

The Debunker

February 8, 2007
Volume 1- Issue 1

The History Student Newsletter
Debunking Historical Myths and Creating New Ones since...NOW!



On this day in History:

February 8, 1952- Elizabeth II proclaims herself Queen
February 9, 1895- William G. Morgan invents volleyball
February 10, 1846- Battle of Sobraon. A decisive victory for the British East India Company against the Sikh Kingdom in the Punjab
February 11, 1990- After 27 years imprisonment Nelson Mandela is released
February 12, 2004- Mattel announces the breakup of Barbie and Ken
February 13, 1692- In the massacre of Glencoe 78 are killed in Scotland for not promptly paying allegiance to King William of Orange
February 14, 3rd Century- St. Valentine is arrested, beaten and beheaded by Emperor Claudius for disobeying orders and continuing to marry young couples.
February 15, 399BC-Socrates sentenced to death
February 16, 1937-Wallace H. Carothers receives a patent for nylon
February 17, 1992-Jeffrey Dahmer sentenced to life for the murder and dismembering of 15 boys and men
February 18, 1972-Sales of the Volkswagen Beetle exceed that of the Ford Model-T
February 19, 1939-While studying photographs Clyde Tombaugh discovers Pluto
February 20, 195-The Avro Arrow project is cancelled by the Diefenbaker government amid political debate
February 21, 1988-TV evangelist Jimmy Swaggart quits in the midst of a sex scandal
February 22-Dolly the sheep is cloned

Letter from the Editors

Devotees of the History Department,

The Debunker (Debunking Myths since...NOW!) was created to fill a gaping void. The history department is one of the largest departments at UCFV and lacks a voice, a student voice! This is distressing - if Kinesiology has a newsletter surely History must as well.

Our mission (as cheesy as that may sound) is to raise awareness about the department, the programs, the courses, the professors, and the community of students here at UCFV. We are also hoping to provide information about opportunities in the field of history, including possible careers as well as volunteer experiences. Nothing makes a resume stand out like relevant work experience! Keep in mind that you can include **submissions** to this newsletter in your C.V. so make sure to submit! We would much appreciate it.

This issue focuses generally on the theme of *Gender History*. We include courses that you may be interested in and professors you may encounter as well as careers you may want to pursue in *Gender History*.

If there is anything you would like to see or any questions you would like us to attempt to answer, or if you would like to submit a short article or original cartoon please do so! Everyone is welcome to submit, but please keep it history related. You can email submissions to hi.stu.new@gmail.com.

Don't forget to participate in class!

Amanda and Kim

What do you know about your professor?

In grade 7, who fell off the stage during a dance performance, but did the splits, leaving people thinking it was part of the show?
(Answer on Page 4)

- A) Barbara Messamore
- B) Alisa Webb
- C) Chris Leach
- D) Molly Ungar



Upcoming Events

- ◆ AHS Pub Night
- ◆ SFU History Student Conference
- ◆ Spanish Film Nights
- ◆ Amnesty International Film Nights

Submit!
Submit!
Submit!

Email:

Hi.stu.new@gmail.com



*“Debunking
historical myths
and creating
gender myths since
2007.”*

Gender History

Although sometimes considered less serious and academic (read: less about political and military history,) than other methodologies, gender history can be useful as an interpretive aid. Gender history is a relatively new stream of history, as it developed out of the women's history movement which emerged in the 1960s. Women's history was a feminist revision of events to include the 'forgotten' female perspective. Although gender history is often seen as 'women's history,' it is in fact the study of both male and female experiences. Courses and research on gender history often strive to explore history from the views of men as well as women. Traditional history has ignored the intricacies of male gender roles as well as female ones, simply by focusing solely on politics and battles. The gender history method is often seen as supplementary to other types of history, and can help to create a more complete image of events, including the social and cultural effects of the aforementioned politics and battles! Including gender history courses in a program can introduce students to a more complete way to research and interpret historical evidence, and help them to understand the social implications of major (and minor) events in history.

Settlers and Gender Relations by Tricia Taylor

In my research for the history behind a few of the street and road names in Abbotsford, I have discovered a gender relations issue that I should have considered prior to the research. Within the records found in the MSA Museum archives, one starts to notice a trend in how history is written down. Many of the street names, like Olund Road, are named after the sons of fathers of a family. Daughters are rarely mentioned unless a researcher comes across the wedding or birth announcements in the Abbotsford newspapers. However, as the papers examined moved from the early 1900's to the 1930's and 1940's, women start to appear much more frequently and for items other than traditional roles. You may be wondering what my point is in this article and it is thus: gender roles have been a prevalent portion of society, whether the members are from ancient European cultures, new societies created by settlers, or from individuals of the current century. These gender roles have shifted over time, from one extreme to another, but gender relations will always be a portion of our society, whether we record them or omit them from our historical recordings.

Attending a Conference

It's almost spring and well onto the way towards summer, and there are a plethora of conferences that you can get involved in. Check out page 3 and future issues for any upcoming events.

So why should you go to a conference? This is a chance to see scholars from worldwide present on a variety of topics, depending on what conference you attend. Speakers can range from having PhD's to Masters Degrees to students. There is definitely something for everyone, but it may be a matter of keeping your eyes open for topics which interest you. With a few series of short lectures there are a variety of subjects and opinions, with speakers from cross disciplines. The reality is that everything is History, and there are often speakers from English, Political Science, Linguistics and other departments as well as curators and full time researchers. If you are intending to pursue your Masters or Doctorate degree(s) this is a chance to see some leading minds speak on a topic related to their field of study. This could be you one day, may as well see what you're in for.

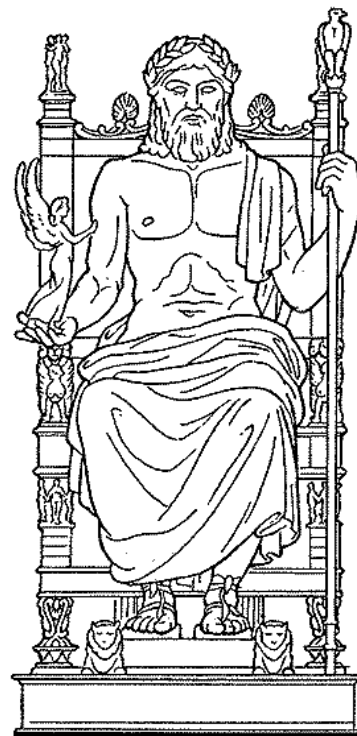
Realizing that many of you are starving students there is the issue of cost. Cost can often vary greatly from conference to conference so make sure that you check prices. Some meals are usually provided at a conference that will span more than a day, and there's usually coffee a plenty! Depending on where the conference is being held, cost of accommodation, travel, and any food that isn't provided must be factored in.

It is definitely worth checking out at least one conference in your lifetime whether you're a history major or not. So keep those eyes open and save up some money!

Barbie and Ken

The Barbie-Ken relationship of 43 years ended February 12 2004 and apparently plastic romance constitutes breaking news. They began their relationship on the filming of a 1961 television commercial and had been inseparable. A sudden announcement about the split shook the very foundations of our tiny pink planet. OK, so maybe that's an overstatement, especially since I should admit that I had heard nothing of this until a couple weeks ago. Sure, Barbie and Ken's publicists made the cliché announcement that it was mutual but I think everyone can agree that's just some celebrity ploy to avoid gossip. Was Ken jealous? Was the public pressure too much to take? Maybe Ken feared commitment. The rumour mill swirls. Most prevalent seems to be that Ken has burst from the closet and is seeking male companionship. Perhaps this is all a marketing ploy; it did fall right around the introduction of California Barbie and a new beau. Whatever answer suits you, there are some important points to be recognized. Although the publicists deny that Ken is gay, the very fact that this could be a viable reason for the split is indicative of the times. In 1961 Mattel would very likely not dare to even mention that Ken could be gay. That this could be a viable reason for the split is indicative of the times.

News sites around the world brought up the issue, this could be a sign of the progress made in the civil rights movements of the 60's. This shift in gender roles can also be seen in Barbie herself. Patricia O'Connell of BusinessWeek said it best: *"Mattel wisely gave [Barbie] girlfriends to pal around with, careers to pursue, and fabulous clothes and accessories that made everything - and everyone -- else irrelevant. Ken, to a large extent, was just another accessory. Just like her pink convertible or her beach house. Fun to have, but not absolutely necessary. Besides, here's the dirty little secret about Ken. He was never all that hot, and Barbie knew it. But that GI Joe -- now, he was a doll."*
http://www.businessweek.com/bw/daily/dnflash/feb2004/nf20040217_1253_db042.htm



Volunteer Experiences MSA Museum

The MSA Museum is currently looking for volunteers to research street names in Abbotsford. It looks great on a resume. If you're interested contact
mail@msa.museum.bc.ca

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- ❖ What? Undergraduate Conference
- ❖ Who? SFU- History Student Union
- ❖ When? February 25, 2007
- ❖ Where?
- ❖ How Much? \$25 dollars + transportation
- ❖ www.sfu.ca/hstu/hstu
- ❖ What? BC Worlds Conference
- ❖ Who? UCFV
- ❖ When? April 27-29 2007
- ❖ Where? Harrison
- ❖ How Much? \$90 + transportation and accommodation
- ❖ www.bcworlds.com
- ❖ What? Pub Night
- ❖ Who? Association of History Students
- ❖ When? February 22, 2007. 5 PM
- ❖ Where? Yorkshire Rose
- ❖ How Much? \$10 towards your bill
- ❖ www.ucfv.ca/history/ahs

Associate, Minor, Major, Extended Studies:

As a history student, you are most likely aware of the program you are completing at UCFV. What you may not be aware of is that there are many different programs available. For those history buffs, a B.A. with a history major is available, while for those who rate a different discipline above the glory that is history, a minor is available. For students who find themselves torn between two disciplines, it is often possible to complete a double major, or else two extended minors, all the while finishing your B.A. The main differences between these programs are the number of credits required to complete them. To obtain a major, a student must also complete courses in the three 'breadth areas,' Europe, North America and Asia/Latin America. It is not obligatory for students completing

extended minors or minors in history to fulfill these breadth requirements, which allows students to focus on particular areas of interest. Another way for students to focus on particular areas is to incorporate lower level history classes into their Associate of Arts degree. The least known program available is probably the mysterious "Certificate in Extended Studies." This peculiar item is in fact a way for students who have already earned their B.A. to obtain a major, extended minor, or minor in history! This is perfect for those who have recently discovered the joy of history after completing a degree in a different discipline. There is something to pique every student's interest among the four available programs.

UCFV

History Student
Newsletter

Submit to Us!

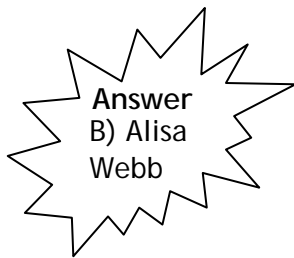
Short Articles

Topics You'd Like to See

Questions

E-mail:

Hi.stu.new@gmail.com



If you like Gender History you may like these:

History 310: Women and the Family in
Western Europe, 1700-1920
History 329: Canadian Family History
History 454: Gender and Sexuality in US
History
History 457: Sexuality and Gender in
Latin America
History 484: Gender History in Canada
SOC 220: Sociology of Women in
Canada
SOC 331: Sociology of Families
SOC 335: Gender Relations and Social
Issues
SOC 431: Advanced Topics in Childhood
and Family
SOC 435: Sociology of Sexuality
ANTH 210: Kinship and Gender
PSYC 305: The Psychology of Gender
WMST 101: Introduction to Women's
Studies I
WMST 201: Introduction to Women's
Studies II

TALK ABOUT CANADA

Attention History Students! Are you looking to translate your brain full of history factoids into some cold hard cash? Register for Operation Dialogue's "Talk About Canada" Quiz at www.talkaboutcanada.ca, answer the questions and enter to win one of over sixty scholarships! This contest ends on February 19th 2007, so get a move on if you want a chance to pay your tuition with KNOWLEDGE.