

History from the Hill

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History Department

Spring 2003

Volume IX, Issue II

What's News in East Hall

Professor **Reed Ueda** has published a new book, "Faces of Community: Immigrant Massachusetts, 1860-2000." He is the co-editor of this volume (with Conrad E. Wright) which is published by the Massachusetts Historical Society and distributed by Northeastern University Press. It is a collection of essays based on a set of papers presented at a Massachusetts Historical Society conference in May 2000 on the history of immigration in Massachusetts.

Professor **Sung-Yoon Lee** presented a talk at the Korea Institute, Harvard University, on April 3 titled "Wars in East Asia, 1592-1953: National Destiny and Historical Memory." On April 24, he will give a talk at the Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs at the Kennedy School of Government, Harvard, on ROK-US relations and

North Korea. During the winter months, Professor Lee has done interviews of varying length with NPR "Talk of the Nation," NPR-BBC "The World," Minnesota Public Radio, NPR "On Point," CNN, FOX News, LA Times, Bloomberg Radio, The Boston Globe, Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, and New England Cable News. He also published an op-ed piece in LA Times, Feb 23, 2003, titled "Turn Off the Good Will: The North is a Threat," and has an article in the coming issue of The Fletcher Forum of World Affairs, titled "Nuclear Diplomacy vis-a-vis the DPRK: A Dead-End Street."

Professor **Jeanne Penvenne's** article, "'A xikoma xa lomu, iku tira,' African Urban Women in Lourenço Marques, Mozambique, 1945-1975," and Dr. Michel Cahen's extended

review of Penvenne's earlier work on African labor in Mozambique's capital will be published in the April to June 2003 issue of *Mouvement Social*. This academic year Penvenne has taken part in three conferences at Harvard University. In April she provided a comparative perspective for the panel entitled: "Control by Persecution" at a workshop on Chinese History. In March she was a panel discussant for the Third Annual Harvard Graduate Conference on International History, "The United States from the Outside In, 1776-2000." In October 2002 she presented a paper entitled: "Settling Against The Tide: The Layered Contradictions of Twentieth-Century Portuguese Settlement in Mozambique" at a Workshop on Settler Colonialism in the Twentieth Century. She is also guest editor of a special

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issue of the *International Journal of African Historical Studies* on Portuguese Colonial Africa in Comparative Perspective.

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Graduate Student News

Hilary Green (GS'03) was the recipient of a 2003 Graduate Student Award for Outstanding Academic Performance. This award acknowledged her record of academic excellence in her coursework in

the History Department. **Well done Hilary!**

Neilesh Bose (1st year Ph.D. candidate) participated in an American Institute of Indian Studies intensive language training program in Kolkata, in Ben-

gali, during summer 2002. He also has a book review of Kevin J. Wetmore's *The Athenian Sun in an African Sky: African Adaptations of Greek Tragedy* forthcoming in *TDR: The Drama Review* in their Winter 2003 edition.

Dr. Prachi Deshpande (GS'02) has been appointed Assistant Professor of History at Colorado State University.

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Professor **Beatrice Manz** has received a one-year membership from the School for Historical Studies at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton as well as a FRAC semester grant. She will be on leave for the 2003-2004 academic year.

Professor **Evan Haefeli** presented a paper, "The Restoration Origins of American Religious Freedom," at the Massachusetts Historical Society on November 7, 2002.

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History Society Reborn

The History Society at Tufts has been relaunched under the energetic leadership of Tufts Undergraduate Education Committee members Jordi Timerman, Kiril Johnson, Matt Miller and Valerie Wood. The group reformed too late in the year to apply for funding through student activities, but recruitment at Open House earlier this semester was brisk.

Scenes from Spring Open House

The History Department's Spring 2003 Open House featured presentations by Professors Pierre-Henri Laurent, Virginia Drachman and Ina Baghdiantz-McCabe, all of whom explained the very different paths they each took leading to academic careers in History.



Perspectives

by Meredith Kormes

So much of Judaism is telling and retelling stories. The history of the Jewish people is kept alive through telling the stories of Exodus at Passover, Esther at Purim, and so on. The way to remember and celebrate your ancestors is by honoring them through learning from their past. This, and the inspiration of a wonderful high-school teacher, are the reasons I chose to become a history major at Tufts. Whether I realized it at the time or not, it made sense to me on both intellectual and spiritual levels.

Through taking women studies classes at Tufts, I realized I was only learning half of the story in many of my history classes; women's contributions are greatly ignored in traditional history and it was important to me to get the whole story. So I minored in women studies.

As I prepared to graduate in 2000, I panicked. I wasn't ready to get a real job. In fact, I wasn't ready to leave Tufts. So I didn't. Trying to think of some way to extend my time at Tufts before entering the real world, I accepted a position as Administrative Coordinator at the Tufts Hillel Center. And even though it was a "real job," it was still at Tufts, which softened the transition from college life.

It was while working at Tufts Hillel that I began to reconnect with my Jewish upbringing. Part of my job was to help plan religious and social events. Through preparing and often participating in these programs, I was able to incorporate Judaism into my life. In reconnecting to my Jewish culture, I was able to take the Jewish history I knew and broaden my scope to include women's crucial role in creating Jewish culture.

Fate seemed to step in this May, because just as I was planning on moving on from Tufts Hillel, the Jewish Women's Archive had an opening for a Program Associate. The Jewish Women's Archive was founded in 1995 with the mission to uncover, chronicle, and transmit the rich history of American Jewish women and their contributions, a mission that resonated with me. Jewish women have always been an integral part of the history and continuity of their communities. Often their stories are unknown. The Jewish Women's Archive strives to tell these stories and make them accessible to a wider audience.

After an interview and waiting with fingers crossed, I got the job and started September of this year. There is always an exciting new project on the horizon at the JWA. Currently we are working on *Weaving Women's Words*, a series of oral history interviews with Jewish women who are 75 and older, based either in Baltimore or Seattle. I've been busy collecting all the transcripts and paperwork from our sixty narrators, while simultaneously helping with the creation of exhibits in both cities, based on the wonderful stories of these women's lives.

This past year the JWA completed its initial set of eighteen posters for the *Women of Valor* project, a series that explores and honors the lives of 19th- and 20th-century Jewish women who have made important contributions to Jewish-American life. I've had the opportunity to write some of the text for the exhibits and I've also been working on an outreach plan for our new educational resources.

I do not think that I could have jumped into my job at the Jewish Women's Archive without my first steps being Tufts and Tufts Hillel. Viewing the past two years at the Tufts Hillel Center as an extension of my Tufts experience, I know it enabled me to grow and learn a great deal about myself. My position at the JWA allows me to combine all of my interests. I am playing a role in recording Jewish women's history, learning, and helping to disseminate knowledge to others simultaneously.

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Professor **Virginia Drachman** is the author of [Enterprising Women: 250 Years of American Business](#) and the project historian for the exhibit of the same name. The Enterprising Women exhibit opened October 6, 2002 at the National Heritage Museum in Lexington, MA. In February 2003, she delivered a lecture at the museum for members of the Tufts community. Following the lecture and reception, Professor Drachman answered questions during a tour of the exhibit. The exhibit had its New York opening at the New York Historical Society on March 25. It is currently there through June 1. If you miss it in New York, you can catch it at four other venues (Washington, DC; Atlanta; Los Angeles; and Detroit) as it travels around the country. Next stop is the Atlanta History Museum, opening July 1. The project was organized by the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study at Harvard and the National Heritage Museum and is supported by AT&T and Ford Motor Company. In April, Professor Drachman appeared on the syndicated "Martha Stewart" show to discuss the exhibit and book.

Professor **Ina Baghdiantz-McCabe** has published "'Du bon usage du thé et des épices en Asie Réponses à Monsieur Cabart de Villarmont' by Jean Chardin, établi, présenté et commenté par Ina Baghdiantz-McCabe" (*L'Inventaire, Actes Sud*, Paris, November, 2002, 215p.). This is an unpublished manuscript on the usage of tea and spices in Asia in the seventeenth century by the French Huguenot traveler Jean Chardin (1643-1713). She has also this year attended conferences in Buenos Aires, London, and Paris.

Farewell

It is never easy to say goodbye, especially in the case of someone who has devoted over three decades to Tufts and to the Department of History. We think the best way to honor him as he retires is to quote the words he wrote to us as he prepares to leave the university.

Departures are difficult. Leaving the History Department after 33 years will be particularly difficult. It has been a home for me--a second home, filled with people who have been true friends. Some, I have known for more than 30 years; a few, for only a short time; but in every case, they have always extended their amiability to me. I wish to express my gratitude for this longtime kindness and collegiality. Faculty and staff, and very importantly, students, too, will be part of very, very pleasant memories of years in Braker, Miner, Cabot and East Halls.

Pierre Laurent



Professor Pierre-Henri Laurent

*Thanks for all the smiles,
insights, wisdom and
leadership.*

You will be missed!

History from the Hill Staff

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