

## Vita

## BARRY ALAN MEHLER

**Personal Data:**

Date of Birth: March 18, 1947  
 Place of Birth: Brooklyn, New York  
 Family: Married to Jennifer Mehler. One child: Isaac Alan born May 21, 1983.

**Education:**

Ph.D. University of Illinois. Champaign-Urbana, Illinois. May 1988. Dissertation: "The American Eugenics Society: 1921-1940" Thesis advisor: Richard Burkhardt Jr.

Major field: History of Science.  
 Minor fields: American History 1830-1960;  
 Modern European History; Behavior-Genetics.

N.D. Washington University. St. Louis, Mo. Ph.D. program 1973-75. Major: American Social and Intellectual History. Minor fields: American Colonial History, Modern Europe.

M.A. City College of the City University of New York. M.A., 1972. Major Field: Modern American History; Minor Field: Modern European History. Course work with John Cox (Reconstruction) and Edward Pessen (Jacksonian). Thesis: John R. Commons. Thesis advisor, Irwin Yellowitz.

B.A. Yeshiva University. New York, N.Y. 1970 (History).

**Academic Experience:**

Research Assistant IBM EXCEL project. Computer Assisted Educational Programs in Historical Demography and Database Systems. University of Illinois, Supercomputer Applications for the Social Sciences. Project director: Orville Vernon Burton. 1986 - present.

Graduate Assistant for the Program in Science, Technology, and Society. Software evaluation and computer networking. Summer, 1984.

Trainee, National Institute of Mental Health:  
 Institutional Racism Training Program, 1981-1985  
 University of Illinois  
 Project Director: Jerry Hirsch.

Research Associate in the History of Science, 1976-1980.  
 (Faculty level appointment).  
 Dept. of Biology

Washington University  
St. Louis, Mo.

Instructor in History, 1977  
Washington University  
St. Louis, Mo.

**Grants and Awards:**

University of Illinois  
Babcock Fellowship in History, 1985-1986.  
National Institute of Mental Health Traineeship, 1981-1985.  
Joseph Ward Swain Prize for the best publication by a  
graduate student in the Department of History, 1984.  
Rockefeller Foundation Grant-in-Aid, 1977.  
National Science Foundation Research Fellowship, 1976-1980.

**Teaching Experience:**

Summer Session, 1985: T.A. Survey of American History.  
Instructor, Frederic C. Jaher.

Summer Session, 1984: I taught two courses for the  
University of Illinois Computer Service Office.

1. Computing for Social Scientists and Historians: An introduction to the use of computers by social scientists. The course included discussion and demonstration of word processing, simple statistical programs, information retrieval, modem programs, interfacing micro and mainframe computers, data management, note taking, library searches and bibliography preparation.

2. Using a Database Management Package: An introduction to microcomputer database management emphasizing the fundamentals of using database software.

Survey of Western Civilization, 1982: T.A. for John McKay.

Washington University Research Associate in the History of Science, 1976-1980. As part of my work with Professor Garland Allen I participated in teaching several undergraduate and graduate level courses in the history of genetics and eugenics.

Instructor in History, Washington University, Spring 1977. I organized a course for the Jewish Studies Program entitled: The Jewish Experience in America from 1880 to 1975.

Washington University Teaching Assistant, 1973-1975. I was a teaching assistant for the following courses: American

Foreign Policy, American Labor History, Modern Jewish History, Survey of American History.

Missouri Arts Council, 1975-1976. Working with the St. Louis Public Schools organizing exhibits, cultural programs (dance and music) as well as lectures and workshops for elementary school children.

Teaching Assistant, City College, 1970-1971. Survey of American History.

### **Publications:**

"Civil Rights for the Right," Scheduled for publication in The Nation (May 1988).

"Eliminating the Inferior: American and Nazi Sterilization Programs," Science for the People 19 #6 (November/December 1987) pp. 14-18. Reprinted in Martyrdom and Resistance, the journal of Holocaust survivors (Jan.-Feb. 1988).

"Eugenics has a long racist history," co-authored with Jerry Hirsch, Contemporary Psychology 31 #8 (August 1986) p. 633.

"Rewriting Mental Testing History: The View From the American Psychologist," co-authored with S. Gelb, G. Allen and A. Futterman, Sage Race Relations Abstracts (May 1986) pp. 18-31.

"The New Eugenics: Academic Racism in the U.S. Today," Science for the People (May 1983). Reprinted in "Biology As Destiny" a special educational supplement of Science for the People (January 1984); revised and reprinted in Israel Horizon's magazine (January 1984); translated and reprinted in Jean Belkhir (Ed.) Egalite Sociale, Diversite Biologique (Science Libre, Paris 1985) pp. 73-91.

"Social Reform," A review of the Bureau of Social Hygiene Papers. Rockefeller Archive Center Newsletter (Spring 1982).

"Genetics and Intelligence," in The Ku Klux Klan: A History of Racism and Violence (Southern Poverty Law Center, Montgomery 1981).

"Madge Thurlow Macklin: Pioneer in Medical Genetics," Notable American Women (Harvard University Press, Cambridge 1980).

"Sources in the Study of Eugenics #2: The Bureau of Social Hygiene Papers" Mendel Newsletter (November 1978).

"Sources in the Study of Eugenics #1: Inventory of the American Eugenics Society Papers" Mendel Newsletter (June 1977). Cited in Population Control Politics by Tom Shapiro (Philadelphia 1985).

Papers and public lectures.

"Loosing Ground: I.Q. Testers Perceptions of Fertility Differentials with Respect to Intelligence, 1920-1985." Paper presented at the History of Science Society Meeting, October 30, 1987.

"A Comparison of American and Nazi Sterilization Programs, 1933-1940," Paper presented at the Regional Meeting of Phi Alpha Theta, University of Illinois, Champaign, March 28, 1987.

"Racism in America," Focus 580, WILL (University of Illinois Public Radio), Urbana, IL., January 27, 1987.

"The Theory and Practice of Genocide: Nazi Medical Experiments in Eugenics," Paper presented at Hillel Foundation, Urbana, Ill. December 3, 1986.

University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, "The Specter of the New Eugenics," November 17, 1986.

"Understanding LaRouche," Focus 580, WILL radio, Urbana, IL., April 9, 1986.

"The American Eugenics Society and the Immigration Act of 1924: The Case of H.S. Jennings," Mid-America American Studies Conference, Urbana, April 14, 1985.

"The New Eugenics," Focus 580, WILL Radio, Urbana, IL, September 7, 1984.

"Computer Database Management Systems and the Future of the Historical Profession," American History Group, University of Illinois, March 23, 1984.

"Diseased Minds: The Medical Profession and Eugenics," Paper presented before the Program in History of Medicine, Champaign, May 1982.

"The American Eugenics Society: A Case Study in Scientific Racism" Paper presented at the 12th Annual Cheiron Society meeting (June 19, 1980). Co-authored with E. Fine.

**Selected Reviews:**

Theodore M. Porter, *The Rise of Statistical Thinking, 1820-1900* (Princeton, Princeton University Press, 1986) and Stephen M. Stigler, *The History of Statistics: The Measurement of Uncertainty before 1900* (Cambridge, Harvard University Press, 1986). *Journal of Interdisciplinary History* (accepted).

Michael M. Sokal, ed. *Psychological Testing and American Society, 1890-1930* (New Brunswick, Rutgers University Press, 1987) (Scheduled for publication in the *Journal of Social History*, December 1988).

Jasmid Momeni, *Demography of Racial and Ethnic Minorities in the United States: An Annotated Bibliography with Review Essay* (Greenwood Press, Westport 1984). (Scheduled for publication in *Social Biology*, Winter 1988).

*In The Name of Eugenics* by Daniel Kevles, *Journal of Social History* 20 #3 (March 1987) pp. 616-19.

*Crime and Human Nature* by James Q. Wilson and Richard J. Herrnstein, *Science for the People* (May/June 1985) pp. 26-27.

*Walter Benjamin: Story of a Friendship* by G. Scholem, *St. Louis Jewish Light* (April 4, 1984).

*Darwinism and Human Affairs* by R. Alexander, *Social Biology* 31 #1/2 (1983) pp. 178-180.

*Social Darwinism: Science and myth in Anglo-American Thought* by R. Bannister, *Social Biology* 27 #4 (Winter 1980).

*Beast and Man* by Mary Midgley, *American Scientist* 67 #3 (May/June 1979).

**References:**

From the University of Illinois, Department of History.  
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Department of History, 309 Gregory Hall, 810 South Wright  
St., Urbana, IL 61801.

Richard W. Burkhardt Jr.  
Orville Vernon Burton  
John McKay

Evan Melhado  
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Garland E. Allen, Department of Biology, Washington  
University, St. Louis, MO 63130.