

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY NEWSLETTER

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A NOTE FROM THE CHAIR

Greetings from Hardin Hall. This is the first of what we hope will be a twice-annual report on life in the Department of History and Geography. As you'll see below, the department's had a big year, and we are eager to share our news. We'll be hosting an alumni event on Fri, Sept. 9, here in Hardin Hall, from 4:30 to 6 p.m. and would love to see as many of our alumni as possible. If you can make it please contact me at burnsj@clemson.edu.

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FACULTY PUBLICATIONS

Your former professors have had an extremely busy and productive year. In addition to countless articles and reviews, the faculty published a remarkable number of books on an array of topics. Stephanie Barczewski led the charge with several new books, (see below), Abel Bartley's prize-winning monograph, *In No Ways Tired: The NAACP's Struggle to Integrate the Duval County Public School System*, was published by the Florida Historical Society Press, Roger Grant finished two new books, *Railroaders without Borders: A History of the Railroad Development Corporation and Electric Interurbans and the American People*; Rod Andrew produced a new text for the Marine Corps Press titled *The First Fight: US Marines in Operation*

Starlite, August 1965, while Beth Carney's *King and Court in Ancient Macedonia: Rivalry, Treason and Conspiracy* was her fifth history text. Two faculty edited new volumes of collected essays: Vernon Burton, *Becoming Southern Writers: Essays in honor of Charles Joyner*, and Michael Meng, *Jewish Space in Contemporary Poland*. Look for several new books this fall, including Steve Marks' *The Information Nexus: Global Capitalism from the Renaissance to the Present* and Stephanie Barczewski's *Magic Kingdoms: A History of the Disney Theme Parks* as well as new books in the coming year from Roger Grant, Megan Taylor Shockley, Rod Andrew, Michael Meng, Tom Kuehn, and Ed Moise.



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FACULTY NEWS AND AWARDS

FACULTY SPOTLIGHT



For our first issue we turn our faculty spotlight on Stephanie Barczewski, Professor of British History. Dr. Barczewski has three new books out this year. The first, *Heroic Failure and the British* (Oxford University Press), has caused quite a stir in the U.K., sparking a debate in the press about British national identity. Her second book, *Country Houses and the British Empire, 1700-1930*, will be published by Manchester University Press in the Fall. And look for a third book from Stephanie in October: *Magic Kingdoms: A History of the Disney Theme Parks* (yes, you read that title right). Stephanie will be teaching a 'History of the Disney Theme Parks' course for the Honors College in the fall. In addition to her scholarly and teaching responsibilities, Stephanie is the department's expert on Brexit, and is well-worth following on Facebook (as is the entire department, via our inimitable *Clemson History Facebook page*)



The Department welcomes Subah Dayal, who will be joining the faculty in the fall to teach South Asian History. Professor Dayal received her PhD in History from UCLA this past June, and will teach 'South Asian History' and the "West and the World". We also said goodbye to the recently retired Rich Saunders, who was inducted into the Emeritus College in spring of this past year. Rich is enjoying his retirement and has already taken several trips (mostly via railroad). He will be at our September 9 alumni event, so despite his retirement, you can catch him in action once again in Hardin Hall. In other news, the department hosted two conferences this year. The first, titled "Aftermath," was organized by graduate students and drew presenters

from throughout the South East. Professors Dunn and Carney hosted a conference on "Dynastic Loyalties" in April at the Greenville ONE center, which included scholars from across the nation and from several countries, and featured papers on such diverse topics as "Zombies in Irish Folk tales" and "The Royal Postal Service in 19th century Persia".

Several faculty received major awards this year, including Assistant Professor Lee Wilson, who won the prestigious "Cromwell Fellowship" from The American Society for Legal History, and Maribel Morey, who was one of only 33 recipients nationwide of a Carnegie Fellowship. Professor Morey was also chosen as one of the College of AAH's "Creativity Professors" for 2016. Speaking of creativity professors, Vernon Burton found time in his busy writing and speaking schedule to be inducted into the South Carolina Writers Hall of Fame this past Spring.

Congratulations are in order to newly tenured geography professor Billy Terry, and newly promoted full professor Abel Bartley. Both promotions are richly deserved.

STUDENT AND FACULTY TRAVELS



Faculty and students alike fanned out across the nation and the globe this past year to conduct research and present their scholarship. James Burns took the

freshman cohort of the National Scholars on a ten-day trip to South Africa, which featured hiking in the snow-capped Drakensberg mountains and swimming in the warm waters of the Indian Ocean. Rod Andrew took an exploratory trip to France to lay the foundations for a new study abroad

experience that will come online next spring. Dr. Andrew is recruiting students to follow in the footsteps of American GIs from the shores of Omaha beach to the war's decisive battlefields in Belgium and Germany. The department also funded graduate student research abroad, as Kacie Harris and Macy Allison traveled to Germany for their thesis research. Their trip included visits to the site of Nazi Germany's Nuremberg rallies and the Dachau concentration camp. While the history faculty were presenting their work at conferences in places like Stockholm, London, Dublin, Venice, and Berlin, Geographer Crista Smith spent the year visiting working class communities in Ithaca, N.Y., Nashville, Tenn., Fresno, Calif., and other exotic locations for her study of America's Tiny House movement.

WELCOME NEW GRADUATE STUDENTS

The Master of Arts program continues to attract great students, several of whom will move on to doctoral programs this fall. Leah (Cannon) Burnham is off to Georgia State, to continue her work in 20-century Southern and cultural history; Alexandra Bethlenfalvy to the University of South Carolina, where she will work on the Civil Rights era; and Spencer York to the University of Alabama, where he'll focus on Southern and African-American history. They all earned fellowships and assistantships, so to each is owed a big congratulations, and to each a loud huzzah. Five other class of 2016 students are pursuing other professions. Sandra Mokalled, the winner

of the 2016 Lander Prize, is in Lebanon, where she is working in writing, publishing, and communications; George Stevens is in Raleigh, North Carolina, where he will be teaching in high school; Jenny Heckel has moved to Washington, D.C., where she is an interpreter at the Abraham Lincoln Cottage historical site; and Lauren Martiere is in Pittsburgh, where she will begin the graduate program in Library and Information Science at University of Pittsburg in the fall. We're looking forward to similar great things from our incoming class this fall-like the outgoing class, an eclectic group with eclectic interests. Look for news of their progress in our next newsletter.

STUDENT AWARDS

Our future alumni walked off with a slew of academic prizes this past year. Alden Cobb won the William Shannon Morrison Prize, which recognizes the graduating senior with the most outstanding record in historical studies. Laura Hemphill received The R. Glen Ayers, Jr. annual award as the best rising senior among history majors. Shiva Mohan won the South Carolina State Society of the Daughters of the American Colonists

Award (and got to take home the much-envied engraved silver bowl). Sam Holleman won the Rand McNally Award in geography, and Sagirah E. Brown and Mekhayla Williams shared the Alan Schaffer Award as the best students in pan African studies.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



Shiva Mohan, a rising senior from Fort Mill, SC, is a double major in History and Political Science. As you'll see below, he was this year's winner of the South Carolina State Society of the Daughters of the American Colonists Award. He also received the 'Duckenfeld Scholarship' which supports summer school at St. Peter's College, Oxford, where he is currently studying "The History of Medieval England from 1000-1296" as well as "The Arthurian Literary Tradition". Shiva has worked particularly closely with Dr. Marks, Dr. Bein, Dr. Andrew, Dr. Silvestri, and Dr. Carney. He will be applying to law school this coming year.

“History is not a burden on the memory
but an illumination of the soul.”

LORD ACTON

ALUMNI NEWS

Otis W. Pickett ('03) is an assistant professor of history at Mississippi College. Brian Feltman ('99) is an assistant professor of history at Georgia Southern University. Cliff Powell ('13) just completed his two year stint with Teach for America, Robert Wolfe ('12) is an interpretive ranger at Hampton Plantation State Park in Charleston County, S.C. McKenzie Finley ('14) is currently enrolled in the Ph.D. program in African history at the University of Texas at Austin, and is spending the summer on a Fulbright Hayes grant learning Yoruba in Nigeria. Keller-Anne Baumgarner ('12) is an associate for policy research at the Institute for Child Success in Greenville, S.C. Morgan Gallery ('06)

teaches social studies at Dreher High School. Jordan Baer ('14) is serving with the Peace Corps in West Nile Province, Uganda. Anna Gillespie ('09) is an attorney practicing in the Washington D.C. area. Raleigh Daniel ('13) just finished her two years in Peace Corps in Senegal, and Chip Kinard ('15) will begin his first year of graduate school in medieval studies at Fordham University in New York this coming Fall. Please send us your news so we can let your former professors and classmates know what you are up to: clemson.edu/caah/departments/history/alumni.



We like to hear from our alumni, so please let us know what you're doing and where you're doing it. Send us your update to history-l@clemson.edu

GIVING

The department needs support for student scholarships and faculty research. If you would like to make a donation, you can contribute through our website: clemson.edu/caah/departments/history/alumni.

Be sure to indicate that you want your contribution to go to the history department. You can also mail a contribution to the Clemson University Foundation, P.O. Box 1889, Clemson, S.C. 29633. (Again, make sure to specify that your donation is for the History Foundation Account). If you have a particular initiative

you'd like to support (e.g. student travel abroad, South Carolina history research projects, conducting an archaeological excavation of Dr. Grubb's office), please send a note to me and I'll make sure it is used accordingly. If you'd like to discuss opportunities for giving in person, contact the chair 864-656-5373 and we'll set up a meeting the next time you are in Hardin Hall.

MAKE A GIFT

Please consider making a contribution to the Department of History. Even a small amount will go a very long way. Please designate your preference for how your donation should be used. Thank you!

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- \$ _____ Student Travel Abroad
- \$ _____ SC History Research Projects
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