

# Footnotes

The Official Newsletter of Carnegie Mellon University's Department of History



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## LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

I am delighted to introduce this newsletter and to celebrate the many achievements of our faculty, staff, and students. One of our greatest strengths as a department is the remarkable range of approaches we bring to the study of the past, and the pages that follow reveal the geographical, chronological, thematic, and methodological variety of our scholarship and teaching. I want to take this opportunity to reaffirm my commitment to strengthening and expanding the diversity of our department in all ways—while also fostering opportunities for us to forge connections within and beyond our community.

Now more than ever, it is vital that we strengthen and celebrate our connections to each other—not just as scholars but as human beings. COVID continues to cause suffering and anxiety for many of us and to complicate our ability to meet in person. But over the past semester, I have had the pleasure of seeing many of you at departmental events and in the corridors of Baker Hall. I hope that the winter break proves healthful and peaceful for you all, and that the new year provides many opportunities for us all to connect, to learn from each other, and to continue to enrich our departmental community.

With warmest wishes,

Nico Slate

# NEW COMMUNITY MEMBERS



**Ezelle Sanford III** joined the department as Assistant Professor in History. His research lies at the intersection of African American, medical, and urban histories. His current book project, *Segregated Medicine: How Racial Politics Shaped American Healthcare*, examines how the legacy of racial segregation established structures of healthcare inequality through the lens of St. Louis's Homer G. Phillips Hospital - America's largest segregated hospital in the mid-20th century.



**Chloe Thompson** is a first-year graduate student in the Department of History. She earned her B.A. in Global Studies and Hispanic Studies (2016) at Carnegie Mellon University. Her current area of interest is environmental history. She is being co-advised by Chris Phillips and Ed Russell.



**Tyler Green** is a first-year graduate student in the Department of History. He earned both his B.A. in History (2015) and his M.A. in American Studies (2019) at Trinity College. His current areas of interest are late-19th and early-20th century U.S. cultural history, consumption and consumerism, American capitalism, economic history, labor history, frugality, and identity. His advisor is Scott Sandage.



**Victoria Donahoe** joined as the Department Coordinator, leading the department's visual and written communication initiatives. Victoria earned her B.A. in English from the University of Pittsburgh and prior to working at CMU she served as an administrator for Pitt's language departments and as an educator within the Children's Studio at the Carnegie Museum of Art.

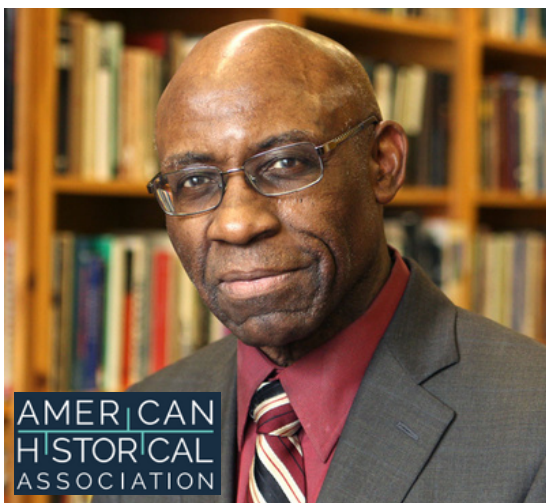


## FACULTY HONORS

**Wendy Goldman** awarded the Society of Military History's Non-U.S. Distinguished Book Award for *Fortress Dark and Stern: The Soviet Home Front during World War II*.

**Chris Phillips** awarded a 2022-2024 National Library of Medicine Grant for Scholarly Works in Biomedicine and Health from the National Institute of Health (NIH) to support his forthcoming book, *Numbers Doctors: The Emergence of Biostatistics and the Reformation of Modern Medicine*.

**Joe Trotter** awarded the American Historical Association Award for Scholarly Distinction. Established in 1984, this award goes to senior historians of the highest distinction to commensurate their contributions to the historical discipline and recognize their significant lifetime achievements.



## Recent Publications

David Busch, "Reflections on Fitzgerald and the Qatar World Cup," *Inside Higher Ed*

Michal Friedman and Nevine Abraham, "Journeys into the Culinary Landscapes of Israel and Palestine: the Virtues of Coteaching on Conflict," *Association for Jewish Studies Perspectives*

Michal Friedman and Daniela Flesler, "Why Does the Spanish Right Want to 'Recover the Historical Memory' of Sephardic Jews?" *The Volunteer*

Mark T. Hauser, "A Violent Desire for the Amusements': Boxing, Libraries, and the Distribution and Management of Welfare During the First World War," *The Journal of Military History*

Bennett Koerber, "College Football has Grappled with the Same Problem for Almost a Century," *Washington Post*

Whitney Laemmler, "Taylorism Transfigured: Industrial Rhythm and the British Factory," *Grey Room*

Steven Schlossman and Adam Lazarus, "Go Watch This Boy," *Through the Green*

# FACULTY NEWS

Listen to **Edda Fields-Black** on the Heritage Radio Network's episode *Dr. Edda Fields-Black on Rice, the Legacy of African Slavery, and Symphony as History* as she talks about rice farming in the United States, the agricultural traditions of the Gullah and Geechee peoples, and her personal connection to this history.

With the launch of a new initiative, **Wendy Goldman** is one of eight faculty members throughout Dietrich College to work with Inside-Out, an educational program that brings together campus-based students and incarcerated students. Through Carnegie Mellon University's Prison Education Project, students from both CMU and the State Correctional Institution in Somerset will receive full course credit.

**Whitney Laemml** co-edited an issue of the interdisciplinary journal *Grey Room* that was released this Fall. Titled *Pious Technologies and Secular Designs*, the issue brought together historians of science, technology, media, and architecture to explore the ways in which religion has operated in the disciplines, spaces, and machines often associated with secular modernity.

At this year's Society for the History of Technology (SHOT) conference, **Ed Russell** delivered a paper, "The Pony Express Was a Telegraph Service." Additionally **Russell's** book *Evolutionary History* was released in an Italian translation titled *Storia ed evoluzione*.

A collaborative historian, **Steve Schlossman** continues to produce scholarship alongside CMU students and alumni on many projects that provide insight into the history of golf and some of its top players.

## Recent Publications

Steven Schlossman and Kari Thomas, "Summer School: Michelle Wie v. Yani Tseng at the 2004 Women's Amateur Public Links Championship," *The Golf* (Summer 2022 & Autumn 2022)

Nico Slate, "The Radical Civil Rights Movement: The Highlander Folk School and the Legacies of the Left in Cold War America," *Past & Present*

Noah Theriault, Rosa Cordillera A. Castillo, Clod Marlan Krister Yambao, & Sarah Wright, "'I am the land and I am their witness': placemaking amid displacement among Lumads in the Philippines," *Critical Asian Studies*

Noah Theriault, Madeline Sides, Erica Dorn, & Hillary Carey, "Engaging with Theories of Change in Transition Design," *Cuadernos del Centro de Estudios de Diseño y Comunicación*

Benno Weiner, Introduction to "The Thousand-Household Commander's Winding Road: The Auto-Narrative of Shawo Tsering," (translated by Hannibal Taubes), *Waxing Moon: Journal of Tibetan and Himalayan Studies*

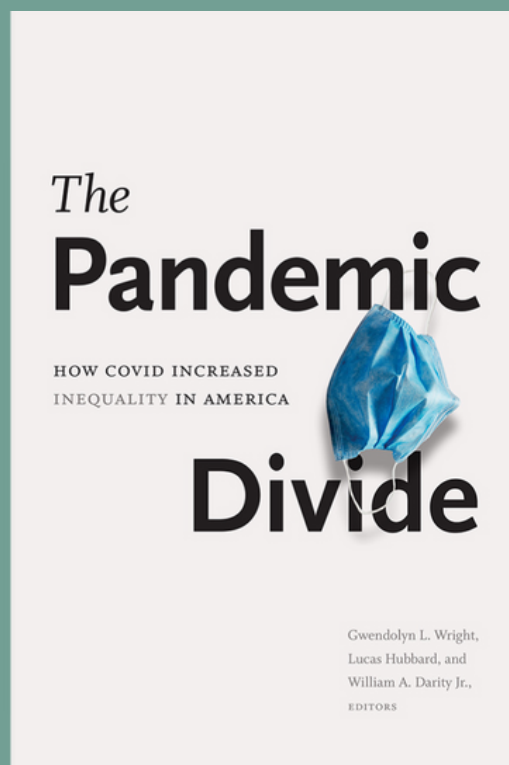
Benno Weiner, Book Review of Nicole Willock's *Lineages of the Literary: Tibetan Buddhist Polymaths of Socialist China*, *The China Quarterly*

A contributing author to *The Pandemic Divide: How Covid Increased Inequality in America*, **Joe Trotter** presented his chapter, "Labor History and Pandemic Response: The Overlapping Experiences of Work, Housing and Neighborhood Conditions," at The Samuel DuBois Cook Center on Social Equity's Pandemic Divide Conference held at Duke University.

In an impressive global tour, **Benno Weiner** delivered several talks and presented his ongoing research - ranging from empire and statebuilding to ethnopolitics and ethnoculture - at Harvard University; the University of California, Irvine; the University of Freiburg's Institute for Advanced Study; Ludwig Maximilians University's Institute of Sinology (Munich); and at the 16th Seminar of the International Association for Tibetan Studies (Prague).

Tune in to **Lisa Tetrault** talking about women's critical involvement in activism throughout history on *The Audacity of the Activist* with Jameela Jamil and Shohreh Aghdashloo episode of Meghan Markle's *Archetypes* podcast.

Check out **Ezelle Sanford III** on Baltimore public radio news station WYPR's *Midday* as he discusses the legacy of racism in academic medicine in an episode titled *Hard Histories at Hopkins: Reckoning with Racism's Legacy*. In the forthcoming volume *Left in the Midwest: St. Louis Progressive Activism in the 1960s and 1970s*, **Ezelle's** chapter ("Save Homer G. Phillips and All Public Hospitals") traces how the closing of the Homer G. Phillips Hospital and responses from Black St. Louisans set the stage for the ongoing pursuit of full and equal citizenship in the realm of public healthcare.



# FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

## Telling JFK's Story

A Conversation with  
David Rubenstein,  
Penny Von Eschen,  
& Scott Sandage



Professor Scott Sandage was one of only five historians invited to advise a new exhibit at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C. To mark its Fiftieth Anniversary in 2022, the center renovated its rooftop atrium space as a permanent installation, “Art and Ideals: President John F. Kennedy.”

The exhibit seeks to explain and illustrate the role of the arts in JFK’s own life, as well as to help the public understand why the late president’s family authorized an arts center as his only monument in Washington, D.C. As a “living memorial,” the Kennedy Center attracts millions of visitors and audience members annually, and yet in its first fifty years, it has not been perceived as the peer of its near neighbors like the Lincoln Memorial, the Jefferson Memorial, and the Washington Monument. The interactive exhibit, audiovisual displays, and artifacts tell the story of how JFK deployed the arts in both foreign and domestic policy during the Cold War and Civil Rights eras, how artist-activists like Harry Belafonte and Marian Anderson led Kennedy toward fuller support for black freedom, and how Jackie Kennedy and her husband encouraged links between civic participation and arts participation in schools.

In addition to Sandage, who was invited as a public historian of monuments and collective memory, the other advisors included professors Peniel Joseph (University of Texas), Penny Von Eschen (University of Virginia), and Pulitzer Prizewinners Annette Gordon-Reed and Fredrik Logevall (both of Harvard). The committee met with Kennedy Center staff, architects, and designers throughout 2019-2021.

Professor Sandage spoke at the exhibit’s opening gala in October – which included an onstage program of Sandage and Von Eschen “In Conversation with David M. Rubenstein,” philanthropist and chairman of the Center’s Board of Trustees. In November, Sandage conducted a VIP tour of the exhibit and also joined a panel discussion about arts policy and community engagement, with composers-in-residence Carlos Simon and Nolan Williams, Jr.

The latter event obliged Sandage to be in Washington on a teaching day. Since the Kennedy Center lodges its visitors at the Watergate Hotel, directly next door, he had the fun privilege of Zoom teaching his “U.S. Constitution and the Presidency” class from the historic Room 214 in the Watergate – the so-called “Scandal Room,” where the burglars stayed in 1972. His students had the good manners to pretend to be impressed and excited by his virtual tour of the burglars’ path into the 1972 offices of the Democratic National Committee.

# GRADUATE NEWS

Community advocate and scholar of education, **Stacey Akines** presented her research "Black Homeschooling: New Phenomenon or Persistent Fugitive Pedagogy?" at The Samuel DuBois Cook Center on Social Equity's Pandemic Divide Conference held at Duke University.

No stranger to the archives, **Crystal Brandenburgh** was awarded two research grants in 2022: the Friends of Princeton University Library Research Grant and the inaugural National Woman's Party Research Fellowship, coordinated by the Library of Congress Manuscript Division, for her current research on womens' interwar peace organizing efforts. Additionally, **Crystal** presented her paper, "There's Nothing Quite Like Old Friends: Northern and Southern White Women in the Wake of Suffrage," at the Southern Association for Women's History Annual Conference at the University of Kentucky this past June.

The South Asian American Digital Archive interviewed **Arko Dasgupta** on best practices to incorporate South Asian American stories into the curriculum of universities without existing Asian American Studies programs. **Arko** also delivered two presentations this Fall: "Rabindranath Tagore's India: Notes on nativism, hospitality, and syncretism" for Central University of Kashmir's Department of Politics & Governance as well as "Interventionism to Indifference: the Epidemiological Experience of Indians and African Americans" at The Samuel DuBois Cook Center on Social Equity's Pandemic Divide Conference held at Duke University.

Good news came late in the semester for **Jamie Leach** who was recently awarded an Exploratory Research Grant at the Hagley Museum and Library. This comes just after his success as a 2022 Posner Curatorial Intern, an internship funded by the Posner Fine Arts Foundation supporting graduate students in gaining practical and paid training in rare books and special collections. **Jamie** co-designed an exhibition on the Posner Collection's history of science materials and wrote case labels for each item. He also identified library items in regular circulation with major significance to the history of computing and flagged them to be moved to special collections.



# GRADUATE NEWS

An advocate of social justice, **Alex Tabor** was selected by the Labor and Working-Class History Association to present his research at their inaugural Dissertation Prospectus Workshop and was also awarded a 2022-2023 Graduate Teaching Fellowship at CMU's Eberly Center for Teaching Excellence and Educational Innovation. In addition to his scholarship, **Alex** works in the community conducting research for the Allegheny County Department of Human Services; volunteers as an academic resource in juvenile justice and carceral settings; and works with residents pursuing their Commonwealth Secondary Diploma or GED at State Correctional Institute Greene.

After a summer spent creating an online dictionary of damaged and distinctive type for Chris Warren's Prints and Probabilities Project, **Kari Thomas** then presented her paper, "The Nicaragua Connection," at the Heinz History Center's inaugural Martin Delany Symposium on a panel moderated by Dr. Joe Trotter that explored Delany's ideas about race and Black emigration.

Working in Peru over the summer, **Matt Turetsky** conducted research on the history of quinoa. He visited the agricultural experiment station on the outskirts of Puno to study the relationship between quinoa and seed banks. Upon his return to Pittsburgh, **Matt** was a guest on *Concerning Climate*, a podcast about climate change produced by and for teens, to talk about quinoa and its history.



## CONGRATS TO OUR NEWEST ABDS!

In September, **Jamie Leach** successfully defended his dissertation prospectus, "Training the Brain in Twentieth-Century America," under the direction of Chris Phillips, kicking-off a semester full of defenses.

**Jahan Choudhry**, followed shortly thereafter with a successful October defense of his dissertation prospectus, "World Peace: Visions from India and Afro-America 1945-1991," advised by Nico Slate.

In November, **Michael White** followed suit and successfully defended his dissertation prospectus, "Black Pittsburgh's Healthcare Experience, 1941-1996," under the direction of Joe Trotter.

**Alex Tabor**, brought it home in December with a successful defense of his dissertation prospectus, "Hyphen Nation: Immigration, Race, and Citizenship in a Small Pennsylvania City, 1893-1933," advised by Scott Sandage.

# UNDERGRADUATE NEWS

Dietrich College of Humanities and Social Sciences Honors Fellow **Isabel Brum**, who has a primary major in Neuroscience and an additional major in Ethics, History, and Public Policy, is working on a Senior Honors Thesis with Lisa Tetrault titled "Colonial Politics in Public Health: How Colonialism Has Shaped Women's Health in Puerto Rico."

**Maegan Bogetti**, double-majoring in Global Studies and Environmental and Sustainability Studies, and **Emilia Schwallie**, double-majoring in Ethics, History, and Public Policy and French and Francophone Studies, were each recognized as Andrew Carnegie Society Scholars.

**Sohrab Saljooki** interned at Hello Neighbor, a nonprofit organization supporting recently resettled refugee and immigrant families.

**Calvin Wamser**, pursuing a BHA in Global Studies and Music Composition, was selected for early initiation into CMU's chapter of Phi Beta Kappa.

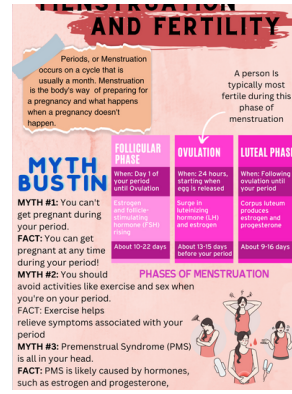
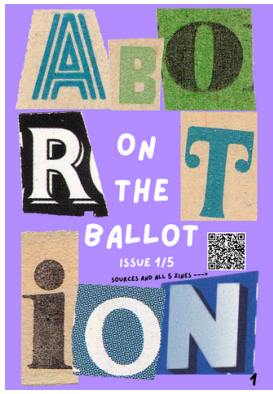
Six history undergraduates - **Sofia Cordoba Valencia**, **Cythia Erazo-Rodas**, **Kira Kiesler**, **Eric Moreno**, **Tatym Rasmussen**, and **Zoe Schneider** - learned about making an impact in their communities as part of the inaugural cohort of the Dietrich College Community Engagement Fellowship.

Global Studies and Environment & Sustainability Studies Seniors **Leo Awodey**, **Maegan Bogetti**, **Seyoung Choo**, **Justin Gotzis**, **Elena Keogh**, **Claire Schuler**, **Abbi Stewart**, **M Tayao**, and **Andrew Xu** presented their capstone research on a range of fascinating topics from the social lives of mixtapes to the politics of refugee camps and much more.

Ethics, History, and Public Policy Seniors **Isabel Brum**, **Alistair McMillan**, **Ananiah Pettis**, and **Emilia Schwallie** presented their capstone project, "Campus Policing, Community Safety, and Student Well-Being at Carnegie Mellon University."



# UNDERGRADUATE COURSE SPOTLIGHT



Students in Lisa Tetraut's Body Politics course designed a five-issue Zine on Abortion as they studied women and health in America. Physical copies of the Zines, which explored topics ranging from the history behind *Roe v. Wade* to menstruation and fertility myths and facts, were distributed all over campus. Each issue provided links for voting registration, registration status and polling place information, and each candidate on this year's ballot.

Students took part in a summer research experience facilitated by Jay Aronson in collaboration with the University Archives and the Eberly Center's Innovative Methods in Undergraduate Research (IMUR) program. The research course began in the classroom, acquiring relevant background knowledge, skills and tools to do collaborative historical research. Students then spent a week in the library learning about the purpose of archives and curatorial decision-making. They did extensive work in the University Archives, combing through publicly available materials, historical databases of local newspapers, digital repositories, and Board of Trustees meeting minutes. The group held in-person and Zoom meetings with key informants at the university - including campus police officers and administrators.



“

In group conversations and my one-on-one meetings with students, they expressed a newfound appreciation for archivists and research librarians, who are often invisible to undergraduates and most others on campus.”

Jay Aronson





## STAFF NEWS

By day, both **Amanda Katz** and **Andrew Ramey** devote themselves to the History Department community and the practice of history. **Katz** taught two courses over the summer on CMU's Doha campus and was selected as a 2022-2023 A.W. Mellon Applied History Fellow at the University of Colorado Boulder's Center of the American West. **Ramey** serves as an at-large member on CMU's Staff Council, is on the Benefits Subcommittee for the 2021-2023 term, and he sits on the university-wide Advisor Professional Development Committee where he chairs the advisor reading group.

By night, the two are avid runners. In October, **Andrew** set a new personal best at the Columbus Half Marathon with an impressive time of 1:54:44! **Amanda** is currently training for Raccoon Creek State Park's Rabid Raccoon 20-Miler at Night.



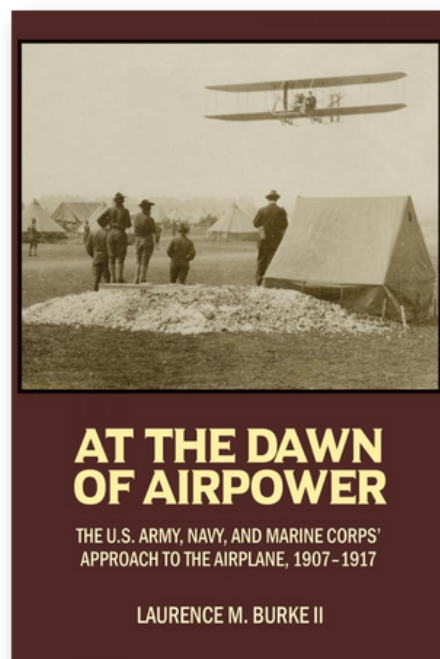
# ALUMNI NEWS

**Larry Burke** published his book, *At the Dawn of Airpower: the U.S. Army, Navy, and Marine Corps' Approach to the Airplane 1907-1917*, with enthusiastic reviews. Currently, he is the Aviation Curator at the National Museum of the Marine Corps in Quantico.

**Bennett Koerber**, a podcast host for the New Book Network's sports channel, interviewed Brian D. Bunk (*From Football to Soccer: The Early History of the Beautiful Game in the United States*) in September and Andrew McIlwaine Bell (*The Origins of Southern College Football: How an Ivy League Game Became a Dixie Tradition*) in November.

**Samora la Perdida** starred in the off-Broadway play, *My Broken Language*, written and directed by the Pulitzer Prize-winner and *In The Heights* screenwriter Quiara Alegria Hudes. *My Broken Language* ran at the Signature Theater in New York City until November 27, 2022.

**Jackie Wu**, currently pursuing a Ph.D. in History at Yale, was awarded the Pennsylvania Historical Association's Pencak Paper Prize for her honors thesis, "The Chinese Labor Experiment: Contract Workers in the Northeastern United States, 1970-1880." Wu was invited by the current graduate cohort to present on this paper in November.



“

I am so happy I decided to take the time to expand my studies beyond drama at CMU. It has grounded my performances with a rich knowledge, truth, and sincerity. This would not have been possible without my Global Studies foundation.”

**Samora la Perdida**



# Congratulations to Dr. Bennett Koerber!

In August, Bennett Koerber successfully submitted his dissertation, "Liberal Arts Football: Athletics, Academics, and American Higher Education, 1906-1948" to the Department of History. He argues that, during the first half of the 20th century, educational reformers attempted to reshape intercollegiate athletics by implementing an ideal – that Bennett calls *liberal arts football* – that restructured the sport as intracurricular, inclusive, and scholastic rather than extracurricular, exclusive, and ritualistic. Most importantly, Bennett articulates how liberal arts football emerged as an alternative to big-time football. Currently, Bennett is teaching for the Department, offering exciting new courses on the history of sports and Prohibition; trying his hand at public history; and is actively on the job hunt!



## STAY CONNECTED



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## TELL US ABOUT IT!

If you would like your research, courses, service, or achievements highlighted in the Spring 2023 History In Action newsletter, please submit your materials to Amanda Katz or Victoria Donahoe!

We will collect information through April 30, 2023.

## Job Announcements

**Christine Grant (Ph.D. '20)**,  
Visiting Assistant Professor,  
Occidental College

**Susan Grunewald (Ph.D. '19)**,  
Assistant Professor of European  
History, Louisiana State University

**Brad Sommer (Ph.D. '21)**,  
Historian and Research Fellow, U.S.  
Center of Military History

**Clayton Vaughn-Roberson (Ph.D. '19)**,  
Assistant Professor of U.S.  
History, University of South  
Alabama

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