

(with apologies for cross-listing)

Dear colleagues,

Please find here my biannual report on news from the Graduate History Program. This report does not contain any information on the admissions process because we are still tying up a few loose ends, but I will fully report on the process shortly. This note reports the steady pace of PhD completions, students passing their comprehensive exams in the fall, recent awards, and recent jobs.

Since January we have had four students successfully defend their doctoral dissertations. These are:

1. Laura Godsoe, "Pour la grandeur de la patrie et nous memes.' Reading Women's Colonial Work in the Pages of the Women's Press in France, 1870-1914" supervised by Bill Irvine
2. Valerie Deacon, "The 'Other' Resistance: The Extreme-Right in France during the Second World War," supervised by Bill Irvine
3. Jason Reid, "A Room of One's Own: The Emergence of Teen Room Culture in America, 1800-1985," supervised by Molly Ladd-Taylor
4. Jason Russell, "The Union Local in Post-Second-World War Canada: A Case Study of UAW/CAW Local 27 From 1950-1990," supervised by Craig Heron

Please join me in congratulated these students!

I am pleased to announce that three students passed their comprehensive exams in April:

Rebecca Dirnfeld  
Katrina Keefer  
Vanessa Oliveira

We have had another successful year in terms of scholarships and awards.

### **SSHRC and OGS News:**

In sum for this scholarship season the program won **4 SSHRC CGSs, 1 SSHRC, 1 MA SSHRC, and 21 OGSs.**

At the doctoral level, continuing PhD students Carly Murdoch and Daniel Ross both won SSHRC Canada Graduate Scholarships. Two of our MA graduates who will be going on to do doctoral work at other institutions, Sarah Hogenbirth (going to Carleton) and Jackson Tait (going to Queen's), also won SSHRC Canada Graduate Scholarships. Additionally, two of our incoming doctoral students, Ian Laplante and Anne Toews, won SSHRC Canada Graduate Scholarships, and another incoming doctoral student, Christine Sismondo, won a SSHRC Doctoral Fellowship.

Eighteen of our continuing doctoral students won an OGS: Mike Ainsworth, Funke Aladejebi, Hayley Andrew, Katie Bausch, Ashley Bligh, Mathieu Brulé, Ben Bryce,

Evgeny Efremkin, Gilberto Fernandes, Chris Grafos, Christine Mclaughlin, Ian Milligan (declined), Carly Murdoch (declined), Kris Radforth, Angela Rooke, Samira Saramo, Andrew Watson, and David Zylberberg, and two of our incoming doctoral students won an OGS: Tracy Lopes, Serge Milville.

At the MA level, York BA graduate and incoming MA student Vanessa Lovisa won a SSHRC Joseph-Armand-Bombardier Canada Graduate Scholarship. Gary Smolyansky won an OGS.

Please join me in congratulating these students and ourselves in a job well done!

### **Other Honours:**

I am delighted to announce that **Dr. Kristine Alexander**, who defended her dissertation in November 2010, and was supervised by Bettina Bradbury, has won the **Governor General's Gold Medal in Graduate Studies at York University**. Dr. Alexander's dissertation was entitled "The Girl Guide Movement, Imperialism and Internationalism in Interwar England, Canada and India." Currently holding as SSHRC Postdoctoral Fellowship at the University of Western Ontario, Dr. Alexander is continuing her research on children, this time in World War I. She excelled at every level of her education, winning a long list of prizes along the way and is richly deserving of this honour.

Incoming doctoral student **David Owen** (who is also an MA graduate of our program) won the **Enbridge Graduate Student Award** (for studies on the environment and sustainability).

Continuing doctoral student **Ben Bryce** won the **Spletzer Foundation German-Canadian Studies Research Scholarship** from the University of Winnipeg, which lasts two years, though he is declining the first year to take up an OGS.

**Dr. Karen Macfarlane**, who earned her doctorate in the Graduate History Program in 2008, under the supervision of Doug Hay, won of the **2011 Essay Prize** of the *Journal of Modern Jewish Studies* for her essay entitled "The Jewish Policemen of Eighteenth-Century London."

**Professor Bettina Bradbury**, member of the Graduate History Program and the Graduate Program in Women's Studies, has won the **Faculty of Graduate Studies Teaching Award**. Excerpts from her letter of nomination demonstrate the enthusiasm of student and faculty support for her nomination: "We nominate Professor Bradbury because of the extraordinary vision, skill, commitment, and generosity that she has demonstrated in graduate teaching, supervision, and pedagogical development. Professor Bradbury was first appointed to the GHP and GPWS in 1993. Since that time she has served as the Director of the GHP, as well as a member of the Executive and numerous other committees, taught courses, and supervised many students. Her contributions have made her a central force in

defining the program.... the letters from students make clear that Professor Bradbury has made a profound impact on their scholarly, professional and personal lives. Students have deeply appreciated her empathy, understanding, and "humanness," as well as the encouragement she gives students "to challenge their fears and limits." One student eloquently expresses that "her dedication to my scholarly, professional and teaching development was the highlight of my time at York." She "inspires in her students a firm commitment to engaging in academic life with passion and integrity."... Colleagues have been grateful for Professor Bradbury's generosity in mentoring them to become excellent graduate teachers and in her devotion to graduate education. One faculty member explains that Professor Bradbury "works, in large ways and small, to make our graduate program an intellectually rigorous centre for historical analysis (the best in Canada, and one of the best in the world) and at the same time a warm, humane community. She sees these goals as related, and so her students and colleagues have learned much from her that these goals are not in conflict with one another."

**Professor Paul E. Lovejoy** was presented with an award for his **Lifetime Achievement in African Studies** at the 2011 annual meeting of the Canadian Association of African Studies / Association canadienne des études africaines, which was held at York University on May 5-6-7. In his letter to Paul E. Lovejoy informing of the award, Dennis Cordell, President / Président of the Canadian Association of African Studies / Association canadienne des études africaines writes: Your research achievements are, of course, legion, as are your wonderful abilities to teach and mentor your students and younger colleagues. Given our own long friendship, I feel particularly lucky to be president of CAAS/ACÉA the year that you will be honoured.

### **Postdoctoral Fellowships and Jobs**

One of our recent PhD students, **Dr. Jason Russell**, began a tenure-track position at **Empire State College - State University of New York** -- last summer as an Assistant Professor of Labour Studies. Dr. Russell also has a book in press with Athabasca University Press entitled *Our Union: UAW / CAW Local 27 from 1950 to 1990*, due to come out in December. For more info see <http://www.aupress.ca/index.php/books/120195>.

We have had a particularly excellent year, with **six of our student winning seven Postdoctoral Fellowships**. Dr. Dan Horner and Dr. Jarett Henderson won two-year L.R. Wilson Postdoctoral Fellowships at McMaster University. Dr. Horner also won a six-month postdoctoral fellowship at the University of Leicester at their Centre of Urban History. Dr. Jennifer Ellison won a two-year Postdoctoral Fellowship at the Centre for Canadian Studies at Mount Allison University to work on a project called "Feminist Activism and the Promise of Self- Esteem." Tom Peace and Ian Mosby won SSHRC Postdoctoral Fellowships. Tom will work on "Indigenous Education along the St. Lawrence and Great Lakes after the Seven Year's War" at Dartmouth College, while Ian will work on the project "Engineering Dinner:

Postwar Food Technology and the Industrial Transformation of the Canadian Diet” at the University of Guelph. Dr. Mathieu Lapointe has won a two-year Postdoctoral Fellowship from FQRSC (Le Fonds québécois de la recherche sur la société et la culture), which he will hold at McGill University's Department of Art History to study Montreal's "yellow press" and its ideologies from the 1940s to the 1960s.

If you have other news about current or recently graduated students, please let me know so that I can report it in the next news bulletin.