

HISTORICALLY SPEAKING

The Newsletter of The University of Alabama Department of History

Volume 6 No. 1

Fall 2022



College of
Arts & Sciences
Department of History

THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA®

FROM THE CHAIR

DEPARTMENT WELCOMES POSTDOCTORAL SCHOLAR FOR WORK ON UNIVERSITY HISTORY



This fall, The University of Alabama and the Department of History welcomed to campus Dr. Jasmine Stansberry as a postdoctoral scholar.

Dr. Stansberry is a proud Memphis native, University of Memphis and University of Mississippi alumna, researcher, member of the African diaspora, womanist, and poet.

She is a scholar of 20th century Black social movements in the U.S. South whose research focuses on Black student activism at colleges and universities in Mississippi and Alabama. She joins us under the auspices of the University's Taskforce on Race, Slavery, and Civil Rights, researching the history of slavery and its legacies here at The University of Alabama.

DR. MARGARET PEACOCK WINS OUTSTANDING COMMITMENT TO ADVISING AWARD

Associate Professor Dr. Margaret Peacock was recognized by The University of Alabama Academic Advisors Association (UA-AAA) as the recipient of the 2021-2022 Outstanding Commitment to Advising Award at the Fall Campus Assembly on October 26.

Though often overlooked or dismissed in the wider crush of university teaching and research, advising students is a vital part of what faculty do from week to week. "Advising is one of the rare times

each semester when History students have a chance to sit down with History professors and talk candidly about life, their studies, the field of History, and their future," Peacock explained. "Each student has a unique story that is worth hearing, and each student has a path that they are struggling to find." Dr. Peacock's commitment to each student as an individual, and to providing each with what they need—from general support and kindness to detailed, expert advice—is at the heart of this well-deserved recognition.

Dr. Peacock has served as the Department's Director of Undergraduate Studies since 2018. In that capacity she has general responsibility for managing the affairs of the department's undergraduate student population, including over 400 majors and 200 minors, as well as leadership and management of the department's complex routines of course scheduling, registration, and student advising.



Thank you for taking some time with the Fall 2022 newsletter from the Department of History. Although it will likely be nearly the end of the semester by the

time this issue gets into everyone's hands, I would take that as a reflection of how much we have had going on at ten Hoor Hall since the fall semester began in August! We have been able to host a number of exciting events in recent weeks alone. Among them was a visit and lecture from Notre Dame's Professor Sophie White, who was in Tuscaloosa to receive the Deep South Book Prize from the Summersell Center for the Study of the South for her recent work on slavery in French Louisiana. We were also thrilled to welcome back Dr. Isabela Morales, an alumna of the Department who went on to receive her Ph.D. in History at Princeton and who recently published a fantastic book rooted in research she began while still an undergraduate. Additional speakers planned in the near future help maintain a vibrant social and intellectual atmosphere for faculty, students, and visitors alike.

The University of Alabama, meanwhile, has once again enrolled its largest ever freshman class, with numbers topping just a bit over eight thousand new students. Most classes in the Department are full, and we are very excited to be engaged in a search for what we hope will be a new faculty member with expertise in the History of Asia so that we might expand our course offerings in that field, which has clear and wide-ranging significance both historically and for our current moment. One certainty

...continued on page 3

DEPARTMENT ALUMNI AND FRIENDS MAKE CONTACT, CONNECTIONS

The University of Alabama Department of History is proud of its many alumni—over 6,000 in all. They can be found around the country and around the world, but many are close to campus, especially in Tuscaloosa and Birmingham, and the department has been actively working with young alumni to grow its “Friends of History” program, a network of alumni and supporters who gather to build relationships and enrich their understanding of the past.

In addition to a faculty steering committee, the group has involved alumni and supporters from outside the University. One of the leaders is Ryan Stallings, a recent graduate of the UA business school who is passionate about (among many other things) British history.

Another is Christina McClellan, a 2007 History alumna who went on to earn advanced degrees in both History and Museum Studies from the University of Colorado. After serving for several years as the collections manager and coordinator of exhibitions and programs at the Abrams-Engel Institute for the Visual Arts in Birmingham, she is now Associate Professor and Curator



Christina McClellan

of the Alabama Museum of the Health Sciences at UAB.

“Over the last few months it has been great to reconnect with the UA History Department,” McClellan said. “I’ve enjoyed learning how the department has evolved with new faculty, ideas, and classes, while really enjoying the chance to reconnect with my professors and mentors. One of my favorite events

thus far was the Birmingham Alumni meet up. I got to catch up with both the faculty and other alumni I have not seen in a few years.” McClellan was a valued member of the team that helped organize the recent alumni meeting in Birmingham. “I look forward to future events,” she says, “where we can not only meet up to have fun and reconnect, but get that chance to explore our favorite subject matters again - without the pressures of a pending exam of course!”

Dr. Lesley Gordon, chair of the department’s Development Committee, looks forward to an exciting future for the group. A series of talks, outings, gatherings, and other events will help “build new and sustaining connections with our alumni and opportunities for all to support our department.”

In recent years, generous donations to the department, large and small, have made an enormously positive impact for our students and faculty, from funding for undergraduate scholarships and support for our Peer Mentor program, to enhanced graduate student fellowships. For more information on how you can support the department, see the information on the back page of this newsletter.

DEPARTMENT SPONSORS SYMPOSIUM ON ALABAMA POLITICS

On October 3, 2022, the Department sponsored “Rethinking Alabama Politics from the Civil War to the Present.”

Over 100 students, faculty, and community members attended the day-long symposium that brought together today’s leading historians on Alabama history for a reappraisal of post-Civil-War era Alabama history through the lenses of diverse elements such as interracial relationships, immigration, Lost Cause mythology, and organized protest.

Participants included Auburn University’s Dr. Jennifer Brooks and Dr. Steven Brown; Auburn University at Montgomery’s Dr. Ben Severance;



Alabama State University’s Dr. Bertis English and Dr. Derryn Moten; Troy University’s Dr. Kathryn Tucker; the

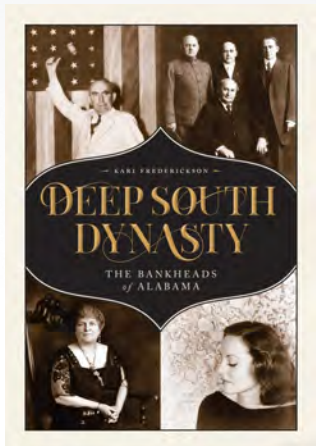
University of North Georgia’s William Warren Rogers, Jr.; and The University of Alabama’s own Dr. John Giggie and Dr. Kari Frederickson.

Panels were organized chronologically and included discussions of Civil War and Reconstruction; the New South Era to World War II; and the Civil Rights era to present.

A reception at the Gorgas House for participants, faculty, and graduate students followed thereafter.

Professors John Giggie, Kari Frederickson, and Lesley Gordon organized the symposium.

DR. KARI FREDERICKSON'S
DEEP SOUTH DYNASTY WINS MICHAEL V.R. THOMASON AWARD



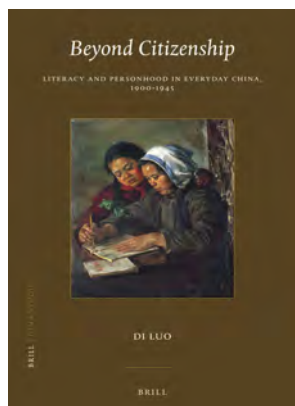
Dr. Kari Frederickson's recent publication, *Deep South Dynasty: The Bankheads of Alabama* (University of Alabama Press, 2022), was named the winner of the 2022 Michael V. R. Thomason Award for the Best Book in the History of the Gulf South by the Gulf South Historical Association.

The award committee praised the book as "a gripping study of the New South that deftly weaves the political, economic, and cultural story of the region with the personal triumphs and travails of its chief architects,

the Bankhead family of Alabama."

From Reconstruction through the end of World War II, the Bankheads served as the principal architects of the political, economic, and cultural framework of Alabama and the greater South. As a family, they were instrumental in fashioning the New South and the twentieth century American political economy, but now the Bankhead name is largely associated only with place names.

DR. DI LUO PUBLISHES *BEYOND CITIZENSHIP: LITERACY AND PERSONHOOD IN EVERYDAY CHINA, 1900-1945*

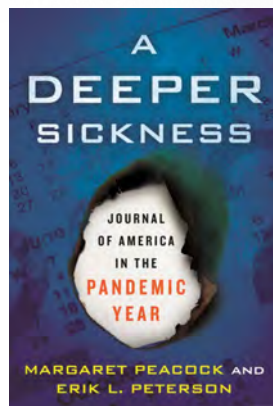


Assistant Professor Di Luo's *Beyond Citizenship: Literacy and Personhood in Everyday China, 1900-1945* (Brill, 2022) focuses on the role of literacy in building a modern nation-state by examining the government provision of adult literacy training in early twentieth-century China.

Based on untapped archives and diaries, Dr. Luo uncovers people's strategic use of literacy and

illiteracy in social interactions and explores the impact of daily experiences on the expansion of state power. Highlighting interpersonal and intergroup relations, *Beyond Citizenship* suggests a new methodology of studying literacy which foregrounds the agentive role of historical actors and so moves away from a more traditional approach that treats literacy itself as the key factor enabling social change.

DRS. ERIK PETERSON AND MARGARET PEACOCK RELEASE *A DEEPER SICKNESS: JOURNAL OF AMERICA IN THE PANDEMIC YEAR*



In March of 2022, Drs. Margaret Peacock and Erik L. Peterson released their book, *A Deeper Sickness: Journal of America in the Pandemic Year*, with Penguin Random House. The book took a turn from the traditional writings of modern-day historians and found inspiration from the likes of Daniel Defoe's fictional reconstructions of the bubonic/pneumonic plague of 1665-1666 London in *A Journal of the Plague*

Year.

While the circumstances were all too similar, Peacock and Peterson sought to document their actual daily experiences during the COVID-19 pandemic as historians who understood that events that seemed unprecedented had long historical determinants.

From combing news channels and TikTok to conducting interviews with epidemiologists and people living with substance abuse disorders, the raw experiences of living through the pandemic are preserved within these pages.

Birmingham earlier this semester, and we would love to reconnect with you and hear about all the things you have been doing since graduation, whether that was last year or many years ago. Stay in touch, and please follow departmental news on our Facebook page, our Twitter feed, on the department website, and on our Instagram feed. As always, we want you to be part of our future as we continue to explore our past!

FROM THE CHAIR

...continued from page 1

is that the Department will have no shortage of demand for faculty, as we continue to buck national trends and can currently claim the highest number of History majors we have seen in eight years.

We hope you enjoy reading about everything going on in the Department. Do not hesitate to contact us, and keep an eye out especially for upcoming alumni events. We held what we hope will be the first of a series of happy hours in

Associate Professor Margaret Abruzzo is writing a book about changing conceptions of sin and wrongdoing—and what it meant to be a “good person”—in eighteenth- and nineteenth-century American moral thought.

Professor John Beeler devoted his spring sabbatical semester to working on a book manuscript examining the lives of Effie and Alexander Milne, two members of the Scottish gentry during the Victorian era. Over the summer he spent two months in Great Britain conducting research for another book project, this one on British naval policy during the final two decades of the nineteenth century. He is currently engaged in copy edits for a third book, *The Milne Papers*, volume three.

Assistant Professor Julia Brock co-organized Flow Tuscaloosa, a community-based exploration of area waterways through history and the arts. Flow was supported by multiple grants and UA campus units. She has spent the balance of the year focusing on her manuscript on hunting laws and practice in the Deep South.

Associate Professor Steven Bunker submitted an article on the distinctive form of the French *mission civilisatrice* in Mexico during the Third Republic and continues to investigate the English-born Mexican clown Ricardo Bell and his family of twenty children in Mexico’s entertainment world.

Assistant Professor Lawrence Cappello’s second book, *On Privacy: Twenty Lessons for Practical People*, was accepted for publication by Hachette. He also gave an invited lecture on data privacy protection to the U.S. State Department.

Professor and Associate Dean Lisa Lindquist Dorr is enjoying resuming presentations on her book on Prohibition, smuggling and the South now that such events are possible. She is working on initiatives in fostering faculty and student engagement in the classroom, as well as beginning a new book project on the history of abortion in the South before 1973.

Professor Kari Frederickson published

Deep South Dynasty: The Bankheads of Alabama (Univ. of Alabama Press) in January. In October, the book received the 2022 Michael V.R. Thomason Book Award for the Best Book on History of the Gulf South, given by the Gulf South Historical Association. In the fall, she presented new research on tenant farming at the Gulf South Historical Association’s annual meeting.

Associate Professor John Giggie completed research on his book about civil rights in Tuscaloosa, finished an article about lynching in Alabama, planned curricula for teaching civil rights history for Tuscaloosa City Schools, and hosted a series of community mapping events for local queer history.

Professor and Summersell Chair Lesley J. Gordon published “Civil War Regiments” in the *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of American History*; participated in roundtables at the Society of Military Historians & Society of Civil War Historians conferences; and was elected President of the Society of Civil War Historians.

Associate Professor Sharony Green’s study on Zora Neale Hurston’s postwar visit to Honduras will be published by Johns Hopkins University Press (Fall 2023). Dr. Green’s Antebellum America class’s 63-foot burlap installation at two historic UA sites received coverage by the global organizers of 2022 Slow Art Day, an event involving 1,500 museums and galleries.

Associate Professor Holly Grout submitted and revised her second book, *Playing Cleopatra: Celebrity and the Fantasy of Exceptional Womanhood in Third Republic France*. She chaired the Koren Prize Committee (for the Society for French Historical Studies), and she is an acquisition editor for *H-France Reviews*.

Professor Andrew Huebner signed a contract with Liveright/W.W. Norton to publish his next book, *The Bullet or the Torch: Buffalo Soldiers and the Making of United States Empire*. He continues to work on forthcoming co-edited collections with Cambridge and UA Press.

Assistant Professor Lucy Kaufman finished her book, *A People’s Reformation: Building the English Church in the Elizabethan Parish* (MQUP 2023). She is launching two new research projects on early modern England and with the support of several fellowships spent the summer in the archives of Durham, Norwich, and London.

Associate Professor Heather Kopelson published the chapter “Women, Gender, Families, and States” in vol. 1 of *The Cambridge History of America and the World* (2022). She also took part in the Mellon-funded RaceB4Race Second Book Institute (virtual) directed by Dr. Patricia Akhimie and Dr. Frances Dolan.

Assistant Professor Matt Lockwood finished his book, *Island Refuge: Exiles and Refugees in Britain from Constantine to Climate Change*, which will be published by William Collins, the original UK HarperCollins imprint, next year. He has also been featured on numerous podcasts and given several talks, conference presentations, and interviews.

Assistant Professor Di Luo published a monograph, titled *Beyond Citizenship: Literacy and Personhood in Everyday China, 1900-1945*. She received a fellowship from the Hoover Institution Library & Archives to conduct research on cross-border information flows in wartime China (1937-1945).

Associate Professor Jimmy Mixson celebrated the publication on a source collection on the crusade of 1456 with the University of Toronto Press, and travelled to Germany and Austria in spring and summer looking for new manuscripts. He is now also exploring forming a rock cover band with a few graduate students.

Associate Professor Margaret Peacock published *A Deeper Sickness: Journal of America in the Pandemic Year* (Boston: Beacon Press), with her co-author, Dr. Erik Peterson. As the Director of Undergraduate studies, she spearheaded the introduction of a “Hidden Histories” requirement into the History Major Curriculum. She received The University of Alabama’s Most Outstanding Faculty

Advisor award. She has completed a draft of her next book, *Voices Carry: The Cold War and Propaganda in the Middle East, 1945-1967*.

Associate Professor Erik Peterson published *A Deeper Sickness* (Boston: Beacon) with Margaret Peacock and the accompanying digital museum in the spring. His “Race & Ethnicity: Historical and Contemporary Issues” also appeared in *The Handbook for Cultural Anthropology* (NYC: Sage). This year, he’s also submitted two articles and two book chapters. Presently, he’s writing the book *Understanding Darwin* for Cambridge’s “Understanding Life” series.

Associate Professor Juan Jose Ponce Vazquez served this past year as President of the Latin American and Caribbean section of the Southern Historical Association. His article titled “Pirates, Smugglers, Diplomacy, and the Spanish Caribbean in the Late 17th Century,” was accepted for publication in the *Colonial Latin American Review*.

Associate Professor Dan Riches worked on two volumes of collected essays he is co-editing (both now under publisher’s contract) and contributed two other essays to different collected volumes. He also continued to serve as Director of Graduate Studies.

Professor Joshua Rothman delivered a series of talks and lectures related to his recent book, *The Ledger and the Chain*. He published an article in the *Journal of Southern History* and essays for *Slate* and *NBC NewsThink*, and was named the Secretary of the Board of The Montpelier Foundation, which oversees the historic home and estate once owned by President James Madison.

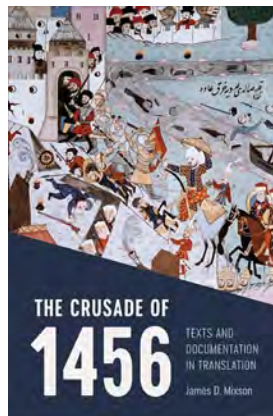
Associate Professor Harold Selesky spent 2022 finishing the research for, and writing, an article on the Massachusetts Continental Line during the War for American Independence. His research on the single largest component of that army shows how one American society created armed force under conditions of unprecedented stress. He anticipates submitting the article for publication by the end of the calendar year.

Associate Professor Jenny Shaw completed her book, *The Women of Rendezvous: A Transatlantic Story of Family and Slavery*, continued working with the Taskforce Studying Race, Slavery and Civil Rights at UA, and submitted a chapter on “Race” for the *New Cambridge History of Britain* series.

Associate Professor Sarah Steinbock-Pratt recently completed a chapter comparing industrial education in public schools and penal institutions in the Philippines, which will be part of an edited collection. She continues to work on her second book project on the Filipino diaspora, national identity, and transpacific communities.

Associate Professor Janek Wasserman submitted one article on Central European social reformers and completed a book chapter on Austrian fascisms. He attended two conferences and began drafting materials for his next book project, tentatively titled “Beyond Capitalism.”

EDITED WORKS & TRANSLATIONS



The Crusade of 1456: Texts and Documentation in Translation (University of Toronto Press, 2022), James D. Mixson, ed.

In July 1456, a massive Turkish army settled in before Belgrade, an ancient city at the confluence of the Danube and Sava rivers. The army’s leader was the twenty-four-year-old Ottoman sultan Mehmed II, “the Conqueror,” who sought to take one of the most strategically important fortifications

in southeastern Europe. Three weeks later, Mehmed’s army was driven from Belgrade by a Hungarian warlord and his army, along with a ragtag force of ill-equipped crusaders.

In *The Crusade of 1456*, Mixson gathers together the key primary sources for understanding the events that led to the siege of Belgrade. These newly translated sources challenge readers with their variety: papal decrees, letters, liturgies, and chronicles from Latin, Byzantine, and Ottoman perspectives. An accessible introduction, time lines, and maps help to illuminate this fascinating yet previously neglected story.



Steven B. Bunker, *La creación de la cultura de consumo mexicana en la época de Porfirio Díaz* (Fondo de Cultura Económica, 2022), Ricardo Martín Rubio Ruiz, trans.

Bunker’s *La creación de la cultura de consumo mexicana en la época de Porfirio Díaz*, published by the prestigious Fondo de Cultura Económica in Mexico, is a translation of his award-winning first book: *Creating Mexican Consumer Culture in the Age of Porfirio Díaz* (2012). The book examines the creation Mexico’s modernizing consumer culture prior to the Mexican Revolution of 1910 by exploring the ways in which being a consumer, especially in urban areas and Mexico City, increasingly defined what it meant to be Mexican.

This edition will now reach readers throughout the Spanish-speaking world as the Fondo the is the largest and best-distributed academic press in the Spanish language.

GRADUATE STUDENTS VISIT PICKENSVILLE ROSENWALD SCHOOL MUSEUM

Dr. Julia Brock and graduate students rounded out the Spring 2022 semester with a trip to the Pickensville Rosenwald School Museum, in Pickens County, Alabama.



The Rosenwald School program began in the early 1900s as a partnership between the Tuskegee Institute's Booker T. Washington and Samuel Rosenwald, the president of Sears, Roebuck & Company, to provide schools for rural African Americans.

Museum Board members, who are also alumni from Pickens County Rosenwald schools, gave a presentation on their work restoring the school (the only Rosenwald school left standing in the county) and their collaboration with Dr. Kimberly Ransom of the University of Michigan on the creation of the museum.

Board members toured the museum with the students, telling their experiences in the schools and growing up in rural Alabama.

FELLOWSHIPS & SERVICE

Andrew Deaton

Awarded a Fulbright Fellowship in the Czech Republic and is living in Prague now doing dissertation research.

David Ferrara

Awarded a fellowship to work with the department's Dr. Julia Brock, in partnership with the National Park Service, researching the history of national park lands on the Gulf Coast.

Daniel Leon

Represents the department's graduate students in the university's Graduate Student Association.

RECENT GRADUATE JOB PLACEMENTS

Ashley Odebiyi, PhD (2022)

Assistant Professor of History, Arizona State University

Tori Jessen, PhD (2022)

Academic Readiness Instructor, UA Early College

Kris Roberts, PhD (2022)

Instructor of History, Georgia State University.

GRADUATE OPINION PIECES & ESSAYS

Daniel Leon (MA Student) published "Lessons From the Civil War for the Current Ukraine Situation," in the *St. Louis Post Dispatch*, April 18, 2022.

Joshua Sander (PhD Student) published "Pro-Lifers Should Celebrate, and Repair the Damage Caused by Our Movement," in the *Houston Chronicle*, June 24, 2022.

Ashley Steenson (PhD Student) published "Can Rappers be Jailed for Lyrics and Image? History shows they can," in the *Washington Post*, July 18, 2022.

DEPARTMENT HOST INAUGURAL SESSION OF SOUTHERN CONVERSATIONS

Last April, students and faculty gathered for the inaugural session of Southern Conversations, a series of informal discussions about southern history and historical methodology that is guided by student questions and interests.

The first Conversation's theme, "Gender Matters," covered the past, present, and future of gender analysis in southern historical scholarship. Drs. Lesley Gordon, John Giggie, and Julia Brock each gave a short introduction of how gender analysis and their own gendered experiences in academia have shaped their academic careers and work.



Students then queried the professors about important secondary literature related to the topic, as well as how the faculty have used gender in their own historical work.

Dr. Giggie's discussion of "disruptive" modes of southern historical scholarship that he has used to challenge traditional academic hierarchies and archival research spurred further questions from students about exactly what such disruptive training might look like. Students also discussed the ways in which some perspectives get hidden in both archival and non-archival research, such as oral history research.



Follow us on Twitter
@UAHistoryDept

ALUMNA RETURNS TO DISCUSS BOOK THAT BEGAN AS UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH SEMINAR PROJECT

Dr. Isabela Morales (UA Class of 2012) returned to campus September 29-30 to talk about her first book, *Happy Dreams of Liberty: An American Family in Slavery and Freedom* (OUP, 2022). Speaking to a group of fifty undergraduates, graduate students, and faculty, Dr. Morales explained how her research began in Dr. Jenny Shaw's American Slavery Research Seminar (now HY497) during the Fall 2011 semester.

The subject of that seminar was "Slavery in the Americas" and following a visit to the W. S. Hoole Special Collections Library, Morales identified the S. D. Cabaniss Papers as worth investigating. Those papers introduced her to Huntsville, Alabama cotton planter Samuel Townsend, and the nine children to whom he left his considerable estate upon his death in 1856. More importantly, and significantly, it drew her attention to the fact that Townsend's five sons and four daughters were also his property – their five mothers were enslaved women. Leaving his fortune to his enslaved progeny was extremely unusual for this time and place, providing Dr. Morales with an opportunity to explore the

legacies of enslavement and the tenuous nature of freedom in the nineteenth century United States.

In her presentation, Dr. Morales introduced the audience to the many ways Samuel's mixed-race sons and daughters attempted to forge lives in freedom. The younger children went to Wilberforce University in Ohio for their educations. Those who were grown headed west, homesteading in Kansas or silver mining in Colorado. One son fought for the Union Army in Mississippi. Another would return home to Alabama and purchase some of the land his former enslaver, and father, had owned. In every instance, family members tried to find communities where they could flourish, even as for some, their lives ended in tragedy.

Dr. Morales's fascinating talk also explored how she wrote the book, how she ended up collaborating with Townsend descendants who reached out to her, and the responsibility of writing someone else's family history.

The following day, Dr. Morales met with department's graduate students to talk about her experiences working



in Public History. On graduating from Princeton she worked for two years in the exhibitions department at the National September 11 Memorial & Museum in New York City. She is now part of a team developing the Stoutsburg Sourland African American Museum in central New Jersey, and she also is the Editor for the Princeton & Slavery Project, a digital humanities exhibit that examines Princeton's ties to the institution of slavery. Over lunch she shared her tips, experiences, and advice with the group.

UNDERGRADUATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY HOSTS CONFERENCE

On April 2, 2022, the Undergraduate Historical Society hosted its third annual Capstone Research Symposium. The conference, organized and led exclusively by our department's undergraduate researchers and leaders, featured a full day of research presentations—two panels, with nine papers in all. Topics ranged from slavery and Sherman's "march to the sea" to the travels of Marco Polo, Westernization in Japan, and criminality in early modern London. Dr. Lucy Kaufman, one of the faculty mentors for the conference, described it as "a phenomenal event," and several of its contributions as not only "exceptionally strong," but central to some of the participants' recent applications for some of the world's most prestigious honors, including Fulbright, Marshall, and Rhodes scholarships.

Dr. Sarah Steinbock-Pratt, another of the event's faculty mentors, lauds the fresh energy of the UHS. The group "has shown tremendous enthusiasm in creating a History community for our majors," and has hosted "an impressive slate of social and professional development events." And



at the heart of the new group's program is the Capstone Conference, which is "a showcase for the impressive scholarship being done by our undergraduates."

The UHS, now in its 5th year as a departmental student group, boasts some 200 members, and an active calendar of both social and scholarly events.

SUMMERSELL CENTER PUSHES FORWARD WITH NUMEROUS GROUNDBREAKING INITIATIVES

The Frances J. Summersell Center for the Study of the South's (SCSS) fall 2022 semester marked new developments in its southern queer history project. Dr. John Giggie and Vivian Malone Fellow and doctoral student Isabella Garrison co-instructed the Southern Queer History course, the only course of its kind in the SEC dedicated to southern queer history research. Thirty undergraduates in the course worked with the Summersell Scholars, all returning undergraduate and graduate students, as they met with community leaders to prepare for the oral history collection process. The course also hosted a community mapping tent at this fall's Druid City Pride Festival, working with community members to create a new map of queer West Alabama.

In October, the Summersell Scholars in Southern Queer History – Callum Campbell, Kathleen Kelley, and Lewis Zannis – joined Dr. Giggie and Garrison at the national Queer History South conference in Dallas. The team presented on their research in oral history and community mapping.

Dr. Giggie and Garrison reviewed the course's research thus far at the Women and Gender Resource Center's October panel, "Using Our Voices: LGBTQ+ Research and Identity." They presented alongside other UA faculty and graduates from across disciplines who are engaged in research on queer issues and identities.

Summersell Scholars in Alabama Memory Lynching Research – Alex Barnes III and Mariska Perdick – worked with Giggie and Garrison this fall to continue their efforts to memorialize lynching victims from Tuscaloosa County. Their work will be published on the Alabama Memory website, which is re-launching in spring 2023, thanks to the efforts of Summersell Scholar Nick Daria, whose

efforts to create a new data system for the project will continue into the spring 2023 Alabama Memory course.

In October, the SCSS co-sponsored the "Rethinking Alabama Politics from the Civil War to the Present" symposium, which was led by Drs. Lesley Gordon, Kari Frederickson, and John Giggie. Dr. Giggie presented "Forgetting and Remembering Bloody Tuesday, June 9, 1964," drawn from his forthcoming book on Bloody Tuesday, as part of the panel entitled, "From Civil Rights to the Present," with Garrison and doctoral student Joshua Sander moderating.

Before the semester's end, Dr. Giggie will co-host a project with the Book Arts Program and Bryant High School's History of Us class, currently taught by SCSS alumna Margaret Lawson. History of Us students will create broadsides about local Black history to display across the city school system. The Center will also travel to the Elmore County Black History Museum in Wetumpka to continue its work with community leaders to memorialize local victims of racial terror.



SUPPORTING THE DEPARTMENT

THANK YOU TO OUR PATRONS

Dr. Bianca L. Adair
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen R. Avera
The Honorable
Quentin Q. Brown Jr.
Mr. George B. Childress
Dr. Angela J. Cooley
Dr. Lesley J. Gordon
Dr. Jonathon W. Hooks
Ms. Samaria Johnson
Dr. Kari A. Frederickson
Dr. Michael J. Mendle
Dr. Robert F. Olin
Mr. Kevin Owsley
Mrs. Dawn Owsley
Mr. and Mrs. George Swindle

For more information about any of the opportunities to support The University of Alabama Department of History, please contact Jay McPhillips, Associate Director of Development for the College of Arts & Sciences, at (205) 348-7007 or jay.mcphillips@ua.edu.

To make a general donation online, please visit <https://history.ua.edu/giving/>.

Your support enables the Department to:

- Fund endowed scholarships and awards for outstanding current and prospective students.
- Support the research travel and professional development of both faculty and graduate students.
- Fund student organizations such as Phi Alpha Theta, the Undergraduate Historical Society, and the Graduate History Association.
- Fund student publications, such as the department's award-winning *Southern Historian* journal and the *Crimson Historical Review*.

THE FRIENDS OF HISTORY

Mr. William Garnett (Bill) Anderson
Dr. Edwin C. Bridges
Mr. Paul W. Bryant, Jr.
Mr. Tranum Fitzpatrick
Mr. Olin B. King
Dr. F. David Mathews
Mr. Chris McIlwain
Dr. Donald R. Noble
Mr. John T. Oliver, Jr.
Dr. Cathy Randall
Mr. Cleophus Thomas, Jr.
Dr. Earl Tilford