



Welcome to the 2022-2023 academic year! We had two scholars join us in January 2022, Drs. Pratik Chakrabarti and Nandini Bhattacharya. Both study the history of medicine. Dr. Chakrabarti holds the NEH Cullen Chair in History and Medicine. This fall, Dr. Michele "Scout" Johnson joined us as Instructional Assistant Professor. She will be teaching the US survey courses and also will serve as associate director of the graduate program.

We are looking forward to a more "normal"—we hope—academic year, as the world finds ways to live with the reality of Covid and do much if not all of what we are accustomed to. For historians, this means getting back into the archives, and many of us report successful research trips over the summer of 2022.

Colleagues in the department have published five new books in the past year and have researched and drafted portions of many more books that will appear in the coming years! Faculty continue to receive commendations for their books. Professor Josiah Rector received a very positive review of his recent book in the *New York Review of Books*. Our faculty are also winning important international book prizes. Professor Pratik Chakrabarti was awarded the Pickstone Prize from the British Society for the History of Science for his recent book, *Inscriptions of Nature: Geology and the Naturalization of Antiquity*.

Faculty have been awarded major grants to pursue their scholarship. Kudos to Professor Tshepo Chéry for being named a Career Enhancement Fellow by the Institute for Citizens & Scholars. We are also thrilled for Professor Abdel Razzaq Takriti who was named the Darwish Visiting Professor in Palestinian Studies at Brown University for the 2022-2023 academic year.

Our faculty have won multiple important awards within the university. Three of our faculty won university teaching awards: Professors Alexey Golubev, Frank Holt, and Leandra Zarnow. Professor Natalia Milanesio received the CLASS Distinguished Faculty Award. Professor Linda

Reed was awarded the Ross Lence Teaching Award from the college. Finally, and most notably, Professor Sarah Fishman was awarded a John and Rebecca Moores Professorship.

We teach thousands and thousands of undergraduates each semester in courses ranging from the US Survey all the way through senior capstone classes for History majors. Our undergraduate major is thriving, and students have enjoyed the many benefits of a UH education including experiential learning outside the classroom: internships on real world history research projects and participation in the Mellon Research Scholars Program. Many of our recent BA graduates are on their way to law school and graduate school. We salute them and wish them well on their journeys.

Our graduate students continue to amaze. Multiple graduate students successfully defended dissertations this year. Many congratulations to our newly minted PhDs. Recent graduates have also fared well on the job market, and we are very proud of their success. Our current graduate students are winning external fellowships and research grants, receiving prestigious internships, and dabbling in podcasting. Instead of saying the future is theirs, I will conclude by saying the past is theirs because they will be the ones writing the history of our world.

All best regards,

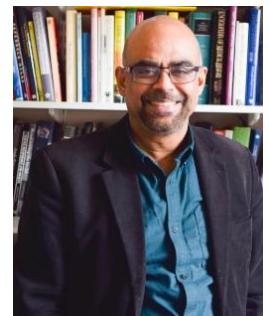
Nancy Beck Young
John and Rebecca Moores Professor of History
Chair, Department of History

Welcome to the Department!



Nandini Bhattacharya is Associate Professor in South Asian history and history of medicine. She completed her PhD at the University College London. Her expertise is in the histories of colonial science and medicine, urban history, and modern histories of consumption, within the broader paradigm of modern South Asian history. She has taught history at Yale, Leicester, and Dundee prior to her appointment at UH. She is a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society.

Pratik Chakrabarti is the inaugural National Endowment for the Humanities Cullen Chair in History & Medicine. He received his PhD from Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India and previously served as the Chair in History of Science and Medicine and the Director of the Centre for the History of Science, Technology and Medicine at the University of Manchester, UK. He has contributed widely to the history of science, medicine, and imperial history from the eighteenth to the twentieth century.





Michele Johnson joins the Department of History as Instructional Assistant Professor and Associate Director of Graduate Studies. She earned her Ph.D. in History at the University of Arkansas. Her research focuses on the darker side of the era, particularly women in the Ku Klux Klan and Massive Resistance Movement, and more broadly, right-wing women’s violence. Her work addresses the intersection of gender, white supremacy, and violence throughout the 1950s, 1960s, and beyond.

John Sbardellati joined the UH Department of History as Visiting Associate Professor for 2022 from the University of Waterloo, where he is an Associate Professor of U.S. History with specialties in twentieth-century American political, cultural, and diplomatic history. He is author of *J. Edgar Hoover Goes to the Movies: The FBI and the Origins of Hollywood’s Cold War* (Cornell University Press, 2012).



Demetra Yowman has joined History Department as the Financial Coordinator 2. She coordinates financial operations, oversees the preparation of financial documents, and reviews reports for accuracy. She enjoys spending time with family and friends plus volunteering when she has time.

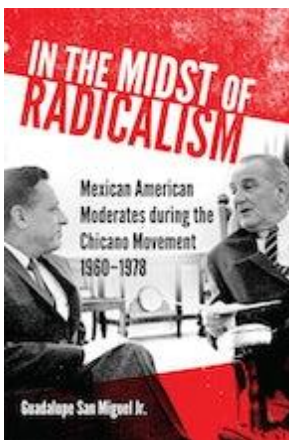


Ashton Goudeau is the Financial Coordinator for the Department of History. He completed his undergraduate degree in Finance at UH in 2020. He enjoys working out including weightlifting, swimming, and going for walks downtown. He loves trying new places to eat and recently learned how to juggle.



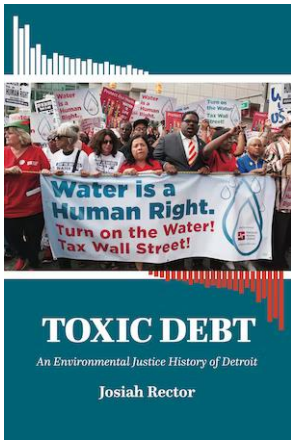
New Books

Guadalupe San Miguel Jr., *In the Midst of Radicalism: Mexican American Moderates during the Chicano Movement, 1960–1978* (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 2022)



The Chicano Movement of the 1960s and ’70s, like so much of the period’s politics, is best known for its radicalism: militancy, distrust of mainstream institutions, demands for rapid change. Less understood, yet no less significant in its aims, actions, and impact, was the movement’s moderate elements. *In the Midst of Radicalism* presents the first full account of these more mainstream liberal activists—those who rejected the politics of protest and worked within the system to promote social change for the Mexican American community.

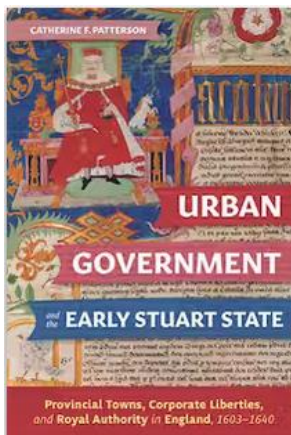
Guadalupe San Miguel Jr. is Professor Emeritus of History.



Josiah Rector, *Toxic Debt: An Environmental Justice History of Detroit* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2022)

Most environmental justice studies focus on communities on the fenceline of heavy industry, and document race and class inequalities in exposure to pollution from refineries, incinerators, and toxic waste dumps. In *Toxic Debt*, Josiah Rector demonstrates that finance and real estate are no less implicated in environmental injustice than heavy industry. Examining struggles over pollution, public health, and water access in Detroit, Michigan from the rise and fall of auto manufacturing to the subprime mortgage meltdown and its aftermath, Rector shows how neoliberal policies of financial deregulation, privatization, and austerity produced devastating water disasters in the early 21st century. *Toxic Debt* lucidly narrates the story of race, municipal debt, and the struggle for environmental justice in Detroit.

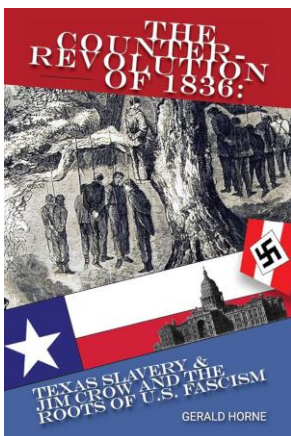
Josiah Rector is Assistant Professor of History.



Catherine Patterson, *Urban Government and the Early Stuart State: Provincial Towns, Corporate Liberties, and Royal Authority in England, 1603–1640* (Woodbridge: Boydell Press, 2022)

This book investigates relations between center and localities in seventeenth century England by looking at early Stuart government through the lens of provincial towns. Focusing particularly on incorporated boroughs, it emphasizes the circumstances that shaped governance in provincial towns and the ways towns contributed to the state. Based on extensive original research in both central government records and the archives of a wide range of provincial towns, the book covers critical aspects of interaction between towns and the crown, including incorporation and charters, governance and political order, social regulation, trade, financial and military exactions, and religion.

Catherine Patterson is Associate Professor of History.



Gerald Horne, *The Counter-Revolution of 1836: Texas Slavery & Jim Crow and the Roots of U. S. Fascism* (New York: International Publishers, 2022)

Texas has become a leader of ultra-right forces nationally – especially since the 1950s – when the notorious oilmen were the bulwark of support for McCarthyism. One lesson from Texas history, though, is that repression was so severe because resistance was so daunting – a lesson to keep in mind as this century unfolds.

Gerald Horne is the Moores Professor of History & African American Studies.



Alexey Golubev, *Veshchnaia zhizn'*: Material'nost' pozdnego sotsializma (Moscow: NLO, 2022)

An authorized Russian translation of the original English title, *The Things of Life: Materiality in Late Soviet Russia* (Cornell University Press, 2020), this book is a social and cultural history of material objects and spaces during the late socialist era. It traces the biographies of Soviet things, examining how the material world of the late Soviet period influenced Soviet people's gender roles, habitual choices, social trajectories, and imaginary aspirations.

Alexey Golubev is Associate Professor of History.

Faculty Awards and Fellowships

Abdel Razzaq Takriti was appointed as the 2022–23 Darwish Visiting Professor in Palestinian Studies at the Brown University. Named after Mahmoud Darwish, a towering and beloved figure of Palestinian and Arab literature and humanistic values, this chair is the first of its kind at a major research university.

Pratik Chakrabarti, NEH Cullen Chair in History and Medicine, received the Pickstone Prize 2022 awarded every two years to the best scholarly book in the history of science (broadly construed) in English by the British Society for the History of Science. The awards committee noted in their announcement that “Chakrabarti’s call for reconsidering the origins and very meaning of the Anthropocene renders this a significant contribution of the history of science for our time.” Dr. Chakrabarti was also a Visiting Professor at the Leeds Centre for Victorian Studies, Leeds Trinity University (UK) in June 2022.



Abdel Razzaq Takriti



Tshepo Masango Chéry

Tshepo Masango Chéry became a 2022 Career Enhancement Fellow at the Institute for Citizens and Scholars. The Career Enhancement Fellowship, funded by the Mellon Foundation and administered by Citizens & Scholars, seeks to increase the presence of underrepresented junior and other faculty members in the humanities, social sciences, and arts by creating career development opportunities for selected Fellows with promising research projects.

Three history faculty members won 2022 Teaching Excellence Awards from the University of Houston Provost’s Office. **Leandra Zarnow** received the Community Engagement Award, **Alexey Golubev** received the Innovation in Instructional Technology Award, and **Frank Holt** received the Career Award.

In 2022, **Sarah Fishman Boyd** was awarded a Moores Professorship. The Moores Professor's Program was established to honor full-time tenured faculty who have achieved the rank of full professor at the University of Houston and who have made outstanding contributions to research, teaching, and service.



Sarah Fishman Boyd



Natalia Milanesio

Natalia Milanesio received the 2022 UH College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences Distinguished Faculty Award. This award recognizes senior faculty for a national and internationally known innovative and transformative body of scholarship/creative works, coupled with the strong promise of continuing excellence. She also received the 2022 Gender and Sexuality Studies Faculty Summer Fellowship.

Linda Reed received the 2022 UH College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences Ross M. Lence Awards for Teaching Excellence.

Faculty News

Karl Ittmann's article "African Populations and British Imperial Power 1800–1970" came out in the *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of African History* (2022).



Adela Cedillo

Adela Cedillo published a book chapter "The War on Drugs, Counterinsurgency, and the State of Siege in the Golden Triangle (1977–1982)," in *Histories of Drug Trafficking in Twentieth Century Mexico*, eds. Benjamin Smith and Wil Pansters (University of New Mexico Press, 2022). She was a member of the Organizing Committee and a presenter at the Coloquio internacional Violencia de Estado en el Perú: del Conflicto Armado Interno (1980-2000) a la "Generación del Bicentenario," Ayacucho, Perú, August 3–6, 2022.

John Sbardellati presented a paper on "Home of the Brave: The WWII Racial Problem Film that Upended Cold War Racial Politics" at the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations Conference in New Orleans (June 2022).

Natalia Milanesio was invited to teach a graduate class on gender and history in Latin America at the Universidad Catolica de Chile.

Kristina Neumann gave two invited talks about her recently published book *Antioch in Syria: A History from Coins (300 BCE-450 CE)* (Cambridge University Press, 2021) in Bilkent University

in Turkey and Concordia University St. Paul in Minnesota. The book also received an **excellent review**. In January 2022, she delivered the paper, “Digital Numismatics: A Wealth of Evidence for Ancient Syria,” on the panel “Ancient Coins and Archaeology in The Digital Humanities” at the joint annual meeting of the Archaeological Institute of America and Society for Classical Studies in San Francisco, CA. In March 2022, Dr. Neumann was invited to Princeton University to speak at the FLAME Conference, a gathering of international experts on the late antique and early medieval economy.



Kristina Neumann (left) and other participants of the 2022 FLAME Conference at Princeton.

Monica Perales was the program chair for the 126th annual meeting of the Texas State Historical Association in Austin in February 2022 where she also presented a paper on “Sweet Treats and Bitter Dust: Reimagining Mexican Women's Food Labor in Texas Pecans.”

Josiah Rector published a chapter entitled “Lessons for a Green New Deal: Race, the New Deal Legacy, and Environmental Justice in Detroit” for *The Routledge Handbook on the Green New Deal* (2022). His research was featured in *The Last Negroes at Harvard* podcast with Kent Garrett.

Pratik Chakrabarti published two articles: “Health as Activism: Rethinking Social Medicine in India” in *The Lancet* (Vol. 399, Issue 10341, 2022) and “Aboriginality on the Move: The Genesis of an Essential Paradox” in *Global Intellectual History*, as well as a book chapter (with Anna Ruddock) “The ‘Indian Predicament’: Medical Education in Modern India 1915–1960,” in *Transforming Medical Education: Historical Case Studies of Teaching, Learning, and Belonging in Medicine*, ed. by Susan Lamb and Delia Gavrus (McGill-Queen's University Press, 2022). He delivered two keynote lectures: “Poison that ‘Sweetens the Blood’: Drugs, Slavery and the Apothecary” at The



Josiah Rector

Worshipful Society of Apothecaries, London (March 28, 2022) and “Aboriginality on the Move: The Genesis of an Essential Paradox,” at *Migrating Prehistories*, Warburg Institute, London (April 28, 2022).



Norah Gharala

Norah Gharala published two peer-reviewed articles: “‘This woman’s resistance to her son’s paying tribute’: Afrodescendant Women, Family, and Royal Tribute in New Spain” in *Mexican Studies/Estudios Mexicanos* 38, no. 1 (Feb. 2022) and “Black Tribute in the Spanish Americas” in *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Latin American History* (Oxford University Press, 2021). Dr. Gharala was selected to be part of a NEH-AHRC Spanish Paleography and Digital Humanities Institute with the LLILAS Benson Latin American Studies and Collections at University of Texas at Austin in Spring 2022. The institute participants produced transcriptions of Spanish colonial documents and trained Transkribus to recognize manuscripts.

Leandra Zarnow published a book chapter “‘Send Her Back’: Trump’s Feud with Feminists and Conservative Women’s Triumph” in *The Presidency of Donald J. Trump: A First Historical Assessment*, ed. Julian Zelizer (Princeton University Press, 2022). This edited volume and the project leading to it received **national attention** because it is the first treatment by historians of Donald Trump’s presidency, and he met with the authors, including Dr. Zarnow, in an effort to shape his legacy.

Alexey Golubev delivered two keynote lectures: “The Collector State: Reflections on the Imperial Ontologies of Collections at the Time of Russia’s War on Ukraine” at the conference *Soviet Materialities*, Jesus College, University of Cambridge, UK (April 11, 2022) and “Curiouser and Curiouser: Rationality and Paranormality in Late Socialism” at the conference *Cultures of New Age in Late and Post-Soviet Russia: Ideologies, Networks, Discourses*, University of Mainz, Germany (June 17, 2022). He also guest-edited a special issue titled “Individuality in Soviet Society” for the journal *Novoe proshloe/The New Past* (Rostov-on-Don, Russia), no. 4 (2021).

Guadalupe San Miguel Jr.’s new book, *In the Midst of Radicalism: Mexican American Moderates during the Chicano Movement, 1960–1978* (University of Oklahoma Press, 2022), was **featured on NBC News**.

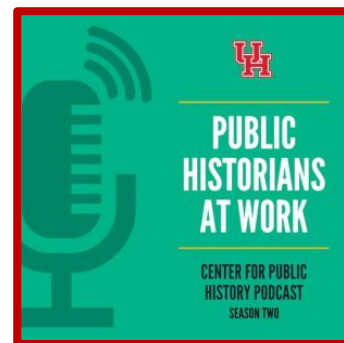
Center for Public History

It was another busy year at the Center for Public History! As we returned to campus and adjusted to the “new normal,” CPH faculty, staff, and students continued to work toward our mission to create exciting collaborative, public facing scholarship, provide students with meaningful public history learning experiences, and deliver engaging public programming.



Monica Perales,
CPH Director

Our 2021–2022 **CPH Lecture Series** continued in an online format with a special focus the health, medicine, and healing and public history. Our speakers and panels offered fascinating insight into the Affordable Care Act, the role of technology in documenting environmental health disparities, religious hospitals and the issue of religious freedom, Mexican and Mexican American healing practices, and the history of activism related to disability rights and LGBTQ+ rights. Recordings of these and many of our lectures can be found [here](#). Our companion podcast, *Public Historians at Work*, completed its very successful Season 1, which includes a mix of conversations with academics, writers, artists, and



community members about what it means to public history and humanities work, and “Stories from the Third Ward,” a series of episodes researched, created, and produced by our talented public history students under the guidance of **Kristina Neumann**. To date, the podcast has surpassed 1,000 downloads total, reaching 47 different countries and 277 cities! The first episode of Season 2 is now available.



CITE-funded student interns at CPH

We strive to provide students with meaningful, hands-on learning experiences and last year was no exception. Students researched and wrote articles about the history of Houston’s San José Clinic for a special issue of *Houston History* magazine that celebrated the clinic’s 100th anniversary. We also sponsored a new workshop series, **Public History in Action**. Participants including graduate and undergraduate students and community members spent the day at the Buffalo Soldiers National Museum and got a behind-the-scenes look at museum management while assisting in surveying artifacts. Thanks to a CITE grant

from the Provost’s Office, **Kristina Neumann** and **Leandra Zarnow** developed the CPH Summer Undergraduate Internship Program designed to bring STEM and humanities students together to engage in an interdisciplinary hands-on co-curricular research experience. The 10-week program allowed 13 students to work faculty-led projects in CPH: *100 Years of Stories*, *Sharing Stories from 1977*, and The SYRIOS Project – [students described](#) how much they learned about working as part of a team and about making the past relevant today!

Several of these public-facing projects reached important milestones. *Sharing Stories from 1977* marked the initial open access [website](#) debut in March 2022 with a fascinating panel discussion

and webinar. In June, CPH celebrated the achievements of the **100 Years of Stories** partnership with Houston Public Media and UH Special Collections. This innovative storytelling collaboration, generously supported by a gift from Carey C. Shuart, has so far resulted multiple student-researched and written articles in *Houston History* magazine and a series of ten video and radio spots as part of **100 Years of Houston** by Houston Public Media. Still to come: student-created pop up exhibits and a mounted exhibit in M.D. Anderson Library in fall 2023.

Students in our public history program continue to shine! CPH graduate assistant Jovan Slaughter received a 2022 UH Media and Moving Image Student Competition prize for his *Public Historians at Work* podcast episode “**Feeding the Third Ward**” and graduated in the spring with his MA degree. Ph.D. student Caitlyn Jones won CPH’s 2021-2022 Joseph A. Pratt Houston History Prize for her podcast episode, “**Looking Out from Emancipation Park.**” Samantha De Leon, research assistant on 100 Years of Stories, took a summer internship position with the National Trust for Historic Preservation for the Endangered Historic Places. Walker Shores earned his MA in public history and accepted a position as Architectural Historian/Cultural Resources Planner with Page & Turnbull in San Francisco. We were excited to have current Ph.D. students Nancy Katz and Olabode Shadare join us this summer to make the Undergraduate Internship Program and 100 Years of Stories a success. And we are very delighted to welcome public history MA student Claire White, who is the new research assistant at CPH.

One of the biggest changes for us: our address. In January 2022, the Center left our suite in McElhinney Hall as part of the university’s core renovations and we have set up operations in Science and Research Building, Suite 521. We hope you will stop by to see all the amazing work we do – and enjoy our impressive view of the downtown skyline.

PROJECT ON RACE AND CAPITALISM

The Project on Race and Capitalism (PRC) sponsored three main events during the last academic year, all of which foregrounded scholarship and activism for racial and social justice.

On March 23, we hosted a forum on the new book, *Civil Rights in Black and Brown: Histories of Resistance and Struggle in Texas* with authors J. Todd Moyer (University of North Texas) and Samantha M. Rodriguez (Houston Community College). This book, based on more than 500 oral interviews, is a major contribution to the history of civil rights organizing in Texas. Video clips from the interviews are available on a publicly accessible, free, and user-friendly multimedia digital humanities database: <https://crbb.tcu.edu>.

On May 11 and 12, the Project on Race and Capitalism sponsored the “**International Workshop on Racial Capitalism: History, Theory, Pathways to Freedom**” attended by scholars from South Africa, the Caribbean, and the United States. PRC Director Dr. David McNally presented



Members of the workshop at one of Houston's George Floyd murals. May 13, 2022.

one of the eight papers delivered to the workshop, while Dr. Tsepho Masango Chéry of the UH Department of History and Dr. Nicholas De Genova, chair of the UH Department of Comparative Cultural Studies, were among the discussants.

On the evening of May 12, the Project on Race and Capitalism sponsored the inaugural George Floyd Memorial Lecture delivered by Dr. Ruth Wilson Gilmore, Professor of Earth & Environmental Sciences

at the City University of New York Graduate Center and author of the award-winning book, *Golden Gulag: Prisons, Surplus, Crisis and Opposition in Globalizing*

California. Among the many awards received by Dr. Gilmore are the American Studies Association Angela Y. Davis Award for Public Scholarship, and the Association of American Geographers Harold Rose Award for Anti-Racist Research and Practice. In 2021 Dr. Gilmore was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

The George Floyd Memorial Lecture was attended by many members of the Floyd family, local faith and social justice leaders, as well as scholars, students and activists. The attendees were welcomed by Dr. Daniel O'Connor, dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences at UH.

The day after the George Floyd Memorial Lecture the Project on Race and Capitalism conducted a Houston Civil Rights Tour, visiting several locations in Houston's Third Ward as well as the Rothko chapel. Photos from some of these events are available at <https://www.uh.edu/class/history/about/project-on-race-and-capitalism/>.

For the academic year 2022-23, the Project on Race and Capitalism will host the second George Floyd Memorial Lecture with Dr. Robin D. G. Kelley, Distinguished Professor and Gary B. Nash Endowed Chair in U.S. History at UCLA, as well as a lecture by Dr. Donna Murch, Department of History Rutgers University, and an event addressing the plight of Haitian migrants in the U.S.

Arab-American Educational Foundation Center for Arab Studies

After a year and a half of extreme difficulties and uncertainties, one of the few silver linings during these challenging times was being reunited with our students, faculty, and our Houstonian

community members—who are at the heart of the **Arab-American Educational Foundation Center for Arab Studies (AAEF-CAS)**.

Our first in-person event since February 2020 was held on October 7, 2021, with the inaugural AAEF Dr. Burhan and Mrs. Misako Ajouz Professor of Arab Studies Distinguished Lecture in Arabic Literature, which was delivered by Dr. William Granara (Harvard University). Dr. Granara’s talk, “Towards a Poetic of Estrangement in Arabic Literature,” read the poetry of 'Abd al-Jabbar Ibn Hamdis (d. 1133) and Mahmoud Darwish (d. 2008) alongside Radwa Ashour's novelistic Granada Trilogy to illustrate how ancient Arabian literary canon traveled in time and space, maintaining its poetic ethos and responding to extensive historical and aesthetic evolutions. Dr. Granara also delivered a closed workshop the following day on the poetics of Muslim Sicily as part of the AAEF Ajouz Lecture series.

The success of the inaugural AAEF Ajouz Lecture was followed up with the AAEF Nijad and



Rabih Alameddine delivering the AAEF Nijad and Zeina Fares Annual Distinguished Lecture in Modern Arab Studies.

Zeina Fares Annual Distinguished Lecture in Modern Arab Studies on October 28, featuring award-winning writer and novelist Rabih Alameddine, who delivered a lecture titled “Concerning the Political in Art.” The first AAEF Fares lecture since 2019, the resumption of this cornerstone lecture series brought nearly 200 guests to listen to Alameddine’s powerful lecture on the legacies of Orientalism and Islamophobia in popular media and culture.

On November 11, Dr. Dana Sajdi (Boston College) was the distinguished speaker of the 2021 annual AAEF Paul Kardoush Memorial Lecture, whose lecture, “Damascus: A History in Words,” drew on a long and uninterrupted tradition of prose topographies to offer a new history of the venerable city between the 12th and 20th centuries. Following on the success of our virtual programme in the previous academic year, our last event was a virtual lecture by Dr. Omid Safi (Duke University), who delivered a moving talk on Rumi, Sufism, and radical love in Islam, titled “**Path of Love in Islam: Rumi and his Ancestors.**”

The momentum from the Fall semester carried into the Spring with a dynamic set of events. Dr. Dima Ayoub (Middlebury College) kicked off our semester with “Legible Others: Paratext and Power in Translation” on March 3, 2022, which examined how publishers relied on paratexts in the post-WWII period to demonstrate how the publishing industry continues to be heavily

influenced by foreign policy in the Middle East. Dr. Ayoub also delivered a closed-workshop to AAEF-CAS faculty and students on translation theory the following day.

Of the many memorable moments of AAEF-CAS over the past academic year, our crowning achievement was the commemoration of the Center through a formal launching ceremony with the Arab-American Educational Foundation and the University of Houston on March 24, 2022. The launching ceremony, which was ultimately set back due to the COVID-19 pandemic, was attended by over 300 guests, including international scholars as well as local and federal elected officials. U.S. Representative Sheila Lee Jackson (Texas 18th District), Texas State Representative Roy Reynolds (House District 27), and Houston City Council Member Dr. Carolyn Evans-Shabazz (Houston District D) all delivered congratulatory remarks on behalf of their respective legislatures. In honor of the Center and its impact on Houston's Arab American community, Mayor Sylvester Turner declared March 25, 2022, as AAEF Center for Arab Studies Day.

The second part of the AAEF-CAS launching celebration was an academic workshop, "The Past & Future of Arab Studies," which took place the following day on March 25. Twenty internationally acclaimed scholars and academics from around the world took part in this day-long workshop which was chaired by Dr. Abdel Razzaq Takriti (Founding Director, AAEF-CAS) and Dr. Usama Makdisi (former AAEF Rice University Chair of Arab Studies). This workshop gave students of AAEF-CAS an opportunity to hear from pioneering figures in the field, leading and upcoming scholars, as well as present their own thoughts on new directions in the field of Arab Studies.

Just after the Center's launching dinner and workshop, Dr. James Grehan (Portland State University) was invited on April 14 as the distinguished speaker of the 2022 AAEF Annual Lecture in Ottoman History, which resumed for the first time after a long hiatus due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Dr. Grehan's lecture, "Ottoman Culture and the Growth of Civility, c. 1600-1800," explored the history of manners to illustrate how towns and cities in the Ottoman empire underwent a noticeable cultural transformation in a period marked by profound social and political transformations.

For the second year, AAEF-CAS partnered with the University of Houston's Staff Council Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee to hold the 2022 Annual National Arab American Heritage Month Webinar on April 28 titled "**Arab American Women: Voices from the Grassroots**" and featuring contributions from Dr. Nadine Naber (University of Illinois Chicago), Mary Harb (Palestinian American Women's Association of Southern California), Jehan Hakim (Yemeni Alliance Committee), and Dr. Zeina Zaatari (University of Illinois Chicago) on the histories and ongoing struggles led by Arab feminist activists in the United States.

Our last event of semester was a discussion around Alaa Abd El Fattah's "You Have Not Yet Been Defeated: Selected Works, 2011–2021" on May 4, as part of a national book tour with

Egyptian activist and Alaa's brother, Sana Seif, and journalist Sharif Abdel Kouddous, to raise awareness of Alaa's ongoing hunger strike against his indefinite incarceration in Egyptian prison system.

At the administrative level, AAEF-CAS Founding Director Dr. Abdel Razzaq Takriti has accepted a one-year visiting professorship as the 2022–23 Mahmoud Darwish Chair in Palestinian Studies at Brown University's Center for Middle East Studies. During this period, Dr. Emire Cihan Yüksel will serve as the Acting Director of AAEF-CAS. The Center would like to wish Dr. Takriti a successful year at Brown University and extend a very warm welcome Dr. Yüksel as the 2022-23 AAEF-CAS Acting Director! The Center is also pleased to announce the appointment of Suleyka Cruzalta as the AAEF-CAS business administrator, who joined our team in April 2022.



Emire Cihan Yüksel

Department of History Stories



Ian Thompson and Natalie Dean (SYROS project)

The digital project SYRIOS (<https://syrios.uh.edu>) co-directed by **Kristina Neumann** continues to be a training ground for students at both the undergraduate and graduate level. In 2021–2022, two undergraduate students – Ian Thompson (History) and Natalie Dean (English) – conducted research on Syrian cities via their participation in the Research for Aspiring Coogs in the Humanities (REACH) Program through the Office of Undergraduate Research and Major Awards. Additionally, through funding through National Endowment for the Humanities and UH Digital Research Commons, we supported student researchers from the College of Technology, CLA SS, and NSM.

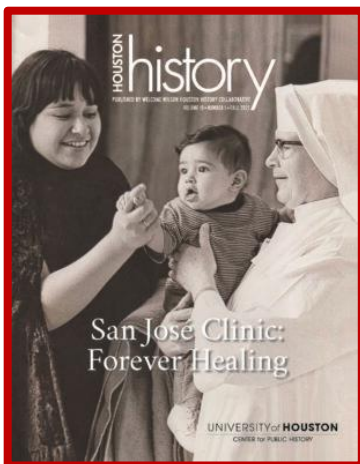
Over the summer, Nicole McCarthy (PhD Student) led a team of high school students in the research and development of stories for the online exhibit. Through the Summer Internship Program of the Center for Public History, Neumann worked with three undergraduates from CLASS and the College of Technology in the creation of information videos on Syria, cultural heritage, and the antiquities trade.

A team led by **Leandra Zarnow** and **Nancy Beck Young** kicked off a public launch of the **Sharing Stories from 1977 website** that aims to document and assess the thousands of participant

stories and legacy of the 1977 National Women's Conference held here in Houston. The site largely features the research of undergraduate and graduate student researchers, and over 1000 students at UH had already worked on the project to date. The main data that was presented at this "proof of concept" site launch is the Discover NWC Stories page that features biographies of all Texas delegates and presidentially appointed commissioners. The interactive map on the landing page was largely researched by DoH PhD Candidate **Caitlyn Jones**, who was an RA on the project. This was a huge milestone for the Sharing Stories project, and the public launch got **local** and **national** buzz because it involved a former NWC participant now in Congress and a number of nationally known journalists and historians.



Josiah Rector and **Leandra Zarnow** piloted a community-driven field work program for public history students in a special topics graduate course last fall that led to a lasting exchange for students and community members. A number of students built on their work through extended internships, conference presentations, and post-graduate jobs. Drs. Rector and Zarnow will be joined by DoH graduate students, **Ajanae Willis** and **Samantha de Leon**, at the *Imagining America* conference in New Orleans this November alongside community partners to present this model for graduate education.



At the *Houston History* magazine (editor: **Debbie Harwell**), DoH students continued to excel in writing and editing material for two issues published in 2021–2022. For the Fall 2021 issue titled “**San José Clinic: Forever Healing**,” the magazine staff established a community partnership with the clinic to document and celebrate its centennial as one of the nation’s oldest charity clinics. Five students working at the magazine completed the final edits for eleven articles based on research and oral histories students had conducted the prior academic year.



Articles in the Spring 2022 issue, “**Community Engagement from Blackboards to Digital Technology**,” highlighted the **100 Years of Stories: Documenting a Century at the University of Houston** project and other stories related to Houston culture.

On March 25-26, 2022, the UH Department of History hosted the conference *How Science Became Popular: Epistemic Governance and Scientific Citizenship in the Twentieth Century* that brought together thirty-seven scholars from the US, Canada, Germany, and the Czech Republic. In addition to established scholars from Houston, UC Berkeley, Princeton, UT Austin, and the Czech Academy of Sciences, the conference had a large graduate student representation, both

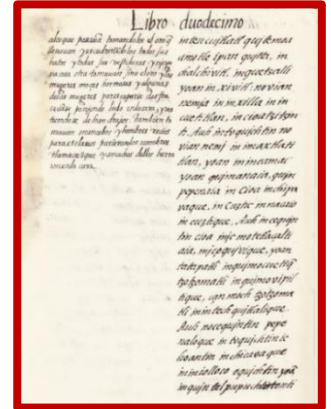


One of the conference panels.

from our program and from other universities. Three of DoH PhD students, **Said Sultan Al Hashimi**, **Erica Augenstein**, and **Dmitrii Blyshko**, presented papers at the conference, and six other graduate students served as panel chairs.

Norah Gharala was a co-principal investigator, with Guillermo de los Reyes (UH Hispanic Studies), on the digital and public humanities project “Slavery in Early Mexico: A Dataset Identifying the Enslaved Per-

sons on the Estates of Hernando Cortés,” in which a team of professors and students produced a database using property inventories from the 1540s, essays orienting the user, and commissioned an art piece from a Houston muralist. This project describes enslaved individuals for a public audience interested in the fall of Aztec power and the early Spanish colonial regime. A codebook and dataset were published in April 2022. More information describing the project is available on **Dr. Gharala’s personal website**. The project ran from fall 2020 to spring 2022.



Bob Buzzanco has served as a co-host, together with Scott Parkin, of the *Green and Red Podcast*, which focuses on history and politics from a radical and materialist perspective. It emphasizes themes of the environment, political economy, wars, foreign interventions, imperialism, labor, and class conflict. Their show has featured interviews with well-known scholars like Noam Chomsky, Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz, Andrew Bacevich, Staughton Lynd, and Immanuel Wallerstein, as well as dozens of activists. Bob also debated Jim DiEugenio, the writer of Oliver Stone’s documentary about the alleged JFK conspiracy. In the past year, they have done a 12-part virtual seminar on the Ukraine-Russia war featuring background history and experts on the conflict. This year, the show went over 300,000 listens, which is in the top 0.5 percent of podcasts globally.



Bob Buzzanco (right) interviewing Noam Chomsky for the Green and Red Podcast.

Recent PhD and MA Degree Recipients

Kim Goodling (PhD, 2021). Advisor: Matthew Clavin. Dissertation: “Privateering in the American Revolution: Its Effectiveness, Its Annoyance, and the British Assault on Connecticut.”

Kevin Johnson (PhD, 2021). Advisor: Raúl Ramos. Dissertation: “An Inglorious War: The US Civil War, Guerrilla Fighting and the American Plains Indians.”

Walker Shores (MA, 2021). Advisor: Nancy Beck Young.

Timothy Vale (PhD, 2022). Advisor: Jimmy Schafer. Dissertation: “Lone-Star Strong: The HIV/AIDS Epidemic and the Transformation of Texas’s LGBTQ Communities.”

Vahan Surabian (MA, 2022). Advisor: Nancy Beck Young.

Jovan Slaughter (MA, 2022). Advisor: Monica Perales.

Graduate Program News

Derek Ide received the John King Prize for Outstanding Graduate Student and Houston Endowment Dissertation Completion Fellowship, after which he joined Miami University Middletown as Visiting Instructor of History for the 2022–2023 academic year.



Allison Sáenz won a string of awards including the 2022 CLASS Summer Fellowship for Research Excellence and Diversity and a research fellowship from the University of Texas at Austin Center for Mexican American Studies (CMAS) to visit the Nettie Lee Benson Latin American Collection to conduct dissertation research, on top of being selected as a Latino Museum Studies Program Predoctoral Fellow at the National Museum of American History (NMAH) and National Museum of the American Latino (NMAL) in Washington D.C. The latter fellowship, awarded by the Smithsonian Institution, will allow her to conduct dissertation research in the collections housed at the Smithsonian, and also provides a stipend for research at other repositories in the Washington D.C. area. She will be in residence in D.C. from September 2022 through April 2023. Ms. Saenz’s dissertation, “Being a U.S. Central American: Immigration, Culture, and Ethnicity in Houston,” examines the history of Central Americans in one of the nation’s largest urban centers.

Another impressive collection of awards was scored by **Caitlyn Jones** who received the Texas State Library and Archives Commission Research Fellowship in Texas History from the Texas State Historical Association, as well as three UH prizes: the Stanley Siegel Prize for Scholarship in Texas History, the Joseph A. Pratt Houston History Prize from the Center for Public History, and the Margaret Henson Prize for Best Paper on Women’s History. Her PhD dissertation project explores public memory of the National Women’s Conference. Ms. Jones was also one of the 2022 Recipients of a Sponsored Projects Development Grant from the UH Libraries Digital Research Commons together with **David Guzman** and **Shine Trabucco**.



Shine Trabucco received a 2022–2023 Mellon Fellowship from the Crossing Latinidades Humanities Research Initiative, which includes, on top of a scholarship and extensive mentorship, a position with the Mapping Everyday Mexicana/Chicana Political Organizing in the Texas and Arizona Borderlands Crossing Latinidades Humanities Research Working Group.

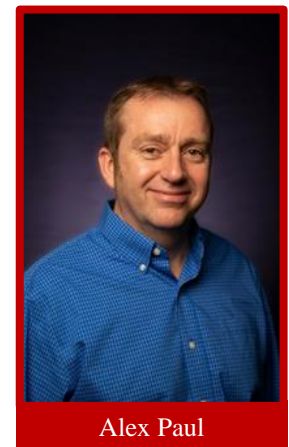
Stephon Boykin and **Olabode Shadare** received the 2022 UH Presidential Fellowship.

Heather Butina-Sutton was awarded a Critical Language Scholarship through the U.S. Department of State to study Portuguese in Florianópolis, Brazil over the summer 2022.



Dmitrii Blyshko presented papers “How to Reforge but Not Cheat Yourself: Science in the Early GULAG System” at the 53rd annual convention of the Association for Slavic, Eastern European, and Eurasian Studies (New Orleans, LA, November 2021) and “‘There is no Bold Thought:’ The Intellectual Context of Alternative Archaeology in the Late Soviet and Early Post-Soviet Time” at the annual convention of the British Association for Slavonic and East European Studies (Cambridge University, UK, April 2022). He also served as a collaborator in the project titled “Asbestos Ware in Eastern European Pottery Traditions: Technology and Regional Circulation” at the Peter the Great’s Museum of Anthropology and Ethnography in St. Petersburg, Russia.

Alex Paul won the UH Provost’s Graduate Teaching Assistant Award and the Houston Endowment Dissertation Completion Fellowship. He gave papers at two conferences: “A Reappraisal of Immigrants’ ‘Willingness’ to Comply with American Conscription during World War I” at the 88th Annual Meeting of the Society for Military History (Fort Worth, TX, April 2022) and “The Jewish American Community and World War I” at the Meeting of Houston’s Jewish War Veterans (Post 574, Temple Beth Israel, Houston, TX, March 13, 2022).



Jovan Slaughter received a **UH Media and Moving Image Prize** for the 2022 Student Competition. His submission was a Public Historians at Work podcast episode, “**Feeding the Third Ward,**” examining the history of the Cream Burger hamburger stand.

Allison Anderson published her first peer-reviewed article entitled “The King and Armstrong Ranches of Texas: Cooperation and Partnership, 1852-1973” in the *Journal of South Texas* 36.1 (Spring 2022).

In April 2022, **Ajanae Wilson** moderated the panel “A Year of Violence Conversations: Houston’s Aid to Victims of Domestic Abuse Then & Now.” This panel featured the AVDA’s founding mothers, Deedee Ostfeld, Dr. Toby Myers, and Rhoda Gerson, and current CEO, Maisha Colter. Wilson’s work was an extension of the Fall 2021 Humanities Lab directed by Drs. **Leandra Zarnow** and **Josiah Rector**.



On May 5, 2022, DoH held an Awards Banquet to recognize the excellence of our faculty and undergraduate and graduate students

Undergraduate Program News

The UH Department of History had a very eventful spring with our first Nights at the Museum at the African American Library at the Gregory School with **Debbie Harwell**, **David McNally**, and **Linda Reed** as speakers (March 10) and the Holocaust Museum Houston with **Nancy Beck Young**, **Mark Goldberg**, and **Leandra Zarnow** as speakers (April 14). Movie Nights were also hosted by **John Sbardellati** (February 18, HMH), **Adela Cedillo** (March 4, UH campus), and **Natalia Milanesio** (March 30, UH campus). We also had a Spring Open House (April 6) that drew many undergraduate students and included booths with entities such as the Career Services,

Writing Center, Center for Public History, and Digital Research Commons represented alongside our own faculty and programs.

In 2022, the Department of History offered multiple Undergraduate Awards that were won by the following students:

Murray Miller Undergraduate Scholarship: **Ian Thompson**.

P.C. and Josephine Del Barto Scholarships: **Miranda Ruzinsky**.

Outstanding Achievement in History: **Maya Bouchebl, Xochiel Castelan, Grace Conroy, Sarah Montero, and Morgan Thomas**.

Distinguished in History Certificate: **Tara Georgeson, Thuan Nguyen Huynh, Jack O'Connell, and Sandra Tzul**.

Distinguished in the Minor Certificate: **Tawny De La Cruz**.

Chair's Recognition: **Katie Feist, Nikita Los, Jenna Moffitt, and Zoe Picciandra**.

"Why History Matters" Video Prize: **Natalia Perez Navarro**.

The UH undergraduate program offers multiple opportunities for independent research, and in the academic year 2021–2022, our students conducted multiple research projects within several UH programs:

2021 Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF)

Jack O'Connell – "Violence at the End of a Republic" (Mentor: Richard Armstrong).

Alondra Torres – "Urban Farming in Houston: Food Deserts, Environmental Racism, and Plant-Based Diets" (Mentor: Josiah Rector).



2021-2022 Research for Aspiring Coogs in the Humanities (REACH)

Alexandra Gurule – Project: UH Digital Research Commons.

Maya Perez – Project: Sharing Stories from 1977.

James Ian Thompson – Project: SYRIOS.

Kennedy Williams – Project: UH Special Collections.

2021-2022 Provost's Undergraduate Research Scholarship (PURS)

Miles Bednorz – "Resilient Houston: Documenting Hurricane Harvey" (Mentor: Debbie Harwell).

Grace Conroy – "Resilient Houston: Documenting Hurricane Harvey" (Mentor: Debbie Harwell).

Ariel Durham – “How to Think About Civic Education in Our Modern America (Divided)” (Mentor: Terry Hallmark).

Bao Thuan Nguyen – “Prison Labor in Texas: How Prisoners Create and Reproduce Their Own Incarceration” (Mentor: Tshepo Masango Chéry).

2021 Mellon Research Scholars Program

Ariel Durham – “How to Think About Civic Education in Our Modern America [Divided]” (Mentor: Terry Hallmark).

Tara Georgeson – “Conquering Tierra Firme: Labor Dependence and Conflict in Early Colonial Panama” (Mentor: Norah Gharala).

Morgan Thomas – “Spirit of the Confederacy and the Robert E. Lee Chapter of the United Daughters of the Confederacy” (Mentor: Debbie Harwell).

Sandra Tzul – “An Exchange between Latinxs and Houston” (Mentor: Debbie Harwell).

Finally, three graduating history majors were selected as Fulbright Scholars for the academic year 2022–2023: **Morgan Thomas** will travel to Ghana, **Sandra Tzul** to Mexico, and **Ariel Durham** to South Korea, where they will serve as English teaching assistants.

Alumni News

Cristina Rivera Garza (PhD, 1995), Distinguished Professor in Hispanic Studies at the University of Houston, was recognized on June 6, 2022, with the 2021 Xavier Villaurrutia Award for her forthcoming novel *El invencible verano de Liliana*. Presented by the Ministry of Culture of the Government of Mexico and the National Institute of Fine Arts and Literature (INBAL), the prestigious Xavier Villaurrutia Award is the highest literary award given to a book published in Mexico. In 2022, Dr. Rivera Garza also received the Berlin Prize Fellowship, a semester-long fellowship awarded by the American Academy in Berlin to top-tier scholars, writers, composers, and artists who are from or live in the United States.

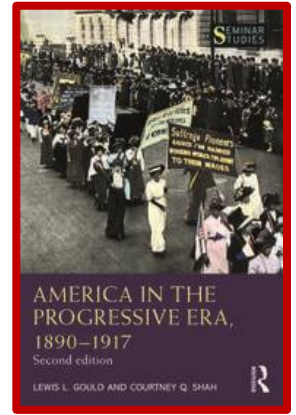


Cristina Rivera Garza



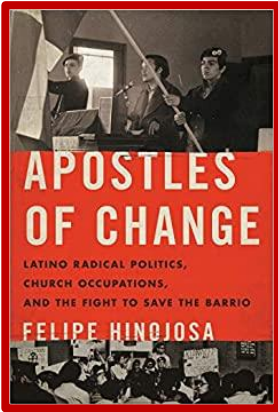
Sonia Hernandez (PhD, 2006), Associate Professor at Texas A&M, was awarded the 2022 Philip Taft Labor History Book Award from the ILR School of Cornell University for her recently published book, *For a Just and Better World: Engendering Anarchism in the Mexican Borderlands, 1900–1938* (University of Illinois Press, 2021), that anchors anarcho-syndicalism in the Gulf of Mexico as a powerful way to understand transnational political and labor networks.

Courtney Shah (PhD, 2006), History Instructor at Lower Columbia College, co-authored *America in the Progressive Era, 1890–1917*, 2nd edition (Routledge, 2021, with Louis Gould). The book provides a readable, analytical narrative of the emergence, influence, and decline of the spirit of progressive reform that animated American politics and culture around the turn of the twentieth century. She also became a star of the **TV-show Jeopardy!** after a seven-game winning streak.



Trinidad Gonzales (PhD, 2008), Professor of History at South Texas College, was **appointed to the National Humanities Alliance Board**.

Felipe Hinojosa (PhD, 2009), Professor and Director of Carlos H. Cantú Hispanic Education & Opportunity Endowment at Texas A&M, published a new book *Apostles of Change: Latino Radical Politics, Church Occupations, and the Fight to Save the Barrio* (University of Texas Press, 2021), which is set in four major cities (Chicago, New York, Los Angeles, and Houston) where in 1969 and 1970 Latino radical activists clashed with religious leaders as they occupied churches to protest urban renewal, poverty, police brutality, and racism in the late 1960s and early 1970s. In 2022, *Apostles of Change* became the winner of the Texas Association of Chicanos in Higher Education Inaugural Book Award and a finalist of the 2021 Raul Yzaguirre Best Political/Current Affairs Book, International Latino Book Awards.

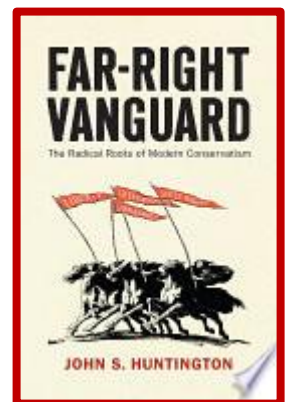


Lauran Kerr-Herally (PhD, 2010), Professor of History at the Houston Community College, was selected as a West Houston Institute Innovation Fellow in the inaugural second-year cohort. Read about her project in her **blog**.

Holle Canatella (PhD, 2010), Associate Professor of History at the Lock Haven University, received her university's President's Award for Distinguished Work in Advancement of Women's Issues.

Stephanie Calvert (MA, 2013) was named teacher of the year at East Early College High School.

John Huntington (PhD, 2016), Professor of History at the Houston Community College, published his first book **Far-Right Vanguard: The Radical Roots of Modern Conservatism** (U Pennsylvania Press, 2021). The book was featured in a **podcast for the New Books Network**.



Brett Olmsted (PhD, 2017) has become a full time Professor of History at the San Jacinto College North teaching U.S. and American history. He also helped organize the SJC's History Matters Conference where he spoke on redefining the Borderlands.

Samantha Rodriguez (PhD, 2018), a History and Humanities Professor at Houston Community College, participated as a fellow in the NEH Summer Institute “Toward’s a People’s History of Landscape: Part 1: Black and Indigenous Histories of the Nation’s Capital” (June 2022, Washington, DC) and was made Co-coordinator of the **Bridge (Puente) Program at HCC**, a national program that leverages learning communities and cultural responsiveness to facilitate student success.

Alex LaRotta (PhD, 2019) recently presented at the U.S. Latinx History symposium at Columbia University, published an article a few months ago with the *Washington Post*, and will be returning to Columbia this September to produce an event based on the WaPo article.

Lindsay Amaral (PhD, 2020) received a Leading Edge Fellowship through the American Council of Learned Societies. Amaral was appointed to Hunger Free America where she will work as a research manager for the project, “SNAP Outcomes: How Public Benefits Impact Recipients’ Lives.”

Laura Bernal (MA, Public History Track, 2020) was promoted to a position as Interlibrary Loan Supervisor at the UHCL Alfred R. Neumann Library at UH Clear Lake. She has also been accepted to the Library Science program at Texas Woman’s University for the Fall 2022 term.

Bryan Salazar (MA, Public History Track, 2020) has accepted a part-time University Archivist position with UH Downtown. He continues in his position at the archives at the Holocaust Museum Houston.

Jovan Slaughter (MA, Public History Track, 2022) has accepted a position as an education coordinator with the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services.

Gary Girod’s (PhD, 2021) public and digital history project *The French History Podcast* surpassed one million downloads. With tens of thousands of listens monthly and over 140,000 followers across social media, it has become a popular source for French history. It is also notable for connecting new academic research by world-renowned historians with the general public, including Ethan Katz of UC Berkeley, Robin Mitchell of the University of Buffalo, and University of Houston’s own Sarah Fishman, Matthew Clavin, and Bob Buzzanco.