Greetings from Hardin Hall. Our third annual report on happenings in the department, as always, includes lots of news to share. We will be hosting our alumni event on Friday, September 14 in Hardin Hall from 4:30-6:00 p.m., and we hope to see all of our friends there. If you have questions about the event, please contact me at burnsj@clemson.edu.

Sincerely,
James Burns

Once again, the department’s faculty and students traveled the world in pursuit of teaching and research opportunities. Professor Christa Smith had the most exotic conference experience in December, when she presented a paper on the tiny house movement at the Extreme: Rethinking the Limits to Community, Architecture and Urbanism conference in Longyearbyen, Norway. Fortunately, as you’ll see from this picture, the conference provided climate-appropriate local transportation.

It was a big year for Clemson faculty traveling with students. Professor Moore taught a course to the Clemson basketball team during their European tour last summer (here she is pictured commuting to a classroom by boat in Spain).

For the second year in a row, Rod Andrew took students to France to follow in the footsteps of Clemson veterans who fought in the Second World War. Dr. Barczewski led a study abroad experience during the spring semester for honors college students in Berlin (among other European locations), and Dr. Burns took his seventh trip to South Africa with the National Scholars program.
The scholars in our department had another busy and productive year. Since our last newsletter, they have published several new books, including Ed Moise’s “The Myths of Tet” (University of Kansas Press), Amit Bein’s “Kemalist Turkey and the Middle East” (Cambridge University Press) and Roger Grant’s biography “John W. Barriger III: Railroad Legend” (Indiana University Press). Look for books in the new year from Dr. Grant, Dr. Anderson, Dr. Silvestri, Dr. Burton, and Dr. Barczewski. Several of the faculty have recently published edited volumes of scholarly essays, including Stephanie Barczewski “The MacKenzie Moment: Essays in Honor of John M. MacKenzie” (Palgrave Macmillan) Steve Marks “The Global Impacts of Russia’s 1917 Revolution: Book 2: Wider Arc of Revolution” (Indiana University Press) (which features an essay by Professor Silvestri), and Caroline Dunn and Elizabeth Carney “Royal Women and Dynastic Loyalty” (Palgrave Macmillan). For more information about the faculty’s scholarship, check out the news page of our department website. Alternatively, drop by Hardin Hall and ask them what they are up to.

Megan Taylor-Shockley will be transitioning away from working as a full-time faculty member at Clemson and will instead become a Research Professor (which means, sadly, she will no longer be teaching.) Dr. Shockley came to Clemson in 2003 and, over a period of seven years, built a thriving public history program, which became an ‘emphasis area’ for majors in 2010. In addition to being the heart and soul of the public history program, she has been one of our department’s most productive scholars, as well as a leader in her field, serving in administrative capacities for the Southern Historical Association and the Southern Association for Women Historians. Dr. Shockley refused a going away party because she insists she will continue to be a part of our department. Her new book is scheduled to be published next year, and she shows no signs of slowing down.
GOOD LUCK GRADUATE STUDENTS

We sadly say goodbye to the MA students who graduated in Spring 2018. Dr. Anderson provides the following survey of some of the great things ahead on their horizons. Makonen Campbell (Vernon Burton) is headed to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point to teach history as part of his Army assignment. Nathan Earle (Caroline Dunn) is going to continue his full-time work as an attorney in Greenville, but will also be teaching adjunct this fall at both Tri-County Tech and Greenville Tech. Kelcey Eldridge (Lee Wilson) is going to work for AmeriCorps in Columbia in 2018-19. Kate Hager (Caroline Dunn) is off to the doctoral program at UNC to study medieval history (our second admit to this program in two years). Kacie Harris (Michael Meng) is going to Boston University to study German and Eastern European history. Megan Johnson (Rachel Moore) is now in the graduate program at USC concentrating on interdisciplinary studies. Travis Patterson (Paul Anderson) will be attending the University of Mississippi to study the history of the American South. He follows in the footsteps of our former students Evan Nooe and Otis Pickett.

STUDENT AWARDS

Congratulations to the following award-winning students, who were recognized at the college of AAH ceremony in April.

Carl Lafayette Epting History Essay Award: Mark Davidson

William Shannon Morrison Prize: Corine Foster

Daughters of the American Colonists: Ryan Uhle

Rand-McNally Geography Prize: Thomas A. Shirley

Alan Schaffer Student Award for African American Studies: Jonathan Carmichael

Ernest McPherson Lander Jr. Award: Kate Hager and Kacie Harris

SPECIAL HONORS

Several of our faculty earned awards from the College of Arts, Architecture and Humanities this year, including Rachel Moore, who was voted teacher of the year, Megan Taylor-Shockley, who was the college’s outstanding advisor, and Steve Marks, whom the students selected as professor of the year. In a ceremony this past May, the university recognized Professors Burton, Kuehn, and Morey as inaugural recipients of The Clemson University Research, Scholarship and Artistic Achievement Award. Also, last fall Vernon Burton received the South Carolina Governor’s Award for Humanities at a ceremony in Columbia, SC, the second professor in the History department to win the award. The other winner was professor Emeritus Jerry Reel, who was inducted this past March into the College of AAH’s Hall of fame.

LINCOLN’S UNFINISHED WORK

Professor Vernon Burton is organizing a conference on the theme of “Lincoln’s Unfinished Work” from November 28 to December 1, 2018. The conference will bring together a distinguished international group of historians-including faculty and graduate students from our own department- who will consider the tasks left unfinished since the end of the civil war. All the sessions of the conference will be open to the public without charge. On the final afternoon of the conference, there will be a workshop with high school teachers on teaching race in South Carolina schools.
GIVING

The department needs support for student scholarships and faculty research. If you would like to donate, you can contribute through our website. Be sure to indicate that you want your contribution to go to the Department of History and Geography.

http://www.clemson.edu/caah/departments/history/alumni/index.html

You can also contribute 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 your contribution is used accordingly. If you’d like to discuss opportunities for giving in person, contact the chair, and we will set up a meeting the next time you are in Hardin Hall.

NEW FACULTY

The department welcomes three new colleagues in Fall of 2018.

Mou Banerjee comes to us from Harvard University, where she recently received the Harold K. Gross award. The award is granted annually by the faculty of the History department to the graduate student whose dissertation "gave the greatest promise of a distinguished career of historical research." Professor Banerjee is a historian of South Asia and will be teaching ‘History 3350: History of South Asia since 1500’ and ‘History 4940: Religion & Politics India 1800-2015’ in the fall semester.

Stephanie Hassell is an expert on the history of the African Diaspora in the Indian Ocean. Since completing her Ph.D. in History at Stanford University, she has taught at Duke and Wake Forest. Professor Hassell will be teaching ‘History 3940: The Indian Ocean World’ and ‘History 4380: Slavery in Africa’ this fall.

Kathryn Langenfeld received her Ph.D. in Classics from Duke University in 2017, and she spent the past academic year as an Andrew W. Melon postdoctoral fellow at Rice University. She is an expert on Roman history and will be teaching ‘History 1720: The West and the World’ and ‘History 3550: The Roman World’ in fall.

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: clemson.edu/caah/departments/history/alumni
Professor Robert (Bob) Lambert, former chair of the History Department, died last February 10 at age 98. He came to Clemson as a World War II veteran with a Ph.D. from UNC-Chapel Hill, left for a short stint at Vincennes College in Indiana, and returned to Clemson for good in 1956. As chair, he presided over a sprawling Department of Social Sciences that, at its peak, included history, economics, political science, psychology, sociology, philosophy, geography and education. Universities were in the midst of explosive growth, qualified educators were in short supply, and much of Bob's effort was spent searching for qualified candidates to teach every class at the beginning of each fall semester. One by one, each of those disciplines matured at Clemson and broke off to be their own department (while education became its own college). However, it was Bob who nurtured them at Clemson until they could stand on their own as separate departments.

Afterwards, Bob was left with a History Department of young scholars who had honed their skills in the political upheavals of the late 1960s and were raring to challenge authority. These scholars ran headlong into the status-quo powers that be in this state, debating over issues like racial segregation, the Vietnam War and the very meaning of freedom. Bob somehow kept the whole show running, not entirely without incident but close, encouraging and commiserating with young faculty and students.

Bob stepped down as department chair in 1974 to resume full-time duties in teaching and research. He wrote a well-received book on South Carolina Loyalists in the American Revolution and retired in 1985. The many of you who entered the university after Bob's retirement have no memory of him at all. However, it is worth noting that it was Bob and his wife Edythe—they were very much a team—who created the History Department and shaped its routines and values. Bob, along with others of his generation, dreamed and developed the Clemson that you came to know and love. When rumors circulated from time to time that trustees wanted Clemson to abandon liberal arts and focus entirely on engineering, it was Bob and people like him who firmly argued that great universities need great liberal arts programs and said if they didn't have them, they weren't universities at all.

I think I can speak for older faculty and alumni who remember Bob and Edythe when I say they were respected and beloved. Memories of him take us back to our youth in the profession and to the very different worlds of academics in general, of Clemson the university and Clemson the town that existed not-so-long-ago, but that have now vanished.