
Organization of American Historians

Awards Ceremony and Presidential Address

Saturday, April 2, 2005, 4:30 PM



San José McEnery Convention Center

San José, California

2005 OAH Awards Ceremony and Presidential Address -Saturday, April 2, 2005

Schedule of Events

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- 5:00PM 2005 Presidential Address 19

OAH President James O. Horton invites you to a reception in his honor at 9:00 PM in this same location. Dr. Loco's Rockin' Jalapeño Band is scheduled to perform. The reception is sponsored by the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History.

On the cover: "This is the market where the storekeeper buys the food and brings it to his store near your house." Federal Art Project, 1937. Work Projects Administration Poster Collection (Library of Congress LC-USZC2-999 DLC). Library of Congress Prints and Photographs Division Washington, D.C. 20540.

I. 2005 OAH Awards and Prizes

The Organization of American Historians sponsors annual awards and prizes given in recognition of scholarly and professional achievements in the field of American history. Please join us in congratulating the following 2005 OAH award and prize winners.

Distinguished Service Award

for an individual or individuals whose contributions have significantly enriched our understanding and appreciation of American history

Dwight T. Pitcaithley, Chief Historian, National Park Service.

The Executive Board of the Organization of American Historians confers its Distinguished Service Award on Dwight T. Pitcaithley, in recognition of his promotion of public history, particularly his role in creating and advancing the cooperative agreement between the Organization of American Historians and the NPS. After serving in the Marine Corps in California, Hawaii, and Vietnam, Pitcaithley earned his B.A. and M.A. from Eastern New Mexico University and his doctorate in western history at Texas Tech University. What began as a short term position in 1976 as an NPS research historian in Santa Fe led him to positions as regional historian in Boston, the Chief of Cultural Resources Management in the National Capital Region in Washington, and, in 1995, to the position of Chief Historian for the National Park Service.



Pitcaithley

In the National Park Service, Pitcaithley has seen his role as the "primary spokesperson for history as a discipline and a profession." He has worked to ensure that NPS standards for research, cultural resource management, and interpretation reflect those of the history profession as a whole. Good and current scholarship, he has argued, provides the basis for both academic history and public history. The difference between the two lies not in scholarship but in the ways in which the history is presented. And since so much of the public learns about the past at public history sites, those who manage such sites have a special responsibility not only to convey the most up-to-date and soundest scholarship, but also to suggest the various ways in which history is constructed and interpreted.

As a member of OAH, Pitcaithley served on the Committee on Public History between 1983 and 1985, and on the Program Committee in both 1995 and 2002. But his most valuable service has been in bringing to life the cooperative agreement between the OAH and the NPS. The agreement, which celebrates its tenth anniversary this year, has encouraged collaboration between OAH members and NPS staff on a variety of projects ranging from critical site reviews to original research, historiographical essays, and suggestions for new directions and interpretations. While the collaboration furthers Pitcaithley's goals for the National Park Service, it has also provided wonderful opportunities for academic historians to explore new types of historic sources and to reach a far broader audience than otherwise possible through traditional publishing channels.

Dwight Pitcaithley is a historian who has upheld and promoted the highest scholarly standards. His firm grasp of history has helped

him to make public history sites places where people learn that there are no simple understandings of the past and where public debate and discussion are welcome. For his many contributions to both the public and to the profession, we are proud to celebrate Dwight Pitcaithley as the recipient of the 2005 OAH Distinguished Service Award.

Friend of History

The OAH Friend of History Award recognizes an individual, who is not a professional historian, or an institution or organization for outstanding support for the pursuit of historical research, for the public presentation of history, or for the work of the OAH. In this inaugural year of the Friend of History Award, the OAH Executive Board recognizes both an institution and an individual.

Friend of History Award: The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History

Founded in 1994, the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History promotes the study and love of American history. Increasingly national and international in scope, the institute's initiatives target audiences ranging from students to scholars to the general public. The institute creates history-centered schools and academic research centers; organizes seminars and enrichment programs for educators; produces print and electronic publications and traveling exhibitions; and sponsors lectures by eminent historians. The institute funds awards including the Lincoln and Frederick Douglass Book Prizes and offers fellowships for scholars to work in the Gilder Lehrman Collection and other archives.

The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History has provided significant support to the OAH in fulfilling its mission to promote excellence in the teaching of American history and to encourage wide discussion of historical questions. The institute has supported OAH's efforts to expand its teaching publication, the *OAH Magazine of History*, in both quality of presentation and size of subscriber base. It has created the Gilder Lehrman Travel Fellowships that help bring precollegiate educators to the OAH Annual Meeting each spring. And it has supported *Talking History*, the OAH weekly radio program which brings the finest American history to a broad audience beyond the walls of academe.

Friend of History Award: Sy Sternberg

Sy Sternberg is Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of New York Life Insurance Company. He joined New York Life in 1989 as a Senior Vice President, became Executive Vice President in 1991, was elected Vice Chairman of the Board in February 1995, and became President and Chief Operating Officer later that year. He serves on numerous corporate, nonprofit, and education boards. In 1999, Mr. Sternberg was appointed by President Clinton and served through 2002 as one of three U.S. representatives to the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Business Advisory Council. He is currently a member of the board of the U.S.-China Business Council.



Sternberg

Although his education background is in electrical engineering, with a graduate degree from Northeastern University, Sternberg has a deep and abiding passion for history. One of his most important efforts in promoting the presentation of American history to a wide audience was his securing major funding from New York Life for two powerful PBS series in African American history. *The Rise and Fall of Jim Crow*, considered one of the best documentary series on the subject, chronicles the African American freedom struggle from Emancipation to *Brown v. Board of Education*. The series highlights both the domestic terror faced by African Americans in this era as well as their achievements, failures, and survival during a period of American history about which the general public knows little. The second major African American documentary series that Sternberg secured New York Life funding for is the recently broadcast *Slavery and the Making of America*. Covering the development of African American slavery from 1619 through Reconstruction, this riveting series reveals the complexity of a very American institution. And it demonstrates, as OAH President James O. Horton has noted, that "Slavery was no side show in American history—it was the main event."

Frederick Jackson Turner Award

for an author's first book dealing with some significant phase of American history

Award committee: William B. Hart, Middlebury College; Helen Lefkowitz Horowitz, Smith College, Chair; and Robert W. Rydell, Montana State University, Bozeman

Mae M. Ngai, University of Chicago. In *Impossible Subjects: Illegal Aliens and the Making of Modern America* (Princeton University Press), Mae Ngai has written a book that is sweeping in its scope and far reaching in its implications for immigration policy and the study of American life. Ngai's deep archival work, close reading of sources, and persuasive arguments, shape this penetrating legal, intellectual, and social history of the "illegal alien" in the United States between 1924 and 1965. Ngai examines the connections between U.S. public policy, the economy, immigration law, bureaucratic administration, and white racial ideology. Focusing on Filipino, Mexican, Japanese, and Chinese workers and families, Ngai presents illuminating case studies that reshape understanding of the immigrant experience in twentieth-century America. The author offers a profound exploration of the shifting categories of legal and illegal alien, citizen, immigrant, race, and ethnicity and examines closely the complicated, contradictory, and often self-serving history of U.S. immigration policy. Addressing key issues of the present moment, *Impossible Subjects* is timely, yet the quality of its history is unbounded by the present. *Impossible Subjects* stands as a brilliant book of great breadth and depth that should inform policy makers of naturalization law and practice and will anchor the study of immigration history for years to come.



Ngai

Merle Curti Award

for the best book published in American social, intellectual, or cultural history

Award committee: Lois E. Horton, George Mason University; Richard Latner, Tulane University, Chair; Joanne Pope Melish, University of Kentucky; Jane Rhodes, University of California, San Diego; and David Wrobel, University of Nevada, Las Vegas



Mintz

Steven Mintz, University of Houston. Gracefully written and deeply absorbing, *Huck's Raft: A History of American Childhood* (Harvard University Press) brings together a vast array of material to provide an authoritative interpretive synthesis of American childhood. Viewing the concept and experience of childhood as a historically contingent social and cultural construct, Mintz places children at the front and center of events from colonial America to the present, including their experiences in slavery, industrialization, urbanization, immigration, and war. Identifying three overlapping historical phases, Mintz knowledgeably details how childhood has changed over four centuries in such facets as physiological development, psychological demands, relationships with parents, play, schooling, and paths to adulthood. Of particular merit is his delineation of the diversity of childhood, showing the varying effects of geography, social class, economic condition, race, and gender. *Huck's Raft* challenges common myths of American childhood, particularly nostalgic fantasies of an idyllic past, and places both the problems and possible solutions to the dilemmas of our contemporary "postmodern" childhood—unprecedented autonomy yet enhanced regimentation and prolonged dependence—in historical perspective. With sensitivity and insight, Mintz illuminates the experiences of a group generally less visible and considered more marginal as historical subjects. *Huck's Raft* stands as a model social history.



O'Brien

Michael O'Brien, University of Cambridge. Ambitious, comprehensive, and compelling, *Conjectures of Order: Intellectual Life and the American South, 1810-1860* (University of North Carolina Press) persuasively argues for the existence of an engaged and vibrant intellectual culture that made the antebellum South a participant in broader intellectual currents as well as a distinctive region. The first volume focuses on the social context of southern intellectual life and reveals a South that was national, postcolonial, and imperial all at once. Southerners toured and studied abroad, lived in a "polyglot culture," and conversed by means of an elaborate array of informal and formal practices. Southern society was not fixed or stable but, rather, mutable and anxious. Southern intellectuals, the focus of volume two, reflected this "confused world." Their intellectual imaginings, closely tuned to Europe, were cosmopolitan and receptive to new ideas yet also provincially self-doubting. As they navigated in a complex and jagged fashion from Enlightenment conventions to Romantic modes of understanding, and finally to a bleak, realist "last moment," southern thinkers on the eve of secession "knew that life compelled choices and that all choices entailed loss." However much southern intellectuals had tried to shape an orderly world, they nonetheless anxiously reflected the mutability and disorder that surrounded them. Examining people and places that are well known, less well known, and hitherto virtually unknown, O'Brien's nuanced and richly textured analysis will be a benchmark for future investigations.

Ray Allen Billington Prize

for the best book in American frontier history, defined broadly so as to include the pioneer periods of all geographical areas and comparisons between American frontiers and others

Prize committee: Mary Murphy, Montana State University; Gunther Peck, Duke University; and Virginia Scharff, University of New Mexico, Chair

Colin G. Calloway, Dartmouth College. *One Vast Winter Count: The Native American West before Lewis and Clark* (University of Nebraska Press) quite simply reconfigures the chronology, sweep, and meaning of American history. Telling the story of indigenous peoples from coast to coast, over the millennia before the coming of the American nation's most celebrated discoverers, Calloway's subject is vast, but his mastery of the material is up to the challenge. He demonstrates that our national story is but the latest episode of human history spanning a much longer, more diverse, and dramatic past. Calloway uses a vast array of sources drawn from archaeology, anthropology, oral history, and historical documents to present a careful, balanced, moving and immensely readable narrative, as attentive to indigenous concerns and perspectives as it is faithful to the demands of historical analysis. He has given us a monumental and indispensable work of American history.



Calloway

Avery O. Craven Award

for the most original book on the coming of the Civil War, the Civil War years, or the era of Reconstruction, with the exception of works of purely military history

Award committee: Michael Fellman, Simon Fraser University; Manisha Sinha, University of Massachusetts, Amherst; Donald Yacovone, Massachusetts Historical Society and editor, Massachusetts Historical Review, Chair

C. Wyatt Evans, Drew University, *The Legend of John Wilkes Booth: Myth, Memory, and a Mummy* (University Press of Kansas). With rare imagination and grace, Evans's study weaves the story of Booth's crime and its aftermath into the history of Southern resistance to the Union's victory and black rights. He examines both Northern and Southern legends of Booth's alleged survival and shows how the depoliticization of the Lincoln assassination buttressed the increasingly oppressive national politics of race. In some of the more fanciful popular claims detailed by Evans, Booth traveled around the world, received honors from the Emperor of China, and even met with Guiteau and Czolgosz in an informal conference of assassins. The mummified "body" of the Lincoln assassin, intended by an Oklahoma huckster to boost tourism, instead became "proof" of government lies about Booth's death and further fueled white rejection of post war efforts to establish racial justice. Evans creatively contextualizes the mummy's popular appeal and links the Booth mythology to modern conspiratorial theories, such as those that developed in the wake of the Kennedy assassination. Evans's book shows that if Booth had not lived, Americans would have invented him to quench unsatisfiable anxieties resulting from the Civil War. Indeed, as he demonstrates, Americans invented many Booths



Evans

to answer nagging problems of race, nationality, and trauma. Evans's work offers assurance that the future of the historical profession is in able hands.

James A. Rawley Prize

for a book dealing with the history of race relations in the United States

Prize committee: Scott Hancock, Gettysburg College; Gerald Horne, University of Houston, Chair; and Clement Alexander Price, Rutgers University



Self

Robert O. Self, Brown University. *American Babylon: Race and the Struggle for Postwar Oakland* (Princeton University Press) is a path-breaking, original, and complex work of scholarship that seeks to comprehend the urban crisis that transformed Oakland, California, from 1945 to 1978. Building upon past scholarship while driving urban, African-American, and political history in bold new directions, Self situates Oakland within dynamic “racial”, economic, and social transformations coursing through the nation in the post-World War II era. Self suggests that the fate of this region’s African-American community was tied intimately to wider developments, e.g., the growth of conservatism symbolized by a statewide tax rebellion (Proposition 13), a shrinking industrial base, and the proliferation of suburbanization. Indeed, Self suggests that it is difficult to comprehend Oakland’s evolution without understanding the concomitant rise of neighboring Silicon Valley. Similarly, the development of mass transit also facilitated suburbanization and, thus, left a deep imprint on Oakland. The author does not ignore politics. He provides a meticulous analysis of various political campaigns, including one of the more comprehensive examinations of an Oakland-based entity of national, if not global, significance—the Black Panther Party. Elegantly constructed and persuasively argued, *American Babylon* makes a significant contribution to urban history, African-American history, and the history of the western U.S., among other fields.

Willi Paul Adams Award

for the best book on American history published in a foreign language

Award committee: Xiaolan Bao, California State University, Long Beach; Kate Delaney, Independent Scholar; Norbert Finzsch, University of Cologne; Hartmut Keil, University of Leipzig; François Weil, École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales, Chair; and Allan M. Winkler, Miami University (Ohio)



Cordillot

Michel Cordillot, Université Paris 8. *The Democratic and Social Republic in America: French-Speaking Radicals in the USA, a Biographical Dictionary, 1848-1922* (Editions de l’Atelier) is a truly outstanding and important contribution to the social, intellectual, and labor history of the United States. The collected works of forty European and North American scholars assembled and headed by Michel Cordillot, this landmark biographical dictionary has mapped out unknown territory and made visible for the first time generations of French-speaking immigrant militants who were active in social movements in the United States. No reference work like this has ever been done before, and the results are remarkable and inspi-

ration. It can be mined for the lives themselves, used as a guide toward a yet largely unwritten history of the Franco-American socialist movement, or to better understand collective efforts on a geographical, organizational, or ideological basis. Because of its originality and usefulness to other scholars, the committee unanimously felt that Michel Cordillot’s dictionary was deserving of the Willi Paul Adams Award.

Ellis W. Hawley Prize

for the best book-length historical study of the political economy, politics, or institutions of the United States, in its domestic or international affairs, from the Civil War to the present

Prize committee: Raymond Arsenault, University of South Florida, Chair; Howard Gillette Jr., Rutgers University, Camden; and Jacqueline Jones, Brandeis University

Alison Isenberg, Rutgers University, New Brunswick. *Downtown America: A History of the Place and the People Who Made It* (The University of Chicago Press) illuminates the history of Main Street—a place she describes as “a stage at the city’s commercial center.” In this fresh, provocative account, “downtown” becomes a template for national values and aspirations, a site of social and political conflict as well as a crossroads of business activity, robust and otherwise. Isenberg traces the history of the urban business district from the early-twentieth century, when “female domestic housekeepers” sought to enhance civic life, through the Great Depression, war and peace, and inner-city rebellions of the 1960s, to the resurgence of “festival marketplaces” in the 1970s and beyond. Drawing upon perspectives from architecture, urban planning, and social, political, and business history, she enlivens the narrative with visual representations of downtown as rendered by post-card artists, map makers, and marketing strategists. She eschews nostalgia in favor of a rigorous examination of not only commercial retailers and urban policy makers, but also middle-class women shoppers, civil rights activists, developers of late-twentieth century waterfront renewal projects, and the other actors who claimed this unique “stage” as their own. Indeed, encapsulated in her study is a sweeping, compelling view of many of the major themes of twentieth-century America.



Isenberg

Liberty Legacy Foundation Award

for the best book on any aspect of the struggle for civil rights in the United States, from the nation’s founding to the present

Award committee: Phyllis Palmer, The George Washington University, Chair; Robert A. Pratt, University of Georgia; and Marie Tyler-McGraw, Independent Historian

Nikhil Pal Singh, University of Washington, Seattle. *Black is a Country: Race and the Unfinished Struggle for Democracy* (Harvard University Press) evaluates the standard narrative of civil rights success in the 1950s and 1960s as a deceptive and inadequate reading of the history of race in the United States and offers instead a careful and insightful reexamination of twentieth-century black intellectual projects to gain full democracy. With interpretations



Singh

grounded in the analyses of DuBois, Rustin, Ellison, James, Black Panther activists, and many others, Singh argues that liberal intellectuals have failed to understand that “transforming racial subjects into national subjects” will not resolve historical racial injustice. Black intellectuals did not see the U.S. as exceptional and disengaged from a centuries-long history of white European control of the world’s majority; they argued that every aspect of the construction and enactment of race in the United States was tied to current and past events in the rest of the world. They accepted neither Marxist nor liberal views in their totality, but created a new critique grounded in the realities of life in oppressed communities and a refusal to separate liberty from some rough social equality. Singh gives an intellectual pedigree to the idea that genuine democracy means valuing an “ineluctably differentiated humanity.” The case he makes for the limitations of liberalism is compelling and one scholars will engage for a long time.

Lerner-Scott Prize

for the best doctoral dissertation in U.S. women’s history

Prize committee: Drew Gilpin Faust, Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, Harvard University; Susan Strasser, University of Delaware, Chair; and Rosalyn Terborg-Penn, Morgan State University



Kennedy

Vanantha Lynn Kennedy, University of Lethbridge, “*Partus Sequitur Ventrem: Narratives of Childbirth and Motherhood in the Antebellum South.*” In her dissertation at the University of Western Ontario, Kennedy’s beautifully written study explores five genres of childbirth narratives from black and white southerners, illuminating the meanings of motherhood and birth as well as the larger cultural context. Informed by interdisciplinary perspectives, extensive research in both primary and secondary sources, and nuanced readings, this dissertation goes beyond the conventional focus on birth as a medical experience, linking it to the complicated power relationships of the antebellum South. Its excellent cross-racial analysis dissects the dichotomy between slaveholders’ views of black women’s childbirth, as an inconsequential experience despite its economic importance, and their esteem for what many regarded as white women’s duty to suffer willingly in service to families and communities. By examining black and white women’s childbirth together, Kennedy demonstrates not only differences but also many links and reciprocal relationships. She enriches our understanding of birth not just as a personal and familial event, but an occurrence with significant social, racial, political, and cultural meaning.

ABC-CLIO America: History and Life Award

for scholarship in American history in the journal literature advancing new perspectives on accepted interpretations or previously unconsidered topics

Award committee: Mary Bagne, America: History and Life, ABC-CLIO, Inc., ex officio; Jill Lepore, Harvard University; Peggy Pascoe, University of Oregon; Bryant Simon, Temple University, Chair; and Susan Sleeper-Smith, Michigan State University

François Furstenberg, Université de Montréal. “Beyond Freedom and Slavery: Autonomy, Virtue, and Resistance in Early American Political Discourse” (*Journal of American History*, March 2003). Bold, powerfully argued, vigorously researched, and clearly written, Furstenberg makes us stand up and rethink some of the most important ideas swirling around revolutionary America. Typically slavery and freedom are pitted opposites, as diametrically opposed notions of the social order and as fundamental contradictions in the early republic. Not so, argues Furstenberg. Exploring the era’s vibrant print culture, Furstenberg discovers that many at the time fused together ideas about liberalism and republicanism and came up with a notion of freedom grounded in ideas about autonomy, resistance, and agency. If those who resisted oppression earned their freedom, it followed that those who remained enslaved must at least tacitly consent to their own subjugation. Therefore, liberalism and republicanism legitimized—without contradiction or ideological slippage—slavery. Clearly, Furstenberg’s arguments have broad historiographical significance. Scholars will have to examine again their ideas about the origins of the revolution and the place of slavery in the thinking of the nation’s founders. Well beyond the age of revolution, moreover, ideas about freedom and slavery and the insistence on action and autonomy, he shows, continued to resound, finding perhaps their clearest articulation in the thoughts of John C. Calhoun and other secessionists. Furstenberg reminds us that American freedom has always been about drawing boundaries, keeping some in and others out.



Furstenberg

Louis Pelzer Memorial Award

for the best essay in American history by a graduate student

Award committee: John Dittmer, DePauw University; Lynn Dumenil, Occidental College; Carl Guarneri, St. Mary’s College of California; David Nord, Journal of American History, Chair; and Andrew J. Rotter, Colgate University

Kevin Dawson, University of South Carolina. “Enslaved Swimmers and Divers in the Atlantic World.” In this widely researched essay, Kevin Dawson explores a largely forgotten example of an African cultural practice that was carried by slaves to the New World and passed down for generations: swimming and underwater diving. Well into the nineteenth century, in both the Caribbean and the American South, slaves were more likely than whites to be skilled swimmers. Dawson traces the roots of this cultural retention to West Africa, carefully comparing African swimming styles with those of early modern Europeans. Because of the elusive nature of the subject, evidence is sparse and scattered; and Dawson’s relentless pursuit of it—in memoirs, travel accounts, and other documents—is impressive. But “Enslaved Swimmers and Divers” is more than an antiquarian exercise in recovering a lost story. Dawson shows how skill in swimming and diving had substantial impact on slaves’ lives, in their work, their recreation and hygiene, and their sense of efficacy and even manhood. Besides telling us something new about slave life, this essay extends the reach of American history to Europe, Africa, and the Caribbean. It is a splendid example of the new history of the Atlantic World.



Dawson

Binkley-Stephenson Award

for the best scholarly article published in the *Journal of American History* during the preceding calendar year

Award committee: Bruce Levine, University of California, Santa Cruz; Pauline Maier, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Chair; and James H. Merrell, Vassar College

J. M. Opal, Colby College. "Exciting Emulation: Academies and the Transformation of the Rural North, 1780s-1820s." This elegantly written and carefully argued article examines those rural private academies that were "the primary educational innovation of the new republic," their effort to impose discipline and encourage student achievement by "emulation" (essentially encouraging students to follow the example of others who excelled), and the resistance the academies provoked within their communities. Although situated within the larger debate over preindustrial *mentalités*, the article deemphasizes the significance of an emerging market economy. Both sides in the debate over academies worked within the constraints of a developing capitalistic system; both, moreover, could claim justification within the ideology of the revolution. And yet their responses to an initiative that emphasized liberal education over basic skills and individual achievement over corporate effort marked an important divide in early American society and culture. By sympathetically interpreting those responses, tracing their roots, and explaining their implications, Opal provides a fresh, evocative perspective on an important part of post-revolutionary America.

Huggins-Quarles Award

for graduate students of color at the dissertation research stage of their Ph.D. program

Award committee: Ernesto Chávez, University of Texas, El Paso, Chair; Donald L. Fixico, Arizona State University; David G. Gutiérrez, University of California, San Diego; Daniel R. Mandell, Truman State University; and Kevin Mumford, University of Iowa



Rosas

Ana Elizabeth Rosas, University of Southern California. "*Familias Flexibles* (Flexible Families): Bracero Families' Lives Across Cultures, Communities, and Countries, 1942-1964" examines the disjuncture and tension between the state-manufactured discursive configurations of the mid-twentieth century Bracero Program and the different ways four generations of Mexican children, women, and men appropriated and challenged this process in Mexico and the United States. It is the first study to focus on how the Bracero Program experience affected families and how they articulated and understood their identity and subjectivity on both sides of the U.S.-Mexico border. Given its original and creative approach to an important era in Latino and U.S. history, one committee member deemed this "a brilliant project."

Seema Sohi, University of Washington, Seattle. "Migration, Race, and Empire: South Asian Revolutionaries on the Pacific Coast" looks at the South Asian transnational resistance movement during the early-twentieth century that was centered on the Pacific Coast—

both in the United States and Canada—and called for global racial equality. By so doing Sohi is able to offer a critical understanding of both national and imperial projects during the early part of the last century. Because it examines the development of an insurgent discourse on both sides of the U.S.-Canada border, it challenges and changes our notions of what "Borderlands" history can be and in so doing reconfigures our vision of the nation, forcing us to engage a transnational approach to ethnic history. This study will have important ramifications for the study of both Asian American and U.S. history.

Mary K. Bonsteel Tachau Precollegiate Teaching Award

for contributions made by precollegiate teachers to improve history education

Award committee: Kevin O'Reilly, Hamilton-Wenham Regional High School, Chair; Howard Seretan, The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History; and Jacqueline S. Wilkie, Luther College

Mary Connor, history teacher at Westridge School in Pasadena, California, is a knowledgeable and hardworking professional whose innovative thematic approach to teaching American history challenges her students to keep making connections. The achievement of her students on the AP U.S. History test shows that the approach is very successful. Her assignments on how events in U.S. history in general influenced family histories of students makes history personal for each child and improves students' research skills. In addition to her role as a teacher, Ms. Connor is involved in her community and her profession. She brings the community into her classes through field trips, guest speakers, and cultural events. As a professional, she has organized three conferences at the Korean Cultural Center in Los Angeles to bring together professors and teachers for seminars. She has made several presentations at national conferences, and she has published numerous articles on teaching U.S. and Asian history as well as a book, *The Koreans: A Global Studies Handbook*. Mary Connor is the passionate, accomplished professional that anyone would be delighted to have as a teacher or colleague.



Connor

Erik Barnouw Award

for outstanding reporting or programming on network or cable television, or in documentary film, concerned with American history, the study of American history, and/or the promotion of history

Award committee: Melani McAlister, The George Washington University; Lary May, University of Minnesota; and George C. Stoney, Tisch School of the Arts, New York University, Chair

American Experience, "Reconstruction, the Second Civil War" (Episode One: Llewellyn M. Smith, Producer and Director; Episode Two: Elizabeth Deane, Producer and Director, Patricia Garcia Rios, Co-Producer and Co-Director; Series Producer: Elizabeth Deane), has been awarded first prize for its contribution to historical knowledge and the imagination of its narrative and visual style. Focusing on the period from 1863 to 1877, the film producers brought together for a wide public audience one of the major reinterpretations of



Deane

American history that has engaged the history profession over the last three decades. Where in the past, scholars and popular artists alike told the story of the defeated South as one in which former Confederates were victimized and corrupted by greedy Republicans and their black allies, or one where self-interested northern capitalists aligned to the Republican Party triumphed over a noble agrarian people, "The Second Civil War" focuses on the struggle to define the nature of race and labor relations in the former Confederacy. Here the key battle revolved around former slaves' desires to control their own labor and to attain a fair share of that which was owned by their former masters, as well as the political power needed to direct their social destiny. To engage the viewer, the filmmakers focus on several historical personalities who exemplify the complex motives that defined combatants in a social transformation that would determine both the shape of society and its political struggles in the North and the South for the next century. Viewers encounter promoters of the Freedman's Bureau who combined desire for economic success with the promotion of harmonious race relations, black preachers and politicians who engaged in mobilizing African Americans to attain land, and former white Confederates of the Ku Klux Klan and plantation owners who utilized force and violence to restore racial superiority and social hierarchy. Each of these major stories appear through exemplary reenactments, compelling documents, and interviews with current historians and living descendants of the participants. Throughout, the narrative is driven forward by photos of the period and personalized narratives of the participants that uncover the heightened emotions that informed the actions and motivations of the participants. The result is a documentary that portrays both the heroic and the tragic.

Honorable Mention

California Newsreel, *February One* (Rebecca Cerese, Producer, Video Dialog; Stephen Channing, Executive Producer, Video Dialog) is a fascinating look at the Greensboro sit-in of 1960 that highlights the energy and commitment of young college students inspired by their experiences in the segregated South and their college philosophy courses to challenge the status quo. *February One* is unusual in that it uses extensive interviews with all four of the first participants as well as archival footage, making it an excellent addition to the material on civil rights. It will be useful for college classrooms and some high schools.

Honorable Mention

American Experience, "Patriots Day" (written, directed, and produced by Marian Marzynski) is a straightforward account of the annual recreation of the Battle of Lexington and Concord by local citizens, many of whose forefathers were participants in the American Revolution on both sides of the conflict. The film is particularly noteworthy in that the viewpoint of those supporting the British Crown are given full voice. The complexities—and the cost—of achieving a credible performance on such an impressive scale are fully revealed, as are the motivations and satisfactions of those who spend a considerable part of the year bringing the event to life.

II. OAH Fellowships and Grants

Horace Samuel & Marion Galbraith Merrill Travel Grants in Twentieth-Century American Political History

for newer scholars researching in the Washington, D.C., region's rich primary source collections

Grants committee: Allida Black, The George Washington University; Mitchell Snay, Denison University, Chair; and Joe W. Trotter, Carnegie Mellon University

Caitlin Love Crowell, Yale University. "Love Stories: The Intimate Lives of African-American Women Activists, 1880-1950" explores with sensitivity the crucial connections between the private and public spheres. It shows how black women involved with racial "uplift" drew inspiration from their personal and family lives.

Theresa Runstedtler, Yale University. "Journeymen: Boxing and the Popular Politics of Race, Nation, and Empire" employs a transnational approach to more clearly understand the relationship between American culture and diplomacy in the early twentieth century. Nonwhites under the purview of U.S. spheres of influence appropriated boxing to contest white supremacy and propose alternative visions of citizenship.

Lindsay M. Silver, Brandeis University. "The Nation's Neighborhood: The People, Power and Politics of Capitol Hill Since the Civil War" addresses key issues in urban and political history through a creative reconstruction on the political activities of the community that surrounded Capitol Hill. The efforts of these residents to defend their community in the shadow of the growing federal government reveal the power of a reinvented form of local politics and identity.

Emily Zuckerman, Rutgers University. "Beyond Dispute: EEOC v. Sears and the Politics of Affirmative Action, Gender, and Class, 1968-1986" offers an innovative approach to an important legal case of 1973 that sparked a debate among feminist scholars. This story illuminates the attempts of women to influence decisionmaking and the changes in national policy toward affirmative action.

La Pietra Dissertation Travel Fellowship in Transnational History

for graduate students whose dissertation topics deal with aspects of American history that extend beyond the territorial borders of the U.S.

Fellowship committee: Thomas Bender, New York University, Chair; Lori D. Ginzberg, Penn State University; and Hans-Jürgen Grabbe, Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg

Ikuko Asaka, University of Wisconsin, Madison, "Transnational Constructions of Race and Gender among Black Canadian Emigrationists, 1830-1869." Ikuko Asaka's dissertation is a multi-sited inquiry that examines the sources and implications of differ-



Runstedtler



Zuckerman



Asaka

ent formulations of race and gender identity and their relations to nationalism (or escape from it). She examines four distinct transnational connections between Canada, Britain, and the U.S. that produced discourses of race, gender, and identity. The results promise to initiate a novel and important discussion of borderlands and transnational connections that will make contributions to understandings of rights arguments in the early-nineteenth century. It is a dissertation of striking originality, theoretical sophistication, and significance for both North American history and the history of the African Diaspora.

Theresa Runstedtler, Yale University, "Journeyman: Boxing and the Popular Politics of Race, Nation, and Empire." Taking the study of boxing in an extremely imaginative and novel direction, Theresa Runstedtler's dissertation opens up a space of international movement and discourse that promises to illuminate the ways in which everyday people viewed race, gender, and nation through an international prism (and that of empire) in the early decades of the twentieth century. It extends in both a geographical as well as a conceptual sense the meanings of American culture and modernity, and in the process, illuminates connections between foreign and domestic policy and popular culture. It widens the scope of studies of the Black Atlantic and promises to reveal with exceptional richness the complexity in racial identification and contestation. This theoretically sophisticated study will demonstrate for the sport of boxing an unexpected internationalism and historical importance.



Evans

OAH-JAAS Short Term Residencies

The OAH and the Japanese Association of American Studies, with the generous support of the Japan-United States Friendship Commission, select three U.S. historians to spend two weeks at Japanese universities giving lectures, seminars, advising students and researchers interested in the American past, and joining the collegiality of the host institution. It is part of an exchange program that also brings Japanese graduate students to the OAH Annual Meeting.

Residencies committee: Juri Abe, Rikkyo University; Beth Bailey, Temple University; Valerie Matsumoto, University of California, Los Angeles; Masako Notoji, University of Tokyo, Komaba; Naoki Onishi, International Christian University; Mary Rothschild, Arizona State University, Chair; and Noriko Shimada, Japan Women's University

Sara M. Evans, University of Minnesota
Tezukayama University, women's history



Nielsen

Kim E. Nielsen, University of Wisconsin, Green Bay
Japan Women's University, gender history



Jespersen

T. Christopher Jespersen, North Georgia College & State University
Kyoritsu Women's University, diplomatic and cultural history

White House History Fellowship in Precollegiate Education

for projects that illuminate the historical roles of the White House as home, workplace, museum, structure, and symbol

Fellowship committee: Michael J. Devine, Truman Presidential Library; Robert H. Ferrell, Indiana University, emeritus, Chair; Edith P. Mayo, Smithsonian Institution; Roger B. Porter, Harvard University; Elaine Reed, National Council for History Education; John P. Riley, White House Historical Association, ex officio; and William Seale, Independent Scholar

L. Mark Sweeney, Cactus Shadows High School, Cave Creek, Arizona. "The Presidency and the Press: An Examination of Spin." Concentrating on the reelection campaigns of 1984 through 2004, Sweeney will create a curriculum unit that will focus on the codependent relationship of the president and the press. Sweeney will examine the evolution of the news conference at the White House and other venues for parrying between the media and the chief executive. Daily diaries, press conference transcriptions, historic photographs, and other materials will supplement this project for high school American history and government classes. Activities will also help students understand the media's role in defining, presenting, and filtering presidential candidates.



Sweeney

OAH/Immigration and Ethnic History Society Higham Travel Grants

for graduate students to be used toward costs of attending the OAH/IEHS annual meeting

Grants committee: Nancy Foner, Hunter College and Graduate Center, CUNY, Chair; Raymond Gavins, Duke University; and Victor R. Greene, University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee

Victoria Cain, Columbia University. "Nationalizing Nature in American Natural History Museums, 1880-1930," presented here at the 2005 OAH Annual Meeting, draws on both intellectual and immigration history to focus on the aggressive nationalism of *fin-de-siecle* American natural history museums.



Nichols

Christopher McKnight Nichols, University of Virginia. "Towards a 'Trans-National America': Randolph Bourne on Internationalism, Isolation, War, and the Risks of Integrating Intellectuals into the State, 1914-1918," presented here at the 2005 OAH Annual Meeting, offers insights into Bourne's concept of transnational American citizenship.

Nicolas G. Rosenthal, University of California, Los Angeles. "Taking it to the Streets: The Practices of History with Urban American Indian Communities," presented here at the 2005 OAH Annual Meeting, builds on Rosenthal's research on American Indians in the Los Angeles metropolitan area and his focus on issues of race and ethnicity in twentieth-century United States.



Rosenthal

Please join us in thanking the hard-working members of the OAH award and prize committees, who volunteered their time, expertise, and wisdom for the 2005 OAH awards and prizes.

Upcoming OAH meetings

2006

Washington DC, April 19-22

2007

Minneapolis, March 29-April 1

2008

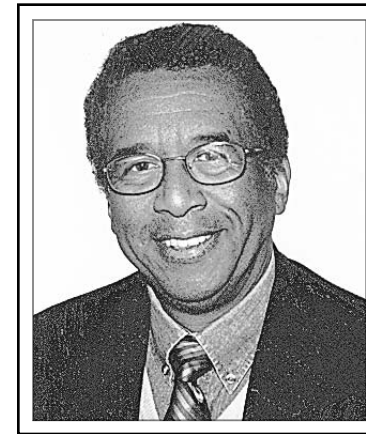
New York City, March 28-31

2009

Seattle, March 26-29

2005 OAH Presidential Address

Vicki L. Ruiz, University of California, Irvine
OAH President-Elect, Presiding



JAMES O. HORTON
THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

PATRIOT ACTS: PUBLIC HISTORY IN PUBLIC SERVICE

James Oliver Horton is the Benjamin Banneker Professor of American Studies and History at the George Washington University and Director of the Afro-American Communities Project of the National Museum of American History at the Smithsonian Institution. He received his Ph.D. in history from Brandeis University in 1973. Horton has spent his career researching slavery, the lives of African Americans entangled in that institution, and its impact on the nation. He served as the John Adams Distinguished Fulbright Chair in American Studies at the University of Leiden in the Netherlands and as a Senior Fulbright Professor of American Studies at the University of Munich. In 1993, Horton was appointed to serve on the National Park System Advisory Board, and in 1996 he was elected board chair. In 1994-1995 he served as Senior Advisor on Historical Interpretation and Public Education for the Director of the National Park Service. Horton has also been a historical advisor to several museums including the Underground Railroad Freedom Center in Cincinnati, Ohio; the National Civil Rights Museum in Memphis, Tennessee; Colonial Williamsburg; and Monticello. Horton has served as a historical consultant to numerous film and video productions including those seen on ABC, PBS, the Discovery Channels, C-SPAN TV, and the History Channel. Most recently, he

served as a consultant to the PBS series "Slavery and the Making of America."

Horton has been recognized for excellence in teaching and scholarship. In 1994, he received the Trachtenberg Distinguished Teaching Award for George Washington University and in 1996 he was given the Carnegie Foundation, CASE Professor of the Year for the District of Columbia. In 2002, the State University of New York at Buffalo awarded him the 2002 Distinguished Alumni Award. He is author of numerous books and articles including *Black Bostonians: Family Life and Community Struggle in the Antebellum North* (1979); *Free People of Color: Inside the African American Community* (1993); and coauthor (with his wife Lois E. Horton) of *In Hope of Liberty: Culture, Community and Protest Among Northern Free Blacks, 1700-1860* (nominated for the 1997 Pulitzer Prize in History); *Hard Road to Freedom: The Story of African America*; and *Slavery and the Making of America* (companion to the PBS series, 2004). He is also the general editor of the Oxford University Press series, "The Landmarks of American History."

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ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN HISTORIANS

OAH SPOTLIGHT

SAN JOSÉ SPECIAL FUND 2005

OAH was faced with a difficult decision this year to move the Annual Meeting from San Francisco to San José, which has major financial repercussions. The plans for our 2005 annual meeting were complicated by the failure of the San Francisco Multi-Employer Group and UNITE HERE, Local 2, to settle on the terms of a new contract. Local 2 led a brief strike last fall, followed by a longer lockout by the employers' association. A subsequent sixty-day cooling off period ended on January 23. No significant progress in talks between the union and employers' association was reported. The Hilton San Francisco and thirteen other San Francisco hotels remained under boycott by UNITE HERE.

With no end to the impasse in sight, OAH faced the distinct possibility of a strike, lockout, or continued boycott at the Hilton San Francisco at the time of the 98th annual meeting. Given this situation, including concerns about a potential loss of \$700,000 in revenue and attrition charges, the OAH Executive Board made the decision to move the convention to San José. Ultimately, we believe the move to San José was the right decision for the organization, and hope you will agree. To make a gift today to offset the cost of the move please visit www.oah.org/giving/.

Recent Scholarship Online

Available exclusively to OAH individual members, Recent Scholarship Online (RSO) is a searchable, cumulative database of history-related citations for articles drawn from over 1,000 journals and for books, dissertations, and CD-ROMs. To access RSO visit www.oah.org/rs/.

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This fundraising and outreach program offers more than 200 outstanding speakers who have made major contributions to the study of U.S. history. For more information visit www.oah.org/lectures/.



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The following individuals and organizations represent OAH's most generous supporters. We are grateful for their investment and the continued contributions of all of our members. This list reflects gifts received from January 1 to December 31, 2004. For a full list of the 2004 donors, please see the February 2005 issue of the OAH NEWSLETTER.

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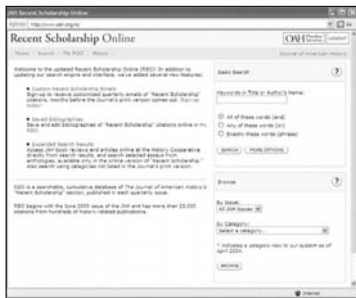
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