**A Year-End Message in May of 2015 from Dr. Andrew Lees, Acting Chair of the**

**Rutgers-Camden History Department**

As always, members of the Rutgers-Camden History Department have been busy and productive during the past academic year, combining excellent classroom (and online) teaching with excellent research and scholarship. The following summaries of our activities just begin to scratch the surface with regard to what we have accomplished.

Dr. Laurie Bernstein, owing to serious health problems, was unable to complete the first semester and unable to teach at all in the spring semester. I am happy to report that she is well on her way toward a full recovery and that she will be teaching again next year.

Dr. Richard Demirjian has developed online courses on “The Civil War in American Memory” and on “Cold War Culture.” He has also become the associate director of the Rutgers-Camden Leadership Institute, a new center that is dedicated to student recruitment and retention.

Meanwhile, he has given public lectures on Thomas Jefferson and on “Postwars and Cold Wars: Ideology and the American Economy after the Civil War and World War II,” a seminar presentation at the Lees Seminar in History and a conference presentation at a meeting of the Pennsylvania Historical Society.

Dr. Kate Epstein spent the fall semester of 2014 doing archival research for a book on the history of national security information in the United States. She also gave invited lectures at Princeton, the University of Maryland, and the University of Connecticut, as well as a conference presentation at the Social Science History Association. Reaching out to a nonspecialist audience, she gave a talk on her work to the History Club at Holiday Village, a retirement community in South Jersey. In April, she was awarded promotion to the rank of associate professor with tenure. She was also awarded a Rutgers University Board of Trustees Fellowship for Scholarly Excellence, largely on the basis of her 2014 book. *Torpedo: Inventing the Military-Industrial Complex in the United States and Great Britain,* published by Harvard University Press.

Dr. Wayne Glasker, while continuing to work on James Baldwin and the civil rights movement, served on a panel at a conference on the Voting Rights Act of 1965 in January at the University of Pennsylvania. He also participated in April in a panel on the freedom rides of 1961 at the National Constitutional Center in Philadelphia and gave several public lectures on themes related to the civil rights movement. Helping to lead the way in the area of civic engagement, he incorporated into his course on African-American History II a food drive to benefit the Food Bank of South Jersey.

Dr. Janet Golden, who taught a new course in the fall of 2014 on the history of health care in the United States, published not only articles and a book review in the area of medical history but also twenty-six pieces in the public history blog of the *Philadelphia Inquirer*. At the same time, she participated in ten professional seminars and presentations. Her work as a scholar earned her the J. Worth Estes Prize of the American Association for the History of Medicine for the best article in the last two years on the history of pharmacology. During the spring of 2015, she as a visiting fellow at the Sydney Centre for the Foundations of Science at the University of Sydney in Australia.

Dr. Nick Kapur, after several years as a postdoctoral fellow at Harvard, joined the Rutgers-Camden History Department in the fall of 2014. He brings to the department expertise not only in the area of East Asian (particularly Japanese) history but also in the area of digital history.

He has recently published an essay on “Asia-Pacific Relations and the Globalization of the Environment.” He has also given presentations on Japanese political and cultural history during the 1960s at meetings of the College Art Association, the Center for East Asian Studies of the University of Pennsylvania, and the Lees Seminar at Rutgers-Camden.

Dr. Andrew Lees, who has served as acting chair of the Department as well as president of the Faculty Senate during the past year, gave a paper on German views of America at the annual conference of the German Studies Association in October. His review essay, “Cities Compared: Europe and North America in the Late Nineteenth and Early Twentieth Centuries” appeared in the *Journal of Urban History.* He also finished work on a book, *The City: A World History*. A broad synthesis, it will be published in September by Oxford University Press. Dr. Lees has announced that in June of 2016, after teaching at Rutgers since January of 1974, he will retire.

Dr. Kriste Lindenmeyer is an American historian as well as the Dean of the Rutgers-Camden Faculty of Arts and Sciences. In Fall, 2014 she co-taught a course with Prof. Kathleen Aregood entitled, "Boomers and the Cold War: Growing Up in the U.S., 1946-1976." The class was cross listed in History and Childhood Studies and was part of the CCAS’s new Digital Humanities Certificate program. Dr. Lindenmeyer continues to serve as the secretary/treasurer of the Society for the History of Children and Youth.

Dr. Margaret Marsh, a University Professor, divides her time between the Camden campus and the Institute for Health in New Brunswick. She and her sister and long-time collaborator, Dr. Wanda Ronner, recently received a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Investigator Award in Health Policy Research for a project on the recent and contemporary history of infertility and assisted reproductive technology. In September, she and Dr. Ronner presented a paper at the RWJF Investigator conference. She currently chairs the Rutgers Research Council and just completed her third and final term as Treasurer of the American Association of the History of Medicine. Her teaching highlight this year was a course on Marriage and the Family in Historical Perspective for the RUC Honors College.

Dr. Charlene Mires, who continues to head MARCH (the Mid-Atlantic Regional Center for the Humanities), also continues to serve as the editor-in-chief of *The Encyclopedia of Greater Philadelphia*, in connection with which she has employed four current or recent Rutgers-Camden graduate students.Support for this project came via a $300,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. She participated in October in a session at the annual meeting of the Pennsylvania Historical Association on “Adapting History to the Digital Era: The Encyclopedia of Greater Philadelphia and the Reinvention of Community-Based Information.”

She also gave a presentation at the annual meeting of the National Council of Public History on “History on the Edge: The Cooper Street Historic District.”

Dr. Susan Mokhberi gave papers on her research at meetings of the Western Society for French History and of the American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies. She is working on a book for which the working title is *The Persian Mirror: The French Affinity with Persia from the Seventeenth to Early Eighteenth Century*. She also organized five meetings in the series of Lees Seminars, which brought together scholars from across the country for discussion of precirculated papers. The last of these, cosponsored by Penn’s McNeil Center for Early American Studies, brought dozens of scholars to our campus for a very lively discussion of the trade in guns and slavery.

Dr. Andrew Shankman edited two volumes that appeared in print: *Anglicizing Americans: Empire, Revolution, Republic* (published by the University of Pennsylvania Press); and *The World of the Revolutionary American Republic: Land, Labor and the Conflict for a Continent* (published by Routledge). He also completed work on *Original Intents: Hamilton, Jefferson, Madison and the Conflict that Shaped the American Founding,”* which is under contract to Oxford University Press. He has served this spring as acting director of the Rutgers-Camden graduate program in history.

Dr. Lorrin Thomas contributed an essay on “Puerto Ricans in the Harlem riot of 1935” to a volume on *The African Americas*, published by the University of Delaware Press. She also finished work on a review essay, “When We Talk About Human Rights,” which will appear soon in *Humanity*. She is finishing a co-authored book, to be published by Routledge under the title *Rethinking the Puerto Rican Movement*. In January, she presented a paper on “The Language of Human Rights in Mexico, 1960-1980” at the Annenberg Seminar at the University of Pennsylvania. She becomes chair of the Rutgers-Camden History Department on July 1.

Dr. Allen Woll has served as Associate Dean for Program Development during the past year. He has overseen the submission of the new Digital Studies BA, and has served as the director during the inaugural year of the BA in Health Sciences program. He has overseen cooperative agreements with Jefferson University and the Rutgers School of Health Related Professions for joint BA/MPH (Public Health) programs with our Health Sciences Program. He is also Director of the new Leadership Institute, a student recruitment and retention initiative, which will begin in the fall of 2015. Dr. Woll has announced that in June of 2016, after teaching at Rutgers since September of 1975, he will retire.