



Selected Spring 2017 Faculty Achievements

- Dr. Peter Cole was awarded a Title VI Curriculum Enhancement Grant to integrate the study of Puerto Rico into his course on urban history.
- Dr. Ginny Boynton gave the keynote address at the 2017 Friends of the Macomb Public Library Dinner
- Dr. Lee Brice won the 2017 Elizabeth A. Whitehead Visiting Professorship at the American School of Classical Studies in Athens (ASCSA)
- Dr. Ute Chamberlin became an initiated member of WIU's Eta Epsilon Chapter of Phi Beta Delta, the Honor Society for International Scholars
- Dr. Tim Roberts, Dr. Greg Hall, and their students are working on projects on the history of WIU to be featured on the University website.

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Volume I, Issue II

Spring 2017

From the Chair's Desk

Dear Students, Alumni, Faculty, and Friends of the Department of History,

I'm delighted to present recent departmental news and achievements in this spring newsletter. As you will see in the pages that follow, the department had a wonderfully successful semester. Our programming, our students, and our loyal donors and supporters made a major impact this spring, on campus and beyond, and I think our accomplishments exemplify WIU's four core values of academic excellence, educational opportunity, personal growth, and social responsibility in action. The department provided multiple professional development and enrichment opportunities, from public lectures and contin-

uing education courses to guest speakers and new degree options and opportunities.

A number of our fantastic young alumni shared their thoughts about the role of their WIU education in shaping their personal and professional successes in a roundtable discussion sponsored by our two department organizations; you will see some of those alumni stories in this newsletter; others can be found on our website and our department's excellent Facebook [page](#).

I will close this note with an announcement that gives me great pride: I have been offered and have accepted the continuing position of Chair of the WIU Department of History. I am deeply grateful for the support I received during my period as

Interim Chair and look forward to a productive and successful future. Together, we will make history!



**Dr. Jennifer McNabb,
Professor and Chair of the
WIU Department of
History**

History Program Updates and Graduate Student News

*History has a new partnership with John Marshall Law School in Chicago that allows high-achieving History majors to apply for early admission to JMLS and to complete their WIU History BA during the first year of law school in Chicago. See details [here](#).

*WIU has approved a new Integrated Baccalaureate and Master's Program for History. This program allows students with a GPA of 3.25 and higher to pursue both the BA and MA degrees at WIU. A series of "bridge courses" at the 400-level integrates the two degrees and serves to transition

students between undergraduate and graduate work.

*The graduate students in Dr. Ed Woell's HIST 541 ("The First Public Sphere and the Rise of Human Rights, 1650-1800") created a repository of essays in the form of blog posts linking what we know about the first public sphere and initial human rights to what these entities are today. Read their work [here](#).

*History MA student Nancy Dixon won first-place honors in the Research Presentation category at WIU's Graduate Research Conference in March. Her paper, "Silenced

and Naked People: Representations of the Philippines and the Filipinos at the Quincy Museum," was supervised by Dr. Febe Pamonag.

*The following students successfully completed their History MA exit options this spring: Travis Brunson, Gabrielle Filipink, Jeffrey Meyers, Heather Monson, Adam Moss, Katherine Prefountain, Jonathan Schulze, Frank Shaw, Joshua Spence, and Ryan Sullivan. Congratulations to all for their fine work in completing their final MA program requirements, and best wishes for future success!

Spring 2017 Department Scholar: Madeline Olejnik

“History offers a lot in the way of critical thinking and communication skills, and I definitely thought that it would not only be fun to pursue during my undergraduate career but also prepare me for work outside of academia.”

History major and Centennial Honors student Madeline Olejnik is our Spring 2017 Department Scholar. She is currently completing an Honors thesis under the supervision of Dr. Febe Pamonag and will be honored at this spring’s Honors Convocation.

Maddie is from Naperville, IL. She has paired her undergraduate major in History with a second major in Anthropology. Maddie identifies a long-time interest in history that led her to make the subject a focus of her education: “I decided to major in history because I had always had an interest in it, but thanks to some wonderful high school teachers and college professors, my interest quickly turned into a passion. History offers a lot in the way of critical thinking and communication skills, and I definitely thought that it would not only be fun to pursue during my undergraduate career but also prepare me for work outside of academia.”

Maddie has been active in various facets of student life on campus at WIU. “I have been involved in WIU’s Mock Trial team as a team captain, the Associated Students of History as secretary this past year, the President’s Institute, and Chi Omega Fraternity as secretary and vice president. I have presented my research on Maoist propaganda at WIU’s Undergraduate Research Day and my work on Tsuda Umeko and her college at the Phi Alpha Theta re-

gional conference held at WIU last year.” At that 2016 Phi Alpha Theta Conference, Maddie won the Best Undergraduate Paper Award.

In addition to these memories, Maddie recalls moments in the classroom that coupled fun and learning. “My favorite history class memory was the Survivor Black Death activity in Dr. McNabb’s Middle Ages course last semester. It was a lot of fun to argue with other groups and defend your own people from being voted out of the village - plus it didn’t hurt that my group ended up winning!”

Maddie cites a number of mentors as instrumental in her successful academic experience at WIU. “Although I appreciate every history faculty member I have interacted with, I would not be where I was today without the support and encouragement from Dr. Febe Pamonag and Dr. Jennifer McNabb. Both of these professors have encouraged me to take chances and strive for my best throughout my undergraduate career, and I cannot thank them enough for the impact they have had on my life.”

After battling a few health challenges this year, Maddie is still weighing her options for the future, and she is considering furthering her education in law school or graduate school. The department wishes Maddie great success on whichever path she chooses!



Spring 2017 History Department Scholar
Madeline Olejnik



Maddie, with Dr. Gordon Kirk (center), representing the Associated Students of History at the signing of the new Kirk ASH Endowment (photo credit: VPC)

Featured History Alum: Nathan Pierce (in his own words)



Alumnus in action: above, Nathan in 2014 speaking at a MCHM event; below, the homepage of the [MCHM](#)

“While at WIU the skills I acquired that are most useful in my current position [as Executive Director of the Macon County History Museum] were writing and communication skills, as well as research skills and learning to look at a situation in depth and from multiple angles.”

I graduated from the University of Illinois in 2006 with a bachelor's degree in Psychology. Previously I had received my associate's degree from Carl Sandburg Community College in 2001. I started graduate school at WIU in the fall of 2011 and completed my master's degree in history in the spring of 2013.

While at WIU I started an internship at the Hancock County History Museum, where I shortly afterward became a board member. After serving three months as an intern/board member, I was asked to run the museum as a part-time job. I was also working as a graduate assistant at the Veterans Resource Center at WIU.

While working at the Hancock County Museum, I designed and installed the Civil War exhibit, which was part of a larger overall Lincoln exhibit. I continued in that position until obtaining full time employment as the Executive Director of

the Macon County History Museum and Prairie Village, where I currently serve.

At my current position I oversee all museum operations and activities. Some of the tasks include designing and installing exhibits, accounting and financials, obtaining artifacts and donations, fundraising, and organizing events and guest speakers, among many other day to day tasks.

During my tenure at the museum we have renovated the entire inside of the museum by painting it and hanging Homasote panels throughout the building that make changing exhibits much easier. Older carpet has been replaced, and in some areas the original hardwood floors refinished. New exhibits have been installed including the Civil War, the Grand Army of the Republic (which was founded in Decatur), an Aviation Exhibit that features two local brothers who once broke the world endurance flight record for small planes in 1939, and a business

exhibit; we have redesigned many existing exhibits and smaller displays to increase their appeal aesthetically. A volunteer recently completed a 1920s clothing, hat, and jewelry exhibit. We will soon start working on developing a finding aid for the collections and archives. [Note: Nathan will be supervising three current WIU History student interns this summer at the MCHM.]

While at WIU the skills I acquired that are most useful in my current position are writing and communication skills, as well as research skills and learning to look at a situation in depth and from multiple angles. Writing research papers was, I believe, instrumental in becoming more skilled not only in research but also in critical thinking and developing an argument. Skills such as those are very helpful in convincing a donor why your project is worth funding, writing press releases, and a myriad of other situations that require communication in writing.



We preserve history through outreach, restoration, and research.

MCHM

Here at the Macon County History Museum we believe that in order to know what the future holds, you must first understand the past. This website was built on that premise, to connect

Featured History Major: Gwen Hanford



“History always seemed like a good fit for me because I love to learn about people. By looking at the past it becomes easier to see why things are the way they are in the present.”

History major Gwendolyn Hanford is our Spring 2017 featured student major. Gwen, who will be graduating in May 2017, has received a Title IX Scholarship to fund a summer internship in Puerto Rico where she will be working on an African heritage project.

Gwen, who is from Peru, IL, is currently completing her undergraduate major in History and minors in English and Theatre. When asked why she decided to major in History, Gwen answered, “History always seemed like a good fit for me because I love to learn about people. By looking at the past it becomes easier to see why things are the way they are in the present. One of my high school history teachers said that nothing ever comes from nothing and everything has a past. Learning or trying to figure out what the past is, is something I greatly enjoy.”

Gwen has been a student ambassador for the department in many ways. She has served on the executive board of the Associated Students of History in three positions: Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary. Gwen’s service to the department extends further; during the 2016-2017 academic year, she represented the department on the College of Arts and Sciences Student Council and on the Faculty Council. She had the honor of introducing the spring semester Last Lecture speaker. Recent highlights for Gwen included ASH’s win as the CAS Student Council’s Outstanding Student Or-

ganization. Gwen says, “I was honored to be one of the members to accept the award” at the April 21st reception and awards ceremony.

When asked to identify a faculty mentor, Gwen responded, “Dr. Jennifer McNabb has been very supportive of me during my time at Western. When I was getting ready to leave for a study abroad trip to the U.K. she gave me a number of recommendations for places to see, even though she was away on sabbatical at the time. She also spent time with me when I was searching for graduate schools and helped me to be more a more competitive applicant.”

Gwen recalls being challenged at WIU to try new things and to find new ways to consider the past: “For one of my classes we had to give a group presentation on a set of documents about Richard III. We were encouraged to be creative as possible. Our group decided to hold a funeral and roast since most of the readings were highly negative about the king. I dread group projects most of the time, but this one was actually enjoyable.”

Gwen is currently setting her future course: “I am in the process of applying to the Peace Corps and if I am accepted will be leaving at the beginning of next year to work abroad for two years.”

Good luck, Gwen!



WIU History major Gwendolyn Hanford



Gwen with fellow ASH members, advisor Dr. Ginny Boynton, Dean Sue Martinelli-Fernandez, and Associate Dean Kyle Mayborn at the College of Arts and Sciences Awards Reception

History: Alumni News and Notes

Melanie Huettman (BA, History) spoke at this year's WIU Pre-Law Symposium in February. Melanie is currently enrolled in the School of Law at the University of Iowa and will be Editor in Chief of Volume 21 of *The Journal of Gender, Race & Justice*.

*

Ryan Walker (BA, History) spoke to students in Dr. Roberts's capstone History seminar after a campus screening of his film, "The Bootlegger," which documents the life, death, and legacy of Henry "Kelly" Wagle of Colchester from the Prohibition era.

*

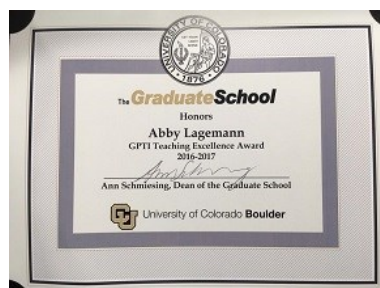
Thomas Colclasure (MA, History) was admitted to the Master of Divinity program at the Chicago Theological Seminary, with an emphasis in interfaith dialogue and social justice.

*

Aaron Davis (MA, History) successfully defended his doctoral dissertation, "American Protestants and U.S. Foreign Policy Toward the Soviet Union During the Eisenhower Administration: Billy Graham, Reinhold Niebuhr, and G. Bromley Oxnam," in March at Kansas State University.

*

Abby Lagemann (BA and MA, History) won a 2016-2017 Graduate Student Teaching Excellence Award at the University of Colorado at Boulder, where she is completing her doctoral work. The award represents the highest teaching honor for graduate student instructors.



Victoria Stewart (MA, History) has accepted a position at Northwest Florida State College to teach US History and American Government, to commence in fall 2017. Victoria will complete her doctorate in History and her MA in Political Science at Northern Illinois this spring.

*

The Sarpy County Museum in Nebraska has been honored as with the City of Bellevue's Community Development Achievement Award for 2017. **Ben Justman** (MA, History), serves as the museum's the Executive Director.



*

Jamie Chara (BA, History) has been voted 2017-2018 Waccamaw Middle School Teacher of the Year in Georgetown County, South Carolina. Since joining the faculty, Jamie has served as Department Chair, Cheerleading Coach, and Spirit Director. She will graduate this May from Coastal Carolina University with a MEd in Educational Leadership.



*

Andrea Moore (Van Drew; BA, History) is completing her MS in Geography this spring from Northern Illinois University. She will begin the Geography PhD program in the fall.

Attention History alumni: Do you have exciting news to share about recent awards, scholarships, or employment success stories? Submit professional updates to JL-Mcnabb@wiu.edu to be featured in a future edition of the newsletter!

Associated Students of History Update (by President Dan Kellogg)



The Associated Students of History (ASH) began the semester with a Welcome Back Party, which consisted of the fan favorite combination of Papa John's pizza and Super-Fight. ASH paid tribute to Black History month and Women's History month by screening the films *Selma* and *She's Beautiful When She's Angry*. ASH continued its bi-annual Professional Development series by co-hosting an Alumni Panel in April featuring WIU graduates who majored in History. ASH's Executive Board decided to take a break from

the usual volunteering at the Western Illinois Museum this semester and instead coordinated the cleaning the walls of Morgan Hall 302, to remove the residue of old blue poster tac in ASH's usual meeting room. ASH also coordinated its semester field trip to Bishop Hill and enjoyed an eventful and scenic trip on the rare weekend without rain!

ASH held elections on April 19th and successfully elected a full Executive Board, even with three of our reoccurring E-board members graduating. Taryn Wehling (Vice President), Maddie Olejnik (Secretary), and Gwen Hanford (Treasurer) are set to graduate this semester, and their positions are being filled by first-time E-board members Mia Blankenship (incoming Vice President), Rachel Eaton (incoming Secretary), Harrison Schulte (incoming Treasurer), and Miranda Taylor (incoming Activities Director). Continuing in positions are: Daniel Kellogg (President), and

Adam Patchik (Social Media Correspondent). We look forward to bringing in fresh members to the executive board as well as new members next fall!

Other notable news items this semester include a gracious endowment by Dr. Kirk for the future success of ASH. Dr. Kirk has been incredibly generous in his investment, and ASH is so thankful to have his confidence in our organization. ASH was also awarded the Student Council's Departmental Organization Recognition Award, which includes a \$150 award for future ASH activities, in addition to the prestige of being the recipient! The Associated Students of History looks forward to next Fall's Student Activities Fair in hopes of encouraging new students to join our organization. With our E-board consisting of fresh new members, hopes are high as we wrap up our very successful semester.



The 2016-2017 and 2017-2018 ASH Executive Boards



Members of the Associated Students of History (with faculty advisors Drs. Ginny Boynton and Ute Chamberlin) on their spring field trip to Bishop Hill, IL

Refer a student! Do you know a high school student considering the next step of his or her education? Encourage him or her to Think Purple! Email JL-Mcnabb@wiu.edu with names and contact information to help with History's recruitment efforts.

History on Campus

Spring semester brought a series of History visitors to campus for educational and professional development programming (see page 8 for photos).

In March Professor Josh Tate of the Dedman School of Law at Southern Methodist University offered a trio of talks for the benefit of History students and the campus community. He spoke first to the History majors enrolled in spring's HIST 201, Historical Methods, discussing his own path to history and law school

and answering students' questions about the processes of studying history. Professor Tate also offered a program on the utility of the History major for students intending to apply to law school. He concluded his visit with a public lecture, "The Magna Carta and the Charter of the Forest," a talk reflecting on the legacy of the Great Charter and the Charter of the Forest on the latter's 800th anniversary. He has spoken on the Magna Carta in conjunction with its 2015 anniversary

at schools all over the world and graciously allowed his lecture to be recorded for the department's Facebook [page](#).

In April four WIU alumni participated in the first "History at Work: WIU History Alums Talk about Career Success." Alex Heuer (National Public Radio in St. Louis), Nathan Pierce (Macon County History Museum), and Bridget Quinlivan (John Wood Community College) returned to Macomb for the roundtable, while Ashley Eberle (California Polytechnic

State University) participated virtually through FaceTime from California. The panelists talked about how the training provided by their History degrees helped them secure employment and how they apply their History skillset in the workplace. The recorded video of the session, co-sponsored by ASH and Phi Alpha Theta, is also available at the Facebook page, and short videos from alums talking about what History means to them are available on the department's webpage.

Spring 2017 List of History Graduates

Christopher Greene (Maquon, IL)

Gwendolyn Hanford (Peru, IL)

David Heusel (Franklin Park, IL)

James Jones (Colona, IL)

Thomas Wayne Juvinal (Burlington, IA)

Meaghan Mason (Greenview, IL)

Brandon Nelson (Bettendorf, IA)

Matthew Nelson (Chicago, IL)

Madeline Olejnik (Naperville, IL)

Charles Peytavin (Macomb, IL)

Michael Prokos (Des Plaines, IL)

Richard Scott Schwab (Milan, IL)

Wade Donald Waterstreet (Macomb, IL)

Taryn Wehling (Aurora, IL)

CONGRATULATIONS, GRADUATES!



History at URD: April 19, 2017

Four History students presented their research as part of the 2017 Thomas E. Helm Undergraduate Research Day.

Kaitlyn Bossolono presented "More Than Meets the Eye: Mary A. Bennett," discussing the career of WIU Biology professor and chair Mary Bennett (Dr. Greg Hall, faculty mentor).

Rachel Eaton and Kyle Sealey both presented on topics from Nazi Germany. Rachel's lec-

ture was titled "Forever Responsible: The Individuals Who Assisted in the Spread of Anti-Semitism," and Kyle presented "The Power of Nazi Wartime Propaganda" (Dr. Chamberlin served as faculty mentor for both).

David Heusel presented "A Cup of Contradiction: How Monastic Brewing Changed Life in the Norwich Cathedral Priory" (Dr. Jennifer McNabb, faculty mentor).



History at Thomas E. Helm Undergraduate Research Day (from left): Dr. McNabb, Kaitlyn Bossolono, David Heusel, Rachel Eaton, Kyle Sealey, and Dr. Chamberlin

The History Department in Action

The department hosted two dynamic public events in April: Professor Josh Tate, Dedman School of Law, Southern Methodist University, offered a lecture on the Magna Carta and the Charter of the Forest, and four alumni participated in our first Alumni Success roundtable



Drs. Chamberlin, McNabb, and Boynton participated in the department's annual Women's History Month Panel in Malpass Library



Dr. Ute Chamberlin (second from left) at her induction to WIU's Eta Epsilon chapter of Phi Beta Delta, the Honor Society for International Scholars

Department of History Faculty Colloquium



Professor Lee Brice
Wealthy Corinth Revisited: Current Research on the 4th-2nd cent. Coins and Mint of a Greek City

The presentation will focus on recently funded research in progress - a study of the small-denomination coinage minted by the ancient Greek city of Corinth during and after the life of Alexander the Great. The project will permit me to establish the chronology and pace of minting activity in Corinth during a period of political and economic transition. Knowing how erratic minting of silver coin was during this period will provide both detailed evidence in terms of silver use at the mint and a wide-angle view onto the workings of the broader Corinthian economy about which we know little. This project takes the study of Greek coins and the broader ancient economy in a new direction as it establishes the chronology and activity record of the most important mint in central Greece. In addition to its importance for understanding the broad economic history of Greece during a time of intense political transition, the project will contextualize the economic impact of Alexander the Great and his successors on the region of Corinth.







Date: Thursday, April 27th

Location: Morgan 307

Time: 3:00 p.m.

This event is free and open to the public. All are welcome!

Dr. Lee Brice offered the final in the 2016-2017 History Faculty Colloquium series, speaking about the project he will be working on during his sabbatical year in Athens. Drs. Chamberlin and Roberts also spoke this spring.

History Essay Prizes, Spring 2017

The Department of History is proud to announce the student recipients of a number of paper prizes, funded by generous supporters of the department and its students. Congratulations to these students and their faculty mentors, and thanks to our donors who support these awards.

The winner of the Constitution and the Bill of Rights Essay prize, sponsored by Dr. Tim Roberts, is History major Aaron Adams for his essay "Should the Bill of Rights Apply to Illegal Immigrants?"

This spring's winner of the Richard D. and Janet L. Boynton History Honors Thesis Award is History Teacher Education major Mary Beth Lane. Mary Beth's thesis, "Making a Change: The Effectiveness of Hull House and Its Residents as a Buffer between Immigrants and a New World, 1889-1935," was directed by Dr. Ginny Boynton.

The Spring 2017 William & Doris Burton Writing Award in History is awarded to History major Taryn Wehling. Her essay, "American

Women on the Home Front: The Importance of Women Who Were Not Rosie the Riveter," was completed for the History capstone seminar taught by Dr. Greg Hall.

This year's winner of the Judy Ellen Thompson Prize is Olivia Reuter. Her prize-winning essay, "Art in a Time of Suffering," was completed for HIST 337, The Holocaust, taught by Dr. Ute Chamberlin.

The department congratulates all of the students who submitted their work for these prizes.

Thanks to all of the department's friends and donors who supported History during The Western Challenge on Purple and Gold Day. History was at the top of the "Advocates" leaderboard all day and raised a total of \$2,640 during the 24-hour pledge period!



History Department - WIU

← generated 109 clicks and 7 donations, totaling \$975

Phi Alpha Theta Update

This spring WIU's Omicron Omicron Chapter of Phi Alpha Theta, the History Honor Society, produced a volume of the *Western Illinois Historical Review*, featuring three student essays (read them online at the department's website [here](#)). Congratulations to M.A. students Nancy Dixon and Jillien Zudell, who served as student co-editors, and to chapter advisor Dr. Tim Roberts for their efforts.

The chapter, which meets bi-weekly on Wednesday afternoons, co-hosted the Alumni Success Panel with ASH in

April, inducted four new members, and elected a new executive board for the 2017-2018 academic year: President, Mikayla Kitchen; Vice President, Kamren Minnaert; and Secretary/Treasurer, Luke Josey. The chapter is also selling t-shirts for members at \$11.

New President Mikayla Kitchen encourages students interested in learning more about Phi Alpha Theta, which is open to non-majors as well as majors, or about submitting their work for publication in the *WIHR* contact her: ma-kitchen@wiu.edu



History professor and Phi Alpha Theta faculty advisor Tim Roberts (left), joined by new Phi Alpha Theta inductees Luke Josey, Rachel Eaton, Becky Shaw, and Chance Waddell

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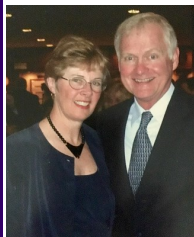
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Department of History

Donor/Scholarship Profile: Darrell and Ginger Dykstra



The Darrell and Virginia Dykstra Memorial Scholarship was established in 2006 in memory of Professor

Darrell Dykstra to support a promising new or returning History Department graduate student. Earlier this spring I asked Ginger to offer some thoughts on Darrell's career at Western and her ongoing commitment to WIU and its students. I was so charmed by her replies to my questions that I decided to provide as much of them as I could here, in her own words:

"Darrell & I were high school sweethearts at Holland High School in Holland, MI, both graduating in 1963. He went to Harvard, majoring in British History & Literature for the B.A. in 1967. I went to University of Michigan, majoring in Education with a B.S. Ed in 1967. Darrell came to the University of Michigan to earn his M.A. in History in 1969 and a Ph.D. in Middle Eastern History in 1977. We lived in Cairo, Egypt as he was doing research there from mid-1971 to mid-1973. After we moved to Macomb, I earned a M.S. Ed from Western Illinois University in 1980."

Ginger continued, "Darrell taught at Western Illinois University in the History Department from 1977 to 2006 and overlapped in the WIU Advising Center from 1985 to 1990. He was also History Dept. Graduate Advisor from 1987 to 2005. During that time I

was teaching special education for the Macomb Public Schools, from 1978 to 2001. Darrell was also one of the WIU professors who taught in the semester abroad program in London in the spring of 1985."

Of the establishment of the scholarship, Ginger recounts, "At the time of Darrell's death in Nov. 2006, Larry Balsamo and I decided to set up a scholarship fund to honor Darrell, and since he had been graduate advisor, we decided it should support the graduate program. It was used as a memorial to Darrell, and within 2 weeks the fund had reached \$20,000, enough to support a single scholarship for a top graduate student in the history department. Over the next 5 years Darrell's mother, Kathryn Dykstra, and I contributed in order to build up that scholarship level. Since then I have wanted to help graduate students in history as much as I could by pledging significantly larger amounts so that the stipend could be generously raised and that more than one student at a time could receive it."

When asked about memories of the department, Ginger wrote, "The history department for Darrell was a very collegial place but also added humor, support, research interests, and social events to his life and to mine as well. He appreciated his colleagues and their personalities, interests, lecture abilities, research, publications. Darrell also spent a good deal of time with the graduate students, supporting them with their academic work as well as their personal lives. Once it be-

came public knowledge in 1995 that Darrell had cancer, there were students who showed up in his office to talk about health problems troubling their own lives. Darrell dealt with the cancer for more than 10 years and still continued teaching throughout the treatments. I think his continuing to teach kept him focused on the Middle East and on his lectures and his students and not on his cancer." She added, "Darrell's publications were an important part of his work at WIU, but to Darrell the most important aspect of his work were his students and what he could do for them. He loved teaching about the Middle East, drawing from a wide spectrum of students, including many students who came from countries of the Middle East. Darrell never stopped reading everything about the Middle East."

Ginger concluded, "I believe education is a key to understanding our world, and knowing our historical background helps us to make better choices for our lives. Giving in order to help students further their education can never be the wrong thing to do. And doing this giving continues to remind me and others of Darrell's contribution to higher education."

Ginger's responses to my questions as well as our email communications reflect her keen awareness of the financial challenges graduate students face in pursuit of their academic passions as well as her determination to support the department and its students. On behalf of my colleagues and our students, I thank Ginger for her ongoing generosity.



Darrell and Ginger with friends (thanks to Ginger for sharing these photos and memories!)