

HISTORY HOUSE HERALD

Message from the Chair

By Prof. Anthony Daly



Welcome back from the break and to a new semester. On behalf of the department and our two programs, we are eager to start new courses and continue to help you maximize your opportunities and reach your potential at MCLA. In addition to the variety of regular course offerings, there are several special classes underway in spring 2016. In February, Professors Taylor and Cupery will be leading the now-traditional MCLA contingent to the North American Model United Nations (NAMUN) that takes place at the University of Toronto. Professor Huang will teach a Japan travel course, and I will be bringing students to Ireland as part of a travel course, with both classes highlighted by


country visits during spring break.

We are happy to be wrapping up the program review process for Political Science and Public Policy. A program review is required every seven years by the college to ensure the quality and standards of majors on campus and includes a self-study and a visit by two professors from other institutions. Their report was very positive, emphasizing the variety of courses and opportunities offered in a small college, and they were very impressed by their interactions with our students.

There will be some changing faces in the History House this year. Professor Janis is on sabbatical for this spring, working on research projects. He will be back in the fall,

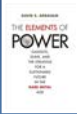
VOL. 2, #2

Section 1



What's happening in the History House? Find out in the LB/LF post. We've got students representing us with COPLAC, for one...


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We've got some great events happening on campus. We are starting strong with David Abraham, and it only gets better from there. Read more inside.


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Section 2



Are you thinking about post-MCLA options? If so, check the feature article about the various resources at your disposal to set you on your way!

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MCLA's new 3 + 3 agreement with UMass Law means the pathway to law school is more streamlined, shorter, and cheaper.

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"We are now faced with the fact that tomorrow is today. We are confronted with the fierce urgency of now." –Dr. MLK, Jr.

teaching several interesting new courses; check out the complete fall 2016 courses listings in this newsletter.

We will also have a new political science professor on campus this fall. As you may know, Professor Taylor will be leaving MCLA to join the University of North Carolina-Wilmington, much closer to his family in Georgia. We will miss him and his enormous contributions to the department,

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As Always, There are Great Events on Campus

Peace and Int'l Understanding

There are several excellent events being lined up on campus at MCLA this spring. The first is on Monday, Feb. 8, at 6 p.m. in Murdock Hall 218, organized by Prof. Cupery.

Author and analysts David S. Abraham will talk about how our future hinges on a set of elements that few of us have even heard of.

He will explain what rare metals are and why our electronic gadgets, the most powerful armies and indeed the fate of our planet depend on them.

Abraham runs the Technology, Rare and Electronic Materials Center and is the author of *The Elements of Power*. His career spans

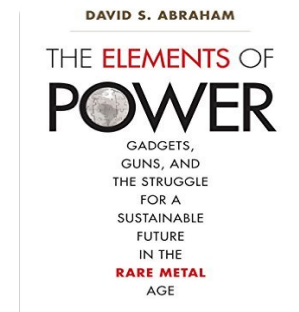
from commodities trading and Wall Street to the White House where he oversaw international and natural resource programs.

The Elements of Power has been described by U.S. Army Gen. (Ret.) David H. Petraeus as, "A compelling, illuminating, and hugely important analysis," while *The Economist* calls the book "thought provoking." This is sure to be an engaging discussion.

Beyond Abraham, we have a series of other speakers coming to campus see the list below or visit this [site](#) for more information...

- Feb. 4th from 4 – 7 p.m., "What does #blacklivesmatter mean to you?" A juried show

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David Abraham comes to campus on Monday, Feb. 8, to discuss the impact of rare metals on power and politics around the world. This is part of the International Conflict and Resolution Speakers Series gifted by the Boschen Peace and International Understanding Fund.

Highlights from Around the Department: Fall 2015 & Spring 2016



Mina Beeler and Kate Rowell are participating in the spring 2016 COPLAC seminar entitled, "Voices of Industrial America."

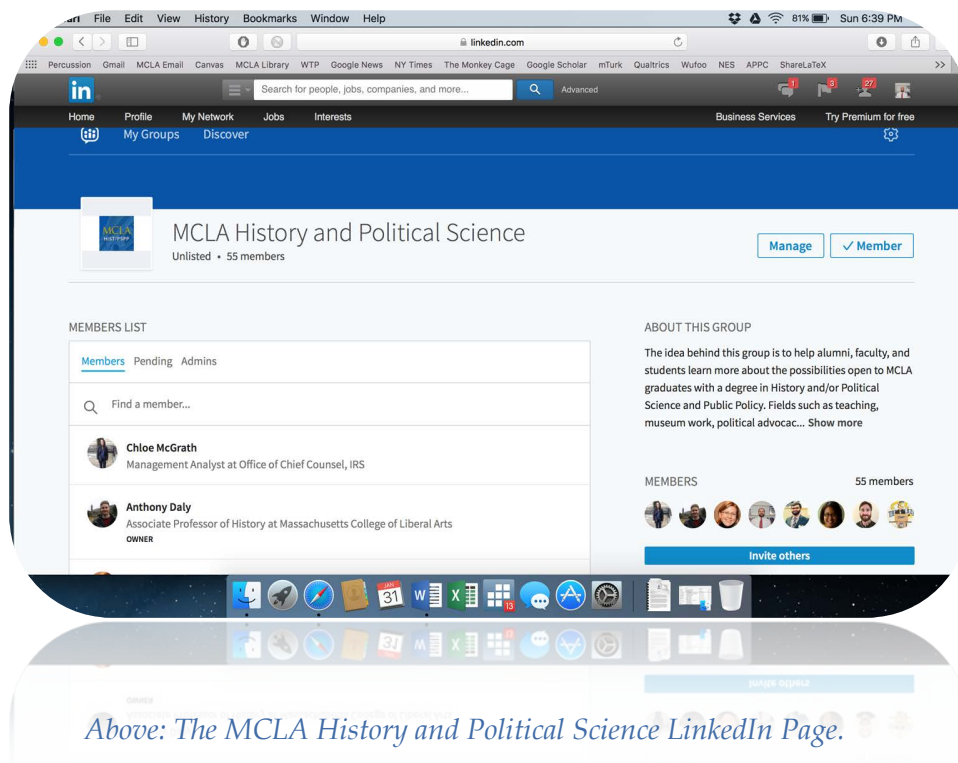
Highlights from fall 2015

The fall semester saw lots of great events at MCLA. We had Ray Kurzweil, Joy Reid, and Tim Mooney on campus sharing thoughtful and at times provocative conversations with students and the community.

Department Excels at Internships

Internships are increasingly becoming a critical part of the college experience in the 21st Century. It's important to make your internship experience matter. In the HIST/PSPP department we want to make sure students get the internship experience

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Above: The MCLA History and Political Science LinkedIn Page.

The HIST/PSPP Department Focuses on Post-MCLA Options and Strategies for Students

You may often get asked—or even think to yourself—“So, what *can* I do with my degree?” This is an important question to ask, but it’s usually helpful to consider these questions with some contextual information. Unlike decades past, the promise of a 30-year career is not as clearly laid out, but there are myriad tools to help college students and soon-to-be graduates with finding post-college (in our case, post-MCLA) options.

Where to start on campus?

First, all History and Political Science majors are required to sign up for and complete the one-credit Career & ePortfolio Seminar. This course is a one day a week class focused on polishing the ePortfolios everyone builds during their HIST/PSPP course work, and focuses on strategies for looking for jobs, graduate schools, or other post-MCLA opportunities (i.e., AmeriCorp, Peace Corps, Teach for America, etc.).

Beyond this course—and talking to the faculty, who

are always here to help!—you might make a meeting with Manat Wooten in [CSSE](#). CSSE has tools for students (and alumni) to use and information sessions on resume building, cover letters, job and graduate school seeking, and assistance with exams like the GRE or LSAT. It’s important that students take advantage of these resources to make sure they are as prepared as they can be for the job market after graduation.

How to Network and Use MCLA Connections?

It may seem daunting to think about graduating and looking for a job, much less a career. Do not despair! There are a number of networking strategies you can use to decrease your anxiety. You might start with the [MCLA](#) and [HIST/PSPP](#) LinkedIn pages. You might

Continued on next page...

Careers (con't.)

also want to go ahead and get involved with the MCLA Alumni Association before you graduate. They may be able to connect you with MCLA graduates in fields you didn't realize HIST/PSPP majors populate. Your HIST or PSPP degree and skill set is very versatile if you think about your learning experience broadly.

HIST/PSPP Alumni

Just perusing the HIST/PSPP LinkedIn group page you can see that alumni work in the following fields...

Chloe McGrath (BA, '13)

- Management Analyst for Office of Chief Counsel, IRS (Washington, D.C.)

Todd Foy (BA, '12)

- Health Navigator MSM, AIDS Action Committee (Boston, MA)

Jed Washburn (BA, '07)

- Principle Search Consultant, EnDevor Scientific (Boston, MA)

Jennifer Marciello (BA, '05)

- Archivist and Oral History Coordinator, JFK Library (Boston, MA)

Tom Mellone (BA, '11)

- U.S. Army, Medic & Team Leader

Buffy Lord (BA, '98)

- Senior Associate, Donovan & O'Connor (North Adams)

Spring Events at MCLA (con't.)

curated by Dr. Frances Jones-Sneed and Associate Professor of Art Melanie Mowinski.

- MCLA's [Green Living Seminars](#) at Thursdays at 5:30 in CSI 121.
- The spring 2016 Public Policy Speakers Series Event is still in the works, but it is going to be great. Check this [website](#) regularly for updates.
- Danielle Georges will give a poetry reading on "fluid identities" at Gallery 51 on Wed., Feb. 17th, at 7 p.m.

Message (con't.)

especially efforts to create opportunities for students. The search for a new specialist in American politics is already underway, we will have campus visits in March; please let me know if you would like to meet with the candidates over lunch in the History House.

Don't hesitate to contact us to ask for advice or assistance about your coursework or your career plans after graduation. Send an email or look up our office hours on the department web sites ([HIST](#) or [PSPP](#)) drop by 72 Porter Street. We are proud of your effort and work and look forward to helping you complete another successful year.

DON'T FORGET THESE ITEMS!**URC**

The [Undergraduate Research Conference](#) is April 21, 2016. This is a great opportunity to get invaluable experience discussing the projects and papers on which you work so hard. The whole day is devoted to undergrad research, so be a part of the fun.

**Internships**

Anyone who is looking to do an internship should contact his or her prospective faculty sponsor at least 1 semester in advance.

Internships are wonderful, but require some paperwork and planning. Don't wait until the last minute to get yours organized!

Looking back, looking forward (con't.)

they want and need. In the last year we've had students throughout the Berkshires, across the state and country working a variety of internships. Listed below is a sample. If any of these interest you, talk to your fellow students, professors in the department, and think about if any of these are right for you. Or, you should always feel free to brainstorm internship ideas with faculty.

- Spring 2015
 - Donovan & O'Connor, LLP
 - Zoe Schwartz
- Summer 2015
 - The Washington Center
 - Jamie Burdick
- Fall 2015 Internships
 - N.A. Public Library
 - Cassie LaChance
 - Tianna Darling
 - Michael McAndrew
 - Williamstown Police
 - Jamie Burdick
- Spring 2016 Internships
 - Northern Berkshire Community Coalition
 - Mackenzie McCarthy

COPLAC: Voices of Industrial America

Mina Beeler and Kate Rowell are participating in the 2016 COPLAC digital liberal arts course entitled, "The Community and Individual Experience of American Industrialization in the late 19th and early 20th Centuries."

The course is taught by professors from the University of Montevallo in Alabama and the University of South Carolina-Aiken. In it, "Students will conduct research and create digital projects to tell the stories of their communities during the Second Industrial Revolution. The course will provide opportunities to curate and communicate local and regional history in a digital medium and encourage critical thinking about the digital liberal arts."

We all wish Mina and Kate the best as they represent MCLA and the History House.

Looking Forward: Fall 2016 Courses

The department has tentatively planned to offer these upper level courses...

- History
 - Ancient Greece & Rome
 - Twentieth-Century Europe
 - Reading W.E.B. DuBois
 - Gilded Age Gotham seminar
 - Asia and the West seminar
 - CCAP 300: Conversations on Race
 - CCAP 300: Explorations of African American Studies
- Political Science
 - International Relations
 - Inequality & Social Policy
 - Two new 300-level courses from the new faculty member
 - Global Development Seminar

The HIST/PSPP department, takes pride in offering classes that students want to take. If you have an idea for a class, be sure to discuss it with the professor for whom you think it would be most relevant.

Department Banquet on Evening of April 26th – Mark Your Calendars!

On Tuesday, April 26th, we will hold our annual department banquet to celebrate graduating seniors, including those who completed their degrees in December and those who will graduate in May. On that night we will also formally induct our 2016 class into Phi Alpha Theta, the national History honor society, and Pi Sigma Alpha, the national honor society for Political Science. Seniors, please mark the date in your calendars to be a part of the banquet. If you are a junior or senior and would like to find out more about Phi Alpha Theta or Pi Sigma Alpha, please visit our department web page.

MCLA & UMass Law Sign a 3 + 3 Agreement for Law School

This past fall, MCLA and UMass Law signed a 3 + 3 agreement. This means that anyone who wants to attend law school at UMass can get an expedited admission, and – provided the student meets the requirements of the program – can cut a year off of the total experience. This means that rather than taking 7 years for an undergraduate and law degrees, it only takes 6.

It is important to note this program is open to any student at MCLA. You need to be in contact with your advisor if you think this program is a fit for you, and

you should contact Prof. Silliman or Prof. Taylor.

Main points to know – Students must...

- Meet with MCLA Pre-Law committee.
- Complete 90 credits at MCLA.
- Make a 150 LSAT.
- Have a 3.0 or better GPA.
- Fulfill all major req. for degree at MCLA.
- Spend senior year at UMass Dartmouth.

See this [website](#) for more details, and be in touch!



Prof. Taylor, Prof. Silliman, MCLA President Jim Clemmer '86 and UMass Dean Mary Lu Bilek sign Law 3 + 3 agreement

The Department of History, Political Science & Public Policy is always available to you – the students. Please do not hesitate to come see us in the History House at 72 Porter Street. Also, if you are participating in something academically or co-curricular please let us know so we can put it in the newsletter. To see what's going on all the time, 'Like' us on [Facebook](#)!

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