



Greetings from Hardin Hall. This is our fifth annual report on happenings in the department, and as always, we have lots of news to share. This fall we welcome twenty new undergraduates and five new graduate students to our program. We also say goodbye to some accomplished graduates who are leaving for bigger and better things.

## FROM THE CHAIR

Greetings and Happy New Year! I hope this newsletter finds you all healthy and well. In this newsletter you will find a lot of information regarding the department that we hope will be of interest. In the last year, we have been thinking hard about ways to enhance our engagement with our alumni, whether through social media (Facebook, Instagram and Twitter) or through organizing alumni reunions when it will be possible again. We would love to hear from all of you and keep you involved with the department. As a small step in this direction,

we will be happy to send each of you a beautiful t-shirt with the department's logo that you could hopefully wear proudly! If you are interested, please contact me at [abein@clemsun.edu](mailto:abein@clemsun.edu).



## STUDENT AWARDS

Congratulations to the winners of this year's departmental awards:

**Rand McNally Prize in Geography**—Mary Terry

**Carl Lafayette Epting History Essay Award:** Susan Wilkerson, for her essay “Restoring Women

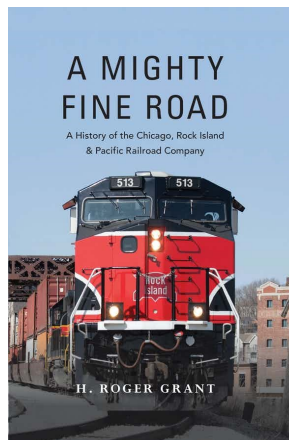
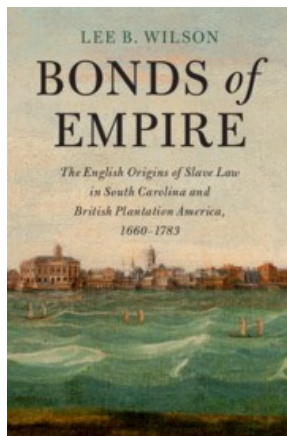
to the Narrative: Analyzing the Contributions of Unionist Women during the Troubles”

**Ernest McPherson Lander Jr. Award:** Cal Bedenbaugh, for his thesis “Like a Death in the Family: The Textile Crisis in South Carolina, 1965-1990”.

**William Shannon Morris**

**Prize:** given annually to the graduating senior with the most outstanding record in historical studies. Delia Maggio.

**Silver Bowl Award of the S.C. State Society of the Daughters of the American Colonists,** to the major who has excelled in the study of history. Corey Pritchett



## FACULTY PUBLICATIONS

The global pandemic has not kept the faculty from publishing. The department has several new books come out in the past year. Newly tenured legal historians Lee Wilson published *Bonds of Empire: The English Origins of Slave Law in South Carolina and*

*British Plantation America, 1669-1783* (Cambridge University Press). Roger Grant has published yet another book on American railroad history, *A Mighty Fine Road: A History of the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railroad Company* IU Press 2020. And Vernon

Burton's book *Justice Deferred: Race and the Supreme Court* (Harvard University Press) has been widely reviewed, including in the Post and Courier, and on Walter Edgar's Journal.

## DR. CATALANO DIGS CLEMSON HISTORY

Public Historian Professor Josh Catalano and his students began an excavation of Fort Rutledge on the Clemson campus this past summer. The dig, a joint project between the College of Behavioral Science and the College of Architecture, Arts and Humanities, brought together students from several majors to recover the complex history of the site, which has been inhabited since the 18th century. The South Carolina militia constructed the fort in the fall of 1776 following an engagement with Loyalist forces and their Cherokee allies. Funded by a National Parks Service grant of \$133,000, Catalano and his team poured over texts and maps to identify the location of the original fort and spent this past summer exploring the layers of settlement which stretch back to the original village of Esseneca which was inhabited by Cherokee peoples. The team included History major Gavin Schrantz, who effusively praised the experience.



While it was hard work, she found it extremely rewarding. She was surprised to find her fellow students were very interested in the dig, and in Clemson History in general. She was also amazed to discover how much trash the soldiers threw into their well. She is hopeful they will find a cannon in next summer's dig. It reputedly was tossed in a well when the original fort was abandoned in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. The dig will resume in summer 2022 with Anthropology and History students working side by side to continue the progress.

## Student Spotlight: Kirsten Bush ('21)



Hailing from North Myrtle Beach, History major Kirsten Bush has embraced every opportunity to participate in campus life. When she's not hard at work in Hardin, she spends her time drawing, sculpting, reading, and hanging out with friends. Although all of her History professors have been "amazing," her "favorite history course" so far has been Dr. Rachel Moore's the Historian's Craft. She also notes that Dr. Kathryn Langenfeld was especially "encouraging" and "uplifting," and gave her "the confidence to stick with the History program." "If you're thinking about taking a history class," Kirsten says, "do it!" Fun fact: if Kirsten could time travel, she would visit Renaissance Italy!

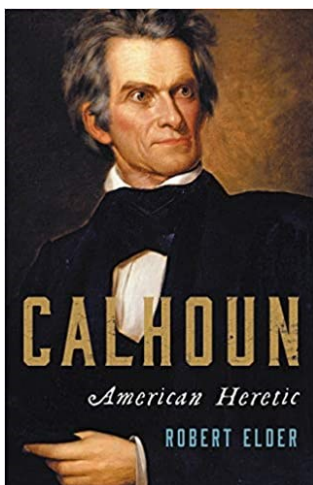
📷 f #STUDENTSPOTLIGHT #HISTORYMAJORS

## KEEPING UP WITH FACULTY EMERITI ELIZABETH CARNEY

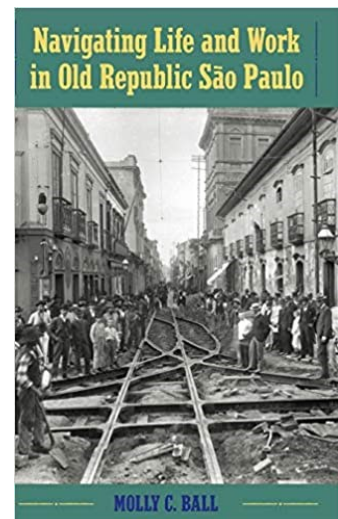
Elizabeth Carney retired from Clemson in 2018 after more than 30 years in the department. A world recognized expert on Alexander the Great and Ancient Macedonia, Dr. Carney was a master teacher and one of the university's most illustrious scholars. Since 2018 Dr. Carney has finally found something that she is no good at — retiring. Since stepping away from the department, she has kept up a robust scholarly agenda. In the twilight of her time on the

faculty (when one could be forgiven for coasting) Dr. Carney worked with Dr. Dunn to publish an edited volume *Royal Women and Dynastic Loyalty*. (Palgrave MacMillan: Basingstoke, UK, 2018). This was based on papers presented at the highly successful conference they organized in Greenville (back when people met in person). She followed this up in her first year of retirement with the publication of *Eurydice and the Birth of Macedonian Power* (Oxford University Press:

Oxford and New York, 2019). And this past year she published an edited volume, *The Routledge Companion to Women and Monarchy in the Ancient Mediterranean World*, (Oxford and New York 2021). Beth has several projects still in progress, including some secretive consulting for media initiatives (as there is always an Alexander the Great project percolating somewhere) that will come to fruition in the coming year.



Our alumni have also gotten into the act: Last year saw the publication of two new books by History Alum, Professor Molly Ball (University of Rochester), *Navigating Life and Work in Old Republic São Paulo*, (University of Florida Press), and Robert Elder (Baylor University) *Calhoun: American Heretic* (Basic Books.



## WELCOME NEW FACULTY

Since we published our last newsletter, the Department of History and Geography welcomes three new tenure-stream faculty.

**Ryan Hilliard** joins us from UCLA, where she completed a Ph/D/ in modern French History in 2020. Professor Hilliard's research concentrates on single women in pre-Revolutionary Paris, with particular emphasis on their social networks, strategies of survival, and cultural, economic, and political significance from approximately 1660-1789. She is currently



working on a book manuscript, tentatively titled. *By Choice or By Circumstance: Singlewomen in Early Modern France*. Among the classes she will be teaching are History 1720, the West and the World, History 2990: The Historian's Craft (with a topic "Folklore, Magic, Mystery, and Panic: Historians and the Study of Belief in Early Modern Europe") and a seminar on Gender and Sexuality. Welcome Professor Hilliard!

**Archana (Arch) Venkatesh** received her Ph.D. in South Asian and women's history at an Ohio State University. Her research interests lie at the



intersection of South Asian history, oral history, women's history and history of medicine. She is currently working on her manuscript, titled *Women, Medicine and Nation-building: The 'Lady Doctor' and Development in Twentieth Century South India*, which examines the role of women doctors in the creation and extension of development initiatives in south India from 1919-1970. Welcome Dr. Venkatesh!



**Douglas Seefeldt** is the new director of our PhD program in Digital History. Doug comes to Clemson from Ball State University, where he was founding Research Director of the Digital Scholarship Lab. He is the Senior Digital Editor of The Papers of William F. Cody at the Buffalo Bill Historical Center in Cody, WY, Co-Director of the William F. Cody Archive, and editor of the Cody Studies Digital Research Platform. He is the author of several digital history projects including, *Envisaging the West: Thomas Jefferson and the Roots of Lewis and Clark*, "Horrible Massacre of Emigrants!!": The Mountain Meadows Massacre in Public Discourse, and *Buffalo Bill's Great Plains*. Welcome Director Seefeldt!

## FACULTY TRAVEL

The global Pandemic has put much of our student and faculty travel on hold. But British History scholar Stephanie Barczewski has found ways to continue the research for her latest book project despite the challenges posed by COVID. Stephanie is currently completing a manuscript on Country Houses and Englishness, a companion to her 2014 monograph *Country Houses and the British Empire, 1700-1930*. For a project like this Dr. Barczewski has to walk the grounds of some of Britain's most famous country houses. So over the last year Stephanie has made three trips to the U.K. to conduct her field research. This has not been without its challenges. For her July 2021 trip Dr. Barczewski had to quarantine for ten days in London upon her arrival. She has taken two subsequent trips that have been more manageable, though not without incident. She has had to deal with the partial closures of several of the properties she is studying. And at one point she travelled to Paris at the invitation of the Sorbonne, only to find that the U.K. had changed the travel guidelines during her brief absence. While the pandemic has delayed the publication for more than a year, she is on track to submit the manuscript to the publisher in March 2022.

## FACULTY PROMOTIONS

Michael Silvestri was promoted to Professor in Spring 2020. Paul Anderson was promoted to Professor Spring 2021. And Lee Wilson was tenured at the rank of Associate Professor in Spring 2021. Congratulations!



## Alumni Spotlight: Bettina Johnson ('13)



According to Bettina, the History Department is "full of so many wonderful professors!" Dr. Rod Andrew "looked out for me, especially in my freshman year," while Dr. James Burns and Dr. Steve Marks "always made me laugh." More importantly, Dr. Burns and Dr. Marks introduced her to herring sandwiches on a trip to Amsterdam, which "was an unforgettable experience!" Recalling her time in Hardin Hall fondly, Bettina has only one regret: leaving. Like many of our majors, she wishes she could have "stayed forever!"

📷 #ALUMNISPOTLIGHT



## GRAD STUDENT NEWS

The M.A. program completed a vibrant year of intellectual exploration. Along with several students studying foreign languages during the summer of 2021 — including Jess Foster studying Polish and Allie Cobb studying Spanish — the following three students successfully defended their fascinating thesis projects: **Marquise Drayton**, “Integration with Difference:” Harvey Gantt’s Legacy at Clemson Recontextualized and Resurrected into Architecture;” **Cal Bedenbaugh**, “Like a Death in the Family:” The Textile Crisis in South Carolina, 1965-1990;” and **Matthew C. Long**, “Enthusiastic Jew and Lover of Humanity: August Bondi and the Roots of Transnational Freedom in the Long Nineteenth Century.”

### Grad Student Spotlight: Kayla M. Cook



M.A. student Kayla Cook graduated from the University of Florida with a B.A. in History ('20), and she is currently in her second semester in Clemson's History M.A. program. Cook's primary research interests include Ireland and the British Empire, with a particular focus on the history of crime and criminality, nationalism, secret organizations, and social perceptions of racial and religious minorities.

This semester, her article, “‘Lost in the Gray Zone’: Re-examining the Jewish Rescue Narratives of Oskar Schindler and Rezső Kasztner,” was published in the 16th edition of *Alpata: A Journal of History*.

## Student Spotlight: Della Maggio ('21)



Hailing from Greenville, History major Della Maggio wears many hats. In addition to her studies, she serves as President of Planned Parenthood Generation Action and the Editor-in-Chief of *The Pendulum* (among other activities!) Della's historical interests are likewise wide-ranging, but she is drawn to courses that explore the history of human rights, including the History of South Asia, a class that inspired her to write a *Pendulum* article entitled "Redefining Ahisma: The Oxymoron of a Violent Buddhist Majority." Her favorite History professors have been Dr. James Jeffries, Dr. Amit Bein, and Dr. Mou Banerjee.

📷 #STUDENT SPOTLIGHT #HISTORY MAJORS

## GOODBYE DR. MARKS

The Department bids a fond farewell to Professor Steve Marks, who is retiring this Spring after 33 years on the faculty. Steve came to Clemson in 1988 directly from Harvard, where he earned a Ph.D. under Soviet specialist Richard Pipes. Since 1988 Steve has taught the Western Civ survey (1720 and 1730) over thirty times (!), as well as a wide variety of lecture courses and seminars on everything from movies to capitalism. Steve is the author of *The Road to Power: The Trans-Siberian Railway and the Colonization of Asian Russia, 1850-1917* (Cornell, 1991), *How Russia Shaped the Modern World: From Art to Anti-Semitism, Ballet to Bolshevism* (Princeton, 2004), *The Information Nexus: Global Capitalism from the Renaissance to the Present* (Cambridge, 2016), and an editor of the multi-volume series *The Global Impacts of Russia's Great War and Revolution* (Slavika Press). But most of our alum will remember him as one of the most popular teachers to ever kick up a cloud of chalk dust in Hardin Hall. Steve won multiple teaching and service awards during his career, including the Alumni Professorship and the Outstanding Teacher award in 2019 (this latter award is voted on by students).



His colleagues will remember Steve as a great friend and mentor. Since 1988 he and his family have helped dozens of new (and often disoriented) faculty acclimate to life in a rural southern college town. The remarkable retention rate for Assistant Professors in the Department of History and Geography is largely the result of Steve's humor and hospitality. While his plans for retirement are still somewhat fluid, he hopes to have more time to travel, read, cook, and develop increasingly complex practical jokes to play on his unsuspecting former colleagues



# *Ph.D. in Digital History at Clemson University*

Accepting students with M.A. or M.S. degrees in a variety of fields, including History, American Studies, English, Communications, Sociology, Library and Information Science, Digital Culture, and Computer Science.



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**HISTORY AND  
GEOGRAPHY**

**Fall application deadline:  
February 1, 2022**

## **History is data.**

Digital history uses computer technology to develop and investigate historical research questions. As born-digital historical sources increase, technological fluency will be an even more important part of conducting historical research. To learn more about Clemson's Ph.D. in Digital History, visit our website or contact program director Douglas Seefeldt: [wseefel@clemson.edu](mailto:wseefel@clemson.edu).