February was a busy month as our Department assisted in hosting visits by two prominent historians: Dagmar Herzog of CUNY Graduate School and Timothy Snyder of Yale University. Heartfelt thanks to all of you who helped with these visits and took time to attend the various interesting talks!

Mark your calendars! During March UC History will be joining the Program in Middle East Studies to co-sponsor lectures by four visiting specialists in Middle Eastern history, politics, and religion, who will be on campus in conjunction with UC’s recently established professorship in Islamic Studies. One talk has already passed, but three remain. Here are the details: Professor Nasser Rabbat (MIT), "The 'Fab' Arabian Cities of Our Time" on March 8th, 3:30pm in 5401 DAAP; Professor Perin Gürel (Notre Dame), "Not Without My Daughter in Turkey" on March 22nd, 5pm in 350 Dyer; and Professor Maria Dakake (George Mason University), "Is There an Islamic Theory of Religion?" on March 28th, 6pm in 601 Old Chem.

This coming Thursday, March 8th, the Department will also be co-sponsoring the Second Annual Zane L. Miller Conversations in the City Symposium to be devoted this year to the theme of “Race, Film, and the City.” For more on the symposium, which is open to all, please click on the following link: http://magazine.uc.edu/editors_picks/recent_features/uchistinthecity18.html
Melissa Alexander (MA 2017) has been admitted to the Master of Library Science Program at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Congratulations, Melissa!

Debra Burgess (PhD student) presented findings from her research at the Taft Humanities NOW Graduate Conference held at UC on February 20th and 21st. Debra is a 2017-18 Taft Dissertation Fellow working on her dissertation entitled: “Closer Connections: The Response of Immigrant Communities and their Members to Progressive Child-Saving Reforms, 1880-1930.”


Robert Haug has recently published "En el techo del mundo: La expansión hacia Oriente" (On the Roof of the World: Expansion to the East) in a special issue of the Spanish magazine Desperta Ferro dedicated to the Umayyad Caliphate. Over Spring Break, he will travel to Tbilisi, Georgia, to present at the biannual meeting of the Association for the Study of Persianate Societies. His paper will focus on the history of markets, fairs, and pilgrimage sites in early Islamic Bukhara.

Evan Johnson (PhD student) will present “Seeking Peace, Finding War: Supplication and Negotiation in a Brandenburg Town during the Thirty Years’ War” at the Frühe Neuzeit Interdisziplinär Conference to be held later this month in St. Louis. The theme of the conference is “Rethinking Europe: War and Peace in the Early Modern German Lands.”

Adrian Marquez (MA student) has been admitted to the doctoral program in History at the State University of New York at Stony Brook. Congratulations, Adrian!

In mid-February, Katie Ranum (PhD student) and Tracy Teslow hosted a visit to Cincinnati by UC PhD alumna MJ Morgan (formerly Morgan McFarland) of Kansas State University. Professor Morgan was the keynote speaker in the A&S Public Humanities Forum, presenting “Every Town Was Someone’s Home Town: Researching Lost Communities,” and she also made presentations to two UC classes, including this semester’s Public History Practicum, where students are currently interviewing original residents of Greenhills, Ohio in anticipation of the 80th anniversary of that New Deal town. At Kansas State, Professor Morgan directs research at the innovative Chapman Rural Studies Center (http://www.kstate.edu/history/chapman/), which, under her leadership, has developed a highly successful collaboration among faculty, students, public historians, and community members in seven counties in eastern Kansas.

In February, Kelly M. Smith (PhD student) defended her dissertation entitled “The Science of Astrology: Schreibkalender, Natural Philosophy, and Everyday Life in the Seventeenth-Century German Lands.” Congratulations, Kelly, on this wonderful achievement!
Anne Delano Steinert (PhD student) has been awarded the GSGA Excellence Award for Exemplary Service in Arts and Humanities. Congratulations on this well-deserved recognition, Anne!

Willard Sunderland presented “Bichurin’s Journey: Russian Encounters with Asia during the Tsarist Era” last month at the University of Pittsburgh. The lecture was sponsored by the Pitt Department of History, the Center for Asian Studies, and the Center for Russian and East European Studies. During February Sunderland also completed a manuscript review for Cornell University Press.

In early February, Jeff Zalar presided over a meeting of a team of international scholars at Yale University that is collaborating on an innovative digital history project devoted to the history of German knowledge since 1500. The project, which is sponsored by the German Historical Institute (GHI), has held two previous meetings, one at the GHI in Washington, D.C. and the other at the Deutsches Museum in Munich. In addition to the history of German knowledge, the project also focuses on issues related to identity and migration. Jeff serves as the lead American scholar for the history of knowledge module.