



History Department Newsletter

What's New in History

HISTORY DEPARTMENT FACULTY MEETING 2021 STYLE



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Message from the Chair2
Graduate Student News3
B.A. Graduates.....4
Undergraduate Awards.....5

Department Happenings.....6
Alumni News.....7
Faculty and Staff.....8



Message from the Chair



Historians are notoriously skeptical about using words like 'unprecedented' but this past year has certainly been so for the UMBC History Department. The entire academic year 2020-21 has been conducted remotely. Faculty, graduate assistants and undergraduate students have all had to become experts in online instruction. And in true UMBC style, we have. While this is not a year I would want to repeat at the end I am happy to say that we've got through this challenge relatively successfully. And this is thanks to the creativity, flexibility, compassion, and good nature of the History faculty, staff, and students. I've said it a number of times this year (and I mean it), if I have to go through a pandemic this is the best group of people to go through one with.

*"...if I have to go through a pandemic, this is the best group of people to go through one with,"
Professor Amy Froide.*

Despite the pandemic some things continued like normal-faculty published books and won awards, students also won awards, did virtual internships, conducted primary source research, and were admitted into graduate schools. And our alums, well they just keep getting more impressive. We also found that some things were just as good or better online. Due to the pandemic we held both our annual Webb and Low lectures virtually. This meant that friends, alumni and emeritus professors were able to join us from far and wide. Hopefully we can continue to stream our lectures even when we return to in-person events.

In the meantime, enjoy reading about what the History Department has been up to and send us your news and ideas to froide@umbc.edu.

Here is to a good summer,

Amy Froide



GRADUATE STUDENT NEWS



Congratulations to Aimee Pohl who has been selected as a Baltimore Field School Fellow. Sponsored by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the Baltimore Field School projects seeks to create a model of ethical

humanities research and teaching in Baltimore and cities like it and is dedicated to anti-racist and decolonial models of engagement working with communities. Aimee reaction to being selected as a Fellow: "I am honored and excited to be selected as a Baltimore Field School Fellow. The School's focus on building collaborative public humanities projects will provide me with critical insight and feedback as I design the oral history aspect of my thesis. With community groups and members, as well as other scholars, I hope to develop a more ethical and less extractive project to document the stories and experiences of Baltimoreans responding to the lead poisoning epidemic in the late 20th and early 21st century."



Jessica Riley, a second-year M.A student, has been keeping herself busy by presenting her thesis "Louisville's Black Laborers of the Campbell Tobacco Company, 1915-1930" in the Spring Semester Works In Progress Seminar. Her presentation discussed one chapter of her thesis that

Jessica will defend in July 2021.

Jessica also has a forthcoming exhibit (June 2021) titled "From Studio to Home, Autonomy in Photography and Film" that will be installed in the reading room of UMBC Special Collections. The exhibit will be two display cases and will feature photography equipment from the department's collections.

And, to top it off, Jessica was awarded the Filson Fellowship in Fall 2020 that will help support research expenses associated with her thesis project.



M.A. in Historical Studies Graduates



Summer 2020

Saul Espinal-Acosta

"Goal! Americans Embrace the Beautiful Game: How the Upper White Middle Class' Acceptance of Soccer Affected Minority Communities From the 1980-s—2000's"

Fall 2020

Ana Ilic-Hein

"Themes of Othering in the Croatian and Serbian History Textbooks in 1950"

Spring 2021

Chris Ragen—"Atomic City: Las Vegas' Postwar Nuclear Boom and Radioactive Bust"

Bria Warren—"Swift and Certain Vengeance: Lynching Rhetoric in Maryland Newspapers, 1854-1900"



CONGRATULATIONS!!



History B.A. Degree Recipients



FALL 2020

Lindsay Bass

Eric Jason Bathras

Bedford F. Boylston
HONORS: Summa Cum Laude

Brittany Coral Cribb-Williams
HONORS: Magna Cum Laude

Shelby Epperly
Second Degree: Information Systems

Willson Garcia

James Milo George
Second Major: Political Science

Jason Albert Kim

Kevin Patrick Leonard

Emily Casey Meehan
Minor: Public History

Hannah Marie Morales

Michael Francis Morris

David Murayama

Drue B. Nixon

William Robert Plesser,
HONORS: Cum Laude
Minors: Philosophy; Medieval and Early Modern Studies

Logan Rainey
Second Degree: Computer Science

Parker Jordan Reilly
HONORS: Cum Laude
Second Major: Ancient Studies

Brett Riley

David Daniel Rosetti
HONORS: Cum Laude

Timothy H. Schwarm

Richard Stratton

Vivian Nancy Tubbs
Minor: Ancient Studies

Meghan Maureen Walsh

Marian Yaldram
HONORS: Cum Laude
Minor: Public History

SPRING 2021

Jake Arbaugh

Zain C. Bamji
Minors: Philosophy, Political Science

John P. Basso-Luca

Umar Boone
Second Degree: Political Science

Rob Calamuci

Mikaila Donaldson
Minor: Political Science

John Echeverria

Henry Fafard
Minor: Writing

Pat Fowler
Minor: Public History

James M. George
Second Degree: Political Science

Victoria Grimes

Gregory F. Hernandez

Jason A. Kim

Kevin P. Leonard

Justin C. Levine

Chandler C. Loudon
Second Degree: Cultural Anthropology

Elizabeth Markelonis

Conor McGahan

Sayra Monjaras

Juhi S. Naik
Second Degree: Political Science

Hunter Newman
Minor: Public History

Matthew Novick

Misha S. Patel

Zane A. Poffenberger
Second Degree: Political Science

Meredith Power

Blake L. Priddy

Austin Randall

Rachael Rizzutto
Minors: Public History, Asian Studies

Samantha Rogers
Minors: Public History, Medieval & Early Modern Studies

David D. Rosetti

Catherine Sansone
Minor: Public History

Karl R. Schickler

Brandon H. Simonetta
Minor: Political Science

Dylan Smith

Tony Stout

Samuel R. Teneyck
Second Degree: Political Science
Minor: Public History

Max Trumper

Jackson T. Wolter
Minor: Political Science

Mairin N. Wright



CONGRATULATIONS!!

Undergraduate Student Awards

John Bell-Clifford Maas Prize for Academic Excellence

Mark Breeding
Sydney Kempf

Danylo Leshchyshyn
Meredith Power

Joseph D. Reese Memorial Prize

Mikaila Donaldson

Parker Reilly

History Department Achievement Award

Pat Fowler

Undergraduate Research Awards 2020-2021

Chandler Loudon "The Evolution and Historiography of Hauntology and its Contemporary Role" - Advisors Amy Froide and Daniel Ritschel

Meredith Power "Tracing Anti-Imperialism in George Orwell's BBC Propaganda, 1941-1943" Advisor: Daniel Ritschel

Rachael Rizzutto "The Newton Pippin: A Patriotic Apple" Advisor Amy Froide

Vivian Tubbs "Co Building Enlightenment" Advisor Amy Froide

URCAD 2021 Presentors

Matthey Kelbaugh "Visionary or Megalomaniac? The Legacy of Vladimir Lenin in Contemporary Education" Advisor: Vira Zhdanovych

Danylo Leshchyshyn "Legacies of the First-Called: Saint Andrew and Claims to Apostolic Succession in the Rus'-Byzantine World" Advisor Sufian Zhemukhov

Chandler Loudon "The End of History or Something More? A Debate on the Post Cold War Future with Neoliberal Theorists" Advisor: Daniel Ritschel

Meredith Power "Uncertainties Spiritual and Temporal: The Plight of England's Catholic Nuns at the Dissolution of the Monasteries" Advisor: Amy Froide

Rachel Rizzutto "The Newtown Pippin: A Patriotic Apple" Advisor: Amy Froide

[URCAD recorded presentations can be viewed online.](#)



DEPARTMENT HAPPENINGS



ANNUAL WEBB LECTURE

The annual Webb Lecture was presented in October, 2020 by Dr. Maggie Paxson. Her lecture, "A French Village, Its Legacy of Rescue, and Lessons for Troubled Times," discussed a remote pocket of Nazi-held France during World War II where ordinary people risked their lives to rescue many hundreds of strangers, mostly Jewish children. Dr. Paxson explored the habits of helpfulness and rescue that the villagers of the Plateau Vivarais-Lignon have demonstrated for centuries.

Watch her lecture on YouTube: [Webb Lecture with Maggie Paxson](#)

WORK IN PROGRESS LECTURE SERIES




During the 2020-21 AY the Graduate Program initiated its Works in Progress Seminar. The WIP seminar consists of three lectures per semester, occurring on the third Wednesday of each month during the free hour. The first event this fall was a panel discussion of program alumni speaking to current students on the topic of "What I wish I knew when I was in graduate school." The panel consisted of alumni Bria Warren ('21), Andrew Holter ('17), and Molly Ricks ('17). For the remainder of the year, the seminar alternated between graduate student and faculty presentations. With 30 mins allotted for presentation and another 30 for discussion, the seminar created a robust feedback loop for faculty and students as they worked through their research projects. The seminar also sought to connect faculty and graduate students outside of class during a semester when the campus was closed.

OVERCOMING COVID



COVID has provided many challenges that UMBC staff and students have worked to overcome. Professor Blair organized a COVID-responsible, socially distanced meeting of public history students that she had been working with online all year, all while enjoying the wonderful Spring weather.

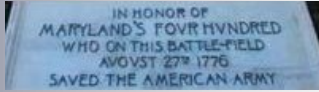
ANNUAL LOW LECTURE

		
Vincent Brown	Marjoleine Kars	Sharika Crawford
<small>Charles Warren Professor of American History and Professor of African and African American Studies Harvard University</small>	<small>Associate Professor of History UMBC</small>	<small>Associate Professor of History US Naval Academy</small>
<small>Photo courtesy of Sharona Jacobs.</small>	<small>Photo courtesy of Tim Ford.</small>	<small>Photo courtesy of Richard Ruth.</small>

Drs. Vincent Brown (Harvard) and Marjoleine Kars conducted a panel discussion in March on New World slave rebellions in Jamaica and Guyana, about which they just published books. Dr. Sharika Crawford (USNA) moderated the discussion. You can watch their discussion on YouTube: [Low Lecture](#).



ALUMNI NEWS



Owen Lourie, a historian at the Maryland State Archives and 2012 UMBC Alum, presented a lecture in August about the Maryland 400, the soldiers from Maryland who saved George Washington's army at the Battle of Brooklyn in August 1776.



Jessica Keene, Assistant Professor of History at Georgian Court University and a 2012 M.A. History Alum, has co-authored the piece "[The Tudors are Trending](#)" that discusses how this royal dynasty from early modern Britain has been getting a lot of online attention lately.



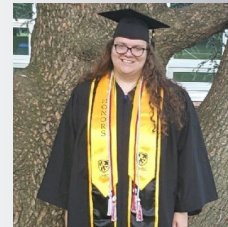
Joe Tropea, Maryland Center for History and Culture's Curator of Films & Photographs and (YEAR) alum, gave an online lecture discussing what going to the movies was like back in the day of the Electric Park through present day theater.



Congratulations to M.A. alum, **Colleen Walter Puterbaugh**, whose thesis research is featured in the MPT documentary "Mr. Besley's Forest." The clip featuring her contribution can be found here: <https://vimeo.com/399742477>



Allison Seyler, a B.A. and M.A. graduate in history from the University of Maryland Baltimore County (UMBC), has helped uncover evidence that Johns Hopkins did in fact own slaves as part of her role as program manager for the Hopkins Retrospective project, [GradImpact: Confronting False Narratives of American History](#).



Congratulations to B.A. alum (2020), Jeanette Richardson, on her new position as an archivist at Johns Hopkins Medicine. Jeanette will be responsible for cataloging and maintaining an extensive archival collection of surgical and autopsy materials.



Hello from Cryss Kosasih (2019) who just began work at Ft. McHenry as Diversity and Inclusion intern. Cryss also works at Benjamin Banneker Historical Park and Museum in Catonsville.

Hello from Mimi Yaldram



I graduated with an undergraduate degree in history and a minor in public history December 2020. I was a student at the Universities at Shady Grove. I participated in the Accelerated Bachelors to Masters Program for one semester. I was the president of the History Student Association at USG and a published author in the History Mildwarness Journal. My favorite professors have been Dr. Nolan and Dr. Blair because they are passionate about the history field and truly care for their students' success. I could not have finished my degree without their support and their tools in helping me to be a better historian. Since I have graduated I have been working two jobs one as an autism technician and as receptionist. I am also enrolled in TSEOL program at Montgomery College, which is a program about teaching English to non-native speakers, and applying for the Fullbright Program for Malaysia. Finally, I am interning at the Germantown Historical Society.



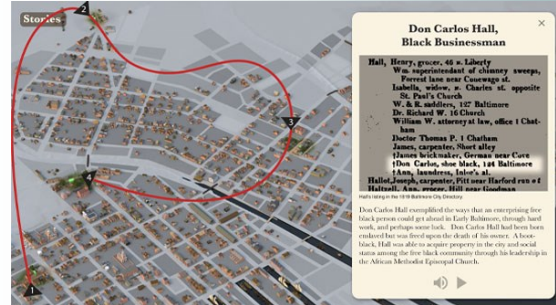
FACULTY AND STAFF NEWS



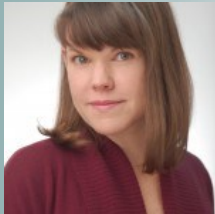
Blood on the River: A Chronicle of Mutiny and Freedom on the Wild Coast (The New Press, 2020), by Dr. Kars, chronicles a rebellion by enslaved people in the Dutch colony of Berbice, 1763 – 1764.



Dr. Kars also published her article, "[Reckoning with slavery: What a revolt's archives tell us about who owns the past](#)," in *The Conversation*.



In "[Accuracy and Authenticity in a Digital City](#)," Dr. Anne Sarah Rubin describes her role in the Visualizing Early Baltimore project. This collaboration between the Maryland Historical Society and the Imaging Research Center (IRC) at UMBC "combines historical research with cutting-edge modeling and mapping technologies to build an accurate 3D model of the city and its terrain, land use, and buildings circa 1820."



In Fall 2020, Dr. Chapin contributed to the *Bulletin of the History of Medicine* with her paper "What Historians of Medicine Can Learn from Historians of Capitalism" that discusses how the history of

medicine and the history of capitalism interact. Her article was in a roundtable forum that allowed Dr. Chapin to respond to scholars that commented on her essay.

Dr. Chapin has also recently published an extended essay, "United States Financial History," that surveys the history of US finance from the country's inception to the 2007-2008 financial crisis. The essay discusses themes in US financial policy that have contributed to the country's history.



This past February Dr. Musgrove launched "[Black Power in Washington, D.C.](#)" a web-based map of Black Power activism in the nation's capital between 1961 and 1998.

Dr. Musgrove has also published two articles, "Learning from Our Ancestors," in *Washington History* and "A Monument to Black Resistance and Strength" in *Perspectives Daily*.

Professor Musgrove also presented an online discussion via the Historical Society of Washington, D.C. and Historical Chevy Chase DC, regarding race and reform in the context of police brutality and reform efforts in Washington, D.C. Watch the recording of this discussion on YouTube: [Race and Reform: Police Brutality in DC and its Consequences](#).

Congratulations to Dr. Mary Laurents who published her first book, *British Identity in World War I: The Lost Boys*. Her book analyzes the development of the Lost Generation narrative following the First World War.



Dr. Meredith Oyen contributed to the book, *A Companion to U.S. Foreign Relations: Colonial Era to the Present*, with her chapter "Migrants and Transnational Networks in Sino-American Relations' in the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries." Her contribution discusses transnational migration between China and the United States and the effect on foreign relations between the two countries.



FACULTY AND STAFF NEWS



In February, Dr. Nianshen Song presented the online lecture “A Sacred Capital for the Empire: Tibetan Buddhism in Qing’s Mukden” as part of the Institute for Chinese Studies Lecture Series. This talk discussed Qing’s patronage of Tibetan Buddhism and the interactions between multiple ethnic groups and between the state, lamas, and local society.

Professor Song published two articles during this academic year: “[A Buffer against Whom? Rethinking the Qing-Chosŏn Border Region](#)” published in *Geopolitics* and “Diejia de dongya bianjian jingshenshi,” [The Overlapped Spiritual History of an East Asian Frontier] published in *Xinshixue* [New Historiography].

Black Music: Resistance, Protest, and Affirmation In These Dissenting Times and Beyond



BIRGITTA JOHNSON
University of South Carolina



MICHELLE SCOTT
University of Maryland,
Baltimore County (UMBC)



MELISSA STUCKEY,
MODERATOR
Elizabeth City State University

In September, Dr. Michelle Scott spoke at the Association for the Study of African American Life and History 105th Annual Meeting and Virtual Conference. Dr. Scott discussed with Dr. Birgitta Johnson (University of South Carolina) several examples of Black music that provide hidden and not-so-hidden soundtracks of resistance, protest, and affirmation in addition to the more well-known compositions.

Dr. Scott’s article “To Help Enlighten Our People: ‘Theater Folk’ and Stage Advice Columns in the 1920s Chicago Defender” was published in a special edition of the *American Studies with American Studies International Journal* (AMSJ) focusing on art in the black press during Jim Crow.



Congratulations to Dr. Constantine Vaporis, the first historian in the UMBC History Department to produce a historical animation! Check it out:

[A Day in the Life of a Teenage Samurai](#)

Professor Vaporis also published “Performance, Display, and the Spectacular,” a chapter in the book *Japan’s Past and Present* and “Samurai, Masculinity and Violence in Early Modern Japan,” a chapter in the book *The Cambridge History of Violence, Volume 3: AD 1500-AD 1800*.

Dr. Vaporis also published his book *Voices of Early Modern Japan. Contemporary Accounts of Life during the Age of the Shoguns (Second edition)*.



Professor Froide had her chapter, “Navigating the Spaces and Places of England’s First Stock Market: Women Investors and Brokers in the Financial Revolution, c. 1690-1730,” published in the book *Risk, Honor and Innovation: Imagining New Markets*.

Dr. Froide also added her work, “Legal and Other Administrative Documents in Manuscript” into the *Palgrave Encyclopedia of Early Modern Women’s Writing and English*.



HAVE A WONDERFUL AND SAFE SUMMER!



If you have news, send it to us at history@umbc.edu or on Facebook at UMBC History Department

Support UMBC History
[Grit & Greatness](#), the Campaign for UMBC

Thanks to Wendy Dunaway, Public Policy Ph.D. student, for her assistance on this newsletter