

AROLD W. TRIBBLE HALL

# PAST TIMES

To our Alumni &  
Friends  
Published Annually

History Department  
Newsletter  
Wake Forest University

MAY 2019



WAKE FOREST  
UNIVERSITY

Department of History



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In March 2019, Dr. O’Connell had a chance to meet a small group of alums in Washington DC for a night of socializing and strategizing about the future of the department. Alums shared what they found valuable in a history major: many pointed to the ability to read and analyze complex material quickly, and everyone mentioned the research/writing skills they had gained through the study of history. It was a fun evening & we hope to organize similar events in the future!



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In Nov 2018, a roundtable discussion on Antisemitism in the Age of Trump explored how the current political climate is contributing to a resurgence of antisemitism both in the US & globally.



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In Feb 2019, visiting speaker, Zara Anishanslin of the University of Delaware, spoke on "Domesticating Revolution: Patriot Women, Military Men, and the Material Culture of Bringing Battle Home."

**I**n 2018, Professor Smith and his wife, Jeanette, realized the completion of a lifelong dream; the Howell Smith Fellowship. Dr. Smith taught US History in the department for many years; we are grateful for his generosity and his characteristic attention to students. The Smith Family Fellowship supports career development and learning enrichment experiences for students. The gift allows the department to add another stage to our program of professional development, sending interested students to conferences so that they can interact with professional historians & imagine the possibilities for themselves.



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[Above] Howell and his wife Jeanette signing the agreement. [Right] Thank you!

## Dear Alumni and Friends



Gate by Tribble Hall-  
Wake Forest  
University

**H**ello from Tribble Hall! As you will see in the following pages, our department had an active year in student activities, in faculty research, and in community centered events. Our larger goal is to create a community of teachers, scholars, students, and alumni who see history as a valuable framework for interpreting the world. This year, as in every year, our primary way of accomplishing this goal was through teaching history courses. We offered 38 introductory history courses, all of which launched students on journeys through time and space as well as teaching the methods of historical analysis. We also offered 33 upper-level courses focusing on specific historical eras and themes, from prehistory to the present. Faculty published the results of their research in new books and scholarly articles and spoke at academic conferences but also engaged with audiences through newspapers, blog posts, television appearances, and in person at libraries and schools. Our current students pursued mentored research projects, held historical internships, and in May 42 newly minted history majors and 23 minors will head out into the wider world to apply the skills they've learned here in the professional sphere. In a world where we often read about a decline in the humanities, I am happy to report that number of history majors has grown since last year, a sign of the department's vibrant and engaged teaching and student engagement.

This year, we found that the Winston Salem community was eager to engage with faculty, with guest speakers, and with students on issues of contemporary relevance. We sponsored or co-sponsored a series of well-attended events that brought nationally and internationally known scholars to campus and to town. In the fall, Elizabeth Chew spoke on "Interpreting Difficult History at James Madison's Montpelier" at Old Salem. In November, on the 100th Anniversary of the armistice ending WWI, we hosted a panel exploring the Legacies of World War I. In the spring, we co-sponsored Ron Stallworth's visit to talk about the experiences that informed the film *BlackKkklansman*, and in April Dr. Elizabeth Herbin Triant spoke about her recent book *Threatening Property: Race, Class, and Campaigns to Legislate Jim Crow Neighborhoods* and its implications for racial segregation in Winston-Salem. March also saw the culmination of a two year series of talks and cultural events that made up the "Silk Roads Winston Salem" project. Over 70 speakers, including international experts and Wake Forest undergraduate students, converged on Reynolda house for a vibrant exchange of ideas.

This academic year was a special one for the department because of the generosity of J.Howell and Jeanette Smith, who created the Smith Family Fund in order to offer students the opportunity to explore the horizons of the history profession. Dr. Howell Smith was a longtime professor in the history department who communicated his love of history to generations of students, and we are deeply honored that his family's gift will enrich the intellectual lives and professional reach of a new generation of Wake Forest undergraduates.

Monique O'Connell, Professor of History and Department Chair





**The Faculty and Staff of the Wake Forest University History Department**

# FACULTY ON LEAVE

## 2017-2018

What happens on a research leave? Each year, our department has a rotation of faculty returning from leave, actually on leave, and preparing to go on leave. Why are these leaves necessary? Historians often need to consult distant archives and visit the places they study, in order to conduct interviews, make connections with other scholars, and discover new resources for their projects. They also benefit from the sustained research and writing time needed at the beginning or end of a new book project. Below, seven faculty members describe how their leaves benefit their development as teacher-scholars and offer a sneak peak at some of the exciting scholarship in the pipeline!

### Stephanie Koscak

During my 2017-2018 Junior Research Leave, I held a three-month research fellowship at the Folger Shakespeare Library in Washington, D.C. and a one-month research fellowship at the Yale Center for British Art in New Haven, Connecticut. I was also a 2017-18 Visiting Scholar at the Center for the Humanities at Wesleyan University in Middletown, Connecticut, where I participated in interdisciplinary seminars on the topics of “Necropolitics” and “Grand Narratives.”

I spent the majority of my time researching and writing my first book, *Monarchy, Print Culture, and Reverence in Early Modern England: Picturing Royal Subjects* (forthcoming with Routledge). Blending visual analysis with object studies, new approaches to textual materiality, and rigorous archival work, this study asserts that the political endurance and popular appeal of the English monarchy between the execution of Charles I in 1649 and the accession of George III in 1760 is in part explained by its sophisticated incorporation within cultures of commerce and print that materialized affective bonds between sovereigns and subjects.

Some of the objects that I examine include personal possessions depicting sovereigns, such as snuffboxes, ribbons, portrait miniatures, and women’s handicrafts, which I analyze alongside a wide selection of more “traditional” political texts, including pamphlets, books, and sermons. Books, such as this miniature edition of Charles I’s *Eikon Basilike* held at Yale’s Beinecke Library (just over two inches tall!), were objects of reverence, personal and collective memory, and individual self-fashioning. During the year, I also tried to write for more public audiences about recent cultural events related to my research on British royalism. To that end I published two online essays at *The 18th-Century Common* ([www.18thcentury-common.org](http://www.18thcentury-common.org)), one on Netflix’s *The Crown* and another on the history of the “royal wedding” as media spectacle—please check them out!





## Robert Hellyer

During the 2017-2108 academic year, I was fortunate to be in residence at the International Research Center for Japanese Studies in Kyoto, Japan, an opportunity supported by a fellowship from that institution, as well as grants from the Hakuho Foundation and the WFU Archie fund. During that time, I completed the final research and writing up of a book manuscript, “An American Cup of Green Tea—Made in Japan.” As part of that research, I often traveled to Shizuoka, a prefecture near Mt. Fuji that is the center of Japan’s tea industry. I consulted area archives and conferenced with local experts on tea. I also gave talks to historians, tea merchants, and students concerning my research on American consumption of Japanese green tea during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

In addition, I continued work on a project related to Japan’s modern revolution, the Meiji Restoration. Since 2015, I have served as a co-organizer of a multi-year, international project to examine that event in advance of the 150-year anniversary in 2018. During the 2018 sesquicentennial, I participated in Meiji Restoration related conferences convened at Singapore National University, Stanford University, the University of Pennsylvania, and at the International Research Center for Japanese Studies. I also published a journal article related to the history and commemoration of the Meiji Restoration, and completed co-editing a book on the Meiji Restoration, which will be published by Cambridge University Press in 2019. Finally on January 3, 2018, the date of the palace coup that initiated the Meiji Restoration, I co-authored an op-ed in the Washington Post that explored the significance of the Meiji Restoration in Japan and the world today.

Also during my leave the journal, *The History Teacher*, published my article, “Marrying Content and Practice: Raising Undergraduate Awareness of “Job Skill” Acquisition in a History Survey Course,” which grew out of my collaboration with a History Department alumnus, David Friedersdorf ’87.

Finally in the summer of 2017, I co-organized an international conference in Norwich, United Kingdom: Documenting Westerners in Nineteenth-Century China & Japan: New Sources and Perspectives. Held at the Sainsbury Institute for the Study of Japanese Arts and Cultures, the conference examined the influence and contributions of Westerners in nineteenth-century East and Southeast Asia, with a focus on how personal correspondences can serve as historical sources. The event was co-sponsored by the Sainsbury Institute, Warwick University (UK), and WFU.

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**Robert Hellyer at the  
 Kanaya Tea Research  
 Station, Shizuoka,  
 Japan**



### Rais Rahman

I was fortunate to have spent the academic year 2017-18 on a Reynolds research leave that significantly aided my professional growth as a teacher-scholar.

I spent a significant amount of time during the leave year researching and writing for my second monograph tentatively titled, *Bombay Muslims: Diversity and Cosmopolitanism in Modern India*. My book seeks to place Bombay, now known as Mumbai, as a critical site to understanding cosmopolitanism in colonial India. With the help of Henry S. Stroupe fellowship awarded by the College as well as Griffin funds from the History Department, I conducted research in the Library of Congress, Washington D.C. and traveled to New Delhi and Mumbai, India to collect primary sources for the book. I also interviewed several people connected with some of the families that I have been studying. In addition, the leave year allowed me to engage with the literature directly and indirectly related to my topic, reflect, and write on them. I drafted several parts of the book, thanks to the leave.

The sabbatical year allowed me to engage in collaborative projects and connect with colleagues in my field in multiple ways. I spent a good part of the leave working on a project that resulted into an edited volume on Sayyid Ahmad Khan, a Muslim modernist from nineteenth century India who famously brought the Islamic and Western curriculum together and advocated for the need of English education among the Muslims of India. Along with Professor Yasmin Saikia of Arizona State University, I helped collect and edit twelve chapters contributed by several eminent scholars from across India, Europe and the United States. I co-wrote the book's introduction and conclusion and wrote my own chapter – all during 2017-18. Cambridge University Press published this book in its prestigious Companion series. Titled *The Cambridge Companion to Sayyid Ahmad Khan*, this volume was released at a public event held in New Delhi, India in December 2018. A Wake Forest student Roohi Narula ('19) helped prepare the book's chronology.



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**A 19th  
century  
photograph  
of a Bazaar  
in Bombay**

In Fall 2017, I helped organize a conference at Wake Forest. Along with a colleague based in Europe Dr. Razak Khan, I secured a major external, collaborative workshop grant from the American Institute for Pakistan Studies. With additional support from the Department of History, Provost's Office for Global Affairs, Wake Forest Humanities Institute, and the Middle East and South Asia Program, we hosted an international, interdisciplinary workshop titled *Locality, Genre, and Muslim Belonging in South Asia* on September 15-16, 2017 at Reynolda House Museum of American Art. Organized in a workshop format, this two-day event brought together scholars of diverse disciplinary and academic backgrounds into conversation to mark the 70th anniversary of independence, partition and the establishment of India and Pakistan as nation-states. A highlight of the conference was a panel of four Wake Forest students who presented their research papers, featuring high quality undergraduate research mentored within the History Department.

Owing to Reynolds leave in 2017-18, I also published and was able to work on research articles as well as write ups such as newspaper op-eds for a more general readership. The leave year allowed me to give five research presentations as well as work and significantly advance on my monograph and another edited volume. Finally yet importantly, the leave year afforded me time to pause and reflect on my teaching. Let me add that I did miss my students and am happy to be back in the classroom since last fall. Without doubt, Reynolds leave has meaningfully contributed to my research agenda and personal growth as a teacher-scholar.



## Nate Plageman

During the Spring 2018 semester, I was on Reynolds Leave, during which I dedicated my time and energy to the research and writing of two separate projects. The first is a book-length history of Sekondi-Takoradi, the West African nation of Ghana's first planned city as well as its major port and railway town for much of the 20th century. Rather than focusing on how the British colonial and independent Ghanaian governments shaped Sekondi-Takoradi's spatial and sociopolitical contours, the book (titled *State Plans and City Lives: Urban Itineraries and the Making of a West African Town*) endeavors to uncover how various subsets of its rapidly growing population approached and shaped the city over time. During my leave, which was supplemented with a 2018 Fellowship from the National Endowment of the Humanities, I wrote numerous chapter drafts, various conference papers, and a book prospectus, for which I obtained a book contract with Indiana University Press. I also conducted several weeks of archival work and oral interviews in Ghana in May 2018. My efforts to identify and interview long-standing residents would not have been possible without the assistance of Kofi Quayson (pictured with me below): a long-standing resident of Sekondi and former district assembly representative for the Essikado residential area.



**Nate Plageman and Kofi Quayson pose for a quick selfie during interviews**

The second project—which has emerged as a series of scholarly articles—focuses on a four-month tour that the Gold Coast Police Band made throughout the United Kingdom in 1947. Instead of reconstructing or examining the tour per se, I attempt to use the tour to consider the popular politics of decolonization, the sonic registers of emancipation that resonated between the metropole and colonies, and the practices of colonial record keeping more widely. During the initial part of my leave, I finalized an article, “Retuning Imperial Intentions: The Gold Coast Police Band, West African Students, and a 1947 Tour of Great Britain” for a special issue of *Ghana Studies*, the highly-regarded journal of the Ghana Studies Association and published by the University of Wisconsin Press. As co-editor of the issue (with Jesse Shipley of Dartmouth College), I also wrote the issue's introduction (“Praxis, Perspectives, and Methods of Ghanaian Popular Music: A Special Issue in Honor of John Collins.”) Finally, during my above-mentioned research trip to Ghana, I met with the current musical director of the Ghana Police Band, Frank Hukporti, to discuss my research interests, organize future access to the ensemble's photographic and document collections, and to arrange a talk on my work for the Ghana Police Service. All in all, I had a productive and intellectually rewarding research leave!



# FACULTY ON LEAVE

## 2018-2019

### Lisa Blee

While on leave this academic year, I started a new research project with a literature review and archive trips (see Research Leaves section). This year I also completed final edits on my co-authored book, *Monumental Mobility: The Memory Work of Massasoit*, which was published by the University of North Carolina Press in early 2019. The book traces the creation and replication of a commemorative statue to the Wampanoag leader famous for brokering peace with English colonists in 1621 and participating in the first mythical Thanksgiving. The original statue was installed in Plymouth, Massachusetts to celebrate the 300-year anniversary of the pilgrims' landing, and now versions of the statue stand on the Brigham Young University campus, the Utah capitol grounds, an Ohio museum, an urban intersection in Kansas City, and in countless homes around the world in the form of souvenir statuettes. We argue that the story of this monumental statue reveals otherwise hidden dimensions of American memorial culture: an elasticity of historical imagination, a tight-knit relationship between consumption and commemoration, and the twin impulses to sanitize and grapple with the meaning of settler-colonialism. My co-author and I have recently been asked to speak about our book at several venues, reflecting the current concern for statues commemorating difficult aspects of the nation's past. In the fall we traveled to Boston speak at a conference on New England memory which was broadcast on C-SPAN in October 2018. This spring, our podcast interview will be featured on the New Books Network (a production of the History Channel and Native American Studies Channel). We are planning book talks throughout the fall of 2019 which will culminate in a visit to Plymouth, Massachusetts - where both the mythical story of peaceful colonization and new Indigenous-centered interpretations of the statue first gained ground.

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**Scene from memorial path in Plymouth, Massachusetts. The Massasoit statue is on the left (note children playing on the base), the Indigenous Day of Mourning memorial is the boulder nearby, and Plymouth rock is housed in the classical columns on the beach on the far right**





# FACULTY ON LEAVE

## 2019-2020

### Barry Trachtenberg

While on Reynolds leave in Spring 2020, I will be writing a history of *Di algemeyne entsiklopedye* (The General Encyclopedia, Berlin, Paris, & New York, 1932-1966), the only attempt to publish a comprehensive encyclopedia of universal knowledge in the Yiddish language. Initially to have comprised ten volumes of general knowledge plus a special eleventh “bonus” volume dedicated to Jewish culture, the encyclopedia ultimately followed a course that was unimaginable at its founding. At the outset, the encyclopedia was to bring the latest discoveries from fields such as technology, history, demography, literature, biology, economics, and political science to millions of Yiddish readers in the years before World War II. More than just a reference volume, it was envisioned by its founders as the crowning cultural achievement of Yiddish-speaking Jewry. In words of the historian Simon Dubnow, in whose honor the project was conceived, the *Entsiklopedye* was to be a “Bible for the New Age,” that would shepherd his nation into the modern world. However, on account of the rise of Nazism and the Holocaust, by its final volumes however, the encyclopedia became a memorial book to the destroyed Yiddish nation.



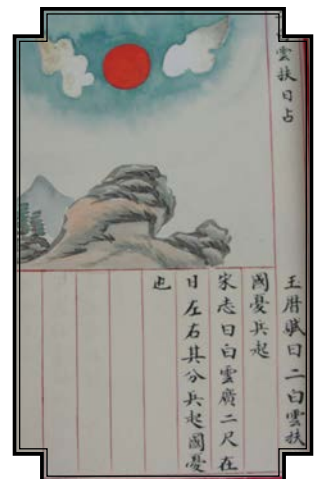
**Di algemeyne entsiklopedye (The General Encyclopedia: Berlin, Paris, New York, 1932-66).**

### Qiong Zhang

Dr. Zhang will be on Reynolds Research Leave to complete her second book project, “Meteorology for a Troubled Age: The ‘Weathermen’ of Jiangnan and the Global Co-Emergence of An Early Modern Culture of Science-Making.” The project focuses on a group of scholars based on the Lower Yangzi River Delta (Jiangnan) and adjacent regions in China who became interested in the ideas of Aristotelian meteorology newly introduced by the European Jesuit missionaries. Through intensive exchange and collaboration, members of this group forged a Sino-European synthesis and a distinct research methodology that provided the foundation of a unified, rational discourse on meteorological phenomena in China, which in turn contributed to the decline of the dragon cult. They also played an important role in galvanizing meteorological investigations in Tokugawa Japan in the eighteenth century, where some of their works attained the status of a new classic. This book traces their meteorological journeys and their community-building and places both against the landscape of social upheavals attending the Ming-Qing dynastic transition (1644-1683), which framed the local context of these “weathermen’s” personal lives and intellectual quests, and within the broader circuits of cultural exchange that connected Western Europe, China, and Japan. Dr. Zhang has made several extensive research trips to China and Japan for this project and will return to China this summer on another Archie grant to conduct further library research and field work at the hometowns of these “weathermen.” She will devote the academic year of 2019-2020 to writing up the manuscript, part of which (October 2019-January 2020) she will spend in Germany on a residential fellowship from the International Consortium for Research in the Humanities (IKGF) at Friedrich-Alexander University at Erlangen-Nuremberg.



**An illustration of the formation of clouds and other meteorological phenomena in a “weatherman’s” text**



**“White clouds sandwiching the sun portends insurrection,” says a fifteenth-century Chinese divination manual**



# INTRODUCING 2019-2020 NEW FACULTY

## Dr. Alisha Hines



The Wake Forest History Department is thrilled to welcome Dr. Alisha Hines to our faculty! Dr. Hines received her PhD from Duke University in 2018 and has undergraduate and master's degrees from the University of Chicago. Her book project, tentatively entitled *Geographies of Freedom: Black Women's Mobility and the Making of the Western River World, 1814-1865*, explores the interrelated histories of black women's labor and mobility in the middle Mississippi River Valley in the Civil War era. She explores the ways in which free and enslaved black women, in the dynamic and rapidly changing environment of the Mississippi River valley, used the law and uniquely gendered access to forms of labor and mobility to pursue freedom for themselves and their families. While at Duke, her research was supported by the Association of Black Women Historians, the Coordinating Council for Women in History, the Marcus Garvey Foundation, and the Katherine Goodman Stern fellowship.

Since coming to Wake Forest, Dr. Hines has won an Archie award from the Office of the Dean of the College to support a research trip that includes a Mississippi River steamboat cruise running between the historic commercial ports of New Orleans, LA and St. Louis, MO. The 19th century Mississippi River valley hosted thousands of commercial steamboats loaded with cargo as well as free and enslaved passengers; during her 2019 Riverboat trip, Dr. Hines will be able to experience the journey that so many men and women--black and white, free, enslaved, and immigrant--embarked upon to pursue what opportunities, fortunes, and also precarious freedoms this essential American transportation network offered.

Dr. Hines offers courses in Atlantic World History, Antebellum US history, the US Civil War and Reconstruction, and the History of the Slave South.

Q: What drew you to study 19th c. US History, migration, and mobility in the Mississippi River valley?

Growing up in Chicago, I learned of the Great Migration of the twentieth century early and often. However, my own family's migration story has always been more complicated--including south to north or midwest, east to west, and also, more recently, north to south migration patterns. As a result, I became less interested in A to B migration, and increasingly interested in the experience of mobility itself. While studying pre-Great Migration movements of black communities to Illinois, a world of movement centered around the Mississippi River was revealed to me. I learned that the story of black mobility in the middle Mississippi River valley, which saddled the geopolitical boundary of slavery and freedom, had not yet been fully told. My archival research led me down the river to port cities like St. Louis and Memphis, and I learned that at the center of this story were even lesser known or understood historical subjects--free and enslaved black women who labored on the river, most often as steamboat chambermaids.

The need for a deeper and more widely-held understanding of this critical period in American history is apparent. At stake in my work, specifically, is a more complicated and comprehensive view of the relationship between slave and wage labor in the river valley, the gendered experience of slavery, the fraught border between North and South on the eve of the Civil War and, most importantly, how the unfree have defined and pursued freedom for themselves.



# FACULTY 2018-2019 UPDATE



## Simone Caron

Simone Caron, Professor, published two articles: “‘We Won’t Go Back’: Abortion before Roe v. Wade,” *Journal of Law and Policy* (forthcoming 2019); and “‘Women Helping Women’: Domestic-skills Training for Unwed Mothers,” *Gender and Women’s Studies* 2.2 (2019): 2-13.

SIMONE CARON

## Benjamin Coates

On the research front, I spent the last year working on two different projects. I wrote/revised several essays relating to my first book on international law and American empire. These will be forthcoming next year in the *Cambridge History of America and the World* and in the *Wiley-Blackwell Companion to U.S. Foreign Relations*. My book, *Legalist Empire*, was reissued as a paperback from Oxford University Press. My second project concerns the development of sanctions as a core part of US foreign policy. I published some preliminary research into the legal architecture of sanctions as an article in *Modern American History* titled “The Secret Life of Statutes: A Century of the Trading with the Enemy Act.” Since part of this work concerns the history of executive power, I was excited to organize a Wake Forest faculty panel this spring that examined President Trump’s declaration of emergency in historical context.

On the teaching side, I continue to be grateful for the ways that Wake Forest enables us to combine our research and teaching interests. This past year I taught courses on World War I, Global Outlaws in History, and a research seminar on the U.S. and Empire. Learning alongside my students provides new insights into my research and vice versa.



AT THE US INTELLECTUAL HISTORY CONFERENCE IN VERY COLD CHICAGO, FAMILY IN TOW



## Paul Escott (Emeritus)

In retirement I have been professionally active. I was one of the invited speakers at Wake Forest’s Arts of Leading Conference, in which I discussed Lincoln’s leadership and the white supremacist attitudes that were very widespread in the Civil War North. I also spoke in Charlotte at a program about the history and memory of the Civil War and southern war monuments. That program was sponsored by UNC Charlotte’s Atkins Library. The University of Virginia Press recently approved for publication my new book: “The Worst Passions of Human Nature”: White Supremacy in the Civil War North. I’m still waiting for publication in Brazil of a volume that I edited from the Federal Writers’ Project Slave Narratives; publication should occur by summer. Finally, I’ve been invited to prepare an essay on Civil-Military Relations and Militarism in the United States for the *Oxford Handbook of American Military History*.

PAUL AND CANDELAS AT A RETIREMENT PARTY GIVEN BY THEIR CHILDREN





**Thomas Frank**

HST 366 Historic Preservation and Conservation ended May 1, with a hard-working, enthusiastic, smart, and convivial group of 17 students. We met at WakeDowntown which itself is a prime example of how to rehabilitate a historic building for a new use -- from tobacco factory to WFU classrooms, labs, and offices. I asked the students to choose a community preservation/conservation project in which to get involved, including Old Salem, Reynolda House, the rehabilitation and grand reopening of Union Station, the Ellen Shipman Garden at the President's House, and historic Bethania. We also had the opportunity to interact with Elizabeth Watson, a WFU alum and history major, who has been primary consultant for a report on strengthening relationships between the educational mission of WFU and the Wake Forest History Museum across the street from the original campus in the town of Wake Forest, NC. Historic preservation principles and rationales can be learned from texts; preservation experience on the ground working with real projects that matter to a community adds a whole dimension to learning. We are delighted with this enrollment, and the growing number of students in the Cultural Heritage and Preservation Studies interdisciplinary minor.

**Robert Hellyer**

Until August 2018, I was on leave in Japan completing the final research and writing up of a book manuscript, "An American Cup of Green Tea—Made in Japan." 2018 also marked the 150-year anniversary of Japan's modern revolution, the Meiji Restoration. As I have served as a co-organizer of a multi-year, international project to examine that event, I was fortunate to participate in conferences exploring the Meiji Restoration convened at Singapore National University, Stanford University, the University of Pennsylvania, and at the International Research Center for Japanese Studies in Kyoto, Japan. I published a journal article related to the history and commemoration of the Meiji Restoration, and completed co-editing a book on the Meiji Restoration, which will be published by Cambridge University Press in 2019. Finally the journal, *The History Teacher*, published my article, *Marrying Content and Practice: Raising Undergraduate Awareness of "Job Skill" Acquisition in a History Survey Course*, which grew out of my collaboration with a History Department alumnus, David Friedersdorf '87. During the summer of 2019, I will be in residence at Heidelberg University in Germany working on research projects with faculty there.



ROBERT HELLYER



**Derek Holmgren**

During the past year, I had an article, "Managing Displaced Populations: The Friedland Transit Camp, Refugees, and Resettlement in Cold War Germany," accepted for a special issue of *Central European History* entitled "Burdens and Beginnings: Rebuilding East and West Germany after Nazism." Currently I am continuing work on my manuscript about the West German refugee camp at Friedland, which builds from my dissertation on the same subject. I have also submitted a review of Jeannette van Laak's recent book *Einrichten im Übergang: Das Aufnahmelager Gießen (1946-1990)* for the journal *German History*. For the spring semester this year, I developed and offered a new 300-level special topics course on interwar Europe, focusing especially on wars and the development and rule of dictatorships (in addition to teaching the divisional survey on modern Europe and the world both semesters). I am pleased to have the chance to return to Wake Forest as a visiting professor next year and anticipate offering upper-division courses on Germany from unification to reunification and fascist movements across Europe (previously offered in spring 2018) in addition to the European survey course. In personal news, in June 2018 my wife and I welcomed into the world our first child, Harold, and we would like to thank everyone from the department who has been so wonderfully supportive.

(ABOVE) GERMAN PRISONERS OF WAR RETURNING HOME TO WEST GERMANY COMPLETE REGISTRATION PAPERWORK AT THE REFUGEE TRANSIT CAMP LOCATED IN FRIEDLAND, LOWER SAXONY, AS MEMBERS OF THE BRITISH MILITARY GOVERNMENT (REAR) OBSERVE THEM.



LEIPZIG DEMONSTRATORS, 1989

**Michael Hughes**

In the 2018/19 academic year I taught HST 102, HST 369, and HST 390. I had good students in my HST 390 and a lively group in HST 369. Brian Sebetic turned his HST 390 paper, “The Liberal Kulturkampf: in Search of a Common, Progressive National Culture,” into an excellent Honors paper, which he successfully defended. I finished my book manuscript on Germans Becoming Democratic. Political Citizenship and Participation, 1871-2000. I am now seeking a publisher. I presented a paper entitled “Conceptions of Democracy and West German NSM Activism” at a conference at Rutgers (Social Movements after ’68: Germany, Europe, and Beyond). The paper provided a context by showing the dramatic changes in conceptions of democracy that made new-social-movement activism possible and that influenced the types of activism that citizens held to be appropriate or inappropriate. The conference organizers plan to publish a book that will include my contribution. I also participated in a number of off-campus events based on my role as a historian of Germany, Europe, and democracy.

**Stephanie Koscak**

Stephanie Koscak, Assistant Professor, designed a new 8-week class on Historical Biography, focusing on women who experienced, wrote about, and shaped revolution and radicalism in the later eighteenth- and early nineteenth-century Atlantic world. Biography is one of the most popular forms of history writing among the general reading public and it has been especially important to the field of women’s history, and this class allowed students to consider different genres of historical scholarship and to think more specifically about methodologies for researching gender history. Koscak received a 2019 Summer Course (Re)Design Award through the Provost’s Office and the Teaching and Learning Collaborative to design a new class that examines how historical films engage with the past, in this case focusing on recent cinematic representations of British queenship. In addition to completing her book, *Monarchy, Print Culture, and Reverence in Early Modern England: Picturing Royal Subjects*, under contract with Routledge, Koscak finished an essay on media, information circulation, and the Popish Plot (a wildly improbable sham Catholic conspiracy to assassinate Charles II). “Gaming Restoration Politics: Playing Cards, the Penny Post, and Conspiratorial Thinking” was published in issue 42.2 of *Restoration: Studies in English Literary Culture*. She also wrote a short essay on the history of the royal wedding as a media event for the 18th-Century Common ([www.18thcenturycommon.org](http://www.18thcenturycommon.org)), which coincided with the recent marriage of Prince Harry and Megan Markle. Koscak continued to present new research at international and regional conferences, including the North American Conference on British Studies, the Monarchy and Modernity Conference at Cambridge University, and the American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies. She is also a 2019-20 co-organizer for the Mid-Atlantic Conference on British Studies.

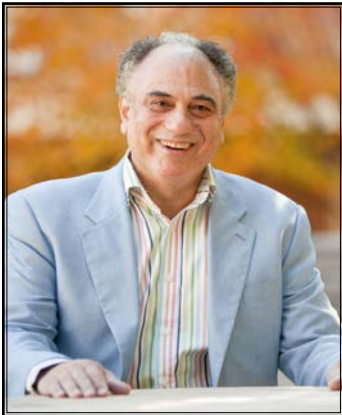


A DATEPALM TREE FROM PROSPERO ALPINI'S 1592 BOOK ON THE PLANTS OF EGYPT

**Monique O'Connell**

My research year was an exciting one, with some old and some new projects. In September I traveled to Oxford to participate in the conference “Beyond Truth: Fiction and Disinformation in the Early Modern World,” presenting a paper on “Renaissance Political Communication and the Case of the False Oration.” In February I attended the Arizona Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies Conference to present on my ongoing Digital Humanities project *Rulers of Venice* ([rulersofvenice.org](http://rulersofvenice.org)); Carrie Johnston of ZSR library represented the DISC team during our presentation “The Immortal Rulers of Venice: Challenges of Access and Sustainability in a Long-Lived DH Project.” In March I was able to visit the National Library of Medicine to research the quarreling botanists of the Italian Renaissance, and I was able to present some of that work at the silk roads conference in a paper entitled “Silk Road Pharmacy: Merchants, Apothecaries, and Plague Remedies in Early Modern Venice.” I also acted as the humanist in residence for the Engineering program at Wake, teaching classes on Leonardo da Vinci and success and failure in Renaissance water management. This summer I am off to Italy to continue research on Renaissance diplomatic orations and print culture.





ANTHONY PARENT

**Anthony Parent**

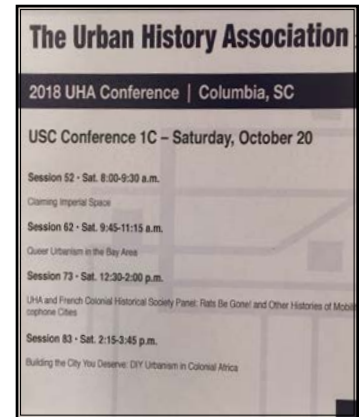
Anthony Parent presented two papers “Four Perspectives on the Eighteenth-century British Slave Trade (Adam Smith, Arthur Lee, John Roberts, and William Ansah Sessarkoo): MidAtlantic Conference on British Studies 2019 Annual Meeting at the College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, VA, April 7, 2019

And “The Professor, the Slave Castle Governor, and the Eighteenth-Century British Slave Trade at the 2019 Western Society of Eighteenth Century Studies (WSECS) Annual Meeting, Arizona State University, Feb. 14-17, 2019. He commented as a panelist, “Familiar Faces, Unexpected Places: A Global Diaspora: Documentary Film Screening and Public Conversation,” 4 September 2018, International Civil Rights Center and Museum. He also serves on the advisory boards of The Museum of Early Southern Decorative Arts (MESDA) and the Decorative Arts Advisory Committee (DAAC) of the Georgia Museum of Art.

**Nate Plageman**

In the Fall 2018 semester, Nate returned from his Reynolds Leave and taught two classes: “Africa in World History” and “Making History: The Theory and Practice of History.” In the Fall, he also presented portions of his ongoing at two conferences, The Urban History Association Annual Conference (on the panel “Building the City You Deserve: DIY Urbanism in Colonial Africa,” see picture below) and the Annual Meeting of the African Studies Association. In January, Nate traveled to Ghana with Wake Forest’s Associate Provost for Global Affairs and two members of Global Programs and Studies to design a WFU summer study-abroad program in Ghana. In the Spring 2019 semester, Nate was on parental leave, during which he and his family welcomed a new daughter, Vera, to the world.

PART OF THE LINEUP FOR THE 2018 URBAN HISTORY CONFERENCE. NATE'S PANEL IS THE LAST ONE LISTED



**Rais Rahman**

Rais Rahman, Associate Professor, published an edited volume (with Yasmin Saikia) titled The Cambridge Companion to Sayyid Ahmad Khan (Cambridge University Press, 2019) with a co-written introduction and conclusion. This was released at a book launch and discussion event held in New Delhi in December 2018. In addition, he published a book chapter “Creating a Community: Sir Sayyid and his Contemporaries” in this book as well as two opinion pieces in the Indian Express and The Book Review.

He traveled to India in August and December 2018 on two research trips working in New Delhi and Mumbai to collect primary sources for his second monograph on Bombay Muslims. During 2018-19, Rahman gave seven presentations. They included three conference presentations, “Cosmopolitan Universe: Bombay as a Site of Intersecting Identities” at The Silk Roads: From Local Realities to Global Narratives, Wake Forest University, NC, March 27-30, 2019; “Cut them to Size”: Marginalization of Muslim Minorities in Uttar Pradesh” at the Annual Conference on South Asia, University of Wisconsin, Madison, October 11-14, 2018; and “The Unmethodical Worlding of Bollywood: The Lives and Afterlives of India’s Rise in the Cinematic World” at the Popular Culture Association in the South meeting, New Orleans, LA, October 3-6, 2018. He gave an invited presentation via videoconferencing, “The Middle Class and Small Towns: Muslims of Qasbahs in Modern India” at the Workshop on the Indian Muslim Middle Class, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, March 25-26, 2019; an invited lecture: “Civil Society and Cosmopolitanism: Badruddin Tyabji and the Network of Communities in Colonial Bombay” at the Centre for the Study of Social Systems, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, August 14, 2018; a roundtable presentation on “Insiders, Outsiders and Teaching South Asian Muslim Studies” at the South Asian Muslim Studies Association Symposium, Annual Conference on South Asia, University of Wisconsin, Madison, October 11-14, 2018; and a public lecture titled “Badruddin Tyabji and the Making of Colonial Bombay” at the Nehru Memorial Museum and Library, New Delhi on Jan 3, 2019.

In October 2018, Rahman started his term as the President of a national organization, South Asian Muslim Studies Association (SAMSA) and in Spring 2019, taught a new course, HST 391 Making History: The Theory and Practice of History.



RAIS RAHMAN, WITH OTHER INVITED GUESTS, AT THE BOOK LAUNCH AND DISCUSSION EVENT OF HIS NEW BOOK THE CAMBRIDGE COMPANION TO SAYYID AHMAD KHAN

**Jake Ruddiman**

Conversations with colleagues are wonderfully productive: About a year and a half ago, Jeff Lerner walked into my office and asked if I wanted to propose a research paper for the 2019 Silk Roads Symposium. While I had greatly enjoyed the interdisciplinary faculty reading group on new Silk Road scholarship, I warned him that I doubted a historian of the American Revolution would have much to offer. “What?” he demanded, “No early Americans went to China?” And then I remembered Samuel Shaw – one of the Continental soldiers in my first book – sailed to south China as a merchant just weeks after leaving Washington’s army. Digging through Shaw’s correspondence preserved at the Massachusetts Historical Society I realized his lobbying in the 1780s for an “American” East India company mirrored Alexander Hamilton’s financial plans and clicked into the era’s most controversial questions of constitutional interpretation.

My research continues on Revolutionary War soldiers interacting with slavery and enslaved people in different parts of America. I was fortunate to share new findings about the British in Virginia at two conferences. This summer I’m writing up my findings on the relationships Hessian mercenaries built with enslaved Americans.

It’s always fun to share early American history with a broad audience. This spring I had the pleasure to contribute to an episode of TLC’s genealogical exploration show *Who Do You Think You Are?* Celebrity guest Matthew Morrison (singing star of stage and screen) learned the fate of his loyalist family in Revolutionary South Carolina.



"SOLDIERS IN UNIFORM" BY JEAN ANTOINE DE VERGER, C. 1781 [BROWN UNIVERSITY LIBRARY]

**Penny Sinanoglou**

Penny Sinanoglou, Assistant Professor, has had a busy and varied year. In teaching, a highlight has been seeing students with whom she has worked for several years finish and defend their honors theses. She also enjoyed, though in a slightly darker way, teaching modern British history in the fall against the backdrop of near-constant debates and negotiations over Brexit. Sinanoglou’s scholarly work took her to Britain and parts of its former empire last summer. In June 2018, she presented on child marriage, the League of Nations and the British empire at two conferences in London and Exeter, UK, and then stayed on in London to research British women’s activists and the global campaign against child marriage in the interwar era.

In August, she traveled to Singapore to present an invited paper at an international workshop on the partitions of India and Palestine, and enjoyed learning more about the history of this former part of the British empire (see photo). Back in the U.S. in September and October, Sinanoglou, Professor Blee and two History majors, Reilly Grace Marshall ('21) and Amanda Rosensky ('18), presented on their experiences of the Spring 2018 public history class on refugee resettlement in the Triad, first at a conference held at Colby College in Maine on liberal arts colleges and the humanities, and then here at Wake at a national conference on engaged humanities. In January 2019, Sinanoglou’s chapter on the connections between British partition planning in Ireland, India and Palestine was published in *Partitions: A Transnational History of Twentieth-Century Territorial Separatism* (Stanford University Press). Most recently, Sinanoglou attended a fascinating and wide-ranging international workshop in Chapel Hill on Brexit and the histories of the European empires, where she commented on a panel on the 18th-21st century Middle East.



PERANAKAN HOUSES IN JOO CHIAT, SINGAPORE

**Barry Trachtenberg**

During the Spring 2019 semester, I delivered two invited lectures. The first was at UNC Chapel Hill for International Holocaust Remembrance Day in January. I spoke on my current research investigating the impact of the Nazi Holocaust on modern Yiddish culture. A second lecture was in April at Greensboro College where I delivered the 11th annual Karl Schleunes Lecture on the Holocaust and Genocide. I spoke on my recent book, *The United States and the Nazi Holocaust: Race, Refuge, and Remembrance* (Bloomsbury, 2018), and discussed shifting historical attitudes towards the US response to the Nazi genocide. Also this Spring, I published a co-authored essay in the *Journal of Palestine Studies* entitled, “Shifting Sands: Zionism & American Jewry,” which discusses the changing relationship between American Jewry and support for the state of Israel. It can be read at <http://jps.ucpress.edu/content/48/2/79.full.pdf+html>.

KARL SCHLEUNES LECTURE ON THE HOLOCAUST AND GENOCIDE AT GREENSBORO COLLEGE







PROFESSOR CHARLES WILKINS AND HISTORY MAJOR REID SIMPSON CONFERRING IN THE PERSIAN CARD ROOM IN GRAYLYN CONFERENCE CENTER IN 2019.

**Charles Wilkins**

As part of his ongoing book project, \*Lives Astride: A Social History of Ottoman Aleppo\*, Professor Charles Wilkins presented a paper entitled, "Mustafa Naima (1655-1716) and the Aleppo Military Establishment" at the Middle East Studies Association annual conference in San Antonio, Texas, 15-18 November 2018. The projected book comprises a series of contextualized biographies that narrates the social history of one of the most important cities of the Ottoman Empire and the early modern Mediterranean. Professor Wilkins has also been working since 2018 on a project with Mr. Reid Simpson, an undergraduate history major, to tell the history of the Persian Card Room, located in Graylyn Conference Center. Built by R.J. Reynolds Executive Bowman Gray (1874-1935) and his wife Natalie Lyons Gray (1884-1961), the room features decorative wooden panels with Arabic calligraphy that were crafted in Ottoman Damascus starting in the early 18th century. One of the earliest rooms of its kind to survive, the Persian Card Room provides precious evidence of the artistic tastes and consumption habits of Ottoman provincial elites and constitutes a significant artifact for historical preservation in the wake of the Syrian Civil War (2011-18).

**Mir Yarfitz**

Mir Yarfitz presented his new monograph to the world on April 4, 2019, at Winston Salem's independent bookstore Bookmarks. Published by Rutgers University Press in the Jewish Cultures of the World Series, *Impure Migrations: Jews and Sex Work in Golden Age Argentina* explores the local nuances and international implications of the substantial role that immigrant Ashkenazi Jews played in organized prostitution in late-nineteenth and early-twentieth century South America. More than a shameful footnote in Latin American and Jewish history, this book argues that sex work should be viewed as a critical part of larger histories of migration, labor, race, and sexuality. He connected his historical interests to current events as a participant in public panels on Antisemitism in the Age of Trump and Trans Law, Health, and Identity, and gave lectures as part of student-led events on Central America, the current Nicaraguan crisis, and immigration. His new research project, *Dangerous Crossings*, was advanced through winter break research in Buenos Aires and Montevideo, with Archie funding, and he gave related conference papers at the Latin American Studies Association Congress in Barcelona and the American Historical Association's Queer History conference in San Francisco. With funding from the T-CART program, he designed a new divisional course on Gender and Sexuality in World History, which will be launched in the fall. He also worked with Stephanie Koscak to create a new open-content course on film and history, with the goal of helping students bring the critical thinking skills of this discipline to the media they consume outside of school.



PUBLIC LAUNCH OF IMPURE MIGRATIONS AT BOOKMARKS BOOKSTORE IN WINSTON SALEM

**Qiong Zhang**

Dr. Qiong Zhang spent part of the summer of 2018 traveling in Asia. She was in Singapore in Mid-May to give an invited paper at the workshop, "Cartographic Operations: Art, Science and Politics in South East Asia," hosted by Singapore University of Technology and Design. At the end of May she gave a presentation at the international conference, "Imagined Communities: Links between China's Past, Present, and Future," held at the University of Macau, China. She spent most of June in China on an Archie grant conducting field work and library research for her second book project, tentatively titled "Meteorology for a Troubled Age: The 'Weathermen' of Jiangnan and the Global Co-Emergence of An Early Modern Culture of Science-Making."

As a member on the steering committee of Silk Roads Winston-Salem, she devoted much of the academic year 2018-2019 to facilitating and participating in its programs. She collaborated with Dr. Jeff Lerner to teach a new course, HST 343, "The Silk Road," and co-taught an interdisciplinary course on this subject for the Lifelong Learning Center at Wake in the fall. She also helped organize the international symposium, "The Silk Roads: From Local Realities to Global Narratives," which was held at Wake on March 27-30. She presented a paper at this conference titled, "Strange Journeys of the Yak as: Politics, Science, and Cultural Imagination in a Triangular Encounter of Early Modern Europe, Ming-Qing China, and Tokugawa Japan." She will wrap up the year with an invited paper at the international conference, "Writing Global History: Rethinking the World in the Early Modern Era," to be held at Stanford University on May 3-4. The title of her paper is "Whose Global History?: Defining the Human Community in Early Modern Chinese Ethnography and World Geography." She will be on Reynolds Leave in 2019-2020 to work full-time on her second book project.



IN SEARCH FOR THE TOMB OF A "WEATHERMAN"

# MILESTONES

## 2019-2020

.....  
**Newly tenured Associate Professors Dr. Penny Sinanoglou (L) and Dr. Mir Yarfitz (R) celebrate with department chair Dr. Monique O'Connell (C).**



.....  
**Our department administrative co-ordinator, Laura Gammons, celebrated 20 years at Wake Forest University in 2018. After a few years in other departments, Laura came to the history department in 2005, where for the past fourteen years she has been a key part of making sure the department runs smoothly for faculty and students. Congratulations, Laura, on this milestone!**



# A New Public History Partnership: The History Department Contributes to OLD SALEM'S



## HIDDEN TOWN

## INITIATIVE

Before we can tell a story, we have to recover and reconstruct it.

The living history museum at Old Salem has undertaken a five year project dedicated to revealing the history of a “hidden town” of free and enslaved African people living in the town. Where did these people live? Where did they work? Who were they as human beings? How might we track the legacies of enslaved people from the inception of Salem in 1766 through the Jim Crow Era and into the 21st Century?

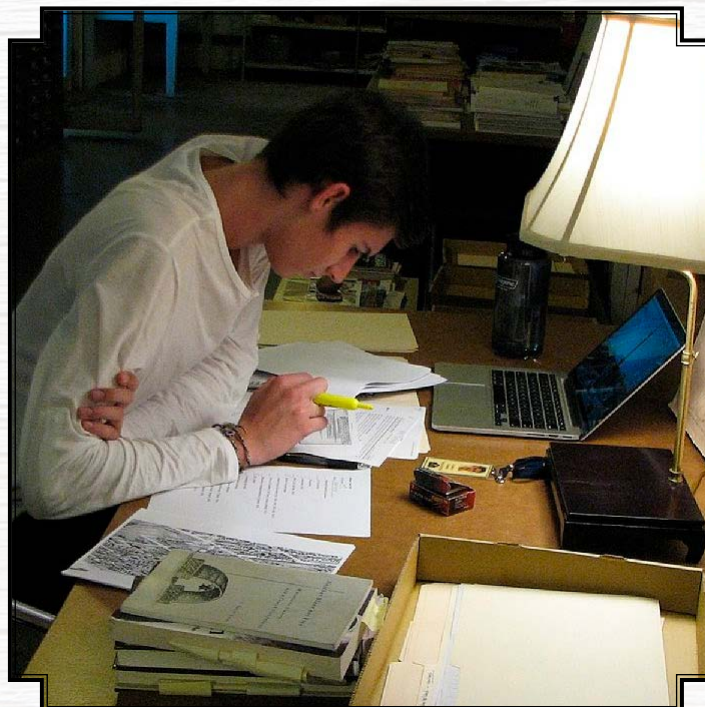
Our undergraduate students are working at the heart of this groundbreaking research.

In its recent program review, the History Department voiced its desire to seek out more opportunities for engaging with and contributing to our broader community. “Hidden Town” immediately fit the bill. We asked Martha Hartley, Director of Moravian Research at Old Salem, how we might help the project. Her reply: “I need researchers.”

The initial stage of the Hidden Town project combs through the archives – family documents, property records, census tallies, old photographs – in order to locate enslaved people on specific town lots in Salem and identify the physical spaces in which they lived. Rather than re-inscribe the expectations about the commodification of people as property, solely tagging enslaved people to specific white families or owners, this investigation uses space – dwelling, sleeping, working spaces – to organize fragmented data and recover heretofore untold stories. Their goal is to identify, name, and locate every African-American in Salem’s early history. It is a breath-taking enterprise.

Enter Wake Forest history students.

.....  
**Garrett Toombs**  
working in the  
archive





From our start in Fall 2018, ten undergraduates have signed up to undertake semester-long research projects, each chipping away at the records related to one of Salem’s lots. Digging through a dozen databases and archival collections, they have collected any mention or indication of enslaved people living or working in that space. Under the direction of Martha Hartley, they file “Lot Reports” to guide further research, archaeological investigation, and additions to Old Salem’s narrative and visitor experience.

Garrett Toombs, one of the Fall 2018 researchers recalled his satisfaction crossing out the “Negro Woman” label on a file for Lot 49, replacing it with her name: “Judith.” He remarked in an end of semester reflection, “It is not always a bad thing to present history broadly... [with] statements like ‘slaves lived here’, but it’s impersonal and there is nothing to cling on to or remember, no stakes. It is far more powerful to tell visitors to Old Salem that ‘an enslaved woman named Judith Holland lived here.’”

“Working with these materials to reconstruct a world I will never know first-hand has given me a taste of what real historical research is like,” writes Kendall John. “It’s frustrating and you spend an obscene amount of time with a copy maker, but it’s so worth it when you get a whiff of what you’re looking for. It was exhilarating in the nerdiest way possible. This is where public history becomes fascinating to me: where private research is converted into an educational opportunity.”

I cannot emphasize how impressed I have been by our students’ enthusiasm for this project and their professionalism as they have worked alongside professional historians, community volunteers, and fellow students from Salem College. Our students are variously receiving academic credit for this experiential learning in the Cultural and Heritage Preservation Studies minor or in our department’s “Internship” course, History 395.

So hats off to our students! Fall 2018: Garrett Toombs, Madison Zehmer, and Kendall John. Spring 2019: Meredith Groce, Kendall John, Matthew Capps, and Emma Grace Sprinkle. Upcoming Fall 2019: Emily Wilmink, Robby Outland, and Gretchen Boyles. Upcoming Spring 2020: Ella Bishop (and more to come!) We also plan to recruit interested students to apply for funding to research full-time in summer 2020 via WFU’s URECA program and Wake Forest’s grant from the Mellon Foundation that supports community-based partnerships through engaged teaching and research in the humanities.

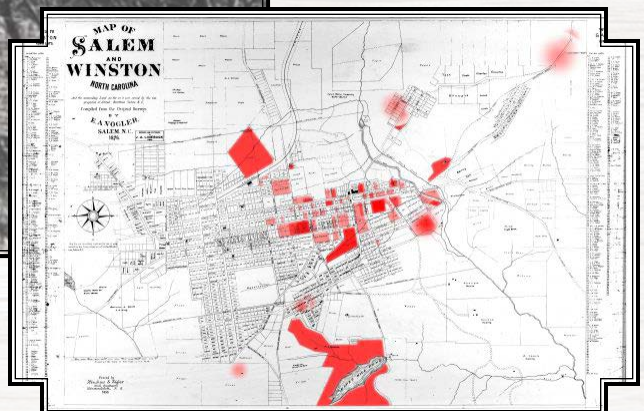
These next few years are going to be remarkable. No one knows what stories our students will find.

Jake Ruddiman



.....  
**[House with circle]:**  
**19th century**  
**dwelling site of an**  
**enslaved resident of**  
**Salem**

.....  
**Salem lot map**





# WWI Forum

by Chuck Thomas

The Fall Semester of 2018 marked the seventh time that I have offered a first-year student seminar on the Great War and the Shaping of the Modern World at Wake Forest. The course took a very broadly-based look at the First World War and its impact, beginning with its diplomatic origins, continuing with military campaigns and war mobilization, and concluding with the uncertain official end of the war at the Peace of Paris (1919/1920) and its continuing cultural and political impact. Students self-select into this class and frequently bring a good deal of prior information to the topic. Nevertheless, the sheer vastness of this topic, involving worldwide mobilization of resources, military conflict on three continents, and naval engagements on all the oceans of the globe, allowed for plenty of student engagement. This included structured classroom debates over cabinet policies in the prewar era or failed military operations (the Great War abounds in the latter, by the way). It also included three short, individually chosen research topics that in their turn explored the impact of prewar leaders such as William II of Germany and Nicholas II of Russia, the generalship of officers such as Ferdinand Foch and John Pershing, and the peace-making skills of Woodrow Wilson.

Near the end of the semester we switched modes slightly when students chose a capstone topic (normally based on one of their earlier seminar endeavors) for more detailed investigation. Each seminar student presented his or her research to the class as part of a mock historical association meeting, minus the exotic locales (?), the posh restaurants (?), and the exclusive golf resorts (a local driving range?) that normally accompany the meetings of professional historians.

Not all seminar activities, however, were confined to traditional classroom activities. Students took on the personalities of key participants in simulated Great Power cabinet meetings as they weighed “their” imagined country’s response to the assassination of Franz Ferdinand in June 1914. A follow up exercise charged them with conducting a review of their chosen country’s geopolitical and strategic position in January 1916, one and a half years into the war. Not all students were interested in a “command” experience, but those wishing one had the opportunity to skipper a German or British battle cruiser at the North Sea battle of the Dogger Bank (1915). They also participated in two movie nights featuring three classic depictions of the war experience—Jean Renoir’s *Grande Illusion* (1937), Stanley Kubrick’s *Paths of Glory* (1957), and Christian Carion’s *Joyeux Noël* (2005). The latter film, depicting the celebrated Christmas Truce along the Western Front in 1914, was particularly conducive to post-film discussion, itself a forgotten art in the internet age.

One of the pleasures of teaching this class in the years since it was first offered in 2013 has been the opportunity to integrate it with ceremonies commemorating the centennials of specific Great War events. Indeed, memorialization—the way that societies choose to remember this first mega-catastrophe of the twentieth century—is one of the most fascinating themes in recent World War I historiography. This autumn was no exception, coming as it did on the hundredth anniversary of the major American offensives at St. Mihiel (September 1918) and the Meuse-Argonne (September to November 1918) and the signing of the Armistice (November 11, 1918).



One of the key events for the seminar was the presentation on November 12, 2018 by two distinguished historians, Dr. Konrad Jarausch (University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill) and Dr. Adriane Lenz-Smith (Duke University), discussing “Legacies of World War I.” Their fields of Great War expertise, the German experience and the African-American experience respectively, are indicative of the breadth of scholarly activities and interests relating to the First World War. I think that the large numbers of undergraduates, alumni, and members of the extended WFU Lifelong Learning community who filled the Reynolds Library Auditorium on a particularly nasty November night were well served by these speakers.

# Teaching WWI at its Centennial

by **Ben Coates**

2014-2018 marked the centennial of World War I, a clash that destroyed empires, reshaped world politics and, in the words of diplomat and historian George Kennan, served as “the seminal catastrophe of the twentieth century.” In 2018-19, Professors Chuck Thomas and Ben Coates each taught courses focused on the topic, and also organized a panel to reflect on the hundredth anniversary of the end of the war in November 2018.

Ben Coates offered two courses on the American experience in the war. As an upper division elective, “The United States and World War I: At Home and Abroad” engaged with recent scholarship on the conflict. One important debate concerned the war’s popularity. During the war the U.S. government not only issued massive amounts of propaganda, it also threw many of its more radical opponents in jail simply for protesting the war. Meanwhile, local communities banned the performance of German music and the study of German language in schools, and vigilante groups threatened those who criticized the draft or refused to conserve food or purchase war bonds. Citing these actions, some scholars have highlighted opposition to the war, and suggest that support for American participation in the conflict was mostly coerced. But students also read works that highlighted grass-roots opposition to German war atrocities and threats to American security. Students also debated other questions that animated policymakers and the public alike: Should the US have joined the League of Nations? How did the actions of women and African Americans connect to larger struggles for voting rights and equality? Most students reported that their high school history courses had mostly skipped over the American experience in WWI, but by the end of the semester they had become experts in the topic.

Professor Coates also taught a First Year Seminar on “The U.S. and World War I in History and Memory.” While students received a crash course in some of the topics offered in the upper division course, they also considered in detail how the memory of the war has changed over time. By the 1930s many Americans (and Europeans) were famously disillusioned with the war, as represented in literature like *All Quiet on the Western Front*. But by utilizing resources like the WWI memorial database to examine WWI monuments near their home towns, students found that initial memories were more positive and in line with traditional romantic themes of heroism and sacrifice common to pre-WWI war commemorations. Students also discussed and debated the National WWI memorial, which is currently being built in Washington, D.C. The class also benefitted from visiting the ZSR library’s special collections which has an extensive WWI collection. Students wrote analyses of historical artifacts ranging from WWI-era propaganda posters to the letters of Laurence Stallings, a WFU graduate who was wounded in the war and became a successful playwright and author.



.....  
**[Facing page]Derek  
 Holmgren, Konrad  
 Jarausich (UNC),  
 Adriane Lentz-Smith  
 (Duke), Alisha Hines**



# The Silk Roads Conference

**by Jeff Lerner**

The History Department was a major sponsor of an international conference, *The Silk Roads: From Local Realities to Global Narratives*, on 27-30 March 2019. Instead of adhering to a geographic or temporal focus, the theme of the conference emphasized exchange and transformation along the Silk Roads—moments of acculturation or hybridization that contributed to novel syncretic forms. Our hope in developing this comprehensive format was that it would lead to a new definition of the contours of Silk Roads studies. We sought to establish a new foundation for the field based on an interdisciplinary approach to current research.

*The Silk Roads: From Local Realities to Global Narratives* took a comprehensive approach to defining the field of Silk Road studies. It did so in three ways:

1. We highlighted the multiplicity of networks that constituted the Silk Roads. Crucially, we incorporated both land and maritime routes into a single focus.
2. We approached the Silk Roads from a plethora of time periods spanning from the first millennium BCE to the Early Modern Period.
3. We included participants from many disciplines, rather than cater to a single academic specialty.

The organizers held an open invitation to all Wake Forest faculty to present a paper, while undergraduates of the College were nominated by their Professors. Participants from beyond of Wake Forest were selected by invitation only. In all, twenty-three undergraduates formed two panels, presenting their research on 27 March. Eighteen Wake Forest faculty were joined by nineteen non-Wake Forest faculty to present papers on 28-30 March.

The entire Wake Forest community – faculty, staff, and students – were invited and welcomed to attend the conference.



**Faculty, staff and speakers of the Silk Roads Conference**



# The Meiji Restoration

by Robert Hellyer

In 2015, I initiated a multi-year, international project to explore the Meiji Restoration, Japan's modern revolution, in advance of its sesquicentennial in 2018. In January 2015, I convened a conference at Wake Forest to examine two civil wars that surrounded the Meiji Restoration, inviting colleagues to discuss connections to the US Civil War and the Taiping Rebellion (1852-1864) in China as well. Observing a long-standing department practice of including student involvement in such events, two Wake History majors gave presentations based upon their senior theses. They adeptly answered questions posed by faculty from Harvard, Yale, and the University of California-Berkeley, and participated actively throughout the conference.

In July 2015, a colleague at Heidelberg University in Germany organized a related conference that focused on the Meiji Restoration within global history. We selected papers from both conferences and developed a co-edited volume, which will be published by Cambridge University Press in late 2019.

A final conference in the international project was held at Yale University in September 2017, which produced an edited volume published in Japanese in late 2018. In December 2018, *Japanese Studies*, an Australian peer-reviewed journal, published a special issue with papers from the Yale conference, including my contribution which examined how one Japanese town experienced the Meiji Restoration 150 years ago, and how its residents remember it today.

On January 3, 2018, the date of the palace coup that initiated the Meiji Restoration, I co-authored an op-ed in the *Washington Post* that explored the significance of the Meiji Restoration in Japan and the world today. Later that year, I was fortunate to be invited to present papers at Meiji Restoration conferences in China, Japan, and Singapore, as well events held at the University of Pennsylvania and Stanford University, some of which will produce future publications. With a colleague at Japanese university, I plan to write a short journal article that will examine the broad international interest in the Meiji Restoration sesquicentennial, comparing it to commemorations held in Japan during 2018.

I hope the overview of the project emphasizes first the international approach of my research. As with many of my department colleagues, I actively seek, and benefit from, collaborative activities with international partners, ties that facilitate new avenues of exploration in my research. Second, as a teacher-scholar, I am constantly seeking ways to create opportunities for History majors to advance their engagement with the study of history beyond the classroom, whether at conferences or through individual research during the summer.

Through all of these events, I have benefited tremendously from the History Department's financial support. The department provided funds for the 2015 Wake Forest conference, and supported some of the travel for the aforementioned international conferences. Without that support, the project would have been far more modest in its international scope and would have produced fewer publications.



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**Shokosai Kunihiro, "The Great Victory of the Government Forces" (1868)**

**For more information, see - [build.zsr.wfu.edu/meijirestoration](http://build.zsr.wfu.edu/meijirestoration)**



# ALUMNI UPDATE

## 2018-2019

**H**ow has your history major served you after graduation? We keep up with alums via social media, but if you'd like to share your reflections on how your history major or minor has mattered in your personal or professional life 10, 20, 30, or 40 years after graduation, please let us know! Send your contributions, text and pictures, to [historyalums@wfu.edu](mailto:historyalums@wfu.edu).

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David "Dave" Stevens ('87) has been named director of sales and marketing at Riverdale Mills Corp. in Northbridge, MA. Riverdale Mills manufactures welded wire mesh for the marine, security, construction and agriculture industries. A decorated U.S. Army veteran, Stevens joined Riverdale Mills in 2017 after holding senior management positions at several other companies.

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Millie Caldwell Kerr ('03) has fought to bring attention to wildlife conservation as a lawyer, journalist and consultant. She has a master of philosophy in conservation leadership from the University of Cambridge in the United Kingdom, and her dissertation focused on how conservationists can use storytelling techniques. Read more at [bit.ly/2KFJN2x](http://bit.ly/2KFJN2x)

**E**lizabeth Watson, alumna of Wake Forest and a History major, has served this past year as primary consultant for a study of how the university can develop a more vibrant relationship with the Wake Forest Historical Museum in the town of Wake Forest, NC. She wrote a thoroughly researched and visionary plan of possible directions as the university seeks to integrate the cultural resources of its first campus with today's educational mission. Her consulting firm is Heritage Strategies LLC located in Chestertown, Maryland.

**Addy Rothman Parker ('13) is a lead marketing specialist at Deloitte, one of the Big Four accounting and professional services companies. She co-chaired Wake Forest's Class of 2013 five-year reunion committee and is president of the WAKE Atlanta alumni community.**

**Rene Caldwell Gilbertson ('89, JD '92) is a Superior Court judge in Los Angeles. She has practiced law for 24 years, working primarily in juvenile law, handling child abuse and neglect cases. Gilbertson and her husband, Jack (JD '92), have four children.**

Edwin H. Clark's ('90) play "SHAME BOMB" about gun law reform was performed at the Stagebox Theatre in Lexington, Kentucky. The play also was selected for a staged reading at the Fifth Third Bank Theater by the Cincinnati Playwrights Initiative.

## Military Advancements/Honors

Brock Clary ('98) is an emergency management specialist for the Charleston County (SC) Emergency Management Division. Last year, he was promoted to lieutenant colonel in the South Carolina Army National Guard and assumed command of more than 300 soldiers of the 1st Battalion, 178th Field Artillery.

Al Bourque ('81) is an associate professor of strategic leader development in the Center for Strategic Leadership at the U.S. Army War College. As director of the Army Strategic Education Program, he leads the executive education program that develops all Army general officers. He also was appointed as the Gen. George S. Patton Chair of Operational Research and Analysis. He lives in Carlisle, PA, with his wife, Kimberly.

Albert Francis Yonkovitz Jr. ('91), is a colonel in the U.S. Army Reserves and was selected as director of protection directorate and provost marshal at U.S. Army Reserve Command, Fort Bragg, NC. He previously served as professor of military science, Army ROTC, at Wofford College in Spartanburg, SC.

Robert H. Meek III ('05) has left active duty after almost nine years in the U.S. Army's Judge Advocate General's Corps. He is a staff attorney on the Central Legal Staff for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces in Washington, DC. He continues to serve in the Army Reserves as a team leader in the 10th Legal Operations Detachment.

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**Shane Thompson ('08) is a fourth year RAM student focusing on Israelite Religion within the larger context of Ancient West Asia and Egypt. His research interests include ritual, ritual theory, "frontier studies," archaeology, and linguistics within Late Bronze and Iron Age Syria-Palestine. He is particularly interested in how sources reflect the political and social hierarchies of the period, drawing heavily upon comparative materials. A graduate of Wake Forest University, Shane holds an MTS from Candler School of Theology, Emory University, and an MA in Bible and the Ancient Near East (NEJS) from Brandeis University. He has been a staff member on archaeological digs at Khirbet Summeily and Tel Halif.**

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Andrew Britt's dissertation won honorable mention (e.g. runner up) for Best Dissertation in the Humanities from the Brazil Section of the Latin American Studies Association. Here is the link to the announcement: <https://sections.lasaweb.org/sections/news/show.php?id=419>. After getting his PhD from Emory and doing a post-doctoral fellowship at Northwestern University, Andrew will be returning to Winston Salem as an assistant professor of Liberal Arts at UNSCA in Fall 2019."



## ALUMNI UPDATE

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**Laura C. Kratt ('85), an arts management professional, was named the first executive director of The Appalachian Theatre of the High Country in Boone, NC.**

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**Bill Satterfield ('75) retired after 32 years, including 26 years as executive director, at Delmarva Poultry Industry Inc., the nonprofit trade association for the chicken industry on the Delmarva Peninsula, which consists of Delaware, the Eastern Shore of Maryland and Virginia's Eastern Shore. He and his wife, Susan, live in Salisbury, MD.**

**"Evan McMillan ('07) has been promoted to Director, Regional Programs and Engagement. Under his leadership over the past three years, the Wake Communities team has cultivated hundreds of volunteers, engaged thousands of alumni and, oh yes, executed that little project called the Streakin' Deacon. Evan has a natural gift for creating relationships and meaningfully engaging our alumni. He is as gracious to the unknown alum on the other end of the phone as he is his high profile volunteers and donors. We are so grateful to have him on the alumni team and look forward to the exciting years ahead for the communities program under his leadership." -Kelly McConnico**

**Megan Bosworth Hoyt ('12) has been named assistant director, Alumni Personal and Career Development, in the Office of Personal and Career Development at Wake Forest. She previously worked in University Advancement at Wake Forest.**

**Jasmine M. Pitt ('12, JD '15) is president of the Forsyth County Bar Association Young Lawyers Division for 2018-2019. She also was selected to the North Carolina Bar Association's Leadership Academy Class of 2019. Pitt is an attorney with Bennett Guthrie Latham PLLC in Winston-Salem.**

## Publications

Stephen L. Tatum Jr. ('05), most recently a deputy commissioner of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, is a partner at Cantey Hanger LLP in Fort Worth, TX. He advises clients on environment, energy, eminent domain and government and regulatory affairs. He was the lead author of "The Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill: A Review of the Historic Civil and Criminal Liabilities From America's Worst Environmental Catastrophe" in the Texas Environmental Law Journal in Fall 2017.

John M. Memory ('65, JD '68) is author of "Mysteriously Missing College Courses: Important Information That Is Nearly Never Covered in a University or College Course" (Archway Publishing, 2018). Memory is a retired criminal justice professor in Columbia, SC, and a retired Army Reserve JAG LTC.

Rick Miners ('68) released the third edition of "Don't Retire, Rewire!" (Penguin Random House), a retirement life planning guide for part-time, volunteer and second career opportunities.

# Awards / Honors

**Ben Davis ('94)**, was recognized in the 2019 edition of The Best Lawyers in America (banking and finance law). He practices in the Raleigh, NC, office of Brooks, Pierce, McLendon, Humphrey & Leonard LLP.

**William C. Findt III ('69)** received the Order of the Long Leaf Pine from North Carolina Gov. Roy Cooper. It is the most prestigious award given by the governor. Findt, who has worked in education for nearly 50 years, retired in November after serving as president of Bladen Community College since 2008. He and his wife, JoAnne Tart Findt ('69), live in Elizabethtown, NC.

**Beth Norbrey Hopkins ('73, P '12)** received the 2018 Citizen-Lawyer Award from the William & Mary Law School Alumni Association, the highest award given by the association. She earned her JD from William & Mary in 1977. After working in private and public practice, she joined Wake Forest in 1985 and served in various positions in the legal department and the School of Law. She retired in 2016 after serving as the inaugural director of the law school's Smith Anderson Center for Community Outreach.

**Donald M. VonCannon ('67, JD '71)** was recognized in the 2019 edition of The Best Lawyers in America (real estate law). He is a shareholder in Allman Spry Davis Leggett & Crumpler in Winston-Salem.

**G. Edgar "Ed" Parker ('68, JD '71)** was recognized in the 2019 Best Lawyers in America (family and divorce law). He also was selected for the 2018 North Carolina Super Lawyer list. He is a senior partner at Crumpler Freedman Parker & Witt in Winston-Salem.

**Cameron Williard Hogg ('01)** of Alexandria, VA, was awarded the 2018 George Washington University School of Nursing Award for Excellence in Graduate Teaching. Hogg is an assistant professor in the family nurse practitioner program. She was elected president of the GWU's Phi Epsilon Chapter of the Sigma

**Donald J. Kobos ('70, MA '74)** was inducted into the 2018 Lone Star EMMY Silver Circle, honoring his 40 years of contributions in the broadcast industry. He spent much of his award-winning career at abc13-KTRK in Houston as a reporter and assistant news director. He is retired and has Parkinson's disease but remains active, including taking his therapy dog Maggie Rose to hospitals, nursing homes and schools.

**Bonita Hairston Brown ('94 JD '97)** was selected as one of the 2019 Top 35 Women in Higher Education by *Diverse: Issues in Higher Education* magazine. Brown is vice president of network engagement at Achieving the Dream, a national nonprofit dedicated to helping more community college students, particularly low-income students, stay in school and graduate.

**Ben Sutton ('80, JD '83, P '14, '19)** was named by the National Football Foundation to its Leadership Hall of Fame. He is the founder and chairman of Teall Capital Partners in Winston-Salem.

**Keonna A. Hendrick ('05)** "This year marked an incredible hallmark in my career. I am honored to be the recipient of the #NAEA National Museum Educator Art Education Award. I am incredibly blessed to have my work in the field acknowledged and celebrated on a national platform by my peers, and I am grateful for everyone who I have learned from, collaborated with, challenged me, and supported me. Thank you!"

**Carolyn "Kit" Wilkinson Thomson ('03)** was recognized for 15 years of federal service in the Defense Intelligence Agency. She is a senior analyst in the agency's Asia Pacific Regional Center in Washington, DC.

**Eddie Story ('84, P '12, '15)** received the Order of the Long Leaf Pine from Gov. Roy Cooper for his work on behalf of the Food Bank of Central and Eastern North Carolina. The award is the highest the governor can bestow. Story has served on the Food Bank's board of directors for eight years, including board chair for the past two years. Story is executive vice president, general counsel and corporate secretary at RTI International in Research Triangle Park, NC.



# The Mere Distinction of Color: Reinterpreting Slavery at James Madison's Montpelier

Autumn hurricanes couldn't stop Dr. Elizabeth Chew's lecture on Montpelier's prize-winning reinterpretation of slavery and its enslaved community. Co-sponsored by the History Department and Old Salem's Hidden Town initiative, Dr. Chew addressed a packed house of Wake Forest students and Winston Salem community members at Old Salem on October 18, 2018.

James Madison was deeply conflicted about – and compromised by – the enslavement of black Virginians. He questioned “the Mere Distinction of Color” as a societally organizing force, but he never chose to break with the institution or surrender the benefits afforded him or his family.

The power of Montpelier's new permanent exhibit, Dr. Chew explained, flows from its re-centering of the story of slavery at this great man's house onto the enslaved community who lived there.

In her lecture, Chew engaged the economic, ideological, and political factors that cemented slavery in the United States and its Constitution, dispelled commonly held myths about slaves, and illuminated the humanity of Montpelier's enslaved people by examining their personal communities and connections. The new exhibition, Chew pointed out, builds on over two decades of close collaboration with the Montpelier Descendant Community to present an authentic, more holistic picture of slavery at Madison's plantation home.

“We hope the exhibition does justice to their ancestors' courage, hope, and determination and helps Americans understand the legacies of slavery in our society today in addition to illuminating the struggles and achievements of their ancestors.”

Learn more! Visit the beautiful and powerful digital introduction to this exhibition at [Montpelier.org](http://Montpelier.org)



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**Dr. Elizabeth Chew, Vice  
President of Museum  
Programs at Montpelier  
(formerly the Betsy Main  
Babock Director of the  
Curatorial and Education  
Division at the Reynolda  
House Museum)**

# FACULTY AWARDS

## 2018-2019

Department faculty have won the following awards:

**Dr. Lisa Blee has been awarded the URECA Faculty Award for Excellence in Mentorship in Research and Creative Work.** Lisa's close collaboration with undergraduate interns, honors students, and summer research fellows weaves through her work inside and outside the classroom. In her courses and mentoring on-campus, Lisa has done an extraordinary job of guiding students through the complexities of practicing public history, asking them to do the challenging work of engaging with community partners and offering support and counselling along the way

**Dr. Michael Hughes has been named the inaugural Dr. David Smiley Lecturer.** The Smiley lecture series was established by Lynn and Marc Baranski to honor Dr. Smiley's passion and skill as a teacher, and the biannual lecture is intended to allow the best teacher-scholars in the history department to share their insights with the wider College and Winston Salem Community.

**Dr. Mir Yarfitz has been awarded the Henry Stroupe Fellowship.** His academic interests lie at the intersection of Latin American, Jewish, and Gender and Sexuality Studies, and he has an active research agenda around questions of gender, class, migration, and social history in modern Latin America. He is also an innovative and caring teacher with a strong record of undergraduate advising and an energetic engagement with the broader Wake Forest community.

**Dr. Monique O'Connell has been awarded the inaugural Dr. James Barefield Endowed Faculty Fellowship.** This fellowship honors the life, career, and contributions of Dr. James "Jim" Pierce Barefield, Professor Emeritus of History, who taught at Wake Forest from 1963 through 2014. The selection criteria specifies that the fellowship be awarded to an outstanding tenured faculty member who is a gifted teacher-scholar who pursues interdisciplinary scholarship, teaching, and student mentorship with passion, wit, and personal commitment.

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**Dr. James Barefield, Medallion  
of Merit recipient and  
Emeritus Professor of History**

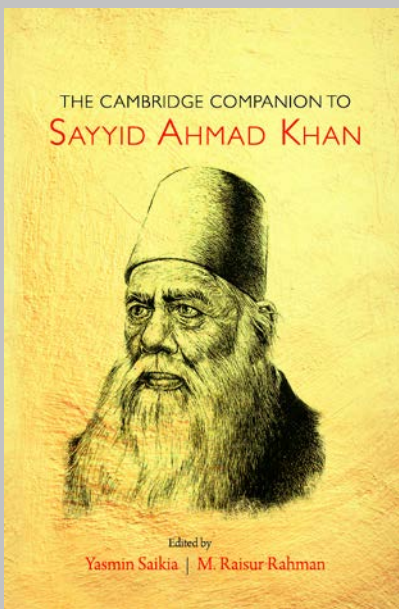




# FACULTY PUBLICATIONS

## 2018-2019

**P**ublications not only showcase knowledge, they are cornerstones of academic research, opening broader conversations as well as providing a path to advancement. We congratulate our professors who have published in the past, as well as those published this year.



### **The Cambridge Companion to Sayyid Ahmad Khan.**

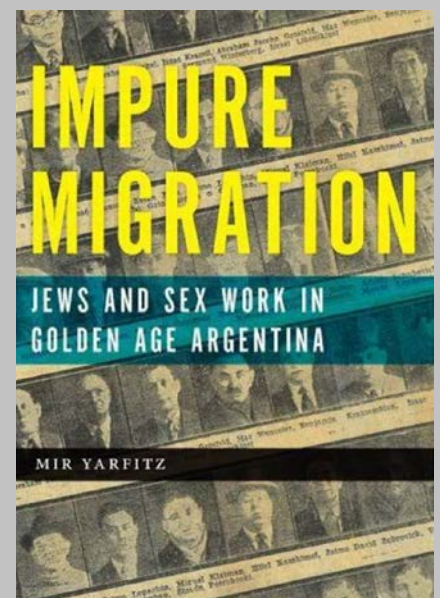
**By Yasmin Saikia, M. Raisur Rahman. Cambridge University Press, 2019.**

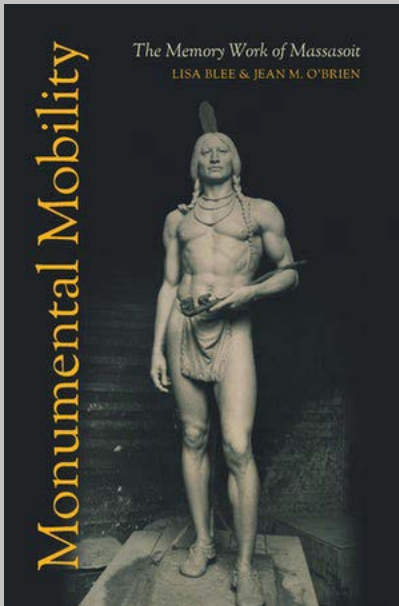
This volume examines Sayyid Ahmad Khan's life, his contribution, and legacy in the context of current times. The editors engage his writings, ideas, and activities to read and present his work critically, not as a biographical account of his life but approach his work keeping in mind the tumultuous political events and changes of the nineteenth century, after the failed revolt of 1857 when Indians were transformed into colonial subjects. The collective anxieties of the Indian communities, particularly the Muslims, cried out for a new local leadership; Sayyid Ahmad Khan rose up to this occasion etching the way forward for Indians, in general, and Muslims in particular. Sayyid Ahmad Khan's multifaceted work offers an important understanding for national thinking emerging from the location of the Muslim, but it is not a 'minority' voice with vested political interests rather a constructive and integrative voice of relevance even today for addressing difficult problems.

### **Impure Migration: Jews and Sex Work in Golden Age Argentina.**

**By Mir Yarfitz. Rutgers University Press, 2019.**

Impure Migration investigates the period from the 1890s until the 1930s, when prostitution was a legal institution in Argentina and the international community knew its capital city Buenos Aires as the center of the sex industry. At the same time, pogroms and anti-Semitic discrimination left thousands of Eastern European Jewish people displaced, without the resources required to immigrate. For many Jewish women, participation in prostitution was one of very few ways they could escape the limited options in their home countries, and Jewish men facilitate their transit and the organization of their work and social lives. Instead of marginalizing this story or reading it as a degrading chapter in Latin American Jewish history, Impure Migration interrogates a complicated social landscape to reveal that sex work is in fact a critical part of the histories of migration, labor, race, and sexuality.





**Monumental Mobility: The Memory Work of Massasoit.**  
**By Lisa Blee, Jean M. O'Brien. UNC Press, 2019.**

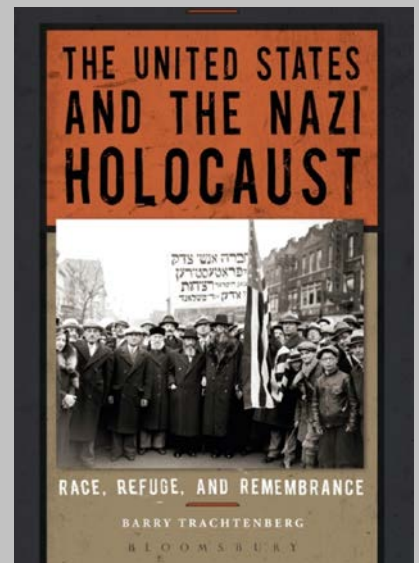
Installed at Plymouth, Massachusetts, in 1921 to commemorate the tercentenary of the landing of the Pilgrims, Cyrus Dallin's statue Massasoit was intended to memorialize the Pokanoket Massasoit (leader) as a welcoming diplomat and participant in the mythical first Thanksgiving. But after the statue's unveiling, Massasoit began to move and proliferate in ways one would not expect of generally stationary monuments tethered to place. The plaster model was donated to the artist's home state of Utah and prominently displayed in the state capitol; half a century later, it was caught up in a surprising case of fraud in the fine arts market. Versions of the statue now stand on Brigham Young University's campus; at an urban intersection in Kansas City, Missouri; and in countless homes around the world in the form of souvenir statuettes.

As Lisa Blee and Jean M. O'Brien show in this thought-provoking book, the surprising story of this monumental statue reveals much about the process of creating, commodifying, and reinforcing the historical memory of Indigenous people. Dallin's statue, set alongside the historical memory of the actual Massasoit and his mythic collaboration with the Pilgrims, shows otherwise hidden dimensions of American memorial culture: an elasticity of historical imagination, a tight-knit relationship between consumption and commemoration, and the twin impulses to sanitize and grapple with the meaning of settler-colonialism.

**The United States and the Nazi Holocaust: Race, Refuge & Remembrance.**  
**By Barry Trachtenberg. Bloomsbury Press, 2018.**

The United States and the Nazi Holocaust is an invaluable synthesis of United States policies and attitudes towards the Nazi persecution of European Jewry from 1933 to the modern day. The book weaves together a vast body of scholarship to bring students of the Holocaust a balanced overview of this complex and often controversial topic. It demonstrates that the United States' response to Nazism, the refugee crisis it provoked, the Holocaust, and its aftermath were-and remain to this day-intricately linked to the shifting racial, economic, and social status of American Jewry.

Using a broad chronological framework, Barry Trachtenberg guides us through the major themes and events of this period. He discusses the complicated history of the Roosevelt administration's response to the worsening situation of European Jewry in the context of the ambiguous racial status of Jews in Depression and World War II-era America. He examines the post-war decades in America, and discusses how the Holocaust, like American Jewry itself, moved from the margins to the center of American awareness. This book considers the reception of Holocaust survivors, post-war trials, film, memoirs, memorials, and the growing field of Holocaust Studies. The reactions of the United States government, the general public, and the Jewish communities of America are all accounted for in this detailed survey.





# STUDENT AWARDS AND HONORS

The Honors and Awards Banquet is given in recognition of those students whose work displays exemplary ability in research and writing across the department's curricular offerings. The Clonts Award goes to the graduating senior who has excelled in the classroom as well as contributing to the department and their fellow students.



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**Congrats to these students who earned the prizes listed at right:**  
**Alex Estrada**  
**Cameron Bainbridge**  
**Courtney Carlock**  
**Tesia Kempski**  
**Adam Tomasi**  
**Brian Sebetic**

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**Congrats to these Honors students: (Front row) Xueyan (Lexi) He, Shannon Moryl, Catherine Smith, Adam Tomasi, Lauren Burns. (Back row) Alex Estrada, Cameron Bainbridge, Tesia Kempski, William Morgan, Brian Sebetic, Jacob Bequette.**



The Department awarded the following Prizes at the Honors and Awards Banquet on April 30, 2019:

**The Richard Worden Griffin Research Prize in Asian, African or Latin American History:**  
Courtney Carlock, "David Ruggles: A Forgotten Hero"

**Forest W. Clonts Award in European History:**  
Brian Sebetic, "The Liberal Kulturkampf: In Search of a Common, Progressive National Culture"

**The David Hadley Prize for Historical Writing on the 100 Level:**  
Julie (Lejiu) Sun, "A Triangular Contest of Power on the Tea-Horse Road: The Tang Dynasty, Tibetan Empire, and the Nanzhao Kingdom".

**C. Chilton Pearson Prize in United States History:**  
Tesia Kempster, "The Ladies of Liquor: Women Bootleggers during Prohibition, 1920-1933"  
& Cameron Talcott Bainbridge, "The 'Freest Country in the World' through American Eyes: the United States and the First Russian Revolution"

**W.J. Cash Award for Studies in Southern History:**  
Adam Tomasi, "Cornelia Crenshaw and Black Freedom in Twentieth-Century Memphis, Tennessee"

**Stephen Vella Prize for Excellence in Writing:**  
David Mulder, "Roads Before Silk: People in Motion in Bronze Age Middle Asia."

**Forest W. Clonts Award for Excellence in History:**  
Alex Estrada



**During the banquet, students summarized their theses.**





## Update for 2018 History Students Who Held Department Funded Internships



**Katy Kneisel ('19), EvolveMKD, New York, NY.**

This summer I worked at EvolveMKD, a boutique Public Relations firm in New York City. I worked primarily in traditional media, meaning that I compiled media lists and wrote product pitches to connect with relevant editors and secure coverage for our client's brands in national outlets within the skin-care, beauty, and lifestyle industries. Additionally, I led our Summer Intern Project and created an international product launch campaign comprised of pitches, media lists, digital influencing, and event recommendations for a global corporation. I also identified and researched new business relating to the agency's expertise, ranging from startups in seed-level funding to established companies.

While my internship did not relate to my studies at Wake Forest in a traditional sense (i.e. I read very few textbooks on the job!), it capitalized on and expanded the skill set that I have developed as a history major. My ability to write, read, speak, and think critically aided in making connections with editors, influencers, and brands across the media-communications landscape to create real value for both EvolveMKD, and its clients. While my fellow interns were all PR/communications majors and had a leg-up on me in knowing the jargon of the industry, I was frequently told by my managers, and even senior-level management that my ability to communicate, especially through clear and concise writing, set me apart. My goal for this internship was to figure out how to apply the skills that I have used in history at Wake Forest in a non-classroom setting. I found that they are extremely portable and can lead to success, no matter the career path you choose. My experience this summer goes to show that you don't need to major in business to be successful working for one!

This summer I worked as an intern for Senator Steve Daines from my home state of Montana. Many of my tasks included answering constituent phone calls and correspondences, categorizing them and recording their concerns. I was also able to attend various Senate hearings on behalf of staff members in our office and take notes for them as well as giving tours of our nation's Capital. I was fortunate enough to work very closely with a major from the U.S. Air Force on loan from the Pentagon tracking and recording new military, technological, and diplomatic events concerning the South China Sea from assorted international periodicals. This internship was a wonderful opportunity for myself and was so much fun. I loved bringing the history of the Capitol Building and the governmental process to life for Montanans and it gave me a hands on glimpse of history that I would have never received elsewhere.



**Conner McAllister ('20) with MT Senator Daines**

## Update for Spring 2019 History Students Who Won Research Funding

This spring, history senior Xueyan (Lexi) He received a research grant from the Department of History to go to museums in Chicago, New York, and Washington D.C. to inspect several major collections of chinoiserie, an early modern European decorative genre born from the trade and cultural exchange between China and the West. Xueyan was developing her HST 390 paper into an honors thesis. Although she had done substantial reading in the field and examined many digital images of chinoiserie examples found online, encountering a large number of these artifacts made by different European manufacturers from different time periods all at once and side by side made all the difference. She discovered significant new evidence to support her political and economic analysis of the history of chinoiserie. Xueyan recalled; "For me, it was a precious opportunity to see how the decorators walked a fine line between displaying exotic traits and keeping the subjects relevant to their European clients." This gilded porcelain tea/coffee pot produced in Denuelle Porcelain Manufactory, Paris, around 1820 is an example of this hybrid creation. The agricultural scenes on this pot were a combination of reality and Oriental stereotypes. While agriculture indeed was the primary economical production in China, the clothing of the figure in green robe shows that he ought to be a wealthy man instead of a peasant. The figure on the bottom right was playing music in the countryside; however, the instrument in his hand was a triangle, which did not exist in East Asia but was widely used in Europe since the Renaissance.



**Tea and coffee service, The Art Institute of Chicago**



**Archives: Meredith**

**Meredith Groce ('21) at the Greensboro History Museum**

As I began to reflect on my experience as an archival intern at the Greensboro History Museum, I came across a quote from journalist Clare HarnEntz: "The expert at anything was once an intern."

I learned how to apply standards of archival science to the collections under my jurisdiction. Over the course of my internship, I researched, processed, organized, described, and filed three manuscript collections for the museum archive. I had to not only know what the documents in my collection were, but I had to be able to understand their historical value and contextualize each one into the time period from which it originated.

I am so thankful for this experience at the Greensboro History Museum. I got to be a part of a dedicated team of professionals who showed me the struggles and victories that come along with museum work. I was exposed to different perspectives on how the public should and does interpret all aspects of their local history. But most importantly, I learned what it takes to work in the museum industry. I am so excited to see how this internship experience opens doors and leads me to my next step towards an exciting career.



## History Students Win Funding for Summer 2019

**GENEROUS ALUMNI SUPPORT FOR THE HISTORY DEPARTMENT HAS PROVIDED CRUCIAL FUNDS FOR A SECOND YEAR PROGRAM PROVIDING FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR OUR STUDENTS AS THEY PURSUE SUMMER INTERNSHIPS. INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE ABOUT HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT THIS PROGRAM? GET IN TOUCH WITH DEPARTMENT CHAIR MONIQUE O'CONNELL (OCONNEME@WFU.EDU).**

**Jack Beyrer ('20): RealClearPolitics, Washington, D.C.** "I will be interning as an editorial and reporting staffer for RealClearPolitics, a center-right political media website. I have also been green-lit to do an independent project on personal narrative based project on the press wars of the Early American Republic, focusing on a few or one particular journalist who shaped early American discourse. [The internship] will be largely focused on support staffing for journalists through research on articles and newsletters, as well as some reporting on the Hill on my own, some of which [my supervisor] anticipates will be published."

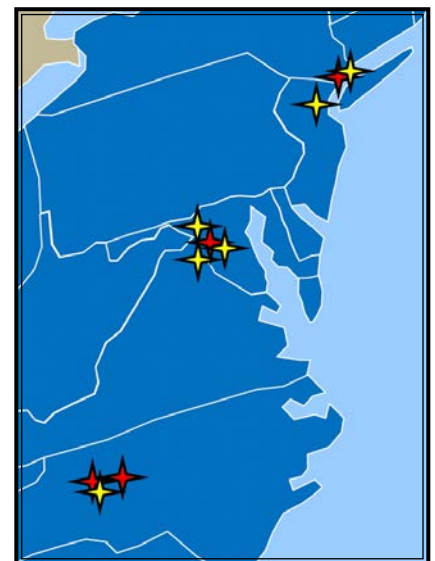
**Sara Wilder Bryant ('20): Georgetown University Law Center Criminal Justice Clinic, Washington, D.C.** "The Criminal Justice Clinic is dedicated to providing high quality legal services to all, no matter of socioeconomic status, gender, or race. The internship is extremely hands on and responsibilities include locating and interviewing witnesses, drafting statements for court hearings and trials, locating, collecting, reviewing and summarizing all written records that are relevant to the case, and assisting the attorney in trial preparation and resolving issues that arise while in trial."

**Emma Kagel ('20): Accounting Department at Peloton, New York City, NY.** "I will be interning in the Accounting Department at Peloton, an exercise and media company. I will be looking through company financial information to present and give to my colleagues. In looking through this data, I will be relying heavily on the skills used from history to gather evidence for papers and projects. After gathering my evidence, or important financial numbers, I will have to clearly present it to my colleagues. This is similar to history, where I have had to draw on evidence and analyze it clearly so that professors and other students will clearly understand."

**Libby Mohn ('19): Marine Wilderness Initiative, WILD Foundation, Washington, D.C.** "[This position at the] The Office of Fellowships and Internships will likely be more conventional, helping coordinate and manage all of the fellows and interns in the varied parts of the institution.... Having a passion for history is an important caveat for a lot of positions [at the Smithsonian] and is a good common ground ice breaker."

**Jacqueline Stern ('21): Monmouth County Prosecutor's Office, Freehold, NJ.** "As a research intern for the WILD Foundation, I will be working specifically with this Marine Wilderness initiative. My project will be to compile research on "marine wilderness" and its value within global environmental policy to discover where WILD's definition can be incorporated into grander scale policy. I hope to contribute to the expansion of global environmental policy by incorporating a baseline understanding of what marine wilderness is into international policy."

**Matt McHugh ('21): Office of Fellowships and Internships, Smithsonian Institute, Washington, D.C.** "As an intern I will be tasked with assisting prosecutors within an assigned unit prepare trial materials, help compile research and interviews of witnesses, as well as actually go to court and witness several cases that I will be working on. I have learned how important it is for the criminal justice system to remain uncorrupted and uphold the legal tenets of a society. Clearly, the efficient and uncorrupted nature of the law enforcement sector is crucial to the just and safe environment of an area, as proven by various points in history when criminal justice systems are corrupted and/or managed poorly."



**Red = 2019 research**  
**Yellow = 2018 research**

## Student Internships 2018-2019



### URECA X FELLOWSHIP

Caroline Garron ('22): Title of Research - "Imperial Science in Renaissance Venice".  
Mentor - Monique O'Connell

**First woman to receive PhD, the Venetian Elena Lucrezia Cornaro Piscopia (1646-1684)**

### HISTORY INNOVATION FUND, WFU HISTORY DEPARTMENT

James Reid Simpson ('20): Title of Research - "Gambling with History? The Persian Card Room in Graylyn". Mentor - Charles Wilkins

**Reid Simpson working in the Persian Card Room**



### REYNOLDA HOUSE MUSEUM OF AMERICAN ART

Will Hornbeck ('20): Education Internship Program.  
Mentor - Mir Yarfitz

**Reynolda House Museum of American Art**

## Student Fellowships 2018-2019

### URECA FELLOWSHIP:

Emily Wilmink ('19): URECA Fellowship. Emily has been awarded a URECA fellowship to work with Dr. Ben Coates on a project assessing the relationship between the Civil Rights Movement and Antiwar Movement to determine why, and how, Vietnam is perceived to be a divisive force in American society during the late 1960s and early 1970s. In conjunction with this project, Emily has also been awarded department research support for Summer 2019 to visit five Civil Rights museums to compare and contrast the various methods through which the museums and their curations teams choose to narrate the story of the civil rights struggle in the United States during the era of Vietnam.

### RICHTER SCHOLAR AWARDS (FOR INDEPENDANT RESEARCH ABROAD):

Libby Mohn ('19): Richter Fellowship: Libby has been awarded a Richter fellowship, advised by Dr. Penny Sinanoglou and Dr. Miles Silman (Biology) to travel to Iceland. Libby will research the impact of Icelandic volcanoes, from the Laki fissure eruption of 1783 to the eruption of Eyjafjallajökull in 2010, on broader European politics and society. Her Richter research grows the topic of her HST 390 paper this spring which examined scientific and emotional responses by Enlightenment-era Europeans to the drastic climatic and environmental wrought by the Laki eruption of the late eighteenth century. In Iceland, Libby will learn more about both historic and contemporary responses to volcanic activity, and some of the surprising ways in which eruptions have shaped broader historical events.

## Inductees to Phi Alpha Theta

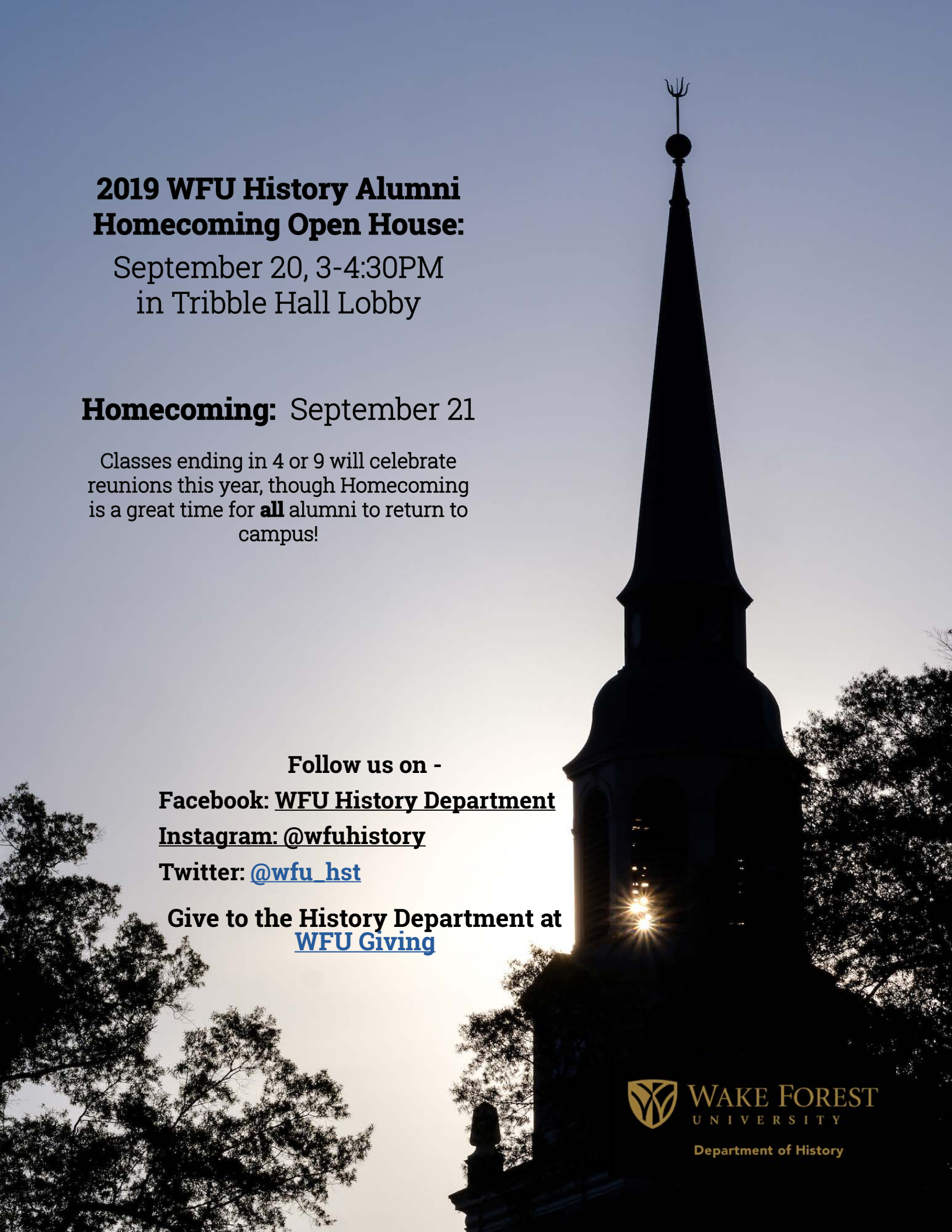
Mary Jane Apostle  
Cameron B. Bosch  
Jacob Paul Brugh  
Sara Wilder Bryant  
Sydney Emma Comstock  
Sean Michael Dermott  
Faith Geraghty  
Benjamin Price Grissom

Margaret Roberts Howland  
Kendall S. John  
Erica Jordan\*  
Anna Alden Low  
Juliana Teresa Marino  
Eugene O'Connor McAllister  
Brendan J. McCree\*  
Julia Jeannette Mroz

Rebecca McKinley Parsons  
Edward Janssen Salaski  
James Reid Simpson  
Mark Stephen Stasko  
Jacqueline Arianna Stern  
Tyler James Ventura  
Emily Rose Wilmink  
Erin Rose Zwick\*

(\* denotes graduating member)



A silhouette of a church steeple with a cross on top, set against a bright sunset sky. The sun is visible as a bright starburst behind the steeple. The background shows the dark outlines of trees.

**2019 WFU History Alumni  
Homecoming Open House:**

September 20, 3-4:30PM  
in Tribble Hall Lobby

**Homecoming:** September 21

Classes ending in 4 or 9 will celebrate reunions this year, though Homecoming is a great time for **all** alumni to return to campus!

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