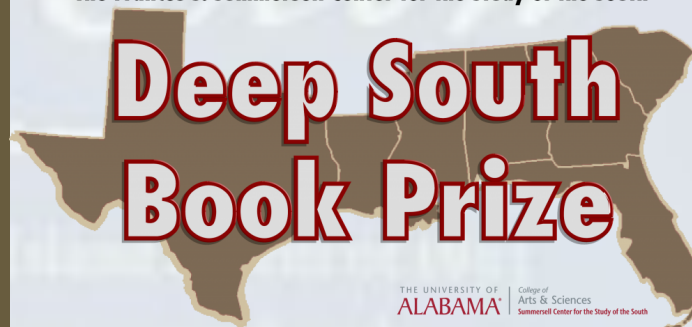
In *Global Goals*, author Andy DeRoche carefully examines the life of Eric Weinrich, who played in over 1,000 NHL games and represented the United States in more international hockey tournaments than any other player. Based on thorough research, this book details the actions of Eric “Weino” Weinrich on and off the ice during his over 30 years playing hockey. It also puts his career into the context of the final years of the Cold War in terms of US relations with the USSR. In addition to being a great athlete, “Weino” was a cultural ambassador who befriended former Soviet players such as Alexei Kasatonov. DeRoche is an old-fashioned historian who has written many previous books or articles, but what makes this work unique is that Eric Weinrich himself added considerable commentary in each chapter identified as “Weino’s Wisdom.” After first playing hockey in Rumford, Maine in the late 1970s, “Weino” led North Yarmouth Academy to a state championship in 1985. He skated for the University of Maine Black Bears for over two full seasons, helping to build the Maine program into a national powerhouse. After he played in the 1988 Olympics for the USA, he went pro with the Utica Devils in the AHL. He moved up to the New Jersey Devils in 1990, and then enjoyed a long and successful career in the NHL in Chicago, Montreal, Philadelphia, St. Louis, and elsewhere. He ended his career on the ice as a player-coach for the Portland (Maine) Pirates and would later be inducted into the Maine Sports Hall of Fame.

Alumni update book award

Caroline Grego



The Frances S. Summersell Center for the Study of the South



Caroline Grego (PhDHist'19) Was awarded the [Deep South Book Prize](#) by The Summersell Center for the Study of the South at the U. of Alabama for her first book, [Hurricane Jim Crow](#) (University of North Carolina Press, 2022). The prize usually does not go to first books in the field. Three days later, H-Environmental Roundtable Reviews, Volume 14, No. 7 (2024), published an excellent 25-page discussion of the book: [env-roundtable-14-7_0.pdf](#)

About the prize winner.

Caroline Grego, [Hurricane Jim Crow: How the Great Sea Island Storm of 1893 Shaped the Lowcountry South](#), Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, 2022.

Hurricane Jim Crow is an intense and heart-rending account of the destruction, aftermath, and lasting legacies of the 1893 Sea Islands Hurricane. In the devastation of the storm, White southerners sought to take advantage of the ravaged and independent Black sea islanders to consolidate White supremacist policy and erase Black contributions. Caroline Grego seamlessly unites environment, race, culture, politics, and economics into a cohesive narrative following communities in Lowcountry South Carolina as they experienced and tried to recover from one of the deadliest hurricanes in U.S. history. Thoughtfully written and provocative, Grego's book serves as a harrowing reminder of the power of the Earth and the legacies disasters produce.

- University of Alabama Department of History

Alumni updates

Pete Steinhauer lectures to the HIST 2166-888 Honors RAP class in Smith Hall.



The crew preparing to interview Col. Barry Baer. Back to the camera is Terrienne Steinhauer, Pete Steinhauer's daughter.



Rick from Directional Entertainment preparing to interview Dr. Steven Dike in his office.

Vietnam wars history class becomes part of a documentary film, based on guest lecturer.

Steven Dike

(PhDHist'11, associate teaching professor) welcomed a film crew from Directional Entertainment to Boulder and to CU in October to record footage for an upcoming documentary, Welcome Home Daddy. The crew filmed a guest lecture by Pete Steinhauer in a Vietnam Wars class taught by Dike and also conducted individual interviews with both Steinhauer and Dike. In addition, the film crew conducted individual interviews with Vietnam veterans Chuck Forsman and Barry Baer, who also guest lecture in Dike's Vietnam War classes.

Related article [Veteran sees Vietnam the country beyond the war](#)

In Colorado Arts and Sciences Magazine

Reed Chervin

(MAHist'14) accepted a postdoctoral position in the Department of Strategy and Policy at the Naval War College in Rhode Island.

Kerri Clement

(PhDHist'21) has accepted a tenure-track position at Weber State University in Utah.

Cate Costley

(PhDHist'24) received a Thompson Fellowship in spring 2024. The fellowship offered her the time and space to finish writing and revising her dissertation—and for that she is most grateful. Last April, she successfully defended her dissertation, which is titled “Border Town, Native Nation: Rights, Sovereignty, and Proximity in the Four Corners Region.”

Costley is now in her first year of law school at Colorado Law. She is, it seems, both a Forever Buff and a Forever Student! She is excited to see where the combination of Native history and Indigenous law take her. And she is deeply appreciative of the support she received from the Thompsons and the History Department.

Jack Kontarinis

(Hist'23) an honors graduate, has been accepted into the MA program in European history at New York University.

Thomas Jacob Noel

(MA,PhDHist) is a Professor Emeritus of History at the University of Colorado Denver, where he established the Public History Program, the *CU-Denver Historical Studies Journal* and taught for 50 years. Noel earned his M.A. and Ph.D. in history from CU Boulder, where his mother (a psychiatrist) and grandmother (a teacher) also did their graduate work. For his obsession with the Centennial State, he is also known as “Dr. Colorado”, a title bestowed by the CU Denver PR department. It also is the title he appeared as at KUSA Denver/NBC's Colorado & Company show for 15 years. Noel is a longtime former *Sunday* columnist for the *Rocky Mountain News* and *The Denver Post*. He was appointed Colorado State Historian in 2018. For more details, visit <http://dr-colorado.com>

Noel is the author or co-author of 54 books. His *Boom & Bust Colorado: From the 1859 Gold Rush to the 2020 Pandemic* (with Bill Hansen) was published by REDDOT/Pequot Press in September 2021. His book, *Buildings of Colorado* (Oxford University Press) won a top prize from the Colorado chapter of the American Institute of Architects. His book, *Colorado: A Historical Atlas* (University of Oklahoma Press) won the High Plains, Angie DeBow and Colorado

Alumni updates



Book prizes for best Colorado history title. Noel also has written at least 1,000 articles, columns and reviews. He received the Thomas Hornsby Ferril, Colorado Authors' League and Frank Waters prizes for lifetime literary achievement.

For books, events and other information, please visit <http://dr-colorado.com>

Andrew Pace

(PhDHist'23) accepted a postdoctoral position at the Dale Center for the Study of War & Society at the University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg, Miss. He will now be able to focus on revising his dissertation into a book and doing research on the center's project on finding missing soldiers from WWII.

Anna Marie Roos

(PhDHist'97) gave the annual Bynum Lecture in the history of medicine for the Royal Society of Medicine in London on Feb. 7 2024. Her topic was: "Physician, Virtuoso: The Interdisciplinarity of physicians in the early Royal Society." Roos is currently the professor of the History of Science and Medicine at the University of Lincoln and editor-in-chief of *Notes and Records: The Royal Society Journal of the History of Science*. For more information about the event, see: <https://www.rsm.ac.uk/events/history-of-medicine/2023-24/hss04/>

Sherri Sheu

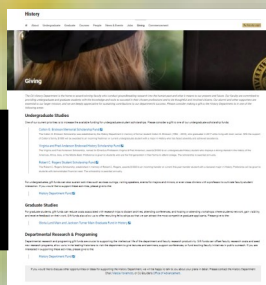
(PhDHist'23) has been offered a permanent position as an historian in the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C.

Jesús Solís

(MAHist'12) completed his PhD in Japanese history at Harvard this spring and began a postdoc at the Harvard Weatherhead Institute in its program on U.S.-Japan Relations this fall.

Forever
Buffs®

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Giving funds

The CU History Department is the home to award-winning faculty who conduct groundbreaking research into the human past and what it means to our present and future. Our faculty are committed to providing undergraduate and graduate students with the knowledge and tools to succeed in their chosen professions and to be thoughtful and involved citizens. Our alumni and other supporters are essential to our larger mission, and we are deeply appreciative for sustaining contributions to our department's success. Please consider making a gift to the History Department to in one of the following areas:

Undergraduate Studies

One of our current priorities is to increase the available funding for undergraduate student scholarships. Please consider a gift to one of our undergraduate scholarship funds:

[Colton G. Erickson Memorial Scholarship Fund](#)

The **Colton G. Erickson** Scholarship was established by the History Department with the support of Colton's family, in memory of former student [Colton G. Erickson \(1994 – 2018\)](#), who graduated in 2017 while living with brain cancer. The fund will provide undergraduate scholarship awards for students enrolled in the Department of History within the College of Arts & Sciences at CU Boulder. Recipients will have faced unusual adversity in their lives, while achieving excellence as determined by the scholarship application process. Scholarship recipients will also demonstrate financial need. Scholarships will be awarded for one academic year and previous recipients are encouraged to reapply.

[Virginia and Fred Anderson Endowed History Scholarship Fund](#)

The **Virginia & Fred Anderson Scholarship in History** is given in honor of Emeritus faculty [Virginia DeJohn Anderson](#) and [Fred Anderson](#). The fund shall be used to provide undergraduate scholarship awards for students based on financial need and academic merit who are enrolled in the Department of History. This year we encourage applications from students with a strong interest in studying American History.

[Robert C. Rogers Student Scholarship Fund](#)

The **Robert C. Rogers** Scholarship, established in memory of [Robert C. Rogers](#), is awarded to incoming first-year, incoming transfer, or continuing undergraduate students with a declared major or minor in History. The scholarship is awarded for one academic year and past recipients are encouraged to reapply.

For undergraduates, gift funds can also sustain activities such as class outings, visiting speakers, events for majors and minors, or even class dinners with a professor to cultivate faculty-student interaction. If you would like to support these activities, please give to the:

[History Department Fund](#)

Graduate Studies

For graduate students, gift funds can reduce costs associated with research trips to distant archives, attending conferences, and hosting or attending workshops where students network, gain visibility, and receive feedback on their work. Gift funds also allow us to offer recruiting fellowships so that we can attract the most competitive graduate applicants. Please give to the:

[Gloria Lund Main and Jackson Turner Main Graduate Fund in History](#)

Departmental Research & Programing

Departmental research and programing gift funds are crucial to supporting the intellectual life of the department and faculty research productivity. Gift funds can offset faculty research costs and seed new research programs, allow us to invite leading historians to visit the department to give lectures and seminars, support conferences, or fund exciting faculty initiatives in public outreach. If you are interested in supporting these activities, please give to the:

[History Department Fund](#)

If you would like to discuss other opportunities or ideas for supporting the History Department, we will be happy to talk to you about your plans in detail. Please contact the History Department Chair, [Phoebe S.K. Young](#), or CU Boulder's [Office of Advancement](#).



Hellems Arts and Sciences, shown here in the 1930s, was the first building on campus built using the trademark Tuscan Vernacular style [A.A. Paddock Collection: University of Colorado, Boulder](#)

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