



# History Newsletter



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**Editor: Miriam Raub Vivian - Production Editor: Charlotte Ziegler**– For current information, visit our website at [www.csub.edu/history/](http://www.csub.edu/history/); for history program forms, schedules, and information, see the rack outside the History Department Office.

## FROM THE CHAIR by Miriam Raub Vivian



As academic year 2022-23 draws to a close, so too does my term as Chair of the History Department. It has been my privilege and pleasure to serve in this position since 2017 (as well as 2002-2008), and I'm thankful for the support of my department colleagues and our School Dean and his staff, as well as our dept. administrative assistant. The past 6 years have been both exciting and challenging, from moving into a new building to navigating the COVID-19 pandemic to overseeing the hiring of 3 new faculty members, as well as seeing the retirement of our dept. asst. of 28 years and mentoring a new assistant.

This newsletter issue celebrates the achievements of our students, especially those who were department award winners this spring. We are also celebrating the full retirement of one of our own faculty colleagues, Prof. Emerita Cliona Murphy, who completed her part-time teaching assignment at the end of spring 2022.

See *From the Chair* p. 20

## OUTSTANDING GRADUATING SENIOR - PRABHDEEP KAUR

**Prabhdeep Kaur** has attained a 4.0 GPA in the History Major, her Minors (Psychology & Philosophy), and overall. Ms. Kaur is a member of the Honors Program here at CSUB and the Alpha Chi National College Honors Society and Phi Alpha Theta National History Honor Society. Ms. Kaur serves as an A.V.I.D. tutor for 6<sup>th</sup>- 8<sup>th</sup> grade students at Lakeside Junior High School in history, math, and science courses.



See *Kaur* p. 20

## JAMES H. GEORGE SCHOLARSHIP AWARD – ISABEL MEDINA



Since entering CSUB in the Fall of 2020, **Isabel Medina** has earned a 3.88 GPA while concentrating in Public History and minoring in Religious Studies and Spanish. She has excelled in a wide array of classes covering Europe, California, the Islamic world, and the Trans-Atlantic world. Within these courses, she has distinguished herself with her

outstanding research skills and her ability to find innovative topics to investigate.

See *Medina* p. 20

## MARSHALL AND ETTA MASTERS GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP AWARD – ZACHERY POWELL



**Zachery Powell** is the recipient of the Etta and Marshall Masters Graduate Scholarship, which is awarded to an outstanding continuing History graduate student. Zach enrolled in the History MA program in the fall of 2021. He

has excelled in his coursework and has maintained an impressive 4.0 GPA. He was recently awarded a J.R. Wonderly Memorial Award from CSUB History faculty for his paper “Behind the Arguments of Conservation: Muir’s Utilization of Science in His Publications,” which he will rework to include in his thesis on John Muir.

See *Powell* p. 20

## CLIO AWARD – DANITZA ACOSTA GILL



**Danitza Acosta Gill** is this year’s recipient of the History Department’s Clio Award. Danitza is one of the most dedicated students in our department. In addition to her schoolwork, she helps her family, works a job at a local Home Depot, and routinely— and without pay— tutors classmates, helping them

understand course material and encouraging them to reach out to their professors for assistance. As Danitza puts it herself, “If it helps someone, I’m happy to do it.” Danitza has maintained a strong GPA of 3.81 in the History Department, 3.82 in her CSUB coursework, and a 3.52, including her transfer credits.

See *Gill* on p. 20

## OUTSTANDING GRADUATE – HILLARY BALL



**Hillary Ball** is the recipient of the 2023 History Department’s Outstanding Graduate Award. She completed

the program with an impressive 3.96 GPA. Her award reflects her strong writing skills and her robust and thoughtful participation in seminar discussions. Among her many strengths is her ability to make creative connections between her classes.

See *Ball* p. 20

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## A Remembrance of our Colleague Ronald Dolkart

By Miriam Raub Vivian



Ronald H. Dolkart, the Latin Americanist at CSUB until his full retirement in 2012, passed away in February. Born on Columbus Day in 1933 (Oct. 12), he graduated from UC Berkeley before earning his PhD at ULCA, after which he joined the History Department faculty at CSUB's 3-year-old campus. Dr. Dolkart was an active scholar of Argentinian politics

and culture, especially during the Peron years. Among his publications are "Civilization's Aria: Film as Lore and Opera as Metaphor in Werner Herzog's *Fitzcarraldo*," *Journal of Latin American Lore* 11:2 (1985): 125-141; Sandra McGee Deutsch and Ronald H. Dolkart (eds.), *The Argentine Right: Its History and Intellectual Origins, 1910 to the Present* (Wilmington, Del.: SR Books, 1993); and Mark Falcoff and Ronald H. Dolkart, eds., *Prologue to Perón: Argentina in Depression and War, 1930-1943* (Berkeley: UC Press, 1975). This last volume was reissued last year as part of UCP's "Voices Revived" program which, according to the publisher's statement, "commemorates University of California Press's mission to seek out and cultivate the brightest minds and give them voice, reach, and impact. Drawing on a backlist dating to 1893, Voices Revived makes high-quality, peer-reviewed scholarship accessible once again using print-on-demand technology."

Prof. Dolkart's department colleagues remember him fondly, as a wonderful colleague, teacher, and scholar. Notes Professor Emeritus Jim George, "As a teacher he was very patient and understanding. He would devote a lot of time with any student seeking it. He had a wonderful sense of humor, and he, Jerry Stanley, and I had many funny times on the campus as well as at local brewing establishments."

As Professor Emerita Jeanne Harrie recounts, "Ron contributed to the development and high standards of CSUB's History program both as department chair and as an imaginative creator of new courses in the curriculum. These demonstrated his mastery not only of his field of Latin American history, but the humanities and social sciences more broadly. He was cosmopolitan in his tastes and knowledge."

In fact, according to our department's very first newsletter, published at the end of winter quarter 1992 (Vol. 1, No. 1), Prof. Dolkart planned to offer a new course in fall 1992, noting that "1992 inspires an extraordinary interest in Christopher Columbus and his legacy for the Quincentenary of the encounter between Europe and America. This course will examine the meaning and impact of Columbus' voyage during his own time and in the centuries that followed."

[See Remembrance p. 19](#)

## An Appreciation of Cliona Murphy, Professor Emerita of History

by Miriam Raub Vivian



After her semi-retirement in spring 2022, my friend and colleague Prof. Cliona Murphy fortunately continued teaching in our department, at least part time, but that came to a close when she fully retired in spring 2022. With Jeanne Harrie's retirement in spring 2016, Prof. Murphy became my oldest colleague, going back to 1990. Our same-aged daughters were in CSUB's Children's

Center together, her younger daughter just a year younger than my youngest. As I've known her so long and I wrote the department letter recommending her for *emerita* status, I am keenly aware of what a wonderful colleague, scholar, teacher, and friend she is (pictured here with me at the Getty).

Earning BA & MA degrees in her native Ireland (National University of Ireland, Cork), she was hired in the History Department in 1988 after completing her PhD at SUNY Binghamton (where her 1987 dissertation, *The Women's Suffrage Movement and Irish Society in the Early Twentieth Century*, received the Most Distinguished Dissertation in the Social Sciences Award). Dr. Murphy quickly became a highly respected member of the dept., admired for her energy, her passion for scholarship, and her devotion to students. She also became well known across campus from her involvement in and support of many ventures, including international students, the study abroad program, the Academic Senate, the statewide Academic Senate, and a list of committees as long as my forearm, as well as many academic search committees and two terms as History Dept. Chair. In addition, she did the work necessary to launch a chapter of Phi Beta Delta, an international honor society, here at CSUB.

She has further been the editor of professional journals in her field and the organizer of numerous conferences. She remains an active scholar and is, in fact, presenting a paper this summer in Ireland at the conference of the Society for Irish Latin American Studies—on the same panel with Prof. Steve Allen, our department Latin Americanist. It was no surprise then that she was awarded CSUB's Faculty Research Award for 2003-2004.

As the only Modern Europeanist for many years, she guided numerous graduate students through our MA program and developed courses well beyond her original specialization in Britain and Ireland, one of the most interesting and popular of which was her course examining the historical connections between Europe and Mexico. She further developed a course in women's history, which focused on both Europe and the U.S. Her interest in transnational and transcontinental history not only put Dr. Murphy at the forefront of current scholarship but influenced our department's development

[See Murphy p. 4](#)

## A FOND GOODBYE TO OUR BELOVED CHAIR, MIRIAM RAUB VIVIAN

by Mustafah Dhada



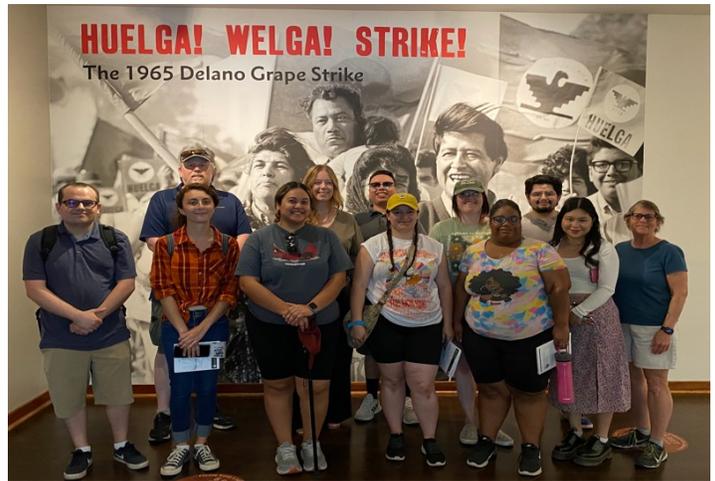
This year ends with a sad note. Sad because after serving as department chair for two consecutive terms, Miriam is stepping down. Our hats off to her for steering us ever so gently with a clear sense of purpose and dedication to detail to see us grow at a time when the department was truly emaciated of faculty and our student enrollment numbers struggling to grow. We then had to contend with a move to our glass and metal Taj Mahal next door as we watched the bulldozers demolish the Faculty Towers, leaving intact four wisterias ready for plucking to be planted elsewhere outside campus. Then came COVID-19, but we continued with our replacement hires. Adjusting to new modalities of leadership to tackle enrollment, teaching, and scholarly productivity of history faculty was her singular gift as a department chair. Today we have a stellar clutch of young scholars and a highly productive one at that! She leaves a legacy that we all could do well to emulate. Miriam will be a hard act to follow. She truly represented the very best of leadership — even-handed self-effacement with a fine taste in comfortable shoes! We all wish her well as she reseats herself as our senior most colleague and historian in the department.

### HISTORY RESEARCH GROUP

During the spring semester, the History Department's Historical Research Group (HRG), which offers a platform for members to present their research and receive feedback, met twice to discuss fascinating works-in-progress by Dr. Moisés Acuña-Gurrola and Dr. John Chen. On March 15, Dr. Acuña-Gurrola shared his efforts to track down sources about a dynamic community organizer and Communist Party leader who lived in Bakersfield in the 1930s-40s named Loretta Adams. On April 19 the group met to discuss a chapter from Dr. John Chen's book manuscript, entitled "Making Islam National: Chinese Muslims, Uyghurs, and the Fate of Xinjiang." Dr. Chen introduced the group to a Chinese Muslim Nationalist (KMT) government official named Jelaluddin Wang Zengshan (王曾善, 1903-61) who was involved in attempts to integrate the regions of Xinjiang and Uyghurs into China. The HRG looks forward to the fall semester and additional opportunities to hear more about members' work. Anyone interested in joining the group, or presenting at a future meeting, should get in touch with Dr. Kate Mulry at [kmulry@csub.edu](mailto:kmulry@csub.edu).

## History Department Spring Field Trip

by Miriam Raub Vivian



The History Department's Field Trip Committee—Prof. Dodd, Mulry, and Vivian—organized and participated in a department field trip for history students on Sat., April 29. This regional trip included stops at four different sites up Hwy. 58: the César Chávez National Monument in Keene; the viewing platform for the Tehachapi Loop; the Tehachapi Depot Museum; and Kohlen's Country Bakery—the latter two in Tehachapi itself.

A dozen of us toured the Chavez site, including outbuildings, several of which date from its days as the location of Stony Brook Sanatorium for tuberculosis patients (1918 until the 1960s), as well as the memorial garden (and gravesite for César and Helen Chavez), and the Visitor Center. Prof. Doug Dodd provided some interesting insights into the historical site and its transformation into La Paz, the home of the Chávez family and location of the United Farm Workers headquarters. Inside the Chávez Center is a small museum highlighting the work of Chávez and other farm worker advocates. Among our entourage was CSUB History major Hortencia Ortiz, whose great-great-great grandmother and great-great aunt are visible flanking Chávez in the wallpaper photo of striking workers that greets visitors as they enter (and where our group photo was taken).

From here we drove a short distance to the Tehachapi Loop Scenic Overlook, which affords a great view of the engineering marvel that routes trains in a loop to avoid what would otherwise be too steep a grade. Once in Tehachapi itself, we wandered around the old train Depot Museum before walking just a few steps to Kohlen's (German) Country Bakery, which makes sandwiches to order on their freshly baked breads. It was both a fun and informative trip—the first, we hope, of many more to come.

### A BIG SHOUTOUT

Our deep thanks to Mary Morton, class of 1990, who has donated dozens of sometimes-rare and always fascinating old books. Several of these have found their way into the Historical Research Center's Rare Book Room, and Professor Wempe is delighting in exploring a 1919 book on epidemics from among those donated.

## HISTORY FORUM

by Kiran Garcha

## HISTORY BOOK CLUB is now HISTORY CLUB

Hello, Everyone,

On May 17, the History Book Club held elections for the 2023-2024 officers, and we now have new leadership. The outgoing founding officers--Kyle Winn, President; Emma Barnes, Vice President; and Mark Arroyo, Treasurer--have passed the torch to the new officers, and we are delighted to continue their work.

As the new officers, we want to personally thank the outgoing officers for establishing the club, and for their dedication and hard work in keeping the club active. We will continue what they started. Many of the activities that they initiated, such as Trivia Night, Game Night, and Coffee and Conversation, will continue, but we also plan to launch new initiatives and activities, and have rebranded from the "History Book Club" to the "History Club" to better reflect the many types of activities in which the club is involved.

We will be utilizing Discord more frequently to communicate with all who join the club, and please know that all are welcome, regardless of major or minor; you do not need to be a History major or minor to join, so please invite your friends outside of History to join. We look forward to the future with the help of the past officers, who will remain club members and serve the incoming officers in an advisory capacity. In following them, we will continue to strive for greatness, as we all should here at CSUB.

You can join the History Club and reach out to us via Discord using this link: <https://discord.gg/mjfvVfsY>.

We look forward to seeing you in the Fall, but if you would like to join the officers as we reach out to and welcome new freshmen and transfer students at the CSUB summer orientations, please let us know.

Thank you, and have a great summer!

Best, from the New History Club Officers,

Makalya Crawford, *President*  
Jazmine Frazier, *Vice President*  
Talika Jackson, *Treasurer*  
Hortencia Ortiz, *Secretary*



One of CSUB's kit foxes roams the HOB patio



This past spring, the History Forum had the privilege of hosting one of our very own faculty members, Dr. Kate Mulry, for its annual speaker series! On March 24, the Dezember Reading Room at the Walter Stiern Library housed a packed room of students, current and former faculty, and fellow Bakersfieldians as Professor Mulry shared key insights from her recently published monograph, *An Empire Transformed: Remolding Bodies and Landscapes in the Restoration Atlantic* (2021). The presentation broadly focused on late seventeenth-century English efforts to bring political order to the empire through environmental improvement. More specifically, she chronicled changing ideas about nature, governance, and public health in the early modern English Atlantic empire by exploring the multiple environmental engineering schemes of merchants, colonial officials, and members of the Royal Society. Showcasing a rich collection of visual and written archival sources, Dr. Mulry captivantly demonstrated how projects such as marshland drainage, forest rehabilitation, urban reconstruction, and garden transplantation reflected a belief in the complex relationships between bodily health and landscapes. Not surprisingly, the talk prompted a lively round of Q&A with the audience. Undergraduate and graduate students, faculty across disciplines, and general history buffs eagerly picked Professor Mulry's brain with a range of inquiries concerning possible transnational connections to England's imperial project as it was shaped by ideas about public health and the natural environment. Other participants asked about how the drainage projects were financed, their modern-day legacies, and their possible role in shaping England's sartorial culture. Indeed, the thought-provoking Q&A served as a testament to the compelling and dynamic nature of the presentation. On behalf of the History Forum Committee and the Department of History, we send Dr. Mulry a big "Thank You!" for sharing her work with us and are excited for what's coming down the pike!

### Murphy cont. from p. 2

of a new semester-system curriculum for our degree, one that identifies and recognizes broader geographical regions, such as "The Americas," and "The Transatlantic World." She has published numerous books, articles, book chapters, essays, and book reviews. She has presented dozens of papers at academic conferences and currently has three projects in the works.

Prof. Murphy is obviously possessed of great energy, and our history programs have been beneficiaries of her energy, enthusiasm, and productivity. It was she who conceived of and launched our long-running History Forum, bringing scholars from outside of (as well as within) CSUB to share their research with our campus and community, now in its 24<sup>th</sup> year. And how appropriate that I write this appreciation of Prof. Murphy for Vol. 31, No. 2, of our department newsletter, which she also conceived and launched, in 1992.

She has been a friend and mentor to many, and I know I speak for many others in thanking her for the multitude of ways she has given so generously to CSUB's History Department.

## Arts and Humanities Honors Convocation Keynote Address

by Alyson Moss (BA '10; MA '19; Rising Runner ')



[After thanking the President and Dean and congratulating the School's award-winning students, Ms. Moss began her address.]

I want to highlight the ways in which CSUB has helped me in hopes that my experiences as a graduate of this amazing school can offer you all some insight, perspective, and hope.

So, let's start with where I am now: I am currently a Dual Enrollment History teacher at Liberty High School. After receiving my MA in 2019, I knew that teaching was a way that I'd still get to learn and be in the classroom. When I tell people that I teach history, I am often met with the response, "I could never remember all of those dates!" This is, of course, the stereotypical understanding of history that I endeavor to break. While it does have the added side effect of making us very good at trivia/pub quizzes, history is so much more than blips on a timeline; only when we start to probe the gray area between binaries do we start to realize how rich, nuanced, and meaningful historical study can be. My ability to approach my craft in this way is directly related to the community of faculty and students here at CSUB.

I came to Cal State in 2008 as a transfer student athlete from Fresno City. I received a water polo scholarship and decided I'd finally declare a major in history. I earned my degree with a minor in Women and Gender Studies in 2010. I remember sitting where many of you are now. I also vividly remember not knowing what I'd do next. This terrified me. I had been going to school, every year, for most of my life and I remember anxiously thinking, "Uh oh, I need to get a proper adult job now."

At 22, I knew I didn't want to be a teacher; of that I was sure. But I very much wanted to be inside the classroom learning again.

So, I got a job at a local deli and emailed previous professors asking if I could sit in on their classes or be a volunteer TA for the upcoming term. At the time, I felt very insecure about it all. I wasn't using my degrees, I didn't feel like I was learning, and there was genuine uncertainty that truly scared me.

Reflecting on this feeling, I knew that CSUB had offered me a sense of security that I was not ready to be without. My undergraduate years were full of growth. I learned new skills of research, analysis, and writing. I learned how to overcome challenges of time management, I had consistently worked on my fear of public speaking, and I met the most wonderful people (including my amazing partner and fellow historian, Jeff Newby).

So, in 2011 I enrolled in the MA program in history. I hadn't been in school in over a year (which now seems like nothing, but at the time scared me and filled me with those ever-so-common imposter syndrome thoughts: "Should I even be here? Am I capable of being a Master in history? My papers and writing are in no way up to par.")

Still, I went. I went to my first graduate class of eleven people (most of whom already knew each other). We did the typical first day of class things—reviewed the syllabus, course schedule, reading

list—and then I drove home...and immediately cried. I thought, there is no way I can do this.

This insecurity in our abilities or in our futures is something that I think connects many of us. As I was writing this speech, I began thinking about how I was able to work through those feelings. And, I say this with all genuineness: I attribute much of it to the type of community that CSUB fosters in its classrooms.

As students, we are constantly navigating new classes, classmates, professors, departments, and personalities. Of course, this is not something that is unique to Cal State students; however, it was within these walls and amid these amazing professors where the community that supported me existed.

I have a lot to thank CSUB for and, of course, I recognize the role that my own abilities play into the type of person I have become, but Cal State provided me with a canvas on which to paint.

Where I am today can be directly connected to the support I received from the people and organizations on this campus. The professors here are challenging, supportive, thoughtful, and inspiring. It is because of those professors that my partner and I were able to apply for scholarships to travel to Japan in 2011. It is because of not just *what* I learned in those classrooms, but *how* I learned that my abilities to critically think, write, and speak are where they are today. It is because of the support from faculty that my partner and I were able to move to Japan, where we lived for four years, from 2013 to 2017. It is also because of support from the history department that I was able to continue my Master's research while living *and* teaching abroad.

Moving to another country and experiencing a world outside of the Central Valley was as humbling as it was sometimes terrifying but also incredibly life changing. It was my years in Japan that spawned my love for education and made 30-year-old me think, "Oh, guess what 22-year-old Aly? You might be wrong about teaching."

When we moved back to Bakersfield in 2017, both my partner and I reapplied to the MA program to finish up the degrees we had put on hold. I immediately thought back to when I came home crying after my first class back in 2011: hello imposter syndrome, old friend.

But what I found was that the amazing community I had left back in 2013 was still here. While there were new professors, new classmates, a new type of semester system, another supportive community that allowed me to learn, grow, and thrive was still housed by these walls.

I finished my Master's Thesis in 2019. Had you asked me five years earlier if I'd undertake that, I would have anxiously laughed and gotten a bit sweaty at the thought of it. But I know now that I am a better teacher because of the professors who supported me in writing this thesis and earning my degree. And I am a better person for challenging myself to do something so outside of my comfort zone.

[See Keynote Address on p. 7](#)

## FACULTY NEWS

Dr. **Moisés Acuña-Gurrola** recently presented his ongoing research to the History Research Group on Popular Front activism in Kern County during the Great Depression. His essay, tentatively titled “‘Our 300 lbs. of Dynamite’: Loretta Adams and Popular Front Activism in Kern County, 1935-1940,” analyzes Depression-era activism from the perspective of locals who endured extreme poverty and took radical steps to regain employment, secure higher wages, and obtain financial relief under the leadership of Loretta Adams, a working-class woman activist. Among her interracial social circle of farmworkers, industrial workers, and the unemployed, Adams was renowned for her toughness. She regularly used her physical stature to confront goon squads, racists, and law enforcement officials who defended the interests of the area’s major growers. Dr. Acuña-Gurrola intends to submit his work to *California History* within twelve months.

Prof. **Acuña-Gurrola** has been invited to contribute to the *Southwestern Historical Quarterly*’s special edition on the Texas incarceration system with his work, “To Train or Reform? How the Question of Juvenile Delinquency Changed the Texas Prison System, 1880-1949.” The article will be a revised and condensed version of two of his dissertation chapters: “Reform: The Beginnings of Juvenile Detention in Texas, 1883-1909,” and “Train: Delinquent Girls in Texas, 1880-1949.” The special edition of the *SHQ* will be published in May 2025.

Prof. **Acuña-Gurrola** and Administration Support Assistant Travis von Schritlz of the Theatre and Visual Arts Departments are offering faculty and staff support to students who will create CSU Bakersfield’s first-ever Skateboarding Club. The club will welcome students of all skill levels and skateboarding styles from street, park, freestyle, and longboarding. In addition to hosting skateboarding lessons and group sessions, the club will screen industry skateboard videos, host guest speakers, hold content creation seminars, and organize competitions. Led by undergraduate Physics major Maryjane Chavez, the club hopes to gain official recognition in Summer 2023 and have its first meetings and official events in the 2023-2024 academic year. For more information about how to join or support the group, contact acting president Maryjane Chavez at [mchavez98@csub.edu](mailto:mchavez98@csub.edu).

Book reviews by **Stephen Allen** appeared in the *American Historical Review* and the *Journal of Sport History* in the spring of 2023. He has also contributed a chapter on Nicaraguan boxer Alexis Argüello to the edited volume *The Statues and Legacies of Combat Athletes in the Americas*, which is now under contract with Lexington Books. Finally, he is presenting with Professor Emerita Cliona Murphy on the panel “Beyond the San Patricios: The Irish and Mexico, 1821-1921” at the Society of Irish Latin American Studies Conference in Galway, Ireland, this June.

Professor **John Chen**’s article “Two Chinas, Two Chinese Islams? The KMT-CCP Conflict and Chinese Muslim Discourses of Race and Ethnicity, 1930s–1950s” has been accepted for publication in the journal *Comparative Studies of South Asia, Africa, and the Middle East (CSSAAME)*. He has also been working on a conceptual and methodological essay on religion and identity in the interwar period for *Past & Present*, a follow-up to his chapter “Religion and Spirituality” in the *Routledge Companion to the Interwar World* (forthcoming, 2023).

[See Faculty News p. 17](#)

## STUDENT NEWS

Congratulations to the following students on their recent achievements!



History MA student **Emma Barnes** will travel with Dr. Kate Mulry to co-present a paper entitled, “Sweet and Stinking Scents’: A Sensory History of Reproduction in the Early Modern English Atlantic,” at a conference at the University of Oxford this summer. They were invited to share their research at The Early Modern Sensory Encounters conference (EMSE 2023), which will be held at Kellogg College, University of Oxford, on June 8-9, 2023. The conference will bring together an international community of scholars engaged in multidisciplinary discussions concerning the sensorial experiences of the past.

Barnes and Mulry made several trips to the Huntington Library during the spring semester to analyze rare books on midwifery and pharmacopeia as well as early modern recipe books. One of the rare books they examined at the Huntington was Jane Sharp’s *The Midwives Book. Or the Whole Art of Midwifery Discovered. Directing Childbearing Women How to Behave Themselves in Their Conception, Breeding, Bearing, and Nursing of Children* (London, 1671), which is one of many texts from the 1600s that makes claims about the connections between scent and women’s reproductive health. Barnes was able to travel to the Huntington after winning a grant from the Dean’s office to pursue this research.



**Monique Dhaliwal** has been a very active volunteer of the Gallery Group at the HRC, conducting an oral history interview with her grandmother regarding the first *gurdwara* (Sikh place of worship) in the Central Valley and Sikh presence in Kern County. The interview is instrumental to her research for the HRC’s upcoming exhibit. More recently, she has earned a Summer Fellowship with the Kern County Museum and will begin her fellowship after finals.

History graduate student **Eileen Diaz** has been awarded a travel scholarship to attend and represent CSUB at the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU) Annual Conference in Chicago, IL.

**Elda Felix Miranda** has an inspiring story, shared here by MA student Eileen Diaz, who has worked with Elda in the archives: arriving in this country at age 14, she earned her BA this spring, and has now been accepted into CSUB’s History Masters program!

[See Student News p. 7](#)

## ALUMNI NEWS

Congratulations to the following alumni on their recent achievements!

**Francesk Berisha** (BA '21) has joined the Capuchin Franciscans of the Western American Province of Our Lady of Angels, which operates in California. While serving as a postulate, he will live and study at St. Conrad Friary in Berkeley but will also be in residence at other locations operated by the Capuchins, such as San Lorenzo Seminary in Santa Ynez, in Santa Barbara County. Berisha notes that the mission of the order is to live according to the Gospel, living contemplatively and practicing a life of simplicity and fraternity while serving the poor and marginalized.

**Jacob Bodle** (BA '21) is currently teaching for Mojave Unified School District.

Both the MA thesis of **Donato Cruz** (BA '15; MA '20) and a website he's working on for CSUB's Historical Research Center have been cited in the housing portion of Bakersfield's General Plan, which is being updated this year.

After earning her BA ('12), **Priscilla Fernandez** attended Cal State LA, where she earned a Master's degree in Political Science. She now teaches Political Science, US History, and World History, including Bakersfield College dual enrollment classes, at Wasco High School. Having just completed her fourth year, she finds it a really exciting time to teach history, and believes that students are incredibly curious about the past and its connection to current events. She cites choosing to study history as the most rewarding decision she has ever made and credits what she learned from CSUB history faculty as incredibly valuable.

**Jorge Guillen** (BA '16) is an artist and recently finished a big mural project at the Recland Acres restrooms at Union and Fairview. Last year he received the Hellraiser Award from the Lamont Chamber of Commerce for community service for murals. He can often be found selling his art at the Sunday Farmers' Market at Haggin Oaks.

Since January 2021, **Jaymee Hasty** has been working as an archaeologist in Utah for the Bureau of Land Management.

Since earning his BA in 2013, **Todd Morrison** has earned his Master's degree and is currently working on a doctorate in Education through the University of Phoenix. He's in his tenth year of teaching, currently teaching both Advanced Placement US History and Government at Tehachapi High School.

**Eric Parker** (BA '07), who currently lives in Tehachapi with his wife and three kids and coaches youth sports there, is a captain for the Kern County Fire Department, stationed in Kernville. He notes that when he interviewed for promotion to captain, he mentioned that his time spent writing history term papers had prepared him for writing incident reports.

### Keynote cont. from p. 5

So, why does this matter? Why, as the study of history asks us, is any of this significant? It's because I hope that in at least a small way you can gain something of value from my sharing how my experiences at CSUB helped me in my career and beyond, and I also hope that you, too, can reflect on your journey here. In many ways, many of you are already well beyond where I was. You have all spent the last few years working, studying, reading, and researching, all while trying to exist in a world that is navigating a global pandemic. And you've thrived. I imagine that many of you have similar anxieties leaving the university, but please remember this:

1. Not immediately using your degree doesn't mean you're never going to.
2. Let the community around you support all your aspirations, even when those aspirations change. You don't need to do it alone.
3. Be open to new challenges that you were not expecting; learn from them and remember that graduating college does not mean you get to stop learning.
4. And finally, remember that you are full of complexities and nuances that are just now beginning to surface. Who you were at the beginning of this journey is not who you are now. And you will continue to change and evolve in ways that might surprise you. As scary as that can be, dive into it. Let the changes around you be both an ever-constant comfort and a reminder that you get to keep adding to your canvas. And there is liberation in that.

### Student News cont. from p. 6

**Gabe Moore** won first place in the undergraduate humanities category at the CSUB Student Research Competition (SRC) in March 2023, and was one of six undergraduate humanities finalists to participate in the CSU-wide stage of the competition held at San Diego State University in April 2023. His presentation, "Two Chinatowns with Only an Alley Left: The Neglected History of Bakersfield's Chinese Community," conveyed initial findings from what will be the first systematic academic study of this topic. The project has been supported by two CSUB Arts and Humanities Undergraduate Research Grants and is based on extensive work in archives, libraries, oral histories, and physical sites from Kern County and throughout California. It has been developed in a multi-semester independent study with Prof. John Chen and Senior Seminar with Prof. Kate Mulry.

**Kayla Prince**, who has just graduated, won a \$2,000 grant from the Student Research Scholars Program to work with Professor Dhada on *The Women's Influence on Media and Propaganda for the Liberation Struggle in Guinea Bissau*.

## PHI ALPHA THETA NEWS

by Miriam Raub Vivian, Psi-Zeta Chapter Advisor

Our chapter had a strong showing at this year's PAT Regional Student Paper Conference, which was held at California Lutheran University on March 25. Undergraduate **Dylan Jones** presented a paper, as did 3 of our graduate students: **Emma Barnes, Rudy Gonzalez Lomeli, and Zachery Powell**. Both Prof. Kate Mulry and I were there to support our students, and I chaired a panel of papers on the ancient world. Although he was unable to attend, **Victor Ramos'** paper on César Chávez (see Wonderly Awards below) won the award at the Regional for Best Undergraduate Paper in 20<sup>th</sup>-Century U.S. History. Congratulations, Victor!

Please keep this annual spring conference in mind if you wrote a research paper this past spring OR you'll be writing one in fall term (for example, for Historical Writing or Senior Seminar), as these would be eligible to present. The SoCal Regional offers a venue for the presentation of student research papers (maximum 10 pages—you can pare down a longer one), so if you've earned some form of an A on one of these, please consider submitting it. The deadline for submission of papers is usually sometime in March. I'll post the Call for Papers for the spring 2024 conference once I receive it early in the spring semester, but feel free to contact me for more information about this terrific experience for both undergraduate and graduate students. It will likely be hosted by the University of LaVerne in Los Angeles Co.

At our annual History Department Honors and Awards Dessert Reception this year we recognized department award and scholarship winners, as well as the newest initiates of PAT.



**Congratulations** to our newest PAT members, some of whom are pictured here:

**Eric Cardona, Makayla Crawford, Davis Decker, Rodolfo Gonzalez Lomeli, Ana Lopez Abarca, Kayla Kiefer, Isabel Medina, Mauricio Medina Ceja, Gabe Moore, Victor Ramos, Joshua Reyna, Bryan Salaz, Cassidy Sheppard, and Cy Williams.**

**Congratulations** as well to our annual department awardees, pictured here:

<b>Prabhdeep Kaur</b>	Outstanding Graduating Senior
<b>Danitza Acosta Gill</b>	Clio Award
<b>Isabel Medina</b>	James H. George Scholarship
<b>Hillary Ball</b>	Outstanding Graduate Student
<b>Zachery Powell</b>	Marshall and Etta Masters Graduate Scholarship



The names of these award winners have been engraved on the department's perpetual plaques, which are now visible in our hallway display case in HOB. (See p. 1 of the newsletter for more on these award winners.)

**Hillary Ball** was further honored as the Outstanding Graduate Student in the School of Arts and Humanities! And **Rachel Hads'** paper on the "Lunatic Asylum" in Jamaica in the 19<sup>th</sup> century earned the Dean's Award for Best Graduate Paper!

Finally, the following students were Dean's Research Grant Award winners in either fall or spring: **Emma Barnes, Rodolfo Gonzalez Lomeli, Dylan Jones, Gabe Moore, Zach Powell, and Kayla Prince.** (Emma and Gabe won awards BOTH semesters!)

[Phi Alpha Theta cont. from p. 8](#)

We are grateful to our department benefactors who make our scholarship awards possible: professor emeritus **James George** (since 2005) and alumnus **Mathew Zaninovich** (since 2010). Another long-time patron of our program is alumnus Peter Wonderly, who for the past 29 years has funded our annual research paper awards, the **J.R. Wonderly Memorial Awards**.

**Congratulations** to this year's **Wonderly Award** winners:

**GRADUATE DIVISION:**

First Place:

**Rachel Hads**

Abusing the Insane: The Kingston Lunatic Asylum in Jamaica and What Government Officials Allowed to Happen

Second Place:

**Zach Powell**

Behind the Arguments of Conservation: Muir's Utilization of Science in His Publications

**UNDERGRADUATE DIVISION:**

First Place:

**Victor Ramos**

Cesar Chavez, La Causa, and the Religious Apparatus: How Faith and Organized Religion Aided the Farm Workers' Movement

Second Place:

**Dylan Jones**

Colorado's Gentleman Hunters: How Salida's Founding Citizens Influenced Fish and Game Laws in 1897 and 1899

If you think you qualify for Phi Alpha Theta, the **national history honor society**, you may fill out an application on our dept. webpage ([csub.edu/history](http://csub.edu/history)) and email it to me ([mvivian@csub.edu](mailto:mvivian@csub.edu)), and I'll check your transcript. You need a minimum 3.1 GPA in four or more **CSUB** history courses. (We count all of them.) If you have only three courses, but earned As in all three, then you may also qualify. Graduate students must have a 3.5 GPA. You may join anytime between now and roughly early April 2024 to be part of the annual spring induction of new members in 2024.

Thanks to the new **board of officers** willing to serve in 2023-24:

President: **Karen Fuentes**

Vice-President: **Rodolfo Gonzalez Lomeli**

Secretary: **Kayla Kiefer**

Treasurer: **Moriah Conedy**

Historian: **Makayla Crawford**

Thanks to members of our 2022-23 board of officers, whose current terms have ended: **Emma Barnes**, President; **Dylan Jones**, Vice-President; **Moriah Conedy**, Secretary-Treasurer; and **Makayla Crawford**, Historian.



**Phi Alpha Theta Presidential Address**  
**at the History Department's Annual Honors and Awards Reception**  
by Vice-President Dylan Jones

In thinking on what I wanted to say tonight, I consulted Emma [Barnes], since she gave a wonderful speech last year. Her speech was a personal reflection about the connections we history students made in spite of, and sometimes thanks to, Covid-19. It was almost a “State of the Department” address from the perspective of one of us students; I’ll try to do something similar and offer some insight through my own experiences and observations over the last year or so.

When I first transferred to CSUB from Bakersfield College nearly 2 years ago, classes were still totally online, and the semester after that just didn’t feel “right,” what with the constant threat of lockdown and masking precautions. This year, however, we’ve finally reached something that seems more comfortable and normal for a campus and community. For the first time in a long time, we don’t feel like we must socially distance, we can see people’s faces and talk to them without straining our ears, and our classes don’t look like they’re at risk of an outbreak. We still exercise caution, of course, as the threat is still very much present, but the urgency and danger have diminished, allowing a thriving new community to pop up from the timid culture we had before.



And to be honest, I could not be more impressed by the community of scholars that I call my fellow students. I’m fortunate enough to say that next semester I will begin to pursue my PhD in History at the State University of New York at Stony Brook, on Long Island, but it’s not because I’m particularly gifted or hard working. No, I’m hyper competitive! And my competition here is *fierce*. I find myself constantly having to sprint to keep up with the impressive academic prowess of my classmates, finding myself in awe of their skills as writers, presenters, thinkers, and researchers.

The research is, above all, what I’m most impressed by. I think we students recognize the amazing research being done on this campus by the faculty, but I think a lot of us don’t realize the quality and quantity of research that our peers are involved with. With funding help from this department, I have been able to travel to Berkeley and Colorado to mine archives, museums, and libraries for my own research. Another member of Phi Alpha Theta is currently working on a research project that may take her as far as Africa, in Guinea-Bissau, to look at the part that women played in their revolution.

Over the past couple of months, I’ve been privileged enough to attend the Student Research Competition here at CSUB and the Southern California Phi Alpha Theta conference at California Lutheran University. I was able to watch my fellow students, graduate and undergraduate, share their research on massive topics, such as the role of science in John Muir’s conservationism, or the role of smell in our understanding of history. But so much of the research has a more immediate, local importance for the Bakersfield community at large. Among the projects my fellow students have been involved with is an award-winning paper on César Chávez, a work of public history on the lacunae in the reporting of Bakersfield’s law enforcement, and research into Bakersfield’s Chinese American history and what remains of it today. And these are only some of the projects I’m privy to! Just as some amazing work came from Prof. Allen’s senior seminar class on sports history last semester, I’ve been intrigued to hear the ongoing findings from students doing their senior research this semester in Prof. Mulry’s and Vivian’s classes on gastronomy and migration, respectively.

I want to conclude this speech by giving thanks to my fellow students for inspiring me to strive to become a better scholar. On behalf of my fellow students, I want to thank our faculty, who inspire all of us to get involved and do the work that real historians do. I also want to thank our support staff, who allow us students and our professors to do amazing work through structural and resource assistance. And finally, I want to thank everybody else in the audience tonight for supporting all of us and reminding us that our work does not begin and end in the classroom; it spreads to and affects the entire community, from our campus to our families to our city. And each member of that community stands as an important pillar of support for training us future historians.

**CSUB ALUMNA  
TOUTS TEACHING  
ENGLISH IN JAPAN**  
by Hannah McKinzie



In spring 2022, I was accepted into the Japan Exchange and Teaching (JET) Program, a teaching and cultural exchange program between Japan and the United States in which native English speakers are employed by the Japanese government to teach English in Japan. After patiently waiting all summer, I was notified in July of my placement in a town called Morioka in the northern prefecture of Iwate. The JET Program is fantastic because they made sure to not only take care of my visa, but they also bought my plane ticket and set up my housing. Whenever I was lost or did not know what to do, the JET Program always had someone who could give me assistance.

I encourage anyone who is interested in Japan or teaching abroad to join the JET Program! This year I have spent in Japan has been one of the most informative and exciting years of my life. I not only saw some of the most beautiful sights and ate some of the most delicious food in the world, but I was also immersed in a culture that is completely different from our own, which helped to broaden my perspective. So, if you are interested in exploring a new culture, learning a new language, or making new friends, I encourage you to join the JET Program!

**Alumnus Reflection**

by R.J. Vasquez (BA in History and Religious Studies, '21)

Reflecting on my first year at Harvard Divinity School, where I am pursuing a Masters degree in American religious history, I think about what one teaching fellow told me during my first week of class: always ask the "next question."

Surrounded by classmates who hail from some of the most prestigious universities and who are among the brightest students in the country, I quickly learned that in discussion—even in casual conversation—very few people here take anything for granted and almost everyone is ready to challenge everything that another student (or professor) might say. This can feel intimidating at times, but more than anything, it forces me to constantly reassess the way and the reason why I do history. What ways of thinking and knowing scaffold my propositions? When I ask historical questions, what do I presume to be true? When drawing conclusions, what am I foreclosing on? What role do we, as historians, bear in the perpetuation of some histories over others? And, most importantly, does my contribution to historical discourse support inclusion or make me complicit in a lingering legacy of exclusion? These are some of the "next questions" we ought to ask at every interval along the historian's path toward truth and repair.

Indeed, one needs only to watch the morning news to see how a battle over history wages not only in political arenas but across all levels of society in the US. We are a part of that battle. Whether we are talking or writing history in the confines of the university, or in the outside world with friends, family, and colleagues, as intellectual gatekeepers of the past, what we contribute to historical discourses matters. It is important, therefore, that we remain vigilant historians who are always asking the "next question" and steadfastly committed to truth and a better, more inclusive future.

**THE PUBLIC HISTORY INSTITUTE  
AT CSUB**

by Miriam Raub Vivian, Director



The PHI launched a new lecture series this spring: The Fight for Civil Rights: Contesting Discrimination in the American West. The first installment was held on the afternoon of April 21 in the Humanities Building: "Building Communities for Black Empowerment and Self-Determination: Allensworth and the Black Panther Movement." Ms. Lori Wear, District Interpretive Program Manager for the Great Basin District of the California State Parks, delivered a highly informative and illustrated presentation on "Allensworth: A 20<sup>th</sup>-Century African American Town in Tulare County," which provided the historical context for the establishment of Allensworth, features of the community, and the main external factors that ultimately limited its success.

To round out the program, Asst. Prof. of History Kiran Garcha focused on the impetus for the creation of the Black Panther Movement in her engaging talk, "Living for the City: The Black Panther Party's War on Poverty in Oakland and Beyond." Beginning with a short quiz to test the audience's knowledge about the BPP, including whether or not there was a chapter in Bakersfield (there was), she next highlighted some of the programs provided to the community by the Black Panthers, in particular their breakfast program for children.



Both presentations left the audience keen to learn more, and a good Q&A session followed. The PHI plans to host an installment of this new lecture series each term, so keep an eye out in the fall for another of these enriching programs that help shed light on civil rights in the American West.



## A Persisting Subculture Eighty Years Later

A review by Danitza Acosta Gill

### *American Exodus: The Dust Bowl Migration and Okie Culture in California*

by James N. Gregory

New York: Oxford University Press, 1989

248 pp.

In *American Exodus: The Dust Bowl Migration and Okie Culture in California*, James Gregory explores the struggle of Southwestern migrants (addressed as Okies) in their adjustment to California society in the 1930s and '40s. He addresses the changes in California culture that were a result of the Dust Bowl migration and focuses on regional culture, as he avoids treating California as a monolith. He includes themes of class, politics, and changing educational and religious institutions. The book is separated into two main parts, enabling him to first analyze the motivations for migrating and the Okies' often-difficult journeys. He explains how Okies were attracted by the relatively high summer wages but unprepared for the cold winters and limited number of jobs. Cramped camps resulted in disease and high death rates. In desert areas, people who were unprepared for the heavy rains lost the few possessions they had to flooding. Farm work itself was a challenge both physically and psychologically, as many South Westerners considered farm labor the work of Mexicans and African Americans (62-70). He argues that the hostility against Okie migrants, at least in the Central Valley, limited their economic opportunities, especially as they were restricted almost exclusively to farm labor (xviii).

In the second part, Gregory addresses the adjustment of Okies to California. They identified with "plain-folk Americanism," an ideology of social and political commitments that painted Southwesterners as heirs to an anti-monopoly and citizen-producer culture that was born out of agrarian and working-class people who fought to preserve the nation's religious and ethnic integrity (142). Gregory argues that "plain folk Americanism," Okie connections to evangelical Protestants, and the rise in popularity of country music allowed Okie culture to seep into the rest of California culture.

Gregory provided plenty of information, but he was biased in favor of the Okies. Settled Californians were concerned that their communities would change and that their taxes would increase. The fear cannot be measured, but the cost was. People's property taxes went up 50%, but he argues that the cost of migrants evened out overall. Gregory focuses on the individual experience tied to an overall generalization, but he did not extend that to Californians. Settled residents were used to Mexican labor that came and went for seasons. Suddenly, they found themselves financially responsible for welfare programs established to protect Okies (86-8). Whether justified or not, the frustration of settled Californians can be understood, but Gregory does not extend them that courtesy.

This book is intended for a broad audience willing to learn about the migratory consequences of exclusion and persistence when migrants and settled peoples are the same race and nationality. This niche topic may interest people from Dust Bowl-affected states and Californians. Migrants may want a broad analysis about what became of them, and Californians may learn about the influences that these migrants had on their culture.

Gregory does a fantastic job incorporating images throughout the book. He briefly describes the ragged Okie camps for context but allows the images to convey their reality. Instead, Gregory focuses his attention on the weather, diseases, death (mainly of children and infants), and politics of the camps. He uses interviews he conducted and field newspapers, federal and state law, music, and secondary sources that focus on people's experiences and the political situation at the time. His book makes data-driven generalizations, but Gregory incorporates lived experiences that fit the narrative. He also points to those who contradicted it in order to demonstrate the exceptions. For example, the reason that many Okies migrated was to find work, but country artists went to Hollywood to seek fame (229). Each chapter has graphs that variously display populations, migration trends, religious denominations, and labor types, among many other subjects. He provides the social context that caused people to move in certain political and social directions, so the graphs are not merely there for statistics but provide evidence of people's lived experiences.

This book was published in 1989, and many Okie influences survive into the present. Though much of radio has been replaced with online podcasts, farm workers continue to use radios, since phones are not equipped to deal with Southern California weather. Shifting through radio stations, the main styles are Mexican, religious, and country music stations. As Gregory explains, religious stations resulted from the Pentecostal church trying to reach their audience. Their supply was met with demand as listeners, often rebuffed by local church communities, fulfilled their desires for religious commitment (203-4). Country music was not born out of Okies in California, but the songs provided them with a sense of family, a place of belonging, the comfort of home, nostalgia, and tradition. In the face of hostility, the cowboys of country songs were symbols of independence and rugged strength. They had courage and determination molded by and ready to defend their religion, honor, and freedom (233-6), much like the Okies.

Though he did a great job addressing white Californian and Okie tensions, Gregory does not focus too much on the interaction between Okies, Mexicans, Asians, and African Americans. The state was overwhelmingly white in the 1930s and increasingly exclusionary of other races, but these cultures were also

[See Persisting on p. 16](#)

## *Metropolis as a Powerful, Comprehensive History of the City*

A review by Prabhdeep Kaur

*Metropolis: A History of the City, Humankind's Greatest Invention*

by Ben Wilson

New York: Anchor Books, 2020

442 pp.

The city is as old as human civilization itself, making a study of its formation, attraction, and dynamism beneficial for a fuller understanding of human interactions and behavior. In his beautifully written and comprehensive book *Metropolis: A History of the City, Humankind's Greatest Invention*, Ben Wilson traces great metropolises over various historical times and spaces to favorably argue that cities, “humankind’s laboratories, the forcing houses of history” (1), provide unparalleled social opportunities and attractions to their inhabitants and migrants, amass human capital in a knowledge economy to encourage advancements, and continuously exhibit a strong resilience to human-caused disasters and environmental changes. Though he is clearly biased towards urban living, Wilson effectively manages to balance his argument by detailing the intense social stratification, violent crimes, hostility towards marginalized groups, and environmental harm that inevitably accompany the metropolis (except, perhaps, in the “perfect cities” of the Indus Valley, Harappa and Mohenjo-Daro; see ch. 2). To further enhance his argument, Wilson seeks to examine the “connective tissue that binds the organism [the city] together” (8), an approach that fits well with his equal emphasis on the social, cultural, economic, and political aspects of various metropolises and to his well-analyzed, diverse use of primary sources, such as contemporary literature, written and oral myths, autobiographical accounts, stone tablets, architectural ruins and existing structures, literary poems, artworks, and films that reconstruct metropolises through the lens of human interactions, their artificially-built environment, and nature.

From the onset, Wilson establishes what he views to be the unfortunate perception of cities as Babylons, “place[s] of sin, guilt, oppression, injustice, and corruption” (65), and the subsequent desire to destroy and rebuild them into utopic New Jerusalems, perfect cities that could be achieved only through careful planning based on sound philosophical and scientific principles. This simultaneous perception and desire becomes a recurring theme in the development of metropolises in different geographic locations and time periods, as Wilson deftly illustrates by examining the historical prevalence of prostitution in early cities such as Uruk and Alexandria and later ones like London (ch. 2), the rebirth of a Babylonian London with the establishment of rowdy pleasure gardens, theaters, and sports arenas (ch. 8), the factory pollution, gang violence, and slum life of Manchester and Chicago (ch. 9), the rational, sterile replanning of Paris by Georges-Eugène Haussmann (ch. 10), and the reconstruction of New York skyscrapers to allow for “air and light” and to mitigate the sense of urban isolation, coldness, and malice (ch. 11).

Though he aptly demonstrates why cities have been viewed as Babylons and replanned to become New Jerusalems, Wilson ultimately and effectively makes the case that metropolises have historically provided social opportunities for their inhabitants, attractions that further allowed cities to tap into the influx of human capital. Most evident in this, perhaps, is the rise of Amsterdam due to its “freedom of citizenship, of conscience and of commerce” (184), a tolerance that enticed migrants facing persecution and conflict, such as the Jewish community during the Spanish Inquisition. By focusing solely on profits and encouraging free thinking, Amsterdam benefitted from the knowledge and culture its migrants brought with them and became a pioneer in the “three pillars of the modern economy”: the corporation, bank, and stock exchange (185-6). Amsterdam was not the only metropolis to present such opportunities: Athens and Alexandria with their democratic acceptance of freethinkers, the slums of Mumbai, Lagos, and Manchester with their resourcefulness and freedom to organically build, and Warsaw with its incomplete destruction all allowed for and drew on human capital to create uniquely urban successes, bolstering Wilson’s argument for the beauty of cities.

A particular strength of Wilson’s *Metropolis* is its simultaneously chronological and thematic organization, in which each chapter largely focuses on an aspect of a specific city at a particular time but also incorporates thematic connections to cities in other historical spaces and times. For example, in his discussion of baths as an egalitarian activity for socialization, intellectual stimulation, and diversion in ancient Rome, Wilson draws on architectural ruins, contemporary writings by bath-goers, and literature and then connects the importance of such leisurely public spaces to swimming pools in twentieth-century New York, in which in-depth analyses of a 1935 Broadway play and a 1975 literary novel reveal the restrictions to such spaces for immigrants and urban youth (ch. 4). Providing such connections establishes a firmer understanding of thematic patterns that exist in different metropolises across periods and of human interactions with each other and their urban environment.

Although the book’s strong organization allows for an impressive and comprehensive sweep of metropolises and their different social, economic, and political aspects, the *Metropolis* may benefit from a more thorough and nuanced examination of gender in the urban city. In his chapters on London and Paris, Wilson describes how unaccompanied women on the streets were viewed as morally loose and therefore subject to unwanted sexual advances, an experience conveyed through contemporary novels and paintings and in the writings of Parisian women who described achieving an exclusively male anonymity and becoming *flâneurs* only when disguised (chs. 8 and 10). Though he notes how the advent of the department mall allowed elite London women to enter public spaces and the creation of working-class mutual aid societies in Manchester prompted women to engage in the twentieth-century suffrage and social reform movements (ch. 9),

[See \*Metropolis\* on p. 16](#)

## Al-Haytham, the Search for Truth, and a Legacy of Madness

by Dylan Jones

This essay focuses on al-Haytham and his contribution to Islamic STEM. He was born in c. 965 CE and died in c. 1040. He pioneered the scientific method of inquiry for the broader understanding of applied humanities.<sup>1</sup> Al-Haytham was neither flawless in character nor modest in his scientific claims and was prone on occasion to promise outcomes he could not fulfill or deliver as a scientist. During the reign of al-Hakim of Cairo during the early 10th century, al-Haytham declared he could control the Nile River, only to feign madness once he realized that he wasn't up to the task.<sup>2</sup> This popular story commonly told about al-Haytham makes him an easily teachable figure in the history of Islamic science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. This essay examines al-Haytham's legacy and life in the service of science.

Secondary sources, namely El-Bizri, Omar, Ghassemi, Tbakhi, and Amr, mainly focus on his scientific theories through his writings. Raynaud's work deals with the legacy of al-Haytham, and Mattila's article considers the nature of autobiography in ancient Islam and how al-Haytham's autobiography fits within that literature.

Born in Basra in Southern Iraq, al-Haytham lived right in the middle of the Islamic Golden Age, which saw Persian, Islamic, Arabian, and North African scientists making breakthrough discoveries that would go on to influence Europe's own renaissance.<sup>3</sup> He grew up under a Muslim Shi'i dynasty, the Buyidis, a suzerainty of the Abbasid Caliphate in Baghdad. Early in his career he began working for the Buyidis in Basra as a civil servant excelling in engineering and technology. It was this work which caught the eye of the Fatimid Imam and Caliph al-Hakim ba-Amr'illah (al-Hakim) of Cairo, who brought al-Haytham under his patronage to dam the Nile.<sup>4</sup> Al-Hakim was an infamously eccentric and somewhat cruel ruler and prone to excessive impulses, which on occasion led him to kill royal ministers at, and tutors in, his court who had fallen out of favor.<sup>5</sup>

After several methodical tries, al-Haytham realized he was out of his depth and element: he could not deliver al-Hakim the dam he promised. From here, the literature on what happened next turns murky. Some sources indicate he fled, hid, and then was forced into retirement; others suggest he feigned madness to avoid the wrath of al-Hakim, as Islamic law prohibited the execution of citizens guilty of a crime by reason of insanity. Ten years later al-Hakim was assassinated, and Al-Haytham was free to breathe again.<sup>6</sup> Al-Haytham himself eventually died in c. 1040 in Cairo, possibly of the plague.<sup>7</sup>

While there is some debate where exactly al-Haytham lies in importance in the ranks of Islamic, or even world, scientists, there is little doubt that he is among the most influential scientific luminaries to ever have lived because of his colossal contribution to a number of disciplines. He wrote more than 200 works, though we know of only 96, and only 50 have survived to this day. Of those, almost half of them are related to mathematics, 23 are about astronomy, and 14 are on optics. It is this last category for which al-Haytham is most known. Called "The Father of Modern Optics," al-Haytham familiarized himself with the theories of Greek scientists who wrote on optics, such as Ptolemy and Euclid, and disproved their belief that our eyes emit light that allows us to see. In *Kitab Al Manazer*, also known as *The Book of Optics*, al-Haytham described in exhaustive detail his process to prove that our eyes catch reflecting light, demonstrating that they do not emit light on their own.<sup>8</sup> Al-Haytham extensively described his methodology as well as his theory of light and reflection, introducing the important idea of replicable demonstration and proof to substantiate theories through the scientific method.<sup>9</sup>

Al-Haytham's legacy as the inventor of the scientific method was built on the backs of other Arabic/Islamic scholars who used instrumentation, testing, writing, and measurement to test the nature of an absolute truth through replication. Al-Haytham, however, introduced *demonstration* to the scientific method, not just *experimentation*. He was not trying to test what was true through trial and error, trying to prove his theory by allowing others to see for themselves that he was right since the data said so.<sup>10</sup> Thus, it's fair to say that al-Haytham was instrumental in developing the scientific method, as instrumental as his contemporaries in advancing the cause of experimentation in scientific methods in the Islamic Golden Age.<sup>11</sup>

Al-Haytham's influence in optics on European thinkers is well documented. Known in the West by his Latin name, Alhacen, his text first arrived in Europe in the 12th century, where he influenced the work of Roger Bacon, before gaining popularity in Italy in the 14th century, where he influenced thinkers like Johannes Kepler and Leonardo Da Vinci.<sup>12</sup>

His stellar contribution to science notwithstanding, Hasan Ibn al-Haytham remains an enigmatic ball of contradictions as a person. His autobiography is lost to us, though we can glean certain details about its

[See Al-Haytham, p. 15](#)

contents thanks to references by later scholars.<sup>13</sup> These works tell us al-Haytham wanted to be remembered as someone who lived a pure, unadulterated “scholarly life.” He was a devotee of Aristotle, who believed the *contemplative life* was the ideal life of a scholar unencumbered by needs and wants. He compared himself to Galen and he thought little of humans; to him, only what was scientifically grounded in the truth mattered.<sup>14</sup> From a young age, he wrote off Islam as he became frustrated with its inability to explain the world through empirical facts.<sup>15</sup> He seemed to go against all Arabic traditions of science of his time in favor of the pure pursuit of knowledge and truth.<sup>16</sup> This is how he viewed himself. Yet, in reality he was far from the living image of a pure scientist. He first rose to his station as an administrator and engineer, very practical matters, before going to Cairo to live in alleged madness and living a lie by claiming to be mad to escape the wrath of a cantankerous ruler. He did everything unimaginably unscientific to survive adversities in life, which occupied a great deal of effort in his life, perhaps more so than the pursuit of a life exclusively devoted to science.

Does this contradiction between his vision of himself and what he did impact his legacy as a scientist? In the absence of primary data to the contrary, probably not. This means that what al-Haytham *did* for science was more influential than what he wanted us to believe about who he was and what we should think of him as a person. Popular histories rarely consider the *contemplative life* al-Haytham wanted to be remembered for, and even scholarly histories gravitate toward defining his life as a scientist in action instead of for his philosophies.

## Notes

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13. Ghassemi, “Ibn Al-Haytham and Scientific Method,” 12.
14. Janne Mattila, “The Philosophical Lives of Ibn Al-Haytham and Ibn Ridwan: Autobiography as an Expression of the Philosophical Way of Life,” *Studia Orientalia (Helsinki, Finland)* 114, no. 114 (2013): 327–30.
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16. Mattila, “The Philosophical Lives of Ibn Al-Haytham and Ibn Ridwan,” 332.

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## News from the Historical Research Center (HRC)

by Chris Livingston, Director and University Archivist

The Historical Research Center's upcoming exhibit, titled *America's Newest Cities: Housing and "Red Lining" in California's Central Valley*, will discuss housing discrimination in Bakersfield and Kern County. The Gallery Group is currently made up of students, alumni, staff, and even a high school student intern! Our volunteers are tasked with researching BIPOC lived experiences in Bakersfield and Kern County from 1866 to the present. For example, history major **Monique Dhaliwal** has combed through naturalization records and conducted an oral history interview with her family to establish the history of Sikh presence in Bakersfield and the Central Valley—a thoroughly under-researched topic. Other topics researched include local Indigenous histories, the local Chinatowns, the development of Oildale, and policing as it relates to race and housing. If you would like to be a part of the exhibit team, please contact Eileen Diaz ([ediaz26@csub.edu](mailto:ediaz26@csub.edu)) or Chris Livingston ([clivingston@csub.edu](mailto:clivingston@csub.edu)).

This semester the HRC staff has been researching and uploading primary sources to our "Redlining in Bakersfield" website (<https://hrc.csub.edu/housing-history/>), which includes racially restrictive covenants, and information about suburbanization, Eminent Domain, and Buying on Contract. Another HRC social justice initiative includes a new police violence archive that documents the history of the use of force by Kern County law enforcement agencies. This project is led by Graduate Research Assistant **Eileen Diaz**.

The National Archives' National Historical Publications and Records Commission recently announced grants for 2023. Acting Archivist of the United States, Debra Steidel Wall, approved 31 proposals in 25 states and the District of Columbia, totaling \$1,904,539, pending appropriations of a final FY2023 budget.

This year's awards include funding for an exciting Basque arborglyph project managed by the Arborglyph Collaborative, a tri-state academic partnership among the University of Nevada, Reno, Boise State University, and CSU Bakersfield, all well known for their Basque studies programs. The team at CSUB is led by Chris Livingston, Director of the Historical Research Center. The group of partner institutions received an Archives Planning Grant totaling \$24,000.

"Basque lertxun-marrak (tree carvings or Arborglyphs) are unique cultural artifacts that reflect the experience of the shepherders arriving in the US during the late 19th and 20th centuries," according to Iñaki Arrieta Baro, Basque librarian at the Jon Bilbao Basque Library, at UN Reno. "They are symbols of their solitude during the time spent at the mountain pastures, but also of their willingness to remember their homeland and preserve their identity," he notes, and adds that "Recently, the Jon Bilbao Basque Library received the Earl Collection; it is one of the Library's newest collections. It showcases tree carvings and illustrates how they are beautiful examples of human artistic creativity, even in the most humble of material circumstances."

Basque arborglyphs, commonly known as "tree carvings," are found on aspen tree trunks in the high-elevation forests of Idaho, Nevada, and California. The historic carvings were produced in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century, primarily by Basque immigrant shepherders, who skillfully carved drawings and messages into the trees.

The carvings provide a glimpse into Basque immigrant life in the American West. Crosses, boats, buildings, human figures, well-known sayings, names, and short poems provide a fascinating archival record of Basque sports, politics, religion, love, work, and homeland. With age and environmental conditions,

many of the trees are in peril, risking permanent loss of these culturally valuable historical records.

The Arborglyph Collaborative will use grant funding to establish a network of interested organizations and individuals; create protocols for documenting the carvings; and provide a framework for the public to more easily access information about these historical carvings. The Collaborative plans to also use funds to document and share information with academic, government, and nonprofit groups, as well as members of the public who are interested in the historical and cultural value of arborglyphs in the American West.

Potential Arborglyph Collaborative partners have been identified to conduct field studies, research, and database support, including the [Basque Museum and Cultural Center](#) (Boise, Idaho); the [Northeastern Nevada Museum](#) (Elko, Nevada); and the [Kern County Museum](#) (Bakersfield, California).

### **Persisting cont. from p. 12**

foreign to each other (37, 79). Many Okies were angered both because they thought that Mexicans were taking their jobs (by being willing to work for lower wages) and that they themselves were being treated as poorly as African Americans (84, 165-6). Okies were fighting, sometimes physically, for treatment equal to Californians, but their fight stopped at their own mistreatment rather than encompassing that of all migrants (154). Racism and xenophobia were important issues of the time, but more examples of interactions between all races could have strengthened the book, as this was an important reality of the Okie migrant perspective.

### **Metropolis cont. from p. 13**

Wilson largely oversimplifies the urban experience for women to one of exclusion and victimization and overlooks public spaces such as the market, which have historically provided ordinary, working-class women access to the knowledge economy, the exchange of goods and ideas, and interactions with diverse people of which the city boasts.

Regardless, Wilson's *Metropolis* remains a strong, well-analyzed, and comprehensive study of urban centers and their dynamic relationship with their inhabitants and newcomers. The inclusion of photographs, models, paintings, and maps of various metropolises in different historical periods further conveys this relationship and the themes convincingly mapped by Wilson, making his book an exceptionally informative and entertaining one.

Faculty News cont. from p. 6

**Prof. Dhada's** work on the Portuguese massacre of Wiriyamu in colonial Mozambique has recently had an international and historic impact. In 2016 Bloomsbury Academic Press published **Prof. Dhada's** study; a year later, Tinta da China published the work in Portuguese and sent copies to the Office of the Prime Minister of Portugal and his cabinet members with a note urging them to review it. Portugal continued to deny the massacre had occurred in 1972. Last fall, the Prime Minister acknowledged the event outlined in the book as true and apologized for the killing of 385 innocent civilians in central west Mozambique. The Office of the President of the Republic reiterated the apology, as did the President/Speaker of the Republic's National Assembly, bringing to an end a fifty-year campaign of erasure in its imperial narrative. Soon thereafter Professor Dhada delivered a paper on Amilcar Cabral in Portugal's national assembly presided by the Speaker of the House, which was widely reported in the papers, leading to podcasts and interviews.



At the Portuguese Assembly of the National Republic

The spring 2023 semester ended with three more noteworthy events involving **Prof. Dhada**, making this year both exceedingly busy and momentous for him. One was a grant of \$50,000 to rescue, restore and digitize the National Sound



Rescuing the Sound Archives of Guinea + Bissau

Archives of the Republic of Guinea-Bissau for the liberation period, 1963- 1974. Another was an interview on Guinea Bissau's national public

radio on liberation history of the country and

archival restoration of the country's past. The third event was the discovery, quite by accident, of mass graves south of the Geba Estuary, again in Guinea Bissau. Prof. Dhada is assembling a team of investigators and experts to reinvestigate it and produce an article or a monograph to coincide with the planned celebration of the April 1974 revolution that toppled Portugal's fascist government. The provisional title of the text will be, "So who paid for the red carnations?"

Professor **Kate Mulry** gave a Jacob Leisler Institute lecture in collaboration with the Hudson Area Library on April 27, 2023. The talk, "‘Draining the Swampish Ground’ of Colonial New York," explored why drainage orders were among the first projects initiated by English officials after the Dutch surrendered New Netherland in the late seventeenth century.

On March 13, 2023, Professor **Kate Mulry** participated in CSUB's Faculty Scholarship Seminar Series. The faculty-led weekly seminar highlighted faculty scholarship from across campus. Mulry presented a paper entitled "The Science of Empire in Early English Jamaica," which considered how histories of science are embedded in histories of slavery and empire.

**Dr. Sean Wempe** is continuing to work on a project with the Imperial Afterlives Workshop, based at University of Cambridge in the UK, examining the fallout from and restructuring of imperial powers in the wake of WWI. The collaboration should appear as an *American Historical Review* Lab piece in late 2023 or early 2024.

**Dr. Sean Wempe** gave a talk at the public library in Lake Isabella entitled "Combating Holocaust Denial: Categories and Origins of Holocaust Denial & Why We Must Educate Against Such Disinformation" on 15 April 2023. Dr. Wempe spoke about the common strategies used by those who seek to deny the Holocaust happened, the history of these racist movements, and why it is important to combat Holocaust Denial. It was well attended, with 40 members of the Lake Isabella community present.

At the Second Annual CSUB Pandemic Research Group Symposium on 19 April 2023, **Dr. Sean Wempe** presented preliminary portions of the Open-Educational Resource on the history of pandemics and their societal impacts that he is developing for *Historiana/EuroClio*, an educational initiative of the European Union.

Professor **Sean Wempe** is offering a brand-new course in Fall 2023 (TR 11:30am-12:45pm). HIST 4530: Fascism and Populism in Europe and the Americas examines the interconnected, transatlantic histories of the political ideology of populism and the violent philosophy of fascism from the 19<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> centuries. The course will introduce students to the history of fascist and populist movements in Europe and the Americas, defining these terms in their unique and multifaceted contexts and analyzing the forms both of these ideologies took—both in and outside of state power—the relationship between the two ideologies, and the strategies by which the embrace of violence espoused by fascism managed to persist far beyond the end of World War II. The course counts for the Transatlantic Region in the Traditional and Public History Concentrations in the Major and as an upper-division elective in the Social Science Teaching Concentration.

## The J. Paul Getty Museum

by Miriam Raub Vivian

For those unaware of this amazing museum, the J. Paul Getty Museum in Los Angeles is actually TWO museums: The Getty Villa and the Getty Center. The former is located off Pacific Coast Hwy. in Malibu, and the latter is right off Interstate 405 in Los Angeles.

The descriptions on their website are succinct and helpful:

“The J. Paul Getty Museum at the Getty Center in Los Angeles houses European paintings, drawings, sculpture, illuminated manuscripts, decorative arts, and photography from its beginnings to the present, gathered internationally.”

“The J. Paul Getty Museum at the Getty Villa in Malibu opened on January 28, 2006, after the completion of a major renovation project. As a museum and educational center dedicated to the study of the arts and cultures of ancient Greece, Rome, and Etruria, the Getty Villa serves a varied audience through exhibitions, conservation, scholarship, research, and public programs. The Villa houses approximately 44,000 works of art from the Museum's extensive collection of Greek, Roman, and Etruscan antiquities, of which over 1,200 are on view.”

There are permanent and special exhibits, and both venues have amazing collections—and they are practically in our backyard! Visitors travel from all over the world to tour both (you'll easily hear numerous languages during a visit), and we are just a couple hours away from these internationally recognized museums.

And did I mention that **both are FREE?! All you have to do is go online in advance to reserve parking for the day/time of your visit.** The parking fee is \$20 per car, which is quite a bargain to see either of these museums. Each is also open six days a week, aside from major holidays. (The Center is closed on Mondays, and the Villa is closed on Tuesdays.) Weekends can be especially busy, so plan your visit in advance.

Grab a friend or family member and plan your trip; perhaps you can even venture down during summer. For more information, visit [www.getty.edu/museum](http://www.getty.edu/museum). Here are three of the current special exhibits on hand:

### Getty Center:

#### Play and Pastimes in the Middle Ages

May 16–August 6, 2023,



“Discover the lighter side of life in the Middle Ages through the surprising and engaging world of medieval games and leisure. The exhibition features dynamic images of play and explores the role of entertainment in the Middle Ages. Manuscript images capture the complex contests and pastimes that medieval people enjoyed, ranging from a light-hearted game of chess to the dangerous sport of jousting. Then as now, play was thoroughly woven into the fabric of society at every level. Family-friendly activities in the gallery abound in this exhibition.”

See Getty on p. 19



Outer Peristyle, The J. Paul Getty Museum at the Getty Villa

Getty cont. from p. 18

**Getty Center:**

**Vases for a King & Queen**

February 14, 2023–March 3, 2024



“This exhibition brings together two of the most extraordinary surviving sets of vases owned by King Louis XVI and Queen Marie-Antoinette of France during the late 1700s. The vases are among the highest achievements of the Sèvres porcelain manufactory made before the French Revolution, becoming personal treasures of the royal family at the time. They were initially kept at the Palace of Versailles outside Paris, the royal family’s primary residence, and are a testament to the exemplary skills of the artists who took part in their creation. This exhibition reunites all eight vases that were separated during the Revolution, offering the rare opportunity to appreciate the craftsmanship and design of the ensembles. The loan of the queen’s vases is part of an artistic exchange between the J. Paul Getty Museum and Versailles, where an important desk made for Louis XVI from the Museum’s collection is currently on long-term loan.”

**Getty Villa:**

**The Gold Emperor from Aventicum**

May 31, 2023–January 29, 2024



“One of the most spectacular archaeological discoveries of recent times is a nearly life-size gold bust of the Roman emperor Marcus Aurelius found at Aventicum (present-day Avenches, Switzerland), an ancient city built on an earlier Celtic settlement. Made by hammering a single sheet of gold, it blends Roman traditions with that of a local Celtic tribe known as the Helvetii. This exhibition presents the bust together with other objects from the site, providing a view of a provincial capital and the importance of imperial imagery in territories beyond Rome.”

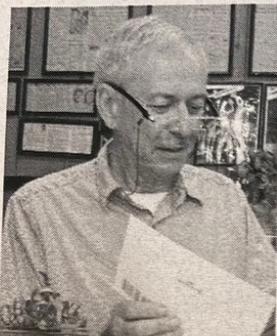
**Remembrance cont. from p. 2**

Prof. Dolkart’s academic interests also intersected with his passion for opera, “reflected,” says Dr. Harrie, “not only in his faithful attendance at productions of the LA Opera, but also in scholarly articles on the Teatro Colón (Buenos Aires’s premier opera house) and on Werner Herzog’s film *Fitzcarraldo*.”

Harrie also captures what many of us experienced as Dolkart’s colleagues: “a sharp and disarming wit and a subtle sense of humor.” Indeed, the History Department was fortunate to have had Prof. Ronald Dolkart.

Also from the department newsletter archives, recognition of Ronald Dolkart’s retirement luncheon in spring 2006 (Vol. 13, No. 3):

**BIDDING A FOND FAREWELL TO PROFESSOR RONALD DOLKART**



Professor Ronald Dolkart completed the Faculty Early Retirement Program (FERP) in the fall and is now fully retired. University colleagues recently held a retirement celebration for him at Luigi’s.



#### **Chair cont. from p. 1**

Sadly, Prof. Emeritus Ron Dolkart passed away earlier this year, having fully retired in 2012 after a nearly 40-year career at CSUB. Read more in the following pages about these beloved faculty, as well as news about current faculty, students, and alumni.

You may also read through this and future newsletters to find out more about student opportunities, from Phi Alpha Theta (the national history honor society), the History Club, and field trips, to the History Forum lecture series, the Public History Institute programs, and even new courses.

As I cycle off as Chair, I will also be handing the responsibility of newsletter editor over to our new dept. chair, Prof. Douglas Dodd. I hope you continue to find the department's bi-annual newsletter full of helpful and interesting information, from announcing upcoming events and off-campus exhibits, to providing our majors with important information about our program, including how important it is to take HIST 2000, HIST 3008, and HIST 4908 in THAT order. Our faculty are working hard as teachers and scholars, as well as putting in extensive time to share department work; some of the fruits of this work are evident here, from scholarly presentations and publications to mentoring our students in research projects.

Finally, congratulations to all our spring graduates! Please keep in touch with us; we'd love to hear about new jobs, changes in careers, and other news for our alumni section of the newsletter.

If you have questions about our program, feel free to contact me in the coming weeks: [mvivian@csub.edu](mailto:mvivian@csub.edu); my last day as chair is Aug. 21. I hope the summer provides all of us a chance to rest, read, and rejuvenate. For those returning in fall, my colleagues and I look forward to seeing you! Keep an eye out for a fall social to welcome your return, along with our newest students. No longer Chair means I'll be teaching more courses, so I look forward to getting to know more of you in the classroom.

All good wishes,  
MRV

#### **Kaur cont. from p. 1**

In terms of her experiences with adversity and future plans, Ms. Kaur states it best in her own words: "Being a first-generation college student has been a constant motivation to make the most of my educational experience, illustrating the true value education has in opening up new opportunities for students and inspiring me to become a part of this impact for others. I hope to become a high school educator who cultivates a deep love for history, encourages the development of skills that students will use and value in their academic and personal lives, and guides all students in the community in realizing their full potential. I also plan to earn an M.A. degree in History to expand my knowledge and practice of historical thinking and better inform my teaching instruction."

#### **Medina cont. from p. 1**

Most recently she has been investigating the impact of prohibition on the California grape industry and has delved into the *Bakersfield Californian* to tease out the changes and complexities that occurred during that period. In class, she is a thoughtful contributor who adds to the quality of classroom conversations and the overall learning environment. She also is a member of Phi Alpha Theta and has made Dean's List every semester she has attended CSUB.

#### **Powell cont. from p. 1**

Zach was awarded an Arts and Humanities Dean's Research Grant Award in fall, which enabled him to access unpublished letters in the Yosemite Archives written by two of Muir's peers. He has sought out opportunities to present his research in a variety of venues, including CSUB's Student Research Competition and the annual Phi Alpha Theta Southern California Regional Student Paper Conference. Zach is a diligent and thoughtful student and a worthy recipient of this award.

#### **Acosta Gill cont. from p. 1**

She's an active, outgoing student in class who has always completed the readings and eagerly participates in discussion. Her intellectual curiosity is exhibited by the wide range of history courses she has taken, covering an array of regions and themes, and in the in-depth research papers she has constructed in several of them, particularly in HIST 4528: Plagues and Public Health and HIST 3458: Health and Medicine in Africa. When asked about her education and the challenges she has faced, Danitza states, "I would not phrase my pursuit of education as a series of sacrifices but as the result of gratitude. When we migrated to the U.S., we lived in a run-down house. In fact, it was torn down shortly after we moved out. When I was eighteen, we finally moved to a house where we could have a living room. I worked two summers in the fields picking grapes, and everyone advised me to keep working hard in school so I would not end up working in the fields. They took pride in their work but did not want to see their children, and me by extent, work there. I have had many emotional difficulties, but I am grateful that most things have been resolved through my own hard work. In all, I am grateful for my pursuit of education. My gratitude is what makes me push harder in order to exceed my current limits. The education I have received is a privilege, and I work hard to pay it back tenfold." Danitza's future plans involve pursuit of a Masters Degree in History, possibly here at CSUB, with a goal to be engaged in education and the historical profession in whatever opportunities present themselves.

#### **Ball cont. from p. 1**

Hillary's thesis, "Science and Communication in the Atlantic World: How Letter-Writing and Imperial Expansion Impacted Culture, Gender, and the History of Science, 1600-1800," explores the diverse individuals who produced knowledge about nature and engaged in scientific conversations in the eighteenth-century British Atlantic. One of her papers, "18<sup>th</sup>-Century Cookbooks: The 'Secret' Scientific Society of Women," which was later rewritten and reworked into the second chapter of her thesis, received honorable mention in the department's Wonderly Awards. In 2021 she was the recipient of the Marshall & Etta Masters Scholarship award, given to the outstanding continuing History Department graduate student. Hillary is an accomplished student scholar and is deserving of this recognition.



**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR GRADUATING STUDENTS**

**\*Denotes member of Phi Alpha Theta History Honor Society**

*Danitza Acosta Gill	Zeric Araneta	Leslie Armenta
*Hillary Ball MA	Carlos Balmori Perez	*Luc Burdick
Gavriel Ceballos	Nicolas Cisneros	*Davis Decker
Deon Fair	Elda Felix Miranda	Gabrielle Gonzalez
Juan Guillen	Nicholas Harms	Kaleb Hillan
Nathaniel Holinka	Eddie Jackson	*Dylan Jones
Misty Kanady	*Prabhdeep Kaur	Susan Leon
*Ana Lopez Abarca	Cecilia Lozano	Cordell McDowell
Jocelyn Mejia	*Mauricio Medina Ceja	Richard Moe
Giancarlo Montiel	Randy Orsburn	Dexton Owens
Travis Portell	*Kayla Prince	Miguel Rios-Rubalcababa
*Brian Salaz	Marc Salinas	Fiorela Samano
Grant Slavin	*Anthony Strongin	Cheyenne Wright
Vincent Zapata		



Fall 2023 CLASS SCHEDULE				
Hist 1218.01	Survey of US History to 1877	Vosper, Andrea	Hybrid	M/W 9:00-9:50am
Hist 1218.02	Survey of US History to 1877	Andreotti, Jenny	Hybrid	M/W 10:00-10:50am
Hist 1218.03	Survey of US History to 1877 <b>jumbo</b>	Andreotti, Jenny	Hybrid	TU 1:00-2:15pm
Hist 1218.04	Survey of US History to 1877 <b>jumbo</b>	Allen, Stephen	FTF	TU/TH 10:00-11:15am
Hist 1218.05	Survey of US History to 1877	Plata, Julie	FTF	TU/TH 1:00-2:15pm
Hist 1218.60	Survey of US History to 1877 <b>jumbo</b>	Mulry, Kate	Online	
Hist 1228.01	Survey of US History since 1865	Andreotti, Jenny	Hybrid	M/W 8:00-8:50am
Hist 1228.02	Survey of US History since 1865 <b>jumbo</b>	Andreotti, Jenny	Hybrid	M/W 11:00-11:50am
Hist 1228.04	Survey of US History since 1865	Freeland, Katy	FTF	TU/TH 8:30-9:45am
Hist 1228.05	Survey of US History since 1865	Acuña-Gurrola, Moisés	FTF	TU/TH 11:30am-12:45pm
Hist 1228.06	Survey of US History since 1865 <b>jumbo</b>	Garcha, Kiran	Hybrid	TU 2:30-3:45pm
Hist 1418.01	World History, Pre-history to 1500	Vivian, Miriam	FTF	M/W 2:30-3:45pm
Hist 1418.60	World History, Pre-history to 1500 <b>jumbo</b>	Dhada, Mustafah	Online	
Hist 1428.01	World History, Since 1500	Vosper, Andrea	Hybrid	M 11:30am-12:45pm
Hist 2000.01	Historian's Craft Wempe, Sean	Wempe, Sean	FTF	M/W 2:30pm-3:45pm
Hist 2100.01	Introduction to California History	Freeland, Katy	Hybrid	W 11:30am-12:45pm
Hist 2000.60	Introduction to California History	Plata, Julie	FTF	TU/TH 11:30am-12:45pm
Hist 3008.01	Historical Writing	Mulry, Kate	FTF	M/W 11:30am-12:45pm
Hist 3008.02	Historical Writing	Freeland, Katy	FTF	TU/TH 10:00-10:50am
Hist 3130.01	The Civil War Era, 1828-1877	Rodriguez, Alicia	FTF	M/W 1:00-2:15pm
Hist 3150.01	Twentieth-Century America	Garcha, Kiran	FTF	TU/TH 4:00-5:15pm
Hist 3240.01	California History	Garcha, Kiran	FTF	M/W 5:30-6:45pm
Hist 3270.01	Sports History in the Americas	Allen, Stephen	FTF	TU/TH 11:30am-12:45pm
Hist 3320.01	Ancient and Colonial Mexico	Allen, Stephen	FTF	TU/TH 2:30-3:45pm
Hist 3460.01	Pre-Modern Japan	Chen, John	FTF	M/W 2:30-3:45pm
Hist 3640.01	The World of the Ancient Greeks	Vivian, Miriam	FTF	M/W 11:30am-12:45pm
Hist 3860.01	History Practicum	Vivian, Miriam	FTF	TU/TH 5:30pm-6:45pm
Hist 4020.01	Public History	Dodd, Douglas	FTF	TU/TH 11:30am-12:45pm
Hist 4450.01	Afro-Asianism: Anti-Racism in Global History	Chen, John	FTF	M/W 1:00-2:15pm
Hist 4528.01	Plagues & Public Health	Wempe, Sean	FTF	M/W 4:00-5:15pm
Hist 4528.02	Plagues & Public Health	Wempe, Sean	FTF	TU/TH 2:30-3:45pm
Hist 4530.01	Fascism and Populism in Europe & the Americas	Wempe, Sean	FTF	TU/TH 11:30am-12:45pm
Hist 4690.01	Muslim Societies in African History, 570-1918	Dhada, Mustafah	FTF	TU 5:30-8:00pm
Hist 4901.01	Senior Seminar	Chen, John	FTF	M/W 4:00-5:15pm
Hist 4908.02	Senior Seminar	Acuña-Gurrola, Moisés	FTF	TU/TH 1:00-2:15pm
Hist 5430.01	Reading Seminar in African History	Dhada, Mustafah	FTF	W 5:30-8:00pm
Hist 5620.01	Reading Seminar in the Atlantic World	Mulry, Kate	FTF	M 5:30-8:00pm

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