Milton Plesur History Conference

“ENGAGING DISCOURSES: INTERDISCIPLINARY APPROACHES TO HISTORY”

Graduate Student Panel Presentations
9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Keynote Presentation
1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Dr. Penny Von Eschen
“Duke Ellington Plays Baghdad: Rethinking Hard and Soft Power From the Outside In”

Saturday, March 24, 2007
Clemens Hall, Rooms 120 and 119
North Campus, University at Buffalo
**Panel One: "Social and Political Culture"**

9:15 am. - 10:45 am.
Clemens 120

**Moderator:** Dr. Patrick McDevitt  
Associate Professor  
Department of History, University at Buffalo

**Steve Gill:** "Political Culture in Seventeenth Century England”  
Ph.D. Student  
Department of History, University at Buffalo

**Molly Herrmann:** "Racial Equality and the Saint Domingue Revolution”  
Ph.D. Student  
Department of History, University at Buffalo

M.A. Student  
Department of History, University at Buffalo

**Christopher Mazgaj:** “George Orwell: A Changed Perspective”  
M.A. Student  
Department of History, University at Buffalo

**Panel Two: "Gender and Censorship"**

9:15 am. - 10:30 am.
Clemens 119

**Moderator:** Dr. Susan Cahn  
Associate Professor  
Department of History, University at Buffalo

**Deveryle James:** “Rape In American Literature and Film from 1915 to the Present”  
Ph.D. Student  
Department of Comparative Literature, University at Buffalo

**Morgan Paige Denton:** “Good Woman or Bad Woman? Female Roles in Pre-Code Films”  
Ph.D. Student  
Department of History, University at Buffalo

**Hope L. Russell:** “Re-imagining The Color Purple: American Schools and the Discourse of Censorship”  
Ph.D. Student  
Department of Women’s Studies, University at Buffalo
Closing Remarks
4:15 pm. – 4:30 pm.
Clemens 120

Conference Coordinator: Morgan Denton
Graduate History Association, President
Department of History, University at Buffalo

Presented with support from:
Departments of History, English, and Comparative Literature, the Graduate Americanist Group, as well as the Graduate Student Association organizations of Anthropology, American Studies, Classics, and History.

Panel Three – ‘Criminals, Subversives, and Undesirables’
11:00 am. – 12:30 pm.
Clemens 120

Moderator: Dr. David Herzberg
Assistant Professor
Department of History, University at Buffalo

Elizabeth Poyer: “Violent Redistribution: The Economics of Piracy in the Ancient Aegean”
Ph.D. Student
Department of Classics, University at Buffalo

Chad Vaupel: “Industrialization and Crime in Early Modern England”
Ph.D. Student
Department of History, University at Buffalo

Tina Kibbe: “Middle-Class Morons? Eugenic Responses to the ‘Mentally Defective’ 1890-1927”
Ph.D. Student
Department of History, University at Buffalo

Emma Johnson: “The Edelweiss Pirates: A German Youth Culture in the Time of National Socialism”
Ph.D. Student
Department of History, University at Buffalo

Panel Four – ‘Fascism in the 1930’s and 1940’s’
11:00 am. – 12:15 pm.
Clemens 119

Moderator: Dr. Hal Langfur
Assistant Professor
Department of History, University at Buffalo

W. S. Duffy: "Looking Backwards to Move Forwards: Amateur Roman Historians in the 1930s"
Ph.D. Student
Department of Classics, University at Buffalo

Daniel Plassche: "Missed Opportunities in the Mediterranean? German Evaluations of Fascist Italy as a Determinant of Military Strategy from 1940 - 1943"
Ph.D. Student
Department of History, University at Buffalo
Ph.D. Student, Department of History, University at Buffalo

**LUNCH**
12:30 pm. - 1:00 pm.
Clemens 120

**KEYNOTE PRESENTATION**
1:00 pm. – 2:30 pm.
Clemens 120

**Moderator: Dr. David Gerber**
Professor and Chair
Department of History, University at Buffalo

Dr. Penny Von Eschen
“Duke Ellington Plays Baghdad: Rethinking Hard and Soft Power From the Outside In”
Professor
Department of History, University of Michigan

**PANEL FIVE – “COMMEMORATION HISTORY”**
2:45 pm. – 4:15 pm.
119 Clemens

**Moderator: Dr. Liana Vardi**
Associate Professor and Director of Graduate Studies
Department of History, University at Buffalo

Steve Pitt: “Forming a National Identity: The Victor Emmanuel Monument’s Lasting Impression on the Italian People”
M.A. Student
Department of History, University at Buffalo

Paul Zwirnkei: “Memory and the ‘Father of His Country’: The 1932 George Washington Bicentennial Celebrations”
M.A. Student
Department of History, University at Buffalo

Johannes Wiedemann: “The Memorial to the Murdered Jews: Assessment of a Holocaust Commemoration”
M.A. Student
Department of History, University at Buffalo

Patrick Grubbs: “The History and Celebration of Groundhog Day”
M.A. Student
Department of History, University at Buffalo

**PANEL SIX – “RELIGIOUS HISTORY”**
2:45 pm. - 4:00 pm.
Room 120

**Moderator: Dr. Gail Radford**
Associate Professor
Department of History, University at Buffalo

Ph.D. Student
Department of Classics, University at Buffalo

Jonathan Bergman: “This is a Church, And this is a Steeple’: Of Religious Disaster and Spiritual Relief”
Ph.D. Candidate
Department of History, University at Buffalo
Mark A. Lempke: “Harmless as Doves, Sly as Serpents: How Three Christian Colleges Navigated Reagan’s America”
Ph.D. Student
Department of History, University at Buffalo