The following pages give a glimpse of the rich and productive 2016-17 academic year that students, faculty and alumni of the Department enjoyed. From research to writing to conference presentations, our prize-winning students have been busy with a wide range of intellectual endeavors. Department faculty have been no less busy: teaching and developing exciting new courses, engaging with the Wake Forest and wider Winston-Salem community, and conducting research and speaking at conferences around the world, and publishing prize-winning books and widely-cited articles. We were fortunate to host some of the top young and well-established historians as part of our lecture series, and to engage with them not only in lecture halls, but also in classrooms and over meals.

Not surprisingly, our alumni news is a testament to both the energy and range of our graduates. The versatility of a major in History and of a liberal arts education more generally is made evident in the reports from alumni in professions as diverse as law, publishing, emergency management, religious ministry, and business. We are always delighted to hear about your professional achievements and to receive your personal updates, and we hope that you will join us on Friday, September 15th from 3-5pm in the Tribble Lobby for our Homecoming Reception.

Enjoy the newsletter, and keep us posted on your accomplishments throughout the year!
We are delighted to have Professor Trachtenberg join the Department!

Trachtenberg was trained in Jewish history at the University of California, Los Angeles (Ph.D.), the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, and Oxford University (Post-graduate Diploma) and also holds degrees from the University of Vermont (M.A. in U.S. history) and Rowan University of New Jersey (B.A. in English). From 2003-2016, he was on the faculty at the University at Albany, SUNY. Trachtenberg also serve on the Board of Scholars of Facing History and Ourselves and the Academic Council of the Holocaust Educational Foundation of Northwestern University.

Trachtenberg’s book, The Revolutionary Roots of Modern Yiddish, 1903-1917 (Syracuse University Press, 2008) examines the impact of the 1905 Russian Revolution on the formation of Yiddish scholarship. He is currently working on two book-length projects. The first of these, The United States and the Holocaust: Race, Refuge, and Remembrance, will be published by Bloomsbury Press in 2018. This book weaves together a vast body of scholarly literature to bring students of the Holocaust an overview of this complex and often controversial topic. It demonstrates that the United States’ response to the rise of Nazism, the refugee crisis it provoked, the Holocaust itself, and its aftermath were—and remain to this day—intricately linked to the ever-shifting racial, economic, and social status of American Jewry.

A second project, “Bible for the New Age: The Nazi Holocaust and the Exile of Yiddish,” is an examination of the only attempt to publish a comprehensive encyclopedia in the Yiddish language and considers a broad range of historiographical questions on the shifting agenda of Yiddish-language research and the ways that the Nazi Holocaust shaped Jewish historians’ understanding of their task.
Qiong Zhang

Qiong Zhang, Associate Professor, has been working on several research projects related to the Sino-European cultural interactions and Chinese intellectual history in the early modern era. She gave an invited talk at the workshop, “Translating Religion and Theology in Europe and Asia: East to West,” hosted by Berkeley Center for the Study of Religion, at UC Berkeley, March 22-24, 2017 (http://bcsr.berkeley.edu/special-event/east-to-west).

Her talk uses the Jesuit campaigns against Chinese popular religion in the late Ming and early Qing as a case to argue in support of the emerging revisionist scholarship that interprets the European Enlightenment as a multi-stage historical process originating at least partially outside Europe in the sites of cross-cultural encounters during the Age of Discovery. Her article in this subject, “The Jesuit Hierosolymical Discourse as Enlightenment Project in Early Modern China,” has been published in the Journal of World History, Vol. 28, No. 1 (2017): 31-60. Her second project relates to the legacy of Jesuit cartography in early modern China. She has given an invited talk at the workshop, “Cartographer and Asia,” hosted by Singapore University of Technology and Design, on April 21, 2017. The title of her talk is “Mapping the New World in Late Ming and Early Qing China: A Case Study of an Intertwined Global Early Modernity.” Meanwhile, she continues to explore some methodological issues in the study of early modern Chinese natural history or bowu discourses. She is working with a team of international scholars from Korea, Japan, and Germany on a collaborative project, “Strange Nature, Strange Technologies: Exploring the Inexplicable in Early Modern East Asia.” She also presented a paper at the History of Science Society Annual Conference in November 3-6, 2016, titled “A Scholar among the People? Xie Zhanyi, a Late Ming Ethnographer and Curator of Bowu Knowledge.”

The main focus of her research project, however, is her new book project, tentatively titled “Weathermen of Jiangnan: Changing Skylscapes and Meteorological Discourses in Seventeenth-Century China.” It studies the transformation of knowledge infrastructure in Chinese meteorological discourses over the course of the seventeenth century and the underlying global, entangled history of early modernity. She presented part of this research at the Association for Asian Studies (AAS)-in-Asia annual conference, held on June 24-27 in Kyoto, Japan, in a paper titled “Twice Made in China: Renaissance Meteorology in the Late Ming and Early Qing.” She will give another paper related to this project, “Dragons without their King: The Changing Dynamic of Science and Popular Religion in Late Ming and Early Qing China,” at the 25th International Congress of History of Science and Technology (ICHTH), which will be held this year in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, July 23-29, 2017. She has received a visiting fellowship from Kyoto-University, Japan, and will spend most of the coming summer there to conduct library research and participate in an international conference on the history of early modern East Asian science.

Professor Zhang has had some special opportunities to serve the Wake community in the past year. She sits on a 6-member ad hoc steering committee for the Silk Roads Series, which has been a year in the planning and was formally launched in spring 2017. The Series features a cluster of events on campuses every semester, including public lectures, art and museum exhibits, music concerts, dance performances, and curricular activities, culminating in an international conference and the Silk Road Ensemble in spring 2019. It also involves outreach efforts to connect Wake faculty and students with member groups of the Arts Council of Winston Salem, the public schools, the Life Long Learning Center, and other local community bodies in a collective celebration of the living legacies of the Silk Roads. In addition, Professor Zhang served as mentor to Smith Kaul, class of ’19, who completed her independent research project in summer 2016 on “The Potential of Mind-Body Medicine to address Pain Management in Poor Regions,” which was funded by a Wake Forest Arts & Humanities Research Fellowship. In the coming summer, she will mentor via correspondence Yilin Liu, a history major and recipient of a Bischler scholarship who will be traveling in China to study Tibetan Buddhist art from the Yuan dynasty.

Paul Escott

Paul Escott, Professor, has been in Salamanca, Spain, this year during his phased retirement but will return to teach in 2017-18. In Spain he has lectured for two classes at the University of Salamanca and enjoyed the opportunity to focus on his research. In November he published Paying Frederick Force: A History of African Americans in the Civil War (Lanham, MD: Bowman and Littlefield, 2017). He also has submitted a book manuscript to the University of Kentucky Press and has edited, with commentary, a selection of Federal Writers’ Project Slave Narratives that will be published in Brazil, in Portuguese, by Hedra press.

Simone Caron

Simone, Caron, Professor, published “Endeavoring to Carry on Their Work: The National Debate over Midwives and its Impact in Rhode Island, 1890-1940.” Journal of Nursing History Review 25 (2017): 26-51, and a book review, “Strange Bedfellows in the Political Discourse Surrounding Roe v. Wade.” Reviews in American History 44.4 (December 2016): 621-29. She presented “Women Helping Women”. Domesticskills Training for Unwed Mothers.” Social Science History Association, November 2016, Chicago, and was Chair and Discussant for “Medical Experimentation.” Social Science History Association, November 2016, Chicago. Professor Caron was a consultant to Old Salem on the new medical exhibit at the Doctor’s House, which received a federal grant (which she also helped to write). The Grand Opening was April 7, 2017.

Jake Ruddiman

Jake Ruddiman, Associate Professor, presented new research, “Military Community vs. Slave Society: The British Army’s Relationships with Enslaved Virginians in 1781” at the Consortium on the Revolutionary Era at their February 2017 conference in Charleston. This academic year, Professor Ruddiman brought early American history out to broader communities and then redirected that energy back into his work at Wake Forest. He presented an intensive mini-course on “Revolutionary Boston” up in Massachusetts, and was invited to lead a seminar on Revolutionary War soldiers for the staff at Colonial Williamsburg.

After contributing to a podcast conversation on the musical Hamilton, for the WPU Humanities Institute, he set out to design a new course on “Early American Histories in Theater, Film, and Fiction.” In this upcoming First Year Seminar, students will examine early American history in popular culture, weighing artists’ choices, the political implications of this work, and scholars’ debates about these materials. What do musicals like Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson or 1776, movies like Last of the Mohicans or The Patriot, or novels like Blindsight or The Confessions of Nat Turner reveal about the past and our present?

Ben Coates

Ben Coates, Assistant Professor, published Legalist Empire: International Law and American Foreign Relations in summer 2016 with Oxford University Press. It was awarded an honorable mention for the Vincent P. DeSantis Book Prize, which is presented every two years by the American Society for Historians of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era for the best book on the history of the United States between 1865 and 1920. Last summer Professor Coates presented on the topic of his next book—a history of international sanctions—as part of a roundtable at the annual meeting of the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations. He was fortunate to spend some time in the archives this spring examining images related to implementing sanctions in debates over presidential power and states of emergency.

This spring Professor Coates offered a new course on the history of the US & World War I. It has been especially interesting teaching this course on the hundredth anniversary of America’s entry into the conflict. Despite the fundamental ways that the war shaped the history of the United States in the twentieth century it is largely forgotten today, so the course offers students a fantastic opportunity to explore historical memory and legacies of global conflict.

On February 17, 2017, the Department presented a panel to the Wake Forest community titled, “Crisis in Historical Context: The Politics and Policies of US and Global Immigration.” This panel discussion tackled some of the questions about borders, migration and the role of the United States in the world through a historical lens, and highlighted the connections between past and present.


Stephanie Koscak

Stephanie Koscak, Assistant Professor, offered courses on the history of the early modern British Isles and taught a new research seminar on “Britain and the World.” This course allowed students the opportunity to use recent “Brexit” debates about British national identity and Britain’s place within Europe to design independent research projects about topics related to nation, nationality, and empire in Britain between the sixteenth and twentieth centuries. In April 2017, Koscak was awarded a Wake Forest Teaching and Learning Center Innovative Teaching Award for a course she taught in the spring 2016, “HST 325: English Kings, Queens, and Spectacle.”

In November 2016 Koscak gave an invited ZSR lecture on “Visual Print Culture and Popular royalism in Later Stuart England,” and will then continue on to London for a conference and to conduct research at the National Archives and the British Library.

Penny Sinanoglou

Penny Sinanoglou, Assistant Professor, enjoyed teaching a new class closely related to her research, HST 389: “City Lines and Shadows: State Planning and the Modern City in the British Empire.” This course explored the history of British colonial expansion in Africa and the Middle East and was designed to engage students in a deep understanding of the ways in which colonial planning and development were shaped by local and global forces. The course also included a field trip to the National Archives in London, where students had the opportunity to see primary sources related to the history of colonialism and development.

Nate Plageman


Mir Yarfitz

In his fourth year, Mir Yarfitz, Assistant Professor, has enjoyed watching some of the students who were first-years along with him become successful seniors, with new intellectual skills, impressive research projects, and exciting future plans. His book manuscript, “Bad Jews and the Brothels of Buenos Aires, 1890s-1940s,” entered peer review with a major university press. This history of prostitution as a form of labor migration connects underworld social history, Antisemitism and the Modern Woman in Latin America, at the first international academic Transgender Studies Conference in September 2016 and a UCLA feminist scholarship conference in February 2017. He taught a new seminar related to these topics in Fall 2016; “The Politics of Reproduction: Reproductive Rights, Race, and Gender,” he taught a new seminar related to these topics in Fall 2016; “The Politics of Reproduction: Reproductive Rights, Race, and Gender,” he taught a new seminar related to these topics in Fall 2016; “The Politics of Reproduction: Reproductive Rights, Race, and Gender,” and the Examined Range of Cross-cultural and Historical Contexts and Anthology. Activities from this course were then brought to the larger WFU campus community in April 2017, as part of a conference for students on masculinity and interpersonal violence.
Barry Trachtenberg
Barry Trachtenberg, Professor, joined the History Department at the beginning of the 2016-17 academic year as The Michael H. and Deborah K. Rubin Presidential Chair of Jewish History. Prior to arriving at Wake Forest, he was on faculty at the University at Albany, SUNY, where he directed the program in Judaic Studies. In the fall 2016 semester, Prof. Trachtenberg designed several new courses in Jewish studies and Holocaust studies, including classes on American Jewish history, the history of Zionism, and a two-semester course on the Nazi Holocaust. In spring 2017, he taught a First-Year Seminar on the history of Jews and comic books, as well as a class on Holocaust diaries and memoirs.

Prof. Trachtenberg spent the 2016-17 academic year finishing a book manuscript on the history of the United States and the Holocaust. This work examines how the shifting racial status of American Jews in the 20th century influenced the United States’ response to the rise of Nazism and the genocide of European Jews, as well as the Holocaust's later representation and memorialization. In February 2017, he published an article in Tablet magazine entitled, “Did U.S. Anti-Immigrant hysteria Doom the Passengers On the 'St. Louis'? It’s Complicated” which examines US immigration policy concerning German Jews on the eve of World War II.

In March, Prof. Trachtenberg presented his research at a conference on “Jews in Racialized Spaces” in Cape Town, South Africa. This trip also allowed him to visit the Robben Island Museum, which was the site where Nelson Mandela was kept prisoner for 27 years. In the next academic year, he will be teaching several sections of History 102 Europe and the World in the Modern Era, in which he will discuss the history of Dutch and British settlement in South Africa and the later establishment and dissolution of apartheid.

This summer, Prof. Trachtenberg will be teaching at the Holocaust Education Foundation’s Summer Institute on the Holocaust and Jewish Civilization at Northwestern University, a two-week interdisciplinary course of study designed to broaden and deepen the background of current and prospective Holocaust educators. Following that seminar, he will take a two-week trip to Holocaust memorials and museums in eastern and central Europe with the goal of preparing a Study Abroad trip to be offered to Wake Forest students in coming years.

Monique O’Connell

In the fall of 2016 O’Connell taught a Lifelong Learning course called Machiavelli’s World: Art, Science and Power in the Italian Renaissance. It used Niccolo Machiavelli’s life and writings as a jumping off point to explore the culture of the High Renaissance. In summer 2017 she will teach another Lifelong Learning course, this one called Health, Disease and Society in the Age of the Black Death. She is co-teaching it with a biological anthropologist, Dr. Sharon DeWitte of the University of South Carolina.

Charles Wilkins
Charles Wilkins, Associate Professor, continues his research engagement with the social history of Syria under Ottoman rule (1516-1918). He organized a panel of scholars entitled, “Imperial State Practices and Local Perspectives in Early Ottoman Syria,” at the 2016 Middle East Studies Association annual conference in Boston. On the same panel he presented a paper, “Ottoman Elites Recruitment and the Case of Janibulad Bak b. Qasim (d. ca. 1575)”. The deliberate but partial integration of Kurdish princes such as Janibulad Bak as well as other subjugated elites into the power structure, he argues, helps explain the extraordinary durability — and persistent composite nature — of the Ottoman state (1300-1818).

Among his service contributions, Professor Wilkins offered to the public a long-term historical perspective on the then-besieged city of Aleppo in his interview with “Here and Now,” the public radio magazine program, hosted by Robin Young. In September 2016, Professor Wilkins rounded out the year by paying tribute to his former Arabic language teacher, participating as a panel co-host and discussant in “Disputing Subjects: A Conference in Honor of Professor Miriam Cooke,” at Duke University in April. He credits Professor Cooke with inspiring in him his love of Arabic literature, and engendering an empathy for a people so misunderstood, and now so horrifically tested by war and conflict.

Michael Hughes
Michael Hughes, Professor, is continuing working on his book manuscript, Becoming democratic: Participation and political citizenship in Germany, 1871 to the present. He has completed drafts of 4 chapters and is doing research on Chapter 6, on what called itself the German Democratic Republic but had a definition of democracy that did not actually include freedom of expression or substantive choices in elections.


In the fall of 2016 O’Connell taught a Lifelong Learning course called Machiavelli’s World: Art, Science and Power in the Italian Renaissance. It used Niccolo Machiavelli’s life and writings as a jumping off point to explore the culture of the High Renaissance. In summer 2017 she will teach another Lifelong Learning course, this one called Health, Disease and Society in the Age of the Black Death. She is co-teaching it with a biological anthropologist, Dr. Sharon DeWitte of the University of South Carolina.
My major was History and my mentor was the incredible Historical scholar, David Smiley. I took every single course that extraordinary professor offered.

Received a Bachelor of Arts Diploma (which was actually printed on sheepskin) from what was then lovingly known as Wake Forest College in June of 1962. My major was History and my mentor was the incredible Historical scholar, David Smiley. I took every single course that extraordinary professor offered.

I came home to St. Petersburg, Florida and my wife, Joan, and I were married in August of 1962. In September of 1962, I became a student at the Stetson University College of Law, which was, and still is, located in St. Petersburg. In June of 1965, I was awarded the Degree of Juris Doctor.

Upon passing the Florida Bar Examination, I began practicing law in St. Petersburg in October of 1965. In May of 1967, my wife and I had our first daughter, Stacy, who is now a Chiropractic Physician. In December of 1971, we had our son, Jason, who served as a Deputy Sheriff for seventeen years, and who is now a medical technician, and in May of 1978, we had our second daughter, Alexandra, who is now a well known operatic soprano. In December of 1970, the then Governor, appointed me to the Bench and I was sworn in as a Judge on January 3, 1971.

During all of this, my wife, Joan, attended Law School, received her Juris Doctor, and was sworn into the Florida Bar in April of 1971. Joan is just now wrapping up a very successful 46 year high profile law practice.

When August of 1998 came along, fulfilling a lifelong ambition, and with fear and trepidation, because I was 58 years old and I would be competing against a group of very bright and very young fellow students, I enrolled in the University of South Florida to obtain my Masters Degree in History. Since I was still working full time as a judge, I could only take one course per semester and it took me three years to get my degree. However, I did well. I graduated with a 4.0 grade average.

I served as an active Judge until December 31, 2002, when I retired. The University of South Florida, St. Petersburg Campus, called and offered me a job as an adjunct professor of American History. I, of course, immediately accepted the offer and I am still teaching. Aside from my beautiful wife who is my inspiration in all things, I place my late found success at the job I always wanted to have at the feet of my beloved Dr. David Smiley.
Jason Vuic is a writer and historian from Fort Worth, Texas, who specializes in popular-press writing and narrative storytelling for mass audiences.

His first book, The Yugo: the Rise and Fall of the Worst Car in History (Hill & Wang, 2010), was reviewed in over one hundred print and web-based publications, including The Economist, the Wall Street Journal, the Washington Post, Car and Driver, Mother Jones, Wired, Slate, and Time. It was also one of five books mentioned in Vanity Fair’s March 2010 column “Hot Type” and was the “pick of the day” on the exclusive media website veryshortlist.com.

Of the genesis of the book, Jason writes “My basic story is that I graduated from Wake Forest in 1994. My family is of Serbian descent and I had traveled to Yugoslavia in the 1980s and had relatives caught in the war in Croatia. Like the war in Syria now, it was simply the biggest foreign policy issue of the day, so I desperately wanted to travel there, improve my language, and so forth, and also to avoid going to law school, which, it seems, is what every one of my classmates in history was doing. So I went and lived in Milosevic’s Serbia for several years, and eventually parlayed that into a degree in East European history from Indiana University. I ran the Slavic Center at Ohio State for five years and was a professor at Bridgewater College in VA, and in the process grew tired of academic history. I wanted to write something lighter and more interesting than war and ethnic identity, and for a popular audience, and I hit on the idea of the Yugo car.” In 2015, Jason published The Sarajevo Olympics: A History of the 1984 Winter Games (University of Massachusetts Press).


Jason has appeared on NPR’s “Weekend Edition” and APM’s “Marketplace,” on “Fox and Friends in the Morning,” on C-SPAN’s “Book TV,” on CBC’s “The Current,” and on a live segment of Bloomberg News. In addition to his B.A. from Wake Forest, he holds an M.A. in history from the University of Richmond and a Ph.D. in history from Indiana University Bloomington. He has been both a Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar and a Fulbright Scholar, and has given invited talks at such prestigious institutions as Washington and Lee University, the University of Tampa, and the Harvard Business School.

Jason credits Wake Forest for broadening his horizons and fueling his ambitions. He writes, “I also joke that my Wake Forest honor’s papers served me well. Today, I write 35-50 page proposals for my agent, the same thing, more or less, that I did in 1994.”
I graduated from WFU in 2001 with a BA in History. I went on to obtain a MA in American History from the University of New Hampshire in 2005. Since 2005 I’ve been employed as a paralegal. Over the past 12 years, I’ve settled into the practice of complex business litigation. I am currently a litigation paralegal at Wyrick Robbins in Raleigh, North Carolina. The cases I work on typically involve analysis of literally thousands of documents. One important aspect of my job is being able to identify fact patterns across data sets. During the discovery phase of litigation, the parties exchange documents relevant to their dispute. We analyze both our client’s documents and documents from the opposing party to accomplish two primary goals: to determine what actually happened to cause the business dispute and to assemble facts to support our client’s position. Sometimes I think of it as researching the history of a dispute.

Unquestionably, the analytical skills I developed while studying history are integral to my job. While researching my master’s thesis I sifted through documents at the National Archives searching for primary documents to support my arguments. This is very similar to what we do during document reviews. Not only are we looking for “smoking guns,” but we are also looking for emergent fact patterns of which we may not already be aware. Additionally, my background in American constitutional history and the structure of the American government is helpful to me.

While I had dreams of becoming a history professor, I instead found myself in a challenging and intellectually rigorous position as a litigation paralegal. Even though my job description is not that of a “historian,” I feel like I use my history skills on a daily basis.
JIM BAREFIELD
Professor of History, 1963-2004, was awarded the Medallion of Merit by President Nathan Hatch on February 16, 2017.

Today we honor and celebrate a cherished faculty member whose extraordinary intellectual guidance over four decades has earned him the devotion and gratitude of countless Wake Forest students. There is no better example of the teacher-scholar ideal than professor emeritus of history, James Pierce Barefield, 2017 Medallion of Merit recipient.

Born in Jacksonville, Florida, Professor Barefield spent part of his childhood in Atlanta, finishing high school in Birmingham, Alabama. After he graduated from Rice University, Professor Barefield was awarded a Fulbright Fellowship to study in London and completed his doctorate at Johns Hopkins. He joined the history faculty at Wake Forest in 1963 and soon earned a reputation as an engaging and quick-witted lecturer who taught a unique, entertaining and thought-provoking honors seminar.

Professor Barefield’s impact was felt not only through his groundbreaking efforts to develop the honors program through signature seminars like “The Ironic View” or “The Comic View,” but also for his leadership in the study abroad and merit scholarship programs. From 1973 until his retirement in 2004, Professor Barefield supervised numerous unforgettable semesters abroad at Casa Artom in Venice and London’s Worrell House, helping to build the overseas studies program into the nationally recognized program Wake Forest offers today. He also diligently supported merit scholarship opportunities as a mentor and advisor for undergraduate scholarship holders and for students competing for postgraduate scholarships like the Rhodes and the Fulbright.

Throughout his 41-year teaching career at Wake Forest, Professor Barefield was masterful at cultivating the student-teacher relationship, and his abiding concern for his students and their admiration and affection for him developed into numerous lifelong friendships. His natural ability for connecting with students, his wry sense of humor and his infectious love of irony both in literature and in life appealed to his students, who sought out his advice for issues beyond academia.

Although he retired from the faculty in 2004, Professor Barefield continues to serve the University as an expert interviewer for Admissions. Because of his uncanny ability to communicate with young people, his analysis of applicants is flawless, and his innate charm and intellect continue to attract and impress the brightest student prospects.

In gratitude for his four decades as the quintessential professor, his pioneering work with the honors and study abroad programs and his tireless support for students in the merit scholarship program, Wake Forest University confers its highest honor, the Medallion of Merit, upon Professor James Pierce Barefield on this Sixteenth day of February, Two Thousand Seventeen.

(Full text of citation read at Convocation)
ALEX BOTOMAN (’10) IS A SECOND-YEAR STUDENT AT COLUMBIA LAW SCHOOL. HIS ARTICLE ANALYZING JUDGE-SHOPPING IN LEGAL CHALLENGES TO A NUMBER OF OBAMA ADMINISTRATION POLICIES WILL BE PUBLISHED IN THE COLUMBIA HUMAN RIGHTS LAW REVIEW NEXT YEAR.

Carolyn Cargile (’13) began a Ph.D. in English at Fordham University in August 2016, focusing on medieval literature. She previously completed an M.A. in Medieval Studies at the University of York in 2015. She looks forward to further pursuing her interests in literature and history fostered at Wake Forest in exciting and intersecting ways as she studies Anglo-Norman historiography and literature.

Hannah Alms (‘16) is currently working as an English Teaching Assistant in northern Germany through the Fulbright Program. In the fall, she will begin a Ph.D. program at Indiana University-Bloomington, where she will work as an editorial assistant at the Journal of American History.

Jessica Carlton (’10) finished a couple of years working in the House of Representatives, and is now a Legislative Associate at the National Association of Professional Insurance Agents.

Bill Leathers (‘65) is currently interim pastor of Emerywood Baptist in High Point. He and his wife, Crystal, retired to Winston-Salem in 2009, and thoroughly enjoy coming on campus for events and using the ZSR Library. He reports that his history degree has enriched his vocational work as a Baptist minister in addition to enhancing his enjoyment of reading a good book of history for pleasure.

PAUL JEROME MONEUSE (’76) WAS RECENTLY NAMED SENIOR MANAGING PARTNER AT FLORIDA CARIBBEAN MARKETING, A MANUFACTURER’S REPRESENTATIVE TO THE FOOD SERVICE INDUSTRY, CURRENTLY RESIDING IN PARKLAND, FL.
Bill Satterfield ('75), a Delaware native, is in his 31st year with Delmarva Poultry Industry, Inc., the trade association for the multi-billion dollar chicken industry in Delaware, the Eastern Shore of Maryland, and the Eastern Shore of Virginia. He is in his 25th year as Executive Director. Satterfield, a student producer and announcer at WFDD FM, was in the radio news business for 11 years in Dover, Delaware and his now hometown Salisbury, Maryland following his WFU graduation.

Taylor Ince ('02) finished his PhD in Hebrew and Old Testament at the University of Edinburgh last year and has returned with his wife Robin and their three children to his hometown of Houston to plant and pastor a church.

Charles Samaha ('86) completed a biography of his great-uncle entitled, *A Voice In The Dark: One Man’s Arab American Activism* - *Faris Saleem Malouf (1892-1958)* and is currently readying it for publication.

Mark Hofmann ('74) retired late last year after 42 years as a journalist. He is currently a part-time freelance writer and editorial consultant specializing in insurance-related trends and policy issues, which allows him time to hit the driving range occasionally. He and his wife Laurie are spending as much time as possible at their vacation condo at Wintergreen, Virginia.


Rock Clary ('98) lives in Charleston, SC with his wife, Virginia (a nurse) and his 15-month-old daughter, Carly. He earned an MPA with a concentration in Local Management from the University of Nebraska - Omaha in 2012. An Emergency Management Specialist for the Charleston County, SC Emergency Management Department, he helps the county plan for, prepare for, react to and mitigate natural and manmade incidents ranging from hurricanes to terrorist attacks. He served as the county’s liaison officer during Hurricane Matthew in October 2016 and helped coordinate the operations of 18 + municipalities, agencies, federal and private sector facilities. He is also an Executive Officer and second in command of a 300-soldier Army National Guard field artillery battalion headquartered in Georgetown, SC.

Charles Samaha ('86) completed a biography of his great-uncle entitled, *A Voice In The Dark: One Man’s Arab American Activism* - *Faris Saleem Malouf (1892-1958)* and is currently readying it for publication.

Paul Cobb, Professor of History, Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations, University of Pennsylvania: “Getting Crusaded: An Islamic History of Medieval Holy War” September 21, 2016

Robert Beachy, Associate Professor of History, Underwood International College at Yonsei University, Seoul, South Korea: “Gay Berlin: Birthplace of a Modern Identity,” September 27, 2016


Hannah Weiss Muller, Assistant Professor, Brandeis University: “Revisiting the Age of Revolution: Subjects, Sovereigns, and Rights in the British Empire,” February 23, 2017
THE FORREST W. CLONTS LECTURE

Ubaldo Pierotti Professor of Italian History, Stanford University

Thursday, March 23rd, 2017 at 5:30 PM
The Reynolda House Museum of American Art
Open to the general public
To be followed by a public reception

PAULA FINDLEN is Ubaldo Pierotti Professor of Italian History and has directed the Suppes Center for the History and Philosophy of Science and Technology at Stanford University. Among her many publications are Possessing Nature: Museums, Collecting and Scientific Culture in Early Modern Italy (1994), (with Pamela Smith), Merchants and Marvels (2002), Athanasius Kircher: The Last Man Who Knew Everything (2004), Early Modern Things: Objects and their Histories, 1500-1800 (2013), and most recently a collaborative book, Birds, Other Animals, and Natural Curiosities: The Paper Museum of Cassiano dal Pozzo (2017).

This biennial lecture series, hosted by the department of history, is generously endowed by the Clonts family in honor of Forrest W. Clonts, who was a leading faculty member of Wake Forest University from 1922 until his retirement in 1967. The 2017 Clonts Lecture was held on March 23, 2017 at the Reynolda House Museum of American Art.

Reynolda House Museum of American Art welcomed an American masterwork for this exhibition, Samuel F.B. Morse’s Gallery of the Louvre (1831–33). The painting was joined by early telegraph machines from the Smithsonian’s National Museum of American History, old master prints from Wake Forest University, and works from Reynolda House’s nationally recognized collection of nineteenth century paintings and prints. Together these works of art and invention will address complex themes that occupied Samuel F.B. Morse and his America, including the relationship between art and religion, nationalism and culture, technology and the transmission of information.
History Students Win Research Funding for Summer 2017

RICHTER SCHOLAR AWARDS (FOR INDEPENDENT RESEARCH ABROAD):
Yilin Liu ('18), "Tibetan Buddhism and Sino-Tibetan cultural interactions during the Yuan dynasty," mentored by Professor Qiong Zhang. Yilin will be traveling in Zhejiang, Tibet, and Qinghai provinces in China this summer to inspect several major sites of Tibetan Buddhist art.

Asia Parker ('18), "A Historical and Museological Study of Aboriginal Artwork," mentored by Professor Jake Ruddiman. Asia will be traveling to Melbourne, Australia to examine how Aboriginal artwork is portrayed as an expression of social values, concerns, modernisation and Australian national identity through museological studies and historical research.

WAKE FOREST RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS (WFRF) (TO CONDUCT INTENSIVE MENTORED SCHOLARSHIP WITH A FACULTY MEMBER):
Lauren Burns ('19), "Affect Theory Within Wake Forest’s Writing Center," mentored by Professor Ryan Shirey (English). Lauren will use corpus analysis software to find linguistic patterns in Writing Center documents, and affect theory as a lens for understanding these patterns.

WAKE FOREST ARTS & HUMANITIES RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS (TO CONDUCT INTENSIVE MENTORED SCHOLARSHIP WITH A FACULTY MEMBER):
William Morgan ('19), "John Adams and Cicero’s Pro Flacco: Boston Massacre on Trial," mentored by Professor Jeff Lerner and Professor Jake Ruddiman. William will be investigating the influence of Cicero, the great Roman orator, on John Adams.

Ned Gidley ('18), "Slavery and the American Revolution," mentored by Professor Jake Ruddiman. Ned will be researching the relationship between slavery, enslaved people, and the Revolutionary War.

Brian Sebetic ('19), "Frederick I Barbarossa and Political Legitimacy," mentored by Professor Monique O’Connell. Brian will be researching how Frederick I used legal concepts, specifically the Justinian legal code, to assert his political legitimacy over his empire.

HISTORY DEPARTMENT SUMMER RESEARCH FUNDING:
Alex Estrada ('19), "The Armenian Genocide Trials," mentored by Professor Penny Sinanoglou. Alex will travel to London to conduct archival research on British involvement in the Ottoman Special Military Tribunals that took place between 1919 and 1922 concerning the Armenian genocide.

Student Internships

Christina James ('18)
I am grateful to have had the opportunity to participate this semester in an internship at the Museum of Early Southern Decorative Arts (MESDA). I have been working with their special collections and have learned a great deal from this experience. When Professor Koscak in the History Department recommended this internship to me, I did not know what to expect. I knew I had a passion for history, but I did not have any previous experience in working with special collections. Despite having no previous knowledge in this division, I was able to really find an interest within special collections.

On my first day, I was able to pick a project related to my interests that would align with MESDA’s needs in this department. While looking at their special collections, I found a file cabinet filled with boxes of photo albums. The photos ranging back to 1870 fascinated me, and I decided to see what I could do with this collection. These photos belonged to Frank L. Horton and his family. The Horton family was prominent in Winston-Salem and started the museum. Every day I look at photographs that were taken in the 1800’s to ten years ago. In this process I make connections to previous photos based on who the subjects are. Through a spreadsheet I describe the setting and subjects within the photo. The spreadsheet is used in order for future researchers to be able to easily find photos within the collection. I’ve also worked with the finding aid by updating it with new objects that have not been processed yet. I have found this internship extremely interesting this semester and highly recommend it for any Wake student interested in museum work or history in general. It really has opened doors for me and allowed me to have a great opportunity for the future. I would not have been able to gain this experience without the advice of Professor Koscak and the History Department.

Below: The Museum of Early Southern Decorative Arts (MESDA)
Tara Coady (’17) presented her thesis research at the WGS Symposium in March [see separate write-up] and gave a presentation on her research to the staff at the Forsyth County Department of Public Health in April. In March, Tara presented a paper, "Public Health and Tropical Conquest: Mosquito Control in the Panama Canal Zone as Means to an Imperialist End, 1900-1920," at the Phi Alpha Theta Carolinas Regional Conference where it won the prize for Best Undergraduate Paper of Session 1.

Justice von Maur (’17) is a History major with minors in Theatre and Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies (WGS). Justice was selected to present her senior history thesis at this year’s annual WGS Symposium [see separate write-up]. She also coordinated with the LGBTQ Center to facilitate an informal bagged-lunch discussion about her thesis with members and allies of the LGBTQ community. When she graduates this May, Justice will move to Atlanta to pursue a future in the city’s theatre community.

In March, three History majors presented at the 2017 Women’s, Gender and Sexualities Studies Symposium on “Feminist Solidarities.”


Top right: Tara Coady presented, “Filling a Healthcare Niche: The Forsyth County Community Nursing Service in Historical Context.”

Below: Emily Conroe spoke on, “1726 Rabbit Hoax: Class, Gender, and Politics of Childbirth.”
PAST TIMES

The Department awarded the following prizes at the Honors and Awards Banquet on April 25, 2017

David W. Hadley Prize for Historical Writing at the 100 Level:
Christian Green ('19), "Race as a Liquid State: An Examination of Racial Fluidity throughout History"

C. Chilton Pearson Prize in US History:
Alexandra Moir ('17), "The Uses of Historical Memory in the Cuban Missile Crisis."

W.J. Cash Award for Research in Southern Studies:

Forest W. Clonts Award for European History:
Rachel Caskey ('17) "Spanish Influenza as a Catalyst for Health Policy"

Forrest W. Clonts award for Excellence in History:
Tara Coady ('17) for academic achievement, intellectual engagement, and service to the department.

Sarah Allen, "Incorporating the Unheard Stories: Curating Domestic Servants’ Experiences in the Narratives of Historic House Museums."


Ethan Gaitz, "Imperial Crisis, Fatherly Rule, & the Loss of a Bond Once Thought Indissoluble."(Fall 2016)

Parker Harris, "The Proliferation of Power and Punishment: An Examination of Colonial Prisons and their Legacies in British Africa."

Michael Kuklinski, "The Instructive Failure of Ambrose W. Thompson: Lessons from America’s Involvement in Central America from the Mid-19th to the Early 20th Century."

Alexandra Moir, "The Uses of Historical Memory in the Cuban Missile Crisis."

Melen Skurka, "Plagued by the Past: Tracing the Transmission of Literary Plague Narratives from the Classical Past to the Colonial World."

Ben Smith, "Red Boogeyman in Guatemala: The American Public’s Understanding of the 1954 Guatemala Coup d’Etat."

Thomas Stirrat, "Rethinking Missionary and Congolese Interactions in Colonial Congo: Congolese Power and Contestation."

Claire Tuffey, "The Power of Patronage: An Analysis of Crusader Queenship."

Zifeng Zhu, "A Race Decided by Education and Institution: Japan and China Seeking a Path Towards Modernization, 1864-1894."

SENIORS GRADUATING WITH HONORS IN HISTORY
These History majors and minors are graduating in May as members of Phi Beta Kappa, the nation’s oldest and most prestigious academic honor society for the liberal arts and sciences:

- Brady B. Buchanan
- Rachel Ina Caskey
- Alexandra Keener North
- Mackenzie Marti Slater
- Timothy T. Wieckowski
- Caleb M. Rash
- Taylor Rachel Rathka
- Felicita L. Rich
- Caroline Lewtas Seibel
- Martin Nan Yuen Seng
- Mary H. Skurka
- Mackenzie Marti Slater
- Ben Robert Smith
- Samuel Robert Socolow
- Thomas James Stirrat
- Rebecca Marie Steuve
- Claire Marie Tuffey
- Justice Ciera von Maur
- Timothy T. Wieckowski
- Grace C. Young
- Zifeng Zhu

The following students have been inducted into Phi Alpha Theta, the National History Honor Society in one of two annual inductions this year:

**Fall 2016**
- Claire Corinna Bennett
- Kellen Marie Datta
- Christina Bell James
- Elizabeth Barbara King
- Patrick Joseph Lange
- Barbara Rodes Lannert
- Yilin Liu
- Elizabeth Rose Mullen
- Christopher Drake Pearcey

**Spring 2017**
- Morgan Elizabeth Beatty
- David M. Burch
- Lauren Burns
- Cheyenne N. Dolbear
- Edward L. Gidley
- Anna E. Gimen
- Rachel E. Horton
- Kendall S. Huennekens
- Cole Alan Kinnie
- Christian E. Kissinger
- Michael Anthony Kuklinski
- Joseph Patrick Macy
- Millan Samuel Maurer
- Alexandra Frances Moir
- Alexandra Keener North
- Connor Jerome Paul
- Isabel Ezzat Penrose
- Kayla Nicole Pielde

The following members of Phi Alpha Theta, the History honors society, are graduating in May:

- Sarah Elizabeth Allen
- Andrew T. Becker
- Blythe Patton Bowman
- Brady B. Buchanan
- Rachel Ina Caskey
- Ashton Victoria Caudle
- Tara N. Coady
- Madeline C. Coffey
- Daniel F. Cordero
- Joseph A. Diaz
- Christopher J. Dickman
- Jared Christopher Eck
- Yasminee K. Emamian
- John Preston Hill
- Rachel E. Horton
- Kendall S. Huennekens
- Cole Alan Kinnie
- Christian E. Kissinger
- Michael Anthony Kuklinski
- Joseph Patrick Macy
- Millan Samuel Maurer
- Alexandra Frances Moir
- Alexandra Keener North
- Connor Jerome Paul
- Isabel Ezzat Penrose
- Kayla Nicole Pielde
Alumni
HOMECOMING
RECEPTION

WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY

SEPTEMBER 15
3:00-5:00 PM
TRIBBLE HALL LOBBY

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