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New IHRC lecture series:
“It’s History:
Immigration since 1965”

Traditionally focused on the migrations of a century ago, the IHRC this year chose to invite historians who can comment instead on how the newest immigrants are building lives in Minnesota, the United States, and the wider world.

Events this fall included a talk by Donna Gabaccia “When Majority becomes Minority” (on recent Canadian and European immigrants in the United States), a presentation by Ruben Martinez on Mexican border-crossing, and a lecture by Professor Leo Lucassen, of the Universities of Amsterdam and Leiden, on “The Immigrant Threat” in today’s Europe. The IHRC also cosponsored a number of other events, including a pioneering mid-September conference, “Building on Hmong Women’s Assets.”

“It’s History” will continue in the months ahead:

December 2, 4 p.m., Nolte Hall: Marilyn Halter, Boston University, and Violet Johnson, Agnes Scott College, “The Newest African-Americans” (immigrants from western Africa)

February 17, Symposium on Oral History: Guest speaker: Mai Na Lee, post-doctoral fellow in the Department of History, Ph.D. University of Wisconsin

Greetings from the New Director

Dear Friends,

With immigration re-shaping nations around the world, the IHRC has an important role to play. It can answer hard questions, provide solid information, and interpret the consequences of migrations past and present.

This newsletter brings you word of change and continuity at the IHRC. We hope it communicates the excitement we feel about the years ahead. We are beginning a major overhaul of our Web homepage so it can become a continuously updated replacement for the *Online News*. We are moving forward with our endowment campaign, with the help of the Friends of the IHRC and of the University Office of External Relations. Our collections continue to attract researchers from outside the University and students here at the U. We are working hard with our new Advisory Councils to plan events that are of interest to our many constituencies—scholars, students, teachers, and friends in the community—and to think about the future of our collections policies. In 2006, the IHRC will also undertake a self-study project, the first in over a decade; this project will involve staff and faculty in assessing our mission and will include outside evaluators to provide feedback on our evolving programs.

In short, these are very exciting times at the IHRC. I still feel privileged but also a bit daunted by the challenge of taking up the work begun by Rudy Vecoli. As I settle into my new position as director (and continue to marvel daily at the ever-changing views of the Mississippi River outside my window), I feel fortunate indeed to have such wonderful co-workers—here in Andersen Library, at the University of Minnesota, and in the Twin Cities community.

I look forward to getting to know many of you in the years ahead.

Donna R. Gabaccia
*Rudolph J. Vecoli Professor of Immigration History
 and Director*



March 10, Albert Camarillo, Stanford University, and Carol McKibben, Monterey Oral History Project, will speak on how new immigrants are changing minority community dynamics in West Coast cities

March 23, 4 p.m., Nolte Hall: Mae Ngai (University of Chicago) will talk about her book *Impossible Subjects: Illegal Aliens and the Making of Modern America*

April 25, Marc Rodriguez, Notre Dame, will lecture on circuits of labor migration between Mexico, South Texas, and the Upper Midwest

More information on these events will be available at the IHRC Web site or from the office.



News from the Collections

As the director's message indicates, the IHRC is in the midst of "taking stock." We face both extraordinary challenges and opportunities as we serve the research needs of an ever-widening range of constituencies.

It's no longer "news" but still noteworthy how technology helps us do so. This spring Assistant Curator Daniel Necas, with help from computer programming consultant Craig Johnson, launched the IHRC searchable database *VITRAGE* (Virtual Information and Tools for Research of Archives on the ImmiGrant Experience). This tool has attracted large numbers of new patrons to the IHRC online and has added further depth to our service capability.

Of course, it's not only descriptions that are being added but often the sources themselves. One prominent new example is the collection "North American Immigrant Letters, Diaries, and Oral Histories," distributed by Alexander Street Press. This resource, which contains full texts of an extensive number of published and unpublished primary sources, was developed in consultation with both Donna Gabaccia and myself. Anyone with a U of M internet account or who comes to the IHRC can now use this collection.

As we move further into the planning process for the future of our collections, I'll be tapping many readers of this newsletter for suggestions and feedback. Stand by — and thanks for your good support and counsel, past and future.

Joel Wurl
Head of Research Collections and Associate Director



Use the enclosed envelope to contribute to the IHRC's general fund and/or its endowment campaign.

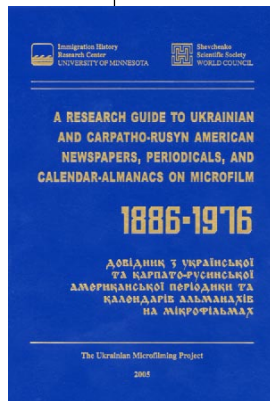
Be sure to indicate your intended fund on the memo line of your check(s).

Thank you for your support.



Latvian intern works with IHRC's Latvian American collections

Thanks to funding from the Diaspora Fund of the Latvian government, the IHRC has hosted an intern from Latvia for a 10-week stay. Baiba Zukauska is a student at the Latvian Academy of Culture in Riga. She has helped the IHRC to review and analyze Latvian American collections, to summarize their contents, and to select documents and images to be added to the online digital image collection, COLLAGE. Baiba finds the work she is doing "fascinating." She has also done research on the culture of Latvians living in Sweden, Germany, and the USA and hopes to continue that research in the future.



Guide to microfilmed Ukrainian and Rusyn publications now available

Co-compilers Halyna Myroniuk (IHRC senior assistant curator), Alexander Lushnycky, IHRC's editor Judy Rosenblatt, and COLLAGE coordinator Erik Moore (scanning of images) have completed work on the new *A Research Guide to Ukrainian and Carpatho-Rusyn American Newspapers, Periodicals, and Calendars-Almanacs on Microfilm (1886-1976)*. This revised and expanded hard-cover guide (432 pages) represents six years of research to update and add to the information in the 50-page pamphlet published in 1998, *A Guide to Ukrainian American Newspapers in Microform*. The Ukrainian Microfilm Project has been a joint undertaking of the IHRC and the Shevchenko Scientific Society. This guide will be a significant aid to researchers of the immigrant experience. See the IHRC Web catalog or contact the office for ordering information.

Guide to NIAF records now online

The online guide to the records of the National Italian American Foundation is completed: <http://www.ihrc.umn.edu/research/vitrage/all/na/ihrc1651.html>. A printed inventory, compiled by Jon Openshaw, is now nearing completion. The arrangement and description of records and the inventory publication have been financed by NIAF, a national ethnic organization that helps young Italian Americans with education and careers, works on public policy issues and government appointments affecting Italian Americans, promotes Italian language and culture, monitors public portrayal of Italian Americans, and fosters ties between the United States and Italy.

Endowment Update

Endowment Campaign continues

The IHRC continues to seek donations for its ongoing Endowment Campaign. One million dollars have been raised, and several graduate fellowships have been fully funded; but an additional \$400,000 must be raised before July 31, 2006, in order for the Center to receive the full benefits of a matching grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

The goals of this year's campaign are twofold. Director Donna Gabaccia is focusing her attention, with assistance from the Office of External Relations of the U's College of Liberal Arts, on the full funding of an endowment for the University of Minnesota professorship named in honor of recently retired IHRC director Rudolph J. Vecoli. This endowment will support future lectures, seminars, and other activities, such as the 2005-2006 series "It's History: Immigration since 1965" (see story, p. 1).

With vital assistance from the IHRC Friends, fundraising for new fellowship funds for University of Minnesota graduate students working in the collections of the IHRC also continues. (See p. 3 for notices of fellowships already available to students; these fellowships provide solid evidence that donations to the endowment campaign yield concrete results!)

Ethnic studies funds are currently helping to support internships and student assistants for work on the collections, and to provide small but crucial grant-in-aid

assistance for researchers in these collections.

Your generous support is vital to the successful completion of the IHRC's Endowment Campaign!

Researchers & Visitors

Visiting researchers this fall included Kathleen DeHaan (College of Charleston), who is writing on immigrant letters, Anne Rasmussen (William and Mary), who continues her research on the Arab musical diaspora, and filmmaker Zorislav Baydyuk, as well as Ph.D. students at Brown University, Brandeis University, and the University of Kansas.

The IHRC recently welcomed representatives of the Daughters of Penelope and Order Sons of Italy in America, also Professor John-Paul Himka, University of Alberta; President Ivars Lacis, University of Latvia; and Eugenio Sgro, Italian Consul General for the Midwest.

Students and teachers at the IHRC: This semester, collections staff have introduced a variety of U of M students in history, Asian-American studies, and kinesiology classes to the collections of the IHRC. Also, Joel Wurl, Donna Gabaccia, and faculty affiliate Erika Lee consulted with Northfield public school teachers about their "Teaching American History Grant."

Announcements and Events

Fellowships available for 2006–2007; details on IHRC Web site

"American Latvian Association" Graduate Fellowship in Latvian American Studies
Deadline to submit Request for Nomination: December 15, 2005

"Hildegard and Gustav Must" Graduate Fellowship in Estonian American Studies
Deadline to submit Request for Nomination: December 15, 2005

James W. Nelson Graduate Fellowship in Immigration Studies
FFI: IHRC Director Donna Gabaccia

D'Agostino trust fund established; donations invited

Peter D'Agostino—who did research at the IHRC for his PhD dissertation in 1991

and who has kept in touch since—was murdered near his home in Oak Park, IL, on June 22, 2005. His extended family has established a trust fund to aid his wife, Mary Mapes, also a history instructor and author, and the couple's infant daughter. Contributions (check payable to the D'Agostino/Mapes Family Trust) may be sent to The Northern Trust Company, 50 South LaSalle Street, B-10, Chicago, IL 60675, Attention: Andrea L. Pasch, Trust Officer.

It's been a very busy fall at the IHRC!

In addition to the "It's History" series (see p. 1), the IHRC has cosponsored many exciting events on campus this fall. It has also helped to publicize still others to constituencies in the University and beyond. All these events share something in common: they either focus on issues relating to migration or they highlight the complex challenges of cultural diversity (whether religious, ethnic, racial, linguistic) in pluralist nations such as the United States.

For example: The IHRC cosponsored an afternoon of Finnish music with Diane Jarvi and a reading by poet Jayne Cortez, both at the U's new Institute for Advanced Study. In September and October, the IHRC helped the Center for Austrian Studies to mount a lavish, multi-media celebration of the educational, artistic, and musical outreach work of local Holocaust survivor Dr. Robert Fisch and to bring Professor John-Paul Himka to campus for a provocative talk on the Ukrainian diaspora.

Director Donna Gabaccia has contributed individually to many campus events. She has given presentations to ongoing colloquia of the American Studies Department, the Feminist Studies Colloquium Series of the Department of Women's Studies, and the Center for European Studies' monthly colloquium on "migration and culture." She also commented on a paper about the internment during World War I of Austrian nationals given by history graduate student Nicole Phelps at the new history graduate students' biweekly colloquium.

Turning to researchers working in its collections, the IHRC (on occasion in

conjunction with other Andersen Library special collections), has sponsored "research in progress" seminars on Arabic diaspora music, Italian food in Australia, and immigrant autobiographies.

The IHRC seeks to call attention to upcoming events of interest, on its Web site and in monthly e-mail notices. If you want to receive notices of events sponsored or cosponsored by the IHRC, or if you'd like to receive notice of related events focused on immigration or cultural pluralism, please sign up online: <<http://www.ihrc.umn.edu/about/e-notice.htm>>.

Staff Outreach

In October, Joel Wurl presented a talk on Minnesota Refugee Resettlement for Andersen Library's "First Fridays" lecture series. His article "Documenting Diaspora: The Migration of Archival Sources from Post-World War II East European Émigré Groups" appears in the vol. 5, no. 1 (2005) issue of *Archival Science*.

Cynthia Herring, executive secretary, and Daniel Necas, assistant curator, have been awarded College of Liberal Arts Outstanding Service Awards (Civil Service & Bargaining Unit staff).

In August Erik Moore presented a paper "Some Fundamentals on Ecology in Archives: Environmental Philosophy as a Model for Archival Theory and Practice" at the Society of American Archivists conference in New Orleans.

The Minneapolis Italian Club honored Rudy Vecoli at their Columbus Day Dinner on October 1. Rudy spoke about the importance of preserving Italian culture, language, and history.

Alyssa Foschi, Pat Wegand, Kimberly Reinke, and Allison LaMotte have joined the IHRC as student workers.

Volunteers Anna Hobbs, a retired librarian, and Gail Gordon, of University Hospital, are assisting Halyna Myroniuk and Donna Gabaccia with special projects.

Don't miss "Destination America" (PBS's new special series on American immigration), which is based, in part, on interviews with both former IHRC director Rudy Vecoli and new director Donna Gabaccia. Information online at <www.pbs.org/destinationamerica>.

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Friends of IHRC

The Friends of IHRC, the nonprofit support group for the Center, held its 28th Annual Meeting, "Towards New Horizons," on November 12 at Andersen Library. The 75 enthusiasts for ethnic history who attended (the largest contingent almost 20 from the Latvian community) heard new IHRC Director, Donna Gabaccia, talk about plans for the IHRC's future, met the 2006-2008 officers elected at the October Board of Directors meeting, enjoyed a variety of delicious ethnic foods catered by Kafé 421, and were entertained by musicians playing the bandura and accordion. See more photographs and details of the event at the Friends section of the IHRC Web site. There you can also learn about how to join the organization.



Outgoing president of the Friends of IHRC and MC for the evening, Donald Pafko, greets some of the guests at the 2005 Annual Meeting

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Immigration History Research Center

The IHRC enriches society by preserving and promoting understanding of the history of the American immigrant experience. In doing so, it acts in partnership with various ethnic communities, historical agencies, research specialists, educators, and many others. It develops and maintains a library and archival collection, provides research assistance, produces publications, and sponsors academic and public programs. Its work supports the tripartite mission—teaching, research, and service—of its parent institution, the University of Minnesota.

Judith Rosenblatt Editor

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Visit the IHRC Web site: The IHRC is re-designing its Web site! We will phase out *News Online* as the online information source becomes our liveliest form of communication and outreach. The Web site will offer news of upcoming events, access to collections, and new sections of interest to Friends, teachers, researchers, faculty, students, and scholars.

Become a regular "virtual visitor" to the IHRC Web site:
<<http://www.ihrc.umn.edu>>.

About this newsletter. This *News* is sent to selected and prospective members of the Friends of the IHRC, donors, U of MN colleagues, and exchange publications. The IHRC publishes two printed *News* issues a year, spring/summer and fall/winter. These issues are also posted online. **Please notify the IHRC if you no longer wish to receive a paper newsletter.**

DEADLINE for monthly online issues is the last day of the previous month. E-mail or send news to Judy Rosenblatt, <rosen015@umn.edu>.