



UCF | HISTORY DEPARTMENT NEWSLETTER

**INSIDE THIS
ISSUE:**

Pauley Lecture Series	2
Dr. Amelia Lyons	2
Faculty Publications Books	3
Dr. John Sacher	4
Dr. Peter Larson	4
Dr. Rosalind Beiler	4
<i>Florida Historical Quarterly</i>	5
Public History Podcast	6
Dr. Richard Crepeau in Russia	6
Dr. Connie Lester	6
FCTL Information Fluency Grant	7
Amy Foster	7
Graduate Student News	7
Support the Department	8

A W A R D S , H O N O R S A N D P R O M O T I O N S



Dr. Amy Foster won the Arthur W. Thompson Award for the most outstanding article in the *Florida Historical Quarterly* published in 2008. Dr. Foster's article titled "The Gendered Anniversary: The Story of America's Women Astronauts" was published in the Fall Issue of Volume 87.

Dr. Richard Crepeau was named Honorary Director of the American Center at Udmurt State University, Izhevsk, Russia in the Fall of 2008. While there he gave lectures on U.S. intellectual and diplomatic history. He was also a guest speaker and keynote presenter for their Tenth Anniversary Con-

ference of the American Center, held during November 17-21.

Assistant Professor of history Peter Larson received the University Award for Excellent Undergraduate Teaching. Larson has made significant contribution to the UCF community by working with many campus organizations, including the Burnett Honors College and the President's Scholars Study Abroad Program. Dr. Larson was also awarded a 1-month British Academy fellowship from the Huntington Library for the 2009-2010 academic year. Dr. Larson will use the time to work on his current project titled "From Reformation to Restoration in Northern England, 1399 to 166" Dr. Amelia Lyons has been named a board

member for the Association d'Histoire de l'Immigration (AHI). The AHI is a new professional association in France dedicated to the advancement of the study of immigration in France and will publish the journal *Actes de l'immigration*.

The history department has been nominated for the LINK First Year Advocate Department Award. The award is given to the department first year students at UCF think have made a significant impact upon their success here at UCF.

Finally the department congratulates Drs. Connie Lester and Vladimir Solonari who have been promoted to Associate Professors at the University of Central Florida.

C A R O L E G O N Z A L E Z R E T I R E S



In the summer of 2009 the Department says goodbye and wishes luck to Carole Gonzalez who is retiring after twenty-two years of outstanding service to the department. Ms. Gonzalez earned her Bachelor's Degree at the University of Central

Florida. She started in 1987 as an administrative secretary and worked as an office manager and Administrative Assistant and finally serving as the Coordinator of Academic Support Services. She will be sorely missed by faculty, staff and students alike. Students have found her warm face and heart welcoming them into the department for over two decades. She served the students by

guiding them and advising them throughout their time at UCF. We know in her retirement she will remain part of the history department family.

She has served under four chairs and numerous college deans. We hope to find someone who can fulfill her duties, but we cannot replace her.

PAULEY LECTURE SERIES

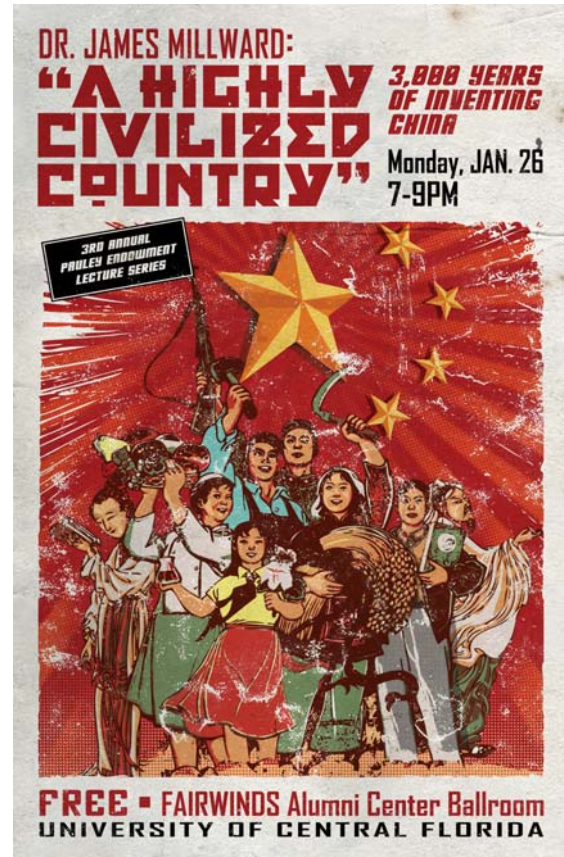
Professor James A. Millward, an Associate Professor of History at Georgetown University, was the speaker for the 2009 Pauley Lecture. He is an expert on Chinese history. He is the author of *Eurasian Crossroads: A History of Xinjiang and Beyond the Pass: Economy, Ethnicity and Empire in Qing Xinjiang, 1759-1864* and *Beyond the Pass: Economy, Ethnicity and Empire in Qing Xinjiang, 1759-1864*. He is one of the editors of *New Qing Imperial History: The Manchu Summer Palace at Chengde*. He also published several articles on *China in Inner Asia*, *Late Imperial China*, *Chinese Business History*, *Journal of Asian Studies*, *Central and Inner Asian Studies*, and *Archaeology*.

His talk entitled "A Highly Civilized Country: 3,000 Years of Inventing China" was delivered in the Fairwinds Alumni Center Ballroom on January 26th.

In his talk Professor Millward examined the ahistorical ways China's future has been viewed based on Western perceptions and misunderstandings of China's complex history.

Professor Millward opened the audience to a view of Chinese history and its political trajectory from a perspective of the people who live on the frontier and who represent China's most diverse and ethnically diverse regions and peoples.

A reception and meet and greet followed.



PROFESSOR AMELIA LYONS'S RESEARCH



Dr. Amelia Lyons

In the fall of 2008 UCF's Phi Alpha Theta, the student history honor society, named Dr. Amelia Lyons its first annual "Professor of the Semester" for her research, support of PAT, and

ability to motivate students. That same term, Dr. Lyons gave a paper entitled "Algerian Families in France and 'la petite propriété' during Decolonization," at an international conference of French historians. The essay, presented at the 36th Annual Conference of the Western Society for French History in Quebec, Canada in November of 2008, found that while Algerians faced structural discrimination, a small number of families succeeded in buying homes with state aid in the 40s and 50s.

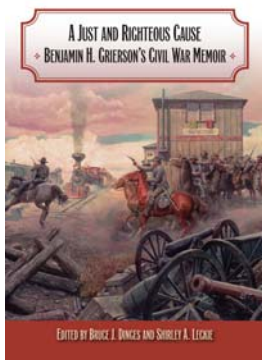
In February 2009, Dr. Lyons published an article in the British journal *Patterns of Prejudice*. "Social Welfare, French Muslims and Decolonization in

France: The Case of the Fonds d'action Sociale" historicizes the role played by the FAS in French 'integration' politics to understand better the process of decolonization and the legacy of colonialism in metropolitan France. It rejects the notion that the imperial and republican projects were separate ventures, with the former representing a deviation from the otherwise universalist principles of the latter, and argues that this state institution was both republican and imperial, when it was created to solve the 'Algerian crisis' in 1958 and when it was reframed to manage the 'immigration problem' after Algerian independence in 1962.

FACULTY PUBLICATIONS: BOOKS

Dr. Robert Cassanello published a co-edited book with Melanie Shell-Weiss, a visiting assistant professor of history at Johns Hopkins University. A description from the press' website follows:

Florida provides a unique opportunity to explore the history of working men and women within a constantly changing environment. Stretching from the Spanish colonial period through the recent organizing efforts of service and agricultural workers, this collection showcases a broad spectrum of working experiences in a region that has been sorely neglected in many labor histories.



The cover of Professor Leckie's co-edited book on General Benjamin H. Grierson.

The essays in *Florida's Working-Class Past* pay special attention to gender, race, ethnicity, migration, and social networks. Under the guidance of editors Robert Cassanello and Melanie Shell-Weiss, the contributors offer fresh analyses of labor activism, re-contextualize Indian tribute and slavery within the context of labor history, and examine major themes in labor and working-class history in one place over several centuries.

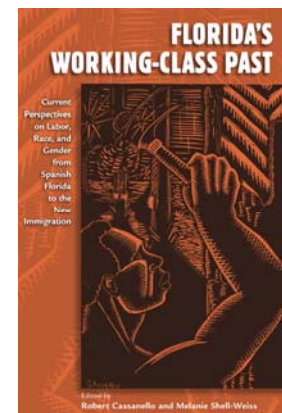
Dr. Shirley A. Leckie, Emerita Professor of History, co-edited a book with Bruce J. Dinges, director of publications for the Arizona Historical Society and editor-in-chief of the *Journal of Arizona History*. A description from the press' website follows:

General Benjamin H. Grierson is most widely known as the brilliant cavalryman whose actions in the Civil War's Mississippi Valley campaign facilitated Ulysses S. Grant's capture of Vicksburg. There is, however, much more to this key Union officer than a successful raid into Confederate-held Mississippi. In *A Just and Righteous Cause: Benjamin H. Grierson's Civil War Memoir*, edited by Bruce J. Dinges and Shirley A. Leckie, Grierson tells his story in forceful, direct, and highly engaging prose.

A Just and Righteous Cause paints a vivid picture of Grierson's prewar and Civil War career, touching on his antislavery views, Republican Party principles, and military strategy and tactics. His story begins with his parents' immigration to the United States and follows his childhood, youth, and career as a musician; the early years of his marriage; his business failures prior to becoming a cavalry officer in an Illinois regiment; his experiences in battle; and his Reconstruction appointment. Grierson also provides intimate accounts of his relationships with such prominent politicians and Union leaders as Abraham Lincoln, Richard Yates, Andrew Johnson, William T. Sherman, Ulysses S. Grant, John C. Frémont, and Benjamin Prentiss.

Because Grierson wrote the memoir mainly with his family as the intended audience, he manages to

avoid the self-promotion that plagues many of his contemporaries' chronicles. His reliance on military records and correspondence, along with family letters, lends an immediacy rarely found in military memoirs. His reminiscences also add fuel to a re-emerging debate on soldiers' motivations for enlisting—in Grierson's case, patriotism and ideology—and shed new light on the Western theater of the Civil War, which has seen a recent surge in interest among Civil War enthusiasts.



The cover of Professor Cassanello's co-edited book on Florida Labor History.

A non-West Point officer, Grierson owed his developing career to his independent studies of the military and his connections to political figures in his home state of Illinois and later to important Union leaders. Dinges and Leckie provide a helpful introduction, which gives background on the memoir and places Grierson's career into historical context. Aided by fourteen photos and two maps, as well as the editors' superb annotations, *A Just and Righteous Cause* is a valuable addition to Civil War history.

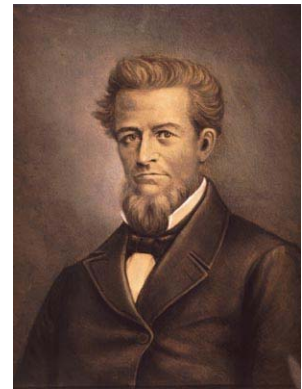
PROFESSOR JOHN SACHER

In the spring 2009 semester, Dr. John Sacher presented two papers. At the annual Louisiana Historical Association meeting in Monroe, La., March 19-21, 2009, he delivered, "Moving from _The Civil War in Louisiana_ to Louisiana in the Civil War." This paper called for more research and publications connecting Civil War Louisiana to the broader trends in Civil War era research. Dr.

Sacher has already published two articles related to this topic. His work on conscription emphasizes the connection between the home front and battle front and his work on Governor Thomas O. Moore speaks to the question of Confederate identity.

In April, Dr. Sacher presented "Required by the Exigencies of the Times: The 1862 Confederate Conscription Act," at the Society for Military His-

tory Conference in Murfreesboro, Tn. This work stems from the first chapter of his current book project on Confederate conscription. In this paper, he emphasizes that in the spring of 1862 most Confederates were willing to sacrifice some of their liberties in order to prevent Confederate defeat. Therefore, they either welcomed or at least accepted the first national draft in American history.



Louisiana Governor Thomas O. Moore

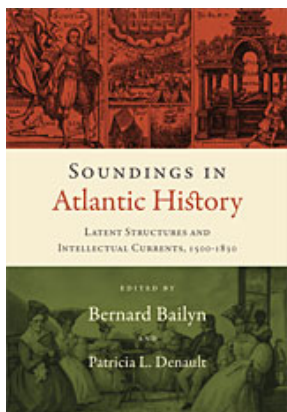
PROFESSOR PETER LARSON

Dr. Peter Larson recently published a chapter titled "Rural transformation in northern England: village communities of Durham, 1340-1440," in *Agriculture and Rural Society after the Black Death: Common Themes and Regional Variations*, edited by Richard H.

Britnell and Benjamin Dodds. It was published with University of Hertfordshire Press and came out in the Fall of 2008. This essay examines the changes in northeastern England after the Black Death, as a pro-active peasantry struggled with each other and with their lords to re-establish their

communities in the wake of disaster. This is drawn from a larger project examining how ordinary men and women of England were affected by the

Agriculture and Rural Society after the Black Death: Common Themes and Regional Variations



Soundings in Atlantic History: Latent Structures and Intellectual Currents, 1500-1830

PROFESSOR ROSALIND BEILER

Dr. Rosalind Beiler presented a paper titled "Creating a Christian Community: The Challenge of a Radical Pietism in the late 17th Century from an Atlantic Perspective" at the American Historical Association's annual conference in January 2009.

Dr. Beiler's essay "Dissenting Religious Communication Networks and European Migration, 1660-1710," was published in *Soundings in Atlantic History: Latent Structures and Intellectual Currents, 1500-1830*, edited by Bernard Bailyn and Patricia L. Denault (Harvard

University Press, 2009). Her essay examines the ways Mennonite, Quaker and Pietist communication networks shaped migration flows to the British colonies at the end of the seventeenth century.



THE LATEST FROM THE FLORIDA HISTORICAL QUARTERLY AND THE FHS

The *Florida Historical Quarterly* successfully published Volume 87 in the 2008-2009 academic year. As mentioned earlier our very own Dr. Amy Foster won Arthur W. Thompson Award for the most outstanding article in the *Florida Historical Quarterly*.

The Table of Contents for Volume 87 appears below.

Volume 87, No. 1

The Cross-Florida Canal and the Politics of Interest-Group Democracy Catherine Prescott Lecture 2008 by Wayne Flynt

The Pioneer African American Jurist Who Almost Became a Bishop: Florida's Judge James Dean, 1858-1914 by Canter Brown, Jr. and Larry E. Rivers

Doing the Job: The 1964 Desegregation of the Florida Army National Guard by Thomas P. Honsa

Designing History: An Interactive Exploration of the 1930s Florida Ship Canal by Chris Beckmann, Steven Noll, and David Tegeder

Volume 87, No. 2

Special Issue 50th Anniversary NASA in Florida

NASA's 50th Anniversary by Bill Nelson

NASA in Florida: A Journalist's View by Pat Duggins

The Gendered Anniversary: The Story of America's Woman Astronauts by Amy Foster

Heroes in a Vacuum: The Apollo Astronaut as Cultural Icon by Roger D. Launius

Selling Education in the Shape of a Shuttle by Margaret A. Weitekamp

Beyond the Cape: An Examination of Cape Canaveral's Influence on the City of Cocoa Beach, 1950-1963 by Lori C. Walters

Space Rush: Local Impact of Federal Aerospace Programs on Brevard and Surrounding Counties by Sallie Middleton

Volume 87, No. 3

Florida's Sledd Affair: Andrew Sledd and the Fight for Higher Education in Florida by Carl Van Ness

"Every Right to be Where She Was": The Legal Reconstruction of Black Self-Defense in Jim Crow Florida by Chris Bray

The Life and Crimes of Harry Sitamore, New York "Prince of Thieves" and the "Raffles" of Miami by Vivien Miller

Savage Foes, Noble Warriors, and Frail Remnants: Florida Seminoles in the White Imagination, 1865-1934 by Mikaëla M. Adams

Volume 87 No. 4

Florida and the Environment: From "La Florida" to Global Warming 2008 Jillian Prescott Memorial Lecture by Duane E. De Freese

Sharp Prose for Green: John D. MacDonald and the First Ecological Novel by Jack E. Davis

Gatorland: Survival of the Fittest among Florida's Mid-Tier Tourist Attractions by Dorothy Mays

Baseball in Key West and Havana, 1885-1910: The Career of Francisco A. Poyo by Gerald E. Poyo

Dr. Ben Brotemarkle who has ended his first year as director of the Florida Historical Society on some notable achievements. He launched Florida Frontiers a weekly radio program on Florida history that is broadcast over local NPR stations. In Orlando, Pensacola, Melbourne and Ft. Pierce as well as on the internet at the FHS webpage.

PUBLIC HISTORY PODCAST



Public History Podcast by the history department is available through iTunes

In the Spring the Public History Program at UCF launched the public history podcast. It is available through iTunes, but can only be accessed through a url since it is not currently on the iTunesU directory. The webpage is: <http://publichistorypodcast.blogspot.com/>

You can also locate it on Facebook and Twitter. The Public History Podcast will feature podcasts on a variety of public history and history topics including public exhibits, interviews with authors, archivists and curators, as well as con-

versations with professionals in the field. These regular podcasts will be free and open to the public.

The first episode was an interview with Professor Jim Norris who recently published a book on Mexican migration and the sugar beet industry in the Red River Valley. The following podcast feature Professor Paul Ortiz and Oral History as well as a podcast of the department's From Kin to Kant turpentine exhibit which ended earlier in the Spring.

DR. RICHARD CREPEAU IN RUSSIA

In November Dr. Crepeau traveled to Izhevsk, Russia, for the Tenth Anniversary of the founding of the American Center at Udmurdt State University. It was a weeklong series of events featuring lectures, panel discussions, an art exhibition, musical performances, and other events. Dr. Crepeau and the University of Central Florida were instrumental in the creation of the American Center, and he has been involved in several different programs there in the past dec-

ade. UCF has been cooperating with Udmurdt State University since Dr. Crepeau and Dr. Fernandez made their first trip there in October of 1993.



Udmurdt State University, Izhevsk, Russia.

Also on this trip Dr. Crepeau gave lectures and met with students at the Linguistic University of Nizhny Nov-

gorod where Dr. Crepeau was in residence in the Fall of 1997. The trip began in Moscow where Dr. Crepeau lectured to American Studies students at the Russian Institute for the Humanities.

At every stop on this November trip Dr. Crepeau met with students and faculty at these universities and found them very excited and interested about the results of the American presidential election.

PROFESSOR CONNIE LESTER

Dr. Connie Lester presented papers at the annual conferences of the Social Science History Association and the Agricultural History Association. An article, "Balancing Agriculture with Industry: Capital, Labor, and the Public Good in Mississippi's Home-Grown New Deal," was published in the *Journal of Mississippi History*, in the Fall of 2008. In the article, she argues that Mississippi's effort to "revitalize the economy by bal-

ancing the dominant agricultural sector with an anticipated industrial sector" caused the state to edge "toward centralized state planning with profound implications for the existing racial and social hierarchies." Dr. Lester also published an essay on Lucille Thornburgh in *Tennessee Women: Their Lives and Times—Volume 1* edited by Sarah Wilkerson Freeman and Beverly Greene Bond and published with University of

Georgia Press. In the essay, Lester argues that the life of Lucille Thornburgh, an East Tennessee labor organizer and community activist, challenges traditional histories of southern labor involvement and raises questions about the regional exceptionalism that supposedly inhibited unionization of workers and commitment to social justice.

I N N O V A T I V E T E A C H I N G A N D L E A R N I N G G R A N T F R O M T H E F C T L

Drs. Connie Lester, Amelia Lyons, Amy Foster and Hakan Özoglu received the Information Fluency Award to develop several learning modules for our students. The general title of the contribution is called "Information Fluency in Humanities Writing."

Each professor prepared a module as the following topics:

"How to Write a Book Review"

"Peer Review of a Research Paper"

"How to Write a Historiographical Essay"

"Publishing in Peer-reviewed Journals"

These modules will eventually be put them online and make them available to our students and colleagues as guidelines.

P R O F E S S O R A M Y F O S T E R

As mentioned earlier Dr. Foster's article titled "The Gendered Anniversary: The Story of America's Women Astronauts" was published in the Fall Issue of Volume 87.

In this article Dr. Foster examines the ways in which NASA initially kept women out of the space corps because of issues surrounding perceptions of gender rather than abilities and qualifications.

It won the Arthur W. Thompson Award. This was part of the fall 2008 special issue celebrating the 50th anniversary of NASA. Dr. Foster also served as special editor for the issue which included articles by Roger D. Launius, Margaret Weitekamp, Sallie Middleton and our very own Lori Walters. National Public Radio's Pat Duggins and U. S. Senator Bill Nelson both wrote an introduction to the issue.



A picture of the space shuttle launch from the Florida Photographic Collection.

G R A D U A T E S T U D E N T N E W S

Deborah L. Bauer, a UCF graduate student won the Governor LeRoy Collins Award for the most outstanding essay or research paper on Florida history produced by a post-graduate student in a master's or doctoral program at a college or university in the United States. Her paper was titled "...in a strange place...": The Experiences of Colonial Women in the British Floridas, 1763-1784."

Julio Raul Firpo, a UCF graduate

student, was awarded the Herman and Celia Chapin Award to present a paper at the Florida Historical Society Annual Meeting. His paper is titled "The Origins of Orlando's Puerto Rican Community."

Hunter Shaw received a University of Central Florida Graduate Travel Award in order to present a paper at the Fifth Annual North Carolina

Graduate Student History Conference at North Carolina State University in Raleigh, NC. The title of his

paper is "For Home and Country:

Confederate Loyalty in Western North Carolina," and it examines the concept of loyalty as it relates to North Carolinians in the Confederacy. Christopher Trionfo has received the Provost Fellowship for 2009-10 and Javed Khan who will enter the MA program in the Fall, has received UCF's RAMP Fellowship for masters' students.



4000 Central Florida Blvd.
Colbourn Hall (CNH) 551
Orlando, FL 32816-1350
Phone: 407-823-2225
Fax: 407-823-3184
Email: history@pegasus.cc.ucf.edu

Support the UCF History Department

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____

Please use my gift for
the following areas:

- History Department Fund
- Richard I. Barge Scholarship Fund
- Thomas Greenhaw Scholarship Fund
- Roy McGregor Essay Award Fund
- Pauley Endowment Lecture Series

Yes, I/we wish to support the History Department
with a gift of \$ _____

Make checks payable to: UCF Foundation, Inc. and mail to:

Jeannine Starr
Director of Development
University of Central Florida
College of Arts and Humanities
P.O. Box 161990
Orlando, FL 32816-1990
Phone: 407-823-5891
Email: jstarr@mail.ucf.edu

Credit Card: Visa Master Card
Credit Card Number _____ Expires _____
Cardholder's Name _____
Cardholder's Signature _____