

History Department News

The University of Maine

In Anti-Fascist Comedy, the Resistance Laughs Last: A Look at Michael Lang's Latest Project

This year, intellectual historian Michael Lang participated in “Laughing at Fascism, Power, and Authoritarianism,” a workshop organized by the editors of *Eastern European Jewish Studies*. The event, which took place at the Center for Jewish History in New York City, brought together scholars, comedians, and artists to explore the relationship between humor and anti-authoritarianism. Lang was one of fifteen participants that organizers selected from a large and diverse pool of applicants. Some of the more memorable and thought-provoking discussions, he recalled from the workshop, included a chamber pot embellished with Adolf Hitler’s face, an anti-Nazi musical parody of “Little Red Riding Hood,” and the present-day comic *Diaspora Boy*.

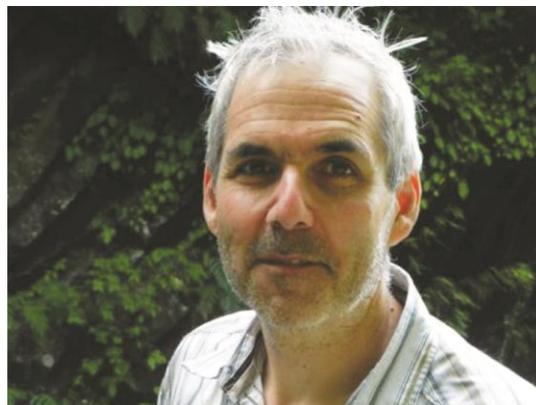


Photo courtesy of History Department.

Lang’s project, which he hopes to publish soon, examined *To Be or Not to Be*, a 1941 film, which parodies Nazism. Grounding his analysis in critical theory, Lang suggests that while many media products critical of the dominant culture inadvertently uphold rather than challenge the status quo, some can be legitimately subversive. Such is the case with *To Be or Not to Be*, the writers of which were active in the movement to extract loved ones and colleagues from Nazi-occupied Europe and intended the film as a call to action as well as a humorous critique of Nazi society. By mocking the Nazi salute and other microsocial elements of embodied fascism, Lang argues, *To Be or Not to Be* asks viewers to consider the ways in which the unexamined “aesthetics of everyday life” often serve to reinforce dominant power structures. When confronted and placed into a critical and farcical context, Lang suggests, they lose some of their power.

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Lang’s interest in *To Be or Not to Be* emerged out of a life-long love of film and by developing curricula and teaching courses in film history. Though his latest side project represents something of a departure from his primary work on globalization, it builds upon his interest in the critical theory of global discourse. It also allows him to expand upon his work on the 1970s film *Monsieur Klein*, which he argued used Nazi-occupied France to examine the way that state power and capitalism stifle empathy. Specifically, he looked at the Nazi use of ridicule as a tool of subjugation. That work was published as “It’s Only A Job: The Social Organization of Indifference in Losey’s ‘Mr. Klein,’” in 2010 in *Jura Gentium Cinema*, an online French film journal.

When asked about the present-day context of his research, Lang said that he considers cultural critique to be crucial in these turbulent times. “The discourse of democracy is in crisis right now,” says Lang, adding that respect for diversity is at the core of democracy, which provides a procedural mechanism for cultural difference to survive. Ultimately, he says, “meanings and ideas count.” Lang especially stresses the critical role played by universities in providing an intellectual space, especially for young people, to explore complex ideas and develop more thoughtful and informed approaches to present-day challenges. And that, we can all agree, is no laughing matter. For more on Lang’s research, visit his faculty page at <https://umaine.edu/history/people/michael-lang/>.

Notes from the Chair



Stephen Miller, Chair

As we approach the 100th anniversary of the November 11 armistice which brought an end to the fighting of World War I, I would like to share with you a few thoughts. Robert Graves, poet, biographer, classicist, and one-time officer in the Royal Welch Fusiliers, wrote of his experience in the Great War, “We held two irreconcilable beliefs: that the war would never end and that we would win it.”¹ This statement, I often tell my students, neatly sums up what so many soldiers must have felt during World War I. They were participating in a war of attrition: movement was limited, casualties amassed daily, the individual soldier could not possibly comprehend his role in the conflict. The war dragged on day after day, month after month, year after year. The Battle of Verdun alone lasted 302 days. The Battle of the Somme did not end for 141 days. Graves was wounded in one of its earlier battles at High Wood (Bois des Foureaux). On July 24, his twenty-first birthday, he wrote to his mother to tell her that although he was wounded, he was “all right.” When his mother received an official death notice, a few days later, which was followed by a

similar notice published in *The Times*, she did not know what to make of his letter. By that time, Graves was already on his way to a French hospital and then home to convalesce for three months before returning to the front. With dark humor, he noted in *Good-Bye To All That* that the greatest inconvenience caused by this “misunderstanding” was convincing the army to start paying him again. Focusing on the absurd was just one way Graves kept his sanity through this “War To End All Wars.” At the Somme, the British and their allies advanced six miles into German-held French territory. The cost, however, was enormous: more than 600,000 Entente casualties.

But were these beliefs, “that the war would never end and that we would win it,” truly irreconcilable? The British played a major role in drafting the terms which were dictated to the Central Powers and officially brought the war with the individual states of German, Austria, Hungary, Bulgaria, and the Ottoman

¹ If you came here after reading our paper newsletter, thanks. I included a note here because I wanted to tell a story about research, and it didn’t seem appropriate to tell it in the body of the main story. I jotted down Graves’s quote years ago when I first prepared a book discussion for his autobiographical, *Good-Bye To All That*. As I prepared to write this piece, I wanted to double check that I got the quote right. I found my dog-eared and heavily annotated copy of the book and started looking for the quote. After checking it three times and still not being able to find it, I turned to google. I found the quote I was looking for but then I noticed an interesting pattern: none of the sources I saw actually cited Graves. Was this one of those apocryphal quotes? The source the authors all cited was *The Great War and Modern Memory*, Paul Fussell’s 1975 investigation of language and wartime experience. But Fussell doesn’t cite Graves either. He cites George A. Panichas’s 1968 edited collection, *Promise of Greatness: The War of 1914–1918*. I tried various online sources to access that text and it seemed likely that Graves may have contributed to it, but I could not determine if that was the case. Unfortunately, Fogler Library does not own a copy, so I turned to interlibrary loan. It took almost a week to get the book from another library in Maine, but it arrived and, sure enough, on page 10, in Robert Graves’s “*The Kaiser’s War: A British Point of View*,” I found it!

Empire/Turkey to an end. They did, to an extent, “win” the war. But for many, the war did not end in 1918. There was hardly a family that did not suffer for some time from its consequences. After all, there were 8 1/2 million military deaths in the war, as well as significant civilian casualties, and another 20 million men were wounded in battle. The vacuum created by the disappearance of the Lost Generation shaped European history for the next twenty years. But immediate events continued to take their toll on Europe. The outbreak of Spanish Influenza in the last year of the war caused more casualties than the war itself. War soon erupted in the East where the Russian Civil War eventually pulled in most of its neighbors, Great Britain, Japan, and even the United States. The Greco-Turkish War and the Anglo-Irish War also broke out in 1919. An already exhausted Europe continued to face upheaval.

Since August 2014, events commemorating the centennial of the war have been taking place all over the world. Here in the United States, a large centennial event was held in Kansas City at The National World War I Museum and Memorial in April 2017 commemorating the United States’ entry into the Great War. The Pritzker Military Museum & Library in Chicago has worked with the United States World War One Centennial Commission to restore World War I memorials and name 100 official WWI Centennial Memorials across America. At the University of Maine, one of our history graduate students, Zachary Beals, in conjunction with the University of Maine VETS Office, has been working on a project which identifies and commemorates students and alumni who served in the military. He has identified 1700 men so far who fought in either or both the First World War and the Spanish American War and is currently working on obtaining more information about them. Forty-eight University of Maine students and alumni died in World War I, one of which, Harold T. Andrews, was the first casualty from the state of Maine.² As we approach the hundredth anniversary of the armistice, I hope everyone has the opportunity to reflect on the experiences of those like Robert Graves and appreciate that although the Great War was not in fact the “War To End All Wars,” the initial hopes of that phrase can still find meaning today.

Faculty Updates

Jay Bregman published “Synesius of Cyrene” in *A History of Mind and Body in Late Antiquity* and “From the Neoplatonizing Christian Gnosticism of Philip K. Dick to the Neoplatonizing Hermetic Gnosticism of Ralph Waldo Emerson” in *Platonic Pathways: Selected Papers from the Fourteenth Annual of the International Society for Neoplatonic Studies*. This May, he presented “The Imperial Cult of Sol Invictus in Late Antiquity” and, with UMaine Music Faculty Dan Barret and Nancy Ogle, performed in Don Stratton’s setting of Santayana’s “On Immortality,” both at the Foro di Studi Avanzati conference in Rome. In June, he was invited to present “Synesius, Hypatia, Patriarchs Theophilus and Cyril of Alexandria and the Conflict of Religions in Late Fourth and Early Fifth Century Alexandria” at Corpus Christi College, Oxford.

Elizabeth McKillen was on sabbatical leave during 2017–2018 and made headway on her new project on the trans-Atlantic ties that developed between Irish and Irish-American women labor leaders during the Irish Revolution (1916–1923). She especially enjoyed her time conducting research at the National Library of Ireland and sipping Guinness afterwards. She also published the following: “Socialist Party,” an 8500-word invited article for the online *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of American History* (July 2017); “Socialist Party,” an invited article for *Opposition to War: Encyclopedia of U.S. Peace and Antiwar Movements*, 598–601; and “Workers, Donald Trump, and U.S. Foreign Policy,” an invited article for the online *International Security Studies Forum* and *H-Diplo*.

² Andrews was killed at Cambrai in November 1917. The Battle of Cambrai is well known because it witnessed the first large-scale use of tanks in battle.

Stephen M. Miller published an article this summer, co-authored by Jessica P. Miller, entitled “Moral and Legal Prohibitions Against Pillage in the Context of the 1899 Hague Convention and the South African War,” which appeared in *War in History*. He also had another article, “British Surrenders and the South African War, 1899–1902,” accepted for publication in *War & Society*. He is currently researching Edgar Wallace’s career in South Africa. Wallace is best known for writing *King Kong* and *Sanders of the River*. Wallace got his start in South Africa as a journalist for Reuters and then the *Daily Mail* and covered some of the most significant events of the South African War like the relief of Mafeking and the Peace of Vereeniging.

Micah Pawling received the 2018 Canadian Historical Association prize for the best journal article in Indigenous history in 2017. The article is entitled, “*Wəlastəkwey* (Maliseet) Homeland: Waterscapes and Continuity within the Lower St. John River Valley, 1784–1900” and appeared in the Summer/Autumn 2017 issue of *Acadiensis*. Pawling also has a forthcoming article, “A ‘Labyrinth of Uncertainties’: Penobscot River Islands, Assignments, & Indigenous Women Proprietors in Nineteenth-Century Maine,” which will be published in volume *American Indian Quarterly* 42:4 later this year. Pawling was promoted to associate professor of history with tenure.

Liam Riordan’s current research explores the world of loyalists who opposed the rebels during the American Revolution. This includes organizing a loyalist session with two UMaine graduate students at the Atlantic Canada Studies conference in Wolfville, Nova Scotia, in May 2018; travel to Berlin to participate in a workshop about exile and emigration in the Age of Atlantic Revolutions, c. 1750–1830, in June; and publication of “A Loyalist Who Loved His Country Too Much: Thomas Hutchinson, Historian of Colonial Massachusetts” in *The New England Quarterly* in September 2017. He organizes the annual National History Day contest at UMaine for grade 6–12 students, and he is planning a conference to commemorate the state bicentennial, which will be open to the public. For more info, please visit: <https://digitalcommons.library.umaine.edu/me200/>

Howard Segal, with co-author Alan Marcus, published a third edition of *Technology in America*, which was released by Palgrave Macmillan in both the UK and the US in April 2018. It includes twenty-first-century developments, such as social media, climate change, hacking, and the creative economy and expands upon content related to globalization, Native American technologies, gender, and the environment.

Graduate Student Updates

Michael Brennan is spending his summer working on his dissertation and looks forward to presenting a chapter at the Massachusetts Historical Society’s environmental history seminar in April 2019.

Patrick Callaway won the Hunter Teaching Fellowship from the University of Maine graduate school for Spring 2018. He also presented conference papers at the Association for Canadian Studies in the United States Conference in October 2017 and at the Atlantic Canada Studies Conference in May 2018.

Justus Hillebrand sends his greetings from Germany where he is working on his dissertation under a co-tutelage agreement between the University of Maine and the University of Cologne, both of which will jointly confer his PhD upon successful completion of his program. He also received a prestigious two-year PhD scholarship from the Gerda Henkel Foundation to further his research on agricultural improvement and education in Maine and Westphalia, Germany, in the late nineteenth century.

Elisa Sance is currently working on her dissertation, entitled, “Language, Identity, and Citizenship: The Politics of Education in Madawaska, 1878–1920.” In October 2017, she presented at two conferences: the Association for Canadian Studies in the United States Conference in Las Vegas, NV, and the University of Maine-University of New Brunswick Annual History Graduate Student Conference in Fredericton, NB. The mini-units she collaborated with others to create for the Canadian Confederation Debates website are now available for download at <http://theconfederationdebates.ca/>. She was also awarded the Wiebke Ipsen–Marli Weiner Memorial Scholarship.

Emma Schroeder received a New England–Atlantic Provinces–Quebec Fellowship and taught “Everyday Life in America, 1600–1850” in Spring 2018 for the John J. Nolde Lectureship in History. She also presented at the Historians of the Twentieth Century United States Annual Conference in Cambridge. She is currently conducting oral history interviews and traveling to archives in Iowa, PEI, and Wales to research 1970s transnational feminist activism and the origins of ecological homes.

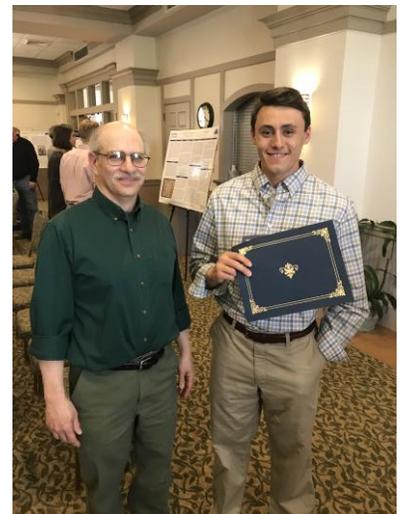
Dan Soucier received the Eliot Fellowship from the Mount Desert Island Historical Society to continue work in the spirit of the Champlain Society. He also was awarded a research fellowship from the National Society of the Colonial Dames and the Alice R. Stewart Research Fellowship in Canadian History from the Canadian-American Center at the University of Maine. Additionally, he collaborated with Douglas Reusch of the University of Maine at Farmington on a conference presentation entitled “‘Before Pangea’ Geoheritage Corridor, Quebec City to Gulf of Maine” and presented at the Geological Society of America, Northeastern Section Meeting in Burlington, VT.

Undergraduate Spotlight: Evan Myers

Class of 2018 history major and political science minor Evan Myers won the History Department’s best capstone prize for the fall of 2017 for his work on the impact of anti-Semitism and anti-communism on legislation related to refugee resettlement in the U.S. after the Holocaust. His research interests include World War II, the Cold War, and modern American history. Myers says that when he began his undergraduate career at UMaine, he was unsure of what he wanted to do, but he knew that history was his favorite subject in high school and so chose that for a major, a move he is glad he made.

His love of history was no doubt further nurtured by advisor Nathan Godfried, who had this to say about his student: “Evan was a welcomed addition to any class, providing sharp insights in his papers and class discussion. I am certain that his inquisitive and analytical mind and admirable communication skills will take him far.”

In addition to making his advisor and the History Department proud, Myers also enjoys snowboarding and watching the Red Sox, and when we checked in with him before graduation in back in May, he cited plans to get involved in politics and government here in Maine. The department wishes Myers the best of luck in his future endeavors and looks forward to hearing about all of the great things he will undoubtedly accomplish in years to come.



Evan Myers Nathan Godfried, at History Awards Ceremony.

Photo courtesy of Myers.

Change and Continuity in the History Department

If you visit the us this year (and we hope that you do), you may notice some new faces in Stevens Hall. In the past year, the History Department lost one and gained two faculty members. Richard Judd, after giving so much to his students and the department during his career, settled into a well-deserved retirement. Meanwhile, we are now joined by M. Asif Nawaz, who has a joint appointment with International Affairs, and Mary Freeman, who was brought on as a New England historian and will begin teaching in the department this fall. We are excited to see what they bring with them to the program and how they will shape the department in the coming years.

Meet Asif Nawaz

Asif Nawaz is an international security expert whose interdisciplinary work focuses on the history of modern terrorism and politics of the Middle East and South Asia. When asked about his area of specialization, he described himself as “half historian, half political scientist,” as he is trained in the methodologies of both disciplines. Nawaz, who earned his PhD in security studies from Kansas State University and is a finance and linguistic specialist in the US Army Reserves, combines his interdisciplinary and international affairs expertise, as well as his “real-world” experience, to study terrorist organizations and the rise of political Islam in the Muslim world. Mining historical data from traditional archival sources as well as new ones, such as the algorithm-based newspaper database GDELT, he uses quantitative group-level and country-level analysis to identify unique patterns in global terrorist activity and studies the use of political Islam as a policy instrument.

Nawaz, who is originally from Pakistan, is working on a historical analysis of relations between India and Pakistan, specifically in terms of border-crossing violations in the hotly contested Kashmir region. He is primarily interested in understanding how these countries have managed to avoid escalating their conflict over this region into full-scale nuclear war. He is also working on a co-authored paper on the impact of suicide bombing on trade and foreign direct investment with colleague Kristin Vekasi from the political science department.

Ultimately, Nawaz’s multifaceted research interests can be distilled into one important question with no easy answer: How does terrorism end? And he brings the insights he gleans from his pursuit of this question to his work as an educator and a practitioner. Nawaz has been teaching courses on terrorism and transnational security for over five years and will offer a history of modern terrorism course this fall and a non-western military history course next spring. He would also like to establish a full course on South Asian and Middle Eastern military history and is interested in leading faculty and student research trips to South Asia and the Middle East.

While completing his PhD, Nawaz moved to Maine with his wife, who teaches physics at the University of Maine. Nawaz loves it here and could not be happier with having joined the History faculty at UMaine. The feeling, of course, is mutual. If you’d like to get to know Nawaz a bit better or perhaps brush up on your knowledge of international affairs, maybe you could join him for a hike or a game of squash.



**Photo courtesy of
Asif Nawaz.**

Meet Mary Freeman



Photo courtesy of
Mary Freeman.

Mary Freeman, a historian of nineteenth-century United States, will be joining the History Department faculty in the fall semester of 2018. Having just wrapped up her PhD at Columbia University, she will be relocating from New York City to begin her new position. Freeman grew up in the Midcoast area of Maine and, as such, the move is something of a homecoming for her. It is also closer to the geographical locus of her research, which focuses on abolitionism in New England. Her current work involves antislavery correspondence and its role in providing an organizing outlet for abolitionists, especially African Americans and women, who were otherwise denied a strong voice in nineteenth-century politics. She intends to take full advantage of her relocation to Maine by expanding her work to include the state's black abolitionist history.

In addition to her research, Freeman also has a strong interest in public and digital history. As such, she intends to help the department expand its course offerings in local history, including that of the Bangor area, Orono, and the University of Maine. As part of this work, she is hoping to cultivate more meaningful relationships between the department—both students and faculty—and the broader community around public history projects. She will also be involved with the publication *Maine History*, which is produced in partnership between the Maine Historical Society and the UMaine History Department, the latter of which maintains the journal editorship.

One of the things she is most excited about in terms of her new role as bridge between the department and the community is the opportunity to introduce students to a wide variety of easily accessible primary sources related to the history of Maine. Engagement with primary sources is a key component in critical historical thinking, says Freeman, who considers it her most important goal as an educator to “encourage students to question dominant narratives and assumptions about American history to become independent historical thinkers” and to “prepare them to be informed, active citizens.” Freeman is very excited to pursue this calling at the University of Maine and looks forward to meeting students this fall.

When she is not teaching, researching abolitionism, or working on community-based projects, she hopes to continue trying new recipes (a favorite hobby) and spend more time outdoors. Invite her to your next potluck or hiking trip if you would like to get to know her a bit better.

Dick Judd Retires, Reflects on Career

After serving as a member of the UMaine history faculty for over thirty years, mentoring countless students at the graduate and undergraduate level, and authoring thirteen books and over two dozen articles, Dick Judd, it seems, has finally allowed himself to retire. The Michigan native and environmental historian has had an indisputably prolific career, which students, faculty, and other colleagues celebrated this May at a panel discussing the larger significance of his research. (Visit the department website to watch this event.)

Judd originally came to UMaine as a post-doc studying lumbering in northern Maine. A PhD graduate from the University of California-Irvine, he was working in Santa Cruz as an editor for the Forest History Society (FHS) and used his year at UMaine to do research for his first book. Three years later, he found himself at a crossroads. FHS was preparing to move to Durham, NC, and he was trying to decide whether

to go with them. Meanwhile, a faculty position opened up in the History Department at UMaine and, at his wife's urging, he decided to apply. In the end, Judd says he chose to "stay a yankee."

When asked about the trajectory of his career, Judd reflected on his early years as a labor historian with a strong Marxist theoretical foundation. As a graduate student, he had focused on Socialist Party municipal politics, but through his work at FHS and his Maine logging research found himself increasingly taken in by the questions environmental history was asking at that time. Being from a town and a family with strong ties to the logging industry and, later in life, finding himself part of a class-action lawsuit to shut down a polluting chemical company in his adopted town of Orrington, ME, only strengthened his interest in the field. While he maintains that, as a grad student, there was no way that he could have predicted such a seismic career shift, he also credited his early Marxist foundations for his strong interest in grassroots environmentalism.

Though Judd will miss teaching, he is looking forward to turning his attention to new projects, one of them being the role the New England land-trust movement played in democratizing American environmentalism and making a place for the preservation of the domesticated landscapes Judd wrote about extensively in *Second Nature*, his 2014 environmental history of New England. (For the record, he says he also plans to relax and get some use out of the new fire pit the department gifted him in honor of his retirement.) Though we will all miss regularly seeing Judd on campus, perhaps we can take comfort imagining him at his desk at 6:00 a.m., working on some new book project and reminding us that, while change over time is inevitable, so too is some degree of continuity.



Photo courtesy of
Dick Judd.

Alumni Spotlight: David Turpie, Editor and Historian



David Turpie (third from left) with KHS colleagues. Courtesy of David Turpie.

While many scholars understandably concern themselves with questions of how to get their work published, few consider what is involved in soliciting, curating, editing, and otherwise preparing the next generation of historians' research for publication. Some, however, find themselves walking in both worlds as editor-scholars, among them UMaine history graduate alumnus David Turpie.

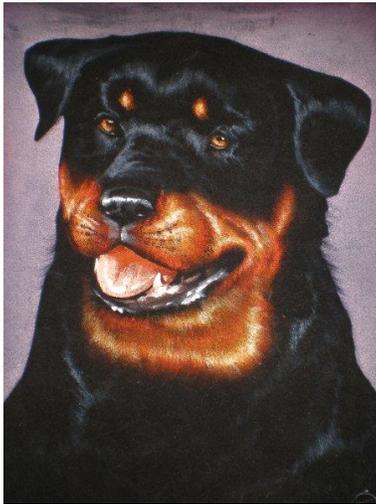
Turpie, who recently became the editor of the *Journal of Arizona History* and previously served as editor for the *Register of the Kentucky Historical Society* and *Maine History*, earned his doctorate from UMaine in 2010 under the direction of Elizabeth McKillen. His PhD research on southern opposition to the U.S. empire after the Spanish-American War challenged the notion of a unified North and South in the late nineteenth century. While his research on this topic continues, Turpie has steered his career in a direction

other than that of the tenured professorships sought by most in the field. As editor of a state history journal, Turpie occupies a special niche between the worlds of academic and public history. His efforts recruiting academic historians to do the work of state and local history while also at times guiding junior and amateur researchers to meet higher standards of professional scholarship do much to narrow the gulf that so often exists between those two worlds.

Though a scholar of southern history, Turpie cut his teeth editing manuscripts related to Maine and New England history while wrapping up his doctorate at UMaine. Taking seriously a colleague's advice that he should develop a skill other than teaching and research, he approached Dick Judd who had been editing *Maine History* for decades, occasionally with the help of graduate assistants, and offered to volunteer. Judd made him associate editor in 2010, and Turpie helped to copy-edit and proofread manuscripts. In 2011, Judd asked Turpie to take on a bigger role as co-editor so that he could prioritize his duties as department chair. Though Turpie was working full-time as an adjunct instructor, he took this equally low-paid "side gig" seriously, serving as editor for two and a half years, when a colleague notified him of an editorial position that had opened up with the journal of the Kentucky Historical Society (KHS). Turpie credits his graduate education at UMaine for providing him the skills needed to "think critically about sources, about the work of scholars, and about the ways different scholars approach their work," preparing him for work he would do with the *Register of the Kentucky Historical Society*.

While at KHS, Turpie's editing career evolved significantly. With new resources at his disposal, he used his qualifications and connections as an academic historian to expand and diversify the scope of the *Register* authorship and readership. Armed with a research fellowship program and a generous travel budget, Turpie attended conferences, recruited authors, and heavily promoted the journal. He even recruited several UMaine history graduate students and fellow alumni to conduct research, act as reviewers, and submit manuscripts. Among his many accomplishments there, Turpie is especially proud of having put together the first environmental history issue of the journal (a project in which his former mentor Dick Judd happily assisted).

While Turpie learned a great deal at KHS and even considered it a kind of second PhD program, he made the difficult decision earlier this year to leave for a higher-paying position with more of a direct leadership role at the Arizona Historical Society (AHS). There, Turpie serves not only as editor of the *Journal of Arizona History*, but also as director of the publications division, where he is working to edit and market a book series in addition to the journal. As a division director at AHS, he is part of the organization's senior leadership team. The History Department is incredibly proud of Turpie and sends its congratulations on this latest accomplishment.



**UMaine History Graduate
Mascot Rufus T. Stevens**

And for those who are relatively new to the History Department and wondering about the mysterious "Rufus T. Stevens" portrait featuring a lovable Rottweiler painted on velvet canvas, which hangs in the grad lounge, you can at least partially thank Dr. Turpie for that bit of humor. Discovered behind a cabinet in Stevens hall, he hung it outside of a faculty member's office where it went unnoticed for over a year before a janitor rescued it from disposal and returned it to Turpie and a colleague, who then proudly displayed it in the TA offices along with a museum placard describing its "historic origins" and artistic stylings. The Rufus meme stuck as stubbornly as the painting itself and remains an amusing departmental quirk, serving as fodder for jokes circulated among graduate students about the canine's extensive travels and latest research projects. Despite that bit of levity, Turpie would like to extend a

serious invitation to members of the UMaine history community (including Rufus) to visit him for research (or fun) in Tucson, AZ, perhaps some February or March when you have finally had enough of Maine's long winters. You can also follow him on Twitter at @dcturpie, where you can learn more about his work as an editor and public historian at the Arizona Historical Society. He would also be happy to discuss his experiences working outside the academy with current UMaine grad students, who can reach him at dturpie@azhs.gov.



Maine National History Day Competition, 2018. Clockwise: 1st Place, Senior Group Performance from Noble High School for "The Execution of Martha Carrier in Salem, 1692"; Awards Ceremony, Wells Conference Center; Maine NHD Judges from the Maine Masonic College; 2nd Place, Junior Group Exhibit from the Conners-Emerson School for "Race in Space"; 3rd Place, Senior Group Website for Bangor High School for "The War of 1812." Courtesy of Liam Riordan.

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This newsletter was produced by Eileen Hagerman, a doctoral candidate in history at the University of Maine. She takes full responsibility for any errors, omissions, or other shortcomings it may possess. If you have any questions or concerns, you can reach her at eileen.palmer@maine.edu.