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Introduction to Issue 1

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Voces Novae: Chapman University Historical Review, Vol 1, No 2 (2010)

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

Mary Litch

for her great support of this e-journal and its editors, from the beginning.

Voces Novae: Chapman University Historical Review, the student-run e-journal published by the Alpha Mu Gamma chapter of Phi Alpha Theta, is proud to announce that our inaugural issue, published in the summer of 2009, was awarded the Nash History Journal Prize by the national Phi Alpha Theta organization. This is a great honor and sets a high standard for us and for other undergraduate e-journals, certainly a standard achieved in the high caliber of the papers published in this, our second issue. Much of the credit for our success goes to Mary Litch, who brought her wealth of knowledge and experience with both academic and online journals to help us in creating and maintaining *Voces Novae*. Not only did she offer her knowledge of the Open Journal Systems software for use by Alpha Mu Gamma, but she also has met with student editors numerous times, working through layout and appearance, as well as how to publish the issues ourselves. Her insight and support have guided us through the process of setting up this award-winning e-journal and have helped undergraduate students become editors and publishers with an eye to quality. We owe her a debt of gratitude.

As always, we must thank the History department faculty for their support of their students' intellectual endeavors and undergraduate research. The enduring support of Dr. Jennifer D. Keene, Dr. William F. Cumiford, Dr. Alexander Bay, Dr. Carolyn Vieira-Martinez, Dr. Marilyn J. Harran, Dr. Lee Estes, Dr. Robert Slayton, Professor Brenda Farrington, Dr. Elizabeth Eastman, Professor Mike Fraga, Dr. Vanessa Gunther, Professor William Maher, and Dr. Tom Reins has advanced us as students and as an honor society. Without these mentors, this journal would not be the success that it has been and, we hope, will continue to be.

Though the papers in this issue cover a wide range of topics --from Renaissance economics to Civil War lives and legalities to Cold War culture --they all share the time and labor of intensive, high-quality research. They involve taking a new look at original sources, ranging from loan records or twentieth-century comic books, to gain new insight into past people and institutions. Elsa Lindstrom's article, "Lodovico Capponi: A Florentine Banker and a Lending Transaction in 16th Century Florence" was completed as part of a year-long senior seminar research project, a requirement of all graduating history majors at Chapman University. Shannon Clark David's "Confronting the Reality of Changed Lives: Love and Loss for Women in Civil War America," Paul Fellman's "Iron Man: America's Cold War Champion and Charm against the Communist Menace" and Mark Johnston's "Dred Scott's Expansion in Judicial Power and Augmentation of Sectional Conflict" were the products of skilled students and the rigorous research involved in Chapman University's other undergraduate history courses. We thank our contributors for their work in offering unique perspectives into the study of history at all levels.

Sarah Ganderup

Executive Editor



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November 10, 2009

John R. Cowles, Secretary
Alpha Mu Gamma Chapter of Phi Alpha Theta
History Department
Chapman University
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Dear John,

I am extremely pleased to announce that your journal, *Voces Novae: Chapman University Historical Review*, has been named Best Electronic Journal in the 2009 Gerald D. Nash History Journal Award competition. The Alpha-Mu-Gamma chapter at Chapman University stands as an example to the more than 870 chapters of Phi Alpha Theta. The time and effort required to produce a historical journal is immense, and your willingness to undertake this task and maintain such a high standard of quality proves the dedication of you and your peers to the study of history. Your award check in the amount of \$100 is enclosed.

Congratulations on this tremendous accomplishment, and please extend my congratulations to your exceptional students.

Sincerely,


Dr. Graydon A. Tunstall
Executive Director