

Back in business

Since 2001, students who wanted to earn a secondary education degree in preparation to becoming a high school history teacher couldn't obtain the degree at Iowa State.

The same was true for students who wanted to be high school government teachers.

That will change beginning in the fall of 2007 as Iowa State students may once again pursue teacher certification in secondary social sciences.

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, along with the College of Human Sciences, have designed a new licensure program to prepare secondary social studies teachers who possess a strong background in U.S. and world history.

Secondary education degree starts up again in the Department of History.

"The program will also allow students the option to pursue studies in social science disciplines such as political science, anthropology, sociology, economics and psychology," said Charles Dobbs, professor and chair of the Department of History.

"There is one major change in the program. To reflect the modern world we live in, the program will urge students to seek an international perspective as they select courses in the social sciences."

The revitalized program requires undergraduates to major in history or political science and minor either in history or one of the social science disciplines.

Students who choose to major in history will leave the program with teaching endorsements in U.S. history, world history and a social science area of choice. Those students who major in political science will have teaching endorsements in American government and either U.S. or world history.

The program also requires that students complete courses in educational theory and methodology offered by the Department of Curriculum and Instruction in the College of Human Sciences.

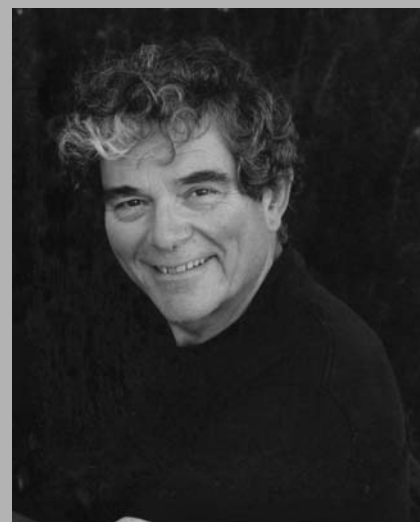
The social science departments are housed in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. The Department of History is serving as the lead program within the social sciences academic units.

Students that enter the program will have two advisers – one each for the history/social sciences component and another for the teacher education/licensure aspects. In addition, a new faculty position will be added in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction. That individual will teach history and social science pedagogical methods courses.

"Iowa faces a shortage of government and history teachers at the high school level in the coming years," Dobbs said. "That shortage of teacher and what we perceive as a demand for the product has brought the program back."

Dobbs says the new major will undergo a three-year initial trial.

"We're all betting that there are students out there that want this degree," he said.△



Cravens named Distinguished Scholar

Hamilton Cravens, professor of history, has been named the 2007 Distinguished Arts and Humanities Scholar at Iowa State University by the Center for Excellence in the Arts and Humanities (CEAH).

A leading scholar in the history of social science, Cravens joined the Iowa State faculty in 1968. He has also taught at Ohio State University, the University of Washington, the University of Maryland and the University of California.

The Distinguished Arts and Humanities Scholar spends a semester without teaching responsibilities to work on his or her scholarly research. The recipient presents a lecture to the university community upon their return to campus. Cravens' lecture is scheduled to take place during the 2007 fall semester.

During his stint as Iowa State's Distinguished Arts and
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An update from the department chair

Dear ISU History Graduate:

Thank you for taking time to read what I hope is the first of a series of annual newsletters for History Department alumni. I am Charles Dobbs and this past July 1 I became chair of this outstanding department, and we have much great news to share with you. I hope you find the stories on the accompanying pages interesting and informative about our department. We also hope to hear from you – and what has happened in the years since you graduated. After all, you are a vital part of our history, and, as you know, history matters to historians!

I am absolutely pleased to announce that we are restoring the secondary social science certification program. One impact of the severe budget cuts that challenged Iowa State University from FY 2001 through FY 2005 was a reduction in faculty and in programs, and these externally mandated cuts forced a cancelling of that program. However, many of us in history, in other social science departments, and in curriculum and instruction all realized that we needed to restore the program, and with financial support from the Office of the President, we have beginning this Fall 2006.

Over the past several years a great many senior faculty members have retired, and a group of wonderfully talented young scholars have joined the department. Many of our retired colleagues still live in Ames, and most retain their Iowa State University e-mail addresses as professors emeriti. I am sure they will be as interested in hearing from you as you will be in writing them. I know that I enjoy learning of the successes of my former students, and I appreciate their time and consideration in writing me.

Department faculty members continue to teach extremely well, and frankly our classes are as full as they ever have been. New faculty



members bring new research interests, and as you will read on other pages, the range of such research interests are absolutely remarkable. In addition to our long term strengths in the history of technology and science and in ag history and rural studies, we research American environmental history, the history of witchcraft, magic, and superstition in medieval Europe, French intellectual and cultural history, the early modern English justice system, the Roman Republic,

and the social history of Russian and Soviet science. It is so exciting to be a member of this department and to listen to people's research and discoveries. It provides the impetus to keep at one's own research!

We would be happy to hear from you as you are now hearing from us. Also, if you are not currently a member of the ISU Alumni Association, I hope you will consider joining. The ISUAA provides a means to keep in touch with your alma mater, and to be informed of what is going on generally around the University.

Next year, in 2007-2008, Iowa State University will be celebrating our sesquicentennial, and as part of the University's year-long party, we will be organizing events for our alumni; please stay tuned!

Again, thank you for your interest, and I look forward to hearing from you.

Charles M. Dobbs
Professor and Chair

today
History

Charles Dobbs
Department Chair

Dave Gieseke
Editor
Director of Communications
College of Liberal Arts & Sciences

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Please address all correspondence to the editor: ltreadwa@iastate.edu

515-294-7266
FAX: 515-294-6390
www.history.edu

Mailing Address:
History today
Iowa State University
Department of History
659 Ross Hall
Ames, IA 50011

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Growing up on the farm

Deep in her heart, Pamela Riney-Kehrberg knew what she really wanted to work on.

She may have been working on other projects, but the professor of history and director of graduate education in the Program in Agricultural History and Rural Studies wanted to write a history of life growing up on the farm.

“My family has always been the sort when we have get-togethers we sit around the kitchen table and listen to stories,” Riney-Kehrberg said. “All four of my grandparents had grown up on the farm and left. When I became a historian, I wanted to understand my grandparents’ childhood and why they all left the farm as adults.”

After writing *Childhood on the Farm*, Riney-Kehrberg has a better understanding why her grandparents and many other young adults sought a better life in the cities.

In her most recent book, Riney-Kehrberg looks at life on the farm from 1870 to 1920 in the Midwestern states of Iowa, Nebraska, Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota and Kansas where the predominance of the population still lived in rural areas.

“There were so many changes to society after the 1920s, particularly in rural areas,” Riney-Kehrberg said, “that I wanted to end my story before the majority of farmers got radios in the home and started to drive automobiles.

“The consumerism of the ’20s changes the story significantly.”

Childhood on the Farm uses personal correspondence, diaries and school records as the book is filled with insightful personal stories. Narratives written by the children themselves give what Riney-Kehrberg calls a “fresh voice to these forgotten years.”

What comes through in these written records is a sense of what life on the farm was like for children. Their experiences continued to reflect the traditions of family life and labor when their counterparts in urban areas were more concerned with education and play.

“Despite the fact this work the children were doing on the farm was so hard and life was so uncertain, you get a real sense from their writings that they feel their childhood was valuable,” Riney-Kehrberg says. “They may have felt oppressed, but they also felt a great deal of pride for the level of responsibility they had for the welfare of their families.

“Many however didn’t want their own children to have that same experience.”

That was primarily because education and play were not top priorities of farm families.

“Work was central to children’s lives,” Riney-Kehrberg said. “Education and play were secondary roles, but farm children felt a great deal of pride in their work.”



By the late 19th century, farm children were working harder to leave the farm for less strenuous lives in the city. Parents consciously made sure their children got an education so they would have opportunities rather than remaining on the farm.

Farm children continue to this day to want to leave for a better life, Riney-Kehrberg says.

“My classes typically have a fair number of students who grew up on the farm and while most say they really appreciate growing up on a farm, most don’t want to go back and continue the family business,” she said.

“They’re thinking about security, not having to depend on what the weather does, not having to worry about prices.

“They want to get a degree and do something else.”

Much like the kids that spent their childhood on the farm from 1870 to 1920.△

Hamilton Cravens

Continued from page 1

Humanities Scholar, Cravens will work on a new book, *Changing Notions of Race in America Since Reconstruction*. The book will trace the history of American attitudes regarding race, as they were expressed in politics and law, science, and pop culture, over three chronological eras since 1870.

“Thoughts and deeds arise from the culture in which they are found, and belong to specific eras,” Cravens says. “Thus the idea of race has changed over time.”

During the spring of 2007, Cravens will work on *Changing Notions of Race in America Since Reconstruction* while serving as the Fulbright-Dow Research Chair at the Roosevelt Study Center, Middelburg, the Netherlands.

This is the fourth time that Cravens has received a Fulbright Award. He has previously served as the George Bancroft Professor of American History at Goettingen University in Germany and as the J.W. Fulbright Distinguished Chair in American Studies at Bonn, Cologne and Heidelberg Universities also in Germany.

He was also received a Fulbright Senior Specialist Award to Bonn University in the spring of 2006.△

Visions of flight

Robert Goddard. Werner von Braun. John Glenn. All names that Americans associate with space travel. The literature available on these pioneers and other lesser known advocates of space travel is seemingly endless.

James Andrews, associate professor of history and past director of the Russian, East European, and Central Asian Studies program, says three individuals are generally considered "fathers" of space travel.

Goddard we've mentioned. Germany's Herman Oberth is not as famous as Goddard but numerous books have been written on this Rumanian born mathematician.

Then there is Konstantin Tsiolkovskii of the former Soviet Union.

"No one has ever tackled writing a biography of Tsiolkovskii in English," Andrews says.

That is until now.

Andrews' latest book, *Visions of Space Flight: K.E. Tsiolkovskii, Russian Popular Culture, and the Roots of Soviet Cosmonautics 1857-1957*, is forthcoming from Texas University Press. The book is included in Texas University Press' Centennial of Air Flight series.

Tsiolkovskii (1857-1935) can be described as the "grandfather" of the Russian space program, the man who first conceived multi-stage rockets that were later adapted for the U.S. and Soviet space programs.

"Stalin took Tsiolkovskii from a local provincial setting and made him a national hero after allowing him to speak to the Soviet nation from Red Square on May Day 1935," Andrews said. "That's why I think his story is so interesting and appealing."

But there is more to Tsiolkovskii's story. Andrews says the Russian scientist and physics teacher was also involved in the popular culture of the day - writing science fiction literature that included futuristic drawings of space stations.

"He was somewhat of an eclectic renaissance man," Andrews said. "The Stalinist regime used him to promote their views of Soviet science and technology. But he used the Soviet state to promote his own ideas. He was a science popularizer, novelist, technical inventor and ultimately a visionary."

And even though the book won't be published for another year, Andrews has received much advanced attention on the project.

Read more on Jim Andrews book on-line at www.las.iastate.edu/newnews/andrews0110.shtml. Δ
History Today - Fall 2006



From the ground up

An opportunity too good to pass up. That's how Michael Bailey, assistant professor of history, describes the chance to help start a new journal in his research area from scratch.

Bailey is the founding co-editor of *Magic, Ritual and Witchcraft* published by the University of Pennsylvania Press. For the past several semesters Bailey has been working on developing the format and other aspects of the new journal.

"The University of Pennsylvania Press decided it wanted to expand its journal program and the area of magic and witchcraft is a fairly popular one," Bailey said.

Prior to coming to Iowa State in the fall of 2004, Bailey completed a fellowship at the University of Pennsylvania Humanities Forum.

"I'm assuming that's how the editors got my name in the first place," he says. "The Press came to me and said we have this idea, are you interested in helping us out?"

"It finally got to the point where they need someone to run it. Not knowing any better I said yes."

But not before a brief moment of hesitation. Since he was a junior faculty member, he wanted to make sure he had enough time to devote to the journal as well as to his academic responsibilities at Iowa State. He requested that the University of Pennsylvania Press ask a more senior faculty member to serve as the journal's co-editor.

For the past few months Bailey and co-editor Brian Copenhaver of the University of California-Los Angeles have created an editorial board (which includes Iowa State faculty members John Monroe, history, and Nikki Bado-Fralick, philosophy and religious studies) and started working on the journal's format including soliciting article submissions and lining up book reviewers.

Bailey has spent several months talking to other magic and witchcraft scholars to find out what they want in a journal.

Read more on the start-up of *Magic, Ritual and Witchcraft* on-line at www.las.iastate.edu/bailey0109. Δ

Changing approaches

It's been quite a year for John Monroe, assistant professor of history.

First Monroe received a \$5000 National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) summer stipend, which provides individuals with an opportunity to pursue research in the humanities that contributes to scholarly knowledge or to the public's understanding of the humanities.

Monroe traveled to Paris last summer to conduct historical research for a book, analyzing one of the great mass-media hoaxes of all time - a fabricated "Satanic conspiracy" invented by French anti-Catholic journalist Leo Taxil in the 1890s.

"Turn-of-the-century France was caught up in a culture war between leftists and religious conservatives that makes the tensions in contemporary America seem quite tame," Monroe said. "My research will also try to understand the dynamics of this conflict and how it relates to the rise of extreme right-wing political ideologies during the first half of the 20th century."

After returning last year to the U.S., the French historian worked on a new research project - a history of changing French approaches to African art.

"In about 1905, a major transformation of Western taste began in Paris," Monroe said. "Gradually, particular types of African sculpture stopped being 'anthropological specimens' and became works of what used to be called 'primitive art.' My new project is about how this



transformation took place, what its consequences were."

Monroe's new project will be based on research in dealer archives, auction catalogues and exhibition reviews.

"Early on, people had trouble paying large sums of money for African sculptures," he said. "My new book will tell the story of the years of careful marketing that changed that situation."

He will look at how dealers and art critics described African sculptures they perceived were valuable.

Learn more about Monroe's research at www.las.iastate.edu/newnews/monroe0109.shtml.△

New dimension

A recent grant proposal by Sara Gregg describes how a relatively new technology will aid historical research.

"Very few traditional historians have grappled with this technology," said Gregg, an assistant professor of history, "but I believe this will prove to be an invaluable tool to compliment historical research."

Gregg is talking about the Geographic Information Systems or GIS, a software program used to manipulate spatially referenced data.

"GIS can deepen the analytical possibilities, particularly for environmental and agricultural historians," she said. "So far GIS hasn't been used very much in historical research. I'm eager to apply it to my work."

Gregg will have that opportunity after recently being awarded a Special Research Initiation Grant (SPRIG) by the Office of the Vice Provost for Research and Advanced Studies for her project "Mapping Conservation Policy Outcomes: Adding a New Dimension to Historical Research." These grants provide "seed" money to begin

research or scholarship or to fund new directions in an existing research program.

In Gregg's case, she's been using the SPRIG funding to expand the conclusions from her Ph.D. dissertation by applying GIS analysis to her research as she works to develop her dissertation into a book. She's working on a long-term project to look at the history of land use and conservation

policy in Appalachia in the 1920s and 1930s.

Gregg is contrasting two different situations where the federal government attempted to

establish national parks in those areas during the Great Depression.

For more information on Sara Gregg's research project go on-line at www.las.iastate.edu/newnews/gregg0207.shtml.



Alumni

A vine life

The last place many of Roger Louer's college buddies would expect him to be is in a farm field.

"There was no way I was going to be a farmer," Louer says.

The Chicago area native came to Iowa State initially to major in agriculture but it took just one animal husbandry course for him to realize that this wasn't the life for him.

Instead Louer finished with a degree in history. He did complete a minor in agriculture but he just knew farming wasn't for him.

So why is Louer now the proud owner of a vineyard in the Napa Valley in California?

"I found out that what I like about farming is permanent crops," he says. "I didn't have any interest in the traditional row crops that the Midwest is famous for."

Now, much to the surprise of his college buddies, Louer can be found most days in his vineyard. In recent years, his business has expanded into the Calistoga Cellars winery.

The business even includes a wine tasting room just like the movie "Sideways."

And Calistoga Cellars, in just six years, has produced six award-winning wines.

Louer seems embarrassed by his success as a winemaker. He keeps a framed article highlighting his success with the new business in a closet at the winery.

Ribbons recognizing the wines' successes are prominent in the tasting room but Louer is anxious to get back to what he loves – his vineyard.

"Every morning I can't wait to get out into the vineyard," he says while pouring a sample of his port wine.



History alumnus Roger Louer content with his life "on the farm."

"It's what I think I was born to do."

Prior to going into the wine business, Louer owned a wine distributorship in Oakland, Calif., and owned an apple orchard in Wisconsin.

Louer and his family have owned their vineyard since 1990. The grapes harvested from his 300-acre vineyard now produce Calistoga Cellars' Cabernet Sauvignon wine.

After years of growing grapes for other wineries, Louer got together with 45 other partners (including two in Iowa) and established Calistoga Cellars in Calistoga, Calif., in 2000. Louer serves as the managing partner of the business.

In addition to Louer's personal vineyard, Calistoga Cellars has 24 acres at the winery site and a guesthouse on the grounds. The guesthouse was featured in the Julianne Moore/Hugh Grant movie "9 Months."

The first vintage came out of the winery in 2000 and in just two years, the Cabernet Sauvignon won a Double Gold Medal from the San Francisco Chronicle.

The winery (the wine is made elsewhere under the supervision of the group's own winemaker) and tasting room were built in 2003. Now Calistoga Cellars produces up to 10,000 cases of wine a year.

The firm's six wines – Sauvignon Blanc, Chardonnay, Zinfandel, Merlot and Cabernet Sauvignon – are sold in 26 states including Iowa. Louer hopes to expand Calistoga Cellars' production to 25,000 cases a year and increase its distribution to 35 states.

"We've had a very good response to our wines," he said. "I happen to think all the wines are good and we've held the prices down under \$30 a bottle."

"For Napa Valley wines that's pretty cheap."

While Louer can talk all day about his wine, it's his vines that he most likes to talk about. Hardly a day goes by without him venturing into the vineyards adjacent to his home.

Pruning, irrigation, spraying, planting new vines – you name it and Roger Louer does it. Even when he's at the winery he has his pruning shears with him.

"I walk the rows every day," he says. "I could be out here all day."

"It took me 20 years to find out what I loved doing was farming."

Something that would shock his college buddies to this day.△

Runge named first recipient of Catt Public Engagement Award

Kay Runge, a 1969 history graduate, has been named the first recipient of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences' Carrie Chapman Catt Public Engagement Award at Iowa State.

The award was presented during Homecoming activities Friday, Oct. 20.

Given to an alumni of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, recipients of the Carrie Chapman Catt Public Engagement Award have demonstrated outstanding achievement for their work with public entities at the local, state, national or international levels. The award recognizes the achievements of Carrie Chapman Catt, suffragist, early feminist, political activist and Iowa State alumna. She was president of the National American Woman Suffrage Association and led the fight for ratification of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. She also encouraged the formation of the League of Women Voters, a non-partisan educational group.

When she arrived on the job as director of the Des Moines Public Library in April 2001, Kay K. Runge was focused on the execution of a building program that included construction of a new Central Library in Des Moines, renovation of five library branches, and construction of a new branch in the southeast section of the city.

In less than five years, many of those goals have been accomplished. A new \$32.3 million Central Library



opened last April. One branch renovation has been completed, with three more branches under construction for renovation and addition.

Prior to coming to Des Moines, Runge served as director of the Scott County Library System and Davenport Public Library. She was president of the Public Library Association in 2000. In 2000, the American Library Trustee Advocates and the American Library Association named her to the National Advocacy Honor Roll, and she was named Member of the Year of the Iowa Library Association.

Her community work includes or has included Wells Fargo Bank Board, Rotary Club of Des Moines; Des Moines Public Library Foundation Board, Greater Des Moines Leadership Institute, Leadership Iowa, Iowa State University Foundation Board of Governors, the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Dean's Advisory Council, and Operation Downtown Des Moines Board of Directors.△

Archivist honored by College of LAS

Sorting through endless stacks of mundane governmental memos is the life of a federal archivist.

A career many would shun because it sounds boring.

Correspondence, maps, sound recordings and photographs however have always interested Trudy



Peterson ('67 English). Even the mundane ones.

In a career that has spanned working in the Hoover Presidential Library in West Branch, Iowa, to the acting Archivist of the United States, Peterson has worked with history virtually every day of her professional career.

"I go into an archives almost every day," she says. "I really like reading someone letters - it's the raw materials of history. There is a vibrancy of being in touch with a piece of history."

Peterson rose through the ranks of the National Archives becoming the deputy archivist (the senior civil servant) before serving as the acting Archivist of the U.S. for two plus years in the Clinton Administration.

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences recognized Peterson in 2005 with its highest honor - the Citation of Merit.

Read more about Peterson at www.las.iastate.edu/alumni/peterson.shtml.△

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Iowa State University
Department of History
659 Ross Hall
Ames, IA 50011

Making a difference

The Department of History at Iowa State University is committed to providing outstanding opportunities for the university community. In order to have the resources necessary to take our programs into the future, support for the department is essential. We want to provide scholarships to recognize our very best undergraduate majors and to support our graduate students in their dissertation year. To help make a difference, simply fill out the form below, drop it in the mail (ISU Foundation, 2505 Elwood Drive, Ames, Iowa 50010-8644) and check our next newsletter.

For more information about making a gift to the Department of History or including ISU in your estate plans, please contact Stephanie Greiner at 515-294-8868, greiner@iastate.edu.

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