Hello,

I am Philip A. Howard, the History Department Chair. We have had an exciting year in every aspect, including new undergraduate and graduate initiatives. In addition, our faculty continues produce world-class scholarship and offer special academic programs for their colleagues locally and across the country.

In March 2017, the Department sponsored a “Career Day” for the second consecutive year. Dedicated to informing our students about the numerous employment opportunities for Liberal Arts/Humanities majors, representatives from the Honors College, U.H. Career Services, School of Law, the College of Education as well as the M.D. Anderson Library discussed how a degree in history was attractive in these professions. Several History professors also discussed strategies on how to apply to graduate school. We are waiting for the University’s administration to approve the Professional Studies Track within our major. The line of study is designed to facilitate a career focus for majors interested in Law, Medicine and Health and Public History. In the Fall 2017, Dr. Mark Goldberg replaced Professor Matthew Clavin as the faculty adviser of the Phi Alpha Theta Honor Society. In the coming months, Phi Alpha Theta will offer lectures on and off campus, and exciting field trips to museums and other places that are of historical importance. Our Graduate Program has been revised. We have expanded its coverage now offering PhDs in Modern Arab History/Middle Eastern History.

Between June 12-18 2017, Professors Nancy Young and Leandra Zarnow invited sixteen scholars from around the country to participate in a NEH Summer Seminar on “Gender, the State, and the 1977 International Women’s Year Conference.” And as a follow up to their prestigious summer seminar, in November 2017, Young and Zarnow will preside over a two-day conference entitled “The National Women’s Conference. The conference commemorates the 40th anniversary of the historic National Women’s Conference held in Houston. In addition, the conference is associated with the College of Liberal Arts and Social Science’s Distinguished John P. McGovern Endowed Lectureship in Family, Health and Human Values.

The Faculty continues to generate new knowledge by publishing monographs. This past year Professors Xiaoping Cong, Sarah Fishman, Mark Goldberg, Gerald Horne, and James Martin contributed to their respective fields of gender and family, race and health, race, ethnicity and class and the American Revolution.
Books Published in 2016:

The Department enjoyed another productive year in book publication – the paramount intellectual contribution of our profession. This year, our faculty produced several books, edited volumes, and numerous chapters......


Mark Allan Goldberg, *Conquering Sickness: Race, Health, and Colonization in the Texas Borderlands* (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 2016)

Advanced Praise

“As Mark Goldberg’s well-researched and detailed work moves from the first smallpox inoculations in the region and the widespread use of medicinal hot springs to cures for cholera and other diseases that utilized local plants such as peyote and maguey, he illuminates in new ways the cross-cultural encounters of this multiracial border region.”

Martha Few, author of *For All of Humanity: Mesoamerican and Colonial Medicine in Enlightenment Guatemala*

Professor Susan Kellogg published an article titled “Alva Ixtlilxochitl’s Marina and Other Women of Conquest,” in Fernando Alva Ixtlilxochitl and His Legacy, eds. Galen Brokaw and Jongsoo Lee (Tucson: University of Arizona Press, 2016).

Professor Gerald Horne, The Moores Professor of History and African American Studies


Professor Horne was also awarded the

**Ida B. Wells Barnett and Cheik Anta Diop Award for Outstanding Scholarship and Leadership in Africana Studies**

National Council of Black Studies, 2017
Selected Articles published in 2016


Selected Articles published in 2016
Continued…


_____, “The Irreplaceable Window: Reflections on the Study of Indigenous Wills,” co-authored with Matthew Restall, in Dead Giveaways II: Native Wills from the Americas, ed. by Mark Christensen and Jonathan Truitt (Salt Lake City: University of Utah Press, 2016).


This Article was the Winner, International Award for Excellence, for Volume 11 of The Interdisciplinary Social Sciences Journal Collection  [The Interdisciplinary Social Sciences Journal Collection offers an annual award for newly published research or thinking that has been recognized to be outstanding by members of the Interdisciplinary Social Sciences Research Network. The winning article is selected from the ten highest-ranked articles emerging from the peer review process.]
Prof. Cihan Yüksel Muslu published the Turkish translation of her book titled *The Ottomans and the Mamluks: Imperial Diplomacy and Warfare in the Islamic World*, which appeared in Turkey in March 2016 as *Osmanlilar ve Memluklar: İslam Dunyasında İmparatorluk Diplomasisi ve Rekabet*.

Drawing on six years of research at public archives, personal collections, movement offices, and private homes, as well as dozens of video interviews, Professor Abdel Razzaq Takriti’s main research publication in 2016 was *The Palestinian Revolution*—a major digital humanities project jointly authored, curated, and edited with Dr. Karma Nabulsi (Oxford).

Please visit: learnpalestine.politics.ox.ac.uk,
Alexey Golubev, a scholar of Russian history with a focus on social and cultural history of the twentieth century. He completed his Ph.D. in history at the University of British Columbia in 2016, and then spent a year as a Banting Postdoctoral Scholar at the University of Toronto. Prior to that he attended Petrozavodsk State University in Russia where he earned a degree of Candidate of Sciences in History (2006) in addition to a diploma in Russian and English (2002). Dr. Golubev has previously taught at the University of Eastern Finland, the University of British Columbia, the University of Freiburg in Germany, and Petrozavodsk State University in Russia.

Welcome to New Faculty Member, Professor Alexey Golubev


The paperback edition of Professor Susan Kellogg’s co-edited volume (with Ethelia Ruiz), *Negotiation within Domination: New Spain’s Indian Pueblos Confront the Spanish State*, was published by University Press of Colorado.
Awards, Honors, and Prizes, and Papers Delivered:

A record number of our graduate students won dissertation completion fellowships, grants, monies and promotions. Below is a brief list of this news from 2016.

Ally Castillo completed her Ph.D. in June 2016 (“Constructing Race: The Catholic Church and the Evolution of Racial Categories in Colonial Mexico, 1521-1700”) and has taken a one-year position at Goucher College in Baltimore teaching Latin American history.

Rikki Bettinger, ABD, received a CLASS dissertation completion fellowship for her dissertation (“Imperial Counterparts: North Atlantic Women’s Travels in Mexico and the Caribbean, 1800-1860”) for the 2017-2018 academic year during which he will be researching in Costa Rica. He also received the John King Prize for Outstanding Graduate Student.

Alex LaRotta (Perales & Goldberg) received the Ernesto Valdes Prize for Oral History in May 2016 from the UH Center for Public History, which recognizes the graduate student who makes the best use of oral history in an article, thesis or dissertation chapter, seminar paper, conference paper, or public history project during the past year.

For the 2017-2018 academic year Rikki Bettinger also received the Margaret Henson Award for Best Paper in Women’s History for her paper “More than a Gaze and an Exchange: North American Women in Mexico and Cuba, 1830-1850.”
Alex LaRotta (Perales & Goldberg) received the Stanley Siegel Prize for in May 2017 from the UH History Department, for the best seminar paper, conference paper, thesis or dissertation chapter, or article written by a graduate student and dealing with an aspect of Texas History.

Anna Marie Anderson received the Cundy Travel Grant from Florida State University.

Brett Olmsted (Perales) received the Ernesto Valdes Prize for Oral History in May 2017 from the UH Center for Public History, which recognizes the graduate student who makes the best use of oral history in an article, thesis or dissertation chapter, seminar paper, conference paper, or public history project during the past year.


Alberto Wilson III (Perales) published a blog article published by the Immigration and Ethnic History Society titled “Border Walls in a Globalized Age.” http://iehs.org/online/alberto-wilson-border-walls/ on April 30, 2017. Having his piece selected for publication (his first publication) is a great honor.

Taylor Mankin (Vaughn Ph. D.), $750 Cullen Travel Grant. Both grants were for her presentation of a paper at the conference The North as Home at the University of Aberdeen, Scotland, August 2017.

Saneea Sakhyani (Perales & Romero) was selected to participate in the Southern Foodways Alliance 2017 Summer Oral History Workshop to be held in Atlanta, GA in July 2017. The workshop offers an immersive training experience in oral history methods, fieldwork, and dissemination of oral histories. The SFA is the premier organization for the study of food in the multicultural South.


Samantha Rodriguez (Perales) was a participant on a roundtable titled “Chicana! New Narratives: Memory Movidas through Testimonios (Testimonies) and (Auto)Biographies.” At the annual meeting of the National Association for Chicana and Chicano Studies in Denver, Colorado on April 8, 2016.

Lindsay Drane received the Otis Locke Research Grant from the East Texas Historical Association.


Taylor Mankin (Vaughn Ph. D. student) $500.00 travel grant from the Murray Miller fund for graduate students, Department of History, University of Houston.

Alex LaRotta (Goldberg and Perales) received the Ernesto Valdes Oral History Prize for “Pass the Naan” in May 2016. He also was awarded the Stanley Siegel Prize for Best Paper in Texas History for “Young, Gifted, and Brown: La Onda Chicana in San Antonio’s West Side Sound,” in May 2017. Mr. LaRotta received the Cullen Fellowship Travel Grant in May 2017 and the Murray Miller Scholarship, Summer/Fall 2017. Finally, he received the William J. Hill Visiting Researcher Travel Grant in Summer 2017.

Tara Sewell (Holt) received a nationally competitive grant to participate in the Ernie P. Newman Graduate Seminar at the American Numismatic Society in New York (Summer 2017). She also received the Helen M Douthitt Endowed Scholarship and a Cullen Fellowship Travel Grant.

Darah Vann (Holt) was invited by Harvard’s Center for Hellenic Studies to post her seminar paper “Helen of Troy: Unwomanly in Her Sexuality” on the Center’s website Classical Inquiries: http://classical-inquiries.chs.harvard.edu

Lindsay Drane received a travel grant from the Carl Albert Center, University of Oklahoma.
The Center for Public History has seen some changes and the addition of new faces. After 33 years at the helm, Dr. Martin Melosi stepped down as director of CPH at end of the past academic year as he prepares for his retirement next year. We are immensely grateful for his more than three decades of leadership and hard work in building the CPH’s regional, national, and international reputation for excellence in historical scholarship and community engagement. Dr. Monica Perales, associate professor of history, is the new director, she is proud and honored to continue this work, and help guide CPH into the future. Dr. Todd Romero, associate professor of history and co-director of the Gulf Coast Food Project, is joining the staff as the new associate director of CPH. Together with Houston History magazine editor Dr. Debbie Harwell, Houston History archivist Dr. Teresa Tomkins-Walsh, CPH program manager Dr. Wes Jackson, and our entire affiliate faculty, we are well positioned to continue the tradition of excellence for which the Center is known.

We were delighted at the news that CPH faculty affiliates Dr. Nancy Beck Young and Dr. Leandra Zarnow were awarded a $71,678 NEH Summer Seminar grant for "Gender, the State, and the 1977 International Women’s Year Conference." The June 2017 seminar included 16 scholars selected from around the United States. Building on that important work, Young and Zarnow will hold a major two-day conference at UH on November 6-7, 2017: “The National Women’s Conference: Taking 1977 into the 21st Century.” The event will bring together over 100 scholars and activists into a lively and thoughtful dialogue about women’s rights in the last forty years. The conference will serve as a foundation for launching a ten-year public history project to collect oral histories and documentary evidence from many of the over 30,000 women who participated in the original Houston Conference. They have a call to action from Gloria Steinem, one of the conference speakers, to undertake this work.

A vital source on our city’s past, Houston History produced two issues as part of the Welcome Wilson Houston History Collaborative. The fall 2016 issue, “Houston Emergency Medical Services: 45 Years of Courage, Commitment & Compassion” was completed as part of a public history internship for four students from Dr. Debbie Harwell’s Houston History class. The students completed over sixteen hours of video interviews to add to their research contextualizing EMS nationwide. About 200 people attended the event launching the magazine. The magazine also included in its Departments section, an article on the Turkey Day Classic, a football game between Yates and Wheatley High Schools that was the largest high school sports competition in the country, as well as a description of the recently acquired Tatcho Mindiola Collection at the University of Houston Special Collections.
Dr. Mark Goldberg’s project “La Hora: Jewish Latina/os and Explorations in Jewish History and Identity,” is off and running. He received a Texas Jewish Historical Society grant to build an oral history archive of Houston-area Jewish Latina/os, and began conducting interviews last month. Also, as part of “La Hora,” Dr. Goldberg organized a panel of three chefs and writers - Fany Gerson, Pati Jinich, and Michael Twitty - for an event titled “Mishpocheh: Culinary Reflections on Jewish Identity and Diversity,” which will be held November 29, 2018.

Inaugurated in 1986 as the Tenneco Lecture Series, the now-renamed, UH Center for Public History Lecture Series continues to sponsor unique opportunities for Houston professionals, community leaders, and others to consider historical, social and cultural perspectives directly related to the decisions they make. Over the past year, the lecture series supported events across multiple departments that were held both on and off campus. Highlights from a rich slate of events from the past year included presentations by UH History Department alum Dr. Dwight Watson (Texas State University) on police brutality and the murder of Jose Campos Torres in Houston in 1977 and two public events with Jón Gnarr, former mayor of Reykjavík, Iceland, where he discussed his political life and rich creative career as a novelist, comedian, and actor. The award-winning Columbia University historian Karl Jacoby gave a riveting book talk on his recently published The Strange Career of William Ellis: The Texas Slave Who Became a Mexican Millionaire (Norton, 2016). Check out the “CPH Lecture Series Application for Funding” webpage if you are interested in hosting a guest-speaker event and are seeking support: http://www.uh.edu/class/ctr-public-history/cph-events/application-for-funding/

The CPH Research Colloquium reached a landmark - with our 80th meeting! We celebrated by discussing “La Onda Chicana and Cultural Nationalism in San Antonio,” part of Ph.D. candidate Alex LaRotta’s dissertation project. In all the colloquium met nine times and research topics stretched World War II prisoners of war to feminist politics in America to the Jose Torres Campos case in Houston. Presenters engaged us in discussion reaching back to the Ottoman Empire forward to the Humboldt Current. The colloquium continues to provide a valuable opportunity for scholars at any level, and both within and beyond the university, to engage in meaningful consideration of works in progress and new scholarship in history. http://www.uh.edu/class/ctr-public-history/news/CPH%20Colloquium%20events/
Graduation News:

Finally, we wish to celebrate the many students who completed and defended their Doctoral Dissertations this year 2016:

Sandra Enriquez, "El Barrio Unido Jamás Será Vencido!' Neighborhood Grassroots Activism and Community Preservation in El Paso, Texas." Advisers: Monica Perales

Katie Streit, "Beyond Borders: A History of Mobility, Labor and Imperialism in Southern Tanzania." Advisers: Karl Ittmann


Andrew Pegoda, "If You Do Not Like The Past, Change It: The Reel Civil Rights Revolution, Historical Memory, and the Making of Uopian Pasts." Advisers: Linda Reed

Julie Sarpy, "Keeping Rapunzel: The Mysterious Guardianship of Joan of Flanders and the Case for Feudal Constraint." Advisers: Sally Vaughn


Allison Hughes-Robinson, "Troubling Gender: Southern Women, State Carceral Policy, and the Myth of the Pedestal." Advisers: Nancy Young


John Huntington,"Right-Wing Paranoid Blues: The Role of Radicalism in Modern Conservatism." Advisers: Nancy Young

Juan Galvan Rodriguez,"Historical Memory, Proto-Nationalism, And Nationalism in Mexico: Southwestern Puebla From 1519 To 1862" Advisers: John M. Hart

Christopher Haight, "From Hate Crimes to Activism: Race, Sexuality, and Gender in the Texas Anti-Violence Movement." Advisers: Nancy Young

Frances Joseph (Holt, Ph.D., 2016) had her article “Power-Policy Numismatics and Demetrius I of Bactria’s Minting System” accepted for publication in Ancient West & East.

Dr. John Huntington received a travel grant from the Hoover Institution, Stanford University.

Justin Tyree (Vaughn MA candidate) presented a paper on Anglo-Saxons, Icelanders, and Gotlanders: Connecting Medieval Germanic Culture Through Legal Discourse, August 17-18, 2017, at the conference "The North as Home," sponsored by the Northern Research Network Conference, University of Aberdeen, Aberdeen, Scotland, UK.

Julie Cohn, UH Ph.D. 2013, Research Historian, Center for Public History. Dr. Cohn’s book, The Grid: Biography of an American Technology, will be published in October 2017 by The MIT Press. For more information, please see: https://mitpress.mit.edu/books/grid


Debbie Harwell, UH Ph.D. 2012, Managing Editor of the Houston History Magazine, Center for Public History, did a presentation on her Julia Cherry Spruill Prize award-winning book Wednesdays in Mississippi: Proper Ladies Working for Radical Change, at the Frederick Douglass House in Washington D.C. and the Mississippi Department of Archives and History in Jackson, Mississippi.