

# UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS AT LITTLE ROCK HISTORY DEPARTMENT NEWSLETTER

FALL 2015



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## History Department Members Serve the University in Many Capacities

Many members of the History Department hold and have held positions within the University outside of the Department. Most recently, **Dr. Jeff Kyong-McClain** became the Interim Assistant Director of the UALR Honors College. Other members of the Department have served the University in many capacities over the years. **Dr. Deborah Baldwin** is both a professor in the Department and is also Associate Provost of UALR's Collections and Archives, but was previously Dean of the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences. Despite her heavy administrative duties, she regularly teaches a seminar in group research methods in the Public History Program. Her classes have completed the histories of many Little Rock institutions, including the Arkansas Art Center, the Museum of Discovery, and Blue Cross Blue Shield. **Dr. Johanna Miller Lewis** serves as Associate Dean for Undergraduate Programs of the College of Arts, Letters and Sciences, and was formerly the Acting Dean of the Graduate School. **Dr. John Kirk**, Donaghey Professor of History and the Department's former Chair, is the new Director of the University of Arkansas at Little Rock's Institute on Race and Ethnicity.

Nor are such activities atypical. Over the history of the University, many members of the History Department have served outside of the confines of the department. **Dr. Warren Schiff** became the first Head of the Division of Social Sciences and was followed in that position by **Dr. Bedford Hadley** in 1962, who subsequently became Dean of the Division in 1974. **Dr. T. Harri Baker** in the 1970s served the University as Director of Innovative Studies under the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, and **Dr. Leroy Williams** was Director of Equal Employment Opportunity and Affirmative Action from 1980 to 1984 and was Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs in 1992-1993. But, easily the most well-traveled historian within the campus administration was **Dr. C. Fred Williams** who served as Associate

Dean of the College of Liberal Arts (1980-1983), Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs (1983-1988), and until his death in 2013 as Director of the Center for Arkansas Studies. In faculty governance, he served as President of the University Senate/Assembly. The Department has also provided the Senate/Assembly with two additional Presidents, **Drs. S. Charles Bolton** and **Edward Anson**. Dr. Williams besides having served as Chair of the History Department also was Interim Chair of the Department of Foreign and Second Language Studies. This particular honor, chairing a department other than history, was also accomplished by **Edward Anson**, who in the spring of 2015 was Interim Chair of the Department of Mathematics and Statistics.

### **Dr. Clea E. Hupp Chosen as the New Chair of History**



Dr. Hupp, who joined the faculty in 2006, took over the duties of Chairing the History Department from Dr. John Kirk this fall. Dr. Hupp earned a Ph.D from the University of Arkansas in 2004, and has traveled extensively in the Middle East, and speaks both Arabic and French. Her work has been supported by organizations such as the John F. Kennedy Foundation, the Lyndon Johnson Foundation, the Society of Historians of American Foreign Relations, and the American Center of Oriental Research. Her latest book was recently published by I. B. Tauris and is titled *The United States and Jordan: Middle East Diplomacy during the Cold War*.

### **Dr. Kristin Dutcher Mann Named the Arkansas Council for the Social Studies “Outstanding University Faculty Member”**



At the 2015 Arkansas Curriculum Conference, Dr. Kristin Dutcher Mann was named outstanding university faculty member by the Arkansas Council for the Social Studies for her work leading implementation of the new social studies frameworks around the state.



## Department Welcomes New Faculty Member Michael Heil

Michael Heil joined the history faculty at UALR as an assistant professor in fall 2015. He previously held a visiting position at Hendrix College. His research focuses on legal practice and judicial institutions in early medieval Europe and on medieval Italy. Dr. Heil is originally from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and earned his PhD from Columbia University.

## The 2015 Arkansas Civil Rights Heritage Trail



Dr. John Kirk, George W. Donaghey Distinguished Professor of History and the Director of the Institute of Race and Ethnicity, here addresses those assembled to celebrate the official opening of the Arkansas Civil Rights Heritage Trail, which was launched to commemorate the contributions by black Arkansans to the long civil rights struggle in the state and is the Institute's signature fall event. In 2011, twelve-inch bronze markers were laid in the ground outside the Old State House to honor participants in the 1960 sit-in movement and the 1961 Freedom Rides; in 2012 the Little Rock Nine, L. C. and Daisy Bates, and attorney Christopher C. Mercer were honored with markers outside the Downtown Convention Center; in 2013 key participants in the desegregation of downtown Little Rock in 1963 were honored with markers outside the Little Rock Chamber of Commerce; and in 2014 a number of medical professionals were honored with markers at the downtown Little Rock Medical Mile. The Trail will eventually run all the way down to the Clinton Presidential Library and back up the other side of the street across from the Old State House.

## News of the University History Institute

The University History Institute began its twenty-seventh year of programming in October. There are still four lectures that will be offered, including Vincent Vinikas' "Abolition as Aberration: Lynching as Insurgency" on December 1, 2015; Thomas Kaiser, "the Drama of Prince Charlie and French Political Protest, 1745-1750," February 2, 2016; Charles Romney, "the American State and the Defeat of Progressive Unions in the 1940s," March 1, 2016, and John Kirk, "Winthrop Rockefeller: A Fiftieth

Anniversary Reflection,” on April 12, 2016. All lectures begin at 7:00 at the Historic Arkansas Museum. If you have not previously attended an Institute lecture give it a try. Former students do not need to join to sample the Institute’s offerings but hopefully will give thought to joining. The Institute continues to use funds from the annual memberships to encourage faculty research. This year grants were made to Professor Susannah Romney to acquire “Records of New Amsterdam” and the “Minutes of Fort Orange,” and to Professor Charles Romney for a variety of sources on the history of “the book.” If you are interested in becoming a member contact Professor Moneyhon.

## **Phi Alpha Theta**

Phi Alpha Theta, our club for History students, is having a busy year. This semester we’ve already hosted a trip to a play at the Arkansas Rep, and our annual student-faculty picnic. This year’s officers are Randall Crawford, Jessica Erwin, Danielle Moses, Cindy McCaskill, and Mary Baxley.

## **Public History Program**

MA graduate Andrea Ringer (December 2012) published an article “‘Purely Personal and Philosophical’: Gov. Winthrop Rockefeller's Death Sentence Commutations” in the *Arkansas Historical Quarterly* 74 (Summer 2015): 130-146. The article is based on Andrea’s Public History MA thesis and won the 2013 Violet B. Gingles Award from the Arkansas Historical Association.

MA graduate Nikki Senn (August 2015) will become an Architectural Historian at the Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department in December 2015.

Three MA students recently defended completed thesis projects: Nicolette Talley, “Carl Edward Bailey and Arkansas Politics in the 1930s,” Joshua Fischer, “An Exhibit on Clinton's Campaign Buttons at the William Jefferson Clinton Birthplace Home in Hope, Arkansas,” and Bean Murray, “Christ Church Parochial School, Christ Church Parish, and the Mission to African Americans in the Arkansas Diocese of the Episcopal Church.”

## **Social Studies Education Alumni News**

Kandyce Long moved from eStem High School to Parkview High, where she currently teaches civics, economics, and world history.

Stanley James and Megan Fosler accepted teaching positions at eStem High School, where they teach world history and civics/economics, respectively. Stan has continued to work with the UALR Center for Arkansas History and Culture, developing Arkansas History curriculum materials.

James Overturf currently teaches high school at the North Little Rock Freshman Academy.

Brady Bratcher, former coach and history teacher at Robinson High School, is now assistant principal at Maumelle High School.



## History Day News

District 7 History Day competition will be held on Saturday, March 5, in Stabler Hall and the Old Student Union Building on the UALR campus. This year's theme is Exploration, Encounter, and Exchange in History. Students can complete individual or group projects in documentary, website, performance, and exhibit categories, or write individual historical papers. For more information, or to help judge, please contact Dr. Mann at [kdmann@ualr.edu](mailto:kdmann@ualr.edu).

## Faculty News



**Edward M. Anson**, Professor of History, published for E. J. Brill a second, revised, edition of his *Eumenes of Cardia: A Greek Among Macedonians* (Boston and Leiden: 2015); “Shock and Awe’ à la Alexander the Great.” In *The Many Faces of War* (Oxford University Press. Oxford: 2015): 215-235; in press: “Ptolemy and the Destruction of the First Regency,” in a yet untitled collection. He gave a paper, “Fortress Egypt: The Abortive Invasions of 320 and 306 BC,” delivered at the Seventh International Symposium on Alexander the Great, Catholic University, Milan, Italy, September 4, which will be published in the meeting’s proceedings. Also, chaired a session at this same meeting. Anson continues as editor, *Alexander the Great and the Hellenistic World* series for Lexington Books (a division of Rowman and Littlefield), and for the series edited Jeremy Labuff’s *Expanding the Polis: Sympolitieia and the Evolving Role of Elites in the Democracies of Hellenistic Karia* (2015); he continues as Associate editor for *Ancient History Bulletin*, and as an Assessor for Classics for the Australian Research Council, an agency of the Australian national government that awards grants to researchers. On campus he is a member of the Scholars Policy Council, the Campus Governance Committee, and serves as a faculty Senator. He delivered the first History Institute talk of the season, “The Augustan Transformation of Ancient Rome,” on October 6. He is also the proud Grandfather of Callum Anson, born 11/13.

**Michael Heil**, Assistant Professor of History, joined the department in fall 2015. An historian of medieval Europe, he previous held a visiting position at Hendrix College. In May he presented a paper, “The Bishop as Judge and Litigant in the Towns of Early Medieval Italy,” at the International Congress of Medieval Studies. In September he delivered a public lecture, “Kingship and Power in the Time of the Historical Macbeth,” in conjunction with the Arkansas Repertory Theatre’s production of Shakespeare’s *Macbeth*. He is currently engaged in several projects focused on judicial practice and legal culture in early medieval Europe.

**Clea Hupp**, Associate Professor of History, presented a paper on Donald Rumsfeld's mediation role in the Lebanese Civil War at the annual meeting of Society of Historians of American Foreign Relations. She wrote a chapter on Ronald Reagan's Middle East policies that appeared in the edited volume *A Companion to Ronald Reagan*. After a hurried and uncontested election on the day before the fall semester began, Dr. Hupp assumed the role of chair of the UALR History Department.

**Thomas E. Kaiser**, Professor of History, is currently working on a book manuscript entitled *Marie-Antoinette and the Austrian Plot, 1748-1794*. His chapter "The Diplomatic Origins of the French Revolution" in David Andress, ed., *Oxford Handbook of the French Revolution* (Oxford University Press) is currently in press. At the meeting of the Society for French Historical Studies in April, he presented a paper "The *Mémoire historique*: Diplomacy, Propaganda, and 'Patriotism' in Choiseul's 'Grand Exit Strategy' at the End of the Seven Years' War" and commented on a panel "*Commerce, Competition, and Colonial Reform: The French in India during the Eighteenth Century*."

**Barclay Key**, Assistant Professor of History, has begun his fourth year of teaching at UALR. He has an essay in the forthcoming volume, *Race and Ethnicity in Arkansas*, ed. John A. Kirk, and a review of *Professor-Politician: The Biography of Alabama Congressman Glen Browder* by Geni Certain in the most recent *Journal of Southern History*. Key continues to make progress on his monograph about race relations and Churches of Christ.

**John A. Kirk**, George W. Donaghey Distinguished Professor of History, accepted a new position at UALR as the director of the Institute of Race and Ethnicity. He relinquished his position as chair of the department. Kirk is half-time director of the Institute and half-time history faculty. He joins Tamisha Cheatham, a Public History MA graduate, who is the Institute's full-time Projects Coordinator, at the Institute's office on the second floor of the Ottenheimer Library, LIB Suite 202. The Institute was formed in 2011 with a mission "to seek racial and ethnic justice in Arkansas by remembering and understanding the past, informing and engaging the present, and shaping and defining the future." Kirk has been heavily involved with the work of the Institute since its founding and in particular with the Arkansas Civil Rights Heritage Trail. Kirk's main task this semester was to arrange the Trail event, which inducted fourteen honorees on the theme of "Politics & Law" at the intersection of E. Markham and Scott Streets. A highly successful campaign culminated with the inauguration ceremony on Thursday, November 12. The event this year also helped to launch the Southern Historical Association conference in Little Rock, which brought 1200 historians into the city for four days. Kirk was the local arrangements chair for the conference, assembling a committee of some forty people from academic and public history institutions and raising just short of \$14,000 to facilitate the smooth-running of the conference—a record-breaking sum for the association. Kirk did the media rounds to promote the Trail event including *AY Magazine*'s weekly slot on Fox News's "Good Morning Show" (*AY Magazine* featured the Trail in its November edition) and an interview with the *Arkansas Times* for the piece "New app, upcoming event seek to expand Arkansas's civil rights past beyond the Little Rock Nine," November 4, 2015. The *Times* article also referenced another major Institute initiative this semester, the launch of an Arkansas Civil Rights History Tour app. The app represents a collaboration between the Institute and the City of Little Rock, funded by the Arkansas Humanities Council, to provide information to residents in city and state, as well as to those visiting it, about the civil rights movement in Arkansas. Kirk wrote, helped edit and recorded a number of the narratives for the thirty-five sites the app visits. The narrative tour, which takes listeners from West Ninth Street and Broadway to UALR's Trail of Tears Park and back downtown to the Arkansas Civil Rights Heritage Trail, encompasses Black, Latino, Native American, Japanese American and Jewish history. It is available to download now from all app stores both for iPhone and Android devices in English and Spanish versions.

**Jeff Kyong-McClain**, Associate Professor of Chinese History, was appointed Interim Assistant Director of the UALR Honors College in August, and spends much of his time advising and arranging programming for the first class of 28 students, as well as planning for the expansion of the College. Also over the summer, he led seminars on modern Chinese history at Education Service Cooperatives in Hope, Harrisburg, and De Queen, and co-led a group of teachers on a two-week tour of China. This fall, he is teaching World Civ and Modern Korea, and is busy planning a Spring Break 2016 study tour for UALR students to South Korea.

**Kristin Dutcher Mann**, Professor of History, who teaches Latin America and is social studies minor coordinator for the secondary education program at UALR, traveled to College Park, Maryland this summer to judge the National History Day competition and to continue research on Mifflin Gibbs at the National Archives. She also worked at the Newberry Library in Chicago on a separate research project about the origins of *alabados*, religious songs sung in the Franciscan and Jesuit missions in colonial Latin America. In June and July, she coordinated "unconference" style curriculum writing sessions for social studies teachers, to help them implement the new state social studies frameworks. This fall, she became one of the directors of the UALR Academy of Teaching and Learning Excellence, where she organizes bimonthly faculty and staff workshops about college teaching.

**Brian Mitchell**, Assistant Professor of History, joined the faculty of the UALR History Department in fall 2015. He specializes in African-American history. He served as a panelist on the Mosaic Templars Cultural Center's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the voting Rights Act, November 3. The panel focused on the Civil Rights movement in Arkansas.

**Carl Moneyhon**, Professor of History, states that the Civil War is giving way to Reconstruction as a basis for his scholarly activity. He is looking forward to the reenactment of Arkansas Redemption and the Brooks-Baxter War. Lectures this year have begun to show the shift in emphasis with presentations of "Chaos at the Capitol: The Coke-Davis Confrontation," at "Legends and Controversy in Texas History Symposium," sponsored by the Texas State Historical Association and the Texas General Land Office, Austin, Texas and "Arkansas Reconstruction: The Limits of Change," at the Old State House Symposium on the Civil War: Emancipation and Reconstruction. Publications this year included a historiographical essay, "Civil War and Reconstruction in Texas, 1861-1874," in Bruce A. Glasrud, *et al.*, *Discovering Texas History* (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 2014), pp. 210-242, "Race and the Struggle for Freedom: African American Arkansans after Emancipation," in John Kirk, ed., *Race and Ethnicity in Arkansas: New Perspectives* (Fayetteville: University of Arkansas Press, 2014), 17-30, and "Governor Henry Rector and the Confederacy: State's Rights Versus Military Contingencies," *Arkansas Historical Quarterly*, 73 (Winter 2014): 357-88. All can look forward to the ultimate deconstruction of the David O. Dodd myth in the *Arkansas Historical Quarterly* this fall. For an unknown reason I even got to do an interview with Vickie Newton, Soul of the South Television Network to discuss the Wainstein Report on problems in the Africa-American Studies program at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill and also to do some work with "Who Do You Think You Are?" on TLC.

**Jess Porter**, Associate Professor and Coordinator of Geography, was awarded promotion to Associate Professor and granted tenure this year. In other news, the National Endowment for the Humanities-funded exhibit he curated with Dr. Charles Romney, "Dust, Drought, and Dreams Gone Dry" continues its tour around the US. Jess has been working on new Dust Bowl research with his PhD advisor from Oklahoma State University, Dr. Carlos Cordova. They presented their research at the Association of American Geographers annual meeting in Chicago in April, and are working on several related manuscripts. Jess

and Dr. John Kirk presented several invited lectures on patterns of race and ethnicity in Little Rock. Finally, Jess' fourth and final *Encounter Geography* book was published by Pearson.

**Charles Romney**, Assistant Professor, continues to coordinate the M.A. program in Public History. This year the program renewed a grant from the National Archives Trust Fund in Washington D.C. to pay for the stipends of two graduate assistants at the Clinton Presidential Library. The grant has given \$58,050 to UALR graduate students since 2011. This year Romney also published articles on the Seattle Teamsters in *Labor History* and on "anachronic public history" in *The Public Historian*. He is a member of the National Humanities Center's institute on "Digital Textual Analysis" for 2015-2016. The institute, funded by the Mellon Foundation, "combines hands-on technical explorations with wide-ranging philosophical and theoretical discussions." His book on the American state and the defeat of progressive unions in the 1940s will be published in early 2016 by Oxford University Press.

**Susanah Shaw Romney**, Assistant Professor of History. This summer, her recent book *New Netherland Connections* received an annual First Book Prize from the Berkshire Conference of Women Historians. She is now engaged on a research project looking at settler colonization in Dutch colonies in the Hudson Valley, Guyana, southern Africa, and the Indonesian archipelago. In June, she presented a paper from that project at the Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture conference in Chicago. This November, she traveled to the Ethnohistory conference in Las Vegas to give a paper titled "Elusive Words and Colonial Possession in Seventeenth-Century Contact Zones: Word Exchange in Guayana in the Late Sixteenth and Early Seventeenth Centuries." She continues to offer classes on early America and the Atlantic World.

**James Ross**, Associate Professor of History, teaches modern U.S. history and Arkansas history. He has become a regular commentator for media coverage of the Little Rock School District and national issues regarding local control and race in public education. He is participating in a panel on Education and Civil Rights at the national Social Conscience Gathering: From Civil War to Civil Rights sponsored by the National Park Service in conjunction with the 150th Anniversary of the end of the Civil War.

**Vince Vinikas**, Professor of History, continues his work on the history of the governmental propaganda of Total War, and specifically, the campaigns to mobilize Americans for World War II. His current focus concerns the Roosevelt administration's efforts to commit Americans to the Allied cause despite widespread popular opposition to fighting against Nazi Germany in the years before Pearl Harbor.



I would like to contribute to the following scholarships:

	\$10-\$100	\$101-\$500	\$500-\$750	\$750-\$1000	Other
<b>Booker Worthen Scholarship</b>					
<b>Craig Powell Memorial Scholarship</b>					
<b>David O. Demuth Scholarship</b>					
<b>Richard B. Dixon Scholarship</b>					
<b>Jack Freshour Scholarship</b>					
<b>Little Rock Nine Endowed Scholarship</b>					
<b>Mabel W. Formica and Santo D. Formica History Endowment</b>					
<b>Ruby M. Duke Ancient History Award</b>					
<b>C. Fred Williams Scholarship in Public History</b>					
<b>Dr. Edward Madden and Lucy Dorothy Anson III Award</b>					

Please make checks out to UALR History Department followed by the relevant scholarship in brackets and mail to c/o Dr. Clea Hupp, History Department Chair, University of Arkansas at Little Rock, 2801 South University Avenue, Little Rock, AR 72204-1099.