Procession
Brass Ensemble
Welcome
Thomas Pollard
Sterling Professor of Molecular, Cellular &
Developmental Biology
Professor of Molecular Biophysics & Biochemistry
and Cell Biology
Twentieth Dean of the Graduate School

Student Prizes
Presented by Dean Richard Sleight

Public Service Awards
Presented by Dean Richard Sleight

Prize Teaching Fellows
Presented by Risa Sodi
Interim Director of the Graduate Teaching Center

Graduate Mentor Awards
Presented by Brian Dunican
Chair of the Graduate Student Assembly

A reception will follow immediately after
Convocation in the Hall of Graduate Studies
Common Room.

Order of Exercises
commencement convocation
Sunday, May 18, 2014
Order of Exercises

COMMENCEMENT CONVOCATION
Sunday, May 18, 2014

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Graduate School Student Prizes

**Departmental Awards**

The *Marston Anderson Prize* is awarded on an occasional basis to truly outstanding dissertations in the field of East Asian Languages and Literatures in memory of Professor Anderson for his contribution to the intellectual and pedagogical mission of the department.

**ASHTON LAZARUS**  
East Asian Languages and Literatures  
“Performing Culture, Writing Authority: Representations of Commoner Performance in Early Medieval Japan”

This dissertation is remarkable for its innovative treatment of an assemblage of materials within a sophisticated structure articulated in an engaging style. Lazarus thinks and writes historically, conceptually, and critically about “traces [that] constitute the core of commoner performance in the early medieval period.”

The *Francis J. Anscombe Award* is given on an occasional basis for outstanding academic performance in the Department of Statistics.

**ZHAO REN**  
Statistics

The *Henry Prentiss Becton Prize* for exceptional achievement in research is awarded to a graduate student within the Council of Engineering.

**ALP KUCUKELBIR**  
Biomedical Engineering  
“Sparse and Steerable Representations for 3D Electron Cryomicroscopy”

Alp worked on the problem of reconstructing protein structure from Cryogenic Electron Microscopy (cryo-EM) images. Alp’s Ph.D. thesis deals with two important issues addressing resolution in cryo-EM: (1) Creating and using a sparse basis representation to improve the resolution of the reconstructions, and (2) Defining the local resolution of structures and measuring it from noisy data.

The *Frederick W. Beinecke Prize* is awarded upon the recommendation of the History Department for an outstanding doctoral dissertation in the field of Western American History.

**ANDREW OFFENBURGER**  
History  
“When the West Turned South: Capital and Culture in the U.S.-Mexican Borderlands, 1880-1940”

This is a superior study that is distinguished both by its painstaking, multi-sited, transborder archival and oral historical research, as well as by the author’s ability to craft an exciting new argument in evocative prose. Offenburger’s work is the best kind of history: the kind that removes teleological thinking to demonstrate that things might have been different. This dissertation will change the way that historians conceive of the region. Beautifully written, it will make an outstanding first book with comparative and cross-border appeal.

The *Frances Blanshard Fellowship Prize* is awarded annually for the outstanding doctoral dissertations submitted to the History of Art Department.

**TATSIANA ZHURAULIOVA**  
History of Art  
“Arcadia Americana: Landscape in American Art during World War II”

Zhurauliova charts the shift in the attitudes towards landscape in American art in the early 1940s through the work of Arshile Gorky, Pavel Tchelitchew, and Yasuo Kuniyoshi, three figures not associated with the same artistic movement.
or stylistic concerns, but whose common status as outsiders in America during the war defined their view of landscape, painting, and art’s role in mediating both personal and geopolitical trauma. Closely linked to specific geographic locations within the United States, the work of these artists challenges the contemporaneous modernist trajectory of understanding landscape as either a metaphor for psychic space or a retrogressive embodiment of the historical tableau tradition. Instead, the works in question envision local scenery as a locus of the global, a place and space in which both domestic and international issues can be imagined and reshaped.

The Harding Bliss Prize for Excellence in Engineering and Applied Science is awarded annually to the outstanding student who has completed his or her Ph.D. thesis during the current academic year and who has done the most to further the intellectual life of the department.

Leanne Gilbertson
Environmental Engineering

“Advancing Sustainable Nanotechnology: Towards the Development of a Design Framework for the Future Production of Functional and Inherently Safer Carbon Nanotubes (CNTs) and CNT-Enabled Products”

The lessons that will be gained about the design of safer nanomaterials will contribute to guiding an emerging field on to a more benign and sustainable trajectory. Through her graduate work, Leanne has contributed a fundamental and seminal body of work to inform the design and assessment of nanomaterials and nano-enabled products. Leanne’s effort has focused on establishing fundamental physical property-hazard relationships for carbon nanotubes.

The Sylvia Ardyn Boone Prize is awarded annually in memory of Sylvia Boone, a noted scholar of African art, who was the first tenured African–American woman on the Yale faculty. In her memory, Vera Wells, Yale ’71, has established a prize to honor Sylvia Boone’s life and work.

Anna Kesson
African American Studies, History of Art

“Threads of Empire: The Visual Economy of the Cotton Trade in the Atlantic Ocean World, 1840–1900”

Kesson’s scholarship reveals layers of multiple connections between people, place and objects through the close examination of cotton markets, slave markets, international expositions, traders and trading, paintings and illustrations in trade magazines, architecture, photography, cloth samples of various quality and fabric designs which produce ethnologies of people and bodies. Through close readings, Kesson uses cotton as a metaphorical and material connection between Britain’s industrial revolution and American plantations under slavery and post–Civil War reconstruction.

Kristin Graves Okoli
African American Studies, French

“Mapping La Belle Creole”

A richly detailed and informative account of the emergence, evolution and transformation of La Belle Creole as she has been written, rewritten, translated, spoken, sung and performed from the late seventeenth century to the twentieth century, from Louisiana, to metropolitan France and back across the Atlantic to Haiti. The study is at once a linguistic, literary, visual and historical consideration of the figure of La Belle Creole in the trans-Atlantic world.
The Anthony DiGuida Delta Mu Research Prize was established in memory of a doctoral student from the School of Nursing. It is given to a graduating student whose love of clinical scholarship has resulted in a dissertation that advances nursing knowledge and demonstrates creative conceptualization of a complex clinical problem, methodologic and analytic excellence, and superb writing.

**Leonie Rose Bovino**

*Nursing*

“Continuous ST-Segment Ischemia Monitoring in the Emergency Department”

Leonie’s study concluded that the use of continuous ST-segment ischemia monitoring in the Emergency Department did not provide added benefit in detecting myocardial ischemia or infarction, nor improve time needed for diagnosis or improve any 30-day outcomes. This study provides an important impetus to look for possible alternative approaches to the early detection of new or ongoing myocardial ischemia in the Emergency Department.

The George Washington Egleston Historical Prize, established in 1901, is awarded annually to a research student who discovers new facts of importance for American history or gathers information or reaches conclusions which are useful from a historical, literary, and critical point of view.

**Brian Jordan**

*History*

“Embattled Memories: Union Veterans and Their Unending Civil War”

Jordan’s finely crafted and thoroughly researched dissertation makes an important contribution to the history of the Civil War aftermath and, more broadly, to the history of war veterans. It is a remarkably well-researched, beautifully written exploration of the lived experiences of Union veterans after the Civil War. Jordan is by instinct, by talent, by passion, and one might even say by destiny, a brilliant young historian of the American Civil War.

The English Department Dissertation Prize is awarded for the best dissertation in the current year.

**Andrew Kraebel**

*English*

“English Traditions of Biblical Criticism and Translation in the Later Middle Ages”

This thesis brilliantly demonstrates that the extraordinary effusion of Bible translation in fourteenth century England was a vital outgrowth from Latin scholarship. Thus, scriptural commentary emerged as a major genre of English literature, appealing to readers who valued highly the interpretive methods and the cultural prestige of academic literary forms.

The Estwing Hammer Prize is awarded by the Estwing Manufacturing company to outstanding geology or geophysics graduate students.

**Colton Lynner**

*Geology and Geophysics*

“Sub-slab anisotropy: Observations and Interpretations”

**Ross Anderson**

*Geology and Geophysics*

“The rise of eukaryotes: Environmental controls during the NeoproterozoicCambrian transition”
The **Miguel Ferreyros Memorial Award** is awarded to the joint-degree student in Global Affairs with the highest academic achievement.

**Amy Mount**  
Global Affairs

The **Harry Burr Ferris Prize** is awarded to a doctoral candidate in Cell Biology for a distinguished record of academic accomplishments. A distinguished record is evidenced by many of the following criteria: publications, a scholarly and well-written dissertation, fellowships and other awards, leadership and service activities that benefit the Department or the University.

**Nina Brahme**  
Cell Biology

“The Biochemical and Functional Significance of Kindlin Interactions with Migfilin and ILK”

Nina’s thesis focused on characterizing the molecular interactions of the key intracellular adaptor proteins kindlins, and investigating their functional significance. Her work shed light on the detailed mechanisms by which kindlins regulate cell adhesion, cell spreading and cell morphology via the integrin family of adhesion receptors.

**Ryan Christensen**  
Cell Biology

“A Conserved PI3K Pathway Regulates Neurite Outgrowth in Caenorhabditis Elegans”

Ryan identified a novel, conserved mechanism of neurite outgrowth. He found that tumor suppressor molecule DAF-18/PTEN promotes outgrowth in neurons by signaling through the transcription factor DAF-16/FOXO. He also showed that this pathway of outgrowth is conserved in mammals.

**Andrea Stavoe**  
Cell Biology

“Molecular Mechanisms of Presynaptic Assembly in C. Elegans”

Andrea identified novel mechanisms of presynaptic assembly. Her work with chemotrophic factor Netrin provides an important link between the signal that specifies where the synapse is going to form (Netrin) and the signals that organize presynaptic assembly.

The **William Ebenezer Ford Prize** was established in 1963 by gift from Mary Ford in memory of her husband, Professor William E. Ford, Ph.B. 1899, Ph.D. 1903. It is awarded to students who have distinguished themselves in study or research in mineralogy.

**Peter Douglas**  
Geology and Geophysics

“Plant-wax Isotopes in Neotropical Lake Sediments and Insights into the Ancient Maya Civilization”

The **Hans Gatske Prize** is awarded upon the recommendation of the History Department for the outstanding dissertation or dissertations in a field of European history.

**Matthew Lockwood**  
History


This is truly groundbreaking work. A study of this kind has long been needed and Lockwood rises to the challenge splendidly. He has filled what was virtually a blank space on the historiographical map, and he has done it to a very high standard indeed. This is a conceptually sophisticated, theoretically informed, and argument-driven discussion, in which Lockwood
demonstrates very significant command both of the relevant sociological literature and of the vast historiography on governance and society in early modern England. He is to be congratulated on a very significant achievement.

**Gene Tempest**

**History**

“The Long Face of War: Horses and the Nature of Warfare in the French and British Armies on the Western Front”

This is a remarkable dissertation, a splendid world War I. Tempest fills in a huge gap in the literature of the role of horses on the Western Front during World War I. Tempest fills in a huge gap in the literature of the Great War. One of her major contributions comes from her reinterpretation of the First World War as a global conflict. Her dissertation is nicely crafted and beautifully written. She is a highly promising scholar whose work may well mark the beginning of a new approach to the environmental history of war.

The James B. Grossman Dissertation Prize was established in memory of a doctoral student in Psychology. It is given to the author of an outstanding Ph.D. dissertation in Psychology, with preference for research embodying some of the characteristics of James Grossman’s scholarship, such as creativity, use of other disciplines, and clinical work with children.

**Kyunmi Kim**

**Psychology**

“Extended Self: Neural and Psychological Processes Underlying Associations between Self and Objects”

Objects, people, and ideas become special when connected with our Self. Kyunmi Kim’s dissertation identifies a key region of the neural network supporting this “ownership” effect. It further shows that engagement of this region indexes personal significance, not simply positivity, and that the network changes with an individual’s current motivation.

The William J. Horwitz Prize is awarded for continuous excellence and distinction in a chosen discipline within the field of Near Eastern Languages & Civilizations.

**Tasha Dobbin-Bennett**

**Near Eastern Languages & Civilizations**

“Rotting in Hell: Ancient Egyptian Conceptions of Decomposition”

Dobbin-Bennett’s Dissertation is a superb piece of research and a model of its kind. Combining a thorough examination of the ancient Egyptian science of mummification and a deep understanding of the complex and difficult textual material, Dobbin-Bennett breaks much new ground by bringing to bear modern Pathology and Climatology to this Egyptian evidence. The reader comes away with a new, more nuanced picture of the ancient Egyptian mastery of the human body’s decay. This has led to Dobbin-Bennett’s key insight that the separation of ancient medicine from the processes of mummification, as has usually been thought, could not have been the case. The thesis is outstanding in every way, and the research that has come out of her work will have a significant impact on several fields, not only in Egyptology, but also in the history of medicine and science.

The Award for Academic Excellence in International Relations is given to the master’s student in Global Affairs with the highest academic achievement.

**Carolyn Hoyle**

**Global Affairs**
The Mary Ellen Jones (Ph.D. 1951, Biochemistry) Prize is awarded to the most distinguished dissertation in Molecular Biophysics & Biochemistry submitted during the academic year. Dr. Jones was a leading scientist and a pioneer in the advancement of women in academia.

David Taylor
Molecular Biophysics and Biochemistry
“Structural Basis for RNA Processing by Human Dicer”

The enzyme Dicer cuts RNA molecules into small pieces that turn specific genes off. Taylor used high-resolution electron microscopy to show how the three-dimensional shape of Dicer recognizes and cleaves RNAs and to show how these small RNAs are loaded into the surveillance complex used for turning genes off.

The Annie Le Fellowship is awarded each year to one or more Ph.D. students in the biological and biomedical sciences whose demonstrated commitment to bettering the world around them and outstanding record in research exemplify the life and career of Annie Marie Le, a Yale graduate student between 2007 and 2009.

Ashley Schloss
Molecular Biophysics and Biochemistry

Deborah Ayeni
Experimental Pathology

The Elias Loomis Prize is awarded for excellence in studies of physics of the earth. Elias Loomis was a professor of natural philosophy and astronomy in Yale College.

Caroline Eakin
Geology and Geophysics
“Seismic Anisotropy and Mantle Flow beneath the Peruvian Flat-Slab Region”

Shineng Hu
Geology and Geophysics
“The impact of westerly wind bursts and ocean state on the development and diversity of El Nino events”

The John Spangler Nicholas (Ph.D. 1921) Prize was established in 1972 by bequest of Helen Brown Nicholas in memory of her husband. The prize is awarded annually to outstanding doctoral candidates in experimental zoology.

Alex Dornburg
Ecology & Evolutionary Biology
“Night of the Holocentrus: A Phylogenetic Perspective on the Evolutionary History of the Holocentridae, an Enigmatic Clade of Nocturnal Reef Fishes”

Alex’s dissertation explores methodological challenges to phylogenetic inference with the aim of better understanding the evolutionary history of the Holocentridae (squirrelfishes and soldierfishes).

Devin Noblin
Molecular, Cellular & Developmental Biology
“Manipulating Protein Stability with Small Molecules: applications in studying biological systems and accessing new drug targets”

This work explores the development of new tools new tools to control the stability of human proteins. We hope one day that these methods can be applied to develop drugs for a variety of currently untreatable diseases.

Jamie Schwendinger-Schreck
Molecular, Cellular & Developmental Biology
“A Systems Analysis of Musculoskeletal Axis Formation in Zebrafish”

During early vertebrate development, a pattern is set up along the body axis that eventually gives
rise to the spine and ribs. Schwendinger-Schreck studied the genes and cell movements that contribute to this patterning.

**JILL GOLDSTEIN**
Molecular, Cellular & Developmental Biology

“Molecular Regulation of Skin Stem Cell Function During Hair Growth and Tumorogenesis”

Hair follicle stem cells are essential for the regeneration of the hair follicle throughout adult life. Goldstein investigated how systemic hormones control hair follicle stem cell activity during pregnancy. She also investigated how hair follicle stem cells contribute to skin tumors.

**JONATHAN LAROCHELLE**
Molecular, Cellular & Developmental Biology

“Enhancing the Cytosolic Delivery of Biological Therapeutics”

Jonathan is working to improve biological drug delivery biological drug delivery to diseased cells and tissues, and through his research, has discovered new genes whose modulation allows peptide and protein therapeutics better access to cancer cells.

The **Philip M. Orville Prize** was established in 1981 in memory of Philip M. Orville. The prize is awarded to graduate students in geology and geophysics in recognition of outstanding research and scholarship in the earth sciences.

**SIMON DARROCH**
Geology and Geophysics

“Diversity Gradients in the Fossil Record—Developing Predictive Models for Biodiversity Loss”

**GEOGRY MANUCHARYAN**
Geology and Geophysics

“Ocean dynamics in different climates”

The **Marguerite A. Peyre Prize** was established in 1964 and is awarded at the discretion of the chair of the Department of French to a graduate student in that department.

**ANNABEL KIM**
French

“Against Difference: The Universality that Binds Nathalie Sarraute, Monique Wittig, and Anne Garrête”

Kim challenges the standard definition of French feminist literature as “écriture féminine,” positing instead a feminist universalism that is visible in the work of Nathalie Sarraute, Monique Wittig, and Anne Garreeta and in their inter-connected theories of literature.

**RAISA REXER**
French

“The Art of Exposure: Literature and the Photographic Nude in 19th-Century France”

Raisa Rexer’s dissertation provides a cultural history of pornographic photography in the 19th-century and reveals how these images not only constitute a previously unrecognized intertext for a wide range of writers (including Baudelaire, the Goncourts, and Zola) but also are key to understanding major aesthetic debates of the period.

The **Leonard J. Savage Writing Prize** is named for Department of Statistics Emeritus Professor Leonard J. (Jimmie) Savage. This prize is awarded annually to a student who has submitted the best written work.

**XIAOFEI WANG**
Statistics

“Generalized Bayesian Change Point Analysis Via Product Partition Models”

This work considers particular examples including partitions of a line, partitions of a two-dimensional grid, and partitions of a minimum spanning tree.
The George Gaylord Simpson Prize was established in 1984 in honor of Professor Simpson and is awarded to graduate students and recent Ph.D. recipients for an exceptional paper concerning evolution and the fossil record.

**STEPHEN CHESTER**  
**Anthropology**  
“Systematics of Paleogene Micromomyidae (Euarchonta, Primates) from North America”

This paper describes many new fossils of micromomyid plesiadapiforms, the most primitive stem primates for which skeletons are known. Micro-CT scanning technology was used to study internal aspects of specimens and to digitally reconstruct important broken fossils of micromomyids.

**RACHEL RACICOT**  
**Geology and Geophysics**  
“Unique feeding morphology in a new prognathous extinct porpoise from the Pliocene of California”

A new porpoise species, Semirostrum ceruttii, existed 5-2 million years ago. It had a long, thin lower jaw extending significantly beyond the upper jaw, a unique characteristic for a mammal. CT scans showing elongate nerve canals within the unusual jaw indicate that Semirostrum likely used it to feel around for food near the seafloor.

The Carolyn Slayman Prize in Genetics recognizes the remarkable achievements of our best students in the Department of Genetics, based on their body of work, the impact of their findings in the field of Genetics and their commitment to the Genetics Graduate Program and Graduate Education at Yale.

Carolyn W. Slayman PhD: An outstanding teacher and scientist, she became a member of the Department of Human Genetics when it was established in 1972, and the first woman to become department chair at the Yale School of Medicine leading the Department of Human Genetics in 1984. Dr. Slayman is currently Deputy Dean for Academic & Scientific Affairs and Sterling Professor of Genetics.

**A. JEREMY WILSEY**  
**Genetics**  
“A Spatiotemporal Systems Biology Approach to Understanding Autism Spectrum Disorder”

For his seminal work in the elucidation of how different genes implicated in autism are interconnected and function in the cortical layers of the brain during fetal development. Identifying when and where autism genes act can help us understand the origin of autism, and the basis of human interactions.

**ELIZABETH SCHROEDER**  
**Genetics**  
“Epigenetic Adaptation to Mitochondrial Stress”

For her outstanding work in the identification of factors that will extend the life span of cells by acting in the energy center of the cell (mitochondria), preparing the cells to respond to stress. Elizabeth also demonstrated a strong commitment to graduate education by preparing students for different career paths.

The Edwin W. Small Prize was established in memory of Edwin W. Small (B.A. 1930, M.A. 1934) and is awarded in recognition and furtherance of outstanding work in the field of American history.

**JOSEPH FRONCZAK**  
**History**  
“Popular Front Movements: Antifascism and the Makings of a Global Left during the Depression”
This impressive dissertation positions the Popular Front of the 1930s as a global movement and, in doing so, makes several critical interventions into recent historiography. Striking original and compellingly written, this erudite and ambitious history of informal and popular politics is thoroughly well researched. Fronczak used thirty-five archival collections in the US, the UK, France, and Spain as well as published primary sources. The result is an amazingly informative portrait of grassroots politics around the world in the 1930s. The writing is beautiful, sometimes lyrical, and the stories along the way are gripping.

ROBIN SCHEFFLER
History of Science, History of Medicine
“Cancer Viruses and the Construction of Biomedicine in the United States from 1900-1980”

Scheffler has written a dissertation that demonstrates his mastery of many different literatures, and is the first comprehensive account of the development of tumor virology and its interleaving with biomedicine. It is a remarkably ambitious, original, and important work, and Scheffler has forged his extensive materials into a well written, coherent, and often provocatively interpretative analytic narrative. Most certainly the book that grows from this dissertation will be foundational to the ways other scholars come to understand and investigate the history of biomedicine. This dissertation will be a major contribution to the history of the biomedical sciences.

The George Trimis Prize was established in May 2003 in memory of a doctoral student in Economics who succumbed to cancer. In recognition of the extraordinary example that Trimis set, the prize is awarded to students whose dissertations demonstrate exceptional and distinguished achievement.

CHRISTOPHER NEILSON
Economics

“Essays in the Evaluation of Education Policy”

Neilson’s dissertation contains three careful analyses of the impact of social interventions. One is a targeted school vouchers program implemented in Chile. He argues that this program pushed schools in poor neighborhoods to improve and led to markedly better academic outcomes. The second essay, joint with Seth Zimmerman, documents the positive effects of the recent school construction program in New Haven. The third essay, joint with Prashant Bharadwaj and Katerine Loken, uses Norwegian and Chilean data to estimate the impact of extra medical care at birth on mortality and school performance. The effects are remarkably positive.

SETH ZIMMERMAN
Economics

“Essays in Labor Economics and the Economics of Education”

Seth Zimmerman has carried out three ambitious and interesting projects on the economics of education, one done jointly with Christopher Neilson. One study uses Chilean data on attendance at elite Chilean colleges and on subsequent holding of leadership positions in business. Through a clever analysis, he argues convincingly that much of the students’ business success is explained by their exploiting connections with fellow students to land good jobs. Another study uses Florida data to argue that expanding the four college system would improve income of graduates. The third study with Christopher Neilson argues that construction of new schools in New Haven raised test scores, school attendance, and neighborhood home prices.
The Karl K. Turekian Prize is awarded for excellence in geochemical or cosmochemical studies.

YIGE ZHANG
Geology and Geophysics
“Deciphering the “doubthouse” climate change of the Cenozoic era”

SHIKMA ZAARUR
Geology and Geophysics
“Clumped Isotope Thermometry as a Tool for Reconstructing Terrestrial Environments: Case Studies from the Levant and East Africa”

The Richard Wolfgang Prize was established in 1971 in memory of Richard Leopold Wolfgang, M.A. Hon. 1962, and member of the faculty from 1956 to 1971. It is awarded each year for the best doctoral theses of graduating chemistry students.

LI FU
Chemistry
“Characterization of Biomolecules at Interfaces using Sum Frequency Generation Spectroscopy”

Li Fu is awarded the Wolfgang Prize because of his effort and dedication in developing a new spectroscopic method for studying biomolecular structures on surfaces. He further applied this method to protein aggregation on membrane surfaces, revealing molecular mechanisms crucial in understanding amyloid diseases, such as Alzheimer’s and Parkinson’s disease.

DAMIAN HRUSZKEWYCZ
Chemistry
“Properties and Reactivity of Pd(I)Bridging Allyl Dimers”

Catalysts play a crucial role in society by facilitating the synthesis of a wide variety of important chemicals. This dissertation explores how one highly active homogeneous catalyst, used to synthesize pharmaceuticals, operates. It challenges the current paradigm and provides insight on the design of better catalysts for the future.

CHRISTINA WOO
Chemistry
“Synthetic and Chemical Biological Studies of the Diazofluorene Antitumor Antibiotics”

The thesis describes the creation and study of complex natural products, which are useful as new chemotherapeutic agents.

The Arthur and Mary Wright Prize is awarded upon the recommendation of the History Department for the outstanding dissertation or dissertations in the field of history outside the United States or Europe.

JENNIFER LAMBE
History

Lambe has fashioned a highly imaginative, interdisciplinary study of tremendous importance and scope. This is an outstanding piece of scholarship that seeks to use the institution of the Mazorra, Cuba’s asylum and later hospital for the insane, as a prism through which can be viewed the history of Cuba from when it was a Spanish colony to the Revolutionary period of the late twentieth century. The dissertation breaks significant new ground in the history of science and medicine, especially in the fields of public health and psychiatry. It stands as among the very best works in this burgeoning field.

TAI SU ZHANG
History
“Kinship, Property, and Agricultural Capitalism in Pre-Industrial China and England”
Zhang has produced a terrific exercise in comparative history. This brilliant dissertation analyzes a particular norm of Chinese property rights, allowing landowners an indefinite term during which they were entitled to recover land, which they had previously sold. The dissertation reads like a polished book on the strength of its writing, the firmness of its opinions, and the author’s confident deployment of the evidence. Zhang has produced an authentically valuable work of comparative legal history, something that few scholars at any level of seniority attempt and that is unheard of for a dissertation.

University Awards

The Theron Rockwell Field Prize was established in 1957 by Emilia R. Field in memory of her husband, Theron Rockwell Field, Ph.B. 1889. It is awarded for poetic, literary, or religious works by any students enrolled in the University for a degree. This prize is awarded by the Office of the Secretary of Yale University.

ANDREW KRAEBEL
English

“English Traditions of Biblical Criticism and Translation in the Later Middle Ages”

LUCY KAUFMAN
History


The John Addison Porter Prize, named in honor of Professor John Addison Porter, B.A. 1842, is awarded for a work of scholarship in any field where it is possible, through original effort, to gather and relate facts or principles, or both, and to present the results in such a literary form as to make the project of general human interest. This prize is awarded by the Office of the Secretary of Yale University.

BRIAN JORDAN
History

“Embattled Memories: Union Veterans and Their Unending Civil War”

Public Service Awards

The Disciplinary Outreach Service Award recognizes a student who has applied specific knowledge of his or her own field in performing voluntary service within the local community.

KEERTHI SHETTY
Immunobiology

Fueled by her passion for science communication and outreach, Keerthi joined the Yale Science Diplomats (YSD), a campus group devoted to educating the public about science issues that affect them and encouraging scientists to become engaged in the political process. She helped with the creation of Science in the News (SITN), a public lecture series given by postdocs and grad students on the “hottest” science topics. As the organization’s first education outreach coordinator, Keerthi worked with the Office of New Haven and State Affairs as well as local science teachers to integrate the SITN lectures into the local high school science curricula in a way that allows for more student interaction and critical thinking. Additionally, as YSD’s current co-president, she has undertaken several initiatives that aim to educate scientists about policy and legal issues as well as to encourage scientists to participate in public policy advocacy.
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Andrew Kraebel
English
"English Traditions of Biblical Criticism and Translation in the Later Middle Ages"

Lucy Kaufman
History
"A People’s Reformation: Religion, Politics, and Society in the English Parish, 1560-1600"

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Meredith Ann Frey
Physics
2009-2010

Alp Kucukelbir
Engineering & Applied Science
2013-2014

Jennifer Lynne Lambe
History
2011-2012

Aaron Frank Mertz
Physics
2007-2008

Jan Claas Van Treeck
Germanic Languages & Literatures
2011-2012

Graduating Winners of Prize Teaching Fellowships

Meredith Ann Frey
Physics
2009-2010

Alp Kucukelbir
Engineering & Applied Science
2013-2014

Jennifer Lynne Lambe
History
2011-2012

Aaron Frank Mertz
Physics
2007-2008

Jan Claas Van Treeck
Germanic Languages & Literatures
2011-2012
Graduate Mentor Awards

This year, for the sixteenth time, the Graduate School honors faculty members at Convocation for their exemplary qualities as mentors. Many dissertation advisors were nominated, and the honorees were chosen by a committee of students and faculty, in coordination with the Graduate Teaching Center. All letters of nomination were anonymous.

**In The Humanities**

**MARY LUI**
*Professor of American Studies and History*

“She systematically creates spaces for an engaged intellectual community to flourish.”

“As I think about making the transition from graduate student to assistant professor next year, Mary is the person and scholar I most want to emulate. If I can impact even one graduate student in the same way she has impacted me, I will consider that to be the greatest professional accomplishment.”

“She has taught me not only how to be a better scholar, but her personal and intellectual generosity serves as a model for the kind of teacher and colleague that I strive to become. What good I do as a scholar and teacher, I owe to her example.”

**In The Natural Sciences**

**ERIC DUFRESNE**
*Associate Professor of Mechanical Engineering & Materials Science, Physics & Cell Biology*

“Despite his many obligations he makes time for every student, listens attentively, and encourages the development of each individual’s special talents. He values every student’s present contribution and their future success. His lab is a friendly, welcoming place and the center of an intellectual community that transcends disciplinary boundaries.”

“Without ever sacrificing intellectual rigor, Eric demonstrated that kindness can bring out the best in people.”

“He is both a patient and enthusiastic mentor, in addition to being a dedicated teacher, husband and father. I continue to be impressed with the way Eric can balance the responsibilities of being a graduate mentor with undergraduate and graduate teaching, as well as his family, and now along with being Director of the hugely successful CEID.”

“Eric inspires by example. His infectious enthusiasm for science, knack for creative and elegant solutions and most importantly, his strong work ethic have remarkably influenced my approach and attitude towards scientific research. Eric strongly encourages a culture of curiosity in the lab and instills team spirit from the day one joins the lab.”

**In The Social Sciences**

**GREG HUBER**
*Professor of Political Science*

“His energy, talent, and constant willingness to lend time and energy to supporting his students is inspiring. When we jointly wrote a paper, I learned so much – not just about good scholarship and creative problem-solving, but also about how to write fluidly and quickly. He’s the model of an excellent researcher.”

“Greg stands out as someone committed to helping students pursue whatever career goals they chose.”

“He provides excellent assistance in regards to strategic choices on research topics and satisfying degree requirements. In addition to being an unbelievably productive scholar
and a terrific adviser, Greg has transformed our department as DGS. He’s made sure that students at every level of the program, from new admits to upper years, get the support and the information they need to succeed in grad school.”
THE SHIELD OF THE GRADUATE SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

The design for the Graduate School shield was drawn by Yale art professor Theodore Sizer and approved by the University. Four themes are symbolized in the arms of the School. The background of the “chief” (the place of honor) is Yale blue, with Roman numerals in white representing 1847, the year of the founding of the Department of Philosophy and the Arts, the earliest formal organization for graduate study at Yale and, in fact, in the entire United States. Below, on a white background, is a black Y-shaped device representing the “pallium,” a garment worn by philosophers in ancient Rome, and frequently used as a symbol for Yale. The three red crosses are derived from the arms of Bishop George Berkeley, who established in 1732 an endowment for Yale College graduates “reading for the second degree.” These were the first scholarships exclusively for graduate study at Yale.

THE MACE OF THE GRADUATE SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

The mace is carried at the head of ceremonial processions by the School’s marshal and displayed at such events as the annual Matriculation ceremony, awards Convocation, and Commencement.

The shaft of the mace is turned red mahogany. Inset near the top of the shaft on two sides is the shield of the Graduate School, rendered in cloisonné-enamelled metal. For description of the shield, see above. The shaft is topped by a disk of grained red and black macasser ebony, on which sits a large, faceted crystal orb, the chief design element of the mace. The orb symbolizes several characteristics of advanced study in the arts and sciences. The global shape suggests the ambition of advanced study to be comprehensive in its inquiry. The transparent clarity of the fine Austrian lead crystal of which the orb is made alludes to the motto of Yale University, Lux et Veritas, and to the enlightenment that scholars seek in their research and teaching. Finally, the many facets of the orb symbolize the complexity of advanced learning in the arts and sciences and the importance of approaching its subjects from many intellectual directions.

In addition to the large ceremonial school mace described above, there are four smaller maces that are carried by faculty and staff marshals. These marshals’ batons each have a similarly turned shaft of mahogany. At their tops is a single enameled shield.