As the new chair of the Department of History, I am pleased to write my first Chair’s message in our newsletter. This is the fourth installment of our annual newsletter, produced this year by the department’s communications intern, senior history major Sarah McAtee.

The History Department is, once again, a bustling and vibrant place. The number of history majors and minors continues to expand, and our graduate students have been working away on their master’s theses and as Graduate Teaching Assistants in our introductory level courses.

This current academic year, we offered a wide range of courses, from “North American Indian History” and “Visualizing India” to “Modern Jewish History” and “The History of the Book in America.”

Department faculty remain active scholars as well. The big news this past year is our former Chair, Professor Paul Deslandes, won the prestigious Morris D. Forkosch Award from the American Historical Association for his book, *The Culture of Male Beauty in Britain: From the First Photographs to David Beckham*. This award recognizes the best book published in British History for the year. In addition, Professor Alan Steinweis published his new book, *The People’s Dictatorship: A History of Nazi Germany* (Cambridge University Press, 2023) and Professor Sean Field won a National Humanities Center Fellowship. These are but a few of many faculty accomplishments this past year.

Finally, I want to thank you for your support and engagement with the Department. Whether you are a recent graduate or completed your studies many years ago, we would love to hear what you have been involved with. Please stay in touch, and if you find yourself in Burlington, we always welcome visits at Wheeler House.

Best wishes,
Sean Stilwell
Andrew Buchanan

In early 2022, Professor Andrew Buchanan’s article “Globalizing the Second World War” appeared in the online edition of the prestigious journal Past & Present, and the print version will be available in the new year. In the summer, Buchanan helped to organize an international symposium on the “Global World War II” in Cambridge, and he is currently working on editing a series of papers presented there for a volume of essays slated to appear in 2023. Buchanan has also just submitted the manuscript for a new book with Bloomsbury Press, provisionally entitled, From World War to Cold War: Decolonization, Revolution, and the Rise of American Hegemony, 1943-1958.

Paul DesLandes

Professor Paul DesLandes recently moved from his role as chair of the Department of History to a new position as Associate Dean for Student Success in the College of Arts and Sciences, where he oversees internships, first-year experiences, admissions, and orientation matter, as well as many other issues. At the annual meeting of the American Historical Association in Philadelphia in January 2023 his recent book, The Culture of Male Beauty in Britain: From the First Photographs to David Beckham, was awarded the 2022 Morris D. Forkosch Prize for the best book in English in the field of British, British imperial, or British Commonwealth history since 1845. Over the winter, he completed editorial work on a six-volume series titled A Cultural History of Beauty, which will be published by Bloomsbury in later 2023 or early 2024.

Johnathan Huener

Professor Jonathan Huener spent the summer of 2022 as a fellow at the Institute for Contemporary History, Munich, where he researched his next book on Nazi-occupied Poland during World War Two. With his co-editor Andrea Löw, he has also been completing work on the multi-authored volume Poland under German Occupation: New Perspectives, which has been accepted for publication by Berghahn Books and will appear in the Berghahn series “Vermont Studies on Nazi Germany and the Holocaust.” At UVM, Huener continues to teach courses on the Holocaust and the history of Poland, and serves as director of the Carolyn and Leonard Miller Center for Holocaust Studies.

Robert McCullough

Professor Robert McCullough has continued to explore American cycling history over the past year. He has had chapters published in two books: “Cycling’s Symphony of Place” in Routledge Companion to Cycling and “Dimaond Chain and Manufacturing Company of Indianapolis, Indiana, USA” in Cycle History 31: Proceedings of the 31st International Cycling History Conference. He is also working towards publication of a completed manuscript, by McFarland and Co. Press, titled Old Wheel Works: Places of Industrious Architecture, Engineering, and Innovation with an anticipated release in late 2023 or early 2024.

Abigail McGowan

In the last year, Professor Abigail McGowan has been focused on two new projects. The first, part of her ongoing research on changing home ideals in late colonial India, looks at how new forms of textile use in homes helped to mediate heat and privacy in novel domestic spaces. The article will appear in a 2023 book titled Textiles in Architecture: From the Middle Ages to Modernism. The second is a special 75th anniversary issue of the journal Marg, India’s first art journal, which McGowan was asked to guest edit. The issue brings together pivotal articles on textiles from throughout the journal’s history.

Nicole Phelps

Professor Nicole Phelps enjoyed developing and teaching a new course called “The US Civil War in Global Context” and returning to the first half of the US survey course, which she has not taught for several years. This year, though, her time was mostly consumed with work to facilitate UVM’s transition to a new course numbering system and General Education curriculum.

Alan Steinweis

During the summer of 2022, Professor Alan E. Steinweis served as a visiting professor at the University of Augsburg, where he taught a seminar on the Kristallnacht program. He spent the Fall 2022 semester on leave in Munich, conducting research for a book about an attempt to assassinate Hitler in November 1939. His most notable achievement of the year was the publication of his book, The People’s Dictatorship: A History of Nazi Germany, with Cambridge University Press in early 2023. He also published a book chapter, “Coming to Terms with the History of the Humanities in the Third Reich,” in The Betrayal of the Humanities: The University in the Third Reich. He gave several guest talks and received a career Distinguished Achievement Award from the Holocaust Educational Foundation of Northwestern University in November 2022.

Thomas Visser

Professor Thomas Durant Visser has launched a new undergraduate course which he taught for the first time during the Spring 2023 semester. The class, “Introduction to Historic Preservation,” provides undergraduate students with opportunities to explore proactive approaches for community sustainability, heritage conservation, and social inclusion.

Steven Zdatny

Professor Steven Zdatny is on sabbatical for 2022-2023, using this time to put the finishing touches on his book manuscript The Threshold of Disgust: A History of Hygiene in Modern France. In Spring 2023, to finish the project, he was overseas as a visiting scholar at the Oxford Centre for European History at the University of Oxford. He was also been offered a place as a Fellow at Lincoln College, Oxford. Additionally, Professor Zdatny will continue to make early progress on a new research project focusing on the history of infanticide in twentieth-century France.
The UVM History Review is a student run and published scholarly journal that is sponsored by the history department. Students can either serve on the Board of Editors or submit their own work and learn the process of reviewing, editing, and publishing manuscripts for a scholarly journal. The UVM History Review is highly regarded by both professional historians and the UVM community. It has been awarded the Gerald D. Nash Prize twice, earning recognition in The Historian, the Phi Alpha Theta national journal. The UVM history department takes pride in this student publication.

The UVM History Review is on hiatus for the 2022-2023 school year, but will return with a double issue in the 2023-2024 school year!

2022 Phi Alpha Theta Inductees

Phi Alpha Theta is an academic honor society for colleges and universities. Its primary mission is to promote the study of history through the encouragement of research, good teaching, publication, and the exchange of learning and ideas among Historians.

Philip Maas Bern
Benjamin J. Barry
Dominic Joseph Bove
Kris K. Brown
Patrick John Conway
Jessica M. Dion
Zoe R. Drajem
Anna Elizabeth Feloni
Jessica Sera Fine
Joseph Anthony Gallo

John Fitz Harrington
Autumn Grace Headwell
Hannah Kirkpatrick
Isabel Kathleen MacGregor
Lily McGuire-Eggleston
Jahnessa A. Ryea
Eleanor Grace Setchko
Sarah Faith Shapiro
Benjamin D. Stewart
Nicholas Hayden Wendell
The University of Vermont Historic Preservation Program aims to acknowledge, conserve, and sustain a diverse range of heritage resources that have the potential to inform and to serve current and future generations. The Historic Preservation Program offers a Master of Science degree in Historic Preservation, as well as an Accelerated Master’s Program, and an Individually Designed Minor for undergraduates.

With support from the College of Arts and Sciences and History Department, the Historic Preservation Program expanded its undergraduate course offerings with a new class, Introduction to Historic Preservation. The class has been approved to serve as a Sustainability Learning Outcomes (SLO) course that represents UVM’s commitment towards envisioning and planning for a sustainable society and social inclusion.

Learn more about the Historic Preservation program and read the most recent edition of the UVM Historic Preservation Newsletter at [https://www.uvm.edu/cas/historicpreservation](https://www.uvm.edu/cas/historicpreservation) or by contacting history@uvm.edu.
**Student Spotlights**

**Joe Smith**
History, Minors in Political Science and Holocaust Studies, Class of 2023

Senior Joe Smith served in Operation Desert Storm as a United States Army Infantryman with the 101st Airborne Division. Throughout his career, and his life after service, Joe has set foot in 24 different countries and territories. At UVM, he is studying History, with minors in both Political Science and Holocaust Studies. Joe’s main area of interests are in United States history, military history, as well as the general study of soldier culture. As a veteran, he believes that studying history and political science are not only important, but also necessary to protect democracy. Joe is a proud father of two, and part of his reason for pursuing his untraditional pathway towards completing his education is to set a good example for his daughters, wanting them to know that they should “never stop learning, do not give up on achieving [their] dreams and always move forward.” He always learns, not just from his professors, but also from the students in class, serving as a well-loved teaching assistant for Professor Steve Zdatny for his Modern Europe and World War II classes. Joe is also a strong advocate for veterans with service-related PTSD and suicide prevention and awareness.

**Sarah McAtee**
History, Minor in Community and International Development, Class of 2023

Sarah McAtee is a senior from Buffalo, New York, with the majority of her studies focused on early American history. While her time at UVM did not start as a history major, she can say with confidence that switching into the department has been one of the best decisions she has made. Her time at UVM has been shaped by her role as the History Department’s Communications Intern, getting to work closely with the chair, professors, staff, and alumni, create the yearly newsletter, work on outreach projects, plan events for students, and speak to admitted students. This position has given her a deeper understanding into the role of communications and making connections, and she is infinitely grateful to the department for granting her this opportunity. Reflecting on her history courses, Sarah shared: “My studies have truly been instrumental in my way of finding myself here at UVM. I have learned that when people ask, ‘What are you going to do with a history degree?’ the answer can really be anything and everything. The skills we learn make us strong, analytical thinkers that have the ability to succeed in any career of our choosing.” Sarah hopes to go into public administration work after graduation, knowing that her history education and the wisdom shared by her professors will serve her well.
**Nate Biscotti**

Double Major in History and Political Science, Class of 2024

Nate Biscotti is a junior at UVM, studying both history and political science. He has taken full advantage of the opportunities available to him as a history student. With a focus on American history, Nate has sharpened his critical thinking and analytical skills in the classroom, as well as practice proper procedures for conducting research. He credits Professor Johnathan Huener’s “History of Poland” and “History of the Holocaust” courses for teaching him how to write a well-crafted analytical paper, and highly recommends those classes to all. These courses, as well as Nate’s other studies in the history department, have given him a leg up when it comes to other disciplines as well. As an intern with the Vermont General Assembly, he has been able to put the skills he learned in classes to practical use in the real world. He often conducts policy research on various topics for this internship, which requires him to draw upon a lot of different, varying sources. Thanks to his time as a history major, that research comes easily and is less daunting. Looking forward, Nate shared: “I am excited to continue refining my research skills with my remaining time here, and spending more time in the classroom with some of the greatest professors anyone could ask for.”

**Iain Pless**

History, Minor in Religion, Class of 2024

Iain Pless, a junior history major with a minor in Religion, credits his initial interest in the field to his father, a middle school history teacher. The last few years have made Iain confident that his future lies in the academic study and teaching of history. Professors Sean Field and Andrew Buchanan, as well as many others, have nurtured this dream of his, helping to make it more of a possibility. With Professor Field, he started a months-long research project into Samuel C. Crafts, a largely unknown figure in Vermont history, who happens to be the perfect witness to an increasingly dividing nation in the build-up to the American Civil War. Professor Buchanan is serving as his honors thesis advisor for the upcoming school year, for which Iain is exploring the end of the Second World War in Northern Italy where the powerful and politically left-wing resistance movement had a tenuous relationship with the new Italian republic. Iain is studying abroad during the spring semester in Rome to improve his grasp on the Italian language and get access to primary documents, which has given him a new respect for all of the efforts necessary to do real historical research. Iain reflected: “It has been the honor of my academic career so far to be a part of the UVM history department. The mentors I have found within it have challenged and encouraged me the entire time. Instead of just musing about what other historians have already discussed, the courses I have taken have given me the opportunity to do my own explorations into different times, places, and people.”
Eleanor Setchko is in the final year of her Accelerated Master’s in History at UVM, having completed her B.A. in History with a minor in French in May 2022. Eleanor is from the East Bay in Northern California and originally applied to UVM’s civil engineering program, but is forever grateful she switched to history just before first-year registration. Specializing in Medieval France, Eleanor’s time in the History Department has primarily been devoted to studying the development of royal power and its relationship to religious authority, and she has just completed an independent study on the historiography of Jeanne d’Arc, focusing on different types of analysis and structure (biographical character studies vs. broader-scope political history) in 20th- and 21st-century French and Anglophone scholarship. Eleanor has also studied the more recent political and literary history of France and Francophonie, from the revolutionary and Napoleonic to 19th-20th century colonial and post-/neo-colonial periods. Lately, Eleanor’s interests have shifted towards more modern literature and library history. While grateful for her time in the department but decidedly ready to be done with academia proper, she is greatly looking forward to her plans of pursuing her passions for bibliography and organization in the realm of library science.

Michael Carter, a Burlington native, is a second year graduate student in the History MA program. His current research interests are all aspects American experience in the First World War, specifically as it affected Vermont and Vermonters. To that end, in the Spring semester, Michael defended a thesis on the wartime experience of Burlington residents who would lose their lives in that conflict, examining their different cultural backgrounds and battleground experiences. Additionally, Michael has done research on the social history of Burlington during this period, including an examination of how wartime prejudices cost a UVM German professor his job. Michael stated that, “being at UVM has allowed me to take advantage of local resources and archives for this regional research.” Extending beyond his hometown, Michael has also done research into US Naval control of Guam in the war years of 1917-1918. Having some background in medieval history, theology, and philosophy, Michael has done research into the life and reception of the Late Antique bishop and poet Sidonius Apollinaris, a key eye witness to the ear of the so-called Fall of the Roman Empire. Prior to his graduate studies at UVM, Michael earned his Bachelor’s degree in Religious Studies from St. Michael’s College, as well as his Master of Divinity degree from Boston College.
James Hughes is a graduate student with a focus on Modern European history, particularly the German-speaking lands from the late 19th century to present. He works at the Miller Center for Holocaust Studies, which awarded him the Miller Center for Holocaust Studies Scholarship. Before coming to UVM, James studied history at University of California, Berkeley, where he wrote his senior thesis on German far-right politics of the 21st century. He is working on a research project that focuses on Otto Strasser and his escape from Hitler’s assassins. In his spare time, he has been researching the perspectives of multiple historians in the field of genocide studies, particularly those who have disqualified certain historical events in North American as merely “conquest” as opposed to outright genocide. After graduating with his MA in history, James plans to start a Master’s in Teaching program at UVM to become a secondary social studies teacher. James shares: “I feel very fortunate to have studied under the incredible staff at the Holocaust Studies department as well as the whole History Department here at UVM. If I can be half the educator that my professors have been, I will make for a great teacher.”

Juniper Oxford is a graduate student in her final year of the History MA program, studying United States political and social history of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, focusing primarily on women in social movements, third party politics, and trans history. Juniper came to UVM from Southern Illinois University, where she received her Bachelor’s degree in History with a minor in Political Science. Some of the research Juniper has done in the last year has focused on Holly Near and Ronnie Gilbert’s artistic collaboration, from Gilbert’s role in the American folk music revival to their joint contributions to the genre of women’s music, and third party politics and popular political discontent in Vermont’s Progressive Era. During the fall semester, Juniper served as a Teaching Assistant for Dr. Andrew Buchanan’s course, “Global Environmental History.” Her thesis will focus on the lives of trans women in the United States from the end of the nineteenth to the mid-twentieth century by examining their relationships with their local communities, their marriages, their economic livelihoods, and how they were memorialized after their deaths.
Patrick Minella
BA 2008
Stadium Account Manager, ‘47 Brand

Patrick Minella graduated from UVM in 2008 with a Bachelor’s degree in History, minor- ing in Political Science. Today, he is a Stadium Account Manager for the sports brand ‘47. The brand maintains licenses to create apparel, headwear, and accessories for professional sports leagues like MLB, NBA, NHL, as well as hundreds of college institutions. Pat manages the day-to- day sales and partnerships with retail partners in stadiums, arenas, and ball parks across the country. Prior to joining ‘47, Pat worked in sales and business development for the German sports brand PUMA, managing their team soccer uniform business. He also worked for a sales and marketing agency focused on Latin America, based in Miami, Florida. Directly following his graduation from UVM, Pat spent two years teaching English in Granada, Spain. Pat credits his history degree for instilling an ability to analyze and communicate ideas and information clearly and effectively. More than anything, pursuing a degree in history instilled in him a cultural awareness, understanding, and curiosity that has served him well working in a diverse set of environments, including internationally.

Kyle Coulam
BA 2011
Director of Sustainability, Lyrical Asset Management

Kyle Coulam graduated from UVM in 2011 with a Bachelor of Arts in both Political Science and History, focusing on global history, interna- tional relations, and sustainability. He went on to the University of Southern California, and graduated in 2016 with a Master of Public Policy, Master of Planning, and Certificate in Homeland Security and Public Policy. In 2020, he earned a Certificate in Municipal Finance through the University of Chicago to better integrate financial analysis into sustain- able strategic decision-making. Today, he serves as the Director of Sustainability at Lyrical Asset Management and has over 10 years of experience in the sustainability field. Before joining Lyrical, he worked on the frontlines of climate change for 4.5 years as a Project Manager with the Clinton Foundation’s Climate Initiative. He has also worked at Mikhail Gorbachev’s environmental organization, Green Cross International, as well as at the U.S.-China Clean Tech Center, USC Center for Sustainable Cities, Los Angeles Council District 14, and consulted for the Los Angeles Emergency Management Department. Kyle stated: “One of the biggest strengths you’ll garner from UVM is the ability to create a diverse “toolbox of knowledge.” This “toolbox” is important because you’ll always be able to draw on it, no matter the challenge. The skills I learned as a history student have allowed me to develop an evidence-based approach to solving some of the trickiest sustainability challenges.”
**Hunter Colvin**  
**BA 2017, MA 2018**  
**Campaign Specialist, Dealer.com**

Hunter Colvin earned both her Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees in History in 2017 and 2018. Her studies focused on early modern Britain, which helped to shape her career in digital marketing. She began her career at Dealer.com as a Campaign Specialist, focusing primarily on website creation and design. In that role, the attention to detail, ability to interpret, analyze, and transcribe information that she learned in the pursuit of her degrees was integral to her success. She was then promoted to a client-facing position that built upon these skills, as well as tapping into communication, problem-solving and an empathetic approach to understanding a subject. To Hunter, the study of history is the study of people - how they lived, loved, dreamed, and fought. This emphasis on understanding people and the way they connect and interact has been indispensable. Hunter says while some people might find the History major to digital marketing career track disjointed, it is because of her history degrees that she has been able to excel in her career. Hunter shared: “Take classes that interest you, even if they do not fit into an exact theme, career path, or course of study. Studying Ancient Greek mythology, 18th century English witch trials, modern China, and West African religions at the same time may seem uncoordinated or disjointed but it gives you an expansive view of the world that will help you understand the past, the present, and maybe even the future.”

**Jesse Bridges**  
**BA 2002, MPA 2011**  
**CEO, United Way of Northwest Vermont**

Jesse Bridges earned a Bachelor degree from UVM in 2002, majoring in History, with a concentration in United States social history and minoring in Geography. The combination of these two studies gave him a base understanding of privilege and structural inequalities, which would later inspire his career with United Way. While in his undergraduate program, Jesse became UVM’s assistant field hockey coach, citing early ambitions of being a high school history teacher and coaching the school’s field hockey team, until he later realized his drive for administrative work. He worked for UVM Athletics for ten years, working his way up to Assistant Athletic Director, and working for the Annual Fund. In 2008, he received his Masters of Public Administration from UVM, and was appointed Director of Parks, Recreation and Waterfront for the city of Burlington in 2012. In 2017, he came to United Way of Northwest Vermont, where he works as the CEO. United Way’s mission is to mobilize communities to improve people’s lives, bringing together individuals, nonprofits, government and government to make communities more vibrant, strong and healthy. Jesse’s history degree has taught him the importance of evaluating sources, which has become more and more important as the access to information has increased in years since his graduation, and thinking critically, which he says is crucial, regardless of the field an individual works in.
Donate to History Online!
Go to https://www.uvm.edu/givehistory or scan below:

Join Our Newsletter List
Email history@uvm.edu and give your first and last name, whether you want an emailed or mailed newsletter, and your email/mailing address.

Contact Information
- Website:
  https://www.uvm.edu/cas/history
- Email:
  history@uvm.edu
- Telephone:
  802-656-3180

@uvmhistory  facebook.com/uvmhistory/  @uvmhistory