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Welcome to the History Department! As a department, we aim to create a community of teachers, scholars, students, and alumni who see history as a valuable framework for interpreting the world. In my first year as chair of the department, I gained a new perspective on the exciting work my colleagues and students are doing to create new historical knowledge and communicate it to communities on the Wake Forest campus, in the Winston Salem community, and around the world. 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 also reached out beyond the halls of Tribble to pursue mentored research projects, present their own work at conferences, hold historical internships, and share their experiences with their peers in workshops.

In February we began a promising partnership with Old Salem: together with several other departments and community organizations, we hosted three internationally known scholars and authors in the “Nourishing Traditions” lecture series, which focused on the intersections of plants, food, and healing in African and African American history. The event highlighted the public’s appetite for intellectual engagement on issues of contemporary relevance and the important role historians can play in those conversations.

Throughout the year, we have sponsored and co-sponsored a series of talks and cultural events as part of the “Silk Roads Winston Salem” project. Next March, the history department will partner with several others to host an international symposium on The Silk Road, advancing our understanding of global cross cultural exchange. You can learn more about the series here: http://college.wfu.edu/silkroadseries/, and please consider joining us for the Silk Road Symposium on March 28-30, 2019!

One of the most gratifying parts of my new role is the change to chat with more history alums and to learn about the many and varied paths history majors follow after leaving Tribble Hall. While these conversations have reinforced my conviction that the study of history is a great preparation for a wide variety of careers, a highlight of the past year for me has been my conversation with a current student. When asked what he valued about the history major and what he wanted prospective majors to know, the student immediately responded “History is fun!” An appreciation for intellectual development and pleasure in learning for its own sake is one of the things that unites the department faculty, current students, and our alums. Looking forward to more such conversations in the upcoming year!

Monique O’Connell, Professor of History and Department Chair
Congratulations to Dr. Tom Frank, who was appointed the graduate School’s Associate Dean for Continuing Studies! Dr. Frank served as Chair of the History Department from 2014-2017 and has been enjoying a well-deserved research leave, during which he has been pursuing his project on experimental or utopian colleges in the US. Dr. Frank will take up his new duties on July 1, 2018, and the department looks forward to collaborating with him in this new role.

We were fortunate to have Dr. Chuck Thomas, Emeritus Professor of History at Georgia Southern University and Visiting Professor of History at Wake Forest University, teach HST 102, “Europe in the World,” and we are doubly fortunate that he will continue to do so in AY 2018-2019! Dr. Thomas is a specialist in the two world wars of the 20th century; in addition to teaching an introductory course for the department, Dr. Thomas repeated his very popular “Rediscovering the First World War Course” for the Lifelong Learning program.

In Spring 2018 Muriel Beth Hopkins taught her popular course HST 358, “Race and the Courts.” Attorney Hopkins is a Deacon undergrad who has enjoyed more than a ten-year career of adjunct teaching at Wake Forest as well as a flourishing legal career. Her course “Race and the Courts” is the synthesis of historical analysis and Ms. Hopkins’ distinguished career of public interest service. She was also awarded the title of Citizen Lawyer by William & Mary Law School in 2018.
Dr. Dan Du taught HST 108, Asia and the World, and HST 249, Introduction to East Asia. Dr. Du came to us from her PhD program at the University of Georgia, where in 2017 finished her dissertation entitled “This world in a teacup: Chinese American tea trade in the 19th Century.” Next year, Dan will remain nearby, as she has accepted a tenure-track professorship at UNC-Charlotte.

Dr. Derek Holmgren taught in the department us for second year, offering HST 102, Europe and the World as well as a special topics course on Fascism in Europe. Derek is returning to teach with us for a third year in AY 2018-2019, and he will continue to work on turning his 2015 UNC Chapel Hill dissertation "Gateway to Freedom: The Friedland Refugee Camp as Regulating Humanitarianism, 1945-1960" into a book manuscript.

Dr. Stephanie Hassell taught HST 105, Africa and the World, as well as a special topics course on Slavery in Africa. Dr. Hassell received her BA from the University of Virginia and her MA and PhD from Stanford, and she came to us after a postdoctoral fellowship year at Duke. Her research specialty is slavery in the early modern Indian Ocean, and her 2014 dissertation was entitled “Slavery, Conversion, and Religious Geography in Portuguese India in the 16th and 17th centuries.” Next year, Stephanie will begin a tenure-track professorship at Clemson University.

In 2017-2018 we had five visiting professors, all experts in their respective fields who brought new perspectives to our students. We are grateful for all their work with our students and that the department is able to host such talented teacher-scholars!
Simone Caron

Simone Caron, Professor, has had several publications and notable events in the last year, including “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): 26-53. She was recipient of the Donald O. Schoonmaker Faculty Award for Community Service (February 2018). Simone attended the Social Science History Association conference in Montreal in November 2017, where she was elected the association’s Representative for the Health, Medicine and Body Network, chaired the session: “Physiological Freedoms: Constructing Therapeutic Practices and Expertise, 1840s-1930s,” and served as panelist for the roundtable, “The Implications of Aaron Panofsky’s Misbehaving Science.”

Paul Escott

Paul Escott, Professor, has just published Rethinking the Civil War Era: Directions for Research with the University of Kentucky Press. He also has a book in press in Brazil through a publisher named Hedra whose working title is Remembering North American Slavery. (This book is translated into Portuguese.) See “Faculty Focus” in this issue for an interview with Paul Escott.

Robert Hellyer

Robert Hellyer, Associate Professor, has been completing a project on the history of Japan’s export of green tea to the United States in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. He recently published two chapters about that research in edited volumes. During the 2017-2018 academic year, he has been on research leave and received two outside grants to allow him to become a fellow at the International Research Center for Japanese Studies in Kyoto. In addition, he gave presentations in Hong Kong and Singapore as well as a number in Japan, including at the Kyushu National Museum as part of the Ishibashi Lecture Series, sponsored by the Ishibashi Foundation and co-organized by the Sainsbury Institute for the Study of Japanese Arts and Cultures in Britain. While in Kyoto, he has been visiting temples, shrines, and palaces throughout the city, Japan’s capital for 1000 years, taking photos and making notes to employ in future classes.

Hellyer has also been involved in a multi-year, international project exploring Japan’s Meiji Restoration upon its sesquicentennial in 2018. In January 2018, he co-authored an op-ed, published in The Washington Post, outlining the global significance of the event in Japanese and world history. He also presented a related paper at a conference in Yale, and organized a roundtable exploring research, commemoration, and the teaching of the Meiji Restoration, convened at the Association for Asian Studies Annual Conference in Washington, DC.

Beth Hopkins

Beth Hopkins, Professor of Law and Adjunct Assistant Professor of History, was recently awarded the title of Citizen Lawyer by William & Mary Law School. Since 1992, awards are given to a William & Mary Law Alumnus/a who personify the citizen lawyer tradition of professional achievement, service, personal integrity and community leadership. The Citizen Lawyer recipients represent the alumni who have graduated more than eleven years from law school.

Michael Hughes

Michael Hughes, Professor, published “Predatory Speculators, Honest Creditors: Money as Root of Evil or Proof of Virtue in Weimar Germany” in Mary Lindemann/Jared Poley (eds.), Money in the German Speaking Lands (New York: Berghahn Books, 2017). He also has completed a draft of his book, Becoming Democratic: Political Citizenship and Participation in Germany, 1871-2000, and is currently awaiting reader comments.

Stephanie Koscak

Stephanie Koscak, Assistant Professor, spent the 2017-2018 year on junior leave to finish researching and writing her book, tentatively titled “Picturing Royal Subjects: Print Culture and Reverence in England, 1649-1760.” She was recently awarded a 2017 Summer Research Award and a 2017 Archie Grant from Wake Forest University for this project. She also held a three-month fellowship at the Folger Shakespeare Library in Washington, D.C., and was awarded a one-month Visiting Scholar Award at the Yale Center for British Art. Koscak spent the majority of the year as a Visiting Fellow at the Center for the Humanities at Wesleyan University in Middletown, CT, where she also began new research for a second project on the history of loss and lost objects in eighteenth-century England. She gave a number of invited talks and conference presentations on her ongoing research. In October, Koscak shared a paper, titled “Imagining the King’s Death: Graphic Satire and the Re-Enchantment of Restoration Politics” with the Triangle Global British History Seminar that meets at the National Humanities Center. She also presented a paper, titled “Playing Cards and Political Legerdemain: Communications Networks and the Representation of Conspiracy” at the Intermedia Restoration Conference at the University of Maryland, College Park, in February 2018. An expanded version of this essay will be published in a special 2018 issue of the journal Restoration: Studies in English Literary Culture, 1660-1700. Additionally, Koscak participated in the plenary roundtable at the Mid-Atlantic Conference on British Studies on the topic of “Refocusing on Women, Gender, and the Public Spheres in the British World.” She discussed new research on royal mistresses and the gendering of allegiance and politics in 1730s England. Koscak also published a short essay on Netflix’s popular television series “The Crown” and the eighteenth-century genre of secret histories of royalty in “The 18th-Century Common: A Public Humanities Website,” which can be found at www.18thcenturycommon.org. This summer, Koscak will spend time researching in London and Oxford archives in the United Kingdom, and she will take part in the Digital Humanities Summer Institute at Wake Forest.
Monique O’Connell

Monique O’Connell, Professor, spent a lot of her time this year learning the ins and outs of department chairs. In between administrative tasks, she spoke at the symposium associated with the “De Barbari’s View of Venice” show at Duke’s Nasher Museum in October and went to the Renaissance Society of America conference in March 2018, where she presented a paper entitled “Cyriac of Ancona and Mediterranean Networks of Exchange.” The paper will be published in an edited collection called The Renaissance of Letters: Knowledge and Community in Italy, 1300-1650.

She also greatly enjoyed her visit to the Chemical Heritage Foundation (now the Science History Institute) in Philadelphia. The Otmer library there has one of the richest and most comprehensive collections of 15th-17th century alchemical manuscripts and rare books in North America. O’Connell consulted many early printed alchemical works in preparation for her new course, “Science, Magic and Alchemy 1400-1700,” which she taught in Spring 2018. Students in the class not only read medieval magic spells and alchemical recipes, they visited the lab of Dr. Paul Jones in the Chemistry Department at Wake, who demonstrated distillation and other chemical procedures for the class. We also visited the glassblowing studio of The Olio in Winston Salem and watched the artists there explain the connections between the art of glassblowing and alchemy. The course was a success: even though students did not succeed in making the famous The Philosopher’s Stone, they did learn a great deal about the roots of early modern science.

This summer, O’Connell will be working with the Digital Scholarship team at ZSR library on the ongoing project Rulers of Venice (rulersofvenice.org), which promises to bring new insights into the function of the Venetian patriciate in the late medieval period.

Nate Plageman

Nate Plageman, Associate Professor, has been on a 2017-2018 Reynolds Research Leave, focusing on the research and writing of a book project currently entitled “State Plans and City Lives: Urban Itineraries and the Making of a West African Town.” At its core, the project provides a longitudinal study of Sekondi-Takoradi, a small fishing village that became the West African nation of Ghana’s principal port and first “planned city” from c. 1890 to 1970. In addition to uncovering the shifting logics that informed government efforts to change the city’s spatial and sociopolitical confines, it pursues a big, but important, question: How did residents encounter and shape Ghana’s first “planned city” from 1890-70? Nate’s work consults a rich mosaic of source materials—archival documents, newspapers, oral histories, photographs, and songs—and weaves multiple acts of urban imagination and city-building into a single, but multivocal, narrative about the city’s past. In December, Nate received a Fellowship from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) to support his research and writing of his book. In addition to continuing his writing, Nate will travel to Ghana in May and August to conduct the research needed to finish its initial draft.

In addition to his work on “State Plans and City Lives,” Nate continued work in a number of other arenas. He co-edited (with Jesse Shipley, Dartmouth College) the 2017 volume of Ghana Studies, a journal dedicated to the interdisciplinary study of Ghana across the globe. The issue was published in November. Nate and Jesse wrote the volume’s introduction entitled, “Praxis, Perspectives, and Methods of Ghanaian Popular Music: A Special Issue in Honor of John Collins,” and Nate published an additional article in the issue entitled “Retuning Imperial Intentions: The Gold Coast Police Band, West African Students, and a 1947 Tour of Great Britain.” Nate served as a chair and discussant for a roundtable on cross-cultural musical encounters at the 2017 Annual Meeting of the African Studies Association and attended the 2017 conference of the Africa Network: an organization upon which he serves on the Board of Directors. Finally, Nate continued his work as Coordinator of Wake Forest’s African Studies Minor in the Fall of 2017 before initiating a leave of absence for the Spring and Summer of 2018.
Penny Sinanoglu, Assistant Professor, was delighted to have the opportunity to develop and co-teach two new classes on refugees with Professor Blee (see faculty focus article). She also continued her research on marriage law in the nineteenth- and twentieth-century British empire, presenting a paper on polygamy at a legal history conference in London in July 2017, and preparing to present papers on child marriage in London and Exeter, UK this coming June. In November 2017, Sinanoglu chaired a roundtable at the North American Conference on British Studies annual meeting on a fascinating book on tea, globalization and the British empire, and in January 2018 she presented a paper on British interwar partition planning at the American Historical Association annual meeting. This summer, Sinanoglu will conduct research in several libraries and archives in London on legal debates over marriage in the British empire, and in August will travel to Singapore to present an invited paper at a workshop on partition.

Barry Trachtenberg

This past academic year I published a book, The United States and the Nazi Holocaust: Race, Refuge, and Remembrance. It argues, in part, that antisemitism in the US must be understood within the larger context of racial oppression that has been present long before the country's founding. The book demonstrates that immigration policies which Congress enacted in the 1920s in order to maintain a white majority population provided the framework for the country's response to the refugee crisis that was prompted by Hitler's rise to power in 1933. In creating an immigration system that was designed to uphold isolationist principles and therefore keep migration to the US to a minimum, especially during the Great Depression, Jews seeking to find refuge in the country were often prevented from doing so. During the war years, officials within the State Department, in particular, suppressed reports about Nazi atrocities against European Jews, in large part out of efforts to prevent public pressure on the government from attempting to intervene on Jews' behalf. After the war, anxieties about Jews' racial position helped to shape how the Holocaust was represented for decades after the war. The book ends by examining the relationship of the US and the Holocaust in light of rising antisemitism in the wake of the rise of the Trump presidency. https://www.bloomsbury.com/us/the-united-states-and-the-nazi-holocaust-9781472567185/

Mir Yarfitz

Mir Yarfitz, Assistant Professor, is expecting the publication of his book Impure Migrations: Jews and Sex Work in Golden-Age Argentina with Rutgers University Press in early 2019. Preparation of the book was supported over the summer by the WFU Humanities Institute. Mir presented on this work in the Dean's Office's New Ideas series and the Humanities Institute's lecture series. The new campus organization Students Helping Honduras invited him to support their peer education work with the broader student body on Central American history and current events. In the summer of 2018, he will present at the Latin American Studies Association Congress in Barcelona on his new Argentine transgender history project and continue to expand that research, as well as designing a new divisional course in the Global History of Gender and Sexuality. He also continues to lead the cello section of the Winston-Salem Civic Orchestra, a multi-generational community group whose performances raise money for local arts organizations and other charities.

Qiong Zhang

Qiong Zhang, Associate Professor, has been primarily working on her new 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.” She conducted a summer of research on this project (May through August 2017) in Kyoto, Japan, on an international visiting fellowship from Kyoto University’s Institute for Research in Humanities. She presented her findings in a paper titled, “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 (ICHST), held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, July 23-29, 2017, and will be giving another paper, “Divination by Meteorological Phenomena as a Living Chinese Tradition: Evolving Context, Techniques, and Sources,” at the international conference, “Imagined Communities: Links between China’s Past, Present, and Future,” to be held on May 30-31, 2018 at the University of Macau, China. This paper will be a chapter in a handbook on divination and decision making in pre-modern China. She will also give an invited public lecture in Shenzhen, China, on May 27, 2018, on “The Fang School in Late Ming and Early Qing Meteorological Discourses.” In June 2018, she will conduct further library research in Shanghai and some field work in Anhui, Jiangxi, and Fujian provinces with the support of an Archie grant from the Wake College.

Meanwhile, she continues to pursue research in the history of cartography. She contributed an invited paper to a forthcoming edited volume exploring the global integration of space since the early modern era. Her paper is titled “Parallels, Engagement, and Integration: The Ricci Maps and Their Afterlives in Ming-Qing China as a Case Study of an Intertwined Global Early Modernity.” She will be giving another invited presentation at the international conference, “Cartographic Operations: Art, Science and Politics in South East Asia,” on May 17, 2018, in Singapore. The title of her paper is “An Early Modern Cartographic Triangle: Europe, China, and Japan.”
Department Faculty College Awards and Fellowships

Dr. Lisa Blee was awarded the Young Family Faculty Fellowship for 2018-2021. The fellowship is awarded by the Dean of the College to honor faculty who have distinguished themselves as particularly dedicated and successful teachers and mentors in their disciplines with a strong record of scholarly or creative activity. Dr. Blee’s award recognizes her ability to integrate research, teaching, and service projects into an enterprise that has intellectual significance, pedagogical benefit, and community impact. Her scholarship focuses on the intersections of Indigenous Studies, Public History, and Environmental history, the courses she teaches and the internships and independent studies she directs have built a vibrant program of engaged public history on our campus and in Winston Salem.

Dr. Simone Caron received the Donald O. Schoonmaker Award for Community Service for 2018. The Schoonmaker Award is given in memory of long-time Political Science Professor Don Schoonmaker, a man who cared deeply about undergraduate teaching, who fought for social and racial justice, and who did not hesitate to stand up for what he thought was right at the university and in the community. The award recognizes Dr. Caron’s record of service to the history department, the university community, and the Winston Salem community. Over the past 27 years, Dr. Caron has offered generous and effective service to Wake Forest through her engagement in faculty governance, her dedication to justice inside and outside the institution, and her generous support of countless individual faculty and students.

Dr. Nate Plageman was awarded a National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Fellowship to support completion of a book currently titled “State Planning and City Life in Western Ghana, 1900-1970.” His was one of 74 fellowships for 2018 announced by the NEH. These fellowships support individuals pursuing advanced research that is of value to humanities scholars, general audiences, or both. Recipients usually produce articles, monographs, books, digital materials, archaeological site reports, translations, editions, or other scholarly resources in the humanities.

Plageman said the book he is writing “is a longitudinal study of Sekondi-Takoradi, a small coastal settlement that became the West African nation of Ghana’s principal port and first ‘planned city.’” Addressing stereotypes about Africa and Africans, Plageman observes, “it too easy to ignore how past efforts to ‘develop’ them have gone awry or even led to conditions that subsequent planning efforts sought to fix. More importantly, it prevents us from thinking about the aspirations and efforts of ordinary people and the ways in which they have actively made—not passively occupied—the urban landscapes in which they live.”

Dr. Jake Ruddiman received the Henry Stroupe Award for Excellence in Research for 2018-2019. The Stroupe Award is given to a member of the history department in recognition of outstanding performance and support for the department’s mission. Dr. Ruddiman is a historian of the American Revolution and teaches courses on Colonial and Revolutionary America as well as the Early American Republic. Since its publication in 2014, Dr. Ruddiman’s book, Becoming Men of Some Consequence: Youth and Military Service in the Revolutionary War, has gained recognition from other historians as well as a popular audience: It was named to the “100 Best American Revolution Books of All Time” list in the online Journal of the American Revolution at http://allthingsliberty.com.
The two-day international and interdisciplinary conference titled "Locality, Genre, and Muslim Belonging in South Asia" was held on September 15-16, 2017 at Reynolda House Museum of American Art. The event was organized by Prof. Rais Rahman and the History Department was a major sponsor.
Paul Escott needed to make a decision and choose between one of two doors. Raised in University City, Missouri – a suburb of St. Louis where Tennessee Williams attended high school – Escott was a patriotic kid and enjoyed reading about American History as a teenager.

As an undergraduate student at Harvard University during the Civil Rights Movement, he hoped to better understand the historical context behind the racial tension that was transforming the world around him.

Escott knew he wanted to be a historian, but he was torn between whether to study Southern History or Urban History as a graduate student at Duke University in the 1970s.

To help make his decision easier, he visited the two professors who specialized in each field. His first visit didn’t go so well, though.

“I went to the door of the woman who taught Urban History. I knocked on the door, and she opened it a crack,” Escott said. “I gave her my best presentation of self, and she said, ‘I’m not taking any graduate students.’”

Now recognized as a premier Southern and Civil War historian, Escott sat in his Manchester Hall office on a recent morning and laughed about his awkward encounter with the Duke professor almost 50 years ago.

A prolific writer, Escott has written or co-authored more than a dozen books that have challenged the mythology of President Abraham Lincoln, examined the leadership of Jefferson Davis, and addressed race relations during the Civil War.

His latest book, *Rethinking the Civil War Era: Directions for Research*, was released May 4, 2018.

Escott will retire at the end of this semester after spending the past three decades at Wake Forest University, including nine years as the Dean of the College (1995-2004).

Escott, the Reynolds Professor of History, is leaving WFU at around the same age that his father – a machinist and foreman in a machine shop – retired.

Being from the St. Louis area, Escott has been somewhat of an outsider as a Midwesterner studying the South. However, his father was born in Kentucky and his mother was raised mostly in Alabama.

“I later realized that I did have somewhat of a cultural understanding of Southern values and Southern ways of looking at the world from being the child of my parents,” Escott said.

Karen Zipf, Professor of History at East Carolina University, met Escott soon after he arrived at WFU in 1988. At the time, she was a History major who had been hired – without a formal interview – to be his student assistant.

“Unfamiliar with Wake Forest, he needed a student’s perspective. As the new guy, he trusted me to show him the ropes,” Zipf said. “For my part, I needed a job, but I also needed a mentor.”
Along the way, Escott challenged Zipf’s thinking about the South in his classes. He taught her about Harriet Jacobs, who had escaped slavery not far from Zipf’s hometown in eastern North Carolina and penned an autobiography about her terrible travails.

He also introduced Zipf to the possibility of becoming a History professor.

“I can’t exaggerate the lasting impact Paul had on me as a teacher and a mentor,” she said, adding that over the years Escott has edited her work and “written about 1 million letters of recommendation on my behalf.”

During his time as Dean, Escott helped implement a campus-wide academic plan known as the “Class of 2000.” He also helped raise funds for the Physics, and Health and Exercise Science departments.

When he eventually returned to the classroom, Escott discovered he had a renewed passion for teaching. He had accomplished his priorities as Dean, and he was eager to get back to examining History – even if it meant dispelling some of the popular American narrative.

“I think [being a historian] doesn’t make me less patriotic, but maybe I’m more informed about being patriotic,” Escott said. “What will always make me grateful for the United States is that, although my parents didn’t have much money and did everything they could in a substantial way to support me, I really benefited from lots of scholarships.”

But is there a chance his career could have gone in a much different direction had Duke’s Urban History professor opened her door to him?

“I don’t know,” Escott said, laughing. “I’m glad that she did what she did.”

(Taken from WFU Teacher-Scholar Legacies)

“As a teacher, Paul has consistently demanded the best from students, pushing them beyond easy certainties about U.S. History and asking them to question their own assumptions. As a colleague, Paul has been unfailingly generous and has supported many junior colleagues in the development of their own careers.”

-Monique O’Connell, Professor and Chair of the Department of History

His latest book, Rethinking the Civil War Era: Directions for Research (2018)
During the summer of 2017, I began a three-month fellowship at the Folger Shakespeare Library in Washington, D.C., which is located more-or-less across the street from the United States Supreme Court and just a stone’s throw from the Capitol Building. It was interesting (to say the least) to walk by the Hill en route to the archive, often passing tourists, interns, and occasional protestors, as I settled into the imposing and impressively air-conditioned reading room each day. Here I spent my time reading and taking notes on English manuscripts, printed tracts, and rare books dealing with seventeenth- and eighteenth-century politics and political culture – rarely, if ever, did I think contemporary American politics might shade my study of early modern European history.

The main reason for my research at the Folger Library was to finish my book, *Picturing Royal Subjects: Print Culture and Reverence in England, 1649-1760*. This book demonstrates that the rapid expansion of the printing press, engraving, and the production of decorative objects from the second half of the seventeenth century disseminated representations of rulers across a wider social scale than ever before. Despite the fractious nature of party politics, the commercial stigma of the press, and the instabilities of partisan meaning that plagued the later Stuart and early Hanoverian public sphere, royalist texts and images facilitated dynamic and flexible cultures of allegiance and provided a shared language of political discussion. While at the Folger, I was especially interested in exploring how members of the monarch’s family became, by the early eighteenth century, quasi-celebrities with the invention of daily newspapers and new journalistic practices that represented court activities for readers who desired access to the personal histories of royal figures. In particular, this chapter focused on George II’s errant and infamous son, Frederick, Prince of Wales (1701-1751), who courted London crowds and the political opposition in the 1730s, becoming a kind of celebrity figure whose movements were widely portrayed in print and image. King George and Frederick’s relationship continued to decline during the 1730s, and eventually Frederick was exiled from the royal household, forced to rent accommodations within fashionable areas of London.

As I began this research, I had not really considered how gender was important to Frederick’s self-presentation or the brand of celebrity that he cultivated. I knew, for instance, that the Prince of Wales had a string of public mistresses in the 1730s, the most well known being Anne Vane, about whom very little is recorded. Vane was the eldest daughter of the Tory MP for Guilford, Gilbert Vane, and she was appointed as a Maid of Honour to Princess Caroline in 1725, continuing in the position after Caroline became queen in 1727.1 After reports of failed marriage negotiations with William Stanhope, Baron Harrington, Vane became sexually involved with the acerbic courtier John, Lord Hervey in 1731, before finally becoming the Prince of Wales’s public mistress later the same year. She gave birth to a son in 1732, Cornwall Fitz-Frederick Vane, whom the prince publicly acknowledged as his own, setting Vane up in a fine house in Soho Square when she was dismissed from court. Vane remained connected to Frederick until he formally parted with her on the eve of his marriage to Princess Augusta of Saxe-Gotha in 1736. Early that same year, Vane’s son died, and then Vane died a month later while visiting Bath because of poor health.

What was most surprising to me, however, was that Vane herself achieved a kind of popular but scandalous celebrity in the first half of the 1730s, particularly after the publication of a large number of anonymous secret histories and personal accounts of her associations with Hervey and Frederick, which range from the romantic, to the slightly bawdy, to the almost pornographic. So far, I have located ten of these narratives, many of which include engraved depictions of Vane and the Prince of Wales. Rachel Weil, an historian of gender and politics in early modern England, has examined representations and discussions of Charles II’s court mistresses during the 1660s and 1670s—he, of course, famously fathered fourteen illegitimate children by six women—yet very little has been written about Vane or the political role of royal mistresses during the eighteenth century. As Weil argues, mistresses were part of the “semantics of politics,” they were important symbols and conduits of court patronage, policy direction, and political maneuvering.2 As I started to read these sources about Vane, I wondered what her history revealed about the semantics of politics in the 1730s. Historians have typically argued that emerging ideals about domesticity, morality, and sexual probity came to structure ideals
about masculinity and marriage by the mid-eighteenth century, which makes these erotic publications seem quite unusual, especially their lack of a moralistic tone.

Recently, I was asked to present a paper as part of a plenary roundtable discussion on the theme of “Gender, Women, and the Public Spheres in the British World” at the 2018 Mid-Atlantic Conference on British Studies at the University of Maryland. In part, the session aimed to rethink some of our historical work about women, gender, and politics in light of contemporary debates about these questions on both sides of the Atlantic. In the past two years, we have witnessed the Women’s March, the #MeToo movement against cultures of assault and harassment, the gender stereotyping of female politicians, and the uneven impact of Brexit on women and women’s labor, especially within marginalized communities. Thinking about my own research over the past year, I decided to revisit the material I had collected on Anne Vane for the conference. What most surprised me about the published and manuscript discussions of Vane and the Prince of Wales were the ways in which the court was depicted as a space of erotic debauchery and romantic intrigue, a place of elite but mostly harmless petticoat plots. One history titled Palace Amours (1733), for instance, opens the court to the public gaze, offering detailed descriptions of Frederick’s erotic “adventures” around London to penetrate and present secret spaces of the metropolis for reader consumption. Court and city are imagined as sites of expansive sexual intrigue as the merry Prince aided by his favorites – Captain Modish and Lord Subtle – attend bawdyhouse sex shows, seduce shop girls and actresses, and finally conquer the lovely Vane, who later favors Frederick with a son.

Vane herself left almost nothing in the way of personal letters or diaries, so it is very difficult to recover her own thoughts, actions, and experiences. But I think we can begin to analyze her public portrayal as part of the semantics of early eighteenth-century royalist politics that has not yet been explored. The readers of these texts that I mention would almost exclusively have been men, most from the middling classes. Previous historians often suggest that royalism and affection for the monarchy was something that primarily appealed to women and the politically uninformèd – as the nineteenth-century journalist Walter Bagehot famously declared in his study of Victorian monarchy, women “care fifty times more for a marriage than a ministry.” But the secret histories of Anne Vane that I researched at the Folger Library show that male readers also desired access to the private and domestic lives of royal subjects: these texts were manufactured for and empowered the male gaze, and they offered visual and narrative pleasure through the representation of princely court intrigue. Above all, they demonstrate that we as British historians need to explore the gendered discourses of eighteenth-century allegiance beyond the realm of domesticity and the royal family as a site of popular sentimental attachment to the state. As I continue to research how Anne Vane served as a powerful political symbol in the 1730s – an object of national concern, intense scrutiny, court maneuvering, and male pleasure – I am reminded that conspicuous women remain central to political languages in the highest spheres of contemporary American politics. What has been so interesting to me as the scandal surrounding Stephanie Clifford continues to unfold has nothing to do with what actually goes on in the presidential bedroom. Rather, I’m curious about how Clifford’s narrative has become part of our own semantics of politics, one that reveals contemporary anxieties about the objectification and coercion of women, backdoor politicking, political morality, and media distortion. Would I have found Vane’s history compelling or examined how her public representations reveal the gendering of eighteenth-century politics without the recent focus in America and Britain on women’s activism and political agency? Probably. But I’m also reminded here of the late British historian E. P. Thompson, who wrote that “history” (when considered as the productions of historical enquiry) will change, and ought to change, with the preoccupations of each generation, or, as it may be, each sex, each nation, each social class.” This is certainly a moment when we are again preoccupied with the politics of gender and the gendering of politics, and I’m excited to see how these concerns continue to shape fields of historical inquiry.

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3 On men and the reading of erotic, see Karen Harvey, Reading Sex in the Eighteenth Century: Bodies and Gender in English Erotic Culture (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2004).
A NEW FYS, TAUGHT BY JAKE RUDDIMAN

Around the time of the 2016 Tony Awards, Ben Coates walked into my office and asked if I had thought about doing a class on the blockbuster "Hamilton" musical. I had not, I told him. But as we chatted, I got to thinking about what such a course might look like and what goals my students might pursue.

A whole course on "Hamilton" felt self-indulgent, even for this theater-loving historian of Revolutionary America. But what if I broadened the scope? What if it wasn’t just theater, but also novels and films? As I solicited colleagues to add to a “favorite history fictions” list, a three-part arc started to emerge: Colonial Stories, Revolution Stories, and Slavery Stories. Presented as a First Year Seminar, students could examine the artistic and dramatic choices the creators of these historical fictions made, compare fictions to the real primary sources and cutting-edge scholarship, and figure for themselves what stories about the past tell us about the present in which they get told.

This semester “Early American Histories in Theater, Film, and Fiction” rolled out. I’m not sure who has had more fun, me or my students. We started with Disney’s "Pocahontas," of course, comparing that princess’s love story with the far more dramatic and adventurous true story of her short life. We paired the Canadian novel, Black Robe, with the real reports from French Jesuits in the 1630s. We weighed The Crucible, as a script, against Arthur Miller’s testimony before the HUAC committee in 1956, and against the film version starring Daniel Day Lewis.

The “Revolution stories” proved transformative for my 16 students, as they listened to the emo-punk rock musical "Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson," the staid classic, 1776, Mel Gibson’s "The Patriot" (an American Braveheart, for better or worse), HBO’s John Adams miniseries, and, of course, two weeks on "Hamilton." Students couldn’t help but draw the political connections to the Tea Party movement, Black Lives Matter, #MeToo, and more as they discussed what these stories told Americans of all political persuasions.

We’re ending the course with “Slavery Stories,” which promises to be a fittingly heavy conclusion, morally and intellectually. Discussing "Amistad," class launched the discussion in a totally unexpected direction: education policy and curriculum in primary and secondary education. Why had they not been taught this? How had teachers at different schools, in different parts of the country – and world – presented slavery as an institution and the experiences of enslaved people?

The course will end with multiple tellings of Nat Turner’s 1831 Virginia slave rebellion. I’m curious to see how my students unpack the deeply problematic contemporary accounts, William Styron’s controversial 1967 novel, and the 2016 "Birth of a Nation" telling by writer-director-star Nate Parker. I’m confident that they’re ready to confront the brutality of the story, the complicated narratives, and the heavy moral and political questions this American past lays on our American present.
The article, *How a WWI-era law set the stage for the Trump-Russia controversy*, was published July 31, 2017, giving context to the current tensions between Russia and the US.

"Although Russian interference in the 2016 election is the immediate cause of this battle over sanctions, the tug of war between Congress and Trump over sanctions policy is part of a century-long fight over who gets to decide how to treat the private property of citizens of hostile countries, one that has raged ever since Congress gave the president authority to unilaterally conduct economic warfare."

"What began as a wartime necessity has become a permanent arsenal of economic weapons, affording the individual in the White House tremendous power to make policies that affect the daily lives of people around the world."

### BARRY TRACHTENBERG TESTIFIES BEFORE HOUSE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

In the past academic year, I testified to the House Judiciary committee in Washington DC on the Antisemitism Awareness Act, legislation (which had passed the Senate in the previous term but was not yet pending in the House) that would have significantly altered Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 so as to restrict criticism of the state of Israel on college campuses. I, along with other scholars of Jewish history, spoke out against this legislation. I argued that creating such categories of speech would likely elevate antisemitism and not combat it, as it would reinforce notions that Jews in America were an exceptional people who required special laws about what can and cannot be said about them. The legislation, I also argued, was not designed to curb attacks on Jews for being Jews, but rather was designed to curtail what would otherwise be legitimate political speech concerning the actions of a state. The effect of this legislation would be to further the systematic oppression of Palestinians living under military occupation.
NEW COURSES ON REFUGEES IN HISTORICAL AND CONTEMPORARY PERSPECTIVE

By Penny Sinanoglou and Lisa Blee

Though we work on very different thematic, geographic and temporal areas, we learned during a lunchtime conversation that we both had a strong interest in developing classes on refugees and forced migration, and were fortunate to be given the flexibility, resources and funding by the Department, the College, and outside grants to develop this shared interest into two unique classes. The first step in course preparation was learning more about contemporary discussions and debates around the “refugee crisis.” In the summer of 2017, we traveled to Berlin and Amsterdam to attend faculty seminars and workshops concerning immigration, asylum, and refugee resettlement in the contemporary EU. Based on these rich experiences we subsequently created, and co-taught two new classes related to refugees in 2017-2018.

The first course in the Fall semester provided students with a sustained historical exploration of forced migrations and of the development of the concept of refuge. Covering the 16th to 20th centuries and spanning the United States to East Asia, we explored a wide-ranging set of cases that pushed students to think comparatively across temporal and geographic boundaries. Throughout, students examined how political, legal, and cultural understandings of migrations and refuge have changed over time, and how or whether groups and individuals have thought of a humanitarian imperative. In the Spring semester, our Public History course turned toward the local impacts of refugee resettlement in the Triad. In partnership with World Relief, the faith-based organization contracted with the federal government to coordinate the resettlement of displaced people in Winston-Salem, students interviewed recently resettled refugees to understand their experiences in and impressions of our city. In addition to the interviews, students conducted scholarly research and organized World Relief’s regional office archive to gain a deeper perspective on both on-the-ground realities and the larger context of resettlement policy. The outcome of this community-based research is a public exhibit entitled “They Welcomed...”
Us`: Illuminating Refugee Resettlement in the Triad," which opened with a program at the Central Library auditorium on May 9th. The exhibit will be on display at the Forsyth County Public Library Central Branch through the summer of 2018.

In September, we will be joined by students from both courses in presenting a plenary panel on our experience developing these courses at a conference entitled, Innovation, Engagement, and Cross-disciplinary Opportunities: Case Studies from Humanities Centers at Liberal Arts Colleges and Small Universities hosted by Colby College.

Above: A walking tour of Berlin through the eyes of a refugee

Below: Inside the Malteser Refugee Center, ICC, Berlin

Opposite Above: A walking tour of Amsterdam’s architectural presentation of enslaved Africans conducted by a Surinamese immigrant to the Netherlands

Opposite Below: Asylum-seekers’ housing in a former prison in Amsterdam
Michael B. Toth ('79) recently led a team of researchers revealing hidden medical texts that were scraped off and overwritten 1,000 years ago in the Syriac Galen Palimpsest. As part of an international, multidisciplinary team, Mike is coordinating advanced imaging with X-rays and multispectral imaging to reveal the hidden text of a medical manuscript by the ancient Greek doctor Galen that was written on parchment in the 6th century and scraped off and overwritten with religious psalms in the 11th century. This took place during 10 days in March 2018 using the extremely bright X-ray light at the Stanford Synchrotron Radiation Lightsource (SSRL) at the Department of Energy's SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory and with his company's latest multispectral imaging system in the Stanford University Libraries.

"The first initial results are incredibly mind-blowing," Peter Pormann, a classicist who studies connections between ancient civilizations at the University of Manchester in the U.K., told Newsweek. "This is a unique witness to this particular text."

A multidisciplinary team is scanning an ancient medical manuscript with X-rays at the Stanford Synchrotron Radiation Lightsource to reveal hidden text written on the parchment in the 6th century, which was later scraped off and written over with religious text in the 11th century.

(Robert Kish / SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory)
Conservators at Stanford University Libraries removed the pages from the leather-bound cover of the book of hymns, and mounted each leaf in an individually fitted, archival mat. The individual mats were placed in an aluminum frame to secure the pages while examining the underlying text with X-rays at the Stanford Synchrotron Radiation Lightsource.

(Farrin Abbott / SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory)

An international, multidisciplinary team is using X-rays from SLAC to reveal the hidden text of a medical manuscript by the ancient Greek doctor Galen that was written on parchment in the 6th century and scraped off and overwritten with religious text in the 11th century. This is a sample page scanned with X-rays showing the never-before-seen under text (green), especially visible in the left margin.

(University of Manchester / SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory)
The following students have been inducted into Phi Alpha Theta, the National History Honor Society in one of two annual inductions this year.

**Fall 2017**
Cameron T. Bainbridge
Jacob W. Bequette
James Roland Berents
William Harold Biesel III
Emma K. Bowden
Justin S. Chermol
Nolan D. Dahm
Faith Marie Engle
Alexander F. Estrada
John R. Foley
Calixto Xavier Garcia-Velez
Taylor M. Haberle
Stephan H. Jaksch
Tesia F. Kempski
Kathryn S. Kneisel
Emily Victoria Lair
Mary Katherine Parsons Lupo
John R. Penny
Aisling Joan Quirke
Brian Paul Sebetic
Hannah Emily Shows
Catherine P. Smith
Holden M. Stanley
Anne M. Stevens
Priscilla Victoria Vasquez

**Spring 2018**
Eleanor Frances Anderson
Brenda Bliadze
Benjamin C. Campbell
Matthew Allen David
Terrance S. Franc
Blair Bryan Gregory
Reagan S. Lindsay
Marianna Lovo*
Eleanor M. McDonald*
Tyler Primm Miller
Patrick Conor Moore
Matthew M. Nabors
Adam James Tomasi
Michelle M. White
Andrew B. Wilson
These History majors and minors are members of Phi Beta Kappa, the nation's oldest and most prestigious academic honor society for the liberal arts and sciences (the * denotes graduating member):

Cameron T. Bainbridge
Morgan Elizabeth Beatty*
Claire Corinna Bennett*
Jacob W. Bequette
William Harold Biesel*
Emma K. Bowden*
David M. Burch*
Lauren Burns
Joshua D. Burton*
Justin S. Chermol*
Nolan D. Dahm
Kellen Marie Datta*
Cheyenne N. Dolbear*
Faith Marie Engle
Alexander F. Estrada
John R. Foley*
Calixto Xavier Garcia-Velez
Edward L. Gidley*
Anna E. Gimeno*
Taylor M. Haberle*
Devon Arons Huseman*
Stephan H. Jaksch
Christina Bell James*
Nicole R. Jodan
Maya Jones*
Tesia F. Kempski
Elizabeth Barbara King*
Kathryn S. Kneisel
Emily Victoria Lair*
Patrick Joseph Lange*
Barbara Rodes Lannert*
Yilin Liu*
James C. Llewellyn*
Mary Katherine Parsons Lupo
William B. Morgan
Shannon L. Moryl
Elizabeth Rose Mullen*
Asia Parker*
Mary Alexander Patterson*
Christopher Drake Pearcey*
John R. Penny*
Aisling Joan Quirke
Steven Tanner Reichard*
Brian Paul Sebetic
Catherine E. Seifert*
Hannah Emily Shows
Catherine P. Smith
Holden M. Stanley*
Anne M. Stevens
Zachary N. Triplett*
Priscilla Victoria Vasquez*
The Department awarded the following prizes at the Honors and Awards Banquet on April 25, 2018

The Richard Worden Griffin Research Prize in European History:
Yilin Liu, "Memnon of Rhodes."

Forest W. Clonts Award in European History:
Alex Estrada, "To Render Justice: British Diplomacy, Imperial Humanism, and the Trial of the Armenian Genocide, 1918-1921"

C. Chilton Pearson Prize in US History:
William Morgan, "The Laws are Silent Among Arms": John Adams's Ciceronian Influence"

W.J. Cash Award for Research in Southern Studies:
(co-winner) Josh Burton, "North Carolina Quakers: Their Conflicting Identities"
(co-winner) Ned Gidley, "Race and Rhetoric in Revolutionary South Carolina"

Forest W. Clonts Award for Excellence in History:
Elizabeth Barbara King

Below: Qiong Zhang and Yilin Liu

Above: Patrick Lange
Above: PAT President Kathryn Kneisel welcoming banquet attendees

Below: Award winners King, Liu, Gidley, Morgan, and Estrada

Above: Devon Huseman
History Students Win Research Funding for Summer 2018

**GENEROUS ALUMNI SUPPORT FOR THE HISTORY DEPARTMENT HAS PROVIDED CRUCIAL FUNDS FOR A PILOT PROGRAM PROVIDING FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR OUR STUDENTS AS THEY PURSUE SUMMER INTERNSHIPS.**

Meredith Groce ('21): Greensboro History Museum, NC. Meredith will be working in the archives department, receiving items donated by local citizens and organizations. She will help create finding aids that describe their composition and historical significance. "I am a native of Greensboro and I grew up going to this museum that showcases the history of my home city and its impact on greater American. I love how museums can connect the public to tangible representations of their history."

Will Hornbeck ('20): Education Intern at the Orlando Museum of Art, Florida. "The History department has not only provided me with a historical framework from which to compare and make art relatable to the patrons of the museum," writes Will, "but also has provided me with practical skills on how to clearly explain complex topics using concise words within a limited space."

Katy Kneisel ('19): EvolveMKD, New York City. At this boutique public relations firm, Katy will be working on brand management projects. "In this internship, I will utilize the skill set acquired through my liberal arts education at Wake Forest to write briefs and project proposals, speak publicly on presentations to both senior associates and potential clients, and pitch new and innovative ideas that will benefit client companies."

Connor McAllister ('20): US Senate, Washington, DC. Connor is interning in the office of Montana Senator Steve Daines. "The skills that I am refining through my liberal arts education, namely risk taking, critical thinking, intellectual courage, and networking with my professors are skills that will allow me to thrive and progress on Capitol Hill." Good luck, Connor!

**RICHTER SCHOLAR AWARDS (FOR INDEPENDENT RESEARCH ABROAD):**

Alex Estrada ('19) Mentored Professor Penny Sinanoglou, Alex will conduct original research in London archives on the evolution of British policy towards the Turkish leaders accused of war crimes against Armenians during the First World War. By analyzing key documents and correspondence, he hopes to situate the Allied humanitarian obligation in the broader context of British imperial policy and the rise of Turkish Kemalism. His project ultimately endeavors to frame the trial’s failure as an incipient attempt to hold genocidaires legally and morally accountable.

Udhayaswaran Ponshunmugam (Computer Science, ’19) Mentored by history Professor Dan Du, Udhayaswaran will travel to Singapore to study the multi-cultural history of the city-nation through the architecture of its twenty-eight districts. He plans to compile descriptions and photos of nearly three hundred sites across the city, each reflecting the mixture of Chinese, Indian, Malay, and British influences, then use Geographic Information System software to map the city with respect to regions of specific cultural influence. He’s also looking forward to publishing a blog of reflections and initial findings so that others, especially fellow Wake Forest students, can able to experience and appreciate the multicultural city and diversity as a whole.

**WAKE FOREST ARTS & HUMANITIES RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS (TO CONDUCT INTENSIVE MENTORED SCHOLARSHIP WITH A FACULTY MEMBER):**

Maisie Howland (History and Politics '19) Mentored by Professor William Walldorf of the Politics Department, Maise's work this summer will explore "Contemporary National Narratives and Their Impact on Foreign Policy."
WAKE FOREST ARTS & HUMANITIES RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS (TO CONDUCT INTENSIVE MENTORED SCHOLARSHIP WITH A FACULTY MEMBER):

Tyler Miller (History and Philosophy '19) Mentored by Patrick Toner in the Philosophy Department, Tyler will work on “A Third Way: Examining the Philosophical and Moral Foundations of Distributism and Comparing Its Foundation with Those of Capitalism and Socialism.”

HISTORY DEPARTMENT SUMMER RESEARCH FUNDING

Reid Simpson ('20), "Gambling with History? The Persian Card Room at Graylyn," mentored by Professor Charles Wilkins. Reid will undertake archival research and conduct interviews on the Middle Eastern provenance, decoration, and social history of the Persian Card Room, a favorite room of Bowman Gray (1874-1935), builder of the Graylyn Mansion.

Adam Tomasi ('19), mentored by Professor Simone Caron. Adam will travel to Memphis, TN to conduct research for his honors thesis on the 1968 garbage strike and the activism of Cornelia Crenshaw. He will do research in the Special Collections library at the University of Memphis, meet with Rick Thompson of the Cornelia Crenshaw Human Rights Preservation Foundation, Inc., and visit the National Civil Rights Museum at the former Lorraine Motel where Dr. King was assassinated.

Janay Williams (Math and Statistics '18) will be assisting Dr. Tony Parent in the analysis of a data set demonstrating material differences in the runaway classes of bound labor for his project Scandalous Paradox; Transformation of a Slave Society in Virginia, 1740-1775.

Left: Arabic inscription in the Persian Card Room in Graylyn
Alumni
HOMECOMING
RECEPTION

WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY

NOVEMBER 2
3:00-5:00 PM
TRIBBLE HALL LOBBY

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