

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

Fall 2021 Newsletter

Dear History Alumni and Friends,

As Stony Brook returned to in-person teaching this Fall after the challenges of the past 18 months, our students and faculty seem more engaged and excited than ever! A proposal to revamp our major to center around themes that reflect the relevance of history in the 21st century is under review in Albany. Our faculty and graduate students continue to research and publish everything from blogs to new books. Even our study and library spaces in SBS have been refreshed in the spirit of History.



Please stay connected with us! We thank you for being part of our community.

Be safe and well,

Paul Gootenberg, PhD

Distinguished Professor and Chair, Department of History

An Upgrade to our History Spaces!



Three spaces dedicated to student interactions and study have received an upgrade! The Department of History reading lounge now features a series of original political posters drawn from a faculty collection, creating a more inviting space for undergraduates. Meanwhile, members of the History Club and Stony Brook Undergraduate History Journal are in the process of transforming the "History Makers Space" into their club headquarters. Finally, the Department Library has been cleaned up, reorganized (thanks to the herculean efforts of our graduate students), and newly designated as a welcoming space for MA and PhD students to study, hang out, and, of course, check out books!



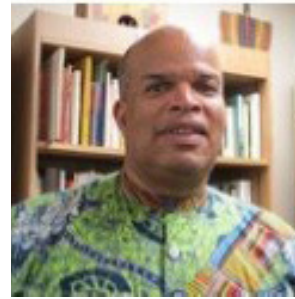
April Masten Receives Distinguished Teaching Award



Congratulations to Associate Professor [April Masten](#), who was awarded the 2021 Eugene Asher Distinguished Teaching Award by the American Historical Association. This award is intended for inspiring teachers whose techniques and mastery of subject matter made a real difference to students of history.

Read more [here](#).

Mark Chambers Receives Civic Sciences Fellowship



Congratulations to [Mark Chambers](#), a lecturer in the Departments of History and Africana Studies, who was awarded a Civic Science Fellowship to further work on a project begun in collaboration with Professor Chris Sellers to assess the effectiveness of the Environmental Protection Agency public data infrastructure in serving marginalized communities.

Robert Chase Receives Three Book Prizes



Associate Professor [Robert Chase](#) has won three prizes for his book, *We Are Not Slaves: State Violence, Coerced Labor, and Prisoner's Rights in Postwar America* (UNC), the latest from the American Society of Criminology (ASC) for Best Book Award in Critical Criminology and Social Justice. The ASC is one of the largest and most prominent US academic associations for criminologists.

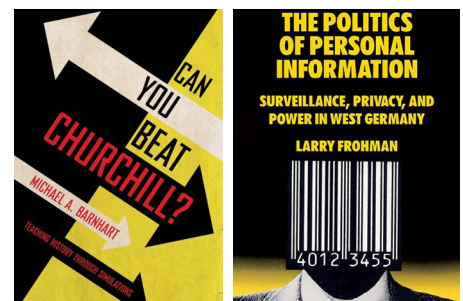
Nancy Tomes Helps Launch Pandemic Narratives

Professor Nancy Tomes helped launch the exciting project, [Pandemic Narratives](#), an interdisciplinary discussion group linking faculty and students from across the East and West campuses.

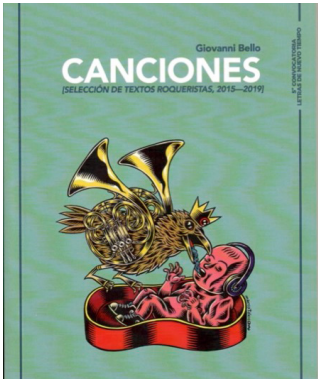
New Book Publications

Emeritus Professor **Michael Barnhart**, who taught a long-running historical "simulations" course on World War II, recently published *Can You Beat Churchill?: Teaching History Through Simulations* (Cornell).

Associate Professor **Larry Frohman** recently published *The Politics of Personal Information: Surveillance, Privacy, and Power in West Germany* (Berghahn) a study of the 1970s and 1980s when West Germany was a pioneer in both the use of the new information technologies for population surveillance and the adoption of privacy protection legislation.



Graduate Student Publications, Fellowships, and Prizes



Our graduate cohort has remained steadfast and productive during these long COVID months! Recent publications include a book review by **Gabriel Tennen**; a podcast interview by **Matthew Ford**; a blog reflection by **Lance Boos**; a newspaper editorial by **Matías Hermosilla**, and a collection of short essays by **Giovanni Bello**.

The Department boasted multiple graduate winners of highly competitive, University-wide fellowships, including five recipients of the "Presidential Dissertation Completion Fellowship," a recipient of the "Critical Research Funds Award," and a winner of the "Edward Guiliano, Global Fellowship Program," in addition to multiple awardees for smaller LACS Travel/Research Grants.

Art Gallery Opening



The Department of History is co-sponsor, along with LACS and the Institute for Globalization Studies, of the exhibition, "[¡Chile Despertó!: Political Graphics from the 2019-20 Social Uprising](#)," housed in the LACS Gallery, SBS Building, N-320.

The exhibition draws on images taken by Professor Eric Zolov and his wife, Terri Gordon-Zolov, during his eventful 2019 sabbatical in Santiago, Chile when the country erupted in a social revolution. Their forthcoming book is titled *The Walls of Santiago: Social Revolution & Political Aesthetics in Contemporary Chile*.

The exhibition is open Monday through Thursday, 10:00 am - 4:30 pm ET and will be up through Spring 2022.



Thank you for your support!

A huge thank you to all who supported the Department of History during this past spring's Giving Day fundraising event! We appreciate your generosity.

Whether in senior seminars, individual honors projects, directed studies or simply advanced coursework, every year quite a few majors find it desirable, even essential, to travel to out-of-town collections (archives, museums, repositories, etc.) as a part of their research projects. This, of course, is what historians do – what we must do and love to do – constantly in our own research. And we depend on the support of our alumni and friends to make these research opportunities available for our graduate and undergraduate students.

If you are interested in learning more about how you can support our students and Departmental initiatives, please feel free to contact [Chris Scarpati](#), Director of Development, at 631.632.1202.

Thank you!

