Two Awards for Edmund Abaka

Edmund Abaka, associate professor of history, is the winner of two prestigious honors. First, he is the recipient of a J. William Fulbright Fellowship for the 2016-17 academic year. This will support his ongoing research, and will allow him to spend the academic year in Ghana. Second, he won the Fannie Lou Hamer & Kwame Nkrumah Award from the National Council of Black Studies. The award recognizes “outstanding academic leadership and service” to the field. Congratulations!

Eduardo Elena Edits Essay Collection

Eduardo Elena, associate professor of history, has co-edited with Paulina Alberto (University of Michigan) a new volume titled Rethinking Race in Modern Argentina which has been released by Cambridge University Press (2016). It covers a range of issues regarding race in modern Argentina and draws on history, anthropology, and literary and cultural studies to place Argentina in a larger conversation on race in Latin America. The collection thus contributes to rethinking race for other global contexts as well.
Amelia Hintzen, Ph.D has been named Ruth J. Simmons Postdoctoral Fellow at the Center for the Study of Slavery and Justice at Brown University. She will spend the 2016-17 year revising her dissertation, "Cultivating Resistance: Haitian-Dominican Communities and the Dominican Sugar Industry, 1915-1990." She will also participate in the National Endowment for the Humanities Spatial Humanities Institute entitled “Space and Place in Africana Studies.”

At winter commencement in December, Carolyn Zimmerman received her Ph.D. Congratulations to Dr. Zimmerman on this important accomplishment! Her dissertation was titled “Defeat and Re-Playing Renaissance Civil Identity: The Academy of the Intronati in Siena,” and it combines intellectual, cultural, and gender history while looking at sources, such as games, frequently ignored by modern historians.

Dominique Reill, associate professor of history, has been named a series editor for the Central European Studies Series published by Purdue University Press. Since it’s founding four decades ago, the series has been the only English-language series devoted primarily to the lands and peoples of the Habsburg Empire, its successor states, and those areas lying along its immediate periphery. By producing works of the highest quality the series tackles salient issues such as democratization, censorship, competing national narratives, and the aspirations and treatment of national minorities bear evidence to the continuity between the region’s past and present. Please congratulate her on this important professional accomplishment!

Guido Ruggiero delivered the 2016 Appleby Memorial Lecture at San Diego State University. His remarks, “On My Own Ignorance on the Italian Renaissance After Writing 600 Plus Pages,” were drawn from his latest book, Renaissance in Italy: A Social and Cultural History of the Rinascimento (Cambridge University Press, 2014). This is a high honor: previous speakers in this series included Natalie Zemon Davis, John Demos, and Kenneth Pomeranz.
Matthew Davidson (advisor Ramsey) has received funding to attend the Explore French Language Program in Trois-Rivières, Quebec. It is a five-week immersive language program which will support his research on Haiti.

Nelson Marques (advisor Ruggiero) has been awarded the Tinker Field Research Grant for 2016. These funds will support research on his dissertation which is titled “Re-Fashioning Soldiers: Warfare and Identity in the Portuguese Atlantic, 1624-1668.” The project seeks to demonstrate how the Portuguese Crown refashioned ideas and images of soldiers in the 17th century.

UNDERGRADUATE NEWS

Katrina Enoch, Raul Louriero, and Austin Skiera have been elected to the prestigious Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society.

Raul Louriero (pictured below on the left) was named Top Graduating Senior. His honors thesis was advised by Professor Don Spivey and put forth new arguments about the courts in the civil rights movement.

Hermann Beck Delivers Cooper Lecture

At the end of this semester, Professor Beck delivered his Cooper Lecture to a full crowd at the Miller Center for Judaic Studies. His engaging talk, “Before the Holocaust: Anti-Semitic Violence during the Nazi Seizure of Power,” drew from his extensive archival research on anti-Semitic violence in Germany in early 1933. This is part of ongoing work on the Nazi rise to power and will be part of a forthcoming monograph.

Steve Stein Retires

At the end of the academic year 2016-2017, we bid farewell to Professor Steve Stein, who is retiring after almost thirty-five years at the University of Miami.
The department is thrilled to announce the Jennifer Wollmann Prize for Outstanding Achievement in History has gone to Andrew Langen.

The department also recognizes Nikhita Allam with the Jennifer Wollmann Prize for Outstanding Performance in Civic Engagement.

Recognizing a Beloved Colleague

Before joining the UM faculty, Professor Stein held various other academic positions including in the Department of History at SUNY-Stony Brook, Stanford University, and as a research professor at the Universidad de Lima. A prominent scholar of modern Latin American history, Professor Stein’s scholarship has concentrated on the Andean countries and Argentina. He has written a number of books on Latin American history exploring the social and cultural history of Peru, and especially examining the evolution of popular groups in Lima throughout the twentieth century, and on the 1980s crisis in Peru. But perhaps nearest and dearest to his heart is his interest in the history of the Argentine wine industry, where he combines his scholarly talents with his oenophilia; he is not only a scholar of wine, he is also a wine connoisseur and famous for the many wine-tasting and appreciation courses he has offered to the Miami community for many years. He co-edited the first comprehensive treatment of the wine industry (2008). In the Department of History, Professor Stein taught varied and innovative courses on the history of modern Latin America including his vastly popular film courses. In addition to his many contributions to the Department of History, he has also served the College and the University in numerous capacities: as Assistant Provost for International Programs, Director of the International and Comparative studies program, Senior Associate Dean of Interdisciplinary Studies, and, from 2003-2009, the Director of the Center for Latin American Studies. He, and his panama hat, will be much missed!