This fall’s entering freshman class set a record: 1,050 students chose Pacific. I am happy to report that history majors helped set that record. We have a total of 60 majors this fall, including 15 freshmen and 7 transfers. Our freshmen and sophomore required courses are bigger than they’ve ever been. The Chair’s Seminar (first year) has 16 enrolled and Historical Imagination (second year) has 19. In part to meet this demand, we’ve added four sections of World History and hired three instructors this semester: Dr. Robert Chester is a visiting assistant professor, and teaches U.S. Survey and History of the American West; Dr. Shennan Hutton and Dr. Heather Beatty are teaching sections of World History, Part I. They’re doing a superb job; we thank them for their service.

Professor Cox rotated out of the Chair position in July to work full time on her next book project on boy soldiers. I’ve been racing to get up to speed on all the things that Chairs do. We’ve hired two students to help do recruiting at events like Profile Day and online. They will also help us by maintaining our Facebook page; please do take a look and join the group to stay in touch. Have you landed a new job, gotten married or moved? Please send all updates to historynews@pacific.edu.

If you haven’t visited our webpage in a while, you might be surprised by what you find. We have updates from recent graduates as well as archived copies of the newsletter. We’d love to feature you in some or all of these venues!

Looking for an excuse to come back to campus? We’ve also got two dates to put on your calendar now. On November 30, our seniors will present their Capstone research in the DeRosa Center from 3:00-5:00, with a reception to follow. On March 18-19, 2011, our chapter of Phi Alpha Theta, the national History Honor Society will host the Northern California regional conference. We expect about 150 attendees and about 50 papers. Altogether, there’s a lot happening in History. We hope you’ll be part of it.

Greg Rohlf, Chair

**MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR**

**HISTORY DEPARTMENT HAS STRONG PRESENCE AT GENDER, RACE AND SPACE RESEARCH CONFERENCE**

Several history majors and faculty participated in the Research Conference on Gender, Race and Space on September 25, organized by Pacific’s Gender Studies and Ethnic Studies Programs. Monica and Theresa Cortez-Guardado co-authored (with Alicia Still) a paper entitled “Disney Fairytales. More Than Just Harmless Fun,” Elena Mc Donald-Martyn presented on “Intersex in American Society” and Catherine Collett talked about “Twentieth Century Female Beauty Standards.” The papers came out of classes with Professors Helgren and Kinukawa. Professors Helgren, Chester and Gerhard chaired panels and/or helped organize the conference. Feedback was all around great. More than 100 people attended the conference, held in the DeRosa University Center’s ballroom and conference wing. At the end of a full day that included twenty student paper presentations, four poster presentations, a faculty panel and a keynote address by Professor Mary Lui from Yale University, a participating Stanford student commented “I wish we had something like this at Stanford.”

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On September 29, forty-one students, one service dog named Drifter, and Professors Swagerty and Reuben Smith (emeritus) headed north to the Mother Lode. Stopping first in Sacramento at Sutter’s Fort, the class heard a brief lecture from California State Parks ranger/archaeologist Steve Beck. From Sacramento, the group motored on to Coloma via historic U.S. Highway 50. Marshall Gold Discovery State Park provided a lesson on the economics of the Gold Rush and why the original gold discovery in 1848 did not remain a secret, as children living on the property and their elders alike spread the news prompting “all the world to rush in,” as historian J. S. Holliday has put it. A final stop at Folsom Powerhouse State Park informed the class of the first hydroelectric project in California, which lit Sacramento street lights in 1895 from power turbines on the American River.

The highlight of the day was the purchase of a genuine nineteenth century-style hat such as John Sutter wore for Don Reuben Smith, a descendant of the two Spanish pioneer families with Juan Bautista de Anza in 1776. Professor Smith had lectured earlier in the semester on his De Larios and Escobar family heritage.

**PHI ALPHA THETA NEWS**

The 2011 Northern California Conference of Phi Alpha Theta, the National History Honor Society, will be held at

**University of the Pacific, March 18-19, 2011**

We invite proposals on any historical topic or period, including Art History and Music History; single papers or entire panels; by undergraduate and graduate students

**DEADLINE FOR TITLES AND ABSTRACTS: FEBRUARY 4, 2011**

Please submit to phialphatheta@pacific.edu and include contact information.

Undergraduate papers should be about 10 pages long. Graduate papers may be up to 20 pages.

Prizes will be awarded to the best papers submitted by Phi Alpha Theta members.

Hosted by:
The Alpha Mu Omega chapter of Phi Alpha Theta

Chapter President, Elena McDonald-Martyn

Chapter advisor, Greg Rohlf
The 2011 Capstone presentations will be on November 30th in the DeRosa University Center Conference room from 3:00 to 5:00, with a reception to follow. All are welcome to help us celebrate the research of our outstanding seniors. Megan Lear and David Scheidt will be presenting their research on the 1960s in Stockton. Lear’s research focuses on student movements while Scheidt investigates the history of the *Silver Hammer*, an alternative newspaper published in Stockton in 1970-1971. John Sayer’s research also looks at the history of the press. His paper examines war reporting from the Russo-Japanese War, 1904-5. Catherine Collett’s paper documents changes in the way women were depicted in advertising in *Life* magazine from the 1950s through the 1970s. Elena McDonald-Martyn is also investigating U.S. women’s history. Her paper focuses on women’s writing from the overland trails, 1840-1860. Silvia Guzman’s paper, “’No More Washee Washee’: The Fight of Chinese Immigrants” documents acts of resistance by Chinese immigrants to Chinese exclusion laws. We hope to see you on November 30th!

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**WELCOME NEW HISTORY MAJORS!**

*Front row, l-r: Justin Hough, Cooper Stivers, Ankit Adlakha, Grace Kim, Jennifer Nguyen, Courtney Frost  Back row, l-r: Aaron Adamec-Ostlund, Sarah Mendoza, Malena Prlain, Jessica Morrison, Julia Rowe, Julia Lee, Roberto Gonzalez*

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**SUPPORT HISTORY AT PACIFIC!**

We invite you to become involved in the education of our current students. Underwriting opportunities exist for donors at all levels of support. Your gifts help support field trips, and the Phi Alpha Theta chapter.

Contact Chair Greg Rohlf, grohlf@pacific.edu

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**FACULTY NEWS**

*Catherine Cox* received the Distinguished Faculty Award in 2010

*Marisela Ramos* received the 2010 Mentor Award from the Pacific Alumni Association.

CONGRATULATIONS!

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**STUDENT and ALUMNI NEWS**

*Heather Bergman* is getting her MA in Public History Program at Sac State University.

*Paul Fraidenburgh* received his Doctor in Law.

*Ken Mueller (Hildebrandt, ’00)* went on to get an MA in History From CSU Stanislaus. He became a high school history/social studies teacher and is now chair of Social Studies department at Central Catholic High School in Modesto. Now a teacher himself, he realizes how nice it is to hear from former students. He writes to Professor Cox: “I am very close to many ex students who are now at some of the best universities in the country. And, I get very excited when I get to see them or meet them for coffee, etc. Even a thoughtful email can make my day. […] So, just a hello for now and a big thank you. With regards to history, you were the most important influence on me. It was a pleasure being your student!” Let us know what you are up to!
Got an idea for a story in the Spring 2011 Newsletter? Send it to historynews@pacific.edu

Sophomores in Historical Imagination Class


Spring 2011 Classes

Western Civilization II  HIST 11  K. Albala
US History II  HIST 21  J. Helgren
East Asian Civilization II  HIST 31  J. Lu
World History II  HIST 51  T. Kinukawa
Renaissance & Reformation  HIST 100  K. Albala
History of the Holocaust  HIST 112  G. Gerhard
Native American History  HIST 120  W. Swagerty
Revolution and the New Nation  HIST 122  R. Chester
American Immigration  HIST 132  J. Helgren
American Environmental History  HIST 136  R. Chester
Borderlands  HIST 139  M. Ramos
Pre-Modern China to 1840, Hmrs  HIST 141  G. Rohlf
Modernization of Japan  HIST 143  G. Rohlf
People’s History of Mexico  HIST 151  M. Ramos
Gender in Hist. Sci/Med/Tech  HIST 167  T. Kinukawa