New Professor of Russian History: Dr. Lynn Sargeant

The CSUF Department of History welcomes Dr. Lynn Sargeant, our new professor of Russian history. Lynn Sargeant began teaching at CSUF this fall, having taught previously at Colorado College (2001-3). In 2003-4, she was a postdoctoral fellow of the National Academy of Education and the Spencer Foundation. Trained as a musician at the University of Minnesota (B.S. 1989), she also has a degree in Russian Studies from the University of Washington (B.A. 1994). In 2001, she received her Ph.D. from Indiana University. Because of her own “provincial” upbringing (she is a native of North Dakota), Dr. Sargeant is particularly interested in cultural life in the Russian provinces. She is currently completing a book manuscript, Harmony and Discord: Music and the Transformation of Russian Cultural Life, 1801-1932, that looks not only at musical life in Moscow and St. Petersburg, the capital cities of Russia, but also at culture and education in locations as diverse as Tomsk, in central Siberia, Kazan, in the republic of Tatarstan, and Kharkiv, Odesa, and Poltava, Ukraine. Dr. Sargeant’s teaching interests include the whole of Russian history, from the medieval Rus’ to the latest developments in the Russian Federation and the other states of the former Soviet Union. On Tuesday, Nov. 9, 2004, Dr. Sargeant will give a talk, “Kashchei the Immortal: Music and the Revolution of 1905 in Russia,” in our CLIO CLUB series [Kashchei the Immortal is a one-act opera by Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov]. The talk will take place at The Old Spaghetti Factory in Fullerton on 110 E. Santa Fe Street, following a dinner at the same location. For information and reservations, contact Ms. Nancy Carson in the CSUF Department of History (H-815G) at (714) 278-4376 or at ncarson@fullerton.edu.

Footnotes? - Finding a Name for a Newsletter

In the fall semester of 2002, Dr. W. Clark Davis, Associate Professor in the CSUF Department of History, suggested that his department could use a newsletter of its own. To find a good name for this publication, he solicited suggestions from his colleagues. In the end, he and his co-editor agreed that Footnotes - the title that Dr. Davis himself had suggested - was the best one. When Dr. Davis unexpectedly passed away on February 4, 2003, the newsletter project was put on hold, and it took over a year to revive it. As a tribute to Dr. Davis, the editors of this newsletter have decided to preserve the name Footnotes - as well as the notion of its first advocate “that it [the newsletter] should be named Footnotes, but that it should most certainly not have any.”
This fall, a “changing of the guard” took place which involved several faculty members in the CSUF Department of History. The new Credential Program Advisor is Dr. Kristine Dennehy (Modern Japan), taking over from Dr. Nelson Woodard. The new Graduate Program Advisor is Dr. Robert McLain (New Imperial History), taking over from Dr. Jack Elenbaas. The new Faculty Library Coordinator is Dr. Heather McCrea (Modern Mexico), taking over from Dr. Nelson Woodard. Finally, the new Fulbright Program Advisor is Dr. Jochen Burgtorf (Medieval World History), taking over from Dr. Ron Harmon (CSUF Department of Modern Languages and Literatures). Many thanks to all former advisors and coordinators for their many years of hard work, and best wishes to their successors.

New Advisors and Coordinators


Insider News: Faculty Activities

Editors’ note: Two very different, but also very meaningful events involving faculty members from the CSUF Department of History will take place in the middle of November: On Tuesday, Nov. 16, 2004, from 10 a.m. to 12 noon, the Center for Oral and Public History (COPH; PLS-360) will host and Dr. Natalie Fousekis will moderate a CALIFORNIA STUDIES SYMPOSIUM HONORING THE CAREER OF CLARK DAVIS. For information, contact COPH at (714) 278-3580. ● On Wednesday, Nov. 17, 2004, from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. in the Titan Theatre (TSU), the CSUF European Studies Program will host and Dr. Cora Granata will moderate a EUROPEAN STUDIES COLLOQUIUM featuring representatives of several European consulates. For information, contact Dr. Cora Granata at (714) 278-3568.

From Fullerton to Zhengzhou

For the past few years, the CSUF Department of History, the CSUF Center for Oral and Public History (COPH), and the History Department at Zhengzhou University (Henan province, China), have been discussing the possibility of a joint Chinese Village Oral History Project. Thanks to the support of Dr. Tom Klammer (Dean of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences, CSUF), Dr. Bill Haddad (Chair of the CSUF Department of History), Dr. Art Hansen (Director of COPH), the support from many other colleagues, and especially thanks to the funding provided by Dr. Milton Gordon (President of CSUF) under the 2004/2005 University Planning Initiatives, this project has now started to move forward. In the summer of 2005, CSUF will send about ten faculty members and students from History, English, Anthropology, Political Science, and the Library (led by Dr. Laichen Sun and Dr. Art Hansen) to the village of Longquan (Dragon Spring; Xinxiang county, Henan province, China) to investigate its history as well as its socio-economic and cultural development. Zhengzhou University will send a certain number of faculty members, students, and interpreters. We hope that this project, which is intended to continue for many years, will contribute to the international reputation of the academic programs involved, pave the way for future collaboration between CSUF and Zhengzhou University, and lead to the establishment of an oral history program at Zhengzhou University. For further information, contact Dr. Laichen Sun at lsun@fullerton.edu.

Now Hiring: Three Searches

The CSUF Department of History is currently conducting three searches (tenure-track assistant professorships; date of appointment: August 2005) in the fields of Modern China, California, and Colonial America/U.S. to 1789. The application deadline is November 15, 2004. For further information, contact Ms. Nancy Carson in the CSUF Department of History (H-815G) at (714) 278-4376. For the benefit of those among our readers who are not intimately familiar with our department’s recent history: the history of Modern China used to be taught by our colleague Dr. Sam Kupper (who has retired to Arkansas); the field of California history, currently taught by Dr. Gordon Bakken and Dr. Wendy Elliott-Scheinberg, was, until early 2003 also represented by our colleague Dr. Clark Davis (†); and the history of Colonial America/U.S. to 1789 is still taught by our colleague Dr. Dave Van Deventer (who is participating in the Faculty Early Retirement Program). The department is looking forward to adding three new and exciting colleagues to the ranks of its full-time faculty.
Phi Alpha Theta and H(istory) S(tudent) A(ssociation) News

CSUF’s Theta Pi Chapter of Phi Alpha Theta, the History Honor Society, has received the society’s nation-wide BEST CHAPTER AWARD for 2004, continuing the proud tradition of this student club here at CSUF. • At the 2004 Annual Meeting of the Southwestern Social Science Association in Corpus Christi, Texas, two CSUF history students won the top awards in the BEN H. PROCTOR RESEARCH PAPER COMPETITION: Allison N. Frickert for her paper “The Unsolved Assassination of Juan Borgia, Duke of Gandia, 1497: An Exploration of Suspects and Motives” (European history) and Nicholas W. Schlenker for his paper “Western Efforts to Police the Levant in the Medieval Latin East and the Modern Lebanese Civil War” (world history). • This fall, the History Student Association continues its successful HISTORY AND FILM SERIES. On Friday, Nov. 19, 2004, at 7 p.m. in MH-689 on the CSUF campus, Professor Leland Bellot, Professor Ernest Toy, and Mr. George Pollak will discuss the recent movie “Master and Commander.” • TWELVE STUDENTS studying in our department will present papers at the 2005 Annual Meeting of the Southwestern Social Science Association in New Orleans, Louisiana. • Our ANNUAL BANQUET, co-sponsored by the Theta Pi Chapter of Phi Alpha Theta, the History Student Association, the History Alumni Association, and the CSUF Department of History, will take place on Friday, April 29, 2005, from 6 p.m. until 10 p.m., at Angelo’s and Vinci’s (550 N. Harbor Blvd., Fullerton, CA 92832). For information and reservations, contact Dr. Jochen Burgtorf in the CSUF Department of History (H-815C) at (714) 278-3560 or at jburgtorf@fullerton.edu. • CSUF’s Theta Pi Chapter of Phi Alpha Theta will have the honor of hosting the 2006 PHI ALPHA THETA REGIONAL MEETING here on the CSUF campus. Many fundraisers will be held in preparation of this exciting event.