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A special thanks to our Student Office Assistants Amelia Tidwell, Kieran Cunningham, Mitchell Paul, and Laura Pressman for their help in the department office and copy editing this newsletter.

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www.baylor.edu/history

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Welcome to the Fall 2019 edition of the Department of History Newsletter. After restarting the newsletter last fall, for the first time in electronic form, we hope to continue to publish at least one edition per year. As you see in the features below, the department continues to thrive—teaching history, promoting history, and producing history. Since last fall the department has seen the creation of the Vardaman Professorship, with inaugural holder Thomas Kidd. Named in honor of James Vardaman, one of the truly legendary professors in the department’s long history, the professorship helps fund faculty research, the research of our Ph.D. students, and the development of conferences and symposia.

We are pleased to have Visiting Distinguished Professor David Bebbington with us again this semester. Professor Bebbington has been coming to the department every other fall since 2003 from his primary post at the University of Stirling in Scotland. To commemorate Professor Bebbington’s retirement from Stirling Baylor’s Institute for Studies of Religion (ISR) and the department sponsored a symposium titled “Evangelicals and the Bible,” which was held September 19-20 at Truett Seminary’s Powell Chapel. Many of Professor Bebbington’s former doctoral students attended and gave papers, as did scholars such as Catherine Brekus of Harvard Divinity School, Mark Noll of Notre Dame (emeritus), and Brian Stanley of the University of Edinburgh.

Two of our faculty received campus-wide faculty awards during the 2018-2019 academic year. Professor Jim SoRelle was honored with the Baylor Outstanding Tenured Faculty Teaching Award, and Dr. Lauren Poor with the Baylor Outstanding Faculty Award in the area of Teaching (non-tenure-track). There are five such awards, campus-wide, so we are understandably proud to have won two of them. Within the department Dr. Bracy Hill won the Robert Reid Award for teaching for the second time in the past three years.

This past year C-Span has been to the department to tape classes by Dr. Kidd and Dr. Sweet. Their classroom lectures run periodically on the C-Span television channel and can be viewed online here: Professor Sweet and Professor Kidd.

Once again, the department has been raided by the administration, as Dr. Beth Allison Barr became Associate Dean of the Graduate School beginning last January. She follows former department chairs Jeff Hamilton (Vice-Provost for Global Engagement) and Kim Kellison (Associate Dean, College of Arts and Sciences) into administration. Our loss is the administration’s gain, and the department is honored to have our faculty serve the university in new and exciting ways.

We have two department faculty moving into new roles this semester. Dr. Julie deGraffenried has succeeded Dr. SoRelle as Undergraduate Program Director (UPD), and Dr. Joe Stubenrauch has succeeded Dr. Barr as Graduate Program Director (GPD). Both bring fresh ideas and new vision to our respective programs.

Finally, we are truly a department in transition with no less than five retirements coming over the next three years. In the spring, Professors David Hendon, Jim SoRelle, and Joan Supplee will all retire. Together they represent more than a century of service to the department and to Baylor. We will miss them.

Dr. Barry Hankins
Chair, Department of History
Professor of History
2019 History Highlights!

Top L to R: History Picnic, 4/15/19 (PC: Emily Leavitt), Dr. Hankins with Dr. Bebbington, Evangelicals and the Bible symposium, 9/20/19 (PC: Dr. Beth Allison Barr), Middle L to R: Dr. Stephen Sloan, Waco History Live Podcast “Crash at Crush,” 9/25/19 (PC: Dr. Julie deGraffenried), Dr. Hankins and Dr. Thomas Kidd at the James Vardaman Professorship dinner, 5/2/19 (PC: Emily Leavitt), Dr. Sweet filmed by C-SPAN, 2/12/19 (PC: Dr. deGraffenried), Bottom: Graduate Studies Picnic 8/23/19 (PC: Dr. Joseph Stubenrauch).
12 October
Baylor Homecoming Parade
Watch the parade with history faculty, students, alumni, and families! We’ll have a tent in front of Carroll Library with coffee and donuts.

23 & 24 October
Charles Edmondson Historical Lecture Series
Dr. Mark C. Elliot from Harvard University will present “The Historical Silk Road and the Belt-and-Road Initiative” and “History and Politics in China Today: The Reception of The New Qing History” at 4:00pm in Bennett Auditorium on both days. These lectures are free and open to the public!

29 & 30 October
Phi Alpha Theta Book Sale
Stop by Tidwell Lobby (1st floor) to buy books, Baylor History t-shirts, and support our Baylor chapter of Phi Alpha Theta!

9 November
Premiere Day at Baylor for Prospective Students

21 November
Phi Alpha Theta New Member Induction Ceremony
PAT members & history faculty invited! Tidwell 205, 5:30pm.

1 December
Applications Due for Baylor History M.A. and Ph.D. Programs

21 December
Baylor Commencement
February
Black History Month Annual Lecture

1 February — 6 March
Applications accepted for Dept. of History Undergraduate Scholarships

February
Phi Alpha Theta Spring Book Sale
Tidwell Lobby, 9am-4pm

5 March
Boston Massacre Trials Reenactment
For the 250th anniversary of the Boston Massacre, History students will partner with third-year Law students to present a reenactment of the trials that occurred after this event to try and determine what really happened that night. Come see and decide for yourself! Free and open to the public. 3:00pm, location TBA.

March
Women’s History Month Annual Lecture

4 April
Premiere Day at Baylor for Prospective Students

Mid-April
Phi Alpha Theta Applications Due

April
Baylor Green & Gold Weekend

16 May
Baylor Commencement
Hi there! My name is Julie deGraffenried, and I’m excited to be the new Undergraduate Program Director (UPD) for the Department of History. I graduated from Baylor with a B.A. in History and Slavic & East European Studies, then received my M.A. and Ph.D. in History from The University of Texas at Austin. I taught high school for three years before returning to graduate school, began teaching at Baylor as a Lecturer in 2001, and currently, I am an Associate Professor who teaches courses such as The U.S. in Global Perspective, Russia to 1861, Russia since 1861, and The Cold War. My research centers on the experiences of children in the Soviet Union, specifically during World War II.

When I was starting to envision a future career, my dream job was to teach at Baylor! Like many of you, my life was deeply affected by my professors in the Department of History – those who mentored me, challenged me, and helped me to see the stories of the past in a new and exciting way – and I relished the idea of giving back to the department that gave me so much. I feel so fortunate to be back here and privileged to serve our students and faculty as UPD, whether that means recruiting prospective students, advising current students, helping make curriculum decisions, or working with our chapter of Phi Alpha Theta, the history honor society.

There’s a lot going on in the department these days! Let me share some highlights:

**New Common Core Course:** Beginning this fall, the College of Arts & Sciences has instituted a new core curriculum for its students. Within the new core is a short list of Common Core classes required for every student in the college. History is responsible for one of these Common Core classes: The U.S. in Global Perspective. We have been busily preparing to teach this course over the past year and are thrilled to introduce many students to the story of the United States in its international context and to the study of history.

**Community-Building:** This fall, we offered our first New Student Experience (NSE) course, a special section of the new U.S. in Global Perspective course devoted just to our incoming majors. We hope to give each cohort a chance to get to know each other early, not just through class itself, but through some special social opportunities. We’re thankful for the instructor this fall, Dr. Stephen Sloan, who had all of our new students to his house recently for a Baylor-Rice watch party, game night, and dinner!

**Study Abroad:** Did you know that over a third of our full-time faculty have been involved with study abroad programs in the past year? History has been well-represented in a number of programs, from Austria to Argentina, in Italy, the Netherlands, and Great Britain, and at St. Andrews in Scotland. It is gratifying to see a long tradition of dedication to study abroad experiences for our students continue.

Dr. Julie deGraffenried
Undergraduate Program Director
Associate Professor of History
Congratulations to our 2019/2020 Scholarship Winners!

**Neal Vogel**  
George Michael Stuart Scholarship in History

**Amelia Tidwell**  
Kevin Hal-Reynolds Scholarship

**Catherine Keith**  
Lavonia Jenkins-Barnes Endowed Scholarship

**Riley Coleman**  
John M. Roberts Scholarship

**Mary Nichols**  
James W. Vardaman History Scholarship

**Andrew Bellamy, Madeline Hausmann, Katherine Kiesling, and Quinton Matsuo-Chun**  
Guittard-Verlander-Voegtle Endowed Scholarship Fund in History

*Applications for 2020/2021 will be accepted between February 1 and March 6, 2020.  
www.baylor.edu/history/scholarships

Congratulations to our 2019 Outstanding History Major, Ryan Reynolds!

Ryan Reynolds with Dr. Barry Hankins  
(PC: Rene Prikryl)
"Through my study abroad experience, I was able to participate in an archaeological field school where I learned invaluable knowledge about the world of the past. Three excavation sites were open during the summer which I helped to excavate: a Villanovan necropolis, an Etruscan tomb, and a Medieval fortification zone. Each site represents a unique period in Italian history that contributed to my understanding of the Mediterranean world. As we excavated ceramic vases, glass beads, bone dice, a gold cross, and even human remains, I was constantly struck by the wonderful opportunity I had been gifted through the generosity of my parents. Furthermore, the professors on the trip constantly created a learning environment as almost every recovered item warranted a discussion on historical significance and potential implications. I am grateful for the opportunity I had to learn about history in such a unique setting and engage with the past through the artifacts left behind."
Student Spotlight: Laura Pressman
Class of 2021
Major: Communications (Pre-Law)
Minors: History & Criminal Justice

Baylor in Oxford: Oxford, England
Summer 2019

“This past July I was able to attend the Baylor in Oxford program! We stayed at the famous Christ Church College, and it amazed me that we lived there every single day. I took a course on the English Reformation, and I did not realize how complicated the events actually were. I had the task of learning about one of the main English Reformers, so I chose Thomas More. After a month of studying him, I defended him in a debate with my peers. I loved living in Oxford, and I had the best curry in my life there too! It was a small restaurant inside a large open-air market; it’s unassuming, yet fantastic! There were various group field trips to historical sites across Great Britain, from Edinburgh, Scotland to Canterbury. One of my favorite experiences was touring Canterbury Cathedral. When I walked through the passage leading to the high altar, mesmerized by the gothic architecture, the organist started playing; it was so powerful that I almost cried. Along with the class trips, I went with some of my friends to Ireland on our own expedition! We spent the weekend in Dublin and fully immersed ourselves in Irish culture and traveled to the coastal town of Howth to hike. I strongly recommend to anyone considering Baylor study abroad programs to go for it. I did not think it was possible for me to go, but Baylor and my professors helped me to go on this incredible trip!”
Baylor’s new Military Studies minor (MILS) will kick off in 2020, led by Dr. Julie Anne Sweet, Professor of History, as the MILS program director. We’ve asked her to introduce us to the new minor.

What is Military Studies?
“Military Studies in an interdisciplinary program that looks at various aspects of the military experience. It’s not just about battles and campaigns but also political policy and military theory as well as all the people involved in and affected by the military. By taking an interdisciplinary approach, students look at military issues from a wide variety of topics to understand and appreciate the military experience and also to become better citizens so that they can make informed decisions in their lives and in the world around them.”

What will students learn?
“Students will learn not just the basics of military history but also larger life lessons about leadership and decision-making as well as negotiation and interpersonal skills. Students don’t have to have any connection or future plans with the military to take part or to learn life lessons from Military Studies. Classes currently include History, Political Science, and Religion, but we’re looking to branch out into Classics, Communication, and other departments that have an interest in military issues and topics.”

How did you become interested in military history?
“I’ve always had an interest in military history since I was a little kid. My father would take our family to various battlefields on every summer vacation, and that’s when the history bug bit me. I started out as a Civil War buff but shifted back to the American Revolution when I moved to Virginia after college and got to live right on the Yorktown Battlefield for several years.”

Do you have a favorite historical figure or point in military history?
“I love a good story (that’s why I became a historian – to tell stories), and there are just SO many of them in military history that I wouldn’t be able to pick just one! I love the Yorktown Campaign, not just because I lived there but because there are so many moving parts that had to come together just perfectly for the American (and the French!) victory.”

Anything else we should know?
“I would like our slogan to be “Major in whatever you want, but Minor in Military Studies!” because it really is a program that has something for everyone. Either students have an interest in the topic or a personal connection to the armed forces, but no matter what, everyone can learn something useful and practical that they can apply to their everyday lives and future careers in Military Studies.”

Continued on page 13
About the MILS Program Director, Dr. Sweet:
Dr. Sweet received her B.A. from the University of Notre Dame in History & Theatre, which explains her dramatic teaching style, and she did her graduate work at the University of Richmond (M.A.) and the University of Kentucky (Ph.D.). She came to Baylor in 2002, and while her research agenda focuses on all topics related to colonial Georgia, she teaches courses in American colonial history, the American Revolution & Constitution, American Military History, and American Indian History, just to name a few.

Find out more about the Military Studies minor at:
www.baylor.edu/history/militarystudies

Check out our Spring 2020 Courses!
www.baylor.edu/history/coursedescriptions

History Majors & Minors, have you done an internship, studied abroad, or presented at a conference? Are you working on a history honors thesis? Let us know! Contact the Department of History at Emily_Leavitt@Baylor.edu.
Congratulations to our Spring 2019 History Major Graduates!

Samantha Baham
Martha Bateman
James Carey, Jr.
Jonathan Cooper
Madison Fernandez
Christian Gruver
Miriam Hayes
Mario Hernandez
Kevin Malone
Kyle Martin
Karishma Naik
Andrew Pritchard
Ryan Reynolds
Cody Rice
Dre’An Sankey
Koby Westbrook

Baylor History grads, 5/18/19 (PC: Dr. deGraffenried)

Tidwell Renovations

The Tidwell Bible Building is planned to undergo much-needed renovations starting late 2020 and is expected to finish in 2022. The Department of History will be moving to the Cashion Academic Center during the Tidwell construction process. You can find out more about the Tidwell renovation plans on Baylor’s Give Light projects: Tidwell Bible Building.

Cashion Academic Center (PC: Emily Leavitt)
Phi Alpha Theta is Baylor’s history honors society. We are open to undergraduates and graduate students alike who have demonstrated an interest and proficiency in historical studies. We try to provide community and fun opportunities through which history lovers can engage with their passion. So far this semester, we have hosted a seminar for undergraduates considering further education in graduate school. Coming up later this month, we will host our fall book sale in Tidwell’s lobby, which always has a wide range of selections in history, religion, literature, and more. Other events we have planned for this upcoming year include sponsoring a documentary at the Hippodrome, staging a group viewing of the movie Midway, participating in the Homecoming parade, hosting a picnic, and more. We will also encourage our members to present a paper at the Phi Alpha Theta regional conference in January. If you are interested in joining Phi Alpha Theta and taking advantage of the opportunities we offer, please apply!

Abigail Higgins
President, Phi Alpha Theta
M.A. student in History

Interested in joining? Membership requirements include having a 3.3 GPA in 12 completed hours of history and a 3.0 GPA overall (you do not have to be a history major or minor to apply!). Graduate students applying must have a 3.5 GPA in History and completed 30% of residence requirements for their degree. We generally count BIC courses as well as three hours of any AP or transfer credit towards the 12 hours.

Learn more about Phi Alpha Theta here:

Baylor Chapter of Phi Alpha Theta
www.baylor.edu/history/phialphatheta

National Organization of Phi Alpha Theta
www.phialphatheta.org

Questions? Contact:

Abigail Higgins, President
Abigail_Higgins@Baylor.edu

Dr. Julie deGraffenried, Faculty Advisor
Julie_deGraffenried@Baylor.edu
Gary E. Baker and his wife Susan (Key) Baker in front of the United States Supreme Court.

Alumni Spotlight: Gary E. Baker

Gary E. Baker received his B.A. in History and Political Science in 1968 and his J.D. in 1970 from Baylor. Susan Baker received her B.S.N. from the Baylor Nursing School in 1969 and earned her M.A. in history from the University of Texas of the Permian Basin in 1981.

Could you tell us a little about yourself?

“I am a retired attorney living in Woodway, Texas. I grew up in Waco and graduated from Baylor in 1968 with a B.A. in History and Political Science. I received my J.D. from Baylor Law School in 1970 and then went on to receive a M.A. in Public Administration from Ball State University in 1975 and a L.L.M. in International Law from the University of Michigan Law School in 1976.”

“After graduation from Law School I served as a Judge advocate in the United States Air Force which included a tour of duty at Iraklion Air Station, Crete, Greece and a tour of duty, as an Assistant Professor, in the Department of Law, United States Air Force Academy. In 1978 I joined the Law Department of Exxon Mobil Corporation where I practiced transactional law for thirty-seven years
in numerous states in the United States and in over twenty-five foreign countries in North and South America, Asia, Africa and Europe.”

**How did you become interested in international law?**

“Though I did not realize it at the time the foreign relations courses planted the seed for my interest in international law. I envisioned the possibility of working for the State Department or some other Government agency dealing in foreign relations. When I arrived in Greece in 1973, Greece was governed by a dictatorship, then a military junta and finally democracy was restored. Also, Greece and Turkey were in conflict over Cyprus and Greece withdrew its forces from NATO. The internal conflict in Greece created numerous international legal issues for me as a JAG officer. I thoroughly enjoyed the legal challenge and was hooked on wanting to practice law on an international basis.”

**Could you tell us what it was like, practicing law in the US and various places around the world?**

“The practice of law is basically the same for any transactional attorney. The first step is to understand what the client wants to do or not do, gather the facts and develop a course of action. The attorney must understand what legal system will govern the transaction and how the courts in the governing jurisdiction will decide issues that may arise from the transaction. US-based attorneys generally come from an English common law background while attorneys in most of the world come from a civil law background based on civil codes developed in France and Germany in the nineteenth century, with roots going back to the Roman law. Knowing the history of a country helps the attorney understand how the law in that country developed. For many developing countries it is essential to understand the country’s colonial past to determine how sensitive the country is to using legal concepts associated with its former colonial power.”

“The real reward with practicing internationally is getting to know people with different ethnic, cultural and religious backgrounds. I have found that most people, no matter where they are from, are basically the same in that they want to live in peace, love their families and country and want a better world for their children.”

**How has studying history helped prepare you for and/or influenced your career journey?**

“History is an excellent prerequisite for law school and the practice of law in that it requires a lot of reading, writing and research, all skills that a lawyer needs on a daily basis. It teaches you about the background and culture of other people. Early on in my time in the Air Force, I was stationed on the island of Crete. Little did I know in the fall of 1967 when I took a course in Greek history that within six years I would be living and working in Greece or that one day I would be negotiating transactions in South American and Asian countries that I had studied in history survey courses at Baylor. History opened my eyes to the fact that there is a big world out there and I wanted a career that would give me the opportunity to work in and explore as much of that world as possible.”

**What memories stand out to you the most about your time at Baylor?**

“Professor Robert Reid was one of my favorite professors. He made European and Greek history come to life and instilled in me a burning desire to travel and see the world. The most influential undergraduate history classes I took at Baylor were the six hours of American Foreign Relations taught by Dr. Jefferson Davis Bragg. Doctor Bragg was an excellent teacher and Dean of the Graduate School at the time. He encouraged me to go as far as I could academically and the foreign relations classes laid the groundwork for me to pursue my L.L.M. in International Law from the University of Michigan Law School.”

**What advice would you give to current students?**

“Part of the mission of Baylor University ‘...is to educate men and women for worldwide leadership and service...’ In order to lead and serve one must understand where he or she is coming from and the background of the people one is trying to lead and serve. Knowledge of history is essential for leadership in today’s world. Learn as much as you can while in school and go out and fling your green and gold afar.”

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**Alumni Spotlight Continued: Gary E. Baker**

Baylor History Alumni, we want to stay in touch with you!

- Keep your information up-to-date at [www.baylor.edu/alumni/network](http://www.baylor.edu/alumni/network)
- Follow us on social media!
- Visiting campus? Stop by and say hello!
- Share with us about your career path, favorite Baylor memories, and if you know of job or internship opportunities we can pass along to current students!
- Check out our new History Alumni page at [www.baylor.edu/history/alumni](http://www.baylor.edu/history/alumni)
Having recently stepped into the role of Graduate Program Director in History, I am pleased to report on the continuing success of our program. Our Ph.D. program’s focus on Religion and Culture allows our students to benefit from the unique concentration of religious historians at Baylor, making us the most prominent university in the country for the study of American religious history. The last year saw two more of our Ph.D. students accept university positions as assistant professors and another Ph.D. student receive a competitive post-doc position. Last year our M.A. and Ph.D. students presented 25 conference papers, had 4 publications appear in print (with many more forthcoming), and received four external grants and fellowships. We are so thankful for the support our graduate program has received from our history alums and we look forward to a very bright future.

Joseph Stubenrauch
Associate Professor
Graduate Program Director

Find out more about our graduate programs at:
www.baylor.edu/history/graduateprograms

M.A. and Ph.D. Applications for the 2020/2021 academic year are due December 1, 2019.
2019 Highlights

Joel Iliff, Ph.D. Candidate, is a Fellow at the Institute for the Study of the Reconstruction Era (ISRE) and is teaching at the University of South Carolina Beaufort for the 2019/2020 academic year. Joel was also a 2019 Fundamentals of Data Research Fellow through the Baylor Libraries, mapping southern theological students in Germany from 1834-1885. Joel studies the 19th century Atlantic world and his advisor is Dr. T. Michael Parrish.

Elizabeth Marvel, Ph.D. Candidate, received the 2019 Graduate Scholarship for English History from the Texas Division of the Magna Charta Dames and Barons. Elizabeth studies medieval history and her advisor is Dr. Beth Allison Barr.

Skylar Ray, Ph.D. student, traveled to Oxford to participate in the 2019 Baptist Scholars International Roundtable (BSIR) along with Ryan Butler and Baylor professors Dr. Beth Allison Barr and Dr. Laine Scales. Skylar studies 20th century mainline Protestantism and its broader relationship to American culture, religion, and politics. Her advisor is Dr. Barry Hankins.

Benjamin Leavitt, Ph.D. student, was a 2019 Fundamentals of Data Research Fellow through the Baylor Libraries, mapping historic denominational higher education in the United States. He also published a book review of The Resilience of Religion in American Higher Education by John Schmalzbauer and Kathleen A. Mahoney in Reading Religion: A Publication of the American Academy of Religion (May 2019). Benjamin studies American religious history and his advisor is Dr. Andrea Turpin.

Elizabeth Marvel, Ph.D. Candidate, received the 2019 Graduate Scholarship for English History from the Texas Division of the Magna Charta Dames and Barons. Elizabeth studies medieval history and her advisor is Dr. Beth Allison Barr.

Recent Ph.D. Placements

Ryan Butler, Ph.D. ‘19, is teaching in a tenure-track position as Assistant Professor of History at Anderson University (Anderson, SC). His dissertation, “‘Give an Account of Thy Stewardship’: How ‘Vital Religion’ Forged Anti-Slavery and Empire in the British World, 1772-1846”, was advised by Dr. Philip Jenkins.

Paul Gutacker, Ph.D. ‘19, is teaching at Baylor University as an Adjunct in the Department of History. His dissertation, “Remembering the Old Faith in the New Nation: American Protestants and the Christian Past, 1780-1865”, was advised by Dr. Thomas Kidd.

Adina Kelley, Ph.D. ‘19, is teaching at Baylor University as an Adjunct in the Department of History. Her dissertation, “The Evangelical Mystique: Conservative Protestant Femininity in the United States from 1940-1970”, was advised by Dr. Barry Hankins.

Matt Millsap, Ph.D. ‘19, is an Assistant Professor of American History at Northwest Nazarene University (Nampa, ID). His dissertation, “Nature’s Creed: Natural Religion, Protestants, and Enlightened Belief in Early America”, was advised by Dr. Thomas Kidd.
Dr. David Hendon, Professor of History, began his forty-third year of teaching in August 2019. He received his Ph.D. from Emory University in 1976. Dr. Hendon served as an Exchange Professor for the Seinan Gakuin University in Japan (1980-81), and as an instructor for the study abroad programs Baylor in Vienna, the British Isles, and Austria (Salzburg). Dr. Hendon also served as the Director of Graduate Studies in History from 1993-1999 and Director of the BIC program from 1998-2008. He has published regularly in the Journal of Church and State with reviews in various academic journals and has served in editorial positions for Central European History, Journal of Church and State, and others. Dr. Hendon specializes in modern Germany, German Catholics, modern Europe, and approaches to world history. He plans to retire in May 2020.

What classes have you taught? What has been your favorite class to teach?
“In recent years I have taught World History to 1500, History of Modern Germany, Europe 1815-1914, Europe since 1914, and Hitler and the Holocaust. I also have taught World Cultures I and Social World II for the Baylor Interdisciplinary Core. Before the department was able to hire a specialist in Asia, I occasionally taught some Asian history. Currently my favorite course is Hitler and the Holocaust.”

How did you become interested in history?
“I had inspiring history teachers in high school and in my undergraduate program.”

What sorts of programs have you been involved with during your time at Baylor?
“I was exchange professor to Seinan Gakuin University in Japan 1980-81. I have also taught in Baylor in Austria and Baylor in the British Isles. I have taught in the BIC since its beginning in 1995, and I directed the program 1998-2008. I directed our master’s program 1993-1999. I have worked with the

Could you share with us any notable memories?
“One comes from the time when Baylor in Austria was based in Vienna. A student showed up on his own two days early and I had to tell him that I did not have the authority to let him stay in Bildungshaus Neuwaldegg where we were based until the following Monday. He said not to worry and disappeared into the night. When he showed up again, I asked him what he had done. He replied that he had gone into the Vienna woods and joined up with a group of Druids who were worshiping the moon and that they had allowed him to stay with them.”

Do you have any plans for after Baylor?
“I will continue to travel. I am planning to go to France for about ten days in May 2020. I probably will continue teaching one BIC course a semester.”

Anything else you would like to share?
“I have very much appreciated Baylor’s emphasis on students and teaching.”

Journal of Church and State published by Baylor and Central European History published by the American Historical Association. I have served as president of the Zeta chapter of Phi Beta Kappa, the World History Association of Texas, and the European History Section of the Southern Historical Association.”
Dr. James SoRelle

Dr. SoRelle, Professor of History, has taught at Baylor for 40 years. He received his B.A. and M.A. from the University of Houston in 1972 and 1974 and his Ph.D. from Kent State University in 1980. He formerly served as the Department of History Chair (1997-2004) and Undergraduate Program Director (1992-1996, 2004-2011, 2014-2019). Dr. SoRelle has focused his research and publication on four areas of interest: (1) racial violence in Waco, Texas; (2) the development of the African American community in Houston, Texas, in the years between the two world wars; (3) the intersection between humor and protest in the African American community; and (4) the civil rights movement in Texas. His scholarly articles have appeared in the Houston Review, Southwestern Historical Quarterly, and Black Dixie: Essays in Afro-Texas History and Culture in Houston (Texas A & M University Press, 1992). For the past twenty years he has served as co-editor of the two-volume reader, Taking Sides: Clashing Views on Controversial Issues in American History. In Spring 2019 he was awarded the Baylor Outstanding Faculty Award in Teaching. His teaching fields are in African American history and late-nineteenth and early-twentieth century United States history. Dr. SoRelle plans to retire in May 2020.

What classes have you taught? What has been your favorite class to teach?

“While I began my career at Baylor teaching only multiple sections of the American/U.S. history survey courses, I have occasionally taught sections of Western Civilizations/World history. Through the years, I have taught a wide variety of advanced undergraduate and graduate courses during my tenure, primarily in the fields of African American history and modern United States history. I inherited the African American survey course from Dr. Stanley Campbell back in the mid-1980s and the Gilded Age/Progressive Era and post-1920 courses from Dr. Rufus Spain following his retirement in the late 1980s. I developed new courses in American urban history, the civil rights movement, and the 1960s, and it is probably the latter two courses that I have most enjoyed teaching over the past two decades.”

Could you share with us about your favorite Baylor memories?

“My most cherished memories are of the incredible collection of teacher-scholars who inhabited the Department of History when I arrived in 1980. I came to know Ralph Lynn fairly well, though he had already retired, but in their different ways, he, Bob Reid, Paul Armitstead, Rufus Spain, Patricia Wallace, Wallace Daniel, and Jim Vardaman created a model of excellence and service that I have tried to embrace throughout my career. I fear that, as Baylor expands its vision, the contributions of these outstanding individuals will be too soon forgotten.”

“In terms of favorite experiences, the opportunity to teach abroad with the Baylor in London, Baylor in Oxford, and Baylor in Great Britain programs permitted my family and me to expand our horizons in incalculable ways and to develop lasting friendships with colleagues in other disciplines. In more recent years, the chance to take students on tours of key civil rights sites in the South has served as something of a capstone to my own commitment to the history of the African American experience in the United States.”

How did you become interested in history? Did growing up in Waco influence your interest in local and Texas history?

“In truth, I probably inherited my love of the study of history from my family. My maternal grandfather, who died shortly before I was born, was a career military officer who was fascinated by Abraham Lincoln and the American Civil War. He published articles on Lincoln and was a collector of Lincoln memorabilia. He passed down to us Lincoln letters, Lincoln portraits, and Lincoln biographies, as well as the Civil War diary of a Union enlisted man from a Minnesota regiment. In addition, I had a cousin who was a fabled history teacher at Lake Air Junior High.”

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School, and my father, though he pursued a career in the insurance business, was an avid reader of history who instilled in all his children, if not a love of history, at least some understanding of the past by taking us on not-always-fully-appreciated weekend trips to various historical sites around Texas; e.g., my brother and I refused to get out of the car at Goliad. Dad was not pleased.”

“In terms of my professional interest in history, my early work on the Jesse Washington lynching was certainly stimulated by the fact that I had grown up in Waco and had never heard a word about this infamous episode in the city’s history. My research focus on the African American community in Houston began during graduate school and was motivated not only by my desire to locate a topic that no one else seemed to be pursuing but also by the fact that I was somewhat familiar with Houston from my undergraduate days.”

Do you have any plans for after Baylor?
“I have noticed this is the question people most often ask me when they learn I am retiring. My standard answer at this point is that I hope to travel, work to improve my golf game, and to read many of the books that have lined my shelves for years but to which I have not yet had the time to commit my full attention.”

Anything else you would like to share?
“I left Waco in 1968 with the expectation that I would never return except to visit my parents. Twelve years later I was a newly minted Ph.D. with a choice of a one-year teaching contract in Atlanta or Waco. Cindy and I were living in Austin at the time, and despite being an avid Atlanta Braves fan, a move of 100 miles seemed to make more sense than a move of 1,000 miles for one year. That was forty years ago and, as the saying goes, the rest is history. Baylor has been very good to me, and I have done my best to give as much as I have received.”

Dr. Joan Supplee

Dr. Supplee, the Ralph L. and Bessie Mae Lynn Professor of History, has taught at Baylor since the fall of 1992, specializing in Latin American history. She received her Ph.D. from the University of Texas at Austin in 1988. She has led the Baylor in Argentina study abroad program and directed the MOAS (Model Organization of American States) team. Dr. Supplee’s research focuses on the regional economic development in late 19th-century Argentina as well as women and the Catholic Church in Chile. Dr. Supplee has published on migration, economic development, and women’s movements in Mexico, Argentina, and Chile, and plans to retire in July 2020.

What classes have you taught? What has been your favorite class to teach?
“I have taught a variety of classes at Baylor: both sections of the U.S. survey, both sections of the Latin American History survey, Introduction to Women’s and Gender History, Latin American Nations and Peoples, Introduction to Latin American Studies, and Model Organization of American States. Latin American upper division classes in: Women in Latin America; Revolutions in Latin America; Gender in Latin America; Church and State in Latin America; Revolt, Reform, and Revolution in Mexico; The Search for Human Rights and Justice in Latin America; Inter-American Relations; Readings in Latin American History; MOAS; and World Cultures V.”

“At the graduate level: Seminar in Latin American History, Seminar in Gender in Latin America, Seminar in The Search for Justice in Latin America.”

“My favorite classes are the Human Rights and Gender classes as well as the Pre-Columbian and Colonial Latin America. The first one is critical for understanding Latin America today, the second is... Continued on p. 23
important for how the approach to the topic has changed over the years, and the third for the dynamic new discoveries that are being made in expanding our knowledge of the pre-Columbian civilizations.”

How did you become interested in studying Latin America?
“I was a U.S. history major in college but switched to Latin American when I was advised that I would never get a job teaching in secondary education because I could not coach football. I also loved my Spanish classes. I figured if I could not teach U.S. history then I would teach the history of the rest of the hemisphere!”

Could you share with us about MOAS?
“MOAS is an experiential learning class that teaches students about the oldest regional organization: the Organization of American States (OAS). The OAS is a forum in which states of the hemisphere come together to discuss issues and resolve problems that affect the hemisphere. It supports democracy, education, economic development, and environmental and security concerns. Students represent OAS member states in competitions. To do so they have to learn their assigned country’s positions and be able to defend them in debate. We have competed regionally, nationally, and internationally. I have co-directed or directed the program since its inception in 1997 when we went to our first competition at the University of the Incarnate Word in San Antonio. Since then we have attended conferences in Texas, Louisiana, Washington, D.C., Chile, Peru, Bolivia, El Salvador, Costa Rica, Mexico and the Dominican Republic. Probably my proudest moment as a teacher came when we competed at our first international conference in Spanish.”

Could you share with us any notable memories?
“I started taking students abroad the summer of 1997, when my first two Latin American Studies majors did a research trip to Argentina. Since that time, I have taken students to academic conferences in Mexico, the Dominican Republic, Peru, and Costa Rica.”

“Our Baylor in Argentina program, which includes not only a summer program, but a semester long program was started in 1994. It took us a while to get it off the ground, but by the summer of 1998 we were regularly sending students to study in the summers and on semester exchanges. We have sent or received 89 students in the exchange program and close to 300 students in the summer program.”

Do you have any plans for after Baylor?
“My plans are to continue to read, write, and travel after Baylor.”

A gathering of past and present MOASers to celebrate Dr. Supplee’s retirement, September 2019.
Welcome back to Dr. David Bebbington, Distinguished Visiting Professor of History at Baylor and Emeritus Professor at the University of Stirling, Scotland. Dr. Bebbington is teaching courses in the Department of History and Truett Seminary this semester. On September 19 and 20, “Evangelicals and the Bible: A Symposium to Honor David Bebbington” was held at Truett Seminary and featured scholars such as Dr. Mark Noll, Dr. Catherine Brekus, and others. Dr. Bebbington specializes in global evangelicalism and politics, religion, and society in Great Britain in the 18th-20th centuries.

Dr. Daniel Barish, Assistant Professor of History, published “Han Chinese, Manchu, and Western Spaces: The Changing Façade of Imperial Education in Qing Beijing” in Frontiers of History in China, 14, no. 2 (2019): 212-242 and “Puyi: Last Emperor of China” in All About History 76 (2019): 48-54. Dr. Barish also presented at the Association of Asian Studies Annual Meeting (Bangkok, July 1-4) and the International Convention of Asian Scholars (Leiden, July 16-19). He received research grants from the University of Chicago Center for East Asian Studies and the Stanford University Center for East Asian Studies/U.S. Department of Education International and Foreign Language Education Office. Dr. Barish specializes in late imperial China, modern China, and modern Japan.

Dr. Beth Allison Barr, Associate Professor of History, is now the Associate Dean in the Graduate School. Dr. Barr previously served as our Graduate Program Director and is currently a Faculty-in-Residence at Baylor. Dr. Barr published “Paul, Medieval Women, and Fifty Years of the CFH: New Perspectives” in Fides Et Historia (Spring 2019). Dr. Barr also regularly posts on The Anxious Bench and other blogs. Dr. Barr specializes in European women, medieval & early modern England, and church history.

Dr. Elesha Coffman, Assistant Professor of History, published “‘I Didn’t Say That’: Margaret Mead on Nature, Nurture, and Gender in the Nuclear Age” in Modern Intellectual History (August 2019) and “White evangelicals once admitted they were wrong about Nixon. Will Trump come next?” in the Washington Post (August 21, 2019) with Anja-Maria Bassimir. Bassimir is a historian and religious scholar specializing in religious US history; she presented at Baylor ISR’s lecture “After Crisis: Watergate and Positions on Politics in Contemporary Evangelical Magazines” in 2017. Dr. Coffman specializes in American intellectual history, religion, and print culture.

Dr. Julie deGraffenried, Associate Professor of History, is our new Undergraduate Program Director. Dr. deGraffenried co-edited with Zoe Knox Voices of the Voiceless: Religion, Communism, and the Keston Archive (Baylor University Press, 2019). Dr. deGraffenried also presented at Dickenson College (PA), in March 2019 on “Childhood in the Great Patriotic War.” Dr. deGraffenried specializes in modern Russia, the history of childhood and children’s history, visual culture, childhood and war, and the scholarship of teaching and learning.

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Dr. Robert Elder, Assistant Professor of History, was featured in the Waco History Podcast “Waco During the Civil War” on April 11, 2019. Dr. Elder specializes in southern US history, particularly in religion, slavery, and intellectual history.

Dr. George Gawrych, Professor of History, was invited to the Army Futures Command in Washington, D.C., to mentor fellows on the 1967 and 1973 wars in the Middle East. Dr. Gawrych specializes in the modern Middle East, Islamic World, Late Ottoman Empire, and modern military history.

Dr. Paul Gutacker, Adjunct in History, published “What We Have Done and What We Have Left Undone: Christian History as Confession” in the International Journal of Christianity & Education 23, no. 2 (July 2019): 204–230. Dr. Gutacker also presented “Eighteenth- and Nineteenth-Century Anti-Catholicism in America and its Legacies” at the American Society of Church History conference in January 2019. Dr. Gutacker specializes in US history, particularly Christianity, print and culture, political, and intellectual history.


Congratulations to Dr. Bracy V. Hill, Senior Lecturer in History, on receiving the Robert Reid Teaching Award for 2019. Dr. Hill specializes in English dissenting religion (1375-1750), US and Texas history, and sports and religion.

Dr. Philip Jenkins, Distinguished Professor of History and Co-Director of the Program on Historical Studies of Religion, published Rethinking a Nation: The United States in the 21st Century (Macmillan/Red Globe, 2019). Dr. Jenkins also publishes regularly on The Anxious Bench and other outlets. Dr. Jenkins specializes in global Christianity, new and emerging religious movements, and 20th century US history.

Dr. Thomas S. Kidd, Distinguished Professor of History, was named the James Vardaman Professor of History this spring. Dr. Kidd published Who Is an Evangelical?: The History of a Movement in Crisis (Yale University Press, 2019) and two textbooks, American History Vol. 1: 1492-1877 and American History Vol. 2: 1877-Present (B&H Academic Press, 2019). Dr. Kidd specializes in Early America and American religious history.


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Dr. T. Michael Parrish, Professor of History, presented “On Changing Tides: Doris Miller, Pearl Harbor and the Civil Rights Movement” hosted by the Texas Collection on February 20, 2019. Dr. Parrish also presented “Christian Paternalism and Racial Violence: White and Black Evangelicals in Texas during the Civil War Era” at the Central Texas Historical Association in April. Dr. Parrish specializes in 19th century US history, particularly the South and the Civil War era, as well as civil-military relations and the conduct of warfare in history.

Congratulations to Dr. Lauren Poor, Lecturer of History and Director of the Core, who received the Baylor Outstanding Faculty Award in Teaching in the College of Arts and Sciences and who has taught at Baylor for 5 years. Dr. Poor also presented as part of the Fundamentals of Data Research Fellows through the Baylor Libraries. Dr. Poor specializes in early modern Britain, American/European Foreign Policy, Early America/Atlantic World (1450-1850), religious toleration, and refugees, immigrants, and migration and the state.

Congratulations to Dr. Eric C. Rust, Professor of History, who has taught at Baylor for 35 years. Dr. Rust specializes in the Renaissance, Reformation, European expansion, world history, and European and German maritime and naval history.

Dr. Stephen Sloan, Associate Professor of History and Director of the Baylor Institute for Oral History, received a grant from the Texas Holocaust and Genocide Commission to conduct oral history interviews for the Texas Librators Oral History Project. Dr. Sloan co-leads the Waco History Podcast, recently featuring the “Crash at Crush” on September 25, 2019. He also presented “Transparency in the Oral History Archives” at the Society of American Archivists in August, “Oral History and Archives in Crisis” at the University of Louisiana in May, and “New Trends in Oral History” at the Texas Folklore Society in February 2019. Dr. Sloan specializes in US history, public history, and oral history.

Dr. David A. Smith, Senior Lecturer in History, received a URC Grant for his research on Admiral George Dewey. Dr. Smith also regularly hosts the “David and Art” series on KWBU 103.3 Waco Public Radio which broadcasts on Mondays. Dr. Smith led the Baylor in Maastricht program in summer 2019. Dr. Smith specializes in US history, military history, and cultural history.

Congratulations to Dr. James SoRelle, Professor of History, who received the Baylor Outstanding Faculty Award in Teaching in the College of Arts and Sciences (tenured). Dr. SoRelle specializes in African American history, American urban history, and late 19th- and early 20th-century US history.

Dr. Joan Supplee, the Ralph L. and Bessie Mae Lynn Professor of History, presented “Plaza de Mayo: Intersection of Physical and Symbolic Space in Argentina, 1884-2019” at the SCOLAS conference in Mexico in March 2019. Dr. Supplee also leads the Baylor in Argentina program and the Model Organization of American States. Dr. Supplee specializes in Modern Latin America.

Dr. Joseph Stubenrauch, Associate Professor of History, is our new Graduate Program Director. He published “‘Pleasing Testimony’: Plebian Readers’ Voices in the Tract Magazine” in Victorian Periodicals Review 52, no. 1 (2019): 125-145 and presented research as part of the Fundamentals of Data Research Summer Fellows through Baylor Libraries. Dr. Stubenrauch specializes in modern Britain, cultural history, and evangelicalism.

Dr. Julie Anne Sweet, Professor of History, was featured on C-SPAN’s “Lectures in History” during which she presented on the military during the American Revolution. The lecture was filmed in mid-February and broadcast several times over the summer including the Fourth of July. Dr. Sweet specializes in the American Revolution, military history, and Native American History. Continued on page 27


Emeritus Faculty News:
Dr. Thomas Charlton, Professor of History (Emeritus), passed away in January 2019. Dr. Charlton taught at Baylor for 40 years, founded the Institute for Oral History, and served as the Director of the Texas Collection. Dr. Stephen Sloan, current director of the Institute for Oral History, presented “Remembering Tom Charlton” at the Texas Oral History Association meeting in his honor. You can read more about Dr. Charlton’s legacy at: www.baylor.edu/media communications/news.

Attention Baylor History faculty and alumni!

Accepting submissions for the

Guittard Book Award for Historical Scholarship

The Guittard Book Award for Historical Scholarship was established in 2013 to honor the legacy of Dr. Francis Gevrier Guittard, who taught at Baylor University from 1902 until his death in 1950, serving as department chair from 1910 until 1948. This award recognizes a distinguished work of original scholarship in any area of history, written by a current or emeritus member of the faculty of the Baylor Department of History or by any graduate holding a degree in history from Baylor. Books published between January 1 and December 31, 2019 are eligible for the 2019 award. Book submissions for the 2019 award are due by April 1, 2020.

Submissions may be sent to:
Baylor Department of History
One Bear Place #97306
Waco, TX 76798

Questions? Contact Dr. Barry Hankins at Barry_Hankins@Baylor.edu or René Prikryl at Rene_Coker-Prikryl@Baylor.edu.
Support the Department of History!

James Vardaman Endowed Professorship Fund
This fund was established to honor Prof. James Vardaman, who taught history at Baylor for over 30 years. Contributions directly support the Baylor Department of History faculty and may be used for, but are not limited to, the support of salary, research needs, scholarship and travel expenses.

Go to www.baylor.edu/history and click on the Vardaman and Excellence Fund icons to give online.

History Excellence Fund
Contributions to the History Excellence Fund will help provide expanded opportunities for our majors, minors, faculty, and other students at Baylor, including: 1) Conference travel for our history students to present their research; 2) Bringing nationally-known historians and guests to campus; and 3) A reception for our Guittard Book Award for Historical Scholarship recipient and for recognition of our Guittard Graduate Fellows and Undergraduate Scholarship Winners.