Note from the Davis Fellow

By Brandon Kinney

Dear CENFAD Community

Just like that, we are ready to wrap up another semester here at CENFAD and Temple University! It has been quite the fulfilling, eventful semester, and I would like to take the opportunity to thank everyone for a great year. Without the fantastic support of our community and guidance of Director Dr. Alan McPherson, this would not be possible. The Center proudly announced its Fall 2019 prizes for Ariel Natalo-Lifton and Andrea Siotto and hosted seven distinguished speakers during our Fall Colloquium. I was thrilled at the turnout and support from Temple graduate and undergraduate students.

I am looking forward to our exciting lineup for our Spring 2020 Colloquium Series, which will bring a wide range of topics about diplomacy to CENFAD. Our speakers will explore diverse research, from the impact of human rights on American foreign policy to the economic Cold War in India.

This edition of Strategic Visions includes interviews with two of our Fall speakers, Nan Enstad and Thomas Schwartz, who were gracious enough to sit down and speak with me about their research process and their research itself.

SV also includes a number of contributions from the CENFAD and Temple community. Four of our book reviews highlight the growing range and rich historiographic field diplomatic history has to offer, whether it is a comparative history of the role of civil defense during the Cold War, a biography of Theodore Roosevelt that merges foreign and domestic policy, a cultural history of the role of children during the Cold War, or a diplomatic history of the Civil War from the oft-ignored French point of view.

CENFAD is also thrilled to recognize Dr. Gregory Urwin, a professor of history here at Temple, for two accomplishments. Under his guidance as editor, the Campaigns & Commanders series at the University of Oklahoma Press is celebrating its twentieth year of publishing military history scholarship. In addition, Dr. Urwin was recently asked by Army Magazine to write an article about his experiences with the staff ride, a type of historical study that brings students of military science out to the battlefield for hands-on learning.

The Center for the Study of Force and Diplomacy is excited to solicit submissions for the annual Edwin H. Sherman Prize for Undergraduate Scholarship in Force and Diplomacy

I am already looking forward to our Spring semester and welcome any and all ideas for submissions or improvements for Strategic Visions. Catch me in the hallway, send me an email, or drop by my office to talk about your ideas!

Until then, I wish everyone a great rest of the semester, a restful break, and a wonderful New Year.

Yours in Liberty,
Brandon Kinney