Dear Friends:

Fall 2015 gave us our first look at candidates for our new position in modern Middle Eastern history, and we now are excited as we look forward to interviewing three excellent finalists on campus at the beginning of the spring semester.

Another group of history majors have progressed through History 91. Final papers included work on Jewish Confederates in the U.S. Civil War; sociopolitical struggles over the reconstruction of Little Tokyo in Los Angeles in the 1970s and 1980s; the changing memorialization of the battle of Gallipoli in Australia; the intellectual and medical history of thinking about hermaphroditism in early modern England; and the last decade of operation of Eastern State Penitentiary in Philadelphia.

Our emeritus colleague Bob DuPlessis’ eagerly anticipated study of textiles in the early modern global economy, *The Material Atlantic*, was published by Cambridge University Press. We plan to read it together as a department, both faculty and students, in the spring and have a discussion devoted to the book. We certainly anticipate liking the book more than we liked our last shared reading, *The History Manifesto*!

Our Field lecturer, David Engerman ’88, gave us a provocative look into his current work on the “economic Cold War” and how it affected the relationship between the United States and India.

*Continued on page 5 . . .*
A foggy morning earlier this month on one of our oddly warm days. Picture taken from the department office in Trotter by Jen Moore.

Congratulations to our 2015 graduates: Alis Anasal, Jessie Arian, Amanda Beebe, Ying Yu Chen, Eve DiMagno, Amy DiPierro, Rossana Estrada, Zoeth Flegenheimer, Abigail Frank, Natalie Giotta, Danica Harvey, Hanna King, Lucia Luna-Victoria, María Mejía, Alex Moskowitz, Julia Nee, Griffin Olmstead, Joshua Raifman, Leo Rayfiel, Jackie Sailer, Miles Schraft-Schuck, Allie Shultes, Nathan Siegel, Geoffrey Stewart, Eva Taeubel, Treasure Tinsley, Katie Warren, Haydn Welch, and Alexandra Willingham.

Seth Koven ’78’s 2015 publication, The Match Girl and the Heiress from Princeton University Press, was featured in the Times Higher Education last year. It also garnered some awards for Koven, including the Stansky Prize from the North American Conference on British Studies and the NAVSA Best Book of the Year award. The book will be available in paperback in April.

Mara Willard ’96 is now an assistant professor of Religious Studies at the

Faculty News

Adam Bisno ’06 spoke at Peripeteia’s “On Drugs with Peripeteia: A Discussion on Drugs and How They Affect Us” on December 2nd. He was on the panel with Professors Ellen Magenheim of Economics and Milton Machuca-Gálvez of Latin American and Latino Studies.

Allison Dorsey successfully directed the first summer of the Swarthmore Summer Scholars Program, or 53P. Professor Dorsey is committed to the program for the next four years as director. The program has Mathematics, Science, and Writing components over five weeks and prepares traditionally underrepresented students for success in college, particularly in STEM fields.

Bruce Dorsey was recently published in the Journal of the History of Sexuality with his article “‘Making Men What They Should Be’: Male Same-Sex Intimacy and Evangelical Religion in Early Nineteenth-Century New England.” You can find the article here: https://muse.jhu.edu/login?auth=0&type=summary&url=%2Fjournals%2Fjournal_of_the_history_of_sexuality%2Fv024%2F24.3_dorsey.html.

Professor Murphy is currently working on a paper regarding the IWW and the Irish diaspora.

Professor Weinberg writes, “I plan to conduct archival research in Odessa, Ukraine, during spring break. Over thirty years ago I spent a month conducting research in Odessa for what would become my dissertation and then book about the revolution of 1905. However, the Soviet authorities did not grant me permission to look at archival materials. But now access to the archives is open, and I want to read police reports about ethnic violence and supplement what I wrote in my dissertation and book. In particular, I am curious to learn whether the police reports

Student & Alumni News

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Recent Events

We cosponsored a number of talks and events this fall, and our faculty participated in a variety of events this fall, including:


The annual Chocolates Party took place on October 1. Molly Petchenik and Joelle Hageboutros ’16 split the prize on our chocolates quiz – a gift card to Capogiro … to eat more chocolate, perhaps!

History joined the Lang Center and the Department of Political Science to sponsor a talk by Raghu Karnad ’05 about his breakthrough book, Farthest Afield: An Indian Story of World War II, on October 23. The event was live-tweeted here: http://daily.swarthmore.edu/2015/10/30/raghu-karnad-05-book-talk-farthest-field-an-indian-story-of-the-second-world-war/.

Students brought in Modreck Maeresera on October 27th. Modrek came to speak about the Lemba Jewish community in Zimbabwe. Kelilah organized the talk, with sponsorships from the Departments of Religion and History.

Additionally, on October 27, Professors Murphy and Weinberg shared breakfast with Professor Murphy’s Irish History course. Majors were invited to the class earlier to partake of the Irish soda bread Professor Murphy baked and the Federal Donuts and coffee Professor Weinberg brought by.

On November 5th, Professor Murphy’s Irish History course met with scholar and tour leader Hank McNally about modern Irish History. The class meeting was followed by a small luncheon with folks on campus interested in Irish Studies.

Professor Robert Weinberg brought performers to campus in November, in conjunction with Drexel University, for his students and the campus community. “Lost Yiddish Songs of the Holocaust,” performed by “avant-bard” singer/songwriter/performer Dr. Psyo Korolenko and Professor Anna Shternshis of the University of Toronto was sponsored by the Department of Music & Dance and the President’s Office, along with the Department of History.

The Friends Historical Library brought in Aaron Wunsch to talk about Quakers and rural cemeteries on November 4 in a talk titled, “A Productive Repulsion: Quakers Conceive, Condemn, and Co-opt Philadelphia’s Rural Cemetery Movement."

The James A. Field Lecture took place on November 19. David Engerman ’88 spoke about India’s relationship to our Cold War.

Adam Bisno ’06 participated in Peripeteia’s discussion on drugs on December 2nd. The event was live-tweeted here: http://daily.swarthmore.edu/2015/12/03/live-tweet-on-drugs-with-peripeteia/.

Nick Gaw ’09 returned for a career panel sponsored by Linguistics, Career Services, Alumni Relations, and the Provost’s Office on December 4th.
Upcoming Events

The last semester of this academic year will be busy. We will accept a new class of majors, and we hope to extend an offer to one of our finalists for the modern Middle East tenure track position currently available.

On May 6 and 7, 2016, Professor BuYun Chen will host a reading workshop, Women at Work: Reconstructing Nügong through Text and Image. This workshop is being funded by the Henry Luce Foundation/ACLS Program in China Studies through their Collaborative Reading Workshop Grant.

Continued from Letter from the Chair on page 1...

Our specialist in Chinese history, BuYun Chen, is in the final stages of organizing a conference for May 2016 at Swarthmore on nügong, “women’s work”. We’ll have a report from the event in our next newsletter.

We’ve been talking about the past, present, and future of Honors this fall. We’d love to hear from alumni about their views of Honors in the History Department, both from those who were Honors majors/minors and those who were not.

We hope that the close of 2015 and the beginning of 2016 find all of our readers well. As always, we will be glad to hear from you about any news or information you would like to share. You can contact us via email or on Facebook to let us know how you’re doing!

Timothy J. Burke
Professor of History and Chair

Continued from Faculty News on page 2

will affect my earlier discussion and analysis. In addition, I plan to read documents about the Stalin Jewish Agricultural Technical Institute that existed from the late 1920s to the late 1930s. The school was part of the Soviet government’s effort to promote the employment of Jews in agriculture.”


How was your honors experience?

Did you do an internship when you were a student? Do you need interns? Were you recently published? We want to hear from you! You can share your story via the newsletter or simply tell us about it via email so that we can post the internship to our website. Email the department:
history@swarthmore.edu.

Thank you!

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University of Oklahoma.

**Nick Gaw ’09** returned to campus for a career panel organized by Linguistics and supported by Alumni Relations, Career Services, Student Disability Services and the Provost’s Office. Nick is currently a Senior Technology Advisor with Avaaz.org. The panel also included **Twan Claiborne ’08, Casey Ferrara ’14**, and Hadass Sheffer.

**Timothy Stewart-Winter ’01** wrote an article for the *New York Times* following the Supreme Court’s decision on same-sex marriage last summer. You can read the article here:


**Tara Zahra ’98** had an article in *Foreign Affairs* about the refugee crisis and Eastern Europe. You can read the article here:


**Professor Zahra ’98** also has an article in the *New York Times* that opens, “One of the great myths Americans have about their country is that everyone wants to come here.” In the article, she further contextualizes the current crisis. You can read it here:


**Pieter Judson ’78** has a new book coming out in April, *The Hapsburg Empire: A New History.*

As always, you can find more information on our department website:

[http://www.swarthmore.edu/academics/history.xml](http://www.swarthmore.edu/academics/history.xml)

You can “Like” us on Facebook for more regular updates about the Department:

[https://www.facebook.com/swathistory](https://www.facebook.com/swathistory)
## Faculty Talks, 2015

### March

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<th>Speaker</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3/28</td>
<td>Marjorie Murphy</td>
<td>“James Connolly in the 1916 Irish Uprising”</td>
<td>Dublin, Ireland</td>
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<tr>
<td>4/1</td>
<td>Bruce Dorsey</td>
<td>The Writing History Seminar at The New School</td>
<td>New York City, USA</td>
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### April

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### June

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<tr>
<td>6/30</td>
<td>Bruce Dorsey</td>
<td>Uncertainty and Risk in America workshop, John F. Kennedy Institute for Northamerican Studies at Freie Universität</td>
<td>Berlin, Germany</td>
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