

## About the Staff

**Sierra Skye Gemma** is graduating this year with a double major in History and Sociology. In addition to managing *The Atlas: Undergraduate Journal of World History* and *Sojourners: Undergraduate Journal of Sociology*, she is actively involved with the History Students Association and the Sociology Students Association. In her “spare time,” she enjoys reading, writing, and training capoeira with her husband and son. Sierra plans to take a year off after graduation to research, write, travel to Brazil, and possibly learn a little Latin before applying to graduate programs.

**Tim Burkhart** is a fourth-year student of History and Political Science at UBC, with a particular focus in the history of seafaring, piracy and exploration, Arctic issues, and social and cultural history. In the winter 2009 term, he coordinated a student directed seminar in the History of Canada’s Arctic, and hopes to pursue a career or further study in Canada’s north. He is an avid sailor, racing competitively in Vancouver, and loves to travel, explore, and learn.

**Rachel Corder** is a fourth-year student at the University of British Columbia. She is completing her double major in History and English Literature. She is especially concerned with nineteenth- and twentieth-century history, with an emphasis on the causes and outcomes of the two World Wars. When not studying for classes, Rachel enjoys scrapbooking, reading, boating, and spending time with her husband, Jay, and their dog, Bean. Rachel plans to travel and pursue a career in public affairs after the completion of her B.A.

**Margaret Dudley** is a third-year History and Asian Studies student. Her academic interests include Vedic culture, pre-modern India, and Mughal rule. She is also interested in sub-Saharan Muslim societies in the Middle Ages. She is active in the History Students Association, the International Students Association, and within the Asian Studies Department. After completing her Bachelor of Arts degree, Margaret plans on continuing her studies, but would like to first spend time physically exploring her subject area. Outside of school she enjoys reading, playing soccer, canoeing, hiking and, in general, spending time outdoors.

**Vanessa LeBlanc** is a fourth-year Honours History and International Relations student. Her historical interests are twentieth-century international relations history. Her article on the abdication of Kaiser Wilhelm II of Germany and the end of WWI was published in the 2008 edition of the Atlas. She is currently brainstorming ideas for her Honours thesis, which she will be writing next year.

**Karen Orr** is a History major and Anthropology minor, going into her fifth (victory lap) year. She focuses on twentieth-century history, particularly European, although throughout the course of her undergraduate she has explored a wide range of time periods and locations. In addition to working on *The Atlas*, Karen is involved with a variety of UBC activities ranging from co-operative education (work-study) to intramural flag football. After graduation, she hopes to continue her education by pursuing a Master's degree.

**Sarah Barrett** is a fourth-year History major with a minor in Spanish. Her academic focus has been the history of disadvantaged groups, including the history of childhood, African Americans, women, and North American indigenous groups. Outside of classes, Sarah has been part of the UBC Women's Rugby team throughout her University career, as well as on the executive committee. After UBC, she plans to travel so she can visit all of the places she has studied before returning to do a master's degree in history—hopefully the traveling will help her decide what to specialize in!

**Dee Dee Upper** is in her fourth and final year of a history major. She is particularly interested in American history, but has dabbled in several different historical areas throughout her time at UBC. Following her graduation in May, Dee Dee plans on traveling to the Mediterranean to see some ancient history and maybe get a suntan as well. Dee Dee was particularly attracted to the editing process involved in *The Atlas*, and looks forward to seeing the end result!

**Paradie Stewart** is completing the fifth and final year of her History degree at UBC. She is passionate about ancient civilizations, as well as medieval studies of Europe and Asia. She also harbours a mild obsession for pirate lore. When not perusing books, the Internet, or costume shops, she spends her time skiing at Whistler or enjoying dinner at someone else's house. After graduation she hopes the winds will be kind and guide her swiftly to new horizons and colorful adventures.

**Isabel Montoya Villegas** is a third-year history major. She is particularly interested in nineteenth-century Central and Eastern European history. After graduating from UBC, she plans on going back to her native Colombia. There she will live on her farm as a hermit – just reading history books, listening to music, and sleeping in a hammock.