Greetings,

The spring semester has raced by as it always does. We just received our program review report from the external review team. They recommended some changes and enhancements—for example, a reorganization of the major and a new faculty line—that we will consider alongside the recommendations from the Dean and Provost generated by the Focusing on our Future review. On at least one point, the two reviews have significantly different findings. The external review team recommends strengthening the Public History and Museum Studies minor whereas the Provost suggests that the minor may not be aligned with the strategic plan. The History faculty will study the reports, examine the evidence and make the decision that best serves Pacific students. We’ll make the external review report available on our website soon.

We’ve also had some significant personnel changes announced just recently for the 2014-2015 academic year. Professor Marisela Ramos will be leaving the university after this term to join the faculty at Phillips Academy in Andover, MA. We will miss Dr. Ramos and wish her the best. Professor Cox has unfortunately gone out on medical leave again and will likely not be teaching in the next academic year. Dr. Cox and I co-taught her History of Warfare class this spring—really, just me sitting at the feet of the master, like a T.A., to soak up her erudite and thoughtful journey from the battlefields of the ancient world to the Iraq War—and I had a ball! We wish Dr. Cox all the best, too!

This spring we also hosted a History and Social Sciences career panel, which you can read about on p. 6. We hope to host another in the fall, so please contact me if you’re available to return to campus to share your career path with our current students.

Best,

Greg Rohlf
HISTORY PROFESSOR IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Professor Marisela Ramos arrived at Pacific in the fall of 2007. Since her arrival she has taught courses in Latin American and Latino history as well as PACS I and II. She had spent fifteen years living in New England, but having been born and raised in Los Angeles, she considers California her home.

Q: Why did you choose to study History?
A: It was in college where I learned that History could help me understand the world. The classes I took focused on larger ideas, trends, movements, and their lasting effects. All of a sudden, History was relevant to my life because it was not static, stuck in one moment in time. It was also in college where I learned that History is a way of thinking. It is about how you approach a certain problem or idea. When I listen to a news story, for example, I am always thinking like a historian, asking questions such as “how did it get to be this way? How long has this been happening? Why did it start in the first place?” It is how I approach everything. You could say that history found me. It turns out that I was always a historian; I just did not know it.

Q: What advice do you have for History students?
A: What made me want to become a professor was the idea that I could be paid to learn and to share what I had learned with others. I have always had too many questions about the world. As a kid I drove my parents crazy because I constantly asked, “why?” Reading and learning, I realized, was the only way I was going to find answers. All this to say: try approaching a job search not from the perspective of what job you want, but rather what you want to do. Find what makes you happy and figure out how to make a living from that, but be willing to do the work. If you do not know what is going to make you happy, try different things. At the risk of sounding like a cliché, you might be surprised at what you can do.

Annual Graduation Party & BBQ!
Friday, April 25, 2014 at 5:00pm
at the home of Professor Ken Albala, 1574 Lucerne Ave., Stockton, CA

HISTORY, ETHNIC STUDIES AND ENGLISH DEPARTMENT’S FIELD TRIP TO SAN FRANCISCO

On March 21, 2014 students from Dr. Helgren’s American Immigration History and Dr. Zhou’s Introduction to Ethnic Studies and Creative Writing classes attended a field trip to San Francisco’s historic Chinatown and Little Manila. Students dined at the Far East Café, the longest-surviving Chinese restaurant in San Francisco’s Chinatown. Julia Lee (history, 2014) remarked, “I really enjoyed the authentic Chinese lunch at the historic location.” Next students toured the Chinese Historical Society Association and Chinatown. Knowledgeable docents taught the history of how the Chinese came to San Francisco and built institutions and lives. The visit ended at the I-Hotel Filipino Cultural Center. Joshua Rayburn commented, “The I-Hotel was definitely my favorite part as it was a chapter of SF history that I was not at all familiar with. That was definitely most interesting for me, especially learning about how brutal the competition for property can become.” A Pacific Fund grant as well as funds from Ethnic Studies and English made the trip possible.
Senior history majors Julia Rowe and Joshua Rayburn presented original research papers at the Northern California Regional Phi Alpha Theta Conference in Chico on April 12, 2014. Julia’s paper, “The Virginia Delegation: The Decision to Sign the Constitution,” examines the papers of James Madison and Edmund Randolph to understand the debates about Constitutional ratification. Joshua’s paper, “Through the Eyes of God,” explores Protestant leaders’ responses to Chinese immigration in the late 19th century. Senior history major Nicholas Scivoletto attended the conference.
Every four years Pacific’s John Muir Center hosts a symposium focusing on the life and legacy of John Muir (1838–1914), whose papers are in the University Library. This year around 150 people participated in the three-day event, which began with a field trip to John Muir National Historic Site in Martinez, followed by a second field trip on March 21 to the John Muir Highway, which starts in Coulterville and ends at Smith Station. March 22 was devoted to an all-day series of formal presentations by Muir scholars, as well as presentations by seven students in History 52, “John Muir’s World.” The trip to Martinez included twenty students from the Muir Class as well as several emeriti and guests here to present at the symposium. The highlight was a tour of the Muir cemetery with Muir descendants David Hanna (great-grandson) and Robert Hanna (great-great grandson).

Coulterville is home to the John Muir Geotourism Center. Around thirty joined JMGC founder Ken Pulvino and current Director of the Center, Monty Thornburg, for a tour of the highway from Modesto to near the entrance to
Yosemite National Park. Lunch at the Hotel Jeffery, which Muir visited during his 1868 trek across the Central Valley into Yosemite, included remarks by Bill Jeffery on his family’s potential connection with the historic hotel. The JMGC is doing great work to promote Muir and his legacy.


Afternoon sessions focused on Muir’s legacy in Wilderness Areas, National Forests, and National Parks with presentations by Seattle-area residents Ronald Eber and Doug Scott. Stephen Holmes, author of The Young John Muir connected Muir’s first book, The Mountains of California (1894) with his original plans for the book and with its important themes for our time, including Climate Change. Seven students in “John Muir’s World” gave brief presentations on their research. Kyle Shin and John Wooten described their strategies for better understanding Muir’s camping trip with Theodore Roosevelt in Yosemite and the Hetchy Hetchy battle (respectively). A library reception followed.

Twelve descendants of John Muir attended the symposium. They included Muir’s only surviving grandson, Ross Hanna (Class of ’49) and his wife, Gladys Stoeven-Hanna (Class of ’47) of Dixon; as well as great-grandsons William T. Hanna (Class of ’67) and his wife Claudia Jo Cummins-Hanna (Class of ’67) of Napa; Ross E. de Lipkau (McGeorge Class of ’72), his wife Sally de Lipkau, and grandson Tyler Young of Reno; Jim and Carol Hanna of Carson City; David and Sharon Hanna of Martinez; and great-granddaughter Susan Flynn and her husband Terry of Lakeside. A highlight of the day was showing of a video production by Tyler Young, Kyle Worrall, and Nick Reinhart, all eighth graders, on “John Muir and the Yosemite,” which is in competition as a National History Day project.

W. R. Swagerty, Director, Muir Center

**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
On April 1st the History department (in collaboration with the Career Resource Center) sponsored a History and Social Science Career panel. Six alumni shared their stories about how they applied the skills they learned in their major to shape their career path and land a job. With wit, enthusiasm, and at times humor, they demonstrated the value of a History degree.

The panelists included:

- **Kathleen Bruce**, ’07, Director of Forensics and Associate Professor at San Joaquin Delta College
- **Danyelle Norman**, ’09, Director of Research at the Association of California Colleges and Universities
- **Patrick Burdick**, ’07, Social Sciences Teacher at Lincoln High School
- **Dan Thiele**, ’65, Founder, Stockton Collegiate, a Charter IB K-12 school
- **Peter Richardson**, ’03, Head Coach of Women’s and Men’s Swimming at Pacific,
- **Dan Guerra**, ’07, Former teacher in Korea

Of course, the transition from History degree to job is not clear-cut. That is why the panelists had some tips to offer.

**TIP: Do your research**

As a History student you have spent your time in classes doing research for a variety of assignments. When looking for a job you will also have to do your research on the type of job you might want, what jobs are available, and what are the skills that the different positions require. You should also do research on the company that you are applying to so that you can cater your application to what they are looking for and to their mission statement.

**TIP: Articulate your skills**

When applying for jobs, just as you crafted an argument for your research papers or in-class debates, you will have to articulate for your prospective employer what skills you have gained and developed in your years in college. It is about making an argument for why they should hire you. The panelists emphasized the following skill-set: evidence-based research, critical thinking (i.e. approaching a task with an eye for detail and knowing what questions to ask), analysis, independent work (such as when you worked on your Capstone papers) and interpersonal skills. Bruce in particular emphasized the latter. At Pacific you are able to get to know your professors outside of the classroom and engage them in a variety of conversations. Also, small classes afford you the opportunity to interact with your peers in unique ways. These types of interactions help to develop your interpersonal/communication skills.

**TIP: Cultivate personal relationships**

This is otherwise known as “networking,” which can be as simple as establishing a relationship with someone and following up with him or her. You already do this with your professors and classmates. Richardson, for example, mentioned running into his former high school counselor and following up with him on email. This relationship helped him establish a connection with a school that was looking to hire a teacher. Cultivating relationships also means that you have to put yourself out there and get to know people. Start talking. Attend Career fairs. You can also gain personal connections and valuable skills through internships.

**TIP: Use Social Media**

Several of the alum emphasized unique opportunities to connect with groups and companies through LinkedIn. Others talked about contacting people via email. But make sure that your resume is up to date. For tips on how to do this and how to get connected on LinkedIn, visit one of the counselors at the Career Resource Center on campus. Social media can also be a good place to get to know other young professionals through “meetup.com” groups in your area, or through your local chamber of commerce’s website.

**TIP: Be open to change**

Bruce spoke about having had an idea of what she wanted to do and discovering that that was not at all what she wanted to spend her time doing. Guerra had not planned to teach in Korea, but he found his experience so rewarding that he plans to further pursue that career path in the future. Norman spoke about jumping at unexpected opportunities. She came across the posting for her current job through a friend and had not intended to apply because it was not what she had had in mind. However, she applied and got the job! Try the unexpected. As Bruce put it, “you might find that you don’t love what you think you do, or you might discover that you have a bigger passion for what you already knew you wanted to do.”

Thank you to our panelists for taking the time to share their experiences. We wish them all the best on their next adventure. For those of you who are currently seniors, in just a few years this can be you!
**FACULTY NEWS**

**Professor Andreas Agocs** has received funding approval to present a paper in Dublin, Ireland, in May for a conference titled, "World War I in Central and Eastern Europe: Politics, Culture and Society", organized by the Irish Association of Russian, Central and East European Studies. His paper is titled "The Emperor’s Broken Bust: Letters from the Habsburg Army in World War I."


**Professor Ken Albala**’s latest book *Nuts: A Global History* was just released from Reaktion Books and is available on Amazon.

**STUDENT AND ALUMNI NEWS**

**San Joaquin County Historical Society and Museum Record Project**

**Senior history major Julia Rowe** and recent history alumni **John Langdon** and **Nidya Gonzalez** are working on a project to inventory the public documents of the San Joaquin County. Julia’s work, for example, has taken her to the Holt-Atherton Collections, the Haggin and the Public Works Department.

**Internship at the San Joaquin County Historical Society and Museum**

**Samantha Martinez** is working on an internship in public history at the San Joaquin County Historical Society and Museum. She created the layout for a postcard exhibit in the museum entry and is currently inventorying the shoes in the museum’s collections.

**Courtney Frost** will be attending William and Mary in the fall. She has been awarded a tuition scholarship as well as a Graduate Assistantship.

**Mayra Delaserda** (Social Science), **Mario Petri** (Social Science), **Joshua Rayburn** (History), and **John Langdon** (History), were honored at the “Above and Beyond” ceremony on April 8, 2014, which honors the accomplishments of nontraditional students.

**History majors Nicole Felkins, Cory Popham** and **Joshua Rayburn** were nominated for membership into the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, “a national organization, the primary purpose of which is to promote the pursuit of excellence in scholarship and to recognize outstanding achievement by students and faculty. It differs from other honor societies in that it recognizes students in all majors and schools of the University.”

**John Langdon** has been awarded a Fulbright scholarship as well as a great package to attend the Ph.D. program at University of California, Santa Cruz.

*Please provide addresses of any people you know who would like to receive a copy of the History Newsletter. Thank you!*
FALL 2014 CLASSES

Chair’s Seminar            HIST 01    G. Rohlf
Western Civilization I     HIST 10    Staff
U.S. History I             HIST 20/1   Staff
U.S. History I             HIST 20/2   Staff
East Asian Civilization I  HIST 30    G. Rohlf
Colonialism/Latin America  HIST 40    Staff
World History I            HIST 50    K. Alexanderson
Global History of Food     HIST 61    K. Albala
Historical Imagination     HIST 70    G. Rohlf
Europe in Turmoil          HIST 111   A. Agocs
History of California      HIST 130   B. Swagerty
Women in US History        HIST 133   J. Helgren
People’s History of Mexico HIST 151   Staff

Got an idea for a story in the Fall 2014 Newsletter? Email it to historynews@pacific.edu

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