

Abstract

***Omeka*— A Free, Open-source, Standards-Based, Easy-to-Use Web Publishing Platform to Bring History and Heritage Museums into the Era of Web 2.0**

The Center for History and New Media (CHNM) at George Mason University will develop *Omeka* <<http://www.omeka.org/>>—from the Swahili word meaning “to display” or “to lay out for discussion”—as a next-generation web publishing platform for smaller history museums, historical societies, and historic sites. For too long, quality web publishing has been out of reach for smaller history museums, and existing digital tools are not adequate to the key needs we have identified, especially because these tools focus more on digital collections management rather than web publishing. We believe *Omeka* will do for this important constituency what blog software has done for ordinary web surfers—offer an easy, professional, and state-of-the-art way to display their content online.

Beginning in October 2007, CHNM will plan, design, test, evaluate, and disseminate *Omeka* over four phases while working closely with our major partner, the Minnesota Historical Society (MHS). MHS represents a wide museum network and a broad range of history and heritage institutions of different sizes, audiences, and subject area interests. *Omeka*’s initial dissemination in September 2009 will be done through MHS with additional help from the National Air and Space Museum and the Smithsonian Affiliations and their national networks. And we will disseminate to other small museums through conference presentations, direct mailings, and the *Omeka* website. *Omeka* will benefit small history museums, historical societies, and historic sites in three ways:

Goal 1. Enable museums to publish web content with a system that is low-cost and easy-to-use. *Major*

Activities: Since many history and cultural heritage museums publish limited web content because they lack trained staff and sufficient budgets to manage a professional online presence, CHNM will release *Omeka* as a free and open-source system that will be fully documented and easy to use for staff with little technical experience, allowing museums to increase their online presence without adding to their budgets.

Anticipated Impact: Many more museums will be able to mount well-designed, professional-looking, and content-rich web sites, and those institutions can focus their constrained budgets on what they do well—historical preservation and interpretation and public education and outreach.

Goal 2. Provide museums a with standards-based, interoperable system that allows them to share and use digital content in multiple contexts. *Major Activities:*

Because many museum sites do not conform to basic metadata standards and do not meet accessibility guidelines, making collection sharing impossible and because digital objects are often stuck in isolated digital frameworks, CHNM will design *Omeka* to be fully standards-based, both with regard to object metadata and to design interface, and to be extensible and interoperable with existing collections systems.

Anticipated Impact: *Omeka* will allow museums to use materials for multiple contexts without redundant data entry and to share collections with other institutions, without being locked into particular vendors or platforms. As a result, *Omeka* will help small museums design online exhibitions more efficiently.

Goal 3. Facilitate museums in engaging their publics and building communities around objects. *Major*

Activities: *Omeka* will include basic Web 2.0 features such as an RSS feed and a tag cloud, and CHNM will provide a set of Web 2.0 plugins for the basic *Omeka* system, such as a “My Archive” plug-in, a Google Map plug-in, a Flickr plug-in, and a timeline plug-in that will allow visitors to have a greater participatory experience with a museum’s digital assets.

Anticipated Impact: *Omeka* brings Web 2.0 technologies and approaches to museum websites—fostering the kind of user interaction and participation that are central to the museum mission that audiences are coming to expect. Interactive and participatory systems serve the larger needs of museums by engaging publics in thinking actively about the past, by building more regular interaction with a base of active museum visitors, and by encouraging democratic participation in collecting, preserving, and interpreting the past.

Omeka - Schedule of Completion (October 2007 - September 2010)													
	2008			2009			2010						
	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	
Planning				\$21,207									
Development (Beta)							\$74,840						
Testing & Feedback										\$16,214			
Development (v. 1.0)										\$39,082			
Launch & Dissemination										\$17,151			
Evaluation & Sustainability										\$5,717			
Total direct costs requested from IMLS										=			\$174,210

Organizational Profile: The Center for History and New Media

Since 1994, CHNM (<http://chnm.gmu.edu/>) has used digital media and computer technology to democratize history—to incorporate multiple voices, reach diverse audiences, and encourage popular participation in presenting and preserving the past. CHNM combines cutting edge digital media with the latest and best historical scholarship to promote an inclusive understanding of the past as well as broad historical literacy. CHNM's work has been recognized with major awards and grants from the American Historical Association, the National Humanities Center, the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), the Virginia Foundation for the Humanities, the Department of Education, the Library of Congress, the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), the National Historic Records and Publication Commission, Atlantic Philanthropies, and the Sloan, Mellon, Hewlett, Rockefeller, Gould, Delmas, and Kellogg foundations.

CHNM maintains more than four dozen online history projects directed at diverse audiences, making them available at no cost through its website. In 2005, CHNM's websites had 300 million hits and 10 million visitors—making it one of the busiest non-commercial history education sites on the entire World Wide Web. CHNM's staff of more than forty people (including ten with doctoral degrees and five ABDs) includes those skilled in all aspects of digital history—database architecture, software engineering, web development and design, preservation, and archiving. CHNM has an annual budget of more than \$1.5 million and a \$2 million endowment (achieved with the assistance of a \$500,000 Challenge Grant from NEH), which guarantees the long-term stability of CHNM.

CHNM has been a leader in using digital media to improve the public understanding of history; in helping libraries and museums explore new and more effective ways to use digital materials and methods; and in developing innovative, easy-to-use digital tools for accessing historical content. In terms of public understanding, CHNM maintains several very popular and award-winning web-database projects, including educational projects such as *History Matters*, *Liberty, Equality, Fraternity: Exploring the French Revolution*, *World History Matters*, and *Historical Thinking Matters* and collections-based public history projects such as the *September 11 Digital Archive*, the *Hurricane Digital Memory Bank*, and *Gulag: Many Days, Many Lives*. CHNM is also the lead partner in four major Teaching Traditional American History grants from the Department of Education. CHNM has won the American Historical Association's James Harvey Robinson Prize three times for its “outstanding contribution to the teaching and learning of history.”

CHNM also has extensive experience working with museums and libraries on digital projects. For example, CHNM worked closely with the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History to provide an interactive “tell your story” component for NMAH's recent award-winning “September 11: Bearing Witness to History” exhibit. We have also worked closely with the Library of Congress, which is accessioning the *September 11 Digital Archive* as its first major digital acquisition. In partnership with the University of Maryland and the Internet Archive, we have received a grant from the Library's National Digital Information Infrastructure and Preservation Program (NDIIPP) to preserve the digital history of dot-com boom. Our forthcoming *Gulag: Many Days, Many Lives* project is a partnership between CHNM, the National Park Service, and the Perm-36 Gulag Museum in Perm, Russia. We have also built custom collections management systems for the National Museum of American Jewish History and the Jewish Women's Archive. Finally, in collaboration with the National Museum of American History and with support from IMLS, we have recently launched *The Object of History*, a new model for online museum outreach and education and teaching through material culture.

Finally, CHNM has emerged as a leading developer of free tools and software for scholars, librarians, museum professionals, educators, and students. Through the *Echo: Exploring and Collection History Online—Science, Technology, and Industry* project funded by the Sloan Foundation as well grants from NEH, IMLS, and the Mellon Foundation, CHNM's freely available tools—including *Web Scrapbook*, *Survey Builder*, *Poll Builder*, *Syllabus Finder*, and *H-Bot*—have attracted hundreds of thousands of users. Our most recent software release, an innovative, open-source reference management and note-taking called *Zotero* (<http://www.zotero.org>), which was recently named among *PC Magazine's* “Best Free Software” and has already received 100,000 downloads since its beta release in October 2006.

Organizational Profile: Minnesota Historical Society

Mission

The Minnesota Historical Society is a private, non-profit educational and cultural institution established in 1849 to preserve and share Minnesota history. The Society collects, preserves and tells the story of Minnesota's past through interactive and engaging museum exhibits, extensive libraries and collections, 25 historic sites, educational programs and publishing. The Library, Publications and Collections Division encompasses the departments and programs that collect, preserve and provide access to historical resources through a wide variety of means.

Service Area

The primary area of service for the Society is the state of Minnesota, with an estimated population of just over 5.1 million people. But researchers from all over the country and the world make use of its collections, in person and, increasingly, through its web site, which hosts a number of excellent and innovative resources. For example, in FY06, over 570,000 people visited the Society's museums and sites; the Library had over 32,000 researchers in attendance; and the web site enjoyed over 6.6 million total visits.

Levels of Service

The Library, Publications and Collections Division includes the Collections Department, the Collections Management Department, the Reference Department, the Publications Department and the Central Services Unit. As a whole, that covers these functional responsibilities: state archives; processing; conservation labs; library, archives and museum collecting; the Society's library; book and periodical publishing; and technology applications, such as the collections management system and the development of web projects. Besides collaborating closely with other units in the Society, the Division works closely with government, universities, local and county historical societies, the State Historic Records Advisory Board and a wide variety of other organizations, groups and people. Division staff members also contribute significant time and energy to national projects and professional organizations, especially in the areas of information technology, the use of the World Wide Web and electronic records.

Placement within Parent Organization

The Library, Publications and Collections Division is one of 3 divisions in the Society. The division director is Robert Horton. Irene van Bavel and the Bush Foundation projects staff person report to Horton, who, in turn, reports to Michael Fox, the Society's deputy director.

List of Key Project Staff

Co-executive Producer (Primary Investigator), Roy Rosenzweig: Rosenzweig is Mark and Barbara Fried Professor of History & New Media at George Mason University, where he also heads the Center on History and New Media. He is the author, co-author, and co-editor of numerous books including *Eight Hours for What We Will: Workers and Leisure in an Industrial City, 1870-1920*; *The Park and the People: A History of Central Park*; and *Digital History: A Guide to Gathering, Presenting, and Preserving the Past on the Web*. He was co-creator of the CD-ROM, *Who Built America?*, which won James Harvey Robinson Prize of American Historical Association for its “outstanding contribution to the teaching and learning of history” as well as the websites *History Matters* and *World History Matters*, which won the same prize. He was the 2003 recipient of the Richard W. Lyman Award (awarded by the National Humanities Center and the Rockefeller Foundation) for “outstanding achievement in the use of information technology to advance scholarship and teaching in the humanities.” He has also written extensively on museums and public history as the co-author of the prize-winning book, *The Presence of the Past: Popular Uses of History in American Life*, and the co-editor of *History Museums in the United States: A Critical Assessment* and *Presenting the Past: Essays on History and the Public*.

Co-executive Producer (Primary Investigator), Tom Scheinfeldt: Scheinfeldt is Research Assistant Professor of History and Assistant Director of the Center for History and New Media at George Mason University. He received his bachelor's degree from Harvard and his master's and doctoral degrees from Oxford, where his doctoral thesis examined inter-war interest in science and its history in diverse cultural contexts, including museums, universities, World's Fairs and the mass media. A research associate at the Smithsonian Institution Archives, Scheinfeldt has lectured and written extensively on the history of popular science, the history of museums, history and new media, and the changing role of history in society, and has worked on traditional exhibitions and digital projects at the Colorado Historical Society, the Museum of the History of Science in Oxford, the Louisiana State Museum, National Museum of American History, and the Library of Congress. Scheinfeldt currently manages several online history projects at the Center for History and New Media, including *Echo: Exploring and Collecting History Online - Science, Technology, and Industry*, the *Hurricane Digital Memory Bank*, the *September 11 Digital Archive*, the *Mozilla Digital Memory Bank* and *Gulag: Many Days, Many Lives*. Scheinfeldt's blog “Found History” chronicles the myriad ways non-professionals do history and attempts to foster a broader understanding of what history is and who should be called an historian.

Project Manager, Sharon Leon: Leon is Research Assistant Professor of History and Associate Director of Education Projects at the George Mason University's Center for History and New Media. She has a PhD in American Studies from the University of Minnesota. Her research deals with US History in the Twentieth Century, with a focus on US Catholicism. She has published articles in *Church History* and the *Journal of the History of Medicine and the Allied Sciences*, and her book on Catholics and eugenics is forthcoming from University of Chicago Press. At CHNM, she is currently overseeing two new media projects. *Historical Thinking Matters*, a joint venture with the Stanford School of Education, is a website focused on key topics in U.S. history, that is designed to teach students how to critically read primary sources and how to critique and construct historical narratives; and *The Object of History: Behind the Scenes with the Curators at the National Museum of American History*, which each month features an artifact from the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History's collections related to a major topic in U.S. history, that is accompanied by a full array of teacher materials. Leon has also participated in training public school history teachers in five Teaching American History Grants, funded by the U.S. Department of Education. Finally, Leon teaches a year-long junior seminar in American Studies at Georgetown University.

Senior Programmer, Nate Agrin: Agrin is a graduate student in the University of California, Berkeley's School of Information, where he is pursuing his Masters degree. His current interests include the development of service oriented information architectures, usability engineering and the legal implications of information technology. Working for CHNM since October 2005, Nate has acted as Lead Developer on several web projects.

Assistant Programmer, Kris Kelly: Kelly is a web developer at the Center for History & New Media. He earned his B.A. in literature at Wesleyan University. Kelly writes dynamic database-driven applications in PHP, JavaScript and other open source technologies. Outside of work he enjoys writing, studying Japanese and learning about ancient Buddhist history.

Web Developer, Jeremy Boggs: Boggs is a doctoral candidate in history at George Mason University, where his research interests include 19th-century U.S. social and cultural history (specifically changing concepts of cleanliness and filth in the 19th century), history of technology, history of emotions, and the history of addiction. He works as a Web Developer and designer at the Center for History and New Media. Boggs publishes his thoughts about his interests in history, web design, and the intersection of history and new media in his blog, "ClioWeb."

Project Associate, Sheila Brennan: Brennan is ABD in history at George Mason University, and is investigating popular collecting practices in the U.S. for her dissertation. She currently works for the Center for History and New Media as the Project Manager for the digital collecting project, the *Hurricane Digital Memory Bank*. Her research interests include online history museums, material culture, and cultural memory. She earned her B.A. from Bates College and M.A. from the University of Notre Dame. Prior to coming to Mason, she worked for several years as the Director of Education and Public Programs at the National Museum of the U.S. Navy in Washington, DC. Brennan recently co-authored "Taking a Byte Out of the Archives: Making Technology Work for You," published in the *Perspectives*, and has given presentations on museum education, digital memory banks, and collecting. Brennan also blogs at "Relaxing on the Trail," where she explores the world of online museums.

Outreach and Testing Coordinator, Robert Horton: Horton is state archivist and director of the library, publications and collections division at the Minnesota Historical Society. Before coming to Minnesota in 1997, he was head of the electronic records and records management programs at the Indiana Commission on Public Records. During the past few years, Horton has worked primarily on information technology projects, including the State of Minnesota's Electronic Real Estate Recording Task Force; the San Diego Supercomputer Center's Archivists' Workbench and Persistent Archives Testbed projects; and the Digital Library at the University of California San Francisco's Center for Tobacco Control, Research and Education. He has written symposium papers on e-government for the National Electronic Commerce Coordinating Council in 2003, 2004 and 2005. Currently, he is directing the E-legislature project, funded by the National Historical Publications and Records Commission, and Geography and History Online project, funded by the Institute for Museum and Library Services.

Testing Coordinator, Irene van Bavel : van Bavel is Manager of Digital Collections at the Minnesota Historical Society. Before coming to Minnesota in 2006, Irene managed the Digitization Program at Library and Archives Canada (LAC) (formerly the National Archives of Canada). She has undertaken numerous large digital conversion projects including the *Minnesota History* magazine, the Western Land Grants Collection, and the 1906 Census of Canada. During the last years, Irene has also developed a number of interpretative products such as online exhibits and educational resources including *The Canadian West*, *Project Naming: Voices from Nunavut*, and the *Peter Winkworth Art Collection*. Irene has an extensive knowledge of technologies and standards for digitization, metadata, and accessing digital collections online.

Data Consultant, TBD: MHS will fill this position, funded by a grant from the Bush Foundation, to expand the technological infrastructure of the Society and to test extending online applications and services to the project partners. Major responsibilities include: 1) serves as liaison with project partners; 2) develops project activities with MHS staff and partners; 3) assumes responsibility for conceptualizing and drafting resource lists, standards, procedures and guidelines for digital content; 4) drafts reports for MHS staff, constituents and partners; 5) evaluates digital content at other repositories; 6) helps to develop workshops and other educational tools for other sources of digital content and 7) performs related work as apparent or assigned.

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EDUCATION

B.A., magna cum laude, Columbia College, N.Y., 1971.
Research student in history on Kellet Fellowship, St. John's College of Cambridge Univ. (England), 1971-73.
Ph.D., History, Harvard Univ., 1978.

ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT

Mark and Barbara Fried Professor of History & New Media; College of Arts and Sciences
Distinguished Professor of History; Director of Center for History and New Media, George Mason Univ., 1981 to present (Asst. Prof., 1981-85; Assoc. Prof., 1985-92; Prof. 1992-98).
Mellon Post-Doctoral Fellow, Center for the Humanities, Wesleyan Univ., 1980 to 1981.
Assistant Professor of History and Humanities, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, 1978 to 1980.

AWARDS, GRANTS, and HONORS

James Harvey Robinson Prize of American Historical Association for "outstanding contribution to the teaching and learning of history" for *History Matters*, Jan. 2005 and for *World History Matters*, Jan. 2007.
Virginia Foundation for the Humanities Award for Excellence in the Humanities, Dec. 2004.
Forrest G. Pogue Award for Excellence in Oral History, March 2004.
Richard W. Lyman Award (presented by the National Humanities Center and the Rockefeller Foundation) for "outstanding achievement in the use of information technology to advance scholarship and teaching in the humanities," 2003.
Vice-President, Research Division, American Historical Association, 2003-5.
State of Virginia Outstanding Faculty Award, 1999.
Major Grants from numerous foundations and agencies (e.g., NEH, the Department of Education, the Library of Congress, IMLS, and the Sloan, Hewlett, Rockefeller, Gould, Delmas, Mellon and Kellogg) for digital history projects.
Historic Preservation Book Prize for Best Book of 1998 from Center for Historic Preservation, Mary Washington College and Award of Merit from American Association for State and Local History for *The Presence of the Past*.
James Harvey Robinson Prize of American Historical Association for "outstanding contribution to the teaching and learning of history" and finalist, Interactive Media Festival Award for *Who Built America?* CD-ROM.
Urban History Association Prize for Best Book in North American Urban History; Abel Wolman Prize for Best Book in Public Works History; Abbott Cumming Lowell Prize for Best Book of 1992 from Vernacular Architecture Forum; Historic Preservation Book Prize for Best Book of 1992 from Center for Historic Preservation; New York Historical Association Award for Best Manuscript on New York History, 1991 (for *The Park and the People*).
Fulbright Commission, Senior Scholar, Australia, June-July, 1990.
John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation Fellowship, 1989-90.
National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), Research Grant for "Central Park: A Social History," 1986 to 1988.
Distinguished Faculty Award, GMU, 1986.
American Association for State and Local History Research Grant, 1985.
NEH Fellowship for College Teachers, 1984 to 1985.
Mellon Post-Doctoral Fellow, Center for the Humanities, Wesleyan Univ., 1980 to 1981.

PUBLICATIONS*Books, CD-ROMs, Websites, Films*

Digital History: A Guide to Presenting, Preserving, or Gathering the Past on the Web (U. of Penn. Press, 2006), co-author with D. Cohen.

History Matters: A Student Guide to U.S. History Online (Bedford, 2004), co-author and editor with A. Gevinson and K. Schrum.

A Companion to Post-1945 America (Oxford: Blackwell, 2002), co-editor with J-C Agnew.

The Presence of the Past: Popular Uses of History in American Life (New York: Columbia Univ. Press, 1998), co-author with D. Thelen.

Co-producer of numerous websites at *Center for History & New Media*, <http://chnm.gmu.edu>.

Who Built America? Working People & the Nation's Economy, Politics, Culture & Society (New York: Worth Publishers, 2000), co-author of Volume II and supervising editor vol. I & II.

Who Built America? From the Great War of 1914 to the Dawn of the Atomic Age in 1946, a multi-media CD-ROM (New York: Worth Publishers, 2000), lead author and co-producer.

Who Built America? From the Centennial of 1876 to the Great War of 1914, a multi-media CD-ROM (New York: Voyager, 1993), co-author with S. Brier and J. Brown (vis. ed.)

The Park and the People: A History of Central Park (Ithaca: Cornell Univ. Press, 1992), co-author with E. Blackmar.

History Museums in the United States: A Critical Assessment (Urbana: Univ. of Illinois Press, 1989), co-edited with W. Leon.

Presenting the Past: Essays on History and the Public (Philadelphia: Temple Univ. Press, 1986), co-edited with S.P. Benson and S. Brier.

Eight Hours for What We Will: Workers and Leisure in an Industrial City, 1870-1920 (Cambridge and New York: Cambridge Univ. Press, 1983).

Government and the Arts in Thirties America: A Guide to Oral Histories and Other Research Materials (Fairfax: George Mason Univ. Press, 1986), chief editor.

Mission Hill and the Miracle of Boston (Boston: Cine Research Associates, 1979), co-producer of this documentary film with R. Broadman, J. Grady, and J. Pennington.

Experiments in History Teaching (Cambridge, Massachusetts: Harvard-Danforth Center, 1977), co-edited with S. Botein, W. Leon, M. Novak, and G.B. Warden.

Selected Recent Articles

"Can History Be Open Source? Wikipedia and the Future of the Past," *Journal of American History* (June 2006).

"Web of lies? Historical knowledge on the Internet," *First Monday*, 10 (December 2005), co-author with D. Cohen.

"Scarcity or Abundance: Preserving the Past in a Digital Era," *American Historical Review* (June 2003).

"The Road to Xanadu: Public And Private Pathways on The History Web," *Journal of American History* (September 2001).

"Rewiring the History and Social Studies Classroom: Needs, Frameworks, Dangers, and Proposals," (co-author with R. Bass), *Journal of Education* (1999).

"Crashing the System: Hypertext and American Studies Scholarship," *American Quarterly* (June 1999), author of introduction and guest editor of special section <http://chnm.gmu.edu/aq>.

"Live Free or Die? Death, Life, Survival, and Sobriety on the Information Superhighway," *American Quarterly* 51(March 1999): 160-74.

Wizards, Bureaucrats, Warriors, and Hackers: Writing the History of the Internet," *American Historical Review* 103 (December 1998): 1530-52.

"Brave New World or Blind Alley? American History on the World Wide Web," *Journal of American History* (June 1997), 132-155, co-author with M. O'Malley.

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EDUCATION

University of Oxford

D.Phil. in Modern History. Doctoral thesis explored inter-war interest in science and its history in diverse cultural contexts, including museums, universities, World's Fairs and the mass media. Teaching responsibilities included lectures, tutorials and discussion seminars. 1999-2003.

University of Oxford

M.Sc. in History of Science: Instruments, Museums, Science, and Technology. Course work included lectures, seminars, Oxford tutorials and the design and production of an online museum exhibition. Dissertation examined the implications of constructivism for museum education and received marks of distinction. 1998-1999.

Harvard University

A.B. cum laude in History and Science. Senior honors thesis explored the history of geology. Related courses in philosophy and religion. Term-time and summer work included positions as a teaching assistant for an introductory geology course, a library staff member and a long-distance bicycle tour guide. Dean's List. Harvard College Scholarship. 1992-1996.

EMPLOYMENT

George Mason University

Assistant Director of the Center for History & New Media and Research Assistant Professor in the Department of History & Art History. Administered all aspects of internationally-recognized research center. Set strategic vision and managed day-to-day operations, including production and maintenance of more than a dozen popular online history projects. Provided oversight for diverse research, education, and technology development activities. Coordinated fundraising and media relations. Initiated and maintained partnerships with local and national organizations. Negotiated external contracts and managed client relations. Administered operating budget of more than \$1,000,000. Supervised graduate students and staff of twenty. 2002-present.

Colorado Historical Society

Assistant Coordinator, Colorado State Roadside Interpretation Program. Helped administer State of Colorado roadside historical markers project. Supervised interns and part-time staff. Wrote grant proposals and secured federal funding. Consulted with community organizations, local museums, scholars and government officials. Researched and produced more than thirty roadside exhibits throughout Colorado. 1997-1998.

University of Northern Colorado

Research Coordinator for the Hewitt Institute's Doing History, Keeping the Past project. Managed initial research activities for project aimed at providing students with greater access to history museum resources through information technologies. Collaborated with teachers and museum professionals nationwide to evaluate museum outreach programs and produce needs assessment. Drafted grant proposal and secured funding. 1996-1997.

SELECTED EXHIBITIONS & COLLABORATIVE PROJECTS

Gulag: Many Days, Many Lives, Center for History and New Media, George Mason University (<http://gulaghistory.org>)

The Object of History, Center for History and New Media, George Mason University; Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of American History (<http://www.objectofhistory.org>)

Mozilla Digital Memory Bank, Center for History and New Media, George Mason University; The Mozilla Foundation (<http://www.mozillamemory.org>)

Hurricane Digital Memory Bank, Center for History and New Media, George Mason University; University of New Orleans (<http://hurricanearchive.org>)

September 11 Digital Archive, Center for History and New Media, George Mason University; American Social History Project, CUNY Graduate Center (<http://911digitalarchive.org>)

Echo: Exploring and Collecting History Online - Science, Technology, and Industry, Center for History and New Media, George Mason University (<http://echo.gmu.edu>)

Project Partner, *September 11: Bearing Witness to History*, Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of American History (<http://americanhistory.si.edu/september11/>)

Cosmographia: A Close Encounter, Museum of the History of Science, Oxford (<http://www.mhs.ox.ac.uk/>)

Coordinator, multiple roadside historical exhibits, Colorado Roadside Interpretation Program (<http://www.coloradohistory.org/RIPsigns/index.asp>)

SELECTED PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS & LECTURES

"Realizing A Shared Authority: Presidential Sites in a Web 2.0 World", Presidential Sites and Libraries Conference IV, American Association for State and Local History, Hyde Park, NY, June 2006.

"The Century of Progress: The History of Science and The History of the Smithsonian on display at Chicago's Second Fair", Association for Museum History, Washington, October 2005.

"Technology and Collaborative Exhibition: Prospects for the Bracero History Project", Smithsonian Affiliations National Conference, Washington, June 2005.

"History in the Making at the September 11 Digital Archive", National Council for Public History Annual Meeting, Houston, April 2003.

"Science, History, Hope and the Smithsonian", Smithsonian Institution Archives Research in Progress Lecture Series, Washington, March 2003.

"Science and History in the British Empire Exhibition, 1924-5", University of Oxford Problems in the History of Science Seminar Series, Oxford, January 2002.

"Science History and Attitudes Toward Material Culture Between the Wars", International Union of the History and Philosophy of Science Scientific Instrument Commission, Oxford, September 2000.

"Constructivist Historiography: Some Implications for Museums", Fourth British/North American Joint Meeting of the British Society for the History of Science, the Canadian Society for the History and Philosophy of Science and the History of Science Society, St. Louis, August 2000.

"Why Don't Historians of Science Care About Science Museums?", Science Communication, Education and the History of Science Conference, Royal Society of London, July 2000.

OTHER SERVICE

Smithsonian Institution Archives Research Associate, 2001-present.

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EDUCATION

- University of Minnesota, Ph.D., American Studies Department, August 2004.
Dissertation: "Beyond Birth Control: Catholic Responses to the Eugenics Movement in the United States, 1900-1950."
- Georgetown University, A.B., Program in American Studies, May 1997, *Magna Cum Laude*. Minor in Theology.

CURRENT POSITION

- Associate Director of Education Projects and Research Assistant Professor, Center for History and New Media, George Mason University, August 2004 to present.
 - Project Manager, *Historical Thinking Matters*, <historicalthinkingmatters.org>
 - Project Manager, *Object of History: Behind the Scenes with the Curators of the National Museum of American History*
 - Associate Director, *World History Matters*, <chnm.gmu.edu/worldhistorymatters/>
 - Project Historian, *Peopling the American Past* and *Creating a More Perfect Community*, U.S. Department of Education "Teaching American History" Grants, <chnm.gmu.edu/tah/>
 - Project Historian, *Echo: Exploring and Collecting History Online – Science, Technology, and Industry*, <echo.gmu.edu>

PUBLICATIONS

- Review of Christine Rosen's *Preaching Eugenics: Religious Leaders and the American Eugenics Movement*, in *Church History* 74:4 (December 2005).
- "A Human Being, and Not a Mere Social Factor": Catholic Strategies for Dealing with Sterilization Statutes in the 1920s," *Church History* 73:2 (June 2004) 383-411.
- "Hopelessly Entangled in Nordic Pre-suppositions": Catholic Participation in the American Eugenics Society in the 1920s," *Journal of the History of Medicine and Allied Sciences* 59:1 (Jan. 2004): 3-49.
- "Before *Casti connubii*: Early Catholic Responses to the Eugenics Movement in the United States," *Working Papers Series, The Cushwa Center for the Study of American Catholicism* 32:1 (Spring 2000).

FELLOWSHIPS AND GRANTS

- 2005 Stanley W. Jackson Prize from the *Journal of the History of Medicine and Allied Sciences* for "Hopelessly Entangled in Nordic Presuppositions," *JHMAS* 59:1 (Jan. 2004): 3-49.
- Charlotte W. Newcombe Dissertation Fellowship, Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation, 2004-2005. (Declined).
- Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship, Graduate School, University of Minnesota, 2002-2003, \$14,000.
- Dissertation Fellowship, Institute for the Advanced Study of Religion at Yale, 2001-2002, \$17,000.
- Doctoral Dissertation Special Grant, Graduate School, University of Minnesota, November 2001, \$940.
- Travel and Research Award for work at the Diocese of Cleveland, American Studies Department, University of Minnesota, October 2001, \$500.
- Library Resident Research Fellow at the American Philosophical Society, funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, Philadelphia, PA, July 2001, \$2,000.
- Summer Dissertation Writing Grant, Program in American Studies, University of Minnesota, June 2001, \$2,000.
- Travel and Research Award for work at the Center for Migration Studies, Program in American Studies, University of Minnesota, January 1999, \$500.

SCHOLARLY PRESENTATIONS

- “‘The Folly of Human Sterilization’: Catholic Action Regarding Eugenics in the 1930s,” American Academy of Religion Annual Meeting, Atlanta GA, November 22, 2003.
- Roundtable participant, “Religion and the American Studies Classroom,” American Studies Association Annual Meeting, Houston, TX, November 15, 2002.
- “Tension Not Unlike that Produced by a Mixed Marriage: Catholic Reflections on Interracial Marriage and Anti-Miscegenation Statutes, 1920-1950,” American Studies Association Annual Meeting, Washington DC, November 10, 2001.
- “Before *Casti connubii*: Early Catholic Responses to the Eugenics Movement in the United States,” guest lecture, American Catholic Studies Seminar, The Cushwa Center for the Study of American Catholicism, University of Notre Dame, April 6, 2000.
- “Before *Casti connubii*: Early Catholic Responses to the Eugenics Movement in the United States,” American Society of Church History/American Historical Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL, January 9, 2000.
- “Promoting Wise Marriages’: Paul Popenoe, Eugenics and Marriage Guides for Men in the 1920s,” American Studies Association Annual Meeting, Montreal, CA, October 29, 1999.
- “Marriage, Race, and Nation: Popular Eugenics in the 1920s,” Thirty-Fourth Annual Northern Great Plains History Conference, St. Cloud, MN, October 8, 1999.
- “Electronic American Studies: The Jesuit Plantation Project at Georgetown University,” panelist, American Studies Association Annual Meeting, Kansas City, MO, October 31, 1996.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- Visiting Assistant Professor, American Studies Department, Georgetown University, January 2006 to Present. American Civilization III and IV (Amst 203 and 207).
- Instructor, American Studies Department, University of Minnesota, September 2000 to June 2001, and September 2003 to December 2003. American Popular Arts and Public Life (Amst 1001-2).
- Instructor, English Department, University of Minnesota, September 1999 to June 2000. University Reading and Writing with an Emphasis on Citizenship and Public Ethics (EngC 1014).
- Teaching Assistant, American Studies Department, University of Minnesota, September 1998-June 2004. Courses including Introduction to American Studies (Amst 1001-3), Senior Seminar (Amst 3301-2), Politics and American Popular Art, 1945 to the Present (Amst 3253), and Gender, Sexuality and Politics in American Culture (Amst 4014).

Nathan Agrin

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Education

Clark University; Massachusetts, 2002

B. A. Molecular Biology *with Highest Honors*, GPA: 3.75

Phi Beta Kappa National Honor Society Member

University of California, Berkeley, 2006 – Present

Masters of Information Management Systems

- Studying information systems; emphasis on service oriented architecture, and user interaction engineering.
- Relevant classes: Information Organization and Retrieval, Distributed Computing Applications and Infrastructure, Applied Natural Language Processing, Web-Based Services, Social and Organizational Issues of Information, Information Law and Policy, User Interface Design, and Document Engineering.
- Worked in groups of 3 - 5 developing user interfaces, information architectures and natural language processing algorithms for multiple projects.
- iNaturalist.org - developing a unique map based user interface allowing naturalists to record and share their sightings with other members of their communities. In progress; planned development in Ruby on Rails or Python framework.
- OMGiSchool - 'service of services' architecture developed in PHP using RSS and Atom XML feeds. OMG allows iSchool students to contribute their personal blog and image posts to a composite feed for the community of the school. This project is being ported to Rails.
- Affective Predictor - developed an algorithm in Python using natural language processing techniques to predict the overall affective quality of movie reviews.

Experience

Web Based Application Developer

Center for History and New Media, George Mason University; Fairfax, VA; 2005 - Present

- Leading a team of three, developing, an open-source PHP and MySQL based meta-modeling packages.

Proteomic Researcher

University of Massachusetts Medical School; Worcester, MA; 2002 - 2004

- Carried out a high throughput proteomics study, successfully discovering and characterizing hundreds of novel proteins through classic biochemical and bioinformatic approaches.
- Developed a web-based information storage and retrieval system using PHP and MySQL, allowing for the collected experimental data to be easily reused in further research, and by other researchers across the globe.
- Findings published in several journals, including the Journal of Cell Biology.

Portfolio

<http://n8agrin.com/portfolio>

Relevant Skills

Programming: PHP, Ruby / Rails, Python, Perl, Javascript, XML, XHTML, Java, SQL, MySQL, Flash

Design: Adobe Creative Suite, Adobe Lightroom, Apple Aperture

Publishing: Microsoft Office, Apple iWork

Jeremy Boggs

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EDUCATION

George Mason University

PhD Student, U.S. History

Major field: American History; Minor fields: History and New Media and Cultural History

Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

Master of Arts, U.S. History, 2003

University of Virginia's College at Wise

Bachelor of Arts, History and Political Science, 2001

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- *Web Designer and Developer*, Center for History and New Media, George Mason University, Fairfax, VA; December 2005-present.
- *Technical Editor and Electronic Resources Editor*, for the *Journal of the Association for History and Computing*; August 2006-present.
- *Graduate Research Assistant*, Center for History and New Media, George Mason University, Fairfax, VA; August 2003-December 2005.
- *Graduate Assistant, Department of History, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University*, December 2001-May 2003.

AWARDS

- "C&W Bright Pixel Prize for Digital History", Department of History and Art History George Mason University, 2006
- "Graduate Digital History Award", Department of History, Virginia Tech, 2003.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- "Material Cultures of Filth and Cleanliness: The American Bathroom at the Turn of the Last Century." Poster presentation for the American Historical Association Annual Conference, Atlanta, Georgia, January 2007.
- "Writing," online conference session, American Association for the History of Computing Annual Conference, April 2006, <http://past-forward.org/>
- "Historical Scholarship on the Web: Problems, Possibilities, and Progress," Sixth Annual Brian Bertoti "Innovative Perspectives in History" Annual Conference, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, April 2003.

PUBLICATIONS

- "Electronic Journals" and "Gilded Age and Progressive Era." *The History Highway: A 21st Century Guide to Internet Resources*. Dennis Trinkle and Scott Merriman, eds. Armonk, New York: M.E. Sharpe, 2006.

SKILLSET

- *Web Development*: HTML/XHTML, CSS, PHP, XML, JavaScript, AJAX, AHAH, ActionScript, web standards, web accessibility.
- *Image and Video Editing/Multimedia*: Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Illustrator, Adobe Flash, Final Cut Studio.

Kristopher Kelly

2607 E. Randolph Ave., Alexandria, VA 22301 (703)216-9570, Email: kkelly7@gmu.edu

EDUCATION:

Wesleyan University, Middletown, CT

Bachelor of Arts Degree, Major: English May 2006

WORK EXPERIENCE:

Web Developer, *Center for History & New Media at George Mason University*, July 2006 -Present

Design, code, and maintain web applications using PHP and JavaScript;
Collaborate with content developers and graphic designers on digital project teams;
Document changes in code and development for future sites.

Programmer, *Instructional Media Services (IMS), Wesleyan University*, Jan. 2006 -May 2006

Designed and coded web scripts in PHP, MySQL and JavaScript for use by IMS employees.

Lab Technician, *IMS, Wesleyan University*, Sept. 2005 -May 2006

Repaired PC and Macintosh hardware in campus computer labs and was responsible security of sensitive areas and equipment.

Media Lab Consultant, *IMS, Wesleyan University*, Jan. 2004 -May 2006

Monitored use of the lab, maintained equipment, and troubleshoot software issues for the lab's Macintosh computers.

CURRENT DIGITAL PROJECTS:

Gulag: Many Days, Many Lives, www.gulaghistory.org, *Web Programmer*, Jan 2007 – Present

Object of History, www.objectofhistory.org, *Web Programmer*, Nov 2006 -Jan 2007

Hurricane Katrina Digital Memory Bank, www.hurricanearchive.org, *Web Programmer*, July 2006 - September 2006

SKILLS & ABILITIES:

Operating Systems: Mac OS X, Linux/Bash shell, Windows XP

Programming: PHP4/5, XHTML/CSS, XML, SQL (MySQL, relational database design), JavaScript (Prototype, Scriptaculous), AJAX, Java, Bash, Object-oriented design, Ruby on Rails

Applications: TextMate, MS Office, Adobe Creative Suite, Omnigraffle, Transmit (SFTP/SSH), Vim, Dreamweaver

Communication skills: Native English speaker; conversational Japanese

SHEILA A. BRENNAN

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sbrennan@gmu.edu

EDUCATION

George Mason University

Doctoral candidate, U.S. History

Major field: American History; Minor fields: History and New Media and Material Culture

Dissertation: *Collecting Mania: American Collecting Activities, 1870s-1930s*

University of Notre Dame

Master of Arts, American Studies, May 1996

Bates College

Bachelor of Arts, American Cultural Studies, May 1994

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- *Project Manager*, Hurricane Digital Memory Bank, Center for History and New Media
George Mason University, Fairfax, VA; October 2005-present
- *Research and Grant Assistant*, Center for History and New Media, George Mason University, Fairfax, VA;
January – September 2005
- *Director of Education and Public Programs*, National Museum of the U.S. Navy, Washington, DC
August 1999-October 2004
- *Assistant Director Education and Public Programs*, National Museum of the U.S. Navy, Washington, DC;
June 1997-July 1999
- *Research Assistant*, Smithsonian Institution, National Museum of American History:
Dorothy and Jerome Lemelson Center for the Study of Innovation and Invention, Washington, DC;
February-May 1997.

AWARDS

- McKinnon-Morton Dissertation Fellowship, George Mason University, 2006
- Phi Alpha Theta, History Honor Society
- Webber Outstanding Graduate Student Award, History Department, George Mason University, 2003

SELECT CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- “Little Colored Bits of Paper Collected in the Progressive Era,” conference presentation, Winton M. Blount Symposium on Postal History, Washington, DC, November 2006.
- “Collecting,” online conference session, American Association for the History of Computing Annual Conference, April 2006, <http://chnm.gmu.edu/pastforward/>.
- “Collecting and Preserving Hurricane Stories Online,” poster presentation, Texas Association of Museums Annual Conference, Beaumont, Texas, April 2006.
- “Constructivist Theories at Work in Navy Museum Education Programs,” conference presentation, Biennial Naval History Workshop, Washington, DC, May 1999.

PUBLICATIONS

- “Bob Steele,” “Holy Land USA,” and “Waterbury, Connecticut,” *Encyclopedia of New England* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2005).
- “Taking a Byte Out of the Archives: Making Technology Work for You” *Perspectives*, (January 2005) with Douglas Mudd, Kirklin Bateman, and Paula Petrik. Unabridged version available at: <http://archiva.net/electronicresearcher/>.
- “The Vindex Special: Learning about Technology Through Advertising,” *Magazine of History*, (Winter 1998).

ROBERT HORTON

Library, Publications and Collections Division
Minnesota Historical Society
345 Kellogg Blvd. W.
St. Paul, MN 55102
651 215-5866
robert.horton@mnhs.org

EDUCATION

AB Brown University 1978
MA Ohio State University 1981
ABD Yale University

ARCHIVAL WORK EXPERIENCE

Director, Library, Publications and Collections Division
Minnesota Historical Society, 2005-present

Responsibilities: Supervision of the Division, including four departments and approximately 112 staff.

State Archivist and Head of Collections Department
Minnesota Historical Society, 1997-2005

Responsibilities: Supervision of the Collections Department; member, State Historic Records Advisory Board; director, *Trustworthy Information Systems Project*, 1998-2000 (NHPRC grant); director, *Tobacco Records Planning Project*, 1999-2000 (Blue Cross Blue Shield MN, American Medical Association grant); director, *Digitization of Historic Timber Records Project*, 2000-2001 (Legislative Commission on Minnesota Resources grant); director, *Educating Archivists and their Constituencies Project*, 2001-2003 (NHPRC Grant); director, *Revisiting the Electronic Records Research Agenda*, 2002-2003 (NHPRC Grant); MN director, *Persistent Archives Testbed Project*, 2004-2005 (NHPRC Grant); director, *Preserving the Records of the E-Legislature*, 2005-2007 (NHPRC Grant); director, *Geography and History Online: Integrating Digital Geographic Resources for Use in Schools* (IMLS National Leadership Grant, 2005-2007).

SELECTED PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

- *Designing and implementing bigger, higher-risk initiatives*, Executive Management Seminar, Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University, 2004
- *Cross-boundary e-government: designing successful products*, Executive Management Seminar, Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University, 2003
- *Advanced Institute for Government Archivists and Information Technology Administrators*, 1996-1997. Sponsors: National Association of Government Archivists and Records Administrators, National Association of State Information Resource Executives and the School of Library and Information Science, University of Pittsburgh
- *Advanced Institute for Government Archivists: Archival Administration in the Electronic Age*, 1993-1994. Sponsors: National Historic and Public Records Commission and School of Library and Information Science, University of Pittsburgh
- Belgian-American Educational Foundation Fellowship, 1985-1986
- Overbrook Graduate Fellowship, 1982-1983
- Yale University Fellowship 1981-1982, 1983-1984

SELECTED PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

- Program committee co-chair, Society of American Archivists Conference, 2006
- Member, Board of Trustees, ARMA Educational Foundation, 2004-present
- Advisory committee member, Center for Tobacco Research and Digital Tobacco Documents Library, University of California San Francisco, 2001-present
- Secretary, Electronic Real Estate Recording Task Force; executive committee member. State of Minnesota, 2000-2004
- Secretary, Board of Directors, National Association of Archivists and Government Records Administrators, 1999-2003
- Advisory committee member, Methodologies for Preservation of and Access to Software-Dependent Electronic Records, San Diego Supercomputer Center, 2000-2003

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- “A Cautionary Tale about Laws, Records and Technology,” *Documenting Society and Institutions: Essays in Honor of Helen Willa Samuels*, Terry Cook, editor, (SAA, forthcoming)
- *Strategic Sourcing: from Buying the Concept to Buying the Goods* (National Electronic Commerce Coordinating Council, 2005)
- “Lost in the Archives,” *American Archivist* 65
- *Government in the Digital Age: Myths, Realities and Promises* (National Electronic Commerce Coordinating Council, 2004)
- *XBI – Cross Boundary Integration: the Key to Successful E-Government* (NECCC, 2003)
- “Data and Records Management,” *21st Century Government: A Primer on Technology for Public Officials* (NECCC, 2002)
- “The Myth of the Paperless Office,” *American Archivist* 65 (2002) 124-128.
- “Cultivating Our Garden: Archives, Community and Documentation,” *Archival Issues* 26 (2002) 25-38.
- “Obstacles and Opportunities: A Strategic Approach to Electronic Records” in *Effective Approaches for Managing Electronic Records and Archives* (Lanham, MD, 2001)

IRENE VAN BAVEL

5305 Oaklawn Ave., Edina, MN 55424 / tel: (952) 926.0299

PROFILE

Project Manager with extensive experience developing and managing digitization programs for cultural institutions. Adept at communicating with a variety of audiences and building partnerships. Experience in program policy and planning, managing the production of digital content, developing online tools, and project management.

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Minnesota Historical Society

Manager of Digital Collections, Library, Publications, and Collections Division

2006

In this position, I manage the selection, creation, and management of digital projects for the Society. My responsibilities include securing funding for projects and developing partnerships, developing and planning projects, identifying and supervising project teams that span organization units, and coordinating digitization activities.

- Manage digitization projects including the *Minnesota History Quarterly Journals* and the *Immigrant Oral Histories Project*;
- Supervise digitization activities for the *Minnesota Digital Library Coalition*, a partnership with historical societies across the state to create digital content, in collaboration with the University of Minnesota;
- Member of the Leadership Team for the GRCHN project responsible for developing content standards and applications to build a digital content and service center for the cultural heritage of the Upper Midwest;
- Develop standards and guidelines for digitization activities;
- Work with Information Technology to develop online tools.

Library and Archives Canada

(Formerly National Archives of Canada)

Manager, Programs Section, Web Content and Services Division

2002 - 2005

Developed and implemented policy and programming for digitization activities. Secured \$4.0 million from the federal department responsible for culture to fund the activities of the division. With the creation of a new institution in 2003, brought together disparate procedures and practices and developed new systems to facilitate access to digital content.

- Established partnerships with archival, museum, library and other institutions to create content, digitize collections and make them available online;
- Managed large scale digitization projects and developed interpretative products;
- Supervised and directed team of ten Project Coordinators;
- Worked with Information Technology to develop federated search for archival and library records.

National Archives of Canada

Project Coordinator, Online Services Division

2001 - 2002

Developed digital projects including *Project Naming* and *The Peter Winkworth Collection*;

- Participated in content selection for the digitization program of Library and Archives Canada;
- Managed digitization requests for archival material and ensured adherence to use and access restrictions including copyright restrictions.

Art Archivist, Art and Photography Division

1997 - 2001

Acquired, arranged, and described art collections from the private and public sector.

- Negotiated the acquisition of private collections;
- Researched and appraised art collections, and conducted research and reference into Canadian history;
- Developed content for *The Canadian West* online exhibit.

Reference Archivist, Researcher Services Division

1993 - 1997

Researched and provided reference services in response to inquiries involving the collections of the National Archives of Canada;

- Provided tours and presentations to various audiences on the collections of the institution;
- Developed policies and procedures for the reorganization of services in Researcher Services Division.

EDUCATION

Carleton University, Ottawa, Ontario

B.A. History and Art History (1989)

B.A. Honours in Art History (with high distinction) (1991)

PERSONAL QUALIFICATIONS

Fluent in English, French, Spanish, and German.

Award for Achievement, December 2003

W.K. Lamb Team Awards, Website Redesign Project / History Center, June 2004

Professionalism Award, Public Access Module Project, June 2005

Project Management, Training and Development Canada, 2005.

Leading For Results, Canadian Centre For Management Development, 2003.