Greetings from the Chair

As another academic year winds down, it’s fun to look back at our achievements and to re-familiarize yourself with department matters. Along with all of our new students, we have a new fulltime secretary, Laurie Peary. When you phone us, or stop by in person, be sure to introduce yourself to Laurie. Stay tuned for the next newsletter; we promise we’ll run her picture.

Dr. Thomas Baker

Phi Alpha Theta Inductees

Keagen M. Briggs
Jacob S. Frostick
Dakota D. Jewell
Andrea N. McGrath
Alexis M. Michael
Kelsey A. Newtown
Robin J. O’Hara
Matthew W. Smith

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The department offers several awards to students. Congratulations to the following:

**Departmental Scholars**
Liam Kingsley, Mahala Nyberg
Austin J. Raetz, Matthew W. Smith

**F. Roger Dunn Memorial Essay Award**
Amy Sullivan

**Robert and Katherine Briggs Scholarship**
Bailey Durham, Katrina Martin
Kelsey A. Newtown

**Father James Pennock Scholarship**
Mahala Nyberg, Austin J. Raetz

**Ilse J. Shaw History Award**
William Barr

**Roger L. Briggs Award**
Kelsey Cox

**Walter Wakefield Award**
Abigail M. Sexton

**John F. Schwaller Award**
Bailey Durham

We thank our donors for their generous support for these awards and scholarships.
Alumni News
Erin Cheney (‘13) has curated an exhibit titled, “St. Lawrence Academy to SUNY Potsdam: 200 years of Education” at the Potsdam Public Museum. The museum also houses the town’s cemetery records, a genealogical database that Katelyn Legacy (‘16) produced as an intern last year. A Master’s student at Simmons College, Katelyn has received an Oral History Internship at the JFK Presidential Library in Boston. John Liquori (‘12) is currently an Elementary and Middle School teacher in Florida. He was recently awarded “Marion County Rookie Teacher of the Year.” Eric Martell (‘14), a history graduate student at SUNY Albany, has published an article titled, “Defeat Is an Orphan: The Kennedy Administration and the Bureaucratic Tug-of-War over the Bay of Pigs” in the Federal History Journal. It is based on his Presidential Scholars project with Dr. Thomas Baker and Dr. Kevin Smith.

Faculty News
Dr. Thomas Baker was interviewed last September by Watertown-based WPBS for its documentary, “Discovering Watertown.” According to the Watertown Daily Times, the series features “old photos, film, historical re-enactments and interviews with residents who recall community milestones.” The producers contacted several historians, including Dr. Baker, to ensure “accuracy and breadth.”
Dr. Steven Stannish presented “The Soul’s Seduction in Early Christianity: The Savage Women in the Shepherd of Hermas” last November. He was also invited to give a talk following Wole Soyinka’s “The Bacchae of Euripides: A Communion Rite” at the Proscenium Theater. The production is part of the LoKo Festival.

Phil Alpha Theta
The annual Phi Alpha Theta dinner was held at the Trinity Episcopal Church in Potsdam in April. The inductees and their guests were treated to Dr. Sheila McIntyre and Dr. M. J. Heisey’s homemade cooking. Our guest speaker was Philip Paige (‘15), Assistant County Commissioner for St. Lawrence County. He received his Master’s Degree in Public Administration from Syracuse University’s Maxwell School last year. Founded in 1921 nationally, Phi Alpha Theta is the international honor society in history.
New Courses

HIST295: American Identities in Song explores the impact of music on the development of American history since the end of the Civil War with a focus on both protest songs and mainstream music. Taught by Dr. Kevin Smith

HIST395: Explorers Around the World surveys cross-cultural interactions from antiquity to present through geographical exploration. It examines how different cultures conceived of their locations via land, sea, and the larger cosmos. Taught by Dr. Geoffrey Clark

HIST395: Practicing Public History explores how the past is remembered, debated, and commemorated in social arenas outside the classroom – such as in museums, national parks, and tourism. Taught by Dr. M. J. Heisey

Learn more about studying history: www.potsdam.edu/academics/AAS/History

At the Museum

Dr. Thomas Baker and Erin Cheney ('13) held an archival workshop for local high school students at the Potsdam Town Museum this April. Students from the Little River School and the H. C. Williams Senior High School in Canton attended the event with H. C. Williams’ social studies teacher and Potsdam alum, Holly Ellis. Erin holds an M.A. in Public/Applied History from Southern New Hampshire University and is working on her Master in Library and Information Science from San Jose State University.

Student Internship

Liam Kingsley and Austin J. Raetz have been working with Dr. Sheila Mcintosh this spring to edit, annotate, and introduce a collection of writings by the 17th-century Puritan, Roger Williams. They are helping edit two parts of the collection: Williams’ spiritual guide for his wife (Experiments of Spiritual Life & Health, 1652) and a selection from his masterwork of ethnography (A Key into the Language of America, 1643). At the SUNY student research conference in Fredonia this April, they presented a poster detailing this work. The edited collection will be published from Wipf & Stock.

Next page: (top) Dr. Axel Fair-Schulz presenting “Robert Havemann: From Party Loyalist to East Germany’s Most Famous Marxist Dissident in the 1960s” at the Socialist History Conference at the University of East Anglia (UK) last February. (below) Dr. M. J. Heisey’s oral history students sharing their work at the Center for Diversity lounge last fall.
The History Association

The History Association provides students with a place and forum to meet and discuss topics in history and current affairs. It brings speakers to campus, organizes trips to sites of historical importance, and hosts mixers and other events. *The Potsdam Historian* is an annual history journal edited and published by the History Association. It features original student work and showcases the diversity of undergraduate research. Check out our past issues at: www.potsdam.edu/academics/AAS/History/historian

Get involved and stay connected. Please email Dr. Shiho Imai at imais@potsdam.edu with any information that you would like to add to our homepage or next newsletter.

SUNY Potsdam

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