

History Department Newsletter

New Assistant Professor in 20thC US History Hired

The history department is pleased to welcome our new assistant professor in twentieth-century U.S. history, Sarah (Say) Burgin. Prof. Burgin is originally from Lacona, Iowa, and attended St. Olaf College in Minnesota where she majored in English and Women's Studies. After serving as a community organizer in Pittsburgh (in the AmeriCorps VISTA program), she moved to the University of Leeds in England where she completed an MA in Race & Resistance and a PhD in History. For the last four years, she has been teaching American history at the University of Leeds. Her main interests include gender, African American history and social movements in the 20th century, and many of her new courses at Dickinson will be on these themes. In Fall 2017, she will be teaching a section of History 118 (American History from 1877), as well as a topics course in 20th Century US history.

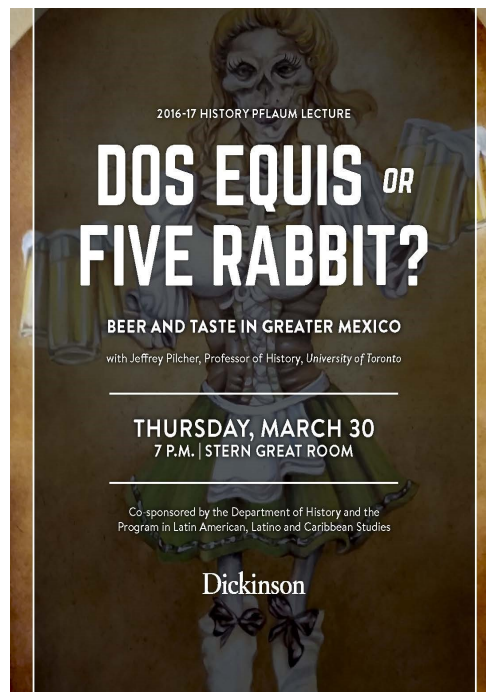


History Majors Reception: Wed. May 3, 5pm

Hold the date for the annual History Majors Reception and Awards Ceremony, which will take place on Wednesday, May 3, at 5 pm at the Hartman House (and outside on the patio and lawn, weather permitting). This annual event provides all history majors a chance to get to know one another better, mingle with history faculty, and enjoy food and drink together in a relaxed, convivial setting. In addition, the recipients of the department's annual awards will be announced, including those students receiving the Class of 1914 Prize in American History, the William Lenox Avis Prize in U.S. History, the James W. Carson Prize in Non-Western History, and the Morris W. Prince Prizes for Distinguished Work in History and Excellence in European History. Please plan to be there!

Pflaum Lectureship Brings Food Historian to Campus

On March 30-31, the History Department, Program in Latin American, Latino & Caribbean Studies, Food Studies Program, and Clarke Forum brought noted food historian Prof. Jeffrey Pilcher of the University of Toronto to campus for a series of events, all of which were open to the general public as well as Dickinson faculty and students. On March 30 at 7pm in the Stern Great Room, Prof. Pilcher delivered the history



department's annual Pflaum lecture, "Dos Equis or 5 Rabbit? Beer and Taste in Greater Mexico." The talk examined how important changes in Mexican history can be understood through examining the physical and social dimensions of taste, specifically in relation to changing preferences in beer. He explored how pilsners, like Dos Equis, supplanted the Mexican alcoholic beverage *pulque* in popularity during the late 19th and

early 20th centuries, but how in recent times pulque, along with craft beers, has enjoyed a resurgence of popularity among the hipster communities and those of higher social standing in Mexico. A video of the talk is available on the history department website at http://www.dickinson.edu/info/20275/history/1109/pflaum_lecture_series.

At a reception for Pilcher held immediately before the lecture, Dickinson Prof. Hector Reyes Zaga of the department of Spanish and Portuguese provided a demonstration of tamales-making for a lively group of interested students and faculty in the Stern kitchen.

Pilcher, the author of *Planet Taco: A Global History of Mexican Food*, also led a salon-style discussion sponsored by the Clarke Forum on Friday, March 31, which was attended by a smaller group of faculty and students from history, food studies, Latin American studies, and interested others. At the salon, participants discussed two recent articles by Pilcher on Asian beer and Mexican cooking; beer and light refreshments were served.

