

Higher Education, September 18, 1998.

Susan Lawrence is coming off a year of substantial service to the department and the university. She completed a two-year term as the department's Director of Graduate Studies, ending in spring, 1998. She also served as secretary for the Faculty Senate last academic year and began a term on the Council on Teaching in the fall, 1998. In the College of Medicine she is collaborating with Dean Richard Nelson on a sesquicentennial volume dealing with the beginnings of professional medical practice in Iowa. Her own research continues on a major study of the history of anatomy and images of the body in 18th and 19th century medical education. She was invited to participate in the 23rd Annual Taniguchi Symposium in Seoul, Korea last July. The focus of her presentation was the development of a general education course on "Science and Medicine in World Perspective."

Deirdre McCloskey continues to ruminate on "bourgeois virtue," historically and philosophically. Her presidential address to the Economic History Association this September was entitled just that, "Bourgeois Virtue in Economic History," an appeal to take what she calls the S-variables of sociology and solidarity as seriously as the P-variables of profit and prudence. She is publishing articles on the subject, but hopes to make a book.

Paula Michaels, a new member of the department, is currently working on a study of medicine in Soviet Kazakstan during the Stalin era. The book explores how the Soviet government used medical policy and medical personnel to refashion Kazak identity during a period of tremendous cultural, social, and economic upheaval. Like British

medical missionaries in India, South Africa, and elsewhere, Soviet medical workers brought to the Central Asian republic of Kazakstan urban, European ideas about health and disease, modernity and primitiveness, progress and backwardness. Through doctor-patient encounters and hygiene propaganda, the Soviet government worked to teach Kazaks to view their bodies as dirty and their customary way of life as a relic of a dark past. The study addresses issues of center-periphery relations, the creation of a pan-Soviet identity, and the unfolding of Soviet policies in a multiethnic setting. Michaels merges history and anthropology in this study of the Soviet Union as a colonial, imperial system. Upon completing this book, she plans to explore related themes in a study of gender and ethnicity in Soviet film.

Ellen G. Millender organized a colloquium on "New Perspectives on Spartan Women" at the annual meeting of the American Philological Association and the Archaeological Institute of America in Washington D.C. in December, 1998. The paper she delivered on the panel was entitled "Exercise, Nudity, and Spartan Female Sexual License: A Reconsideration." Early next year her article, "Athenian Ideology and the Empowered Spartan Woman," will be published in *Sparta: New Perspectives*. She is currently completing an article on Spartan literacy and revising her dissertation, entitled "The Teacher of Hellas': Athenian Democratic Ideology and the 'Barbarization' of Sparta in Fifth-Century Greek Thought," for publication.

Mark Peterson's current research is focused on "Boston in the Atlantic World, 1630-1860," and uses Boston as a vantage point for exploring the relationship between two major transformations taking place in this era—the rise of evan-

gelical religion and the "birth of a consumer society." Following Weber, historians have emphasized how a "Protestant ethic" created a culture of discipline necessary to transform the productive capacities of Western Europe and North America. But recent scholarship suggests that a consumer revolution preceded and drove the industrial revolution, that demand came first. Since we lack a fully satisfactory explanation of the origins of this "demand revolution," this project attempts to explore the construction of desire in early America, and along the way, to recast the narrative of Boston and New England history by situating it in an Atlantic context. Peterson was awarded a research fellowship at the Charles Warren Center, Harvard University. His first book, *The Price of Redemption: The Spiritual Economy of Puritan New England*, from Stanford University Press came out in January (1998). Other publications include an article, "Puritanism and Gentility in Early New England: Reflections on Communion silver," in a forthcoming conference volume from the Colonial Society of Massachusetts, and "The Plymouth Church and the Evolution of Puritan Religious Culture," *New England Quarterly*, 66 (1998: pp. 570-93).

Jacki Thompson Rand is making a smooth transition, with support from new colleagues and friends, following her arrival at The University of Iowa in the fall 1998 where she holds the first formal joint appointment with the American Indian and Native Studies Program. She is currently working on a manuscript based on her dissertation that focuses on the Kiowa and Comanche reservation and allotment periods. She is also a contributor to a volume on *Theorizing American Indian History* and has recently presented papers at the Ethnohistory and American Historical Association conferences.

In the Spring of 1999, Rand will travel to Vaxjo, Sweden where she will be a keynote speaker at the inaugural conference of the University of Vaxjo American Studies Program.

Malcolm Rohrbough's *Days of Gold: The California Gold Rush and the American Nation* (University of California Press, 1997) analyzes the Gold Rush as a series of events that made it one of our most significant national experiences in the Nineteenth Century. At its annual meeting, The Mining History Association conferred on him the Rodman W. Paul Award "For Outstanding Contributions to Mining History." The book has also been recognized with Caughey Western History Association Award and from the OAH the Ray Allen Billington Prize. He spent Spring Semester 1998 as a Fellow at the Huntington Library, where he continued work on his study of the French and the California Gold Rush. He gave a plenary address, "The California Gold Rush as a National Event," for the opening of the Sesquicentennial Gold Rush exhibit at the Oakland County Museum in January 1998, and he served as the Presidential Lecturer at the Foundation Day Convocation at California State University-Chico in April 1998.

Johanna Schoen will be joining the department in the fall 1999, jointly appointed with the Women's Studies Program. She is a specialist in women's history, twentieth-century U.S. social history, and the history of women's reproductive health. She received her Ph.D. from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. During the past year she held a grant from the Social Sciences Research Council to revise her dissertation for publication as a book, which is tentatively titled, "A Great Thing for Poor Folks": *Birth Control, Sterilization, and Abortion in*

Public Health and Welfare in the Twentieth Century.

David Schoenbaum has spent the 1998-99 academic year as a fellow of the Netherlands Institute for Advanced Study. He continues work on a social history of the violin, which is under contract to a "good New York trade book publisher." He has done recent pieces for NPR and the *New York Times* (on Isaac Stern's master class) and for *The Economist* and *NRC-Handelsblad*.

Leslie A. Schwalm's recently-published book, *A Hard Fight for We: Women's Transition from Slavery to Freedom in South Carolina* (1997), places African American women at the center of the story of the South's transition from slavery to freedom during and after the Civil War. Challenging the notion that enslaved women were passive recipients of the Union's military victory, Schwalm demonstrates how enslaved women accelerated the wartime collapse of slavery, and explores freedwomen's efforts both to define and to defend black freedom in the aftermath of war and emancipation. A sweeping view of southern African American women's history that takes us from their experience of slavery through the Civil War and the early years of Reconstruction, Schwalm's book offers a new, gendered perspective on the critical matter of the transition from slavery to freedom in the American South. This is a topic that she further pursues in an article recently published in the *Journal of Women's History*, "Sweet Dreams of Freedom": Women's Reconstruction of Life and Labor in Lowcountry South Carolina" (1977). In this essay Schwalm demonstrates freedwomen's extensive labor activism in the postwar South, both in plantation fields and in planter homes. Schwalm argues that freedwomen's determined efforts to alter the nature and organization of

their work in the aftermath of slavery's destruction reveals the intersection of gender and racial politics while also challenging our view of the "location" of political behavior to include freedpeople's homes as well as the fields and mansions where women worked to destroy the social relationships that had defined their experience of slavery.

Schwalm's current book project studies the wartime relocation and migration of slaves from the South to the Midwest, in order to explore the national implications of emancipation, its direct impact on Midwestern white and African American communities, and to better understand the gender and racial politics of emancipation policy in the North. Her work on this project led to the award of the University's May Brodbeck Humanities Fellowship in 1996. She was awarded an NEH Fellowship for 1999-2000 and has been named a University of Iowa Faculty Scholar (2000-2003). She continues to work with the Women's Studies Program as they develop their new Ph.D. program, also serving as the department's Director of Undergraduate Studies, and teaching an exciting new graduate readings course this semester on African American Women's History.

Allen Steinberg was on leave during the 1997-98 academic year thanks to an NEH Fellowship. He is working on a book about murder, politics, scandal and reform in Progressive New York City.

Shelton Stromquist continues to serve as department chair and, as time allows, pursues his ongoing research interests in Progressive-era reform and working-class politics. His book, *Reinventing "the People": The Progressive Movement and the Class Question*, is completed in manuscript form and will be shortly sent out for review. He has plans to revive his study of working-class

politics that has taken a back seat of late. That project is tentatively titled *The Crucible of Class: The Transformation of Working-Class Political Culture in the Progressive Era, 1866-1922*. In the meantime, he has been co-editing three books over the past couple of years: *Unionizing the Jangles: Work and Community in the Twentieth-Century Meatpacking Industry*, with Marvin Bergman (1997), *Contesting the Master Narrative: Essays in Social History*, with Jeff Cox (1998), and *The Pullman Strike and the Crisis of the 1890s; Essays on Labor and Politics*, with Richard Schneirov and Nick Salvatore (1999). He chairs the Center for Recent United States History (CRUSH), is co-chair of the organizing committee of the new Labor and Working-Class History Association, and serves on the executive committee of the College of Liberal Arts.

Katherine Tachau completed her term on the Council of the Medieval Academy. She presented papers at Notre Dame; Lexington, Kentucky; Kalamazoo, Michigan (where she also co-organized four thematically linked sessions); and Pamplona, Spain in 1996-97. Most of these presentations dealt with the thirteenth-century illuminated manuscripts called "Bibles moralisées," the topic, too of her fall 1996 seminar from which two successful MA essays emerged. Her article, "God's Compass and *Vana Curiositas*: Scientific Study in the Old French *Bible Moralisée*," was accepted for the March, 1998 *Art Bulletin*. Also in press is a study of the sciences of perspective and astrology in Late Medieval Thought in the journal *Micrologus*, 5 (1997). A shorter article on her ongoing critical edition of Pierre Auriol's theological lectures from the early fourteenth century appeared this summer.

Stephen Vlastos's edited volume, *Mirror of Modernity: Invented Traditions of Modern Japan* (University of California Press), was released in March 1998. He was elected chair of NEAC, the Japan-Korea Council of the Association of Asian Studies, at the December (1997) meeting. In January, he served as faculty mentor to the Social Science Research Council Dissertation Workshop in Japanese Studies, and is in the second year of his appointment to the National Coordinating Committee of the AAS Library Committee. He continues to work on right wing rural movements in Japan in the early twentieth century.