

QUADRIVIA

The HPRC Newsletter



August 2005

Editorial

Another semester is well under way and despite the recent unsettling news (see the Head of School's report below), the school seems to be running along in the usual fashion. Students are being taught, articles are being written, forms are being filled out and cups of over-priced coffee are being enthusiastically drunk. Without wishing to trivialize our troubles, we at Quadrivia will continue to keep our chins up and wear a rumpled, Alfred E. Neuman-inspired "what, me worry?" smile on our faces. Things might look grim, but there's no sign yet that any of us are going to suffer a Bruno Giordano or Galileo-style fate. By all means, we should continue to fight the good fight and vigorously defend the social and educational validity of our disciplines. But let's not lose sight of the lighter side of life through all the gloom and doom.

This month's issue contains all the usual information about seminars and other upcoming events, as well as travel reports, fellowship and job opportunities, and stories of the weird and wonderful ways HPRCers choose to spend their free time. Please keep the materials coming. Photos are particularly welcome.



Cheers,
Your editors,
Frank Zelko (f.zelko@uq.edu.au)
Serena Bagley (s.bagley@uq.edu.au)

Head of School's Report

My overarching concern over the past five weeks has been the re-structuring of the School. As most of you will know, a series of meetings has taken place with the School Change Management Consultative Committee. I am now in the process of managing the early VSP round and putting final touches to the formal re-structuring proposal. I would hope to have the final document to you all by August 26 at the latest. Needless to say this has been the most difficult task I have undertaken in my twenty years as a Head of Department or Head of School. I can only say that the outcomes are the best possible I have been able to bring about.

My term as Head of School ends on August 26, and hence my last newsletter. This is an event I look forward to without any regret. I will be acting Executive Dean for the period September 5 to October 14 so will no doubt continue to be involved in the affairs of the School for some little time yet. I then look forward to a long period of research without teaching or administrative responsibilities.

I take the opportunity to thank all those who assisted me in the role of Head of School over the past five years. There are of course too many to name. But I would like especially to mention Grace who as School Manager was an ever willing contributor, and Clive Moore who over many years served as Director of Undergraduate Studies.

I wish Richard Hutch well in his new role which he will assume on August 29, and I wish all staff well as we move, after the troubles of the re-structuring, into a new and I hope happier time for the School.

Philip Almond

News & Upcoming Events

Congratulations to **Renee Brodie**, who has just been awarded the degree of Doctor of Philosophy. Her thesis, which was supervised by Lynne Hume, was titled: "The Kabalarian Philosophy: Charismatic Control and Sexual Convictions." It focused on a new religious movement in Canada.

Crossroads

Crossroads is a new E-Journal produced by postgraduate students in HPRC. It is a cross-disciplinary journal which will publish articles submitted by postgraduates from all disciplines, as well as the best essays written by honours and final year undergraduate students. To ensure the highest standards, articles submitted by postgraduates will be blind reviewed. The editorial committee of *Crossroads* is seeking help in putting together a list of potential reviewers. Please inform the editorial committee if you have any national or international colleagues who might be amenable to a request from *Crossroads* to act in this role. Please send all information to: crossroads@uq.edu.au.

EPRG News

The EPRG is the European Philosophy Research Group in the UQ School of History, Philosophy, Religion and Classics (HPRC).

All members of the EPRG were active at this year's annual Australasian Association of Continental Philosophy Conference at the University of New South Wales in June. The theme of the conference was *The Politics of Being*. HPRC presenters included Marguerite La Caze ("The Asymmetry between Apology and Forgiveness") and Michelle Boulous Walker ("Love, Ethics and Authenticity: A Lesson in What it Means to Read?"). Aurelia Armstrong chaired a session on Benjamin and Kant, and Simon Duffy organised and chaired a panel on his edited collection *Virtual Mathematics: The Logic of Difference*, which will soon be released by Clinamen Press (UK). Postgraduate students who also gave papers included Richard Colledge and Paul Formosa. The participation of Angela Hirst and Martyn Lloyd also deserves notable mention.

Forthcoming EPRG events:

Anne Freadman will lead a seminar entitled "Is Lyotard's 'Le Différend' about genre?", from 4 to 5.30pm, Tuesday 30 August, in the CCCS Seminar Room. For further details please contact Simon Duffy at sbd@uq.edu.au

Jean-Paul Sartre (1905-1985) Centenary, Friday 11th November, 2005

A one-day conference at UQ in celebration of the centenary of Sartre's birth. Speakers include Jennifer Ang Mei Sze, Michelle Boulous Walker, Paul Crittenden, Greg Hainge, Joe Hardwick, Diane Josey, and Marguerite La Caze. Further details can be found on the webpage: <http://www.ched.uq.edu.au/eprg.html> or contact Marguerite La Caze at m.lacaze@uq.edu.au

PHILOSOPHY STAFF STUDENT SEMINARS**Semester 2 2005**

Please note change of venue
FRIDAYS, 3PM, ROOM E219 FORGAN SMITH
BUILDING

PLEASE NOTE: THIS SCHEDULE MAY CHANGE AS
REQUIRED

12 August

Mark Colyvan

Dutch Books and Bayesian Representation Theorems

19 August

Avi Tucker

Our Knowledge of the Past: Or how to prove that your
students plagiarized?

26 August

Michelle Boulous Walker

Love, Ethics and Authenticity: A lesson in what it might
mean to read(?)

2 September

Dipasikha Chakraborty

Title TBA

9 September

Rosalind Diprose

Title TBA

16 September

John Mattick

The emergent properties of life

23 September

Ben Blumson

Title TBA

30 September

Jason Grossman

Title TBA

14 October

David Braddon-Mitchell

Title TBA

21 October

Andrew Schaap

Title TBA

28 October
Caroline West
Title TBA

4 November
Michael Devitt
Title TBA

HISTORY STAFF STUDENT SEMINARS

Semester 2 2005

Thursdays, 4.15pm, Room E302 Forgan Smith Building

18 August
Professor John Moorhead
Accessing Texts in Late Antiquity

1 September
Professor Kay Saunders
Beauty in the Services of Philanthropy: Tensions and Resolutions in the Miss Australia Quest 1945 -2000

15 September
Dr. Leigh Dale (EMSAH)
Shades of Grey: Sir George Grey, 1812-1898

6 October
Jessica Harriden (PhD student)
Aspects of Burma

20 October
Associate Professor Clive Moore
The Misappropriation of Malaitan Labour: Historical Origins of the Recent Solomon Islands Crisis

CLASSICS AND ANCIENT HISTORY RESEARCH SEMINAR SERIES

Fridays, 3.30pm, Room 323 Michie Building
The seminars are followed by wine and cheese in the dining area of Michie Level 3 (gold coin donation). Everyone is welcome.

Week 2 (Friday 5 August)
Jennifer Manley: "Caring for the ill in the Roman world: ideology and social security"
& Jessica Suess: "Cultivation of *genius Augusti*: its role and significance in the early imperial cult"

Week 3 (Friday 12 August)

Scott Robertson: "Plagiarism or contrast: The case for the Column of Marcus Aurelius"
& David Gor: "*Virtus Illyrici*: the rise of Rome's Danubian armies"

Week 5 (Friday 26 August)

John Ratcliffe: "A stabbing pain in the neck: Roman attempts at assassination"

Week 7 (Friday 9 September)

Bob Milns: "Alexander the Great in western art"

Week 9 (Friday 23 September)

Ian Nibloe: "The art of poison in the first century of the Roman empire"

Week 10 (Friday 7 October)

Cam Battersby: "Surgical reflections on the death of Alexander the Great"
& Paula Johnson: "Defeat and disgrace in Livy"

Week 12 (Friday 21 October)

Sandra Christou: "Plank Figurines: sexually equivocal imagery for Bronze Age Cyprus"

Week 13 (Friday 28 October)

Liz Crane: "Food in Roman Britain"
& Marcel Prota: "Caesar and his *Gallic War*"

Any queries please to either Prof. Tim Parkin, Michie 315 (tel. 336-52698; email t.parkin@uq.edu.au) or Dr. Tom Stevenson, Michie 319 (tel. 336-53143; email t.stevenson@uq.edu.au)

Out and About

Kudos to Kay Saunders, who recently attended the National Museum of Australia's "Australian History Mystery" day. The event drew students from 20 Southeast Queensland schools and was undoubtedly fertile recruiting ground for future history students at UQ.

Michael Barr filed the following report after spending a month in Singapore as a Visiting Affiliate of the Asia Research Institute (ARI).

The primary purpose of my visit to ARI was to direct the organisation of the 'Paths Not Taken' symposium on political pluralism in post-war Singapore, which was the culmination of my ARC project with Carl Trocki (QUT), Lily Rahim and Yao Souchou (both University of Sydney). Carl and I were the main co-ordinators of the symposium, which was hosted by ARI. The symposium was designed as a workshop for about 30 academics to sit around a table and talk, so the only publicity was a standard email notice

generated by ARI and sent through the usual university channels. However, a few days before the event the venue had to be changed to accommodate the 150 people who had registered. The symposium's theme clearly hit a raw nerve. Conference highlights included papers on the post-war Malay arts scene, the Malayan Communist Party, the women's movement, cosmopolitanism and internationalism, student movements, Malay politics, the left-wing trade unions of the 1950s-60s, the demise of the free press and the Chinese political movements (conservative, leftist and communist). In short we covered quite a few of the 'taboo' topics of Singapore history, and a few that have been buried so deep under the official story of Singapore's history that most people are not even aware that they are there.

My own paper was the most politically sensitive and consequently it was one of the best attended sessions. It was a history of the Catholic social activist movements of the 1970s and 1980s that culminated in Singapore's last (for the moment) round of detentions in 1987. This was the first time that anyone outside the government had ever spoken about the detentions in public in Singapore and it was the first attempt to construct a history of the Catholic movement that precipitated this pivotal round of detentions. It had a fairly intense reception because everyone assumed that there was someone there who would be reporting to the authorities, and most people were also aware that the two longest serving detainees from that episode were also in the room. Fortunately there were no arrests (always a good sign) and the paper sparked off stimulating discussion and questions. We always hope that when we deliver papers at these conferences we will receive some really incisive feedback or questions that help us to develop our thoughts better, but it doesn't usually happen like that. Well this time it did. The questions and discussions generated during the session and in other panels where people referred back to my paper have really developed aspects of my understanding of the context in which this took place.

The next step is turning the conference papers into a book, but all papers require significant revisions so it will take over a year to finally get a manuscript to Singapore University Press. I will be editing the book with Prof. Carl Trocki of QUT and probably Tim Harper of Cambridge. In the meantime people can visit our website at www.pathsnottaken.qut.edu.au.

The only downside of the trip was that I was so busy with the symposium I didn't get much research done and I had very little time off (though I did manage to attend my brother-in-law's wedding at the Shari'a Court, which was an education in itself).

Paul Griffiths had a busy July, attending both the International Society for Research on the Emotions (ISRE) meeting in Bari, Italy, and the International Society for

History, Philosophy and Social Studies of Biology (ISHPSSB) conference in Guelph, Canada. At the latter meeting he delivered a presentation on "Future Directions for the Interaction between the Humanities and the Biosciences" and presented UQ's proposal to host the 2009 biennial meeting of ISHPSSB, which attracts some 400 of the world's leading researchers. Paul reports that ISHPSSB will be conducting a site inspection in October, 2005. Please encourage your students not to go barefoot for those few weeks. It probably also wouldn't be a bad idea for someone to take care of the Ibis that's always smashing crockery and glasses at the staff club, as well as ensuring that the masked lapwings in the Great Court don't unduly harass the inspectors.

Renee Worringer spent a week in Beirut during the mid-semester break, conducting research at the American University in Beirut (AUB) Library. Although regrettably short, Renee reports that the trip was nonetheless fruitful.

Frank Zelko recently returned from a two month trip to Germany, where he attended a conference and conducted research on the German environmental movement.

The conference, "Historians' Nature," took place in Krefeld, a pleasant, unassuming town on the lower Rhine not far from Düsseldorf. Since the mid-1980s, Krefeld (the name means "crow field" for those of you who like to know such things) has regularly hosted conferences and symposia dealing with American and German history, and on this occasion the organizers invited thirty historians from across Germany and the United States, plus myself and a Canadian colleague, to present papers dealing with environmental history. The exhaustive (and sometimes exhausting) sessions lasted for over three hours, so that nobody could complain about not having the opportunity to have their say (though, of course, people still did). The gathering was a qualified success; most presentations were thoughtful and stimulating, but some stretched the bounds of environmental history to the point where it included virtually everything. Furthermore, discussions sometimes became bogged down in hoary debates about the meaning of "nature" and "environment." Nevertheless, there were enough quality papers for a viable volume, though I don't envy those who have to write a coherent introduction explaining the inclusion of subjects as disparate as the formation of Greenpeace International (my paper) and the social and ecological consequences of dike building in 16th century Schleswig-Holstein.

Since the conference is funded by the city of Krefeld, it is supposed to involve the town's citizens in some way. I was selected to participate in a public panel discussion, which drew several dozen interested Krefelders. Much to my relief, my German was up to the task and I got involved in a lively discussion about Greenpeace, which is a far greater

presence in German life than it is here (or almost anywhere else, for that matter).

On the final morning, we were sent off to various high schools in the area where we led history students in wide-ranging discussions dealing with environmental issues and American history and politics. The students—mostly 17 and 18 year olds—expressed deep concern about issues such as global warming, while also reflecting the ill-informed anti-Americanism that is prevalent throughout much of Europe. Hopefully, if nothing else, we managed to illustrate that the United States was a more complex nation than they assumed, thus at least forcing them to base their anti-Americanism on solid evidence rather than tabloid hearsay.

After Krefeld, I took the train to Hamburg, via Amsterdam, and spent several weeks at various archives in North Germany. Despite almost being levelled during the Second World War, Hamburg nonetheless remains an elegant, cultured city. The old city centre lies on the shores of the Binnen (inner) Alster, which is actually a river but looks more like a lake, while the lovely and somewhat larger Aussen (outer) Alster allows inner city residents to sail in the summer and ice skate in the winter. A series of canals flow through the city, connecting the Alster with the Elbe, where the Hamburg Harbour—Europe's second largest—dominates the scene. Part of my research involves examining how the expansion of this harbour in the 1960s and 1970s, with its attendant environmental problems, led to a local environmental movement that had national implications for Germany.

Opportunities

Lectureship in Modern European History, University of Auckland: Applications are invited for a Lectureship in Modern European History (excluding Britain), available from 1 January 2006, although a later start is negotiable. Applicants should expect to participate in the undergraduate teaching programme of the Department, including its 200 and 300-level courses in German history, and to undertake graduate supervision. Other teaching duties will be negotiated taking into account the research interests of the successful applicant.

Applicants should have a completed PhD in History. A strong publication record and successful university-level teaching experience are also desirable.

The University has an EEO policy and welcomes applications from all qualified persons.

For further information please contact Professor Barry Reay by email: bg.reay@auckland.ac.nz

Closing Date: 14 October 2005

Lecturer in History/American Studies, Flinders University

Academic Level B: \$59 393 - \$70 527 pa

Ref 05234 This position is available from 1 January 2006 on a continuing, full-time basis, with duties to be divided equally between the Departments of History and American Studies.

Expertise is sought in the history of the United States and in another field of historical scholarship, for example Latin American, Pacific or comparative history. The position will teach at all levels in the BA degree, contributing to major sequences of topics in each Department, will particularly demonstrate a current involvement in research and will be expected to participate in the research activities of the two departments.

Essential criteria include the successful completion or recent submission of a Ph.D. thesis, demonstrated undergraduate teaching skills in history, publication in refereed journals and commitment to a continuing research program.

Further information: the Secretary, Department of History, Ms Nada Lucia, telephone (08) 8201 2225 or email Nada.Lucia@flinders.edu.au, or to Professor DeBats (08) 8201 2358 or Dr David Lockwood (08) 8201 3852.

Applications for the above positions must address the specified selection criteria. Detailed position information (including selection criteria) and essential information for intending applicants must be obtained from the Jobs@Flinders website: <http://www.flinders.edu.au/employment> Applications must be lodged with Job Applications, Human Resources, Flinders University, GPO Box 2100, Adelaide SA 5001 by 5.00pm, Monday, 29 August 2005.

Women are encouraged to apply

Publication:

The Australian HES, Wednesday 3 August 2005

The National Archives is offering several paid scholarships for university students to undertake a six-week summer research project at the National Archives in Canberra. Each scholarship includes accommodation, travel costs, \$300 per week for expenses and full use of the Archives' facilities.

Eligibility

At the time of taking up their scholarship, students must be enrolled in, or be planning to enrol in

- an undergraduate degree, year 3 or 4
- an undergraduate honours degree

- a graduate diploma
- a postgraduate Masters or PhD degree year 1

Their studies should include a major in 20th Century Australian history, politics, social studies, or similar subject. Students must be Australian residents and must be studying within Australia.

For further information, please consult www.naa.gov.au or email julie.akmacic@naa.gov.au

T-Shirt Competition



Human Interest

Renee Worringer reports that she and her handsome Belgian Shepherd, Sulu, recently took first place, and thus HIT, or "High-In-Trial" at a sheepherding trial in Toowoomba. Husband Steve, partnered by the equally photogenic Spock, did not manage to qualify but both nonetheless enjoyed chasing sheep around the paddock. Renee and Sulu actually beat a 3-sheep trialer and his border collie so it was a very sweet victory.

A few weeks later, the dogs were at it again, this time in the Logan area. In addition to sheep, they successfully herded an obstreperous flock of ducks through the obstacle course (see photos below). Both dogs qualified with good runs but no placements. Once the ducks were back on the pond, Steve and Spock took 1st place on sheep, while Renee and Sulu managed to qualify again.

