

History Department Newsletter

STUDENT EDITOR: **Sophia Martin '20** | FACULTY EDITOR: **Philipp Gollner**

John Roth, Julia Schiavone Camacho, David Lind, Philipp Gollner

Department Makes Changes: New Name and Faces

BY **Elijah Lora '20**

Jan Bender Shetler began her career as a Goshen College professor of history in the Fall of 1999. A 1978 Goshen College graduate, Shetler has shaped the face of the history department by expanding GC's global history offering and incorporating gendered perspectives into the curriculum. Shetler has profoundly influenced many students over the past 20 years and is a beloved member of the Wyse 3rd family.

This coming semester, Shetler is transitioning from head of the history department to director of international education for Goshen College. Shetler took the place of Tom Meyers, who retired after serving as director for the past 15 years. Shetler officially began this role on July 1, 2019.

As director of international education, Shetler will be responsible for all aspects of Goshen College's international education programs. She brings with her extensive experience living abroad and leading units in the college's Study Service Term.

Prior to accepting the position as director of international education, Shetler had been providing leadership in the revision of the SST program. Academic Dean Ann Vendrely said that Shetler's international experience in combination with her influence in reshaping SST made it a "natural fit for her to continue with the implementation of new models and ideas as the next director

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Professor of Latin American History and Literature Joins GC Faculty this Semester

BY **Elijah Lora '20**

Recent assistant professor of Latin American History and Literature at Antioch College, Julia Schiavone Camacho, has joined Goshen College's Faculty this fall as an assistant professor of history. Camacho, a native of Tucson, Arizona, is a social historian who brings a student-centered approach to her study of history.

Julia has accomplished a great deal of historical work related to Chinese immigrants to Latin America, Chinese diaspora, and Mexican American and Latino history. Her research has culminated in



Julia Schiavone Camacho

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Original Research Marks Class of 2019's Senior Theses

Seven students completed baccalaureate theses in History Senior Seminar this spring, projects which, in most cases, they had begun researching as Junior Seminar students a year earlier. Each project utilized primary sources and culminated in public presentations in April. This year's students and thesis titles:

Katie Yoder (Archbold, OH), "Battle Below the Overpass: Women Organizers in the Ford Unionization Campaign of 1937."

Nahshon Lora (Goshen, IN), "The Formation of Pan-Caribbean Identity in New York City 1965-2000."

Rachel Klink (Chambersburg, PA), "Why Greensboro? The 1979 Massacre and America's First Truth and Reconciliation Commission."

Rudi Mucaj (Albania), "God of the Mountains: How Folk Religion Shaped Eastern Kentuckian Miner's Unionism."

Landon Weldy (Goshen, IN), "Peace Activism at the Crossroads: Mennonite Cultural Conflict during the Anti-Nuclear Movement."

The Class of 2019 also included five students with minors or interdisciplinary concentrations in history: **Courtney Crapser**, **Lars Hovde**, **Skye McKinnell**, **Katie Hendrickson**, and **Shay Mathews**.

Internships

Hannah Hostetter created a hands-on exhibit for children K-5 at the Elkhart County Historical Museum.

Jace Longenecker worked at Everence Financial's marketing department for the last year and a half – editing videos and photos, creating animations, and interviewing Everence employees.

Nahshon Lora co-created a public digital archive of primary sources on Indiana's history as a "Sundown Town" for Phil Metzler, Dan Shank, and the Goshen Guide and assisted with a community presentation of the work.

Elijah Lora co-created a public digital archive of primary sources on Indiana's history as a "Sundown Town" for Phil Metzler, Dan Shank, and the Goshen Guide and assisted with a community presentation of the work.

Sophia Martin co-edited an Environmental History Anthology with Dr. Jan Bender Shetler – writing, managing software, and communicating with writers and publishers.

Katie Henrickson was the dramaturge for the mainstage in the fall of 2018 called *Crimes of the Heart*.

Shai Mathews assisted with deaccessioning and inventory at the Elkhart County Historical Museum in Bristol Indiana.

Landon Weldy assisted on projects that involved archiving, cataloging and digitizing at the Mennonite Church USA Archives.

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of international education." Vendrely went on to say that she looks forward to working with Shetler to "strengthen this distinctively Goshen program."

Shetler's experience as a historian has given her a unique perspective in the realm of international education. She has completed substantial research on oral tradition, social identity, and landscape memory in the western Serengeti, Tanzania. Before teaching, Shetler also spent 11 years doing community development in Ethiopia, the Congo, and Tanzania with Mennonite Central Committee. She and her husband, Peter, have led Study Service Term units to Ethiopia (Spring 2005), Tanzania (Spring 2008) and Senegal (Summer 2016). This breadth of research and experience in international education gives Shetler a wide array of experiences in the field, while her time spent as an educator grants her the tools to draw out the needs of students.

Although Shetler remains devoted to history and will not be far from Wyse 3, her presence in the department will be missed. One history major noted "I love to see how passionate Shetler is about history. She inspires me to be a better woman and academic."

Professor Phillipp Gollner is replacing Shetler as head of the history department. Gollner, John Roth, David Lind, and Julia Schiavone Camacho will make up the new History, Politics, and Society Department.

The new department includes Political Science, Pre-Law, and Sociology in addition to History. One professor explained: "part of the reason for the change is to accommodate the growing number of History students interested in studying disciplines like Sociology and Political Science, but also to expand on the interdisciplinary nature of studying history."

For Professor David Lind, this has meant transitioning into a new department. For students, this shift has created more opportunities for interaction between professors and students. While this year continues to be full of transitions, History, Politics, and Society moves forward as a department devoted to the pursuit of deep research into the social and political world. 

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two book projects, a Louis Knott Koontz Memorial Award, an Excellence in Research Award from Antioch College, as well as a slew of publication credits and works of historical fiction.

Her first book, titled *Chinese Latinos: Forging the Transpacific Family, Diasporic Community, and Memory* looks at Chinese Mexican families and Mexican identity. Julia has also expressed interest in historical fiction and fictional writing. She currently has three works of short fiction and a historical fiction book, *Across the Pacific: A Novel*. These works highlight Julia's perspective when engaging in historical subjects.

Many from the GC community have commented on Julia's cheerful personality and relaxed manner when engaging with students and peers. One member of the search committee commented: "she was our lead candidate based on her qualifications alone, but as soon as we met her we knew she was a perfect fit for the department." When asked, one history major responded "she seemed really friendly and like she had a genuine interest in the community. I'm excited to get to know her better over the next couple of years."

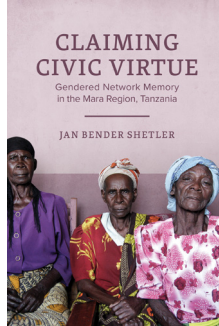
Julia is coming to Goshen from Antioch College, where she taught Latin American History and Literature. "I'm happy to be at a campus that is slightly bigger with more facilities than Antioch while still maintaining a sense of community."

This coming year, Julia will teach Latin American History, Asians in the Americas, as well as core classes, Academic Voice and Identity, Culture, and Community (ICC). When teaching, Julia likes an interactive classroom. "You can't get by not participating in my classes." Julia has a long history of assisting students in Ph.D., M.A., and Senior projects. "Rather than lecture, I'm more interested in participating in a community of learners where all students participate very actively."

Before earning M.A. and Ph.D. in History at the University of Texas at El Paso, Julia earned Bachelor's degrees in History and Women's studies at the University

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Faculty Spotlights



Professor **Jan Bender Shetler** released her book, *Claiming Civic Virtue: Gendered Network Memory in the Mara Region, Tanzania*, which looks at the gendered nature of both history in the Mara region and of historical memory, and its influence on the development of the region over the past 150 years. Jan's exploration of these oral traditions and histories opens exciting new vistas for understanding how women and men in this culture tell their stories and assert their roles as public intellectuals – with important implications for research in African and gender studies, and the history of ethnicity and nationalism.

Jan also completed a grant to work on a digital humanities project on oral histories in the Mara region. This work will go toward creating an accessible library of oral history for the Mara people that includes images, video and other primary source material on the Mara region and the cultural groups that live there. The sources Jan collected have wide-reaching value for linguists, historians, sociologists, environmental scientists, and other disciplines doing research in Tanzania.



Professor **Phillipp Gollner** was selected as an "Emerging Scholars" Summer Fellow at the University of Virginia's Center for the Study of Religion's project on the theme "Religion and Its Publics" for 2019. This award included work on the connections between immigrants and white religion in the U.S. Phillipp also spent this Summer's Maple Scholars project on mapping race and religion in Elkhart County.

In February 2019, Philipp presented a paper on the concepts of empathy, disgust, and self-awareness in teaching history at the American Academy of Religion Midwest meeting at Ball State University. Phillipp also chaired and commented on a panel on "Christianity and Social Responsibility" at the Conference on Faith and History at Calvin College November 2018.



John D. Roth continues to divide his time among on-going commitments to teaching, editing the *Mennonite Quarterly Review*, directing the Mennonite Historical Library, and projects related to the Institute for the Study of Global Anabaptism. He has particularly enjoyed various Mennonite World Conference assignments, and has been giving leadership to MWC's Renewal 2027 initiative – a 10-year sequence of annual gatherings in different parts of the global church that anticipate the 500th anniversary of the Anabaptist movement. Roth is currently finishing a book manuscript on the history of MMA/Everence and is in the early stages of another book focused on Anabaptist-Mennonites in Indonesia.

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of Arizona. Julia looks forward to opportunities to work with the Women and Gender Studies department at GC stating “regardless of the subject, gender and sexuality always figure in my classes in some way. Especially in history, it is important to note that identity is intersecting multiple different components that interact in any given setting.”

On campus, Julia hopes to engage with our diverse student body. Throughout her academic journey, Julia has picked up on several languages. In addition to English and Spanish, Julia reads French and Portuguese and is becoming conversational in Mandarin Chinese. Raised Catholic, Julia is also delighted to learn and participate in faith-related discussions and events.

In her downtime, Julia is a yoga enthusiast who loves reading, walks and spending time with her husband, Alex. If you see her on campus, make sure to say hi and introduce yourself. Welcome to GC Julia! 🌿

Scholarship Recipients



The 2019-2020 Willard and Verna Smith U.S. History Scholarship has been awarded to **Sophia Martin**, Lancaster, PA.

Laura Miller, Arlington, KS, is the recipient of the Oswin and David Gerber Scholarship in Mennonite Studies for 2017-2018.

The generosity of the Smith and Gerber families has been helpful to many Goshen College students. The History Department welcomes donations to the Smith and Gerber scholarship endowments. To donate, contact finaid@goshen.edu.

Recent History Alumni Activities

Landon Yoder '04: completed his Ph.D. program in the Indiana University Department of Geography in September of 2017. His dissertation, *Restoring Everglades Water Quality: Analyzing the Institutional Dimensions of Agricultural Water Management*, focused on both shared regulatory incentives and hydrological conditions. Immediately following that, he began a post-doctoral fellowship at IU's School of Public and Environmental Affairs, where he is currently researching watershed governance of agricultural water quality impairment in the Midwestern United States.

Samuel Nicholson '07: is currently lecturing at the high school level in the areas of English and Literature. Nicholson is also a friend of Rotary with the Rotary Club of Belize Sunrise and a volunteer to the Crime Stoppers Belize initiative.

Isaac Smith '09: with his degree from the University of Iowa College of Law, Smith has been working at K&L Gates in Pittsburgh practicing in commercial litigation and government enforcement. Smith just recently accepted a job with the Denver office of Faegre Baker Daniels, where he will be joining the business litigation group in July.

Jenae Longenecker '18: presented “Objection Overruled: Reformulating the Mennonite Witness Regarding Law” in a panel on Religion, Politics and the Public Sphere at the American Academy of Religion Midwest meeting at Ball State University. Longenecker is currently in her first semester at Notre Dame Law School.

Katie Yoder '19: has taken an Americorps VISTA position in Lake City, Minnesota. She is working for the municipal Economic Development Authority to help them better serve Spanish-speaking residents.

Rudin Mucaj '19: since graduation in the Spring of 2019 has been working for the MCC office in Washington DC, Capitol Hill.

Cory Scott '05: is currently working full time as an outpatient psychotherapist at the local community service board and also teaches yoga. Scott recently had the opportunity to start Moonflower Montessori School last year, which celebrated its first successful year in May 2018.

Send your updates to stu_hist@goshen.edu



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