Clio's Comments

Karin Smith, history major, is the U.S. collegiate record-holder in the javelin and placed eighth in the world in the 1984 Summer Olympics.

History Department
Alumni Newsletter
1985

California Polytechnic State University
San Luis Obispo, California 93407
Dear Alumnus:

This newsletter continues the tradition of providing information about your fellow alumni and updating news of the History Department.

Your former classmates and professors wish to maintain continuity with you. The complexities of a post-industrial society amidst a shrinking globe forces all of us to engage in lifelong learning. We contend that your liberal arts education, with history at the core, sharpened your critical thinking skills and thus prepared you to more effectively cope with rapid change. Have we been correct or incorrect? Does your continuing education confirm or repudiate our contention? This is an important part of the dialogue we would like to sustain between you and the department.

Thank you for returning the questionnaires—providing the information that makes our newsletter possible! Included in this edition is a revised questionnaire to provide information for the next edition which, with your support could be better than ever! Our main concern continues to be to strengthen our commitment of humane learning among the history majors of Cal Poly.

Sincerely,

Don Hensel  
Robert Rosenberg  
Barton Olsen

"In a technologically advanced society where production of sufficient goods and services can be handled with ease, employment exists primarily for self-development... This concept of work represents a profound shift in our perceptions with implications that reverberate throughout the entire fabric of our society."

Willis Harman, "Work," from Millennium: Glimpses Into the 21st Century
DEAN’S LIST
1983-1985

The following history majors were honored by making the Dean's List during 1983-1985.

Randi B. Alvari
Loren L. Barr
Deborah R. Bernstein
Patrick E. Brickey
Shannon V. Burgett
Crystal M. Cann
Sharon M. Carrill
Debra L. Clay
Brian K. Coburn
Richard I. Crawford
David K. Eckstrom
Clara A. Ford
Karin L. Gallagher
Therese H. Gibbs
Curtiss W. Gillespie
Matthew A. Giuffrida
Lynn Anne Gordon
Erik M. Gregory
Jeffrey S. Grutta
Ken A. Hanf
Joan Mary Hartsell
Kimberly J. Holz
Kristina L. Huehn

Rita L. Iacono
Caroline R. Jordison
Barbara R. Kahn
James F. Kelly
Nancy K. Kelly
Jerry W. Lazenby
Denise L. Lecher
Ralph M. Leck
Eric P. Lincoln
Gabriela B. Luschei
Emily A. Malsam
William G. Mashy
Michael E. McAustin
Mikki Meaglia
Susan L. Milner
Sheila A. O'Connor
E. Kevin Pence
Delayne S. Peters
Barry J. Reagan
Michael D. Smith
Sarah Anne Staff
Marie N. Vassel
Dee A. Wells


1970 ALUMNI NOTES

SHANNON McNEELY has married and is in business sales in El Segundo.

VICTOR SMITH is also in business and is a manager in an energy corporation in Hacienda Heights.

1971 ALUMNI NOTES

MIKE ISBEL has married, has three children, and owns his own legal support services company in San Luis Obispo.

GARY JACKSON has been in the Air Force, has done some graduate study in history, and now resides in Bakersfield.

COLEEN HANDBOTH LARSON has married, has three children, and is an administrator in a private church school in Nehalem, Oregon.

CONNIE STEVENSON is working in a private business in Tacoma, Washington.

1972 ALUMNI NOTES

ALLEN BAXTER has married, has three children, and is an attorney and businessman in Ventura.

PAMELA GREENE is a children's librarian in Pasadena.

KAREN BALLANCE HENDRICKER has married, has done some substitute teaching and is now a homemaking farmer's wife in Shelbyville, Missouri.

ANNE HUME is an elementary school teacher in Downey.

SHAUNE ORR MONTROSS has married and is employed in San Bruno as an elementary school teacher.

JOANN PIANFETTI is employed by the FAA at the Santa Barbara airport, and reported that air traffic control quality at that tower won a national award in 1983.

JAMES SCHROERS is married, has two children, and is a state correctional officer in Tracy.

YOU CAN ALWAYS TELL THE END OF SCHOOL IS NEAR.

JEFF McNEELLY

ESPECIALLY IN AMERICAN HISTORY CLASS.

WHEN IT TAKES EXACTLY ELEVEN MINUTES...

TO COVER THE ENTIRE TRUMAN ADMINISTRATION.
1973 ALUMNI NOTES

GAIL ANDERSON is a real estate appraiser in Yorba Linda, and he reports being married with two children.

JOANN FISCHER BAILEY was an elementary teacher before devoting full time to her family, including two children. The Baileys live in Upland.

CHESTER BARRETT is married, with one child, and is a businessman managing the sale and moving of furniture in Santa Monica.

ANNE BENJAMIN is a school librarian in Springfield, Ohio.

TOM DUGGAN, an attorney and law firm partner in Bakersfield, has reported the value of an education in the humanities to succeed in the legal profession. He is married, with one child, and is active in the Cal Poly Alumni Association.

LOUIS GIONETTE is another graduate who has reported the value of a liberal arts foundation to his success in private business. He received an MA in history from San Diego State and is now a Safeway manager with responsibility for 177 retail stores. Louis has married, is the father of four, and lives in Severna, Maryland.

DAVE HARRISON is a high school teacher in Carson City, Nevada, and was recognized as an "outstanding teacher" in 1982. He is married, with two children.

ROBERT LEE KELLEY is one of several our graduates who has combined the history BA with an MBA. He is a vice-president in a real estate investment firm in Simi Valley and attributes to his history background "a better understanding of people than is typical in those with a more technically based education. This understanding has certainly contributed by my success..."

THOMAS KIER is a businessman with an entertainment public relations firm in Beverly Hills.

KATHERINE M. MILLER has added both BS and MS degrees in nursing to her accomplishments and is employed in the Pediatrics Department, Emory University School of Medicine, Atlanta, Georgia.

DAVE SNYDER remained with Cal Poly and is an admissions officer. With his wife and two children, he lives in Atascadero.

KEVIN WILMA is another alumni who added an MBA to his credentials and he is employed as a regional manager for the Equitable Life Assurance in Woodinville, Washington. Kevin is married and has two daughters. He reported, "My liberal arts background provided me with an excellent educational base as well as a well rounded attitude toward a changing society."

FACULTY NOTE

TIM BARNES taught in the 1985 London Study Program and published an article on the moral implications of loyaltyism during the American Revolution, a topic central to one of his research concerns.

NOT ON THE DEAN's LIST

Students enrolled at Cal Poly in the year 1973-1974 had a classmate whose life was about to take a tragic turn, Christopher Boyce. His willingness to become a spy courier for the Soviet Union began shortly after he took employment with TRW, Inc. in 1974. In the book, The Falcon and the Snowman, Boyce is reputed to have chosen Cal Poly primarily because it was close to the falcon reserve on Morro Rock. Boyce had previously withdrawn from L.A. Harbor College and Loyola University. In the movie of his life, which deleted any reference to Cal Poly, Timothy Hutton, playing Boyce, expressed an indifference to his earlier seminary training, and then took employment at TRW, renamed RTX for the movie. Boyce was in your class if you took History 112 from Joe Romney in the fall 1973, History 201 from Herman Voeltz, or History 301 from Jim Fitts, both in the spring quarter, 1974. The Cold War came close to us.
1974 ALUMNI NOTES

MICHELE BOSHION has remained nearby, serving as a Hearst Castle guide and is living in Cambria.

MARITH J. LEVERS is employed as a probation officer in Santa Maria and expresses an appreciation for having to write so many term papers.

BRUCE YOUNG is an attorney practicing in Ventura, and observed that in respect to law school preparation, our degree program should require more writing.

FACULTY NOTES

ROBERT BURTON helped to inaugurate the Cal Poly London Study Program during the spring of 1984, a project which included four professors from the university and sixty-eight students. Faculty and students lived in Kensington and met for regular classes at Maria Assumpta Educational Center four days a week. The three-day weekends were devoted to travel within the British Isles. During the fall of 1984 Dr. Burton toured and studied in the People's Republic of China.

ED MAYO is engaged in research on the manner in which 19th century Americans legitimated technology in their culture. He served as Acting Head of the History Department for six months in 1984.

1975 ALUMNI NOTES

NORMA DAY is a travel agent in Walnut Creek, and is married with two children.

SHAWN MARTIN is a junior high school history teacher and track coach in Sonoma. He recommended a diversity of skills to help prospective teachers find employment.

SHAUNA SULLIVAN is an attorney in Los Osos and had the unique experience of becoming married in Switzerland.

1976 ALUMNI NOTES

GEORGE BENTLEY is an elementary school teacher and lives in Atascadero with his wife and two children. George took his son to an 1820 recreated mountain man rendezvous in Montana (tipi, muzzle loaders, tomahawks).

CLAYTON HALL is an attorney and senior associate in a San Luis Obispo law firm.

DEBORAH PALMER is a full-time law school student at the University of Oregon and proudly reported, "I am holding my own with Harvard, Yale, Stanford and Berkeley grade..."

CHARLES WARNER is married and working as a process engineer in an industrial optics firm in St. George, Utah.
QUESTIONNAIRE

We would like your help in making next year's newsletter one of the best editions ever! Please detach and complete this form, then return it to the History Department. Include anything that would be of interest, i.e. grad school, employment, family, travel!

Name__________________________________________

Mailing Address__________________________________

__________________________________
city state zip

Year of Cal Poly Graduation________________________

THANK YOU!

Fold on the black marks on the other side of page, staple and apply postage.
FALL 1984 was started off with a BANG when the history majors challenged a faculty-staff team to a softball game.

In a tense-ridden pitching duel sparked by fourteen errors, the students squeezed out a 23 to 19 victory. They are still gloating!

2nd baseman Corkins starting a towering double play.

Unsure Hensel pondering how to help the faculty.

All-star candidate Shortsinger to slugger Barnes, "Out of the park!"

Cheerleader Hallman with a resounding, "Go, go, er!"

WHAT IS AN ATM?

I THINK IT MEANS ABSOLUTELY TERRIFIC MACHINE.

I THOUGHT THIS WAS HISTORY IX...
BARBARA HALLMAN’s book, Italian Cardinals is being published. She has written five book reviews and will offer a new course in fall, 1985 on Renaissance city-states. She sends greetings to her former students and proudly announces that she is now a grandmother of five.

DON GRINDE has returned from a three-year leave and among his latest writings is a chapter on Navajo ecology in a book on environmental history, a subject he is stressing in his research. He also co-authored an article on Indian conflict and accommodation in Oklahoma.

GLENDA BROWN HIGHLAND has been employed as a substitute teacher, is married with one child, and lives in Geyserville.

KAY KILMINSTER is working to correct the bureaucratic confusion we’ve all experienced in the California Department of Motor Vehicles in Sacramento.

JOAN KUHN is helping to administer a computer software company near Chicago. She favorably commented that the History Department should “continue to stress a broad background for versatility within the business community.”

TERRY REEVES continues to work as a Hearst Castle tour guide and lives in Morro Bay.

JANICE ZORADI has earned an MA and remains employed at Cal Poly, on the staff of the Computer Science Department. Jan is married and has one child.

CAROL SWEINAM BOLES has been a substitute teacher and employed by the State Franchise Tax Board. She is married and has a son.

ANGELA PRANDINI is a graduate student at the University of Maryland and lives nearby in Hyattsville.

QUINTARD TAYLOR’s study of the role of blacks in the Pacific Northwest and in the nation as a whole were expressed in papers on Black Seattle, 19th century blacks in Oregon, post-Civil War blacks in Oklahoma, and in several book reviews.

DAN KRIEGER has continued to write a weekly column on California history for the Telegram-Tribune. He is active in helping to manage the county historical museum, and with his wife, Liz, arranged local historical society programs, as well as jointly editing LaVista: The Journal of Central Coast History. Dan’s efforts contributed to the success of two conferences held on the campus, one to promote history and the other specializing in British studies.

GEORGE COTKIN’s interest in American intellectual history has been expressed in a number of articles and papers on topics such as Samuel Gompers and the concept of culture, the socialist popularization of science, and Max Eastman’s interpretation of Lenin. He has recently published a number of articles on the American philosopher William James. He has also written book reviews and additionally has prepared commentaries of papers delivered at the Organization of American Historians. He was honored with a merit pay award in 1985 and an N.E.H. Travel to Collections Grant.

JOHN SMETNSINGER’s research interest, American diplomatic history, has generated several book reviews and an essay in the book, Jewish American Voluntary Organizations. He continues to serve as a critical reader for articles submitted to the journal, Diplomatic History.
1982 ALUMNI NOTES

BLAKE MILLER is teaching junior high social studies in Pismo Beach, and would like a reunion of the 1981-82 History Club.

FACULTY NOTES

MAX RIEDLSPERGER served in the Federal Republic of Germany as Resident Director of the California State at University International Programs at Heidelberg and Tübingen in 1983-84. He will also become the Department Head in September, 1985. Among his additional activities are being a grant recipient to help strengthen the international component of Cal Poly's curriculum and the publishing of a book review. He has just been given one of the three Cal Poly Distinguished Teaching Awards for 1985.

DON HENSEL's commitment to student-controlled discussions of controversial issues has led him to compose a dozen classroom simulations. Since last reporting in the newsletter, he has demonstrated this technique before the annual meetings of the Organization of American Historians and the American Historical Association. It is revealing, for example, how intensively the anguish of the Vietnam War is simulated as 20 year-olds argue the merits of convicting Lt. William Calley of murder.

CURRICULAR CHANGES

A new required course in the general education category reflects the need to increase knowledge of the non-Western world. History 315, Modern World History, will stress the interaction between non-Western cultures and Western industrial imperialism. The involved professors will feature a non-Western region related to their research interests.

Since History 204 will be the only United States history course required for general education credit, its content is undergoing extensive revision. The former concentration in the 20th century will be replaced by the two-century span since the writing of the Constitution. To avoid the superficiality of teaching a 200-year survey course in ten weeks, the faculty is stressing a half dozen themes to be developed within this time frame. Former students can appreciate the workload of virtually all history faculty members as they restructure one course or originate a new course, both for the same catalog edition.

Since the last alumni newsletter, the following courses have been added to departmental offerings: American Foreign Relations, American Labor and Work, American Thought, American Warfare, and Vietnam at Home and Abroad.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FROM THE QUESTIONNAIRE

Fifty-three of our graduates reported their employment, summarized in the following table.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Employment</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Business, including real estate</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>35.8%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Managing a business</td>
<td>12</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other than management</td>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government, excluding teaching but including staff or administrative positions within schools and universities</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>20.8%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teaching.</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>20.8%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior High</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior High</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elementary</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Military</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5.6%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homemakers</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5.6%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate School</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5.6%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Librarians</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nursing</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1.9%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TRAVEL

Of the same fifty-three graduates, 23% have visited Europe, 10% have visited Mexico, and another 21% have visited at least one of the following locations: South America, Canada, the Philippines, Australia, Okinawa, South Korea, Japan and China.

CAL POLY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Cal Poly Historical Society, formerly the History Club, has sponsored a variety of activities in the last two years. A 1984 Poly Royal concession stand offered bagels and sold out on both days. This success, reconfirmed as Greg Schulte, the society's former president expressed it, "my belief that historians can be good capitalists." Poly Royal 1985 focused on the society's demonstration of a typical student's dorm room in both 1925 and 1985. The 1984-85 year also featured the society's sponsorship of a campus-wide mock presidential election. The society's president, Jim Kelly, reported that Ronald Reagan defeated Walter Mondale by a two-to-one majority.

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WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS AND COMPANY WHO HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO THE HISTORY DEPARTMENT THROUGH THE ANNUAL GIVING CAMPAIGN THIS PAST YEAR. WE WILL BE USING THE FUNDS TO PURCHASE COMPUTER EQUIPMENT TO HELP MODERNIZE OUR OFFICE OPERATIONS.

GAIL ANDERSON
PATRICIA BARKER
EDWARD AND DOROTHY BARR
CAROL ANN BOLES
CAROLA BOOTH
RAYMOND BRICKEY
ROBERT F. CLEARY
JOHN AND SHIRLEY COCKBURN
JOHN CORNOLO, JR.
MATTHEW R. CRYER
GEORGE A. GILLESPIE
HORST HERTING

IRVIN D. HIRSCH
HUGHES AIRCRAFT COMPANY
JOSEPH AND PEGGY KADLEC
DIANE A. LENNING
KENNETH LINCOLN
DOUGLAS J. MCIVER
JAMES AND MARION POWER
SUSAN MEACHAM
THOMAS G. RAABERG
LYNN RYAN
WARNER VANSPLANCKEN
SUSAN M. WINTRINGER