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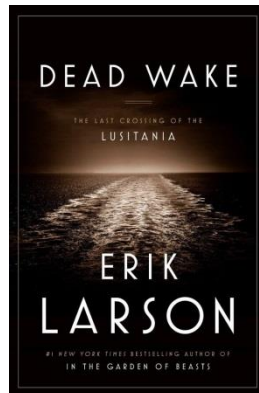
Alumni Book Club Discussion

**Sunday, September 17, 2017– 11 a.m.
Libby and Joseph G. Shapiro Alumni House**

This month's selection is

DEAD WAKE: The Last Crossing of the Lusitania

By Erik Larson



On May 1, 1915, with WWI entering its tenth month, a luxury ocean liner as richly appointed as an English country house sailed out of New York, bound for Liverpool, carrying a record number of children and infants. The passengers were surprisingly at ease, even though Germany had declared the seas around Britain to be a war zone. For months, German U-boats had brought terror to the North Atlantic. But the *Lusitania* was one of the era's great transatlantic "Greyhounds"—the fastest liner then in service—and her captain, William Thomas Turner, placed tremendous faith in the gentlemanly strictures of warfare that for a century had kept civilian ships safe from attack. Germany, however, was determined to change the rules of the game, and Walther Schwieger, the captain of *Unterseeboot-20*, was happy to oblige. Meanwhile, an ultra-secret British intelligence unit tracked Schwieger's U-boat, but told no one. As U-20 and the *Lusitania* made their way toward Liverpool, an array of forces both grand and achingly small—hubris, a chance fog, a closely guarded secret, and more—all converged to produce one of the great disasters of history.

Source: www.goodreads.com

**To join the Alumni Book Club or for more information,
please contact the Alumni Affairs Office at (516) 463-6636 or Sandra.J.Lombino@Hofstra.edu**