



Tallahassee, 23 April 2013

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

I am writing to share with you news of the Institute on Napoleon and the French Revolution during the 2012-2013 academic year.

### Graduate Student Accomplishments

There is no doubt that this year's top news concerns Erica Johnson. In December 2012, Erica successfully defended her doctoral dissertation, "The Revolution from Within: Abolitionists and the Revolution in Saint Domingue," and received her Ph.D. She then went on the job market and was offered a tenure-track position at Gordon State College, a four-year public college in Georgia. Congratulations on your excellent dissertation, doctorate, and new job! Given the current state of the job market, this is a real achievement.

Allyce Smith also deserves a special mention. Allyce defended her MA thesis, "Revolutionary Marriage: Family, State, and Natalism from the Ancien Regime to the Napoleonic Empire," in March 2013. She will formally receive her Master's degree at FSU's spring commencement at the end of April. Just a few weeks later, on June 15th, she will be marrying Joe Horan, another INFR graduate student, who is teaching at the Colorado School of Mines. Congratulations to you both!

Thirdly, Richard Byington passed his comprehensive exams this spring and is now beginning research for his doctorate, a social history of the seamen of the navy of the early U.S. Republic.

And last but not least, the more advanced ABD students wrote many, many chapters of their respective dissertations this year. Among these were Tim Best, Jonathan Deverse, Cindy Ermus, Tim Fitzpatrick, Shane Hockin, Joe Horan, and Joshua Meeks. I expect that the INFR will be very well represented in the hooding phase of next year's commencement exercises.

On a special, international note: Morten Ottosen, the doctoral student from the University of Oslo who spent part of the fall 2010 semester in Tallahassee both in the INFR's seminar on war and society and conducting research in the Napoleon Collection at the Strozier Library, recently defended his dissertation on

the Scandinavian theater of the Napoleonic wars. Dr. Blaufarb served as one of his outside readers and is proud to announce that his dissertation will soon be published in the Palgrave-MacMillan series "War, Culture, and Society."

### Graduate Student Conference Participation

This was a very busy year for the INFR graduate students on the conference circuit. Altogether, they presented 17 papers at 9 different conferences in the U.S. and abroad. They were:

- Bryan Banks, "The Not-So-Simple Quaker in France: Louis-Abel Beffroi de Reigny's Reflection on the Nation, 1793," Society for the Study of French History, Cardiff, UK (June-July 2013)
- Tim Best, "What are Six Square Leagues without Inhabitants: Creating a Homogenous Space in France after 1789," Southeastern Regional Graduate Student Conference, Tallahassee (March 2013)
- Tim Best, "The Chiming City: The Constituent Assembly and the Case of Avignon, 1789-1791," Consortium on the Revolutionary Era, Fort Worth (February 2013)
- Cindy Ermus, "Plague in the Port City: The Marseille Plague of 1720 in Transnational Perspective," American Association for the History of Medicine, Atlanta (May 2013)
- Cindy Ermus, "Pestilence and Politics: The 1720 Peste of Provence in Cadiz and Marseille," Society for French Historical Studies, Boston (April 2013)
- Arad Gigi, "Doing Away with Good- and Anti- War Movies: The Combat Experience Film Genre and the Construction of American National Identity Since 1945," Annual Film and History Conference, Milwaukee, WI (September 2012)
- Caleb Greinke, "Lloyd's List and Naval Intelligence in the Revolutionary Atlantic," Southeastern Regional Graduate Student Conference, Tallahassee (March 2013)
- Caleb Greinke, "The Sociology of Latin American Naval Insurgency, 1815-1821," Consortium on the Revolutionary Era, Fort Worth (February 2013)
- Erica Johnson, "Representatives of Each Race," Haiti in the Globalized France Symposium, Tallahassee (February 2013)
- Chris Juergens, "Trilingualism at the Front: Negotiating for Hessian Prisoners in the American Revolutionary War," Southeastern Graduate Student Conference, Tallahassee (March 2013)

- Chris Juergens, "Hessians in New Jersey: Friederich II's Soldatenhandel and the American Revolution," Consortium on the Revolutionary Era, Fort Worth (February 2013)
- Pat Perella, "Citizen Genet and the Defense of New York during the War of 1812," Consortium on the Revolutionary Era, Fort Worth (February 2013)
- Nicholas Stark, "Planting the Tricolor in the Emerald Isle: Franco-Irish Revolutionary Communications," Southeastern Graduate Student Conference, Tallahassee (March 2013)
- Nicholas Stark, "The French in the Emerald Isle: The Role of the French in the Irish Rising of 1798," Consortium on the Revolutionary Era, Fort Worth (February 2013)
- Nicholas Stark, "Remember the Alamo? Combating Historical Revisionism Post-Texas School Board," 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Critical Theories in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Conference of Transformative Pedagogy, West Chester (November 2012)
- Andrew Thompson, "The French Political Press: Political Agency and Newspapers in the 1851 Insurrection," Southeastern Graduate Student Conference, Tallahassee (March 2013)
- Andrew Thompson, "Great War Labor Revolution? Shifting Traditional Roles of Women in the City versus Women in Rural France," Queen City Colloquium Graduate Student Research Conference , Cincinnati (March 2013)

### Current Graduate Students

With the graduation of Erica Johnson and Allyce Smith, there are now 20 active graduate students in the INFR: 5 at the MA level and 15 pursuing Ph.Ds. Of these 20 students, 8 were completing their coursework this year, while the remainder were conducting dissertation research or writing their dissertations.

Seven students began the program this year. They are:

- Greg Burris, writing and MA thesis on the Terror
- Caleb Greinke, writing an MA thesis on naval history during the Napoleonic and immediate post-Napoleonic period.
- Chris Juergens, writing a doctoral dissertation on the Hessian troops during the American Revolutionary War. Chris, who comes to us with an MA from SUNY-Binghamton, is fluent in German.
- Jesse Pyles, writing a doctoral dissertation on Anglo-Portuguese diplomacy during the Napoleonic Wars. Jesse, who comes to us with an MA from the University of North Texas, is fluent in Portuguese.

- Nicholas Stark, writing an MA thesis on the French involvement in Ireland during the Revolutionary and Napoleonic wars.
- Patrick Thibault, writing an MA thesis on the War of 1812 from the French-Canadian perspective. Patrick is our first student from Quebec. He is being funded in part by a fellowship from the Florida-Canada Linkage Institute.
- Andrew Thompson, writing a doctoral dissertation on French peasant politics during the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Andrew comes to us with an MA from the University of Cincinnati.

Despite this large entering cohort, these students all received funding thanks to your generosity (particularly the new Donald D. Horward Graduate Fellowship), through the Ben Weider Endowment, and through extra financial help generously made available by the new dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, Dr. Sam Huckaba. Without your support, it would not be possible to maintain a program of this scale.

#### Donald D. Horward Graduate Fellowship in Napoleonic Military History

On 4 March 2011, at the annual banquet of the Massena Society, a new graduate fellowship in the Institute was announced. Founded in honor of Dr. Donald D. Horward, founder of the Institute on Napoleon and the French Revolution, it will provide an annual stipend to graduate students working on aspects of Napoleonic military history. The new fellowship was funded by generous gifts from numerous alumni of the Institute and friends of Dr. Horward. The fund is still accepting new gifts. Anyone interested in contributing to this award, which honors Dr. Horward while advancing historical inquiry, can contact Jeffrey Ereckson at [jereckson@foundation.fsu.edu](mailto:jereckson@foundation.fsu.edu).

The first holder of Horward Fellowship was Arad Gigi, the INFR's first Israeli student. He is now being funded by the Florida-Israel Linkage Institute, as well as a teaching assistantship in the FSU history department. The Horward Fellowship therefore passed to a new recipient in 2011-2012, Caleb Greinke, who is working on naval history in the Napoleonic and immediate post-Napoleonic period. He will hold the fellowship again next year.

#### Incoming Institute Students

Given the large number of students currently in the program, we have slowed down on new admissions for the 2013-2014 academic year. Only two new students will be joining us, Nicholas Altunian and Richard Siegler, both on the MA level.

## Activities of the Institute Professors

During the 2011-2012 academic year, Drs. McMahon and Blaufarb made a concerted effort to bring awareness of Revolutionary and Napoleonic history to the FSU student body. Between Dr. McMahon's large lecture course on the French Revolution and Dr. Blaufarb's two large lectures (in both Fall 2012 and Spring 2013) on Napoleonic Europe, they introduced about 350 students to these exciting subjects. In addition, Dr. Blaufarb taught two graduate courses on the revolutionary Atlantic in fall 2012, and Drs. McMahon and Blaufarb co-taught a graduate seminar on the French Revolution in spring 2013.

At the same time, they also pursued their own research and writing.

Dr. McMahon finished his new book, *Divine Fury: A History of Genius*, which will be published in October by Basic Books, New York. He also put the finishing touches on an important edited collection on methodologies in intellectual history. Co-edited with Samuel Moyn, it is entitled *Rethinking Modern European Intellectual History* and will be coming out with Oxford, New York, in late 2013 or early 2014. In addition to these major achievements, Dr. McMahon published two chapters in edited volumes and gave six public talks, including a major address in Rome to a crowd of over 800.

Dr. Blaufarb spent the academic year working on one of his new projects, a history of the revolutionary transformation of property, from 1789 to the Napoleonic Code. Between August 2012 and April 2013, he managed to draft six chapters, about 280 pages. He also published a chapter in a collective work on the global impact of the French Revolution and gave a talk at the Consortium on the Revolutionary Era in Fort Worth. This summer, he is scheduled to give talks in London and Budapest.

All told, 2012-2013 was a very productive year for the Institute on Napoleon and the French Revolution. In particular, the graduate students passed many key milestones, having success on the job market, and being very active on the conference circuit. I thank you for your support.

Rafe Blaufarb, Ben Weider Eminent Scholar  
Director, Institute on Napoleon and the French Revolution