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Introduction

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Voces Novae: Chapman University Historical Review, Vol 1, No 1 (2009)

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This first issue of *Voces Novae: Chapman University Historical Review* is dedicated to

David and Ludie Henley

for their many years of support of the Chapman University Department of History, its faculty and its students

The Alpha Mu Gamma Chapter of Phi Alpha Theta is thankful to be given the opportunity to launch the first electronic journal at Chapman University, *Voces Novae: Chapman University Historical Review*. Alpha Mu Gamma has grown in both size and prestige since it was founded at Chapman University in 2005. Members of the Chapter have won seven of nine undergraduate prizes offered at the Southern California Regional Conference over the past three years. Chapman hosted the Phi Alpha Theta Southern California Regional Conference in 2008, in addition to the First Annual Alpha Mu Gamma History Honor Society Conference in 2009. The accomplishments of Alpha Mu Gamma were honored in 2008 with the Best Chapter of the Year Award, and we are currently honored to publish our own online journal. It is our hope that *Voces Novae* will afford students the opportunity to become active participants in the search for historical knowledge.

The 2009-2010 editorial board would like to offer its profound gratitude to everyone who has contributed to the inaugural edition of *Voces Novae*. The support of student research from the President's Office, the Chancellor's Office and the Dean's Office at Chapman University has been considerable. The editors would like to recognize President James L. Doti, Chancellor Daniele C. Struppa and the Dean of Wilkinson College Roberta Lessor for their continued encouragement and support of student research and the pursuit of knowledge. In addition, Vice Chancellor and Dean of Students Dr. Jerry Price and Vice Chancellor for Undergraduate Education Dr. Jeanne Gunner have generously supported members of Alpha Mu Gamma in facilitating student research and encouraging Chapter participation at Phi Alpha Theta Regional and National Conferences. We would also like to thank the National Phi Alpha Theta History Honor Society and the Southern California Regional affiliate for their professionalism and dedication to promoting undergraduate research.

David and Ludie Henley must be commended for their continued encouragement and support of the History Department, Wilkinson College of Humanities and Sciences, and the Chapman University community. Their leadership and commitment to the intellectual development of students and faculty has helped to make Chapman the preeminent research institution it is today.

The editorial board is honored to have worked with the esteemed faculty and staff of the Chapman University History Department. Dr. Farrington, Dr. Cumiford, Dr. Vieira-Martinez, Dr. Bay, Dr. Keene, Dr. Haran, Dr. Slayton and Dr. Estes are to be commended for their determined support of Alpha Mu Gamma and its members. We thank all the History Faculty for their encouragement and keen interest in the

development of the research and writing skills of their students. We would also like to thank Taryn Stroop, the department administrative assistant, for her generous help and support of Phi Alpha Theta during the 2008-2009 academic year.

The editorial board owes a debt of gratitude to Dr. Leland Estes for securing the opportunity to publish *Voces Novae*. A ceaseless advocate for his students, the senior thesis seminars brilliantly organized by Dr. Estes furnish a stimulating and challenging academic environment where students are provided the tools to accomplish great work. In addition, Dr. Bob Slayton has contributed many hours to mentor students completing theses in American History, and his significant dedication is visible in the extraordinary quality of his student's work.

We wish to sincerely thank Dr. Brenda Farrington, the outgoing Alpha Mu Gamma Faculty Advisor, for supporting Chapter events and providing valuable advice and knowledge. Dr. Carolyn Vieira-Martinez and the Alpha Mu Gamma Officers from previous years must also be commended for their dedication and hard work, as they have bequeathed to us a strong Chapter and active membership. Her continued mentorship, guidance and encouragement has been invaluable as the Chapter continues to grow.

All students, faculty and staff of the Chapman History Department tremendously appreciate the resources and counsel provided by Dr. Marilyn Harran and the Rodgers Center for Holocaust Education. The Rogers Center is a world-class research center that offers Chapman students access to rare documents pertaining to the Holocaust, as well as opportunities to attend lectures that have inculcated in students the tremendous power and responsibility of historical writing. The editors would also like to thank library staff at Leatherby Libraries, including Dean Charlene Baldwin for her exemplary leadership. Much of the research in this journal would not have been possible without the direction of research instructors Stacey Russo and Julie Artman. We especially appreciate the contributions of archive librarian and Chapman alumnus Randy Boyd, for his co-editorship of *Voces Novae*.

The Alpha Mu Gamma Chapter of Phi Alpha Theta is dedicated to promote the study of history through encouraging research, good teaching, publication and the exchange of learning and ideas among scholars. We are immeasurably grateful that Chapman University has given us the tools to make *Voces Novae* a reality.

Sarah Ganderup, Hailey Giczy and John Cowles

Executive Editors