Center Supporters Honored with Alumni Awards

At a ceremony in the spring of 2011, the Penn State Board of Trustees honored two Center board members with alumni awards. George Richards (’54) was one of six recipients of the Distinguished Alumni Award, the University’s highest individual honor. George and his wife, Ann, have supported the University extensively, endowing the Bart Richards Award in Media Criticism in Penn State’s College of Communications and providing a founding gift to the Civil War Era Center that enabled it to become a national leader in Civil War era scholarship and outreach. As a Penn State student, George was manager of the varsity boxing team, served as president of the Sigma Nu fraternity, and chaired the campus-wide activities of Spring Week. After graduating and securing an MBA at Harvard, he worked at Alcoa and The Dexter Corporation, before founding Vitex Packaging, a manufacturer of packaging materials for tea and other consumer goods industries. Under his leadership, the company became the leading supplier to the tea industry in the U.S., and held a major market share in Asia. In making the award, the Board of Trustees lauded Richards for his “passion and support in advancing the study of the Civil War era at Penn State.”

At the same ceremony, the board of trustees also made Richard T. Clark an honorary alumnus, recognizing him “for his guidance of Penn State students and his commitment to global healthcare access.” Clark, who recently retired as chairman of Merck Pharmaceuticals, led the company to recognition by the Chronicle of Philanthropy as one of the top donors in the country. Merck also has created a core partnership program with Penn State and twenty-three other universities to develop internships for students and identify future talent. Dick and his wife, Angela, have been generous in their support of the College of the Liberal Arts, and they also endowed a Director’s Fund in the Richards Center, which will help to fund conferences, publications, and new program initiatives for years to come.

In addition to these University alumni awards, Larry McCabe (’57) earned the Outstanding Alumni Award from the College of the Liberal Arts. The honor recognizes Liberal Arts alumni for extraordinary professional accomplishments and leadership. Recipients display “a record of significant career achievements and show themselves to be outstanding role models” for current Liberal Arts students. As general counsel to the Heinz Food Corporation, Larry supervised the legal affairs of the global corporation. Larry and his wife, Gretchen, also have given generously to Penn State and provided crucial guidance during the founding of the Civil War Era Center, setting it on a path to the success it enjoys today. The McCabes’ generosity has funded graduate research and faculty scholarship, particularly through the McCabe Greer Professorship in Civil War History. The McCabes also have committed to future support of the Paterno Fellows honors and leadership program.

Richards Center Named as Planning Partner for PA Civil War 150

Pennsylvania Civil War 150, the official state program for commemorating the sesquicentennial of the Civil War, has welcomed the Richards Center as an official planning partner. The mission of the Pennsylvania Civil War 150 program is to bring together educational, historical, heritage, and arts and cultural institutions from across the state to mark this anniversary. Directed by Governor Tom Corbett, the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC) convened the PA Civil War 150 Committee to sponsor high-quality educational and cultural programming for the Commonwealth’s sesquicentennial commemoration.

As a Planning Partner, the Richards Center joins such institutions as the State Library and State Museum, the Senator John Heinz History Center, the National Civil War Museum in Harrisburg, the State Department of Education, the Gettysburg National Military Park and Gettysburg Foundation, and the Pennsylvania Humanities Council, among others. Selection as a planning partner carries the endorsement of the PA Civil War 150 Committee and the governor’s office. In the announcement of this selection, the committee recognized the Center’s leadership in the digital project, identifying Civil War era historical collections throughout the state to enhance digital preservation of these valuable materials.

As a PA Civil War 150 partner, the Richards Center will help provide programming and content for the commemoration, especially through the digital project, which directs historians, researchers, and teachers to Civil War era source materials across the Commonwealth, enhancing research and teaching of this period. The Center also will plan and participate in outreach programs that will explore Pennsylvania’s unique experiences during the Civil War.
Doctoral candidate Rachel Moran published her research in one of the historical profession’s top journals and earned two distinguished fellowships in 2011. Rachel studies changes in federal food policy from the late nineteenth century to the mid-twentieth century and the government’s growing interest in shaping individuals’ bodies. With research funding from the Richards Center, she published an article, “Consuming Relief: Food Stamps and the New Welfare of the New Deal,” in the March 2011 issue of the Journal of American History. She also was featured in a podcast interview with the Journal’s associate editor, Stephen D. Andrews, on the JAH website.

Rachel followed this publication by winning the Charlotte Newcombe Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship for the 2011–2012 academic year. She was one of twenty-one recipients of the award out of an applicant pool of 600 candidates. The Newcombe Fellowship is the largest and most prestigious award in the humanities and social sciences for doctoral students addressing questions of ethical and religious values. It is administered by the Woodrow Wilson Foundation of Princeton, New Jersey. In addition to this honor, Rachel also was named a 2011–2012 Fellow in Politics and History at the University of Virginia’s highly-regarded Miller Center of Public Affairs. Each year, the Miller Center brings together outstanding graduate students in the fields of politics and public affairs from across the country and pairs them with distinguished scholars in their field as mentors. While in residence at the Miller Center this year, Rachel is sharing her research with graduate fellows from such institutions as Columbia, Harvard, Northwestern, Stanford, and similar elite institutions.

Over the past two years, Rachel has received research support from funds established by Lynne and Larry Brown, Ann and Mark Persun, and George and Ann Richards. She acknowledged, “the resources provided by the Richards Center allowed me to stand out. From engaging conversations with colleagues to generous research support, I owe an incredible debt to the Center for helping make me the scholar I am today.”

Geiger Wins Tom Watson Brown Book Award

The Watson-Brown Foundation has awarded its annual Tom Watson Brown Book Award to Mark W. Geiger, a Kluge Fellow at the Library of Congress’ John W. Kluge Center. The Foundation honored Geiger with the $50,000 prize for Financial Fraud and Guerrilla Violence in Missouri’s Civil War, 1861-1865 (Yale University Press, 2010). The book examines how secessionist planters colluded with rural Missouri bankers to funnel funds illegally to the newly created, secessionist Missouri State Guard. The resulting financial fallout bankrupted much of the state’s planter elite, leaving a leadership void that intensified guerrilla violence in the state during the war. Before entering academia, Geiger had a career working in financial services, giving him an expertise in reading unique kinds of financial records which aided his research into this book.

The Tom Watson Brown Book Award, one of the largest book prizes offered in the country, is presented annually by the Society of Civil War Historians to the author of the most outstanding book on the causes, conduct, or effects of the Civil War. The award honors the late philanthropist and communications magnate Tom Watson Brown. Brown was the son of the late Walter J. Brown, a Georgia journalist and broadcaster, who established the Watson-Brown Foundation in 1970 to provide college scholarships for underprivileged high school students and to promote research into the history and culture of the South.

Center Welcomes New Managing Director

Matthew Isham (Ph.D., 2010) recently succeeded Karen Fisher Younger (Ph.D., 2006) as managing director of the Richards Center. He is responsible for much of the Center’s day-to-day operations, including professional development programs for Center graduate students, oversight of communications and publicity, and editorial duties with The Journal of the Civil War Era.

Matt earned his doctorate under the direction of Mark Neely. His dissertation, “Breaking Over the Boundaries of the Party: The Role of Party Newspapers in Democratic Factionalism in the Antebellum North, 1845-1852,” examined how Democratic newspapers helped to build up the Democratic Party organization and then tear it apart before the Civil War. Prior to coming to Penn State, he had a brief career as an admissions officer at Colby College and the University of Maine.
Blackett to Give Brose Lectures

Richard Blackett, the Andrew Jackson Professor of History at Vanderbilt University, will deliver the 12th annual Brose Lectures on March 15, 16, and 17. The lectures, “Taking a New Look at the Underground Railroad,” will examine communities on both sides of the divide between Slave and Free states and discuss the wide array of efforts by individuals in those communities both to assist and obstruct the Underground Railroad. Most histories of this topic focus on the slaves who escaped and the northerners who offered them safe haven during their journey to freedom. Professor Blackett will expand this view to include the stories of “moles” who remained in the South and “subversives” who periodically traveled to the South to entice slaves to escape. Similarly, he will discuss the activities of supporters and opponents of the Underground Railroad in the North, too. Professor Blackett’s lectures will move past the romance and myth of the Underground Railroad and reveal its complexity and breadth to show how it not only affected the lives of individual slaves, but also created political havoc that ultimately led to slavery’s demise.

Richard Blackett is a historian of the abolitionist movement in the U.S., particularly its transatlantic connections, and the roles African Americans played in the movement to abolish slavery. He is the author of several books, including Building an Antislavery Wall: Black Americans in the Atlantic Abolitionist Movement, 1830-1860 (Louisiana State University Press, 1983) and Divided Hearts: Britain and the American Civil War (Louisiana State University Press, 2001. He is also the editor of Running a Thousand Miles for Freedom: The Escape of William and Ellen Craft from Slavery (Louisiana State University Press, 1999). At present he is studying the ways communities on both sides of the slavery divide organized to support or resist enforcement of the 1850 Fugitive Slave Law and the ways slaves influenced the politics of slavery through the act of escaping.

The Steven and Janice Brose Distinguished Lecture and Book Series in the Richards Civil War Era Center was created to encourage senior scholars to explore fresh ways of considering the Civil War era. The original endowment established by the Broses in 1998 supported a single lecture by a distinguished visitor. The Broses added to the endowment in 2001, allowing a distinguished lecturer to deliver three related lectures over three days. The Broses’ generosity has enabled Penn State and the Richards Civil War Era Center to enter an agreement with the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, and the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Richards Center doctoral candidates Kelly Knight and William Bryan organized the event, with assistance from fellow Center students who helped screen submissions.

In 2012, the graduate conference will be moved to the Fall. The graduate conference is supported by funds from the NEH We the People Challenge Grant.

Blair Earns Faculty Award

In March, Center Director Bill Blair was honored with the 2011 President’s Award for Excellence in Academic Integration. The award recognizes “extraordinary achievement in the integration of teaching, research or creative accomplishment, and service.” In announcing the award, the University praised the many initiatives Blair has begun as executive director of the Richards Center, including the creation of the biennial conference of the Society of Civil War Historians, the Brose Lectures series, a summer institute for public school teachers, and launching the well-received Journal of the Civil War Era. In addition to these initiatives, the award acknowledged, Blair has maintained a consistent record of excellence in scholarship and teaching. His students praised him for his “passion” in teaching and for “the great job he does in fostering discussion” in his classes and creating a lively, engaging environment for students.
Center Launches Postdoctoral Program

In partnership with Penn State’s Africana Research Center, the Richards Center has established a competitive, one-year postdoctoral fellowship, commencing in the 2012–2013 academic year. The fellowship will reward recently graduated Ph.D.s studying aspects of slavery, abolition, or emancipation, particularly in comparative or Atlantic World contexts. While in residence, the fellow will have access to the Center’s and the ARC’s professional resources, will be assigned a mentor, and will participate in a series of professional development workshops. The fellow will present his or her research to the graduate community and will have the opportunity to invite senior scholars in his or her field to the University to comment on the fellow’s work. The fellow also will have the option to develop and teach a course in the spring semester. The fellowship offers many benefits to the Richards Center. It will expose Center graduate students to cutting-edge research by promising young scholars and give them an opportunity to interact with the distinguished scholars who mentor the fellow. Furthermore, it will raise the profile of the Center by encouraging and supporting new research that will shape the future of Civil War era studies. In announcing the fellowship program, Center Director Bill Blair said “We are thrilled with the leadership of Hal and Sandy Rosenberg and the additional support from Mark and Ann Persun and Bobby and Bonnie Hammel that have made this fellowship possible. This new program strengthens our position as a national leader in research in the Civil War era.”

Digital Project Puts Deserter Roster Online

The partnership between the Richards Center and the University Libraries to identify, describe, and digitize Civil War era materials held by small archives throughout Pennsylvania is yielding great results. The project aims to preserve and use other information about tens of thousands of deserters from Pennsylvania and the North in this period, both of which can aid their study of Pennsylvania and the North in this period, both of which can aid their study of the period. This initiative will steer historians and scholars to materials that can aid their study of Pennsylvania and the North in this period, both of which have been understudied in comparison to the South. The project received a significant boost in 2009, when it won an $82,000 planning grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services. Since then, the project has surveyed the Civil War era collections at more than 20 archives and cataloged and described nearly 500 individual collections.

A highlight of the project thus far is the digitization of The Descriptive List of Deserters, a 280-page document produced by the Provost Marshal General’s Bureau in 1866 at the request of the Pennsylvania legislature. As its title suggests, the list includes names, descriptions, places of residence, and other information about tens of thousands of deserters from Pennsylvania regiments during the war. Penn State Professor Sally McMurry discovered the deserter list several years ago sitting on a shelf in the Centre County Library Historical Museum, while conducting her own research on historical farms and farms and farms and farms and farms. The museum agreed to donate the list to the University Libraries so that it could be preserved and digitized, and now the entire list can be accessed both through the project website, The People’s Contest, and the Library’s Civil War Collections at Penn State webpage. The Library recently developed an index to help users search the list by regiment, and it is in the process of linking that index directly to the roster itself.

Interns Participate in Sesquicentennial Activities

This year the Richards Center sponsored three interns, one at Gettysburg National Military Park and two at Harpers Ferry National Historical Park. Nate Hess, who has been interested in the Civil War since grade school, learned techniques of interpretive history as a park ranger at Gettysburg. He gained confidence in his interpretive skills throughout the summer and declared that the last program he gave “was the best one that I’ve done.” Nate is a member of Penn State’s oldest student organization, the Glee Club, and plans to attend law school after graduation.

Like Nate, Isaac Wickenheiser has had a deep interest in the Civil War since he was a young child. In Harpers Ferry’s visitor services branch, Isaac developed a park tour titled From Civil War to Civil Rights. Both Nate and Isaac saw a surge of visitors at the parks as a result of the sesquicentennial of the Civil War. He described his internship as “an amazing experience.” Eager to return next summer, Isaac wrote us, “I really hope I can turn this into a long-term position at the park.” Stephanie Lalle also interned at Harpers Ferry this summer in the park’s education program. Currently a senior, Stephanie told us, “I’ve loved museums for as long as I can remember.” She became seriously interested in museum work during an internship at the York County Heritage Trust two years ago. Like Isaac, she hopes to work again at Harpers Ferry next summer. Stephanie plans to join Teach for America upon graduation.

All of our interns not only learned about the Civil War during these internships; they also learned about museum administration, techniques of public history, and hands-on historical interpretation. They all reported that they enjoyed the experience immensely. The internships are made possible by funds from the NEH’s We the People grant and the generosity of Larry and Lynne Brown.
**Arthur L. Welsh Memorial Award**

We are excited to belatedly announce that John and Carol Paulus were honored with the Arthur L. Welsh Memorial Award in 2010. John is the former chair of the Center’s board of directors, and he and Carol have provided significant support for the Center’s educational mission. The Paulus’ generosity was critical in launching the successful fund-raising campaign under the *We the People Challenge Grant* of the National Endowment for the Humanities. They also have provided a foundation for the *Journal of the Civil War Era* and the Center’s digital archives project, which is building an online catalog of Civil War era archival collections throughout the state of Pennsylvania.

Larry and Gretchen McCabe succeeded John and Carol as recipients of the Welsh Memorial Award in 2011. As we mentioned in “Center Supporters Honored with Alumni Awards,” the McCabes were crucial supporters of the center in its early days. Their endowment of the McCabe-Greer Professorship enabled the Department of History to hire Pulitzer Prize-winning historian Mark Neely. The Laurence and Gretchen McCabe Graduate Student Scholarship also has provided support and recognition for several outstanding Richards Center scholars over the years.

The Arthur L. Welsh Memorial Award is awarded each year to the person who most significantly advances the mission of the George and Ann Richards Civil War Era Center to serve as a national leader in research and outreach for this period of history. The honor remembers the contributions of Arthur L. Welsh, a retired professor of economics from Penn State and avid student of the American Civil War. A naval veteran who served in the Korean War, Welsh was a pioneering leader in research and outreach for this period of history. The honor remembers the contributions of Arthur L. Welsh, a retired professor of economics from Penn State and avid student of the American Civil War. A naval veteran who served in the Korean War, Welsh was a pioneering member of the Richards Center and an individual whose wit and grace enriched the pursuit and dissemination of knowledge. The honor comes with an 1878 lithograph of the Penn State campus that features the original Old Main.

**Rearron Leads 19th Annual Penn State Battlefield Study Tour**

The 19th annual Battlefield Study Tour, *The Field of Courage and Carnage*, took place in Gettysburg, PA, from September 22–25, 2011. Torrential rain and localized flooding couldn’t dampen morale, according to George Winfree Professor of American History Carol Reardon, who led the tour with Col. Tom Vossler, U.S. Army (retired). Rain on the first day flooded the tour’s picnic pavilions, forced alterations to the tour schedule and, according to Reardon, “turned the Valley of Death in front of Little Round Top into the Lake of Death.” Still, “morale remained impressively high and we soldiered on,” she said. Saturday’s gorgeous weather made up for the earlier rain, and Reardon retraced Pickett’s Charge, the climactic engagement of the third day of the battle, with the enthusiastic tour group. “We had a great time,” Professor Reardon said, “and we thank Adams County Historical Society Director Wayne Motts and Sue Boardman of the Gettysburg National Military Park for their outstanding support of this program.”

**Executive Tour of Charleston, South Carolina**

To mark the sesquicentennial of the firing on Fort Sumter and the start of the Civil War, the executive tour visited the crucible of secession, Charleston, South Carolina. “Charleston in Black and White” took tour members to such historic sites as the Mills House Inn and the city’s Emmanuel African Methodist Episcopal Church. The group also toured the Aiken-Rhett House, one of Charleston’s grandest mansions, and visited a new exhibit on the *H. L. Hunley*, a Confederate submarine with the dubious distinction of having sunk twice, killing a total of thirteen crewmen. Highlights of the tour included a boat excursion to Morris Island and Fort Sumter, during which Center doctoral candidate Will Bryan provided information about the harbor environment, and a tour of the Magnolia Plantation, including its slave quarters.

At Magnolia Plantation, the tour heard from a former plantation laborer who described his experiences working the land and shared his family history which was intertwined with the plantation for several generations.
In Print


This past November McCabe-Greer Professor of Civil War History Mark Neely published Lincoln and the Triumph of the Nation: Constitutional Conflict in the American Civil War. The book examines how the Union and Confederacy’s respective constitutions “shaped the struggle for national survival.” He also has contributed a chapter, titled “Apotheosis of a Ruffian: The Conflict in the American Civil War. He also has contributed a chapter, titled “Apotheosis of a Ruffian: The

In June the French journal, Revue Electronique d’Etudes sur le Mond Anglophone, published Nan Woodruff’s article, “The Contested Terrain of Historical Memory in Contemporary Mississippi.”


Barb Gannon (2005), Michael Smith (2005), and former Center managing director Meredith Lair (2004) all published books over the last year. Gannon’s The Won Cause: Black and White Comradeship in the Grand Army of the Republic and Lair’s Armed with Abundance: Consumerism and Soldiering in the Vietnam War were published by the University of North Carolina Press. Smith’s The Enemy Within: Fears of Corruption in the Civil War North, appeared through the University of Virginia Press. They join Bob Sandow (2003), whose Deserter Country: Civil War Opposition in the Pennsylvania Appalachians came out with Fordham Press in 2009, as recent Penn State graduates publishing their first monographs.

Tim Orr (2010) edited a collection of letters by First Sergeant Ambrose Henry Hayward and published the collection, titled Last to Leave the Field, with the University of Tennessee Press in 2011.


Bob Sandow on the Humanities Road Show

As part of the state’s commemoration of the sesquicentennial of the Civil War, the Pennsylvania Humanities Council produced a series of programs for the Pennsylvania Cable Network, called Humanities on the Road. The series explored various aspects of the Civil War, including an episode on desertion in Pennsylvania by Richards Center graduate Bob Sandow. Bob has given several presentations on this topic over the past two years, and it was the focus of his book, Deserter Country: Civil War Opposition in the Pennsylvania Appalachians, published by Fordham University Press as part of its renowned Civil War North series in 2009. Bob’s program on desertion appeared on PCN on October 7, 8, and 10.

Faculty News

Professor Lori Ginzberg could be heard on the radio this past July when she was interviewed about the life of Elizabeth Cady Stanton by Steve Inskeep, host of NPR’s popular Morning Edition news program. She was pleased to hear from former students as far away as Iraq who contacted her after hearing the broadcast. Her book, Elizabeth Cady Stanton: an American Life is now available on Amazon’s Kindle device. In January, she will talk about Stanton and the 19th century women’s rights movement with a group of twenty-five primary and secondary school teachers in Manatee County, Florida. This talk will be part of the Organization of American Historians’ Distinguished Lectureship program and a Teaching American History grant. Professor Ginzberg also has been invited by the Feminist, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Program and the Africana Studies Program at Cornell University to be a featured speaker during Women’s History Month in March.

Congratulations to Amy Greenberg, who was promoted to Liberal Arts Research Professor this past year. She also joined the editorial board of Diplomatic History for a three-year term beginning this year and is in the midst of a three-year term on the American Historical Association’s prestigious Alfred Beveridge Book Prize committee. In 2012 Professor Greenberg will chair the program committee for the Society for Historians of the Early Republic’s annual meeting in Baltimore. In addition to her committee duties, she published numerous book reviews in the Journal of American History, Pacific Northwest Quarterly, Civil War...
Wilson Moses recently accepted Henry Louis Gates’ invitation to deliver the annual Nathan I. Huggins lectures at Harvard University’s W. E. B. Du Bois Institute for African and African American Research. Past lecturers have included such notable historians as Harold Holzer, Paul Finkelman, Steven Hahn, and Darlene Clark Hine. Wilson also contributed biographical articles about Alexander Crummell, Frederick Douglass, Marcus Garvey, and Booker T. Washington to the *Cambridge Dictionary of Christianity*, edited by Daniel Patte, and he wrote articles about Albert Gallatin and Edmond-Charles Genet for the *Encyclopedia of the American Enlightenment*, edited by Mark G. Spencer. During the past summer and winter, he also studied French language and civilization at the Sorbonne in Paris and participated in Paris’ Goethe Institute.

Nan Woodruff chaired and commented on a session for the Southern Labor History Conference in Atlanta this past April, shortly after having delivered a paper, “The Politics of Memory,” at the Université Paris in France. Nan continues to serve on the National Advisory Board for the William Winter Institute for Racial Reconciliation, and this past summer she concluded research on her latest project: *The Legacy of Terror in Contemporary Mississippi.*

Carol Reardon accepted an appointment as the General Harold K. Johnson Professor of Military History at the U.S. Army War College for the 2011–2012 academic year. She also contributed a short essay on military operations to the National Park Service’s Civil War Sesquicentennial Handbook and was awarded with a plaque from the NPS for participating in the effort. Professor Reardon’s next book, from her 2009 Brose Lectures, will be forthcoming from UNC Press in Spring 2012. The tentative title is *With a Sword in One Hand and Jomini in the Other: The Problem of Military Thought in the Civil War North.* This past September she also led the 19th annual Penn State Alumni Civil War Weekend at Gettysburg, with programs featuring new acquisitions, new viewsheds, and new scholarly interpretations of the Battle of Gettysburg.

**Student News**

Doctoral candidate David Greenspoon expects to defend his dissertation, “Children’s Mite: Juvenile Philanthropy in America, 1815-1865,” in March of 2012. Over the past year, he presented portions of his dissertation at two prestigious conferences: the Organization of American Historians annual conference in Houston, Texas and the Society for the History of Children and Youth Conference in New York City. The papers were titled: “Till Every Child and Youth has Enlisted: Juvenile Temperance Armies in Antebellum America” and “Rewarding Piety: Sunday School Prizes and Juvenile Consumption in Nineteenth Century America” respectively. David also won travel scholarships from the Congregational Library in Boston and the Richards Center. In March, he dispensed advice in a Richards Center blog post about putting together successful panel proposals for major conferences.

Graduate student Antwain Hunter presented a paper, “A ‘Delicate and Dangerous Subject’: Free Blacks, Firearms, and Fear in Antebellum Delaware,” at the Department of History’s annual graduate student conference, *Mad, Bad, and Dangerous to Know: Crime, Deviance, and Rebellion, Antiquity to Present,* which took place in the Fall 2010 semester. He also has served as the vice president of the Penn State Black Graduate Student Association. Along with graduate student Sean Trainor, Antwain was honored last spring with the Department of History’s E-Tu Sun Graduate Teaching Award.

Last spring graduate student Sean Trainor successfully defended his M.A. thesis and entered the doctoral program. Sean also received the Stitzer Seed Grant from the Department of History at the end of the semester. He was one of the organizers of the department’s annual graduate student conference in the fall 2010 semester. He presented a paper at the conference and wrapped up a busy academic year by presenting two additional papers last spring. In March, he delivered the paper, “The Celebrated Razor-Strap Man of New York on Manliness, Respectability, and the Countless Virtues of a Close Shave,” at the Draper Graduate Student Conference in Early American Studies, co-hosted by the University of Connecticut and the American Antiquarian Society. The following April he presented, “Dixie’s Dirt, or Cleanliness and the Slave South, 1830-1860,” at the annual Richards Center Graduate Student Conference.

In addition to the article he published in the *Mississippi Journal of History (see In Print)*, graduate student Evan Rothera has been busy presenting his research in many different forums. At the 2011 Richards Center Graduate Student Conference, he presented a paper, “‘The Right of Americans to Review their National History’: Partisanship, Unionism, and Dissent in Fourth of July Orations in Antebellum America.” Last summer he delivered a talk, “‘This is Essentially a People’s Contest’: Lincoln’s Rise to the Presidency, Secession, and the Mobilization for War,” at the Hamilton Historical Society in Hamilton, New Jersey. From New Jersey, Evan traveled to Jena, Germany in September to deliver a paper titled, “Beyond Comparative Emancipation: Comparative Reconstructions as a Category of Analysis,” at an international conference on the topic of *The Transnational Significance of the American Civil War: A Global History.*

Closer to home, he presented another paper on the Civil War in a comparative context, “Failed Rebellions, Their Causes, and Their Legacies: An Episode in United States and Argentine Comparative History,” at the *The Legacy of the Civil War: An Interdisciplinary Conference* in November.

**New Graduate Students**

The Richards Center welcomes Kathryn Falvo and Chris Hayashida-Knight as its newest graduate students. Kathryn is a 2011 graduate of Susquehanna University, earning a B.A. in History with a minor in Women’s Studies. Chris earned his B.A. in English Literature from Westminster College in 2000 and his Master’s in American Studies from The George Washington University in 2011. He received the Ted H. and Tracy Winfree McCartney Family Distinguished Graduate Fellowship in American History for the fall 2011 semester.