Greetings from Hardin Hall. This is our fourth annual report on happenings in the department, and as always, we have lots of news to share. This year we welcome thirty-one new undergraduates and seven graduate students to our program. We also say goodbye to some accomplished graduates who are leaving for bigger and better things. In addition to our annual newsletter, we also send out periodic emails to friends of the department advertising events on campus, so if you’d like to be added to our email list please contact me at burnsj@clemson.edu.

Rod Andrew once again took a class to Normandy for a study abroad experience this past May. Check out the article that Rod and his students wrote for ‘Clemson World’ here: https://clemson.world/dday/. Drs. Burns and Hassell took 12 students from the National Scholars program to South Africa in June. Pam Mack taught STS 1010 as part of the CECAS Global Sophomore Program in Germany in May. Abel Bartley taught World History at Lixian University in Shanghai, China. And be on the lookout for a new study abroad venture in Ireland which we are hoping to unveil in Spring of 2020.

Our faculty were busy this year presenting at conferences all over the world. Stephanie Barczewski was the keynote speaker at The Consequences of Brexit conference (spoiler—they will be bad) held at the University of Strasbourg, France in December. In June Caroline Dunn presented on "The Resilience of Immigrant Queens and their Ladies" at a conference held at the University of Catania in Italy. Tom Kuehn presented a paper titled "Illegitimacy, Legitimacy, and Paternal Power of the Innocenti: Ambiguities of the Legal Status of Foundlings" at Harvard University’s Villa in Florence, Italy (bet that was nice). Amit Bein presented "Strolling through Istanbul: Egyptian Visitors in Turkey of the 1930s" at the Middle Eastern and Balkan Mobilities in the Interwar Period (1918-1939) conference held at Cambridge University.
GOOD LUCK GRADUATE STUDENTS

Once again we say goodbye to a terrific group of MA students who graduated in spring 2019. Macy Allison, Mikkaela Bailey, Daniel Thrift and Darby Ward will all have finished their theses and graduated by the time you are reading this. Mikkaela Bailey is going on to the doctoral program at Catholic University in Washington, DC where she will continue her work in medieval history. Darby Ward is on the way to a different Washington in a much different part of the country—the University of Washington in Seattle—to work on her Ph.D. in modern British history. Darby was also our winner of the Lander Award, which recognizes the year’s most outstanding graduate student. This year another of our graduate students, Amanda Arroyo, was recognized with the MLK Award for Excellence in Service from the university’s Office of Inclusion and Equity. A new group of seven promising MAs is on the way in the fall—we’re excited about them and what they bring, but also excited about what they’re coming into. After many years of diligent service on the department’s Graduate Committee, Professor Michael Meng will be taking over the direction of the program as its coordinator at the end of May from Dr. Anderson.
STUDENT AWARDS

Congratulations to the winners of this year’s Department of History and Geography student awards:

Carl Lafayette Epting History Essay Award: Sam Teets

William Shannon Morrison Prize: Callahan Moore

Daughters of the American Colonists: Abigail Cox

Rand-McNally Geography Prize: Keegan J. Tetrault

Alan Schaffer Student Award for African American Studies: Shatari Dunmore and Nadear Roaymond

Ernest McPherson Lander Jr. Award: Darby Ward

SPECIAL HONORS

Several of our faculty earned awards from the College of Arts, Architecture and Humanities this year, including Abel Bartley, who was voted teacher of the year; Caroline Dunn, who won the Gentry Award for Humanities teaching; and Vernon Burton, who won the College Service Award. The students of AAH chose Paul Anderson as the college’s ‘Professor of the Year’. That’s two years in a row that history has taken home this honor (Steve Marks won it last year). In March, emeritus professor Elizabeth Carney was inducted into the College of AAH’s Hall of Fame, and this past May James Burns received The Clemson University Research, Scholarship, and Artistic Achievement Award.

HISTORY CLUB

This year, the Department of History and Geography was happy to sponsor an undergraduate History Club as an opportunity for history majors, minors and enthusiasts to celebrate their love of history outside of class in social ways. With help of our student officers Peter Meisenbacher, Stephanie Wise, Akasha Nelson and Bryson Hickson, the club hosted a wide range of history-themed events this academic year!

In the fall, we kicked things off with a Beginning of the Year Trivia Contest, which featured a range of categories to test students’ love of all aspects of history including (In)Famous Historical Inventions to Presidential Ghost Stories. In October, we hosted a night of Roman Spectacles – including a screening of 2000’s Gladiator complete with costume contests, historical-inaccuracy bingo, games and prizes. In the spring, we celebrated President’s Day with a screening of Lincoln, which also featured movie bingo and a discussion of the constitutional ramifications of Lincoln’s policies.

We capped off the year with a Finals Break Pizza Party, during which history students could take a break from studying to enjoy camaraderie, food and stress-relieving card games and coloring books with their fellow students in Hardin Hall. More than 100 students participated in our events this year, and we hope to grow in the years to come! All are welcome!

We plan to keep the history-themed fun going next year, with many more events in the works, including tours of Fort Hill Plantation, Campus History Scavenger Hunts, Ancient Olympics Reenactments, Lunch with the Profs and more. If you or others are interested in joining in the club’s festivities, please contact Dr. Langenfeld at klangen@clemson.edu or Dr. Wilson at wilson1@clemson.edu.

LINCOLN’S UNFINISHED WORK

This past fall the History Department hosted over 40 renowned international scholars who explored “Lincoln’s Unfinished Work” at a conference November 28 - December 1. Over those four days more than a thousand attendees heard papers on topics including Abraham Lincoln’s sense of humor, reassessments of Reconstruction, the evolution of the Constitution, civil rights, voting rights, the history of race in America, and how we acknowledge difficult histories. “Lincoln’s Unfinished Work” began with an opening addresses by Pulitzer Prize winner Eric Foner and Harvard law professor and South Carolina native Randall Kennedy. The conference included a workshop for public school teachers on how to teach the history of race relations, especially in the American South.

We like to hear from our alumni, so please let us know what you’re doing and where you’re doing it. Send your update to history@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. Be sure to indicate that you want your contribution to go to the Department of History and Geography.

[link]

You can also make a contribution to the Clemson University Foundation at PO Box 1889, Clemson, SC, 29633. Again, make sure you specify that your check is for the History foundation account. If you have a particular initiative you would like to support (e.g. student travel abroad, South Carolina history research projects) please send a note to James Burns and he will make sure it is used accordingly. If you'd like to discuss opportunities for giving in person, contact the chair and we'll set up a meeting the next time you are in Hardin Hal.

NEW FACULTY

The department welcomes two new faculty members this year.

Joshua Catalano
Before coming to Clemson, Joshua Catalano spent three years as a research assistant at the Roy Rosenzweig Center for History and New Media where he served as managing editor of Digital Humanities Now. Catalano is a specialist in digital and public history and will become the new coordinator of the undergraduate public history emphasis. His published work examines the role of language and symbolism in the process of settler colonialism.

Rebecca Stoil
Rebecca Stoil is a political and cultural historian of 20th century America. Coming to academia after a decade in journalism, Stoil's research on the Farm Crisis of 1977-1987 focuses on agrarian grassroots activism and the political mobilization of the image of the virtuous farmer. Her academic fields of interest include American Political Development, political history, cultural history and history of capitalism.

MAKE A GIFT

Please consider making a contribution to the Department of History and Geography. 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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DONATE ONLINE: [link]
This year the department is creating the Dr. Richard L. Saunders Annual Travel Grant-in-Aid in recognition of the incredible impact Professor Saunders has had on several generations of Clemson students. The endowment will provide travel funding for history students. For those of you who remember Rich, you will be glad to know that his retirement in 2015 has freed up more time for his travels. If you’d like to make a contribution to the fund please contact the chair at burnsj@clemson.edu, or by phone at (864) 656-5373, or just drop into Hardin 126 and speak to me in person.