

HISTORY AT FURMAN

2021-2022

Edited by Erik Ching, Tim Fehler, and Sara Abraham-Oxford

From the Chair

Dear History Alumni,

It is always a great pleasure to write to our alumni and update you on the latest news from the History Department. We are about to complete the second full year and fifth semester living and teaching in the Covid-19 pandemic. The 2021-22 academic year started off on a high note with all faculty and students returning to campus and celebrating the occasion with a masked Convocation and distanced lunch on the mall. You'll be proud to hear that faculty and students alike banded together this year and have kept cases to an absolute minimum while showing great resilience in returning campus to something like normalcy.

We've had some personnel changes once again this year. After thirty-one years teaching and mentoring some of Furman's finest

students, **Lloyd Benson** officially retired and is enjoying family time in the Blue Ridge mountains. While we were saddened to see Lloyd leave, we are pleased to welcome **Holly Pinheiro, Jr.**, a Civil War specialist focusing on African American soldiers and their families, and **Tuğçe Kayaal**, a scholar of gender and sexuality in the late Ottoman empire. **Abigail Hartman**, a 2017 graduate of Furman, is teaching medieval history for us while completing her Ph.D. at the University of St. Andrews. In the fall, retired Brigadier General **Edward P. Donnelly, Jr.** also joined us to teach U.S. military history.

Late last spring, the department made several revisions to the history major by adding skills-based courses and an additional semester to the senior seminar. Along with those revisions, several of us also

began teaching a course entitled Passages to the Modern World, which we designed to be similar to the venerable History 11, but with a global *(cont. on page 14)*

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The History Department celebrates Dr. Carolyn Day and Dr. Matthew Cathey's wedding, Summer 2021



NEW FACULTY PROFILE

Holly Pinheiro, Jr. *Assistant Professor of History*

M.A., Ph.D. University of Iowa
Dissertation: Men of Color! To Arms!: Race, Gender, and Citizenship in the Civil War Era

Interviewed by Erik Ching

ERIK CHING: Tell us a little about yourself, where you came from, what your family did growing up etc.

HOLLY PINHEIRO: Long story short, I'm a Navy brat who's lived all over the globe, including Australia. My mother served in the military for twenty-five years, which greatly impacted my understanding of military service on a familial level. Including my move to Greenville, I have lived in thirty different places. The constant movement and diversity of sites I lived in gives me a deeper appreciation for the complexity and importance of various people's diverse cultures and dynamics.

EC: Tell us how you came to study history and ultimately to the decision to pursue a Ph.D.

HP: When I started going to Valencia College, I planned on being a lawyer. But, in my first semester,

I realized that I preferred to focus on history because I'd always been interested in the subject. A key factor in my decision to attend graduate school was the years-long mentoring that I received from Dr. Richard Crepeau. He often asked if I'd ever considered graduate school and continually said that I was a qualified candidate. That support meant the world to me as I'd never considered it a possible avenue before.

EC: How did you come to your dissertation topic?

HP: I've always been interested in Black military service during the Civil War, partly because of my interest in the film *Glory*. Another factor was that I've always wondered who United States Colored Troops (USCT) soldiers were before and after their military service. Who were their family members? My motivation for these questions came from my own personal experiences as a child of a service member, and I applied my own experiences to the dissertation topic.

EC: Have you had any particularly exciting experiences in your research? I know that may sound like an oxymoron, but if we are lucky we get to have those a-ha moments, or a time when we discover a particularly revealing piece of information or a collection of materials?

HP: There were a few moments that truly excited me. One of the most memorable was when I searched through a Civil War pension record. I came across correspondence between the daughter of a deceased USCT veteran and Eleanor Roosevelt. Seeing that one of the letters came directly from the Office of the First Lady literally made my hand shake with excitement as I found a connection between a family member of a USCT soldier and the Roosevelts during the Great Depression. Without going into detail, I was not expecting to see a chain of letters between two individuals discussing race, gender, class, and the legacy of USCT service in the 1930s. At that moment, I realized that I was going to uncover an innovative topic that spans generations after the Civil War ended.

EC: While your research makes myriad contributions, can you describe what you consider to be its single main contribution, meaning what argumentative wrong is it righting, or what utterly new discovery is it making?

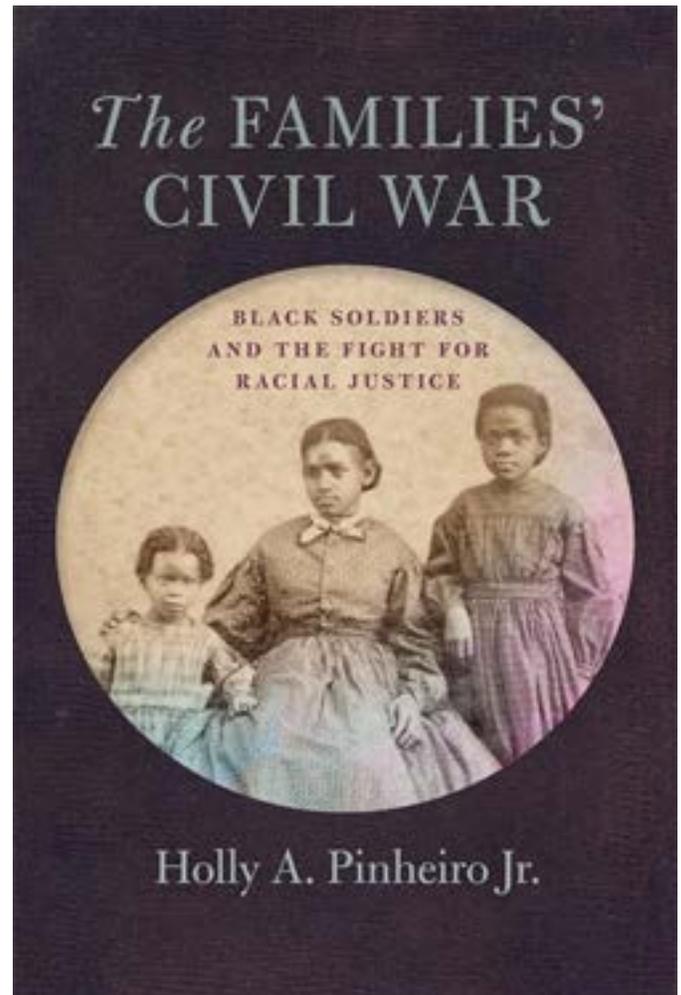
HP: Throughout the Civil War era, most

Holly A. Pinheiro, Jr., *The Families' Civil War: Black Soldiers and the Fight for Racial Justice* (Athens: University of Georgia Press, forthcoming 2022).

This book tells the stories of freeborn northern African Americans in Philadelphia struggling to maintain families while fighting against racial discrimination. Taking a long view, from 1850 to the 1920s, Holly A. Pinheiro, Jr., shows how Civil War military service worsened already difficult circumstances due to its negative effects on family finances, living situations, minds, and bodies. At least seventy-nine thousand African Americans served in northern United States Colored Troops (USCT) regiments. Many, including most of the USCT veterans examined here, remained in the North and constituted a sizable population of racial minorities living outside the former Confederacy.

In *The Families' Civil War*, Pinheiro provides a compelling account of the lives of USCT soldiers and their entire families but also argues that the Civil War was but one engagement in a longer war for racial justice. By 1863 the Civil War provided African American Philadelphians with the ability to expand the theater of war beyond their metropolitan and racially oppressive city into the South to defeat Confederates and end slavery as armed combatants. But the war at home waged by white northerners never ended.

Civil War soldiers are sometimes described together as men who experienced roughly the same thing during the war. However, this book acknowledges how race and class differentiated men's experiences too. Pinheiro examines the intersections of gender, race, class, and region to fully illuminate the experiences of northern USCT soldiers and their families.



conversations and analyses on African Americans, including USCT soldiers, focus on enslaved people's dramatic shift to freedpeople. They, unquestionably, must continue to be studied and remembered. But the lives of northern freeborn African Americans, who experienced starkly different hardships due to various forms of racial discrimination, remain obscured from academic and public conversations. Furthermore, focusing on the lives of freeborn northern USCT soldiers and their multi-generational families allows us to examine and discuss the people who have been often overlooked and understudied.

EC: What do you like to do when you aren't being a professional historian or a teacher?

HP: When I'm not working, I spend time with my family. I enjoy being active and enjoying the outdoors. And, whenever possible, which isn't as much anymore, playing video games allows me to relax and just joke around with my friends.

EC: Is there anything additional you'd like to share with us that we haven't covered above?

HP: I'd just like to close by saying that I'm enjoying exploring Greenville. It seems like every weekend, my family is discovering a new local restaurant, which is always great. We're hoping to continue branching out and finding more spots and venues to visit.



NEW FACULTY PROFILE

Tuğçe Kayaal

Assistant Professor of History

M.A. Sabancı University,

Ph.D. University of Michigan

*Dissertation: Wartime Bodies: Politics of Sexuality
and War Orphans in the Late Ottoman Empire
(1913-23)*

Interviewed by Erik Ching

ERIK CHING: Tell us a little about yourself, where you came from, what your family did growing up etc.

TUĞÇE KAYAAL: I was born and raised in Istanbul, Turkey, in a single-mother family. My mom, Muteber, raised me and my brother Barış. She worked in the textile industry before she had us. I completed my BA degree at Marmara University (Istanbul) in Political Science and International Relations. After volunteering for a couple of years at the Hrant Dink Foundation in Istanbul, I decided to pursue an academic career in history. I received my MA degree in History at Sabancı University. In 2013, I found myself in Ann Arbor, Michigan, in a Ph.D. program in Middle East Studies, focusing on the history of youth and sexuality in the late Ottoman Empire.

EC: Tell us how you came to study history and ultimately to the decision to pursue a Ph.D. in the field.

TK: I have to admit that history was not one of my strengths back in high school. Rather than the discipline itself, the history curriculum in Turkish public schools troubled my teenage self. I remember my high school history classes being only about nationalist indoctrination highlighting wars and victories of ancient presumably Turkish rulers, Ottoman sultans, and higher-ranking military officers. The stories of actual people were missing, such as women, youth, social movements, and everyday interactions. This absence created a gap between me and my history classes. Thanks to my college mentor and history professor at Marmara University, Dr. Nurşen Gürboğa, I discovered that it was possible to study history in a non-traditional and inclusive way. In fact, there were many examples of scholarship on histories of ordinary people, people coming from different ethnic, religious, gender and age groups and their experiences with social change that was silenced in standard Turkish textbooks. That discovery of this vast scholarship in my college years triggered my enthusiasm to read and study history. During my MA program at Sabancı University, I decided to pursue my doctorate in the US, which took me to Ann Arbor, Michigan, in 2013.

EC: How did you come to your dissertation topic?

TK: When I started my Ph.D. program at Michigan, I knew I wanted to write a dissertation on the social history of World War I in the Ottoman Empire by focusing on youth and children. Emotions and youth's daily encounters, including their intimate relationships and friendship, attracted my attention and triggered my interest in politics and representations of sexuality. Scholarship on the history of sexuality and queer theory by scholars such as Afsaneh Najmabadi, Kathryn Babayan, Ann Stoler, and Eve Sedgwick, alongside a growing body of scholarship on war and the homefront focusing on people's everyday experiences with loss, violence, and trauma, helped me frame my dissertation research. After encountering rich archival sources during my research year in Turkey, England, France, and Germany, I decided to write my dissertation on the politics of sexuality in the late Ottoman Empire during World War I. In my dissertation, I mainly focus on war orphans, whom I argue represented a sexual and political anomaly from the perspective of the Ottoman state and Turkish elites, and, thus, they

were considered deviants who needed rehabilitation in state-sponsored orphanages.

EC: Have you had any particularly exciting experiences in your research, I know that may sound like an oxymoron, but if we are lucky we get to have those a-ha moments, or a time when we discover a particularly revealing piece of information or a collection of materials?

TK: When I started working on my dissertation, my Ph.D. advisor Melanie Tanielian, always advised me that archival research is a personal adventure for every historian, and I should trust that it would lead me to some answers to my questions. I understood what she meant when I discovered a 15-page document on a sexual abuse case of young boys by one of the orphanage administrators. That particular file and the story it told guided me in framing my dissertation project and allowed me to write my first article published in *Historical Reflections*. The file's title did not tell me much about its content except for the resignation of an administrator named Munir Bey. However, as I started to read it, I encountered children's testimonies revealing the systemic sexual violence and abuse that took place in state-sponsored orphanages. It was undoubtedly one of the moments that my archives told me the story and showed me the path to take in my research.

EC: While your research makes myriad contributions, can you describe what you consider to be its single main contribution, meaning what argumentative wrong is it righting, or what utterly new discovery is it making?

TK: I think my analysis and framing of war orphans as a complex social and sexualized category through the lens of feminist and queer methodologies presents a multilayered representation of childhood and youth sexuality in a non-Western locality. Historians working on war and children in the Middle East have produced invaluable research that demonstrated children's significance in citizen- and nation-making politics by mainly focusing on wartime mobilization and humanitarian politics. My research argues that

under the circumstances of World War I and at a time when the ideal Ottoman citizen was defined by the state as Turkish, Muslim, and heterosexual, war orphans, I argue, were perceived as a threat to the empire's social and moral order. I show that the "orphan threat" is articulated most prominently through the frame of sexuality, as the parentless children were seen as presenting a sexual and political anomaly associated with sexual deviancy. In so doing, my research offers an alternative approach to addressing how the politics of sexuality pursued by the imperial and post-imperial regimes determined children's and youth's sociopolitical belonging, as well as their identities and experiences.

EC: What do you like to do when you aren't being a professional historian or a teacher?

TK: Since Covid-19 became a part of our lives, I try to live as mindfully as possible. I practice yoga, meditate, and take long walks. I love organizing social gatherings with my friends. As a proud cat mom, spending time and playing with my cat Ms. Melina is integral to my daily routine. I collect vinyl records of 1970s-80s British glam rock bands and have an ever-growing collection of Freddie Mercury memorabilia. Travelling and cooking are my two other passions. We organize trips with my family once a year and it is always more fun to visit a new place and try different cuisines with them. Reading queer and feminist biographies and literature, including graphic novels and manga, feeds me intellectually as a feminist historian.

EC: Is there anything additional you'd like to share with us that we haven't covered above?

TK: I have recently been contemplating sharing my passion for queer and feminist history and literature with the public by going beyond academia. As the first step, I am working on initiating a public book club. The idea of cultivating a reading community that shares similar concerns around injustices and challenges that LGBTQIA+ individuals encounter in our society is a significant and exciting project for me to contribute to our society as a scholar and activist.

[M]y research offers an alternative approach to addressing how the politics of sexuality pursued by the imperial and post-imperial regimes determined children's and youth's sociopolitical belonging, as well as their identities and experiences.

Carolyn Day and students research loneliness and disease amidst a current pandemic

The Covid-19 pandemic has revealed the varied and nuanced ways that a disease can foster the conditions of isolation and social dislocation that contribute to loneliness. I was asked to investigate these connections between disease and loneliness in the 18th century for a book chapter in the *Routledge History of Loneliness*. My contribution centers around the tragedy that befell the Cathcart family, one that was repeated in countless households during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. In this family: a mother, father, son, and three daughters were struck down by tuberculosis, but it was the poignant death of the second daughter, Mary Graham, that included the full tubercular repertoire, encompassing beauty, a delicate constitution, a family history, grief, and loneliness for her husband Thomas Graham. Although his marriage lasted for seventeen years, Thomas would remain a widower for a further fifty until, at the age of 95, he was finally laid next to Mary. During that long interlude, he wore the material reminder of his connection to his wife, her wedding ring on his pinky finger. Other reminders, however, were too painful to contemplate, particularly the images of his lost love. He had the portraits of her packed away, including the portrait painted soon after their wedding by Thomas Gainsborough.

This project has permitted me to work with two different students who assisted in transcribing family letters and diaries. Tait Lamb (History '23) and I also co-authored a conference paper on mapping Mary Graham's search for health that we presented at the North American Conference on British Studies in October. Mary Margaret McConnell (History '22) worked with me in the fall semester, with generous assistance from the alumni funds, as my research assistant to help with transcribing the document images I collected on my research trip to Scotland this past summer. Covid-19 restrictions made travel particularly challenging, and seriously limited access to archives. I was permitted just three days of access to the collections in the National Library of Scotland to photograph and transcribe more than 1,500 manuscript folios relating to the life and death of Mary Graham. I am extremely grateful to have had the opportunity and to have spent the fall semester transcribing and working with these students. These documents not only will permit the completion of the chapter, but also will form the basis of a collaborative book project.



The painting of Mrs. Graham (1777) by Thomas Gainsborough, referenced by Carolyn above.

Faculty-Student Research

Strange Deaths & Prophecies: Olivia Buse's Summer Research

Olivia Buse (History; Religion; Women's, Gender, & Sexuality Studies Minor, '22), Summer Research Fellowship with **Dr. Tim Fehler**

I worked with Dr. Fehler looking through 17th-century English newspapers and pamphlets for references to supernatural events, or extraordinary events that were attributed in some way to divine providence. We used the extensive collection of published material in the



Early English Books Online database; and I learned to become creative with search criteria to find relevant information. In the midst of reading straight through some newspapers during the English Civil War, I was intrigued by the discovery of a strange deathbed prophecy of Mr. John Saltmarch. My project then developed in the direction of focusing specifically on a search for newspaper reports of mentioning Saltmarch, and more broadly then to prophecies and strange deaths.

Christie's in New York: Lily Russell's Summer Internship

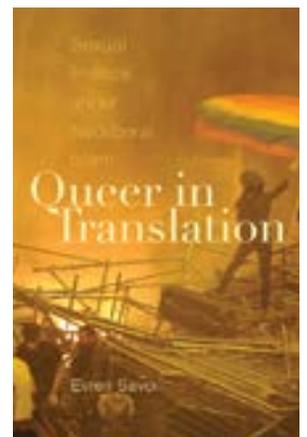
Lily Russell (History, Art History, Classics '22), Summer Internship Fellowship

This past summer, I interned for Darius Himes at Christie's Auction House in the Photographs department. I primarily worked on their fall auction on October 6th, one that had sales of \$4,776,125. I worked there for 8 weeks this summer at their Rockefeller Plaza office. Out of 1500 applicants, 30

interns were selected. I was very lucky to experience all aspects of the department, which included working on consignor contracts with the Sales Manager, working with the Cataloger and Head of Sale, and I got to witness the process of consignment deals with the Vice President and International Head of the Department. My favorite photographs that I got to know in my daily research are *Notorious* by Herb Ritts and *Immediate Family* by Sally Mann.

Faculty Book Recommendations

Tuğçe Kayaal recommends Evren Savcı's *Queer in Translation: Sexual Politics under Neoliberal Islam* (Durham: Duke University Press, 2021), which uses queer theory to analyze the authoritarian, Sunni-Islamic, and Turkish-nationalist oppressive practices of Turkey's current Development and Justice Party (Adalet ve Kalkınma Partisi, hereafter AKP). In addition to highlighting the oppression and violence that LGBTQ+ citizens experience under the AKP's neoliberal Islamic regime, Savcı also points out the complex historical roots that lead to the construction of moral and social normativities in Turkish state tradition. While emphasizing the impacts of state violence on queer communities, Savcı's book also urges us to think beyond the "passive victims" narrative by demonstrating queer activism's contribution to the transformation of political culture. The book contributes to an ever-growing body of queer and sexuality studies in the Middle East and is a must-read for anyone wanting to learn about queer activism in non-Western settings.



[More faculty book recommendations on page 12](#)

History Department Co-Sponsors 2020-2021 CLP Series: “Women, Gender, and Sexuality in World History”

The History Department, in conjunction with Furman’s Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies (WGSS) program, Furman’s Humanities Center, and other departments on campus, is sponsoring a year-long CLP series entitled: “Women, Gender and Sexuality in World History.” Members of the History Department who have been central to its planning include Savita Nair, Carolyn Day, Holly Pinheiro and Tuğçe Kayaal.

The History Department is very excited about the range and diversity of speakers and topics, presenting a cross-section of WGSS issues across time and space. The series aims to highlight historical precedents to contemporary issues facing our campus, our country, and our world. Recent evidence on the pandemic’s imbalanced toll on working mothers who left the workforce and on queer youth who remained in unsafe or non-affirming homes as well as the #MeToo movement’s focus on systemic abuse of power/privilege reminds us that WGSS go beyond curricular issues; it is about the world we live in. The impressive line of speakers, both virtual and in-person, are as follows:

Secil Yilmaz, Franklin & Marshall, “*Anatomy of Love and Desire in the Late Ottoman Empire*,” November 3, virtual.

Amelia Rauser, Franklin & Marshall, “*The 1790s as the Age of Undress*,” November 17, in-person.

Katherine Marino, UCLA, “*Feminism for the Americas*,” December 2, virtual.

Anqi Shen, Northumbria University (UK), “*Women Policing in Contemporary China*,” December 3, virtual.

Jules Gill-Peterson, Johns Hopkins University, “*Histories of the Transgender Child*,” January 20, virtual.

Hilary Green, University of Alabama, “*Untangling Campuses History of Slavery*,” February 17, in-person.

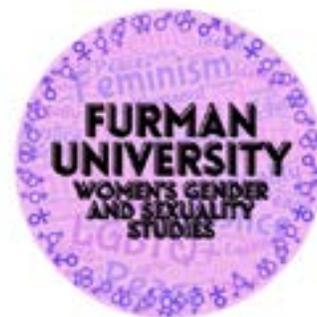
Martha Few, Penn State University, “*Baptism through Incision: The Postmortem Cesarean in the Spanish Empire*,” February, 28, virtual.

The History Department’s Annual TINDALL LECTURE

Related to the above CLP series, the History Department is hosting its annual Tindall Lecture on March 30 at 5:00 in Patrick Lecture Hall. The speaker is Deirdre Cooper Owens of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln’s Department of History. Cooper Owens is the Charles and Linda Wilson Professor of History of Medicine, and the Director of the Humanities in Medicine program. The talk will be based upon her 2017 book, *Medical Bondage: Race, Gender and the Origins of American Gynecology*, from the University of Georgia Press. It won the 2018 Darlene Clark Hine Book Award from the Organization of American Historians as the best book written on African American women’s and gender history. <https://history.unl.edu/deirdre-cooper-owens>

Savita Nair appointed Director of WGSS Program

Savita Nair accepted a two-year appointment as Director of the Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies (WGSS) program. In this new role, she collaborates with campus partners to increase the visibility of WGSS across Furman, supports and co-sponsors WGSS-focused programming, and connects with student organizations such as FUSAB, Pride Alliance, and Her Story. The program has engaged with community organizations to establish two new LGBTQ+ internships. She is committed to promoting WGSS as more than a curricular field because “WGS is about the world we live in.” In the second year of the appointment, she will lead a national search for a full-time director.



Erik Ching Appointed to the Walter Kenneth Mattison Chair in History



Who was Walter Kenneth Mattison?

I was honored to receive the Walter Kenneth Mattison Chair in History in Fall 2021, following the retirement of its prior recipient, Lloyd Benson. My initial reaction was to express appreciation to the Mattison family for having made the donation that allowed the Chair to be created. I assumed this would be a simple task. It proved to be more daunting, requiring, appropriately, some historical research.

Based on my investigations in Furman's archives and historical newspapers, and with the assistance of various parties on campus, here is what we know to date: Walter Kenneth "Ken" Mattison (1905-1993) was born in Easley, SC and later moved to Seneca, SC. He is a 1927 graduate of Furman. His wife, Leila Livermore Mattison (1908-1998) was born in Atlanta and graduated from Oglethorpe University. Ken worked as an executive sales manager at Sears in Atlanta for many decades, and upon retirement worked with the State YMCA of Georgia, almost until his death. During WWII, Ken served in the army and was stationed in New York City. Leila worked as a teacher in an elementary school in Atlanta. Her obituary describes her as someone who "widely traveled the world." They were active leaders in their Baptist church. They had no children.

Upon the passing of Leila in 1998, the Mattison estate donated \$500,000 to Furman University, a significant gift at any time, but particularly in 1998. Part of that donation established the Walter Kenneth Mattison Chair in history. The motivations behind the gift, and specifically to the History Department, remain unclear. A 1998 newspaper report of the gift announcement says that Ken's "work with the Furman administration during his undergraduate years spurred his later interest in endowing support for the university's academic programs." And Furman's yearbook, *The Bonhomie*, from Ken's senior year, reports that he was instrumental in the endowment campaign, "thereby insuring the future of the college." Evidently, philanthropy came early to the Mattisons and remained a lifelong commitment.

As for me, I will use the Mattison chairship to advance my scholarship on El Salvador and to take any opportunity to advance student learning at Furman. I am deeply grateful to the Mattisons for the gift they made, even if the specific motivations behind it remain unclear, to date. Perhaps more of the story will be revealed in a future edition of the newsletter, after more research.

Abigail Hartman '17 returns to the History Department as an Instructor

We asked Abigail to share a few words about her experience returning...

Teaching for the first time is always an exciting experience, especially when done at one's alma mater. I graduated from Furman with a B.A. in History in 2017, and since then have been studying medieval history—or, as they insist on continuing to spell it, mediaeval history—at the University of St Andrews in Scotland. I completed my Master's in 2018 with a thesis that examined a thirteenth-century English rebel, Simon de Montfort, and the cult that honored him after his gruesome battlefield death; since then, I have shifted my attention to communities of laypeople in Germany who devoted themselves to the care of the sick, including plague victims, as part of their religious life in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries. The skills learned in Furman classrooms have stood me in good stead: the many history courses, naturally, but also Latin courses that introduced me to paleography and English courses with their emphasis on textual analysis. To have the opportunity to return to Furman and teach courses of my own as I enter the final stretch of my PhD is an exceptional gift. This semester I am especially excited to dig into a new course on the cult of the saints in the medieval and early modern world. This all-pervasive aspect of life in the Middle Ages caught my interest during my Master's research into Simon de Montfort; it offers an unusual vantage point for surveying diverse issues in social history, from the exercise of political power to experiences of sickness and healing, while also challenging the twenty-first-century undergraduate to make sense of a worldview that is often very different from their own.



Alumni Updates

Alexia Jones Helsley '67 is Senior Instructor of History & University Archivist at the University of South Carolina Aiken. She was co-curator of the 60th anniversary UofSC Aiken exhibit at the Gregg-Graniteville Library ribbon cutting in October 2021, was elected Vice President of the South Carolina Historical Association in March 2021, and was re-elected chair of the South Carolina Old Exchange Commission in July 2020.

Vernon Burton '69 is the Judge Matthew Perry, Jr., Distinguished Professor of History and professor of Sociology and Anthropology, Global Black Studies, and Computer Science at Clemson University. Covid isolation allowed him the time to finish his co-authored *Justice Deferred: Race and the Supreme Court* (Belknap Press, Harvard University, 2021), which was released to enthusiastic reviews, including Randall Kennedy's review in *The Nation*. Burton has been discussing the book in various venues, NPR, C-SPAN, podcasts, and at various book festivals and the Wilson Center/National History Center seminar. Another book by Burton, co-authored with his daughter Beatrice Burton '04, *Fort Sumter and Fort Moultrie National Historical Park, Charleston, SC: Administrative History*, is the result of a three-year grant from the National Park Service (NPS, and released by NPS April, 2021). In addition to these books, Burton participated in a variety of public history engagements and interviews ranging from C-SPAN and *The Village Voice* to National Public Radio and *USA Today*.

Betsy Moseley '74 retired from the Furman Development Office in 2018 and is now living the good life in Fairhope, Alabama.

Col (R) James N. Martin '79 was selected in the inaugural class as "Member Emeritus" Furman University Alumni Association Board of Directors.

Tony McDade '79 retired from United Ministries in mid-2020 and then joined the Board of Trustees for Furman.

Kirk Foster '82 retired in 2018 from a 32-year career as an attorney with the Federal Government and is enjoying retirement now. After retiring he has authored two books on his and his wife's family

histories arising out of Scotland, the American South, and the Cayman Islands. His history department claim to fame is that he took classes with Steve O'Neill and watched him clean house on the football field.



Pictured are (left to right) FLABOTA President Judge Nelly Khouzam, Judge Dan Sleet, and Tampa Bay ABOTA president Matt Mudano.

Dan Sleet '84 was awarded 2021 Jurist of the Year by the Florida Chapter of the American Board of Trial Advocates (FLABOTA) at their annual conference in St. Petersburg in August 2021.

Mary Miller '87 is the Peabody Awards Collection Archivist / Brown Media Archives Metadata Librarian in the University of Georgia's Special Collections Libraries.

Paul Gilmore '91 earned an M.A. in History, focusing on US Labor, at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, then earned an M.S. in History of Technology at Georgia Tech and started a Ph.D. candidacy which he left when he found his true calling, teaching at the community college level. He has lived in Fresno, California since 2001 and since 2004 has been one of four full-time History professors at Fresno City College. He teaches the US History surveys, Modern World History, Global Issues, the History of California, and his favorite class, the History of the American Civil Rights Movement.

Susan (Clayton) Kenny '91 is working as a Digital Communications Director at Anthem, Inc. in Atlanta, GA. She has also been volunteering at Kathleen Kelly's ('91) non-profit Furnish with Love.

Alumni Updates

Mark Shelley '94 is the new Executive Director for Academics for Grades 6-12 at the Environmental Charter School, an institution that focuses their content and pedagogy on sustainability, social justice, and critical thinking. He and his family moved to Pittsburgh from Princeton, NJ last summer and his wife Austin is the new senior pastor at Shadyside Presbyterian Church. Mark's father taught Religion and Ethics at Furman and his daughter Emilyanne is a freshman at Furman, majoring in voice and political science.

Blake Hunter '99 is a partner with the law firm of Butler, Weihmuller, Katz and Craig, LLP in Tallahassee, Florida. He practices insurance defense, insurance coverage, and bad faith law.

Yendelela Neely Holston '03 was named *Atlanta Business Chronicle's* 2021 Diversity and Inclusion Officer.

Sarah Turner Pietruszka '04 is in the last year of a pediatrics residency in Salt Lake City at the University of Utah and is pursuing a fellowship in sports medicine. She and her husband Drew are enjoying exploring the mountains with their 3 children.

Russell Rusty Lee '05 recently moved to Kalamazoo, MI with his wife Tierra, and their 3 children: Sasha (4), Malcolm (2), and Clementine (1). He continues to teach high school mathematics.

Robert Moore '08 is an executive communications advisor at FedEx Express headquarters in Memphis, TN. He is also a public policy advisor and contributing writer for Defense Priorities, Inc., a national security think tank in Washington, DC. Robert lives in Memphis with his wife and three children.

Adrienne Robertson, '08 is currently a Senior Prospect Research Analyst at Virginia Commonwealth University and recently finished a Certificate in Nonprofit Management, also from VCU. She and her husband are caretakers of the historic Darby Farm, owned by the American Battlefield Trust and situated on First Deep Bottom Battlefield.

Emily Scott Robinson '09 released a new album and

signed a record deal with Oh Boy Records, John Prine's label. <https://www.emilyscottrobinson.com/>

Julianna Battenfield '11 took a job in January at the South Carolina Office of the Attorney General. She is an Assistant Attorney General in the Capital and Collateral Litigation section and handles murder appeals and federal habeas corpus petitions in the South Carolina Court of Appeals, South Carolina Supreme Court, and United States District Court.

John Catmur '11 is an attorney in Tennessee. He is also happily married to another Furman graduate and they have a beautiful one-year-old daughter.

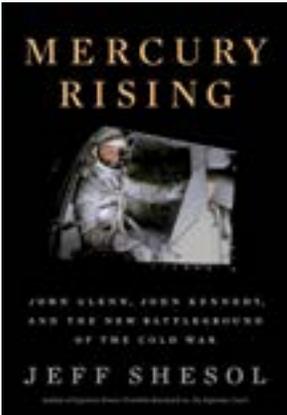
Brian Neumann '13 received his Ph.D. in 19th-century American history from the University of Virginia in 2020. In July 2021, he accepted the position of Managing Director and Digital Historian at the John L. Nau III Center for Civil War History. His first book, *Bloody Flag of Anarchy: Unionism in South Carolina during the Nullification Crisis*, will be published by LSU Press in spring 2022.

Daniel Sanders '16 is an attorney at King & Spalding in Atlanta. He recently married Amanda Sanders, whom he met in Dr. Strobel's class freshman year.

Will Patterson '18 moved to Raleigh, North Carolina to attend Campbell Norman A. Wiggins School of Law. His wife, Kathleen (Reinhart) Patterson '15 and he were married in August 2020. He graduated from Campbell in May 2021, successfully passed the North Carolina Bar Exam, and is now working as an attorney in Raleigh at Ricci Law Firm.

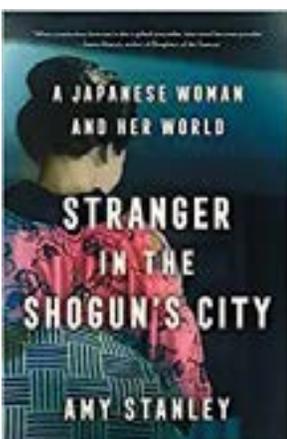
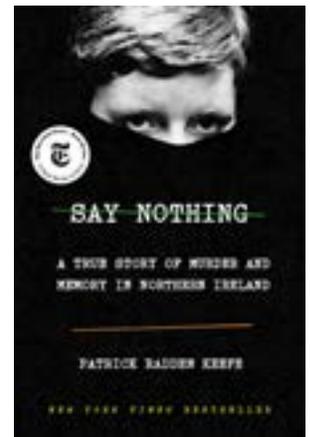
Trevor Woods '18 is finishing his MA in History at Clemson University with a thesis focusing on textile mill communities in upstate SC during the era of transition and decline (1945-2000). He also works in Clemson's new Scholars Lab, where he helps researchers with data visualization and management, and teaches workshops on digital research tools. And, he always stays busy by serving as a Research Assistant for Dr. Vernon Burton. He is eagerly awaiting the official launch of Clemson's Digital History PhD program and hopes to become the first graduate of the program.

Faculty Book Recommendations



Marian Strobel recommends Jeff Shesol's *Mercury Rising; John Glenn, John Kennedy, and the New Battleground of the Cold War* (New York: W. W. Norton & Company, 2021). The space race continues to fascinate. In *Mercury Rising*, Rhodes Scholar and journalist Jeff Shesol provides a laser-like view of Project Mercury and John Glenn, its most famous participant. Emphasized in this engaging narrative is the competition between astronauts for seats on early missions, the frequent misbehavior of some of them, and in contrast, the almost saintly image of Glenn. What the volume makes clear is the initial ambivalence of Dwight Eisenhower and John F. Kennedy regarding the space race, the early missteps of NASA, and the growing tension between the US and USSR. Especially gripping is the story of Glenn's circumnavigation of earth and his growing hero status that served to jump start his long political career. Shesol's research is based extensively on archival collections, private papers, personal interviews/oral history transcripts, as well as on an exhaustive examination of media reactions to Project Mercury and secondary sources written about it.

Savita Nair recommends *Say Nothing: A True Story of Murder and Memory in Northern Ireland* by Patrick Radden Keefe (New York: Anchor Books, 2020). A lengthy, page-turner of a book that oscillates between the 1970s and 1990s period of "The Troubles," *Say Nothing* reads like a murder mystery. Murder mysteries are not my preferred reading choice; I am reading it as I prepare to co-lead a faculty seminar on "Engaging Tensions and Fractures" in Ireland this summer. I recommend *Say Nothing*, however, because it is based on Keefe's archival research at the somewhat checkered Boston College Belfast Project. The collection holds 100+ oral histories of those on multiple sides of the conflict. The book, replete with notes and a bibliography, offers a blinders-off complementary narrative to *Belfast*, Kenneth Branagh's new autobiographical film. *Say Nothing* allows us to consider critically Northern Ireland's conflict alongside the Movement for Black Lives, Hindu-Muslim discord, Israel-Palestine tensions, and other 20th century culturally motivated violence and the grey area between "majorities" and "minorities."



Nadia Kanagawa recommends Amy Stanley's *Stranger in the Shogun's City: A Japanese Woman and Her World* (New York: Scribner, 2020). I've been experimenting with microhistory lately, and this book is a stunning example of what that genre can achieve. In it, Stanley vividly reconstructs the life of Tsuneno, a 19th-century woman who defied her family by running away from her home in Japan's snow country to make her way in the capital city of Edo (now Tokyo). I have long admired Stanley as a meticulous historian, but in this work she reveals that she is also a brilliant storyteller. As she traces Tsuneno's defiant insistence on making her own choices, Stanley also presents the reader with a rich and dynamic portrait of Edo in the 19th century. Tsuneno was a stubborn and rebellious individual, but her choice to escape to the capital was not unique. Many other women around the world made similar choices, and Stanley uses Tsuneno's story to make the case that she and other women like her were critical forces shaping the major cities of their time. My only warning for those who will read this book is to remember that it is history not historical fiction!

Apparently Stanley has been perplexed by reviews calling for more dialogue and a more satisfying ending to Tsuneno's journey.

Another faculty book recommendation on page 7

Thank You to Our Donors

We in the History Department extend our deep gratitude to our supporters. The Alumni Fund allows us to support student-oriented initiatives and afford departmental needs, and the Block Fund helps offset the costs of faculty research. Donations can now be made online at alumni.furman.edu/donate. In the designation box select “other,” and in the description box be sure to specify “History Alumni Fund” or “John Block Research Fund” to prevent the money from going into the general budget.

The Alumni Fund

In the late 1990s, department chairperson Dr. David Spear, with the generous support of our alumni and students, established the Alumni Fund. Ever since, the Alumni Fund has been crucial to the development of innovative courses, aided in faculty research and publication, and assisted the department in countless, important ways as we strive to provide the best possible liberal arts education to our students. Although space prohibits us from recounting all the ways the Alumni Fund has aided in our work over the past year, we thought a representative example would show how your kindly donations have been put to good use. For the academic year 2021-22, the department decided to use some of your generous contributions to fund collaborative research between faculty and students. In the fall, senior Mary McConnell helped Dr. Carolyn Day transcribe a series of hand-written eighteenth century letters for her research into the history of medicine. Jack Cline, also a senior, provided Dr. Jason Hansen with some much needed assistance in the launching of his History Off the Page podcast. And, senior George King joined Dr. Steve O’Neill in working on an archival project about legal challenges to desegregation in South Carolina schools.

The John Block Fund

In 2014, retired Furman University President Dr. David Shi established a fund in honor of Dr. John Block to support faculty travel and scholarship. We would like to thank Dr. Shi for his ongoing support and for many alumni who have donated in honor of Dr. Block since the inauguration of the fund. During summer 2021, Dr. Carolyn Day utilized generously-provided Block Funds to visit a number of archives in Scotland and England. For more detail about her trip and experiences in the archives, see page 6.

Dan Atkinson '01 and Amanda Moseley Atkinson '04
Charles Auslander '65 and Bette Auslander
Elizabeth McKay Barrington '81 and Steve Barrington
Philip Belcher '82 and Kelly Belcher
Rick Bell '82 and Patricia Bell
Katie Clerkin Benston '92 and Tommy Benston '92
Sidney Bland '59 and Linda Bland
Deborah Salley Brabrand '90 and Scott Brabrand
Ryan Burgess '98 and Ali Woodworth
Jane Jordan Casavant '75 and A. Richard Casavant
Melissa Mabry Cline '09 and Daniel Cline
Rob Coggins '84
Matt Coppedge '99 and Julie Phillips Coppedge '02
Lynn Hatcher DeLeo-Totaro '75
Robert Dreslin '99
Jon Dumitru '03 and Kathleen Page Dumitru
Andy Foy '01 and Kay Foy
Brad Harmon '97 and Catherine Heath Harmon '12

Courtney Tollison Hartness '99 and Sean Hartness
Paul Hoover '99
Jayda Biddix Justus '98 and Brent Justus
Rhys Leonard '05
Rob Mactavish '88
James N. Martin '79
Scott McPherson '05
Hannah Mooney '15
Jennifer McDade Murphy '06 and Jeremy Murphy '06
Michael Orr '05
Chris Osborne '06
Sarah Turner Pietruszka '04 and Andrew Pietruszka
Jan Meadows Shockley '66 and Norris Shockley '63
Kerry Stubbs '94 and Tyson Boheler
Erin Enseleit Surret '09 and Myles Surret '09
Jennifer Vaughan '93
Molly Benedum Waters '07 and Joseph Waters '05
Hugh Williamson '08

Letter from the Chair Continued

orientation. In the fall, **Erik Ching** and I taught the modern iteration of the course while **Tim Fehler** tackled the early modern version.

As always, history faculty have had another productive year publishing books and articles, presenting (mostly virtually) at professional conferences, and mentoring history majors on summer research projects. In addition to his ongoing duties as Director of Undergraduate Research, **Erik Ching** was appointed to the Walter K. Mattison endowed chair in history, the chair formerly occupied by Lloyd Benson. He also completed a book chapter on Oliver Stone's film *Salvador* (1986) for a volume entitled *Latin American History at the Movies*. **Savita Nair** started a two-year term as interim director of the Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Program. She is also co-directing the Cothran Center's faculty seminar *Engaging Tensions and Fractures*, which will culminate in a faculty trip to Dublin and Belfast this summer. She also participated in the University of Notre Dame's "IRISH Seminar" as part of her newest project on the history of Indians in Ireland. Disappointed that several of his study away trips were canceled during the pandemic, **Jason Hansen** threw his energy into a new endeavor, a podcast called History Off the Page, which our alumni can follow on Twitter @HistoryOTP.

Our newest colleagues hit the ground running this year. **Tuğçe Kayaal** completed her dissertation in the spring, moved to Greenville during the summer, and presented at two conferences this fall with papers entitled "Tracing Female Homoeroticism in the Colonial Archives" and "Making Heteromascuine Subjects: Boy Scout Organizations in the Late Ottoman Empire." **Holly Pinheiro** put the final touches on his forthcoming book, *The Families' Civil War: Northern Black Soldiers and the Fight for Racial Justice* (Univ. of Georgia Press, 2022), produced several pieces on African American soldiers for history blogs, and was interviewed by the History Channel, the History Hack podcast, and a documentarian producing a new multipart film on the Civil War. **Carolyn Day** was also interviewed, eleven different times, by national and international podcasts and media outlets about her work on the history of disease during the pandemic,

was able to make a short research trip to England last summer using funds given in honor of John Block, and is currently finishing up a number of books and articles while presenting at conferences across the country.

Nadia Kanagawa taught remotely from Los Angeles during the early pandemic before enjoying her sabbatical last fall. During her sabbatical, she was a visiting scholar at the University of Southern California's Shinso Ito Center for Japanese Religions and Culture, where she gave a talk on "Leveraging the Limitations of Immigrant Descent in Nara Japan." She also gave several talks, including two on digital humanities, to graduate students and faculty at Kyushu University on immigrants and naming practices in medieval Japan. Moving into the early modern world, **Tim Fehler** taught a variety of new classes over the last year: History of Business, Ottoman Empire: Rise and Expansion, and Epidemics: History and Modeling while also publishing several scholarly articles,

including "Refugee Wives, Widows, and Mothers" in the edited volume *Embodiment, Identity, and Gender in the Early Modern Age*.

Marian Strobel continued to serve on the board of Greenville Chautauqua, published a review in the *Journal of Southern History*,

and gave presentations at the American History Book Club and the Upcountry History Museum. **Steve O'Neill** developed a new course on the Civil Rights Movement and worked over the summer with history major George King on school desegregation in South Carolina; George won the 2021 A.V. Huff History Scholars Award for his work on the project. **John Barrington** finished a two-year stint as chair of the Academic Policies Committee and returned to his research on perceptions of the rules of war by the British and American publics during the Revolution. He also thoroughly enjoyed teaching the History of Business course this past fall. **Courtney Tollison** has been away from campus after welcoming two new babies into her home last spring.

We're sure our alumni have been as busy as us. We'd love to hear what you've been doing during the second year of the pandemic. Please send us a note about your activities or just reach out and say hello, we always enjoy hearing from you.

—Lane Harris

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