

Peter Coclans, Ph.D., M.Phil., M.A.

Distinguished Professor; Director, Global Research Institute, M.A., M.Phil., Ph.D at UNC-Chapel Hill
Chapel Hill, NC, US

Albert R. Newsome Professor Professor and Director of the Global Research Institute

Description

Peter Coclans, Albert R. Newsome Professor and former chair of the history department, is director of the Global Research Institute at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. The Global Research Institute, founded in 2009, is envisioned as a center for scholarly research on key international questions and as a conduit through which generated knowledge can successfully be disseminated and applied to problems in the real world.

Previously, Coclans served as UNC's first associate provost for international affairs, starting the position in December 2003. In his role as associate provost for international affairs, Coclans provided leadership for the University's international endeavors, serving as spokesman and overseer of international activities. In addition, he had a primary leadership role in the articulation and continued development of the University's global mission.

As Albert R. Newsome Professor of History, Coclans works primarily in American, Southeast Asian and international economic and business history. He is currently working on the creation of integrated world markets for tropical and semi-tropical commodities, with a special emphasis on rice. This project has taken him to archives and rice paddies all over the world. Coclans is the author and editor or co-editor of numerous books. He has also written over 150 scholarly articles, essays and book reviews.

Coclans has received various grants and fellowships over the years and has previously served as associate dean for general education of the College of Arts and Sciences at UNC from 1993 to 1998, and chaired the Department of History from July 1998 to December 2003. He is also an adjunct professor in the Department of Economics and a faculty affiliate in the Department of Asian Studies.

Coclans is the former president of several large professional organizations, including the Historical Society and the Agricultural History Society, and is the recipient of a lifetime achievement award and concurrent professorship from the Chinese Ministry of Agriculture. In fall 2005, he held the Sir Thomas Stafford Raffles Distinguished Professorship in History at the National University of Singapore.

Coclans was born in Chicago and received his Ph.D. from Columbia University in 1984, joining the faculty at UNC that same year.

Industry Expertise

Education/Learning, International Affairs, International Trade and Development, Renewables and Environmental, Agriculture and Farming, Writing and Editing

Topics

Asian Studies, Globalization, Quantitative and Qualitative Research Methods, Economic Development, Economic and Business History, American History, Demography, Rural Issues

Affiliations

Phi Beta Kappa , Phi Eta Sigma , Omicron Delta Kappa , Historical Society , Agricultural History Society

Education

Columbia University
Ph.D. American History

Columbia University
M.Phil. History

Columbia University
M.A. History

Drake University
B.A. History

Accomplishments

Malcolm C. Clark Award
Malcolm C. Clark Award for 2005, South Carolina Historical Society

Salameno Distinguished Lectureship
Salameno Distinguished Lectureship, Stonehill College, Easton, Massachusetts, February 2010

Richard Dean Winchell Annual History Lecture
Richard Dean Winchell Annual History Lecture, University of Nebraska-Omaha, Omaha, Nebraska, October 2011

Allan Nevins Prize of the Society of American Historians
Awarded the Allan Nevins Prize for the best-written doctoral dissertation on a significant subject in American history, "The Shadow of a Dream"

Choice Outstanding Academic Title
Awarded the Choice Outstanding Academic Title for "Rice: Global Networks and New Histories"

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