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NEWSLETTER

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Teaching about Latin-American Immigration in a Time of Controversy

By David G. Gutiérrez

Teaching the history of migration to the United States from Mexico and Latin America has always involved confronting a certain level of political tension and potential controversy. Of course, during periods in which debate over U.S. immigration policy is running hot—as it is currently—maintaining an open and respectful learning environment can present daunting challenges to even the most skilled and experienced teachers. This is particularly true in classroom settings that include both Latino and non-Latino students. With mass media constantly bombarding students (and the rest of us) with highly-charged rhetoric and visual images depicting out-of-control borders, “American” workers being displaced by “illegal aliens,” and the unprecedented spectacle of millions of non-citizen protestors taking to the streets in mass demonstrations, it is inevitable that the controversies that have so dominated public discourse in recent months and years have spilled into college, university, high school, and even elementary level classrooms.

While some might find this kind of volatile atmosphere detrimental to the learning process, I’d like to argue in this short piece that creatively engaging the controversies currently swirling around the issues of immigration and demographic change can also open up some unexpected pedagogical possibilities for both the teaching of history and contemporary events. Indeed, if approached thoughtfully, utilizing a “teaching the conflict” approach can be put to effective use in helping students to understand not only the history of Latino migration and population change, but also larger and intrinsically related historical themes, including: the changing dynamics of global capitalism, the profound local and regional social and political transformations created by economic change, and, of course, the shifting historical relationship of the peoples of the United States to Latin America and the rest of the world.

There are any number of strategic approaches one can take in teaching the history of Latino migration and population change. But one task that I have found effective in recent years is to pose a rhetorical—and intentionally provocative—question by way of introducing a course or course segment on these topics. For example, one such question goes something like this: “Given what we know about the ambivalent reception immigrants and migrants from Latin America have historically received in the United States, how is it that the Latino population grew from what was just a bit more than 1 percent of the resident population in 1940 to nearly 15 percent today, and is expected to reach at least 25 percent of the total U.S. population by the middle of this century?”

This is obviously a loaded question, but framing the issue in this way has the advantage of forcing students to confront the reality of what is clearly one of the most important social trends in the recent history not only of the United States, but of the Western Hemisphere as a whole. In other words, the “hook” of the course or course segment is to make every effort to exploit for pedagogical purposes the deep ambivalence the United States and its peoples have exhibited toward the Spanish-speaking world and its peoples since the first period of extended interactions between them in the early nineteenth century. When framed within this broad context, this central theme of ambivalence can be explored—and the course structured—against three important periods in U.S.-Latin American relations over the past 150 years: 1) the era of the United States’ experiments in imperialism (ca. 1846-1898); 2) the era of industrialization and the evolution of an international division of labor (ca. 1855-1929); and 3) what might be posited as the most recent era of global restructuring of both production processes and the exploitation of foreign labor sources (ca. 1945-present).

There is, of course, always an element of arbitrariness in imposing temporal boundaries in this manner, but this type of periodization has several advantages. On the most basic level, exploration of a period bracketed on one end by the United States annexation of Mexico’s northern territories after the Mexican War and, on the other, the incorporation of Spain’s former colonies (and especially Puerto Rico) in 1898, allows students to examine the vagaries and limitations of the institution of national citizenship in two distinct cases. Such an emphasis also helps students to comprehend what the sociologist Alejandro Portes and his colleagues have called the importance of the changing “contexts of reception” that Spanish-speaking immigrants encountered in the U.S. in different periods. In the Mexican American case, recent work by Richard Griswold del Castillo on the implications of the United States’ annexation of the Southwest, The Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo: A Legacy of Conquest (University of Oklahoma Press, 1990), and Benjamin-Johnson on the immediate aftermath of annexation, Revolution in Texas (Yale University Press, 2003), provide powerful analyses of the ways the first generation of Mexican Americans slipped into the status of second-class citizenship, despite their possession of U.S. citizenship. In the case of Puerto Rico, José A. Cabranes’ concise yet seminal study, Citizenship and the American Empire (Yale University Press, 1979) remains the essential starting point for any discussion of the incorporation of Puerto Ricans into the U.S. political and social orbit. More general survey treatments of Latinos, migration, citizenship, and the law, such as Ian Haney Lopez’s classic, White by Law: The Legal Construction of Race (New York University Press, 1996, rev. ed., 2006), and Carlos R. Salter’s, Latinos and American Law: Landmark Supreme Court Cases (University of Texas Press, 2006), help flesh out important (continued on p. 8)
News from Museums, Libraries and Research Institutions...

At Ellis Island, an exhibition opened on April 17, 2007: "Future in the Balance: Immigrants, Public Health and Ellis Island's Hospitals." The exhibition is sponsored by the organization "Save Ellis Island," which raises funds to assist the National Park Service in the restoration of buildings on the island. The exhibition is housed in the recently restored and reopened Ferry Building, from which immigrants departed the island after processing.

The Chinese Historical Society of America, 965 Clay Street, San Francisco, is currently showing an exhibit on the history and culture of the Miss Chinatown USA Pagant.

The Immigration History Research Center at the University of Minnesota has recently received ca. 100 linear feet of archival records of the Polish American Immigration and Relief Committee. Between 1947 and 1966, the PAIRC assisted over 45,000 refugees from Poland to resettle in the U.S. and over 5,000 in other countries. The collection spans the years 1946-2001. The IHRC has also recently received the initial shipments of materials from Sucheng Chan (Univ. of California, Santa Barbara), scholar of Asian American studies. This is the first installment of a large amount of published and unpublished materials that are scheduled to arrive over the next couple of years. Further information about both collections is on the web at http://blog.lib.umn.edu/

The Archives and Special Collections Department of the library at the University of Manitoba has completed a project, "The Prairie Immigration Experience," which contains 15,000 digitized images of materials illustrating the history of immigration in western Canada. The materials are online at http://www.umanitoba.ca/libraries/archives/prairie_immigration/

The Immigration History Research Center at the University of Minnesota now offers small grants of $250 to support travel costs of researchers needing to consult its ethnic studies collections for a minimum one-week period. Grants are open to graduate students, faculty and independent scholars in the U.S. or internationally who live more than a day's drive from the Twin Cities. For fiscal year 2007-2008, grants can be awarded to researchers intending to use the Estonian, Finnish, Greek, Italian or Latvian collections. Grants may be used to travel to the IHRC at any time between July 1, 2007 and June 30, 2008. Further information on the web at http://ihrc.umn.edu/educators/grantsinaid.html

The Italian American Museum, 28 West 44th St., New York City, has a current exhibit: "Faces of ItaliaNY." It features photographs in black and white by Italian photographer Salvatore Sparvigna. Through June 29, 2007.


FROM THE IEHS PRESIDENT...

Dear Colleagues:

As you may know, the Journal of American Ethnic History will be changing publishers. Transaction, our publisher since the founding of the journal, has sold its periodicals division to Springer. Our journal committee (consisting of the current president and vice president, the former president and the journal editor) are exploring various possibilities and are in touch with Springer, Sheridan Press, Johns Hopkins University Press, University of Illinois Press/History Cooperative, University of Minnesota Press, and Duke University Press as potential successors. A decision will be made very soon in consultation with the IEHS executive board. Our concerns are maintaining the affordability of the journal, expanding the subscriber base for both individuals and libraries, and making the journal readily available through both print and electronic outlets. We are also seeking to make journal back issues available electronically and free to our members.

The last point raises an issue for which I need input from IEHS members. I would like to know how the Society can offer further benefits to its members. It would be unfortunate if those in our field just use their libraries to access the journal and have no connection to the Society. Besides our annual dinner and sponsorship of various sessions at scholarly meetings, the IEHS can provide more. I have had a few suggestions already: to elect a graduate student to the executive board (which I hope to implement this year); develop a curriculum exchange which can be reached through our website (also planned for this year); digitize the Newsletter; update the IEHS listserv so that we can reach all members; hold joint conferences with other national and international societies studying migration, ethnicity, and race; maintain an ongoing graduate forum on the website which would list dissertation topics and provide a place to exchange ideas on pertinent issues; and offer IEHS sponsored graduate student workshops in conjunction with national or regional conferences. One of the questions I asked in my presidential message last year was whether the Society should sponsor another major IEHS conference much like the one we held in conjunction with NYU in 2003. If you agree that another such conference should be held, your recommendation for the focus of the meeting would be helpful. I would be glad to hear other ideas as well as receive your comments on those listed above.

Increasing the appeal of the Society beyond the journal will allow us to grow and attract new scholars in our field. I hope those who are teaching graduate students particularly, but undergrads as well, will ask their students what they would like the IEHS to be doing for them. Migration, assimilation/incorporation, ethnic and race relations are especially important topics in contemporary world societies, and the Immigration and Ethnic History Society is unique in providing historical insights on all these issues.

Most importantly, please let me hear from you (ronald.bayor@hs.gatech.edu).

Ronald H. Bayor
President, IEHS
Minutes of the Editorial Board and Annual Business Meeting  
Immigration and Ethnic History Society  
Minneapolis, Minnesota, March 31, 2007

John Bukowczyk, editor of the *Journal of American Ethnic History*, announced that in the future he would schedule a separate meeting of the JAETH Editorial Board.

President Ron Bayor opened the Annual Meeting of the IEHS at 5:30 p.m. He asked for approval of the 2006 IEHS Minutes. Elliott Barkan moved to delete a sentence that was not presented to the President. Secretary Bergland reported that the bracketed sentence was added to inform the membership of the fact and reason for June Alexander’s resignation from the Executive Board. Lacking a second to the motion, Bayor said, there would be “no action.”

Bayor acknowledged and thanked the three Executive Board members completing their term of appointment: Walter Kamphoefner, Yong Chen, Victor Greene.

John Bukowczyk, JAETH Editor, reported that individual and institutional subscriptions have increased in 2006-2007 over last year (276/271 and 417/393, respectively), adding that total paid circulation increased from 685 to 710 over last year. This reversal of trends represents the fruit of a membership campaign he and the Book Review Editor, Madeline Hsu have pursued. He added that he continues to operate without secretarial or student assistance, but his support-package at Wayne State University has been renewed for another three years.

The most significant development of the year, Bukowczyk reported, was the unexpected announcement in mid-February, that Transaction, the long-time publisher of the JAETH, had sold its journal division to Springer Publications. Thus, JAETH is looking for a new permanent home. He expressed concern that the journal will fall behind in its publication schedule in the transition. He would seek a motion on empowering a committee to continue researching options and reach a decision regarding the journal, but he first fielded questions. Suzanne Sinke asked if any proposals are currently being considered; Bukowczyk stated they were awaiting one from Johns Hopkins. Donna Gabaccia asked when the decision was to be made; “soon,” he responded. Gabaccia noted that financial arrangements differ enormously from press to press with implications for subscriptions and fees, so it is important to “get this right.” Bukowczyk noted that dues were raised significantly last year, so there should be minimal impact for members, adding, the Journal is “in the black.” Victor Greene asked whether a lawyer had been consulted; Bukowczyk answered that lengthy discussions occurred with editors, but a lawyer had not been consulted.

Bukowczyk then moved that the IEHS membership vote “to empower a special committee consisting of the IEHS President, the *JAETH* Editor, the immediate past president, and the current vice-president/president-elect to conduct all necessary business pursuant to concluding new publication arrangements for the journal, in consultation with and subject to the approval of the Executive Board.” Greene seconded the motion. A discussion followed. Paul Spickard asked what exactly the Executive Board would do. Bayor proposed that the Committee would send out proposals from presses to the EB for consideration. Bukowczyk noted that the news was a “bombshell,” that he had been in conversation with Transaction two days prior and there was no indication of the pending sale. A question was asked regarding on-line publications. Bukowczyk noted that he had to learn a great deal more about the technical aspects of mounting the JAETH online. This aspect of journal publishing is both expensive and technically complicated and we lack the sophisticated expertise and language to discuss this in an open forum in any meaningful way. Scott Wong asked if on-line publication only was being considered; Bukowczyk replied that JAETH would never be an on-line only publication. Rather, he was sending copies of the *Journal* to potential presses; the intent was to keep the Journal the same, down to the color and size. Bayor requested a vote on the motion. Sinke requested that Duke be considered. Barkan noted that the Incorporation Papers were handled in conjunction with the IHRC and asked if the Immigration History Research Center might handle the *Journal*. Gabaccia said no. Bayor called for the question. The motion passed unanimously. Bukowczyk requested anyone with inspiring ideas to contact the Committee. He would continue to update the membership on the matter.

Betty Bergland gave the Secretary’s Report, announcing the results of the election for the Executive Board, based on the submission of seventy-five ballots. Three new members were elected—Eiichiro Azuma, Maria Cristina Garcia and Diane Vecchio. They will serve a three-year term, 2007-2010. Bergland thanked the Nominating Committee for their work, especially its chair, Paul Spickard. She also thanked those that agreed to run in the election.

Treasurer, Eric Arneson submitted his Report, noting that this was his first (partial) year as Treasurer and that it was not a busy year. The current account balance in the IEHS Account is $2,468.

Jim Bergquist, editor of the *IEHS Newsletter*, reported that the *Newsletter* is published twice a year (May and November). There are currently 748 subscribers. The cost of printing and mailing the last issue was $581. The editor is always interested in ideas for the cover article, usually one focused on historiography or pedagogy.

Vice-President and Program Committee Chair Barbara Posadas reported on the work of the Program Committee (Nora Faires, Maria Christina Garcia, Stephen J. Gross, Violet Johnson, Raymond A. Mohl, and K. Scott Wong). She especially thanked Nora Faires for her work in assembling one of the panels. Three panels have been submitted to the AHA for the January 2008 meeting, and two panels were assembled for the OAH Annual Meeting in March 2008 in New York City. Posadas encouraged members to contact her via email regarding papers or panels for AHA and OAH in 2009.

Ron Bayor announced the Theodore Saloutos Book Award for 2006 given to Eric Goldstein and the Pozzetta Dissertation Award granted to Rachel Krauson. John Bukowczyk announced recipients of the Qualey Award—James Barrett and David Roediger. The John Higham Travel recipients are Eric Schlereth, Stephen Mak, and Maddalena Marinari. (See separate section in the *Newsletter* for details.)

Turning to old business, Ron Bayor asked the issue of pairing candidates on ballots for the Executive Board. He noted that Suzanne Sinke raised the issue after last year’s meeting and the (continued on p. 5)
Conferences and Meetings...


The History Department of the University of Texas at Arlington and the Transatlantic History Student Organization are sponsoring the Eighth Annual Graduate Student Symposium on Transatlantic History, to be held Oct. 18, 2007 in Arlington, Texas. Theme: “Spiritual Encounters in the New World.” Graduate students are invited to submit a three-hundred-word abstract and abbreviated curriculum vitae by July 1, 2007. Contact: Steven Reinhardt at reinhard@uta.edu


The annual International Conference of the American Studies Institute at Seoul National University in Korea will take place Nov. 1-2, 2007. Theme: “Multiple Immigrations: US Immigration in the Global Context.” Proposals are due June 15, 2007, submit to Jee H. An (E-mail: jan@snu.ac.kr). Information on the web at http://plaza.smu.ac.kr/~astudies/eng/main.htm

The Southern Jewish Historical Society will hold its annual conference, co-sponsored by the Jewish Historical Society of Greater Washington in Washington, DC, November 2-4, 2007. The title of the conference is “Honoring the Past for the Sake of the Future.” For information contact Mark K. Baumann, e-mail MarkKBaumann@aol.com


The Polish American Historical Association will hold its annual conference in conjunction with the annual meeting of the AHA in Washington, Jan. 3-6, 2008. Proposals are now closed. Program is available at http://www.polishamericanstudies.org/08program.htm

The Seventh European Social Science History Conference will take place in Lisbon, Portugal, Feb. 27-March 1, 2008. Proposals closed in April. Web information: http://www.iissg.nl/esshc/

The Society for German-American Studies will hold its 32nd Annual Symposium April 17-20, 2008 in Williamsburg, Virginia. Paper proposals (one-page) can be submitted until November 1, 2007 to Albert W. Spengler, Cooper Center for Public Service, University of Virginia, PO Box 40206, Charlottesville, VA 22904-4206. Information on the web at http://www.ulib.virginia.edu/kade/sgaisn.html#meetings


The Centre for Migration Studies at the Ulster-American Folk Park, Omagh, Northern Ireland will host the Seventeenth Ulster-American Heritage Symposium, June 25-28, 2008, in partnership with the University of Ulster, Queen’s University, Belfast and the National Museums and Library Service of Northern Ireland. Theme of the Conference will be “Changing Perspectives, 1607-2007.” Proposals are due Oct 31, 2007. The organizers are interested in papers “presenting and exploring recent research that challenges habitual ways of thinking about the historical relationship between Ulster and North America over the last four hundred years.” Further information at http://www.folkpark.com/newsroom/?article=550

Minutes of the Annual Meeting...
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Nominating Committee discussed the issue this year. Sinko argued that the purpose of pairing was to address gaps on the Executive Board, to attract people not currently represented, and to cultivate a more diverse group of people in the Society. Categories to address these issues, she believed, should be decided by the Nominating Committee. Gabaccia noted that OAH currently pairs ballots, using categories of scholarly fields, gender and race. Spickard stated that the idea of pairing ballots was not shared by everyone and that younger scholars reportedly love the journal but wonder how they fit into the Society. The idea then is to recruit new members among a younger generation of scholars. A suggestion was made that since much more discussion is required, the Executive Board discuss this and report at the next Annual Meeting. Nora Faires, an immediate past member of the Nominating Committee, stated individuals were happy when contacted to serve on the board, especially those less visible in the Society; however, she noted that pairing may not be the way to address the issue of expanding membership, and we need to make more of an effort than we have in the past. She added that as a former chair of the nominating committee for the Social Science History Association she had a positive experience with pairing candidates.

Paul Spickard made the following motion (roughly formulated; precise language emailed): "The Nominating Committee will present six candidates to stand for election to the Board. The committee will arrange those candidates in three pairs according to principles of the committee's choosing, so as best to serve the needs of the Society and to insure that the voices of diverse constituencies within the Society and in the larger fellowship of scholars of immigration and ethnicity shall be represented." Sinko seconded the motion. Bukowieczky saluted the effort to broaden the membership, but suggested the entire membership work toward that goal. Bergland spoke against the motion, emphasizing the Society's long history of rejecting paired ballots—initially in 1979, in 1989 when the By-Laws were overhauled, and in 1997-98, when the Task Force revisited the issue. The compelling reasons raised in the past addressed practical and principled matters, she noted, such as, who and how categories would be determined; the lack of the depth in scholarly fields to do this effectively; concerns if the Committee were unable to achieve a pairing; whether people would be informed of the categories to which they were assigned; whether IEHS should ascribe identities to members; and challenges to IEHS sustained practices.

The discussion continued. It was noted that only 75 of 271 members voted, reflecting a low participation rate among members. Bayor added that the Executive Board is already diverse and there has been an ongoing effort to recruit. Greene added such efforts were made under the leadership of Philip Gleason. Gabaccia suggested that the diversity of the Executive Board should be used to recruit and, also, that the perception and the reality of the organization needed to change. Faires proposed that the Society move away from thinking of the demographic profile of the Executive Board and, rather, consider getting people from different perspectives, different locations, and different points in their career. Maureen Nutting stated that she had recruited for the Journal among libraries, including junior colleges, adding that she was elected to the AHA Board as a result of pairing. Bukowieczky applauded such efforts. Greene noted that a good basis of pairing was generational. Sinko stated that because the Nominating Committee could not pair this year, it could not address holes. Barkan noted that the Society has been aware of the issue for some time and that we need to convince young scholars of the value of membership. Kathy Conzen raised the question about what IEHS membership meant, especially for younger scholars. She felt the Journal was most meaningful, but this is available on line; furthermore, activism in the Society does not affect promotion. Thus, she said, the Society might think about what we do as a Society, in addition to the Journal. Roland Guyotte said he was impressed by the comments, but distrustful of the motion as it stands and wondered if pairing worked for OAH. He thought the issue should be studied, since the Society does need to recruit. Bukowieczky appreciated suspicions raised by the structure of the Nominating Committee, adding that if the Society sought to democratize, self-nomination should be an option. Gabaccia said the Urban History Society self-nominates. Bayor stated that the motion could be tabled, or a small committee could be formed to study the issue further. With no response, Bayor called for the question. The motion passed with fourteen in favor and six opposed.

Bayor announced that the Executive Board would discuss (through email) the proposals for the transfer of the JAEH. The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Betty Bergland, IEHS Secretary

Society for German-American Studies
President Resigns amidst Plagiarism Scandal

In September 2006, the president of the Society for German American Studies, Don Heinrich Tolzmann, resigned his presidency after twenty-five years in office, after the University of Cincinnati, where he served as a librarian and Director of German American Studies, investigated charges of plagiarism relating to a book he had published in 2000.

The volume, The German-American Experience, was reviewed in 2003 on an H-Net web page, in which the reviewer reported extensive passages which were word-for-word from a 1962 work by Theodore Hoeffener, The Germans in America. The only acknowledgment of Hoeffener's work was in Tolzmann's preface, where he stated "I leaned heavily on Hoeffener, especially for the period from the American Revolution through the Civil War." In early 2006 the matter came to the attention of the authorities at the University of Cincinnati. A committee appointed to investigate the charges found in August 2006 that Tolzmann was guilty of plagiarism. After receiving the committee's report, the dean of libraries, his superior, recommended that he be dismissed. Tolzmann held to his claim that his acknowledgment of Hoeffener's work in the preface of his book was sufficient.

When asked in January 2007 about the final decision in the case, a University spokesman issued the following statement: "There has been an agreement to settle and resolve the dispute. Dr. Tolzmann will retire on August 31, 2007, and the University will not pursue the matter further."

The Society for German-American Studies elected a new president, William Keel (University of Kansas), at its meeting in Lawrence, Kansas in April 2007. Keel had been serving as interim president after the resignation of Tolzmann.
THEODORE SALOUTOS BOOK AWARD, 2006

The annual Theodore Saloutos Book Award for the outstanding book of the year in American immigration and ethnic history was made to Eric Goldstein (Emory University) for his book The Price of Whiteness: Jews, Race, and the American Identity (Princeton University Press, 2006). The committee consisted of Dorothee Schneider (Univ. of Illinois), chair; Thomas Dublin (SUNY Binghamton); and Robert Rockaway (Tel Aviv University). The award was made at the annual dinner of the Immigration and Ethnic History Society in Minneapolis on March 31, 2007. The citation follows:

"Whiteness" has become a much-written-about topic among cultural historians of the United States in the last decade. Despite the rich scholarship on this topic, Eric Goldstein has added significant new perspectives and themes in The Price of Whiteness, his first book. The author combines an in-depth historical account of American Jewish identity in the context of both American Jewish history and the history of race in the United States with an analysis of the shifting meaning of race for American Jews over the past 120 years. His story begins with the self-reflection of important Jewish thinkers and leaders in the late nineteenth century United States within the paradigm of race prevalent at that time. It continues into the twentieth century as the dialogue between Jews and non-Jews and among different groups within the Jewish community became increasingly complex. The voluminous literature on American Jewish culture in this seminal period is absorbed and synthesized in accessible language within these deeply researched chapters. Unlike most other studies of other European immigrants, The Price of Whiteness does not end with the historical period of Jewish immigration, but continues the story of Jewish ethnic identity into the present. In the context of the Civil Rights movement and various recent American racial identity movements, Goldstein sketches out the story of multiple and continuously changing Jewish identity movements within an increasingly blurry racial paradigm. The book is all the more impressive because it follows no dogmatic road towards a foregone conclusion. It speaks eloquently to the truth of open-minded history. The committee was impressed by the breadth and accessibility of this deeply researched book and hopes that this book will add more than a mere building block to the further study of European ethnic groups in the United States.

Other New Publications Noted...


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dimensions of this vital period.

Study of the age of empire provides important context for comprehending how the legacies of U.S. political and economic colonialism in Latin America in the second half of the nineteenth century eventually translated into the recruitment and internal incorporation of millions of Latino labor migrants over the course of the twentieth century. The recent focus over U.S. immigration policy sometimes makes it seem as if issues of labor migration and population change are more recent phenomena, but closer examination reveals that, with the sole exception of the period of the Great Depression, the mass recruitment and use of both legally sanctioned and unsanctioned Latino foreign labor has been a permanent feature of the U.S. economy for the entire twentieth century. Again, if framed carefully, examination of the development in the use of this kind of labor tracks almost exactly with the major contours of U.S. and regional economic development over the past century. Exploration of this period also reveals the roots of a population shift in the Southwest that saw the Spanish-speaking population grow from what was probably less than one-half million in 1900 to 1.5 million in 1929—a population shift that arguably laid the foundations for the much more dramatic demographic changes that we see unfolding today.

Recent scholarship has focused on simultaneous developments on both sides of the border to provide a panoramic view of the growing influence of United States interests in shaping Mexican economic development, and then on the subsequent “spillover” effects this had on patterns of labor migration before the Great Depression. John Mason Hart’s magisterial Empire and Revolution: The Americans in Mexico since the Civil War (University of California Press, 2003) and, from a different angle, Raúl Fernández and Gilbert González’ A Century of Chicano History (Routledge, 2003) provide broad and deep analysis of the United States’ role in accelerating economic change within Mexico and also in contributing to the conditions leading to mass labor migration out of the country. Instructors can draw on a large number of sources to explore how Mexican labor migrants largely replaced Asian workers in the economy between the 1890s and World War II, but Lawrence Cardoso’s, Mexican Emigration to the United States (University of Arizona Press, 1980); Mark Reisler’s, By the Sweat of Their Brow: Mexican Immigration Labor in the United States, 1900-1940 (Greenwood Press, 1976), and Arthur F. Corwin’s edited collection, Immigrants—and Immigrants (Greenwood Press, 1978), remain particularly useful in this regard.

Any discussion of the proximate historical roots of the current controversy over Mexican migration and the ongoing demographic revolution must begin with the so-called Bracero Program. Implemented as an emergency wartime contract labor recruitment measure in 1942, the Bracero Program reinstitutionalized the widespread use of Mexican labor after the brief interregnum of the Depression. But this erstwhile “guest worker” program also helped to reestablish and deepen the complex transnational social networks that had been laid down by migrant workers earlier in the century. These networks clearly served as conduits to other potential foreign contract workers. Just as important these networks extended to other individuals who crossed the border to seek work in the United States without official sanction of either the U.S. or Mexican governments. In time, the constant circulation of officially sanctioned workers, augmented with an equal and often greater flow of unsanctioned or “illegal” workers, became a normal component of an increasingly integrated—if highly exploitative—international labor market linking the two nations. Needless to say, population circulation of this magnitude also inevitably led to permanent settlement for at least a portion of the migrants moving in both directions across the border, as evidenced by the expansion of the population of Mexican origin or descent from just 1.86 million in 1940 to more than 5.4 million in 1970.

Both sociologists and historians of migration have noted that, although more recent patterns differ a bit from those established by the first influxes of Mexican workers, similarities continue to outweigh differences. Mexican migrants, most of whom are male but are now augmented with significant numbers of women as well, continue to be drawn to work and higher wages in the United States. Most continue to be drawn from traditional sending regions in southwestern Mexico. And most continue to follow pathways and exploit social networks previously established either by family members or neighbors. The main difference of the period from 1970 to the present is both the magnitude of the northward flow from Mexico—and the much broader dispersal of the migrants across the territory of the United States.

The definitive synthetic history of this ongoing revolution in population movement and demographic change is yet to be written, but teachers can draw a wealth of scholarship to sketch the outlines of these events in the years since World War II. My own edited volume, The Columbia History of Latinos in the United States since 1960 (Columbia University Press, 2004), an interdisciplinary collection of essays exploring the recent history of all the major Latino subpopulations, provides one starting point. Good sources on the social and political dimensions of the Bracero Program include Ernesto Galarrza’s still useful Merchants of Labor (Mcnally and Loitin, 1964) and Manuel García y Griego’s pithy treatment, “The Importation of Mexican Contract Laborers to the United States, 1942-1964,” in The Border That Joins: Mexican Migrants and U.S. Responsibility, ed. Peter G. Brown and Henry Shue (Rowman & Littlefield, 1983). The gendered dynamics of the migration process in different contexts have been ably examined by Pierrette Honadle-Sotelo in Gendered Transitions (University of California Press, 1994) and Domestica: Immigrant Workers Cleaning and Caring in the Shadows of Affluence (University of California Press, 2001). Two important recent studies, Latino Crossings: Mexican Americans, Puerto Ricans, and the Politics of Race and Citizenship (Routledge, 2003) by Nicholas De Genova and Ana Ramos-Zayas, and Robert C. Smith’s Mexican New York: Transnational Lives of new Immigrants address, respectively, the critical issues of the role of national citizenship in the lives of Latinos and the workings of contemporary transnational networks. Finally, those interested is some reasoned analysis about the vexed policy debate over immigration and increasingly important

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Queries from Authors and Editors...

David Karanjane, Dept. of American Studies, University of Minnesota, seeks chapters for a proposed book, “The Politics of Populations.” For full information, contact him at karanjane@umn.edu

Ieva Zake of Rowan University is looking for “possible contributors to an edited volume on ethnic anti-Communist activities during the Cold War era in the United States, with a particular emphasis on such political refugee groups as Estonians, Lithuanians, Poles, Ukrainians, Hungarians, Rumanians, Czecks, Slovaks, Albanians, Bulgarians, Hmong, Chinese and Cubans.” Interested parties may contact Prof. Zake at zake@rowan.edu

The editor of the journal Nations and Nationalism (U.K.) seeks submissions of articles from younger scholars which may qualify for the Dominique Jacquin-Berdal Prize. Submissions are invited on all areas and themes in the field of nationalism studies. Articles will be considered for publication in Nations and Nationalism. For full information online, see http://www.blackwellpublishing.com/submit.asp?ref=1354-5078&site=1

PERSONALS

Jaime R. Agulla has accepted a tenure-track assistant professor position at Arizona State University, Polytechnic Campus, to begin August 2007.

Carlos Cortes (University of California, Riverside) is Creative/Cultural Advisor for two Nickelodeon pre-school TV series, "Dora the Explorer" and "Go, Diego, Go!"

Paul Anthony Lubotina (Northern Michigan Univ.) received the 2006-2007 Michael G. Karni Scholarship for research at the Immigration History Research Center, University of Minnesota.

Maureen Murphy Nutting (North Seattle Community College) received the Distinguished Humanities Educator Award from the Community College Humanities Association.

NECROLOGY

Gerhard Grytz, Assistant Professor of History at the University of Texas, Brownsville, died Feb. 10, 2007 at the age of 48. Born in Germany, he came to the United States in 1993. He received an M.A. from the University of Northern Arizona, and his Ph.D. from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. He previously taught at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, and at Idaho State. He had published on the history of Germans in the American West, including an article in the Fall 2006 issue of the Journal of American Ethnic History.

CARLTON QUALITY AWARD

At the IEHS meeting March 31, the biennial Carlton Qualey award for the best article published in the Journal of American Ethnic History was given to David Roediger and James Barrett. Their article, "The Irish and the ‘Americanization’ of New Immigrants in the Streets and in the Churches of the Urban United States, 1900-1930," appeared in the summer 2005 issue of JAETH.

HIGHAM TRAVEL GRANTS

The 2007 travel grants in memory of John Higham, awarded jointly by the IEHS and the Organization of American Historians, were awarded to Magdalena Marinari (Univ. of Kansas), Eric Schlereth (Brandeis U.), and Stephen Mak (Northwestern U.).

NEW IEHS OFFICERS

Newly elected members to the Executive Board of the IEHS are Eiichiro Azum (University of Pennsylvania), Maria Cristina Garcia (Cornell Univ.), and Diane C. Vocichio (Purman Univ.). They will serve three-year terms.

Help! George Pozzetta

Fund Needs New Resources

The fund established by the IEHS as a memorial to the late George Pozzetta currently has insufficient money in its account to supply the needed $750 yearly—the amount awarded to a doctoral candidate for purposes of researching a dissertation. The account, which is held within the endowment funds of the University of Minnesota and administered by the Immigration History Research Center, currently has less than $14,000 and produces only $540 yearly in interest. No new contributions have been received within the last three years. Donna Gabaccia, director of the IHRC, is seeking new contributions for this fund. Members wishing to support the Pozzetta fund may send their contributions to

IHRC
Elmer L. Anderson Library, Suite 311
222 21st Ave. South
Minneapolis MN 55455

Make notation on the check that the contribution is for the Pozzetta fund.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

In 2008, the membership of the IEHS will elect three persons for three-year terms on the Executive Board. Suggestions for nominations may be made after Nov. 1, 2007, and before Jan. 15, 2008, to any member of the nominating committee. Members of the nominating committee are:

Hasia Diner (chair), New York University (hasia.diner@nyu.edu); June Alexander, Univ. of Cincinnati (june.alexander@uc.edu); David Mauk, Univ. of Oslo, Norway (d.mauk@ios.uio.no); Maureen Nutting, North Seattle Community College (mmutting@sccd.ctc.edu); Joe Trotter, Carnegie Mellon University, (trotter@andrew.cmu.edu).
New Publications Noted. . .
(continued from p. 7)


IHS News Notes...

THEODORE SALOUTOS BOOK AWARD
Closing date for submissions for the annual Theodore Saloutos Book Award is December 31, 2006. To be eligible, a book must be copyrighted 2006. A book may be nominated by the author, the publisher, a member of the prize committee, or a member of the Immigration and Ethnic History Society. Inquiries and nominations should be submitted to the chair of the Saloutos Prize Committee, Dorothee Schindler, 512 West Washington, Urbana IL 61801. E-mail: dorotheeschindler@gmail.com
Copies of the book must be received by all three members of the committee by Dec. 31, 2006. Send books to Dr. Schneider at the address above, and also to Prof. Thomas Dublin, Dept. of History, SUNY Binghamton, PO Box 6000, Binghamton NY 13902-6000; and to Prof. Robert Rockaway, Dept. Of Jewish History, PO Box 30940, Tel Aviv University, Ramat Aviv 69978 Israel.

JOHN HIGHAM TRAVEL GRANT
Applications are now being received for the 2008 John Higham travel grants, which provide three $500 grants for graduate students to attend the 2008 meeting of the Organization of American Historians in New York. OAH and the Immigration and Ethnic History Society have created a fund to award these grants in memory of John Higham (1920-2003), past president of both organizations, and a towering figure in immigration, ethnic, and intellectual history. The successful candidates will have a preferred area of concentration in American Immigration and/or American Ethnic history. Applications must be filed electronically, and should be received by December 1, 2007. For full information and guidelines for application, consult the OAH web-page at www.oah.org/activities/awards/higham/

GEORGE POZZETTA DISSERTATION AWARD
At the annual dinner of the IEHS on March 31, 2007, the George Pozzetta Dissertation Award was given to Rachel Kranos, a graduate student in the History Department at New York University. Her dissertation project is “Grappling with the Good Life: Anxieties of Jewish Affluence and Consumption in Postwar America, 1945-1967.”
The Immigration and Ethnic History Society announces competition for the 2008 George E. Pozzetta Award. It invites applications from any Ph.D. candidate who will have completed qualifying examinations by Dec. 1, 2007, and whose thesis focuses on American immigration, emigration, or ethnic history. The award provides $750 for expenses to be incurred in researching the dissertation. Applicants must submit a 3-5 page descriptive proposal in English, discussing the significance of the work, the methodology, sources, and collections to be consulted. The application must also include a proposed budget, brief curriculum vitae, and a supporting letter from the major advisor. All materials must be received by each committee member by December 15, 2007, which is the submission deadline. Send materials in hard copy (no FAXes accepted) to Yong Chen (chair of the committee), Dept. of History, University of California, Irvine, CA 92697-3275; to Russell Kazal, Dept. of History, University of Toronto, Scarborough, 1265 Military Trail, Toronto ON Canada M1C 1A4; and to Mara Cristina Garcia, Department of History, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY 14853-4601. Inquiries may be sent to Prof. Chen at Y3Chen@benfranklin.lnet.uci.edu.

Visit the IEHS web page at www.iehs.org
THE IMMIGRATION AND ETHNIC HISTORY SOCIETY

...was founded in 1965 as the Immigration History Group. It was chartered in 1972 as the Immigration History Society. In 1998 the Society, which had traditionally dealt with ethnicity as well as immigration, changed its name to the Immigration and Ethnic History Society.

The purpose of the Society is to promote the study of the history of immigration to the United States and Canada from all parts of the world, including studies of the background of emigration in the countries of origin; to promote the study of ethnic groups in the United States, including regional groups, native Americans and forced immigrants; to promote understanding of the processes of acculturation and of conflict; to furnish through the Immigration and Ethnic History Newsletter information as to research, organizations, meetings and publications in the field of immigrant history; to help organize sessions on immigration and ethnicity at meetings of learned societies; and generally to serve the field of immigration-ethnic history with special reference to professional scholarship.

MEMBERSHIP


OFFICERS OF THE IEHS

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Inquiries about the Society should be directed to the appropriate officer. Newsletter submissions and questions about editorial matters should be sent to the editor at the address above. Requests for back issues of the newsletter should be sent to the editor; send $2.00 per copy (by check made out to Villanova University).

Subscriptions to the Immigration and Ethnic History Newsletter are part of membership in the Society. Members' changes of address should be sent to Journal of American Ethnic History, Transaction Periodicals Consortium, Rutgers University, 35 Bernue Circle, Piscataway NJ 08854-8042.