

HISTORY DEPARTMENT NEWSLETTER



April 27, 2020—Editor-in-Chief, Edward M. Anson; Executive Editor, Jess Porter

Features pp. 1-8; History Institute News p. 6; Public History MA Report pp. 6-7; History Club p. 8; Phi Alpha Theta p. 8; Alumni News p. 8; History Graduates p. 9; Faculty News pp. 9-14

UA Little Rock History Faculty Serve Our Community



Drs. Marvin, Amstutz, and Key

During this time of pandemic, many members of the History Department have contributed their time to the community by participating in the distribution of food. After the city of Little Rock and organizations, including the Clinton Foundation, World Central Kitchen, Little Rock School District, Pulaski County Special School District, Central Arkansas Library System, and the Arkansas Hunger Relief Alliance, implemented a plan to provide meals for students, many of whom regularly receive their only weekday meals at school, they requested help packing and distributing meals. On Thursday afternoons, **Dr. Marvin,**

Amstutz and **Key** pack dinners distributed to 20 different schools, libraries and community centers throughout Central Arkansas. Members of the community can get involved and support the effort by signing up to volunteer at

littlerock.gov/volunteer or by making a contribution at wck.org/littlerock. This community coalition also provides lunches and take-home breakfast foods.

Through Friday, April 17, more than 219,000 meals have been distributed to students, families, and others in need. **Dr. Katrina Yeaw** has volunteered at the World Central Kitchen in Washington, DC. **Dr. Kristin Mann** is a longtime volunteer with the St. Mark's Episcopal Church food pantry, which converted to drive-through service over the past month. She helps her husband, David, with food rescue from local restaurants and grocery stores to distribute at St. Francis House and the St. Mark's Food Pantry.

If you need food assistance, the food pantry, located just north of the H Street on Mississippi Avenue, is open Thursdays from 9:15-10:45 am.



Dr. Yeaw



Dr. Mann

History Faculty Adjust to the New Normal

At the start of the Spring 2020 semester, History Department faculty were teaching 37 undergraduate and graduate courses, 14 of which were completely online. On the afternoon of Thursday, March 12, UA Little Rock made the decision to transition all face-to-face courses into an online format. That's right...**Dr. Ed**



Artist's rendering of Dr. Anson being informed all classes would move online

Anson is now teaching online! The transition to online courses went smoothly, all things considered, but we miss seeing our students in the classrooms, the library, and in our offices. Because nearly all Department members had taught classes online before, they were familiar with organizing assignments, discussions, lectures, and live video interactions in the Blackboard environment. Beginning in week 9 of the semester, we tried a variety of meeting formats, including written discussions, Blackboard Collaborate Ultra sessions, and individual meetings via Google Hangouts Meet. Our eyes might be more fatigued from working so much on our computers, but we are teaching from home or socially-distanced at the office. The History Department Faculty unanimously voted to offer students enrolled in spring 2020 history courses the option of choosing a credit/no credit grade option

instead of the traditional letter grades. UA Little Rock increased support services and resources available to students, including a special COVID19 aid fund. **Dr. Porter** and **Dr. Mann** are contacting students via telephone and video chat for summer and fall 2020 advising. The Department will distribute a survey to all students enrolled in its courses to assess our effectiveness at the midstream transition. We will adjust and adapt based on this invaluable feedback. While we don't know exactly what the summer and fall will bring, we know that the History Department will be prepared to adjust our courses to meet our students' needs.

Natasha Mitchell Named Anson Award Winner

Congratulations to 2019-20 Dr. Edward Madden and Lucy Dorothy Anson III Award winner, **Ms. Natasha Mitchell**. The Anson Award recognizes the most outstanding graduating senior, as selected by the History Department faculty. Natasha's response to the award notification included the following comments:

"I cannot tell you (**Dr. Porter**) how much you and the rest of my professors have inspired me to become a more thoughtful writer. I have always enjoyed history, but was never comfortable writing or doing any sort of research. It is because of your team that I have fallen in love with writing and now have a good foundation to begin branching out on my own. I still have much practice in writing ahead of me, but I do not have the fear I once had. I thank you all for that. You could never know exactly how much."



Ms. Natasha Mitchell

We spoke with **Dr. Marta Cieslak**, who worked extensively with Ms. Mitchell as her instructor in two courses.

Porter: "Can you tell us a little bit about Natasha as a student?"

Cieslak: "Natasha is an exceptional student. To say that she is very hard-working, always prepared, and eager to participate in class is true but it doesn't do justice to what kind of student she is. Her greatest strength is her sheer intellectual curiosity. She simply loves to learn."

Porter: "How does that intellectual curiosity translate to Natasha's research?"

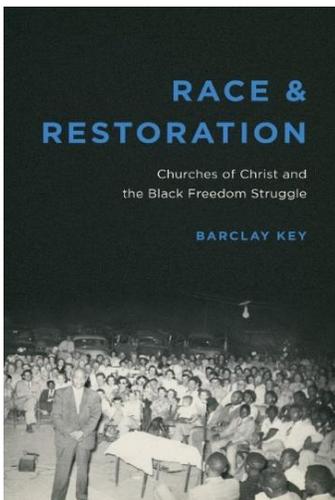
Cieslak: “This semester, she is taking my Holocaust course, in which she planned to complete a project on how the Nazi regime incorporated Martin Luther's anti-Semitism into the process of nation-building. As she was researching that topic, her explorations took her in a completely different direction. She is now completing a fascinating project on how the Nazi regime implemented modern propaganda tools to shape an entire generation of its youth supporters.”

Porter: “Wow, that’s impressive. It sounds like a lot of work for student and professor alike.”

Cieslak: “It is always rewarding to see a student who is not just satisfied with her findings but continues to dig deeper until she finds exactly what she is looking for. And that's the kind of student that Natasha is.”

Thank you to Dr. Cieslak for providing insight into this year’s Anson Award recipient. Congratulations Natasha!

SIX New Books from the History Department



Even during this very trying semester the Department has continued its scholarly production with six new books either already published or to be published this year.

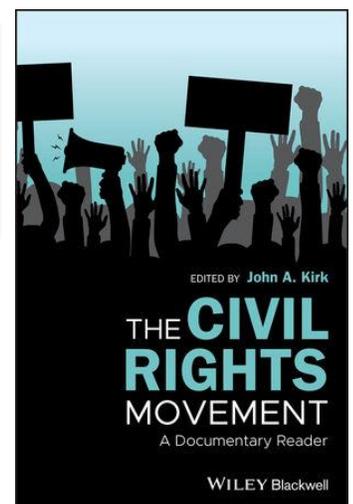
From the late nineteenth century to the dawn of the civil rights era, the Churches of Christ operated outside of conventional racial customs. Many of their congregations, even deep in the South, counted whites and blacks among their numbers. As the civil rights movement began to challenge pervasive social views about race, Church of Christ leaders and congregants found themselves in the midst of turmoil. In *Race and Restoration: Churches of Christ and the Black Freedom Struggle*, **Barclay Key** focuses on how these churches managed race relations during the Jim Crow era and how they adapted to the dramatic changes of the 1960s.

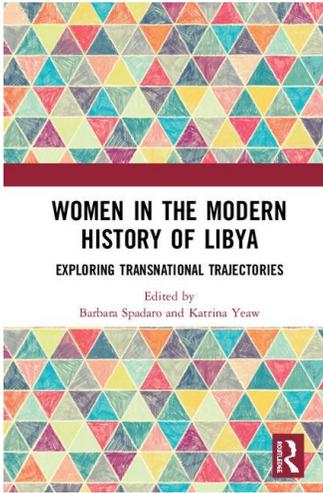


Available from LSU Press and Amazon

Professor **John Kirk** has designed for use in a wide range of curricula, *The Civil Rights Movement: A Documentary Reader*, which presents an in-depth exploration of the multiple facets and layers of the movement, providing a wide range of primary sources, commentary, and perspectives. Focusing on documents, this volume offers students concise yet comprehensive analysis of the civil rights movement by covering both well-known and relatively unfamiliar texts. Through these, students will develop a sophisticated, nuanced understanding of the origins of the movement, its pivotal years during the 1950s and 1960s, and its legacy that extends to the present day.

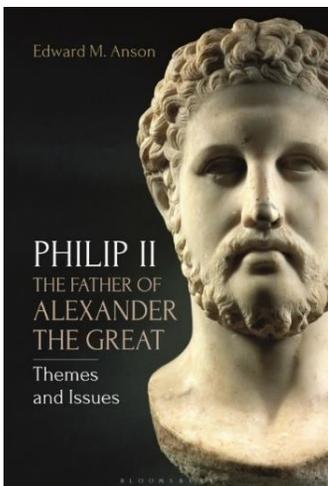
Available from Wiley and Amazon





Women in the Modern History of Libya, co-edited by Professor **Katrina Yeaw**, features histories of Libyan women exploring the diversity of cultures, languages and memories of Libya from the age of the Empires to the present. The chapters explore a series of institutional and private archives inside and outside Libya, illuminating historical trajectories marginalized by colonialism, nationalism and identity politics. They provide engaging and critical exploration of the archives of the Ottoman cities, of the colonial forces of Italy, Britain and the US, and of the Libyan resistance – the Oral Narratives of the Jihād collection at the Libyan Studies Center of Tripoli – as well as of the private records in the homes of Jewish and Amazigh Libyans across the world. Developing the tools of women’s and gender studies and engaging with the multiple languages of Libya, contributors raise a series of critical questions on the writing of history and on the representation of Libyan people in the past and the present.

Available from Routledge and Amazon

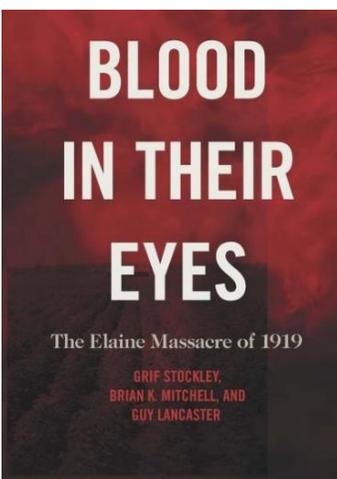
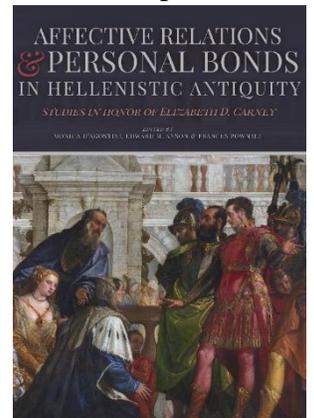


Edward Anson’s *Philip II, the Father of Alexander the Great: Themes and Issues*, is not the standard biography, but rather the author provides an examination of the major controversies concerning Philip’s life and reign. How Philip in roughly twenty years transformed a divided territory and little more than a geographical conception into a national state. How he changed the very nature of ancient Western warfare. Finally how he transformed this formerly exploited region into the master of the Greek world. Each chapter discusses one of the major academic controversies surrounding this transformative figure whose reputation has been so overshadowed by his illustrious son.

Available from Bloomsbury and Amazon

His co-edited volume, *Affective relations and personal bonds in Hellenistic Antiquity. A Festschrift honouring the career of Elizabeth D. Carney*, is a collection of studies analyzing the bonds among the king, his family, friends, lovers, and his entourage. The book contributes to a deeper historical understanding of the dialogue between the socio-cultural and political approaches to Hellenistic history.

Available from Oxbow



Brian Mitchell has joined with Guy Lancaster to revise and update Grif Stockley’s *Blood in Their Eyes: The Elaine Massacre of 1919*, originally published in 2002 by the University of Arkansas Press. The Elaine Massacre was the deadliest racial conflict in the history of the United States, with the deaths of at least 200 black men, women, and children, at the hands of a white mob. This new edition draws on recently discovered sources to examine in greater detail the actions of the mob and the lives of those who survived the massacre.

Available from UA Press and Amazon

More Student Advocate Awards for the History Department



Professors **Charles Romney** and **Jess Porter** were recently recognized by Student Affairs with Student Advocate Awards. The Award recognizes efforts deemed as instrumental in helping students persist and complete their academic degrees. Furthermore, the History Department, as a unit, was named as a standout in student advocacy for the second year in a row. In 2019, Dr. Porter was also recognized along with **Drs. Cieslak, Key, Mann, Miller-Lewis, and Mitchell**. In 2018, the first year the awards were presented, Dr. Mann was a departmental recipient. “The comments from our students highlight some of the many people and departments here who make a real

difference,” said Sharon Downs, associate vice chancellor for student affairs. “As they are on the cusp of moving on to the next phase of their life, whether it be graduate school, a career, Peace Corps, or public service, they take a moment to look back and recognize what and who makes UA Little Rock special.”

National History Day

Kristin Dutcher Mann organized the Central Arkansas History Day competition on March 7. Nearly 300 students, representing public and private schools in Little Rock, Sheridan, and Hot Springs, presented their research on topics related to the theme “Breaking Barriers in History.” She



particularly wants to thank the 60+ volunteers who made the day possible, including History Department students, faculty, alumni, History Institute board members, and members of the community. First, second, and third place student winners advanced to a virtual state competition, held the last two weeks of April, for which Dr. Mann will also be judging. This year’s National History Day contest will also be held virtually in June.

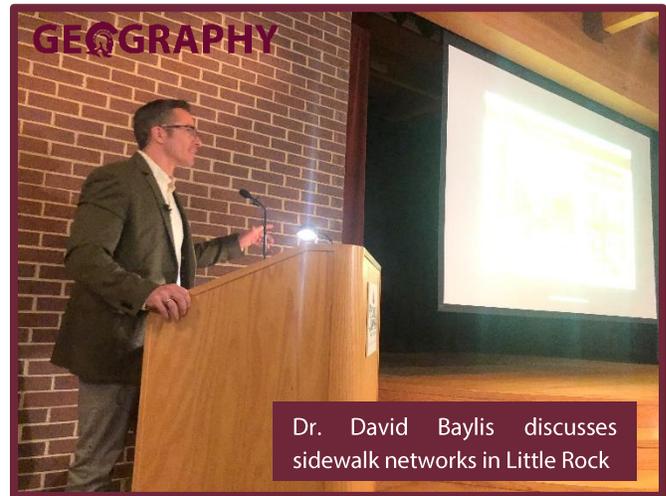


History Department Film Festival

In spring 2020, **Dr. Jim Ross** taught an upper-level seminar, Global Cold War. In association with this course, students planned to watch three films in the History Department film lounge, also known as the lobby. The viewing of One, Two, Three (1961) proceeded on February 18. Unfortunately, planned screenings of Dr. Strangelove (1964) and Red Dawn (1984) were cancelled due to the pandemic. The History Department hopes to resume its film series in the fall in conjunction with **Jess Porter’s** Middle East Today course.

History Institute News

The University History Institute, a nonprofit Arkansas corporation, is an organization of private citizens interested in history and in community support for the UA Little Rock. The officers and board of directors of the Institute represent a cross section of the Central Arkansas community. At present they are Frederick Ursery, *President*; Dr. Joe Bates, *Vice President*, Lee Johnson, *Treasurer*; Delia Prather, *Secretary*; Craig Berry, Bob McQuin, Judge Ellen Brantley, James Metzger, Dr. Joe Crow, Terry Rasco, Gene Thompson, Elaine Scott, Dr. Betty Hathaway, Dr. David Stricklin, and Patrick Goss. Funds collected by the University History Institute are used to further historical research at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. The Institute sponsors The Evenings with History series which features presentations by UA Little Rock faculty members sharing their current research and teaching interests. This spring the Institute presented Donaghey Distinguished Professor **John Kirk**, What is the Civil Rights Movement (2/4/20) and Assistant Professor **David Baylis**, Where the Sidewalk Never Begins: Race, Class, Accessibility, and Wellness in Little Rock, AR (3/10/20). Dr. Baylis' talk concluded our 2019-20 season as social distancing guidelines took effect. Assistant Professor **Nathan Marvin**'s presentation, Rethinking the Legend of Petit Jean: History and Memory of French Colonization in Arkansas, will be presented when Evenings with History resumes, hopefully this fall. Stay tuned for more information. If you would like to be added to the Evenings with History email list, please send a message to Jess Porter at jcporter@ualr.edu or historyinstitute@ualr.edu.



M.A. in Public History Report

by Program Coordinator, Dr. Barclay Key

The graduate program in public history remains a vibrant part of our department. It is the only program of its kind in the state of Arkansas. Seven new students enrolled in the program this semester, and we have admitted four more students for the fall semester and anticipate admitting several more. The program increasingly attracts outstanding students outside central Arkansas. Of these eleven new students, seven come to us after completing degrees from other universities. We were also pleased to have two new instructors teach for us during the current academic year. **Christina Shutt**, director of the Mosaic Templars Cultural Center, taught our course on Museum Administration, and **Benji de la Piedra**, oral historian and co-founder of the Columbia Life Histories Project at Columbia University, taught our course on Oral History. Our graduate assistants continue receiving crucial experience from several hosts, including the Clinton Presidential Library, the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program, Historic Arkansas Museum, the UALR Sequoyah National Research Center, and the UALR Center for Arkansas History & Culture. Likewise, these institutions owe some of their ongoing success to our students. Finally, we want to congratulate the five students who completed the program in December: **Jessica Chavez**, **David Collins**, **Neal Grumbine**, **Devin Sorrows**, and **Nancy Tell-Hall**. Our spring Public History MA graduates include **Kathryn Bryles**, **Mary Cate Clatworthy**, **John Hoganson**, and **Rachel Walters**. Dr. **Charles Romney**, former Public History Coordinator, highlighted a few of the recent positions our Public History MA alumni. They include: **Hunter Bennett**, Dumas Branch Manager, Southeast Arkansas Regional Library

Danielle Butler, Digital Services Archivist, Arkansas State Archives
Hattie Felton, Senior Curator, Missouri Historical Society
Michael Fondren, Processing Archivist, South Carolina Department of Archives and History
CaLee Henderson, Digital Initiatives Librarian, University of Arkansas Medical Sciences
Shelby Linck, Architectural Historian, Arkansas Department of Transportation
Eric Mills, Section 106 Program Manager, Arkansas Historic Preservation Program, Department of Arkansas Heritage
Shakeelah Rahman, Public Programs Coordinator, The Arts and Science Center for Southeast Arkansas
Brian Rodgers, Community Liaison, Mosaic Templars Cultural Center
Crystal Shurley, Archival Technician, Pacific Northwest Regional Branch (Seattle), National Archives and Records Administration
Nicolette Talley, Fee Program Manager, Glen Canyon National Recreation Area (Arizona), National Park Service
Amanda Whitley, Coordinator, Special Olympics Arkansas

Student Emails of the Month

Andrea Zekis, Master of Public Service candidate, agreed to us sharing her recent note to Dr. Baylis, regarding her experience in his geography course, The Queer South.

“I spent this semester exploring fields I have a significant background or interest in - in hopes of determining how I feel about them, so I can determine my next steps for the future. I took a public health course, a geography course and a legal fellowship. Thank you for confirming my feelings towards my geography work. I truly loved this course. Geography and spatial thinking is definitely what makes me stand out and strengthens my work in other fields. When I head to Atlanta in July to work at the CDC, I’m planning on building a home studio to work on mapping skills. I’m hoping to work towards the GIS, so I can keep my skills strong moving forward. I would truly consider pursuing a PhD in the geography in the future, but right now I’d like to go further into building skills and explore more spatial data science and programming applications.”

Departmental efforts on behalf of students during this difficult time are appreciated. History BA senior, **Brittany Fugate** says,

“Transitioning to completely online in the middle of the semester was one of the hardest things I’ve ever done, especially as a senior. There were a lot of things I was looking forward to such as commencement, and organization events that would be my last, that are gone now. The one thing I’m thankful for is the grace and flexibility of my History and Geography professors in this trying time.”

Meanwhile History major **Valentina Martinez** comments,

“School work was not the issue when transferring to online classes, it was the lack of motivation from being stuck in my two bedroom apartment with no change in scenery. I’m thankful for the History and Geography professors who understand that this time has brought upon more stress for certain students. However, for those students such as myself, who have a lot more free time this has been the perfect time to challenge us.”

History Club News

The UA Little Rock History Club is back! Covid-19 may have derailed us a bit, but H-Clubbers will resume our regular meetings in the library conference room soon, as well as our lineup of awesome events! The board of the MacArthur Museum of Arkansas Military History has generously offered to sponsor club members' seats on a bus tour of Civil War sites in Fayetteville and Pea Ridge (rescheduled from May 30 to September 19)! The Club will also continue its regular history-themed "game nights." We held our inaugural session after volunteering at History Day--prizes included parade "throws" caught by faculty liaison **Dr. Nathan Marvin** at New Orleans Carnival!



Phi Alpha Theta Returns

Under the leadership of new faculty liaison **Dr. Andrew Amstutz**, the national history honor society Phi Alpha Theta's UA Little Rock Iota Zeta chapter, resumed activities this spring. Established in 1963 and championed for many years by Emeritus Professor, **Dr. Vince Vinikas**, Phi Alpha Theta recognizes the department's highest achieving undergraduate and graduate students in the field of history and provides opportunities for fun and camaraderie for all students and faculty. Dr. Amstutz was planning the spring induction ceremony when our face-to-face operations ceased. Stay tuned for more information!

Alumni News

Sarah Riva, a graduate of our Public History MA program, is due to graduate with her PhD from the University of Arkansas this summer. **Paola Cavalleri**, was admitted to the PhD program at Memphis University. **Cody Berry**, Public History MA graduate, has an article "Double Agents: A Story about Early Arkansas Banking and Indian Removal" in the spring 2020 *Pulaski County Historical Review*. Cody has also been working to locate and catalog archival materials for Dr. Andrew Amstutz's fall 2020 course, History with Objects. The course will be centered on a public history project focused on preserving the history of Ruth Coker Burks (the 'Cemetery Angel of Arkansas') and her work providing end-of-life care for over forty men who were dying of AIDS in Hot Springs in the 1980s when their families rejected them. Additionally, Mr. Berry is working on curriculum development for Dr. Porter's Middle East Today course, also scheduled in the fall.

Alumni, please send your news and updates to jcporter@ualr.edu.

History Department Undergraduate Scholarships Announced

The History Department recently awarded more than \$30,000 in undergraduate Department scholarships for the upcoming academic year. The Department expresses its sincere gratitude to its donors and congratulates the recipients for their hard work! Please consider supporting a History Scholarship fund. See the final page of the newsletter for more information.

Armando Arellano: Richard B. Dixon Undergraduate Scholarship

Dara Butcher: Richard B. Dixon Undergraduate Scholarship

Amy Brazell: Craig Powell Memorial Scholarship and Richard B. Dixon Undergraduate Scholarship

Jerry Griffin: Richard B. Dixon Undergraduate Scholarship

Brian Neel: Richard B. Dixon Undergraduate Scholarship

Koria Robinson: Booker Worthen Scholarship
Kellie Solomon: Booker Worthen Scholarship
Kaci Thompson: Richard B. Dixon Undergraduate Scholarship

History Graduates

Congratulations to History BA graduates for the 2020 Spring semester! They include **Amanda Arnold, Evelyn Bolin, Brittany Fugate, Daniel Little, Michael Austin Massa, Kristen Miller, Natasha Mitchell, Koriatorshia Robinson,** and **Lauren Rose.**

Faculty News



DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY
COLLEGE OF ARTS, LETTERS, AND SCIENCES
UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS AT LITTLE ROCK

Andrew Amstutz, Assistant Professor of History. Due to the transition to online teaching in late March, Dr. Amstutz's public history course, "Museum Interpretation," was shifted to a virtual discussion format. Building on earlier in-person museum visits, his students have explored online museum collections and used the productive challenge of virtual class meetings to consider alternative approaches to conventional museums. Dr. Amstutz has continued to develop a public history project on the Arkansas 'Cemetery Angel', Ruth Coker Burks, and the preservation of the Files Cemetery in Hot Springs for his upcoming "History with Objects" course in fall semester 2020. In the 1980s, Ms. Burks provided end-of-life care to hundreds of men dying of AIDS in Arkansas. She interred the ashes of over forty of these men in her family cemetery, when no one else would. He is developing a public history class project focused on preserving the history of the cemetery with the help of Dr. David Baylis. Dr. Amstutz co-organized a conference, "Before and Beyond Typography" at Stanford University that originally was scheduled for summer 2020. In light of COVID-19, a virtual conference will be held at the end of April 2020 with the in-person conference to follow in 2021. Dr. Amstutz has revised two articles for upcoming publication: "A Partitioned Library: Changing Collecting Priorities and Imagined Futures in a Divided Urdu Library, 1947–49" that is forthcoming in June 2020 in *South Asia: Journal of South Asian Studies* and "A New Shahrazad: The Travel Writings of Mahmooda Rizvia between India and Iraq during World War II" that is forthcoming in August 2020 in *Comparative Studies of South Asia, Africa and the Middle East*.

Edward M. Anson, Professor of History, continues as an Associate editor of the *Ancient History Bulletin*, Assessor for Classics for the Australian Research Council, an agency of the Australian national government that awards grants to researchers, and is a fellow of the University of Waterloo's Institute for Hellenistic Studies. He published a review of F. S. Naiden, *Soldier, Priest, and God: A Life of Alexander the Great* (Oxford: 2019), in *Res Militares, Journal of the Society of Ancient Military Historians*, and has in press his ninth and tenth books, *Affective relations and personal bonds in Hellenistic Antiquity: A Festschrift honouring the career of Elizabeth D. Carney*, Oxbow Press (co-editor) expected publication 2020; *Philip II, the Father of Alexander the Great: Themes and Issues* (Bloomsbury Academic, expected publication 2020). He also has in press: "Hellenistic Warfare," for Wiley-Blackwell's *Companion to Greek Warfare*; "Eumenes of Cardia," "Epitropos," "Ephemerides," and "Macedonian Army Assembly," in *The Lexicon of Argead Macedonia*, Franke & Timme, (expected publication 2020); "Alexander the Great: A Life Lived as Legend," in *Alexander the Great and Propaganda*, Taylor and Frances; : "The Father of the Army: Alexander and the Epigoni," In *Affective relations*

and personal bonds in Hellenistic Antiquity. A Festschrift honouring the career of Elizabeth D. Carney; "Philip and Alexander and the Nature of Their Personal Kingship," in The Courts of Philip II and Alexander the Great: Monarchy and Power in Ancient Macedonia, De Gruyter. In process, "The military campaign: what was it all about?" In The Cambridge Companion to Alexander the Great, Cambridge. He is currently directing a master's thesis at UALR, interesting enough it is in the area of Bronze Age archaeology in the Iberian Peninsula. Back in grad school his outside history field was early modern Iberian history. The last time he had anything to do seriously regarding the Iberian Peninsula was early in his career at UALR when he taught a seminar in early modern Spain. Nothing else until now. He also serves on a masters committee for the University of Nebraska and a doctoral committee for Cornell University. He currently serves on four university committees and is a faculty senator, and the Senate's Counselor. This past year he completed his fourteenth consecutive Little Rock Half Marathon, having participated in the "combo," running a 5K on Saturday and the half on Sunday. He traveled to Greece from just after Christmas until well after New Year's, but a planned trip to Israel over spring break had to be cancelled because of the pandemic. The pandemic also led to a dramatic change in his teaching. His two history of civilization classes and his undergrad/grad seminar (Alex and G.) became his first excursions into online learning, which has convinced him that the correct method of instruction is as it was in the days of Socrates.

David Baylis, Assistant Professor and Coordinator of Geography. Last summer, David traveled to New Rochelle, New York to gather materials from the Sanborn Map Company's original archive. Sanborn held a monopoly on insurance mapping in the United States for nearly a century. Historians and social scientists still commonly use these maps as a means for understanding urban change in the United States. While in New Rochelle, David came across a decade of articles published in the 1920s in the company-wide periodical, *the Sanborn Survey*. These articles provide an interesting window into the day-to-day operations, working practices, and ideologies of one of the largest and most influential mapping companies in the history of the United States. David continues to redevelop the GIS offerings at UA-Little Rock as an interdisciplinary map design, web-mapping, and spatial analysis program. Most recently, he has begun incorporating advanced web-mapping tools and applications, open-source mapping resources, and programming applications for use in handheld and mobile mapping devices into GIS I, GIS II, and the brand new course, Map Design and Web-Mapping. He is also offering two new social geography courses: the Queer South and Black Geographies. Since last fall, David has been a board member of the Zion Community Project in Memphis. This non-profit group has worked for over a decade to restore the historic Zion Christian Cemetery, which is located off South Parkway in Memphis. David has begun the process of mapping this historic African American Cemetery, which was partially bulldozed in the late 1970s. This mapping project will be featured as part of a plan to create an educational tour and resource collection for Zion.

Marta Cieslak, Visiting Assistant Professor of History, presented her work on Polish women migrants in the United States at the turn of the twentieth century at the annual conference of the American Historical Association (AHA) in New York City. She also co-organized the meeting of the Polish American Historical Association (PAHA) that takes place annually in affiliation with the AHA conference. That work included co-organizing a PAHA awards banquet that every year recognizes the work of scholars, public historians, and activists who work in the field of Polish American studies and in Polish American communities. Marta is currently wrapping up, together with Dr. Anna Muller from the University of Michigan-Dearborn, a special guest-edited issue of the *Polish American Studies* that focuses on gender and sexuality. She is also involved in a new PAHA project that collects personal documents from the Polish immigrants who arrived in the United States after World War II as Displaced Persons. The collected archival materials will be cataloged, preserved, and digitized by the Central Connecticut State University. Marta's two face-to-face sections of US History to 1877 and an upper-level course The Holocaust continue online. She and her students try to make the most of the challenging online learning/teaching environment during live sessions. Simultaneously, the students who cannot attend the live sessions can participate in classes by completing alternative assignments and watching the

recorded sessions. While the pandemic crisis interrupted the internships of our undergraduate students, which Marta coordinates, she continues to work with the interns to get ready to enter the job market upon their graduation.

Michael Heil, Assistant Professor of History, is on leave. He holds the 2019-2020 A. W. Mellon Junior Faculty Fellowship in Medieval Studies at the University of Notre Dame, where he is working on a book manuscript, *Clerics, Courts, and Legal Culture in Early Medieval Italy*. In March he presented a paper at the “virtual” annual meeting of the Medieval Academy of America, held online after the physical meeting was cancelled due to COVID-19. A one-day conference at Notre Dame focused on his book project, originally scheduled for April, will take place in October.

Barclay Key, Associate Professor of History and Coordinator of Public History, continued coordinating the M.A. program in public history, teaching the thesis seminar, pursuing internships for graduate students, and teaching the core course, US History since 1877. His first book, *Race and Restoration: Churches of Christ and the Black Freedom Struggle*, was (finally!) published by Louisiana State University Press. He continues research on the history of school desegregation in Little Rock and serves as administrator for all of the department's social media accounts, @ualrhistory on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

John A. Kirk, Donaghey Distinguished Professor of History, published his ninth book this semester, *The Civil Rights Movement: A Documentary Reader* (Hoboken, NJ: Wiley Blackwell, 2020) as part of the publisher's *Understanding the Past: Documentary Readers in American History* series. The book tells the story of the civil rights movement in the United States from the 1941 Harlem bus boycott to Black Lives Matter through over 120 carefully selected and edited primary sources, each with a headnote written by Kirk for explanation and context. Kirk also wrote a 10,000-word historiographical introduction for the volume. Reviewers commented: “His superb introduction sums up the civil rights movement in readable fashion by tracing the complexities of the historiography of the movement over the past forty years... this is a well written, well organized, well sourced reader that deserves wide adoption”; “This is a fine, important work. It has been well more than a generation since there has been a document collection that does what this one does”; and “This book will provide a valuable resource for teachers and students of the civil rights movement... The quality of the chapters is excellent.” Kirk showcased the book in his “Evenings with History” presentation this semester in his talk “What is the Civil Rights Movement?” Manuscripts for Kirk's tenth and eleventh books, one on Winthrop Rockefeller, and the other on the civil rights movement in Arkansas, are near completion, and the resulting books will appear within the next couple of years. Kirk also completed a couple of book chapters, “From Representation by the Elite Few to the Mobilization of the Masses: The Long Grassroots Struggle for Black Voting Rights in Arkansas since the 1860s,” that will appear in a collection being put together by faculty at the Université Grenoble Alpes, France, titled *Mobilizing Voters in the English-Speaking World: The Role of Grassroots Organizations and Civil Rights Organizations (1867–2017)*, and “Sweet Willie Wine's 1969 Walk Against Fear: Black Activism and White Response in East Arkansas Fifty Years after the Elaine Massacre,” that will appear in a collection being put together by faculty at the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, titled *Elaine at 100: Race, Labor, and Violence in the Lower Mississippi Valley*. Kirk wrote a couple of articles for the *Arkansas Times*, “Model Schools: Winthrop Rockefeller's Vision for Public Education Started in Morrilton,” January 2020, 77-79, and “A Civil Rights Crossroads in Little Rock: The 1974 National Black Political Convention,” February 2020, 79-81. He gave a couple of community talks, one to the Arkansas Association of Black Psychology Professionals on “Black Education in the Jim Crow Era” for their conference “A Centennial Commemoration: Historical Contributions of African American Psychologists from Arkansas” held at Philander Smith College, and the other to members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America Synod on “Arkansas and Race Relations” at Faith Lutheran Church, Little Rock, Arkansas. His scheduled conference paper at the biennial European Association of American Studies conference, due to be held in Warsaw, Poland, in May, has been postponed until next year. Kirk was interviewed and cited by journalist Alexis B. Clark in her article “Why

Eisenhower Sent the 101st Airborne to Little Rock After Brown v. Board,” posted on the History Channel’s website history.com on April 8, 2020. He continues to record his ever-popular “Arkansas Moments” segments about Arkansas’s civil rights history on KUAR, UA Little Rock’s public radio station. Kirk also won the Central Arkansas Library System Encyclopedia of Arkansas History and Culture’s inaugural April Fools’ Day contest for his fake history entry on the “Arkansas Egg Men,” a rip-roaring and rollicking adventure of chicken thievery, outlaw country bands, plagiarism, and walruses in northeast Arkansas, that is lay-den with terrible avian-related puns. In teaching news, Kirk was the only UA Little Rock arts and humanities faculty member selected to teach at Arkansas Governor’s School (AGS) in its Area II arts and humanities core classes this year. Now in its 41st year, the AGS provides an excellent recruitment opportunity for the department, the college, and the university, pairing as it does the most talented teachers in the state with the best and brightest high school rising seniors across Arkansas who will be applying to university this year. On campus, Kirk taught two of the History Department’s “core” or “service” classes. The first class, RACE 2301 Introduction to Race and Ethnicity was a full class that is one of two core classes on the History Department’s minor in Race and Ethnicity. The class is taught online, and therefore mercifully suffered little disruption as the university switched from face-to-face to online classes mid-semester because of the Covid-19 pandemic. The second class, HIST 4355 Arkansas History and Government, was another full class and is a core class in the History Department’s Secondary Education major—indeed, one of Kirk’s former student’s is now teaching civics classes to his daughter at Parkview High School! The Arkansas history class was taught face-to-face at the Bobby L. Roberts Library of Arkansas History and Art in downtown Little Rock on Thursday evenings and therefore suffered more disruption from the switch online. Thankfully, Kirk’s stress on collaborative learning and small study groups in the classroom provided a strong foundation that minimized the trauma for students having to alter their mode of instruction from face-to-face to online delivery. The rapport and strong bonds that students had already cemented in these small study groups made it much easier to make the transition online, and they provided not only ongoing mutual academic support, but also vital moral support and personal contact amid what otherwise may have led to greater isolation and estrangement in the new social-distancing world that the students found themselves in. This format aided students academically and personally, and it has been a strong factor in the retention of students on the course.

Kristin Dutcher Mann, Professor of History and Coordinator of Social Studies Secondary Education, presented her research on bells in Northern New Spain at the American Historical Association’s annual conference in New York in January, where she also attended workshops on retention and designing survey courses online. She signed a contract with Oxford Press to prepare a multimedia inquiry module for U.S. and world history college students based on her research on music and dance in the Spanish colonial empire. Dr. Mann completes her term as President of the College of Arts, Letters and Sciences Assembly this spring.

Nathan Marvin, Assistant Professor of History, continues to teach History of Civilization II as well as The Historian’s Craft. Many thanks to Cody Besett, Kaye Lundgren, and Shannon Lausch, for facilitating our deep dive into the archival collections of the Center for Arkansas History and Culture, and thanks to Benji de la Piedra and Imam Mahmoud Al-Denawy, for enriching our classes with their presentations! This semester, despite some cancellations due to Covid-19, Nate presented two conference papers and sat on a colleague’s manuscript review committee—all from the comfort of his UALR office! He continues to revise his dissertation for publication as a monograph.

Brian Mitchell, Assistant Professor of History, completed a second edition of Griff Stockley’s *Blood in Their Eyes* with co-authors Griff Stockley and Guy Lancaster. The text is scheduled for a Spring 2020 release with the University of Arkansas Press. Mitchell also completed a book chapter, *Soldiers and Veterans at the Elaine Race Massacre* in Mark Chirst’s, *The War at Home: Perspectives on the Arkansas Experience during World War I*, which was also published at the University of Arkansas Press. During his plague internment, Dr. Mitchell is working on revisions of an article that has been accepted for admission in the inaugural edition of *The Journal*

of Slavery & Data Preservation published out of Michigan State University. Dr. Mitchell is also anxiously awaiting the launch of Michigan State University - Matrix Center's new database, *Enslaved: People of the Historic Slave Trade* of which he is a contributor. Despite the crisis this spring, Mitchell maintained a busy presentation schedule prior to the quarantine. He presented "The Friends of Universal Suffrage: The Untold Story of Louisiana's Role in the Struggle for Voting Rights," Henderson State University and Bowen Law School; "A Rock in a Weary Land: The African Methodist Episcopal Church and Our Path to Freedom," Holly Grove African Methodist Episcopal Church, North Little Rock, AR; "Soldiers and the Elaine Riot of 1919," Arkansas Army National Guard, Camp Robinson - Arkansas Army National Guard Museum, Jacksonville, AR; moderated a discussion of the motion picture "Just Mercy" for Arkansas educators, "National Parks Service - "Just Mercy" Teacher Training and Discussion," Little Rock Central High School National Historic Site, Riverdale 10 VIP Cinema; and gave the Opening speech at the Inaugural Observance of the National Day of Racial Healing for the State of Arkansas and Arkansas Peace & Justice Memorial Movement at the State Capitol Rotunda, Little Rock, AR. Dr. Mitchell and the Elaine 12 Foundation placed a marker outside of the gates of the Little Rock National Cemetery to commemorate and memorialize the life of Frank Moore, one of the twelve sharecroppers placed on death row for their role in the formation of the Elaine chapter of Progressive Farmers and Household Union of America and their subsequent participation in the Elaine Massacre. The marker was placed with the generous assistance of the Department of the Arkansas Heritage, The Black History Commission, Griff Stockley, The Solomon Family (of Phillips County); The Honorable Audrey Evans, The Honorable Brian Miller, Dr. Kyle Miller (Director of the Delta Cultural Center), and the graduate students of our Public History program. Dr. Mitchell worked with the Department of Defense and Congressman French Hill on The World War I Valor Medals Review Act which was voted into law. The act reopens the military records of all minority service members of the Armed Forces during World War I for review and allows for the posthumous awarding of medals to soldiers that were denied those honors while they were alive. Congressman Hill and his wife Martha McKenzie Hill hosted Dr. Mitchell as their guest at the 2020 State of the Union Address. Dr. Mitchell would like to take the opportunity to thank Congressman Hill and wife for all of the hard work entailed in the passage of the law and for graciously hosting his visit to Washington D.C.

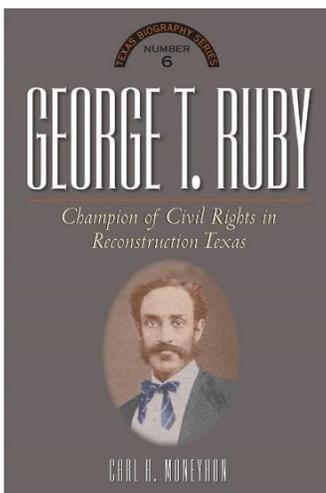
Jess Porter, Chair of History, Associate Professor of Geography, enjoyed the challenge of transitioning all face-to-face History and Geography courses to online formats. This included both of Dr. Porter's courses (Cultural Geography and Geospatial Technologies). He continues to appreciate the administrative opportunities presented by the effective physical closure of the university. He was disappointed for the annual meeting of the American Association of Geographers to be held in Denver, Colorado to be cancelled. This fall he will offer a new course, Middle East Today, with a focus on contemporary geopolitics of the region. The course is a byproduct of recent travel and research in Egypt, Turkey, Qatar, and the United Arab Emirates that was partially funded by the UA Little Rock Middle Eastern Studies program. Porter was pleased to contribute the maps for yet another book for Dr. Moneyhon. The book is forthcoming, as is the scotch to be presented as payment for services rendered.

Charles Romney, Associate Professor of History, participated in the History as a Data Science Workshop at Columbia University in January. He serves as the committee chair for two students who will defend their Public History M.A. thesis projects this April: Mary Cate Clatworthy, "Dr. Roscoe Greene Jennings: Arkansas Physician in the Nineteenth Century," and Rachel Walters, "Monument Stories, Memorial Culture, and German University Campuses." Romney has chaired thesis committees for forty UA Little Rock master's degree students since 2010, including thirty-nine M.A. students in Public History and one M.S. student in Information Science. This spring he received one of the university's Student Advocate Awards. Romney will teach a new course in the fall on the "History of the Internet."

James Ross, Associate Professor of History, has spent this year working on and teaching four new classes. The first was on the History of the Movies. The second was called The Cold War. The third was a new online summer class called The Sixties: Sex, Drugs, and Rock and Roll. And in the Spring he will offer a new class called the History of the 2020 Election which will be a political history of the 20th century that tries to understand how we got to the 2020 election. He has recently completed an article on the bombing of Carlotta Walls's house in 1960 with Dr. Key and continues to research and write on the Little Rock School District after 1957.

Katrina Yeaw, Assistant Professor of History, published her first book this spring, entitled *Women in the Modern History of Libya: Exploring Transnational Trajectories*, which was released by Routledge. In addition to this project, she is continuing to work on her book project entitled *Women, Resistance and the Creation of New Gendered Frontiers in the Making of Modern Libya, 1890-1980*. She is also working on a project on slavery in the Libyan territories entitled "Between Empires: Women's Resistance and Domestic Slavery in the Libyan Territories in the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries," which was submitted in Fall 2019 to an edited volume on "Slavery in the Middle East and North Africa in the 19th and 20th Centuries," to be published by I.B. Tauris as part of its series on *Sex, Marriage, and the Family in the Middle East*. This spring she presented the paper "Sexuality in Libya from the Late Ottoman Period until the Collapse of Empire" at the King Fahd Center for Middle East Studies at the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville. This past fall she also attended the Middle Eastern Studies Association Annual Meeting in New Orleans, where she presented a paper. At UA Little Rock, Professor Yeaw wears many hats. She is a faculty member with the Middle Eastern Studies Program along with the history department and the acting coordinator for Gender Studies. She teaches classes on the modern Middle East, gender, World Civilization until 1600, historical methods, and historiography. The COVID-19 pandemic has radically changed the face of higher education. Professor Yeaw believes in these times patience and compassion must be front and center in education. Since the transition from face-to-face classes to online instruction, she has emphasized her students' emotional well-being as central to student success in her courses while offering a variety of ways for students to participate online, from discussion boards to synchronous sessions to videos. Outside of UA Little Rock, she is also active with the community and has been volunteering with the World Central Kitchen to provide meals during this difficult time.

Emeritus Faculty News



Dr. Carl Moneyhon has produced another contribution to the Reconstruction period of United States history. The subject of this biography, George T. Ruby, was the most widely known of the first generation of black politicians in Texas, establishing during the Reconstruction both a local and national reputation as a strident advocate of equal rights. Born in New York City and reared in Maine, Ruby demonstrated his desire to secure a better place for African Americans at an early age. He migrated to Haiti shortly after graduating from high school as part of an effort to colonize American blacks in a world where their futures were not limited by their race. During the Civil War he moved to Louisiana, where he worked as a teacher among the freedmen. In 1867 he moved to Texas, where he again taught school as an employee of the Freedmen's Bureau. Ruby became involved in politics in Texas with the beginning of Congressional Reconstruction in 1867. As an agent of the Loyal League, he became a major force in organizing blacks to vote, and his connections allowed him to run successfully for the 1868 Constitutional Convention.

Elected president of the Loyal League in 1868, Ruby used his position to help elect Edmund J. Davis governor in 1869 and also to go to the state senate from Galveston. In the senate he supported the broader agenda of the

UA LITTLE ROCK HISTORY DEPARTMENT SCHOLARSHIPS

The UA Little Rock History Department each spring semester awards a number of student scholarships provided by the generosity of donors. The department welcomes additions to these endowments that will allow us to make more awards and to help more of our students. We also welcome and encourage new endowed named scholarships. All contributions are tax deductible.

The Ruby M. Duke Ancient History Award. Awarded to a student "majoring in History with a demonstrated interest in Ancient History."

Booker Worthen Scholarship. Awarded to a full-time or part-time UA Little Rock History major with a minimum of 80 credit hours. Academic accomplishment and financial need are considered. Booker Worthen founded Worthen National Bank, which became the largest bank holding company in the state. The scholarship was created by his family to honor his memory.

Craig Powell Memorial Scholarship. Awarded to a History major with a minimum of 54 credit hours, the last 15 or more having been taken at UA Little Rock. A minimum GPA of 3.0 is required. The applicant must demonstrate a positive attitude toward learning. Craig Powell was a promising UA Little Rock student who was killed in a tragic accident. The scholarship was created in his name by his parents.

David O. Demuth Scholarship. Awarded to a History major with a minimum of 54 credit hours, the last 15 hours or more having been taken at UA Little Rock. A minimum GPA of 3.5 is required. The applicant's potential for further study in History is considered. David Demuth was a history major and a graduate of UA Little Rock, a prominent businessman, and civic leader.

Richard B. Dixon Scholarship. Awarded to a History major with a minimum of 54 credit hours, the last 15 or more having been taken at UA Little Rock. A minimum GPA of 3.0 is required. The applicant must demonstrate a positive attitude toward learning. A professor in the History Department at UA Little Rock for twenty-three years, the scholarship was established in his name by his former students.

Jack Freshour Scholarship. Awarded to a Public History M.A. student with a grade point average of 3.0 undergraduate or 3.25 graduate, taking a minimum of 9 hours per semester. Jack Freshour was a longtime supporter of UA Little Rock and the History Department.

Little Rock Nine Endowed Scholarship. Awarded to a Public History M.A. student working in the area of race relations and community development. Academic accomplishment and financial need are considered.

Mabel W. Formica and Santo D. Formica History Endowment. Awarded to History students for scholarships and special projects. A portion of the fund also sponsors visiting external speakers in History. Mabel and Santo Formica were a married couple who in their "golden years" returned to college and became both students in the History program and ardent supporters of the department.

C. Fred Williams Endowed Scholarship in Public History. Named in memory of C. Fred Williams a former chair and professor of History.

Dr. Edward Madden and Lucy Dorothy Anson III Award. Awarded to the outstanding graduating History major as selected by the faculty of the History Department. This award was established to honor the parents of a current history faculty member.

Lee and Paula Johnson Travel Scholarship. Awarded to assist students in the History Department to pursue a study abroad program at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock.

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