



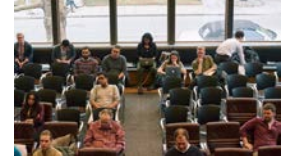
**PEGGY A. COLSTON  
SCHOLARSHIPS**

-2-



**RESEARCH AT UT**

-4-



**UNDERGRADUATE  
NEWS**

-7-

# HISTORY CURRENT



## Wrong & Careless

“Wrong & Careless” certainly isn’t the way we approach our work as historians, but it does point back to our Department’s own history. When looking for a name for our new series of roundtable discussions we hit on this as a way of honouring G.M. Wrong, our Department’s first Chair, and J.M.S. Careless, Chair from 1959-67. At Wrong & Careless sessions, a graduate student moderates a discussion with local or visiting faculty. The sessions are held in an informal setting in order to foster a deeper discussion between faculty and graduate students.

At our sessions this year we have discussed feminism, digital media, and empire. The first Wrong & Careless session in December on “Feminism and Academia” featured Professors Franca Iacovetta, Melanie Newton, Nhung Tran, and Donna Gabaccia, and was held at Professor Iacovetta’s home. The second session on “The Digital and the Material” brought together Professors Laurie Bertram, Kevin Coleman, and Jeffrey Pilcher at the Bedford Academy. In March we returned to the Bedford to discuss “Reactions and Resistance to Empire” with Professors Sean Mills, Takashi Fujitani, and Malavika Kasturi. The last session of the year, held on April 8, featured our 2016 Creighton Lecturer Donald Wright (University of New Brunswick) interviewing Professor Emeritus Michael Bliss on the art and craft of biography.

The Wrong and Careless sessions pick up on the Living History interviews that former Chair Kenneth Mills held at his home to allow graduate students to meet informally with visiting and local faculty. After last year’s strike, current Chair Nicholas Terpstra and Associate Chair Graduate Steve Penfold thought that reviving these sessions could help create closer

community between faculty and graduate students. Doctoral students Alexandra Logue and Kelsey Kilgore took up the challenge of finding speakers and locations, and the series' success is due to their superb work.

When it comes to the name, our former chairs were in on the joke from the beginning. Maurice Careless himself used to tell his students that they shouldn't worry about having a lecturer named "Careless" since their former head of department was named George M. Wrong. Before coming to the Department, Careless worked in the wartime civil service in Ottawa together with George Wrong's son, Hume. Their joint memos always went out over the signature of "Wrong & Careless." It's all tongue in cheek or, as Kelsey Kilgore explains, a good way of "putting the fun in dysfunction."

Each of our new "Wrong & Careless" sessions has attracted 30-40 participants. Faculty and graduate students have been incredibly enthusiastic about the chance to talk together and to meet people from other fields. We aim to keep the sessions informal and friendly, with plenty of time to share ideas, conversations, good food, and beverages.

## Peggy Colston: Giving Thanks to a Generous Donor

by Dale Barber

If you really love history, don't be surprised if you start hearing the name Peggy Colston a lot. She has left a gift with the University of Toronto that will help ensure that the people learning to write history are getting the help they need.

When Colston died in 2012, she had in many ways lived a very Toronto life. Colston emigrated to Canada from Great Britain in the 1950s. She had grown up during the Second World War and survived the Blitz in Coventry as a child and carried the memories of that experience with her for the rest of her life. In Toronto she settled into the Yonge/Eglinton area and found work as a legal secretary with a prestigious law firm. But she always loved history and was a



## *Katherine Glaser Retires*

After 21 years of keeping our Department's finances and administration on track—and 35 years at the University of Toronto—Business Manager Katherine Glaser retired at the end of 2015. On January 22, faculty, emeritus faculty, graduate students, and staff gathered together at the Croft Chapter house in University College to honour Katherine and celebrate the beginning of the Winter term. Glaser was perhaps the only Business Manager at the University to bring skills in reading hieroglyphics to the interpretation of financial documents, thanks to her MA degree in Near Eastern Studies! Thanks to Katherine for her many years of dedicated service to the Department and the University.

frequent visitor to her local library. When she retired she was more than happy to pour over history books, talk about history and settle back and watch documentaries on television.

Without children and contemplating what to do with her estate over the last few years, Colston reached out to the University of Toronto and, not forgetting where she had come from, to the Warwick University in England. She had some specific goals in mind. She wanted her donation to the University of Toronto Department of History to support international students; people like her making the jump from one country to another. Colston's generosity and University matching funds have created an endowment of \$750,000, and will support graduate students at the University of Toronto as they produce original work that will extend our understanding of the past; work that people in academia and the general public will have a chance to read, watch, and enjoy.

Thanks to her generous bequest, the Peggy A. Colston Memorial Scholarships in History is now awarded to outstanding PhD students, with preference given to the support of international students who are ineligible for provincial and federal funding. This year, the scholarships have allowed the Department to recruit three particularly strong incoming PhD students, to the benefit of the program as a whole.

So in the future when you're reading a book, or watching a documentary by a graduate from the University of Toronto have a glance at the acknowledgments, and don't be surprised if they're giving credit to Peggy Colston for helping them along the way. She's earned it.



## History faculty inducted into Royal Society of Canada

We congratulate Margaret Macmillan and David A. Wilson for being elected into the Royal Society of Canada. Election is a rare honour that “recognizes outstanding research and scholarly achievements”. Margaret Macmillan has made many contributions to international and narrative history with works like *Paris 1919* and *The War that Ended Peace*. David A. Wilson has contributed substantially to the history of the modern Atlantic world and has written on Thomas Paine, William Cobbett, the United Irishmen, and Thomas D’Arcy McGee. He is also the General Editor of the *Dictionary of Canadian Biography*. They join other History Department faculty as members of the Royal Society of Canada, including Robert Bothwell, Robert Magosci, Derek Penslar, James Retallack, Edward Shorter, Nicholas Terpstra, and Lynne Viola, and Natalie Rothman who is a member of the New College of the RSC.

# RESEARCH AT UT

## *Faculty Spotlight:* **Professor Ritu Birla**

Dr. Ritu Birla, Associate Professor of South Asian History, has been appointed the Richard Charles Lee Director of the Asian Institute. She will also continue to serve as the Director of the Centre for South Asian studies.

Birla's research brings the empirical study of Indian economy to current questions in social and political theory. She aims to build new conversations in the global study of capitalism and its forms of governing. Earlier this academic year, her article "Jurisprudence of Emergence: Neo-Liberalism and the Public as the Market in India" was selected as part of the Editor's Choice Collection of influential articles published in *South Asia: the Journal of South Asian Studies*. She won a Jackman Humanities Institute Fellowship on the strength of this research, and is currently expanding it into a new book on the colonial genealogies of contemporary India. Tentatively titled *Neoliberalism and Empire*, this monograph will be part of a new Duke University Press series on *Transactions: Economy, Finance and Theory*. Birla received her PhD from Colombia University in 1999 and joined our Department in 2002.

### ***The 2014-2015 Craig Brown Traveling Fellowship Winners Travel the World***

Students in the Department of History are eligible to earn the Craig Brown Traveling Fellowship for travel related to research or academic conferences. This fellowship is named after Professor Emeritus Robert Craig Brown. Brown received his PhD from U of T in 1962 and worked under the supervision of Donald Creighton. His research focused on Canadian American relations in the later 19<sup>th</sup> century. While a faculty member in the Department, he served as chair, director of graduate studies and associate chair. He also is a member of the Royal Society of Canada and a Senior Fellow of Massey college.

## *Faculty and Staff News*

**Kevin Coleman's** new book *A Camera in the Garden of Eden* was featured in Slate Magazine.

**Timothy Sayle** has been appointed to our new position in International Relations—Global Security and will start in July 2016.

**Maureen Peng** was appointed Departmental Manager and Business Officer.

**Anna Mozharova** was appointed Graduate Assistant

**Shami Ghosh** has just been appointed to our new joint position in Medieval history and Latin with the Centre for Medieval Studies and will start in July 2016.

**Melanie Newton** won the Faculty of Arts and Sciences Outstanding Teaching Award for 2015-16. The FAS award recognizes outstanding undergraduate teaching.

**Alexey Golubev** (PhD University of British Columbia) has been awarded the very prestigious Banting Post Doctoral Fellowship. He will be working with Lynne Viola.

**Daniel Poitras** (PhD Université de Montréal), has been awarded a SSHRC postdoc for the next two years. He will be working with Sean Mills.

## Graduate Student News

**Kevin Woodger** presented his paper “One of the Finest Sources of Recruits: Canada’s Uniformed Youth Movements during the Second World War” at the New Frontiers Conference at York University.

**Kassandra Luciuk** serves as the GHS President and **Kelsey Kilgore** as Vice President.

Congratulations to current MA students **Eric Pecile** and **Alison MacAulay**, who will begin their PhD studies this fall at U of T.

**Alex Logue, Melanie Balfour, and Robin Sutherland Harris** lead the History Teaching and Learning Peer Group (HTLPG). The HTLPG is a group for Teaching Assistants and Course Instructors to discuss issues regarding teaching and other aspects associated with it.

**Gavin Wiens** serves as editor of *Past Tense: Graduate Review of History* in the 2016 winter semester.

**Comprehensive fields and language requirements** have been revised for new and incoming students. The fields now recognize the breadth of studies currently carried out by students and faculty in the department.

The Travelling Fellowships were established upon Professor Brown’s retirement in 1998. In 2015, Professor Brown celebrated his 80th birthday—coincidentally, this was when the total number of recipients of the fellowships reached 80, as well. Winners this year include:

**Ryan Buchanan**, a third year PhD candidate conducting archival research in St. Petersburg

**Marilyn Campeau** (top picture, below), a third year PhD candidate, working in Germany and Moscow

**William Fysh** (middle picture, below), a PhD candidate whose research focuses on the history of photography and decolonization of France and the French colonies during the long 1960s

**Aleksandra Pomiecko**, a third year PhD student focusing on Eastern Europe

**Julia Rombough** (bottom picture, below) a third year PhD student who studies genders, institutions, and the senses in Early Modern Italy



## Recent Books by History Faculty

Robert Bothwell, *Your Country, My Country: A Unified History of the United States and Canada* (2015)

Li Chen, *Chinese Law in Imperial Eyes: Sovereignty, Justice and Transcultural Politics* (2016)

Kevin Coleman, *A Camera in the Garden of Eden: The Self-Forging of the Banana Republic* (2016)

Eric Jennings, *La France libre fut africaine* (2014)

Jacques Kornberg, *The Pope's Dilemma: Pius XII Faces Atrocities and Genocide in the Second World War* (2015)

Paul Robert Magosci, *This Blessed Land: Crimea & the Crimean Tatars* (2014)

Michael R. Marrus, *Lessons of the Holocaust* (2016)

Sean Mills, *A Place in the Sun: Haiti, Haitians, and the Remaking of Quebec* (2016)

James Retallack, *Germany's Second Reich: Portraits and Pathways* (2015)

Alison K. Smith, *For the Common Good and Their Own Well Being: Social Estates in Imperial Russia* (2014)

Nicholas Terpstra, *Religious Refugees in the Early Modern World: An Alternative History of the Reformation* (2015)

Luis Van Isschot, *The Social Origins of Human Rights: Contesting Political Violence in Colombia's Oil Capital, 1919-2010* (2015).

## Recent PhD successes!

**Dr. Camille Bégin**, Plaques and Markers Coordinator, Heritage Toronto

**Dr. Auri Berg**, Research Manager, Dow Jones

**Dr. Samuel Cohen**, Assistant Professor, Sonoma State University

**Dr. Katie Edwards**, Assistant Professor, Tulane University

**Dr. Svitlana Frunchak**, Exchange Officer, Centre for International Experience, University of Toronto

**Dr. Jodie Giesbrecht**, Manager, Research and Curation, Canadian Museum for Human Rights

**Dr. Stacy Hushion**, Special Assistant to Councillor Jaye Robinson, City of Toronto

**Dr. Stefanie Kennedy**, Assistant Professor, University of New Brunswick

**Dr. Sarah Loose**, Assistant Professor, Brigham Young University

**Dr. Kathryn Segesser**, International Officer, Maynooth University

**Dr. Candace Sobers**, Assistant Professor, Carleton University

# UNDERGRADUATES AT UT

## *UTM Undergraduates Take on the History Profession*



The UTM history internship program is currently being overseen by Elspeth Brown, associate professor of historical studies and history. Professor Brown took on the program in summer 2015 and currently teaches the class connected to the internship program.

Eight fourth year undergraduate students are now completing projects in the Greater Toronto area. Students work 150 hours at their placements throughout the academic year in addition to attending weekly classes.



Students who earned these internships interviewed last spring to discuss their research interests. The Students this year are placed at the Royal Ontario Museum, Heritage Mississauga, Heritage Toronto, the Cultural Planning division of the City of Mississauga, the Oakville Museum, the Peel Art Gallery, Museum and Archives (PAMA), the Canadian Arab Institute, and the

Sports Council of Mississauga. Their projects range from researching the history of black settlement in Peel to developing a walking tour concerning the history of Chilean migration to Toronto.

One student, Rachel Wedekind, volunteered at the ROM. The pictures above show her visual interpretation of her experience. Students have also contributed reports on their internships at the course website: <http://sites.utm.utoronto.ca/historyinternships/>

### *News from the History Students Association, UTSG*

*The Future of History* is the Undergraduate Journal. Deadlines for submission is January 31<sup>st</sup> every year. The journal is run by the HSA. This year's sixth edition co-editors are Haley O'Shaughnessy and Ana Gonzalez. The HSA published a special edition of the journal of history in 2016. You can read a version online on the HAS website.

**Priyanka Soundranayagam** serves as HSA President. Others members of the executive included Harshita Singh, Graham Coulter, Haley O'Shaughnessy, Max Laurin, Ana Gonzalez, Emily Brade, Sevda, Sparks, Rachel Tidlund, Janet Lee, Christian Crawford, (Meghan, Ailif, unknown)

Each year the HSA sponsors a **Mentorship program** for lower level students. Mentors are responsible for providing help to lower level students in regards to questions about history courses, writing and researching in history, and the history department in general.

## **b2B: Backpack to Briefcase**

What do you do with a BA in history? For the last several years, the Department of History has taken part in the Backpack to Briefcase program through the Faculty of Arts and Science to help current students answer that question. Undergraduate students in history are invited to a series of workshops and other events through the course of the year in which they can learn about possible career paths. What makes this program different than other career training opportunities is the participation of UT history alumni, who share their personal experiences of moving from a BA in history from UT into all sorts of different careers.

One of the regular features of the program are mentorship meals, in which a small group of undergraduates join several faculty members and alumni to talk about their future plans. The meals give students a chance to hear about how people who were in their shoes negotiated the transition from school (backpack) to career (briefcase).

The experience of meeting alumni has been invaluable for our students. What do you do with a BA in history? Judging by our alumni, almost anything.

### ***Brutalities of Progress: Resistance, Revolution & Social Movement***

The History Student Association held its annual conference, “Brutalities of Progress: Resistance, Revolution & Social Movement,” on January 30, 2016. The programmers hoped to “explore the dynamics of resistance across transnational borders, and in different historical contexts [and]

to problematize the idea of ‘progress,’ and to relate issues of the past to those of the present.” Dr. Rinaldo Walcott, Director of the Women’s and Gender Studies Institute, delivered the keynote address. His research focuses on Black Diaspora Cultural Studies, with an emphasis on queer sexualities, masculinity and cultural politics. His keynote specifically addressed social movements of the last century. After, there were three panel discussions on East and South Asia, the Middle East and North Africa, and Central and Latin America.

