History Students Explore Professional Paths

A mix of thirteen undergraduate and graduate UWM History students joined nearly 5,000 other attendees last month at the 126th annual meeting of the American Historical Association (AHA) in Chicago. They had the opportunity to meet and network with professionals in the field of History and learn from leading experts who presented on topics centered around this year’s theme of “Communities and Networks.” The meeting also provided time to browse through books and periodicals from dozens of publishers and connect with representatives from prospective employers and graduate schools.

The umbrella organization for the history profession, the AHA (www.historians.org) brings together historians and historical institutions across a wide range of fields and areas of employment. It includes over 4,000 subscribing institutions and more than 14,000 individuals, including college and university faculty, historians, independent scholars, archivists, librarians and secondary school teachers.

Most of the presentations were scholarly with topics ranging from Radical Women’s History to Native American Identity and Community to Environments of Domestic War Planning. Practical sessions focused on Interviewing in the Job Market in the 21st Century and Did We Go Wrong? The Past and Prospects of the History Profession.

Focusing on the future, nearly two dozen digital history sessions, under the umbrella The Future is Here: Digital Methods in Research and Teaching in History, included presentations, discussions, and demonstrations of how digital methods might assist historical research and the humanities.

Back on campus a few weeks later, some of the attendees gathered to talk about the national meeting – to discuss if and how their expectations matched the realities. Their experiences and what they learned were as varied as the students themselves, but all agreed it was an outstanding opportunity, particularly for undergraduate students. Of the 5,000 attendees, only about 50 were undergraduates.

“There were so many different subjects, it was hard choose. I wound up attending several panels on public history and archives, the field I hope to go into after grad school. I made contacts with professionals within the field from institutions ranging from universities to Presidential libraries. I was able to network and reach out to people whom I would have never had the opportunity to meet otherwise. At one of the tables I had the chance to talk with a Public History specialist. The conference exceeded my expectations in every way.”

Danielle Eyre, sophomore, History major

“I think I was the only teenager there, and I thought it would be more formal. I was able to have unplanned conversations. There were so many different topics. I went to a session on Birth, Death and Infanticide in Ireland 1850-1950. It’s something I didn’t plan to go to, but it sounded interesting. I also heard about digital classrooms, gaining proficiency in writing, and the Harry S. Truman Library.”

Brianna Quade, sophomore
History and Sociology double major
Brianna plans to continue her studies for a PhD
The graduate students who attended are closer to entering the field and had a similar but slightly different perspective. Jacob Glicklich, who plans to go into education, labor organizing or activism once he receives his Ph.D., noted that he had attended other conferences but the AHA meeting brought together various groups from the history profession, making it a more cohesive experience. As important as the subject matter and discussions, he said the experience gave perspective on the jobs in history and what students will be doing if they follow this path. Allysia Loebel, a post-baccalaureate student working on an education certificate to teach middle school social studies, stated, “Attending the conference gave me an idea of what social studies subject I’d like to teach. You had the pick of almost anything you wanted to learn about. And there was more discussion between presenters and the audience than I expected. I also was on a mission to collect information and other teaching tools such as books and videos to use in my future classrooms.”

Professor Merry Wiesner-Hanks, chair of the Department of History, said the department invited all History graduate students and undergraduate majors to attend this national conference and represent UWM. “We felt this was a good opportunity not only for graduate students, but also for undergraduates to explore the field. Few undergraduates have the opportunity to attend this conference, but because it was in Chicago we were able to send them at a modest cost. I expected that the students would see what professional history is all about, get a chance to look at a large variety of books, hear presentations of papers, talk with some of their peers, and basically see if they could picture themselves in this profession. I also hoped they might connect directly with someone from a graduate program in which they were interested.”

The History Department will offer a similar opportunity for graduate students and undergraduate majors to attend the Organization of American Historians/National Council of Public History annual convention being held April 18-22 in Milwaukee. Several thousand people are expected to attend this meeting (annualmeeting.oah.org), providing another great networking venue for UWM students.

### History Organizations with UWM Chapters

Students of history and anyone interested in learning more about the field are encouraged to explore opportunities with the two student organizations on campus hosted by the Department of History: the National History Honor Society – UWM Chapter and the Alliance of History Graduate Students.

The Honor Society is called Phi Alpha Theta (PAT) – Delta Phi and was reactivated at UWM just last year by an enthusiastic group of undergraduate students. The primary purpose of the organization, which follows the national group’s guidelines, is to promote the study of history through the encouragement of research, good teaching, publication and the exchange of ideas among historians. Several students who attended the national AHA conference are officers: Lucas Wolff, president; Danielle Eyre, vice president; Brianna Quade, secretary; and Allysia Loebel, treasurer.

PAT is looking for motivated students to help rebuild the chapter. “I think it’s important for us to maintain an active PAT chapter on campus, because it gives students who are interested in history an opportunity to become much more involved with the community of historians at UWM,” said Lucas Wolff, senior. “We’ve started working with the Alliance of History Graduate Students, and we’re hoping to collaborate with them on future events such as film nights, workshops and conferences. All of the events we sponsor are open to all interested students.” Membership benefits include eligibility to present papers at Phi Alpha Theta conventions and regional meetings and to compete for the organization’s awards and scholarships.

The lifetime membership requires an initiation fee of $40. You do not have to be a History major or minor to join. For more detailed information about joining and membership requirements, please send an e-mail to DeltaPhi@uwm.edu. For more information regarding Phi Alpha Theta awards and scholarships, please visit the national organization’s website: [www.phialphatheta.org](http://www.phialphatheta.org).

The other student organization, the Graduate Student Alliance, brings together graduate students for professional, social and academic development and for work with graduate faculty. Their activities include socials and seminars. You can reach the UWM Alliance of History Graduate Students by e-mail at jrterry@uwm.edu.
From the Desk of the SA President

This month marks the start of a new regular column from the UWM Student Association (SA).

SA works on issues such as improving facilities and technology on campus, enacting the right of students to participate in the administration of the University, funding student groups and events, ensuring the access of all students to the resources of the University, and providing an information resource for student groups.

The Student Association serves as a liaison between the students and university administrators as well as the Milwaukee community. The SA is comprised of three branches – Executive, Student Senate, and Student Court – and is a member of the United Council (UC), the largest student research and advocacy group in Wisconsin. The SA is also a member of the United States Student Association (USSA), the country’s oldest and largest national student organization committed to represent the interests of students in higher education on Capitol Hill, in the White House, and in the Department of Education.

Hello Letters & Science!

I want to take this time to introduce myself as the new President of the Student Association. The Student Association had a rough patch last semester, but I am determined to get the organization back on track.

A huge event that we are happy to be a part of is United Council’s Building Unity conference. We are proud to be hosting the largest United Council Convention this year. The conference will be March 30-April 1 at UWM. Building Unity is a Student Empowerment Conference that will seek to create an inclusive youth movement that recognizes the experiences of all students. The conference will explore the intersections of multiple identities to work toward an understanding that the fight for a strong student movement means fighting for social justice by examining sexism, racism, classism, ableism, homophobia, and other forms of oppression within and outside of higher education. If you or anyone you know would like to give a workshop on any of these issues, please e-mail me at lang@uwm. Once we get closer to the date we will have students register for the event.

We are also working on a partnership with alumni and administration to send students to Madison for Legislative Day on March 7th. The annual event, formerly called Spirit Day, is organized by Panther Advocates. It includes meeting with UWM and other UW System students to view their research posters in the Capitol Rotunda in the morning, followed by visits with state legislators and their staff members to promote UWM’s agenda. A motor coach will leave at 9 a.m. from the front of the UWM Student Union and return by late afternoon. There is no cost for the trip or the lunch we will enjoy in Madison. Faculty and staff are also welcome to attend. Please sign up by Friday, March 4th at: [http://www4.uwm.edu/alumni/about/volunteer/panther_advocates/](http://www4.uwm.edu/alumni/about/volunteer/panther_advocates/).

Contact Panther Advocates Coordinator John Bartel (414-229-3266, jwbartel@uwm.edu) with questions on Legislative Day.

If you would like to get involved in any of these events or have any questions about the Student Association, please do not hesitate to contact me at lang@uwm.edu or the Student Association office at 414-229-4366.

Sincerely,

Angela Lang

1 Please note that faculty and staff attending Legislative Day must do so on their personal time.
CERNET Representatives Visit UWM

During the week of February 13th, representatives from CERNET visited UWM’s campus to meet with various units, including Letters and Science. CERNET is an affiliate of the Chinese Ministry of Education. Through an agreement signed by Chancellor Michael Lovell in Beijing in December, CERNET will be sending up to 1,000 Chinese students to Milwaukee to study at UWM. UWM is only the second university in the United States to have such an agreement with CERNET. Dean Rodney Swain hosted a luncheon in Holton Hall where the CERNET delegation heard about L&S programs of interest to their students.

New Videos Available on UWM YouTube

In “Working in a War Zone,” Rob Ricigliano, Director of the Institute of World Affairs and Director of the Peace Studies and Conflict Resolution Program, talks about his peace building work in South Africa, Congo, Columbia, Iraq and Afghanistan. 
http://youtu.be/2D4u9RRD7_o

Mike Westendorf is a 1996 graduate of UWM and is a meteorologist working as Director of Operations for UWM’s Innovative Weather. Check out the video to learn more about their services. 
http://youtu.be/1nAKj44NEj8

Candice Anderson is a biochemistry major and volunteers at UWM Blood Drives. Candice is UWM. 
http://youtu.be/geA13KF851c

Frogs are particularly sensitive to chemicals in their environment. Studying normal and abnormal frog development can help researchers understand changes in the environment and their impact. This short educational video introduces students to these concepts and was a collaborative effort involving the Departments of Chemistry, Biological Sciences and Film. http://youtu.be/NhnhQEnuBA4
L&S Day at the Panther Game

On Saturday, February 18th, the College hosted an alumni reception prior to the final Panthers home game at the U.S. Cellular Arena. Our 100+ guests included alumni from several generations – even an English major from 1958. Attendees enjoyed some appetizers and visits from Chancellor Mike Lovell, Athletic Director Rick Costello and Assistant Coach Chad Boudreau before heading from the Milwaukee Theater to the Cell to watch the Panthers beat Fairfield. During a time-out, three faculty members from L&S were recognized for their research: James Cook (Chemistry) for his work in drug discovery, Jason Jones (Foreign Languages and Literature) for his expertise in Japanese language and culture, particularly Japanese film, and Christine Larson (Psychology) for her research on emotions and the fear response.

“The final Panther home game of the season was a great opportunity for our alumni, students, and faculty to get together,” College of Letters and Science Dean Rodney Swain said. “We heard nothing but compliments and appreciation for the hospitality and the family-friendly atmosphere that made the entire afternoon fun for everyone. The excitement of the last few minutes of the game kept everyone on the edge of their seats.”
Awards & Honors

A number of our faculty members from Africology have received honors and awards recently. Assistant Professor Anika Wilson has been awarded a Center for 21st Studies Fellow award at UWM for the next academic year, and Jeffrey Sommers received a Global Studies Research fellowship at UWM for the next academic year. Patrick Bellegarde-Smith (Emeritus) has been appointed as an Editor of the newly formed Journal of African Religions.

Dilano Saldin (Physics) has been elected a Fellow of the American Physical Society. This fellowship program recognizes members who have made advances in physics through original research and publication or made significant contributions in the application of physics to science and technology. Less than one half of one percent of the Society is recognized with this honor.

Development Update

Through January 31 we have raised $1,746,590 in outright gifts, external gifts and planned gifts. It is the most money ever raised in the history of the College, in the first seven months of the fiscal year.

In the Media and Community

While on sabbatical, Barry Cameron (Geosciences) appeared on the television news program of the University of Camerino located in the Marche region of eastern Italy. Because of their overlapping research interests in subglacial volcanoes, Camerino geology professor Michael Carroll invited Dr. Cameron to the historic university established in 1336. Cameron gave the first in a series of seminars discussing the explosive behavior of volcanoes. Barry will study Mt. Etna in Sicily as well as Mount Amiata in nearby Tuscany later this spring and summer. http://bit.ly/ABQWqJ

Bob Schwartz (Philosophy) was invited to present his work on perception at the “Perception and Moral Perception” Conference in mid-March at the University of Bologna, Italy. The paper he will present is “Perceptual Veridicality?”

William Holahan (Economics) and a colleague from the University of South Florida tackle the issue of downtown parking in their editorial in the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel. http://bit.ly/yFupNH

Margaret Atherton (Philosophy) delivered a paper, “Reading Berkeley and the Ethics of Reading,” at the American Philosophical Association Central Division meetings in Chicago on February 18th. At these same meetings, as President-elect, she introduced the current President for the Presidential Address.


He also presented three posters at the annual conference of the International Neuropsychological Society meeting: “Are Symptom Validity Tests specific to a population?” with E. Andresen, B. Green, L. Young, and J. Blaisdell; “Exploration of new symptom validity indicators in the Conner’s Adult Attention Rating Scales” with D.J. Schmoller and E.N. Andresen; and “ADHD simulators perform significantly worse than neurological populations on the Gordon Diagnostic System” with E.N. Andresen.

Third Coast Digest Podcast:

Third Coast Digest’s podcast series “We don’t go past the bridge: A Discussion on Race in Milwaukee” takes a historical look at Milwaukee’s African American civil rights movement and counts our Department of History, UWM archives, Arts@Large and Milwaukee Public Schools as project collaborators. Part five of the series was just released. http://bit.ly/yOeXiV
1 March
2:00 PM – COMPARATIVE LITERATURE IN THE 21ST CENTURY. Part of the “What is 21st Century Studies?” series, this lecture is presented by Eric Hayot (Penn State) and will be held in Curtin Hall, room 368. Sponsored by the Center for 21st Century Studies.

2 March
NOON – BROWN BAG WITH THE CHANCELLOR. Curtin 175.
3:00 PM – PHYSICS COLLOQUIUM: NEUTRON STAR RADII AND MASSES. Presented by Feryal Ozel from the University of Arizona in Physics room 135.

2-30 March
8:00 PM – SCIENCE BAG: MIRAGES, ILLUSIONS AND THE HUMAN EYE. Associate Professor Jorg Woehl will take you on a journey to explore some of the fascinating and surprising aspects of light and vision. What is light? What do we see? Can we trust our eyes? The show is designed for children and the child in you - no special knowledge is required. This event will be in the Physics Building, room 137, every Friday in March and Sunday, March 11 at 2 pm.

2 & 9 March
7:00 PM – PLANETARIUM SHOW: LIVES OF STARS. Although stars seem like permanent fixtures in our night sky, each star has a unique and finite lifetime. This show tracks how stars evolve through birth, adulthood, old age, and ultimately death. A portion of the program will be devoted to viewing the current night sky.

3 March
9:00 AM – 3RD ANNUAL GEOSCIENCES STUDENT RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM. Students will present their research in Union 191. Cash awards given to best graduate and undergrad talk.

5 March
7:00 PM – JEWISH CENTER LECTURE: MY GERMANY, A JEWISH WRITER RETURNS TO THE WORLD HIS PARENTS ESCAPED. Lev Raphael, son of Holocaust survivors, discusses his return to Germany. This program will be presented at Congregation Sinai.

5-9 March
HAITI 2012 – DREAMS AND REALITY. A five-day series of events in both Milwaukee and Chicago celebrating contemporary Haitian art and culture. See http://www4.uwm.edu/cie/haiti2012/index.html for full program details and a list of sponsors.

6 March
7:00 PM – FOREIGN POLICY AND THE 2012 ELECTION. UWM’s Institute of World Affairs and Milwaukee Journal Sentinel present the Fireside Forum on Foreign Policy. The March 6th presentation will be a capstone to the series and will be moderated by David Haynes, Editorial Page Editor, Milwaukee Journal Sentinel. Registration is requested at http://www4.uwm.edu/cie/iwa/.

7 March
12:15 PM – PLANETARIUM SHOW: BIRTH OF MODERN ASTRONOMY. Find out the extraordinary insights people such as Kepler and Galileo gained while explaining planetary motion in the 15th century.

8 March
8-29 March

ART EXHIBIT: WILLIAM MORRIS’ EARTHY PARADISE. This thesis exhibition focuses upon William Morris’ and Edward Burne-Jones’ Earthly Paradise as a precursor to the founding of the Kelmscott Press. Opening reception is March 8th from 5 to 7. Regular exhibit hours are 10 am to 4 pm, Mondays through Thursdays. Sponsored by the Department of Art History, the Gallery is located in Mitchell Hall, room 154.

9 March

2:00 PM – ECONOMICS SEMINAR: GENERALIZED SHRINKAGE ESTIMATION. Presented by Bruce Hansen, UW-Madison in Lubar Hall, room N110. Sponsored by the Center for Research on International Economics.

2:00 PM - NEUROSCIENCE SEMINAR: WORKING MEMORY, ATTENTION, AND ACTIVATION. Dr. Brad Postle from UW-Madison will speak in Lapham Hall, room 101. Sponsored by the Neuroscience Group.

14 March

12:15 PM - PLANETARIUM SHOW: FUSION IN STARS. Dive into what makes stars shine for billions of years!

16 March

2:00 PM - ECONOMICS SEMINAR: INFORMATION ABOUT DEPENDENCE IN THE ABSENCE AND PRESENCE OF A PROBABLE CAUSE. Presented by Ehsan Soofi of UWM in Lubar Hall, room N110. Sponsored by the Center for Research on International Economics.

27 March

11:00 AM - NONPROFIT COLLOQUIUM: INSTITUTIONAL INFLUENCE ON THE MANIFESTATION OF ENTREPRENEURIAL ORIENTATION. Presented by Tamaki Onishi from Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis in Lubar Hall, room S250. Sponsored by the Helen Bader Institute for Nonprofit Management.

28 March

3:30 PM - ON LUSOFONIA: WHAT IT COULD MEAN IN POSTCOLONIAL TIMES. Part of the Portuguese Lecture Series, this seminar is presented by Dr. Onesimo Almeida from Brown University in Lubar Hall, room N120. Sponsored by the Department of Spanish and Portuguese.

30 March

2:00 PM - ECONOMICS SEMINAR: JOB HAZARD PREMIA AND WORKER RISK PREFERENCES. Presented by Sebastian Buhaii, Northwestern University, in Lubar N110. Sponsored by the Ctr. for Research on International Economics.

2:00 PM - NEUROSCIENCE SEMINAR: MAKING MIDBRAIN DOPAMINE NEURONS – INSIGHTS FROM THE EMBRYO. Dr. Milan Joksimovic from the Medical College of Wisconsin will speak in Lapham Hall, room 101. Sponsored by the Neuroscience Group.

3:30 PM - PREMEDIATING NEUROFUTURES: BRAIN MACHINE INTERFACES AND THE NEW NEW MEDIA. Part of the ”What is 21st Century Studies?” series, this lecture is presented by Timothy Lenoir (Duke University) and will be held in Curtin Hall, room 118. Sponsored by the Center for 21st Century Studies.

3:30 PM - PHILOSOPHY COLLOQUIUM: VIRTUE AND FUNCTION IN ETHICS AND EPISODEOLOGY. Presented by Peter Graham from the University of California-Riverside in Curtin Hall, room 124.
Publications


Writing Center director Margaret Mika (English), with co-panelists Paula Gillespie, Brad Hughes and Harvey Kail presented, “Research on Tutor Learning and Tutor Alumni” at the Madison Area Writing Center Colloquium, UW-Madison, February 20th.

Social Media Snippets

If you aren’t one of our Facebook fans or following us on Twitter, here are a few highlights from our social media posts over the past month:


Interesting editorial on the importance of learning a foreign language. Did you know Letters and Science offers courses in 16 different languages? http://www.nytimes.com/roomfordebate/2012/01/29/is-learning-a-language-other-than-english-worthwhile/being-monolingual-is-no-longer-an-option

Who has a Facebook Page?

- College of Letters & Science – UWMilwLetSci
- Geosciences Department – UWMgeosci
- English Department – UWMEnglish
- Biological Sciences Department – UWMilwBioSci
- Journalism, Advertising & Media Studies Department– jams.uwm
- Translation & Interpreting Services – uwmtranslation
- WUWM – wuwmradio
- Helen Bader Institute for Nonprofit Management – HBIUWM
- Study Abroad Programs – pages/UW-Milwaukee-Study-Abroad/209412632411453
- Center for International Education – UWMCIE
- Planetarium – UWMIPlanetarium
- Center for 21st Century Studies – pages/C21-Center-for-21st-Century-Studies/166632053366417
- Sam & Helen Stahl Center for Jewish Studies – UWMJewish
- Center for Latin American & Caribbean Studies – clacsUWM
- Honors College – pages/University-of-Wisconsin-Milwaukee-Honors-College/59588487772
- Office of Undergraduate Research – pages/UW-Milwaukee-Undergraduate-Research/183946611475
- American Indian Student Services - UWMilwAISS

Do you have a page that we’re not friends with yet? Send your Facebook page name to let-sci@uwm.edu. We’ll publish an updated list in a future edition.
February Newsletter 2012

---we walked across that night, risen

--- Al ritmo de mis dedos en las teclas que dejan marcadas para el infinito estos caracteres acústicos

--- Poetry is spit and fungus growing underground

--- A diversity in Oneness Earth^c

--- O' god of lucky numbers and linen closet altars, saint of all Quiet words drilled into the dark...

Cantos Latinos!
A mosaic of Latino poetry

Saturday, March 31, 7 p.m.
~ Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

Centennial Hall Loos Room
733 N. Eighth Street

An evening of poetry and dialog hosted by
Milwaukee Poet Laureate Brenda Cárdenas

featuring
Francisco Aragón
Xanath Caraza
Maurice Kilwein Guevara
Roberto Harrison
Emma Trelles

Funded in part by a grant from the Wisconsin Humanities Council, with funds from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the State of Wisconsin.
Any views, findings, conclusions or recommendations expressed in this project do not necessarily represent those of the national Endowment for the Humanities.

Sponsored by the Milwaukee Public Library in collaboration with Woodland Pattern Book Center, UWM's Creative Writing Program and Milwaukee's Latino Arts organization.

Upon reasonable notice, efforts will be made to accommodate the needs of individuals with disabilities. Make requests to the Library Director's Office at (414) 286-3021, 286-2794 (FAX), 286-3062 (TTY), or mail to Central Library, 814 W. Wisconsin Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53233 Attn: Accommodation Request. 2012