Honorable Mention – 2014 Graduate Prize

Jamie Stoops (University of Arizona), ““Pestilent Publications’: Pornography and Class Relations in Victorian England”

Stoops’ innovative examination of class and pornography in Victorian England brings a host of new players into the fray, vividly depicting consumers and producers of pornography of different classes and genders. In her compelling account, pornography becomes a site – and a much contested one – of class struggle, in which women took their place as active players in the trade. By focusing on middle-class consumers of pornography (and working-class producers and distributors), Stoops thwarts many of our expectations regarding the history of both sexuality and class to excellent effect.

2014 Graduate Prize Committee members: Jordanna Bailkin, Amy Woodson-Bolton, and Lisa Cody