

GEORGE AND ANN RICHARDS Civil War Era Center

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WILLIAM BLAIR ANNOUNCES RETIREMENT



William Blair, Richards Center Director and
Ferree Professor of Middle American History

Richards Center executive director and Walter L. and Helen P. Ferree Professor of Middle American History William Blair will retire in June after twenty-one years at Penn State. Blair, a Penn State graduate, joined the Department of History faculty in 1998. As the director of the Richards Center, he oversaw its growth into one of the leading sites for the study of the Civil War era in the country. In 2003, George and Ann Richards endowed the center with a naming gift. Two years later, Blair spearheaded the center's successful application for a *We the People* challenge grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities that contributed \$4,000,000 to the center's endowment. During his tenure, the center has received more than \$9,000,000 in pledges, providing critical support for the Center's mission to promote the advancement of Civil War era studies, enhance graduate education at Penn State, and provide internship opportunities for undergraduates. The Center also has served as a pipeline for establishing four endowed professorships in the Department of History.

Under Blair's leadership, the Richards Center has spurred Civil War era scholarship through its signature lecture/book series and peer-reviewed journal. The Steven ('69) and Janice Brose Distinguished Lecture and Book series have produced more than 50 lectures and 10 books on Civil War era topics since 1998. Blair also published over 200 authors during his editorship of *Civil War History* from 2000 to 2010 and the *Journal of the Civil War Era* from 2011 through 2015. He was the founding editor of the *JCWE*, which was recognized by the *Library Journal* as one of the top ten new periodicals in the nation during 2011. In addition to promoting scholarship in the history of the Civil War era, Blair and the Richards Center also assisted teacher education on the history of race, slavery, and the slave trade through the UNESCO Breaking the Silence program. For undergraduates, the Center during his tenure has placed roughly fifty interns at historic sites throughout the country, with about a third of those individuals finding careers in the academy or in public history.

Blair earned his PhD at Penn State in 1995. He is the author or editor of half a dozen books, including, most recently, *With Malice Toward Some: Treason and Loyalty in the Civil War Era* (UNC Press, 2014), which was a finalist for the Gilder Lehrman Lincoln Prize in 2015. Blair earned numerous awards for his scholarship and teaching at Penn State, including the Welch Alumni Award and the Class of 1993 Distinction in the Humanities Award, both received from the College of the Liberal Arts in 2003 and 2009, and The President's Award for Excellence in Academic Integration in 2011. In addition, the Society of Civil War Historians presented him with its lifetime achievement award during the Southern Historical Association annual meeting in November. In recognition of his scholarship and service to the university and the history profession, he was appointed the Walter L. and Helen P. Ferree Professor of Middle American History in 2015. History Department Head Michael Kulikowski reflected, "Under Bill's leadership, the Richards Center became one of the main sites for innovative, groundbreaking research on the Civil War era, meaningfully expanding the boundaries of what studying the Civil War can mean." In retirement, Blair will complete his latest book manuscript, *Murders and Outrages, which chronicles* the vast extent of violence committed against freedpeople in the South, as recorded by the Freedmen's Bureau during Reconstruction, and wrap up a second book on one hundred years of black history at what is now Arlington National Cemetery.



Larry and Gretchen McCabe

Larry McCabe Laid to Rest

Long-time Richards Center supporter Larry McCabe was laid to rest on Friday, July 6 in a mass of Christian Burial funeral at St. Alexis Roman Catholic Church in Wexford, Pennsylvania. He had passed away July 1, following a brief illness. He earned his Bachelor of Arts from Penn State in 1957, majoring in Political Science and History, and subsequently earned a law degree from the University of Pittsburgh in 1960. Following law school McCabe served in the U.S. Army, during which he met and married his wife, Gretchen, to whom he was married for 54 years.

For 20-plus years, the McCabes have provided invaluable support to the Richards Center, establishing an undergraduate fund, graduate fund, and director's fund over that time. They also co-funded the McCabe Greer Professorship in the American Civil War Era and have provided support for the college's Paterno Liberal Arts Undergraduate Fellowship Program. McCabe received the college's Outstanding Alumnus Award in 2011 in recognition of these initiatives. "Larry and Gretchen have been pioneers for what became the Richards Center," said Center director William Blair. "In 1998, they stepped in during a critical moment and created a professorship that became a cornerstone of the center. Their vision and support have been instrumental in helping us become a research entity with a national reputation. Larry will be very much missed."



PennState
College of the Liberal Arts



Barby Singer

Singer Receives Welch Award

The Richards Center's Barby Singer received the Welch Alumni Relations Award for 2018 at the College

of the Liberal Arts' annual Alumni Awards Ceremony on April 19. The Alumni Society established the award in 2002 to recognize Penn State faculty and staff who significantly enhance connections between the College and its alumni. The award recognizes her outstanding work in planning the Center's annual donor events and her stewardship of the Center's endowments. Singer joined the Richards Center in 2005, and since her arrival she has been instrumental in planning and executing the center's programming and alumni outreach.

2018 SCWH Conference Visits Pittsburgh



The Society of Civil War Historians (SCWH) hosted its sixth biennial conference at the Omni William Penn Hotel in Pittsburgh,

Pennsylvania, May 31-June 2, 2018. The conference featured 26 panels and roundtables and attracted 230 attendees, including 56 graduate students. Doctoral candidate **Cecily Zander** and Penn State alumni **Jonathan White** (BA, '01), **Jonathan Berkey** (PhD, '03), **Andrew Slap** (XX, '00), **Jonathan Steplyk** (MA, '09), **Timothy Orr** (PhD, '10), **Antwain Hunter** (PhD, '15), **William Cossen** (PhD, '16), and **Evan Rothera** (PhD, '17) all presented papers at the conference.

The SCWH promotes the integration of military, social, political, and other fields of history in the Civil War era while bringing together historians, graduate students, and professionals who interpret history at a variety of public institutions. The Richards Center serves as the organizer of the biennial meeting.

CRYSTAL SANDERS BECOMES DIRECTOR OF AFRICANA RESEARCH CENTER

On July 1, Crystal Sanders, associate professor of History and African American Studies, assumed the directorship of Penn State's Africana Research Center (ARC). The ARC supports research into the lives and experiences of Africans across Africa and in the African diaspora across the globe, deepening and broadening Penn State's teaching and outreach missions. Sanders first came to Penn State as a postdoctoral fellow in the ARC and has been an affiliate of the center since joining the Penn State faculty in 2012. She is also one of the organizers of the Richards Center's annual Emerging Scholars Undergraduate Mentoring Program, which helps to prepare talented scholars from under-represented backgrounds for graduate study and careers in the academy. In a statement to Penn State News, Dean Susan Welch said, "I am delighted that Crystal has agreed to become the next director of the Africana Research Center. I have no doubt that the contributions she makes as ARC's next leader will mirror the scholarly contributions she has already made as a post-doctoral fellow and faculty affiliate of the center. I know that, under her leadership, the ARC will enhance its stature inside and outside of the University."



Crystal Sanders, Associate Professor of History and African American Studies and Director, Africana Research Center

Center to Host Conference to Mark Anniversary of Women's Suffrage

Associate Professor of History Cathleen Cahill and Lisa Tetrault, Associate Professor of History at Carnegie Mellon University, are partnering with the Richards Center to host a workshop at University Park to mark the centennial of ~~the~~ women's suffrage in the United States. Women gained the right to vote with the 1920 ratification of the Nineteenth Amendment, which had first passed Congress in 1919. The Richards Center will provide financial and organizational support for the event.

The conference seeks to reconnect the Nineteenth Amendment to Reconstruction and to resituate women's suffrage in a much broader landscape of women's rights. In most histories, the nineteenth-century women's rights movement is too often cast as focused mainly on the single goal of women's suffrage. The goal of the workshop is to present fresh work that places the suffrage movement within the context of a broad array of women's rights demands following the Civil War. These demands included sovereignty over their bodies and control of reproduction, economic autonomy, and reform of marriage laws, just to name a few. The conference seeks to shift historical scholarship away from suffrage-heavy narratives of women's right to a more comprehensive examination of the vast array of post-Civil War women's rights movements.

This upcoming workshop is supported by the National Endowment for the Humanities *We the People* grant.

RICHARDS CENTER POSTDOCTORAL FELLOW DARA WALKER JOINS FACULTY



Dr. Dara Walker

Dara Walker arrived at Penn State in July as the 2018-19 Richards Center/Africana Research Center Postdoctoral Fellow. In January, she accepted a tenure track position as Assistant Professor of African American Studies and Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies. Her appointment officially begins July 1. Walker holds a PhD in History from Rutgers University. Her research and teaching expertise include African American history, urban history, 20th century U.S. history, public history, and the digital humanities. She received her B.S. in African American Studies from Eastern Michigan University in 2009 as a Ronald E. McNair Scholar and an M.A. in Pan-African Studies from Syracuse University in 2011. During this postdoctoral fellowship, Walker is writing her book manuscript which examines civil rights and labor activism among high school students in

the development of radical politics during the Black Power era. Her research has been funded by the Ford Foundation's Dissertation Fellowship, the Walter P. Reuther Library's Albert Shanker Fellowship for Research in Education, and Rutgers University. She has presented her research at several national conferences, including the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH), the American Historical Association (AHA), and the National Council for Black Studies (NCBS). In addition to her research, teaching, and mentoring, Walker is a regular contributor to Black Perspectives, the blog site for the African American Intellectual History Society (AAIHS).

For Walker, the professional development opportunities offered during her postdoctoral fellowship have been invaluable. She explained, "From the ARC's *Food for Thought Series* to the Department of African American Studies Sawyer Seminar, the vibrant and rich discussions of power and politics in these gatherings have already greatly enriched my writing and thinking on 20th century social movements. I am thrilled to the opportunity to repay my gratitude to this community soon as an assistant professor of African-American Studies and Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies here at PSU! It brings me great joy to call Happy Valley my new home."

The fellowship is sustained by the philanthropic support of Steven and Janice Brose, Lewis and Karen Gold, Mark and Ann Persun, Hal and Sandy Rosenberg, and Alice Schmidt.

Amy Greenberg Named Winfree Professor



Amy Greenberg, Winfree Professor of American History

This past May, Amy S. Greenberg was named the new George Winfree Professor of American History. Greenberg assumed the professorship upon the retirement of Carol Reardon, who had served as the inaugural Winfree Professor, beginning in 2010. The professorship was established with a generous gift from Tracy ('65) and Ted McCourtney. A scholar of the Civil War era, Greenberg's research interests in such topics as masculinity, urban history, and antebellum American imperialism have been supported with fellowships from the Guggenheim Foundation, the

National Endowment for the Humanities, and the American Philosophical Society. She is the author of numerous articles and books on the Civil War era. Her most recent book, *A Wicked War: Polk, Clay, Lincoln, and the U.S. Invasion of Mexico* (Knopf/Vintage Books, 2012), won the Robert Utley Award from the Western History Association and the Best Book Awards from the Society for Historians of the Early American Republic and the

Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations. *A Wicked War* also was a finalist for the *Los Angeles Times* Book Prize and was a selection of the Book of the Month Club, History Book of the Month Club, and Military Book of the Month Club.

Greenberg's first publication as Winfree Professor will be *Lady First: the World of First Lady Sarah Polk*, due out in February 2019. Unique among First Ladies, Sarah Polk helped to manage President James K. Polk's political career, shape foreign policy, and push for war with Mexico. Greenberg's book is the first in-depth biography of Polk, a woman who exercised unprecedented political power for the antebellum era yet rejected the goals of the period's leading feminists and women's rights advocates. Upon being named Winfree Professor, Greenberg reflected, "It's a great honor to follow Professor Carol Reardon as the George Winfree Professor of American History. I thank the McCourtneys for their great generosity in endowing this chair and look forward to enhancing the educational offerings of our undergraduate and graduate students studying American history here at Penn State with Winfree Professorship funds."



Dr. Andrew Lang

Lang Wins Tom Watson Brown Book Award

Andrew Lang is the recipient of the 2018 Tom Watson Brown Book Award. Lang, Assistant Professor of

History at Mississippi State University, earned the award for *In the Wake of War: Military Occupation, Emancipation, and Civil War America*, published in 2017 by the Louisiana State University Press. Tad Brown presented Lang with the \$50,000 award at the 84th annual meeting of the Southern Historical Association in Birmingham, Alabama in November. In the Wake of War examines American military occupations from the U.S.-Mexican War through the Civil War and Reconstruction from the perspective of the occupying troops. Lang painstakingly shows how such duty forced soldiers to confront a host of critical problems in this period, such as the relationship between citizen and government, the complications of race and emancipation in a white democracy, and the intricate negotiation of gender roles in occupied communities, to name just a few. The prize committee praised the book as "one of the very best examples of a social-cultural history of the army to be done for the Civil War," one that "makes good use of cultural, social, and political history, as well as military theory."

Ginzberg and Younger Appear in Documentary



Professor of History and Women's Studies, Lori Ginzberg and former Richards Center

managing director Karen Younger both were filmed for a documentary about the women who gave life to the abolition movement prior to the Civil War. The documentary, *Sisters in Freedom*, discusses the lives and activism of members of the Philadelphia Female Anti-Slavery Society, the nation's first biracial women's abolitionist organization. The documentary had its premiere in September at Philadelphia's Pennsylvania Convention Center.



Lorian Foote

Lorian Foote to Present 2019 Brose Lectures

Lorian Foote, Patricia and Bookman Peters Professor of History and director of graduate studies at Texas A&M

University, will deliver the 2019 Brose Lectures. Her lectures will address negotiations between Union and Confederate generals about how to treat war crimes and reprisals prior to battles. Foote is a scholar of the Civil War and Reconstruction with interests in war and society. She created the digital humanities project, "Fugitive Federals," which visualizes the movements of 3000 escaped Federal prisoners of war during the Civil War. Foote is the author of four books, including, most recently, *The Yankee Plague: Escaped Union Prisoners of War* (UNC Press, 2016). Her book, *The Gentlemen and the Roughs: Manhood, Honor, and Violence in the Union Army* (NYU Press, 2010), earned honorable mention for the 2011 Lincoln Prize.



2018 Richards Center Undergraduate Mentoring group

MENTORING PROGRAM BRINGS PROSPECTIVE GRADUATE STUDENTS TO PENN STATE

In June, the Richards Center held its third Emerging Scholars Summer Mentoring Program for Doctoral Study in History. This annual event increases interest in Penn State's graduate History program among students from historically underrepresented backgrounds. Eleven students from across the country attended the weeklong event. The students represented a variety of undergraduate institutions—from large state universities to small private colleges. Two students came from public, historically black universities. Throughout the week, the students learned about Penn State's innovative dual degree programs in History and African American Studies and History and Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, and took part in a simulated doctoral seminar. Current Penn State faculty and graduate students offered insights on how to navigate the graduate admissions process, select a graduate program, and develop a compelling research project. In a survey conducted at the conclusion of the event, participants said the program helped to demystify graduate education for them. As one attendee put it, "this program absolutely exceeded my expectations. When I thought I knew enough, I learned even more the next day!" Another participant excitedly told us, "I'm sending everyone I know the application" to next year's Summer Mentoring Program. Other participants echoed these responses, indicating that they would encourage future students from their home departments to apply to the program. **Crystal Sanders**, Associate Professor in the Departments of History and African American Studies and director of the Africana Research Center, coordinated the Mentoring Program.

This program is supported by the generosity of Susan Glatfelter and the late Arthur Glatfelter and Frank Tusa and Jacqueline Balk-Tusa.

Center Hosts Scholars for ~~Journal of the Civil War Era~~ Workshop

This past September the Richards Center hosted seven scholars for a workshop where they shared articles intended for a special issue of the *Journal of the Civil War Era*. The scholars included Rachel Shelden, University of Oklahoma, who is the editor of the special issue; Richards Center director William Blair; Laura Edwards, Duke University; Jack Furniss, University of Virginia; Matthew Karp, Princeton University; Kate Masur, Northwestern University; and Frank Towers, University of Calgary.

Bringing new perspectives to antebellum political history, the articles will examine such topics as the rewriting of state constitutions in the Civil War era; antebellum women's petitions to government demanding recognition and redress of their political concerns; ~~How~~ Republicans rose to ascendancy in the North prior to the Civil War; the populist and revolutionary political behavior of Republicans in Congress; the use of police powers to exclude "undesirable" peoples from states or municipalities; and the antebellum fear of the consolidating influence of nationalism. The special issue, titled *Federalism and Politics in the Antebellum Era*, is scheduled for publication in the journal in December 2019.

This workshop was made possible through the National Endowment for the Humanities *We the People* grant.

Brose Lectures Discuss Native American Concepts of Citizenship in Civil War Era



L-R, Steven Brose, Dr. Stephen Kantrowitz, Janice Brose

Stephen Kantrowitz, Professor of History and Faculty Affiliate in American Indian Studies and Afro-American Studies at the University of Wisconsin, delivered the 2018 Brose Lectures. The lectures took place November 1-3 in Paterno Library's Foster Auditorium. The series of lectures was titled, *Citizenship and Civilization: A Ho-Chunk History of the Civil War Era*. The lectures considered such questions as how Native Americans shaped the emergence of national citizenship in the 1860s and how national citizenship reshaped Indian life. He answered these questions by exploring the removal, diaspora, defiance, and creativity of Wisconsin's Ho-Chunk people, the settlers who sought to displace them, and the officials and politicians who oversaw the

confusing and often violent world of the mid-nineteenth-century Midwest. Kantrowitz detailed how congressmen and senators from the Midwest sought to write the citizenship clauses of the Fourteenth Amendment so that it would not apply to Native Americans within their jurisdictions. At the same time, many Ho-Chunks in the region actively laid claim to American citizenship, leading to vigorous debates over the meaning of national citizenship in the Civil War era. An expanded version of the lectures will be published by UNC Press as part of its Brose Books Series.

Steven and Janice Brose established the lecture/book series with an endowment to the Richards Center. Ten books have appeared in the series since 2005. Steven, a 1969 honors graduate in Political Science from Penn State, has spent his legal career with the international law firm of Steptoe & Johnson in Washington, D.C. Janice attended Penn State for two years before earning a bachelor's degree in Anthropology from The City College of New York. She later received an associate's degree in Nursing with certifications in Rehabilitation Nursing and Case Management.

NEW BOOK WORKSHOP EXPLORES WESTERN HISTORY

This past Spring, the Richards Center partnered with Christina Snyder, McCabe-Greer Professor in the American Civil War Era, to host the first manuscript workshop for a new, interdisciplinary book series, titled *Many Wests*. The series will publish works on the environmental, indigenous, borderlands, gender, social, public, and legal history of the American West. The series will be published by the University of Nebraska Press, and Snyder serves as one of its editors. ~~The manuscript workshop will be an annual event as part of the series.~~ The inaugural manuscript workshop, which took place April 5 and 6, featured Patricia Marroquin Norby, former director of the D'Arcy McNickle Center for American Indian and Indigenous Studies at the Newberry Library. She delivered a public talk, *Water, Bones, and Bombs: Twentieth-Century American Indian Art and Environmental Conflicts in the Southwest*, ~~introducing the audience to~~ her book project. The following

day Norby participated in a workshop with Snyder, other editors of the book series, and scholars of the American West. The workshop offered critiques of Norby's book manuscript in preparation for publication in the *Many Wests* series.

The *Many Wests* workshop will be an annual event at University Park. The second workshop will take place March 21 and 22 at the Nittany Lion Inn. It will feature the work of Traci Brynne Voyles, Assistant Professor of Women's Studies at Loyola Marymount University in California. Voyles is a scholar of environmental history and environmental justice. Her book project is an environmental and cultural history of southern California's Salton Sea, the largest saline lake in the state.

This annual workshop is supported by the generosity of Tracy and Ted McCartney and the National Endowment for the Humanities *We the People* grant.

In Print



Amy Greenberg, *Lady First: The World of First Lady Sarah Polk*, forthcoming from Knopf, February 2019. Greenberg's biography illustrates the life of Sarah Polk, who wielded unprecedented power as First Lady but steadfastly opposed the nineteenth century women's rights movement.

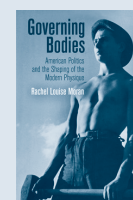


Judith Giesberg, *Sex and The Civil War: Soldiers, Pornography, and the Making of American Morality*, UNC Press Steven and Janice Brose Book Series, paperback forthcoming in February 2019.

The paperback version of the tenth book in the Brose Series examines how the explosion of pornography in Union camps during the Civil War led to the emergence of state and federal laws meant to stamp out obscenity and enforce morality.



Will Bryan ('13), *The Price of Permanence: Nature and Business in the New South*, University of Georgia Press, 2018. Based upon Bryan's Penn State dissertation, this book reinterprets the post-Civil War South as a region struggling to marry environmental stewardship to economic growth.



Rachel Moran ('13), *Governing Bodies: American Politics and the Shaping of the Modern Physique*, University of Pennsylvania Press' Politics & Culture in Modern America series, 2018.

Drawn from her Penn State dissertation, Moran's book traces the long history of government policies designed to shape Americans' physical fitness and health for the benefit of the state.



Jonathan White ('01), *Our Little Monitor: The Greatest Invention of the Civil War* (co-authored with Anna Gibson Holloway), Kent State University Press, 2018. White's co-authored volume charts how the invention of the *Monitor* changed the nature and tactics of naval warfare.

Faculty News

Amira Rose Davis, Assistant Professor of History and Women's Studies, has delivered numerous invited talks over the past year. In March she was part of a roundtable discussion at Penn State on the topic of gender equity in sports. This past Fall she delivered talks at Tulane University, the Philadelphia Museum of Art, the University of Arkansas, the University of Mississippi, and the East Shelby Public Library in Memphis, Tennessee. Davis also participated in on a panel discussing labor issues and protest in sport at the American Studies Association. In December, she spoke at the New York Public Library's Schomburg Center on "Black Politics and the Struggle for Justice in Sports." This past January she attended the annual meeting of the American Historical Association, where she was presented with a William Appleman Williams Junior Faculty Research Grant from the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations. The grant will allow her to conduct research toward the completion of her first book about the uncompensated labors of black athletes, tentatively titled *Can't Eat a Medal*.

Lori Ginzberg, Professor of History and Women's Studies, was invited by the Faith and Politics Institute to be a guest historian on their first pilgrimage to Central New York, where a group of Congresspeople, their staff, journalists, guests, and FPI board members and staff learned about the antislavery and woman's rights movement while visiting the homes of Harriet Tubman and Susan B. Anthony, Seneca Falls, and other sites. Ginzberg and David Blight were interviewed by the *Washington Post's* Jonathan Capehart during the pilgrimage. A forthcoming special issue of the *Journal of Women's History*, commemorating the centennial of the 19th amendment granting women suffrage, will include an article by Ginzberg about what the first generation of woman's rights activists imagined would result from women gaining the vote. The special issue also will include an article by Associate Professor Cathleen Cahill. A July 28, 2018 editorial in *The New York Times*, "How the Suffrage Movement Betrayed Black Women," considered the plans to erect a statue to Anthony and Elizabeth Cady Stanton in Central Park and discussed Ginzberg's work on Stanton.

Amy Greenberg, the Edwin Erle Sparks Professor of History and Women's Studies, delivered nine conference papers and invited lectures over the past year, including a plenary address at the 2018 annual meeting of the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations on the question, "Is the U.S. a World Power?" Her next book,

Lady First: The World of First Lady Sarah Polk, will be published by Knopf in February 2019, a narrative history that reveals how transformations in women's political power over the course of the nineteenth century were shaped by slavery and deference. Greenberg will deliver the plenary address at a symposium at the University of Tennessee in honor of the James K. Polk Papers project, as well as a public lecture. This spring she will also present a paper, "When No Means No: The Question of Consent in the Ideology of Manifest Destiny," at a symposium on "Making a Republic Imperial," at the McNeil Center of the University of Pennsylvania.

Crystal Sanders, Associate Professor of History and African American Studies and Director of the Africana Research Center, spent the 2017-2018 academic year on leave as a fellow of the National Academy of Education/Spencer Foundation. She used the time away from campus to begin writing her next book, which examines black southerners' efforts to secure graduate education during the age of Jim Crow. Both the Filson Historical Society and the University of Kansas awarded Sanders grants to offset research costs related to the project. In addition to writing, she gave 8 invited lectures, including keynote addresses at Saint Augustine's University and at the 223rd General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (USA). Her media appearances included an episode of "Left of Black," a weekly webcast produced by the John Hope Franklin Center at Duke University, and a radio interview on WAUG-750 AM, the first commercial station at a historically black college. Sanders won the Willie D. Halsell Prize from the Mississippi Historical Society for her article, "Dignity in Life and Death: Undertaker Clarie Collins Harvey and Black Women's Entrepreneurial Activism," which appeared in the *Journal of Mississippi History*. She continues to direct the Richards Center's Emerging Scholars summer program that brings promising undergraduates to Penn State to learn about doctoral study in history.

Christina Snyder, McCabe Greer Professor of the American Civil War Era, won the prestigious Francis Parkman Prize from the Society of American Historians as well as the Outstanding Book Prize from the History of Education Society for *Great Crossings: Indians, Settlers, and Slaves in the Age of Jackson*. She co-authored the third edition of the popular textbook, *American Horizons: U.S. History in a Global Context* and became one of the editors of *Many Wests*, a new book series published by the University of Nebraska Press. In 2018, she also joined the editorial boards of the *Journal of the Early Republic* and *Reviews in American History*. Over the past year, Snyder also published several articles and book chapters, including, "The Rise and Fall and Rise of Civilizations: Indian Intellectual Culture

during the Removal Era" in the September 2017 issue of the *Journal of American History*. She was a roundtable speaker at the Western History Association annual meeting in San Diego in November 2017 and at the Organization of American Historians annual meeting in Sacramento this past April. In October 2017, she gave a book talk on *Great Crossings* at the Scott County Public Library in Georgetown, Kentucky, was a roundtable speaker at the annual meeting for the Society of Ethnohistory in Winnipeg, Canada, and delivered the Charles O. Jackson Memorial Lecture at the University of Tennessee. This past February, she delivered her most recent invited lecture at Ohio State University.

Student News

Richard Daily, a graduate student in History, African American Studies, and Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, spent the summer conducting research at the ONE archives at the University of Southern California libraries in Los Angeles. His research interests center on the development of the prison system and public health policy in the 19th and 20th century US.

Mallory Huard, a doctoral candidate in History and Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, passed her comprehensive exams in April. The comprehensive exams are the last significant requirement before completing the dissertation. This past summer she conducted research at three different archives in Honolulu and two archives in Massachusetts. Her research was supported by the Richards Center McCabe Scholarship and the Constance Shehan Graduate Scholarship from Women's Studies. Her research helped her to develop a paper on the colonial legacy of pineapple cultivation in Hawaii that she subsequently presented at the National Women's Studies Association annual conference in Atlanta this past November. In 2017, Huard presented the paper, "Haoles in Honolulu: New England Whaling Wives in Mid-Nineteenth Century Hawaii" at the Social Science History Association's annual conference in Montreal.

Megan Kessler-Hildebrand, a graduate student pursuing a dual PhD in History and Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, earned her M.A. degree in History in March. Her M.A. paper was titled "'This young Lady...is what all you ladies [should] be': Roman Catholic Sister Nurses and Gendered Hierarchy in the American Civil War." Her dissertation project will examine Roman Catholic nuns' interactions with immigrant populations in the nineteenth-century United States and will explore the contradictions between the ideology of domesticity promoted by nuns and their own lived experience as unmarried and childless Catholic women engaged in public work.

Carolyn Levy, a graduate student pursuing a dual degree in History and Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies, presented the paper, "Constructing a Legitimate Family: State Control of African American Marriages and Families in the Post-bellum United States," at the Social Science History Association's annual conference in November 2017. The international and interdisciplinary conference took place in Montreal.

Cecily Zander, a doctoral candidate in the Department of History, will publish an article, "'Victory's Long Review': The Grand Review of Union Armies and the Meaning of the Civil War" in *Civil War History*. The article will appear in late 2019 or early 2020. This past June, she presented a paper titled "Bury Me Not on the Lone Prairie: Contemplating Reconstruction West of the Mississippi River," at the Society of Civil War Historians biennial conference in Pittsburgh. She also was awarded the Western History Association Graduate Student Prize but had to decline because her research commitments prevented her from attending the association's conference to receive the award. Also in June, she presented a paper along with fellow Penn State and Richards Center affiliated graduate student Mallory Huard and recent graduate Evan Rothera at The Gettysburg Foundation's "Great Conversations" event.

New Graduate Students



A. J. Perez

A. J. Perez joined the History department and the Richards Center in August. He is enrolled in the dual degree program in History and African American Studies. He graduated Magna Cum Laude from the University of Houston with B.A.s in

History and Painting. A. J. will pursue PhD under the direction of Winfree Professor Amy Greenberg. His research interests focus on the memory of the Civil War, particularly how popular memory of the war has transformed over several decades and how those transformations have affected the political climate and national identity. A. J. also has secondary interests in gender and transnational history.

Slavoff Becomes Seasonal Ranger

Anelia Slavoff ('20) was a Richards Center intern at Harpers Ferry National Historical Park in the summer of 2017. She parlayed that experience into a coveted seasonal ranger position with the National Park Service at Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks in California's Sierra Nevada mountains for the summer of 2018. She helped to educate the public about the mountain range's unique landscapes and ecosystems. During the summer Anelia reported, "I love it out here and I love being a park ranger, and I'm so grateful for my internship at Harpers Ferry for giving me a leg up when applying for seasonal positions! I look forward to the seasons to come!"

Intern Program Alumni

As of 2018, forty-eight Penn State graduates have participated in the Richards Center's National Park Service *People's Contest* digital humanities internships. The internships have prepared many of these students for careers in public history or education. Nearly one-third (15) of the internship alumni have undertaken careers in education or public history, including three who subsequently earned their PhDs and entered the academic history profession. Two additional alumni currently are enrolled in museum studies and archival management graduate programs. Four former National Park Service interns ultimately returned to the NPS in full-time careers, and two others continue to work at Gettysburg and Harpers Ferry as seasonal rangers. Other internship alumni have gone into careers in law, business, and other fields. The Richards Center internships continue to enhance undergraduate students' education and help prepare them for careers beyond Penn State, especially in public history.

UNDERGRADUATE INTERNS MAKE A DIFFERENCE AT NATIONAL PARKS

The summer of 2018 marked the 16th year of the Richards Center National Parks Service internship program. The program began with a single internship at Gettysburg National Military Park before expanding to include Harpers Ferry National Historical Park. This past summer, four students interned at the two parks.

Nichole Kanady ('20) interned in interpretive operations at Harpers Ferry. She carries a double major in History and Political Science. This was Nichole's second Richards Center internship, having previously worked at Gettysburg in 2018. At Harpers Ferry, she developed a 90-minute tour for visitors that covered the park's history from the Lewis and Clark expedition (which was outfitted at Harpers Ferry) through the Civil War to the birth of the early twentieth century Niagara Civil Rights, the predecessor



Richards Center intern Nicholas Pompella in historical dress

of the NAACP. Joining Nichole at Harpers Ferry was **Nicholas Pompella** ('19), who interned in the education division. Nicholas is an English major with a minor in Art History. As a junior he earned a prestigious internship on campus with the Hemingway Papers project. At Harpers Ferry he developed educational programs about the park's history for hundreds of middle school students participating in the National Youth Leadership Council summer program.

At Gettysburg, **Sarah McKenna** ('19) interned in the museum and archives. A Paterno Fellow and Liberal Arts envoy, she is completing a double major in History and Political Science. Following graduation, she plans to pursue graduate education in museum and archival management with a focus in conserving historic documents. During her internship she inventoried nearly 15,000 items in the park's archive, ensuring that they were properly cataloged and stored. Amazingly, this represented only 1.25 percent of the park's total holdings. **Sean Reilly** ('19) joined Sarah at Gettysburg, in interpretive operations. He is a History major and member of Penn State's Speech and Debate Society. Sean plans to attend law school following his graduation. At Gettysburg, he created a moving presentation on the dedication of the Soldiers' National Cemetery following the Battle of Gettysburg.

The Richards Center internships give undergraduate students the opportunity to put their education to use in the practice of public history. As Sarah put it, they allow students "to *do* history, not just teach it."

These internships are made possible by the generosity of Larry and Lynne Brown, Tracy and Ted McCourtney, and the NEH's *We the People* grant.

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EXECUTIVE TOUR VISITS MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE

In April, the Richards Center's Board of Visitors visited Memphis, Tennessee and Oxford, Mississippi for its annual board meeting and tour. The group's headquarters was the historic Peabody Hotel in Memphis, famous for the domesticated ducks that inhabit its lobby fountain. Center director William Blair began the tour with an evening talk on the Second Reconstruction, characterized by the efforts of the twentieth century Civil Rights movement to realize the goals that had gone unfulfilled after the Civil War and Reconstruction.

The next day, the group toured the campus of the University of Mississippi, where Charles Ross, Professor of History and Director of the African American Studies program, discussed the university's tumultuous integration in 1962 and contemporary efforts to acknowledge African Americans' contributions to the university. Following the tour, the group had

a private viewing of select documents from the William Faulkner Papers with Jennifer Ford, Head of Archives and Special Collections in the university's J. D. Williams Special Collections Library. Following lunch on Oxford's historic square, the group concluded the day with a visit to Rowan Oak, the 1844 Greek Revival house that served as the Faulkner family's home from 1930 until his death in 1961. After returning to Memphis, the group enjoyed dinner overlooking the Mississippi River. Amira Rose Davis brought the evening to a close with a rousing talk about her research on the often unseen and uncompensated labors of African American athletes in the service of American diplomacy at international athletics competitions.

The following day, Richards Center managing director Matt Isham gave a brief talk about the 1866 Memphis Massacre, which ultimately led to the decade-long Radical Reconstruction in

the former Confederacy. Following the brief talk, the group toured the National Civil Rights Museum at the Lorraine Hotel, site of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King 50 years before in 1968. The day concluded with dinner in downtown Memphis. At the dinner, president of the board of visitors Hal Rosenberg presented Dean of the College of Liberal Arts Susan Welch with a bust of Abraham Lincoln in recognition of her long support of the Richards Center during her tenure as dean.

In 2019 the Board of Visitors will visit the nation of Bermuda to learn about the island's support of the Confederacy during the Civil War. Richards Center scholars will give talks about the international slave trade, Bermuda's role in blockade running during the Civil War, and the island's transition from slavery to freedom.



2018 Richards Center
Board of Visitors tour
group