

Faculty Activities 2017-2018

May 2018

Joshua Harris

Has been commissioned by Virginia Wesleyan University Choirs to compose a new work for choir and string orchestra. This piece, with text by Sara Teasdale and William Wordsworth, will be premiered at the dedication of VWU's new performing arts center in Virginia Beach in March 2019.

Lynn Rainville

Presentations:

- “Doing Their Bit: Virginia’s Surprising Role in World War I,” Clarke County Historical Society, May 6.
- “Virginia and the Great War,” Mariner’s Museum, May 19.
- “Virginians in the Great War: at Home and Abroad,” Amherst County Museum and Historical Society, May 20.

April 2018

John Morrissey

Lectures – March 2018:

- "Sharks and Rays of the Bay" for Chesapeake Bay Environmental Center's Winter Lecture Series
- "Save the Bay, Eat a Ray: Trophic Cascades and Cascading Pseudo-Science" for Legacy Institute for the Environment

Lynn Rainville

Article: “Teaching and Learning from World War I Gravestones,” *Association Gravestone Studies Quarterly* Winter 2017, Vol. 41, No. 4 (20-26).

Encyclopedia Entries: “Cemeteries” and “Burial Practices and Funeral Customs” for the Forthcoming *World of Jim Crow: Daily Life Encyclopedia*. Edited by Steven Reich. Greenwood Press.

Appointed to a Governor’s Task Force: “Enslaved African Americans in Virginia: a task force to assist in the identification of the history of formerly enslaved African Americans in Virginia.”

March 2018

Joshua Harris

Compositions Performed:

- *Aubade*, for flute and electronics, was performed by Emma Broberg in the Utah Crosstalk concert series at Brigham Young University on January 27th.
- *Blackbirds Rise from a Field*, for women’s choir, was premiered by C3LA: Contemporary Choral Collective of LA on February 17th in Glendale, CA, and February 24th in Pasadena, CA. The text is taken from John Cage’s landmark work *Lecture on Nothing*, in which a short passage describes his visit to Sweet Briar in 1950.

Lynn Rainville

Book Published: *Virginia and the Great War: Mobilization, Supply and Combat, 1914-1919* (McFarland, February 2018).

Article Published: "A Virginia Family's Experience during the Great War: The Holladays of Richmond." *Virginia Magazine of History & Biography* 126: 1: 22-43.

Talks:

- Banner Lecture at the Virginia Museum of History & Culture, "Doing Their Bit: the surprising role of Virginians in the Great War." February 22.
- "Virginia in the Great War," Library of Virginia. April 9.
- "From Ancestry to History: Understanding Descendant Communities," Organization of American Historians conference, Sacramento, April 13.
- "Virginian Leaders in World War I," American Leadership and Generalship during the Great War, VMI, April 28.

December 2017

Debbie Durham

- Organized a panel on "Becoming and Being Adult in Africa Today," and also served as chair and discussant, at the African Studies Association annual meetings in Chicago, on November 17. Standing room only (small room...): Heather Wright (SBC '05, now at U.S. State Dept in the Bureau of Analytic Research) attended. She also saw Madeline Artibee '16, who is completing an MA at the University of Illinois-Champaign Urbana.
- Discussant for the panel "Aged Subjectivities: Making and Unmaking Personhood Across the Life Course" as well as chair and presenter for the roundtable "Adulthood" at the American Anthropological Association annual meetings in D.C. on November 30.
- Has become an Associate Editor for *HAU: The Journal of Ethnographic Theory*.

Ella Magruder

Publication: *Perspectives on Dance Education*. Mohd Anis Md Nor, Ed. "Vital Dance: Performance for Young Audiences" Kuala Lumpur: Nusantara Performing Arts Research Center, 2017, page 17. ISBN 978-967-10123-3-8

Mark Magruder

Publication: *Perspectives on Dance Education*. Mohd Anis Md Nor, Ed. "Masks: A Door to Creativity" Kuala Lumpur: Nusantara Performing Arts Research Center, 2017, page 159. ISBN 978-967-10123-3-8

Mary Tackett

- Article Published in Refereed Journal: Azano, A.P., Tackett, M.E., & Sigmon, M.L. (2017). Understanding the puzzle behind the pictures: A content analysis of children's picture books about autism. *AERA Open*, 3(2).
- Article In-Press: Azano, A.P., & Tackett, M.E. (2017). Understanding the educational experiences of students with autism in a remote rural community. *The Rural Educator*, 42-58.
- Published Book Chapter: Azano, A.P., Missett, T.C., Tackett, M.E., & Callahan, C.M. (2018). The CLEAR Curriculum Model. In C. Callahan & H. Hertberg-Davis (Eds., 2nd ed.) (pp. 293-309). *Fundamentals of Gifted Education: Considering Multiple Perspectives*. New York: Routledge.
- Published Textbook: Callahan, C.M., Missett, T.C., Azano, A.P., Caughey, M., Brodersen, A., &

Tackett, M. (2017). *Fiction and Nonfiction: Language Arts Units for Gifted Students in Grade 4*. Waco, TX: Prufrock Press.

- Presentations:
 - Readiness, interests, and learning profiles, oh my! Differentiation in the elementary classroom. Margaret Sue Copenhaver Institute for Teaching and Learning, Roanoke College, VA (2017).
 - Giving students a piece of the puzzle: How children's picture books about autism provide opportunities for exploring diversity. Virginia State Reading Association (VSRA), Roanoke, VA (2017).
- Award: Virginia Tech College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences Outstanding Recent Alumna Award, 2017

November 2017

Carrie Brown

Earned the People's Choice Award for fiction for her book, *The Stargazer's Sister*, at the 20th annual Library of Virginia Literary Awards on October 14.

John Gregory Brown

- Received The Emyl Jenkins Sexton Literary Award for Fiction for his book, *A Thousand Miles from Nowhere*, at the 20th annual Library of Virginia Literary Awards on October 14.
- Two of his digital prints were selected for inclusion in the 9th Annual Riverviews Juried Art Show in Lynchburg that opens on Friday, November 3.

Claudia Chang

- Book published: *Rethinking Prehistoric Central Asia: Shepherds, Farmers, and Nomads*. London and New York: Routledge Press.
- Peer reviewed article: "Inner Asian Pastoralism in the Iron Age: The Talgar Case, Southeastern Kazakhstan." *Nomadic Peoples* 21: 173-190. doi:10.3197/np2017.210102.

Debbie Durham

Book published: *Elusive Adulthoods: The Anthropology of New Maturities*. Deborah Durham and Jacqueline Solway, eds., Indiana University Press. Includes Deborah Durham, "Introduction: Elusive Adulthoods." pp. 1-38.

Meredith McCool

Presentation: *A Shared Role: A Multicase Study of Rural Teachers*, National Forum to Advance Rural Education, Columbus, OH, October 12-14.

Geoff Pollick

Publications:

- Radix Redux: Characterizing American Religious Radicalism," *The Revealer: A Review of Religion and Media* (October 17, 2017), <https://wp.nyu.edu/therevealer/2017/10/17/radix-redux-characterizing-american-religious-radicalism/>.
- "Excursions in Unbelief: Retrieving Religion's 'Antitype' in U.S. History," *The Revealer: A Review of Religion and Media* (September 8, 2017), <https://wp.nyu.edu/therevealer/2017/09/08/excursions-in-unbelief-retrieving-religions-antitype-in-u-s-history/>.

Raina Robeva

- Signed a contract with Elsevier, as Lead Editor, for the edited volume *Algebraic and Combinatorial Computational Biology*. The volume will be published in the series “Mathematics in Science and Engineering” in the summer of 2018 (co-edited with Mathew Macaulay, Clemson University).
- Completed a three-year term as Chair of the Advisory Board of the National Institute for Mathematical and Biological Synthesis.
- 2017 Chair of the Special Interest Group in Mathematical Biology of the Mathematical Association of America (MAA) – elected by a national vote.
- Continuing as Editor-in-Chief of [Frontiers in Systems Biology](#), a specialty journal of Frontiers in Physiology.
- Appointed Section Editor (Reviews) for [Letters in Biomathematics](#).
- Co-Organizer of two sessions at the Annual Joint Mathematics Meeting of the MAA and the American Mathematical Society (AMS), San Diego, January 10-13, 2018: An MAA Invited Paper Session titled *Trends in Mathematical and Computational Biology* and an AMS Special Session titled *Algebraic, Discrete, Topological and Stochastic Approaches to Modeling in Mathematical Biology*
- Paper titled “Stochastic dynamical models for assessing the effects of radiation on living cells” accepted for the Joint Mathematics Meetings, Sand Diego 2018.
- Reviewer for two manuscripts submitted to the *Bulletin of Mathematical Biology* and *Letters in Biomathematics*.
- External reviewer for the promotion and reappointment of a faculty at Hampshire College.

October 2017

There was no Dean’s Report with activities in October 2017.

September 2017

Anna Billias

Toured in Crimea, Russia over the summer performing with renowned Ukraine artist, Anna Bratus.

Carrie Brown

Carrie’s seventh novel, *The Stargazer’s Sister*, is a finalist in fiction in the 2017 Library of Virginia’s People’s Choice Awards.

John Gregory Brown

- His novel, *A Thousand Miles from Nowhere*, has been named a finalist in fiction for the 2017 Library of Virginia Literary Awards.
- Featured writer at the Mississippi Book Festival, where he participated in a panel on Southern Fiction and read the work of the late writer Louis Nordan at a celebration of notable Mississippi writers.

Joshua Harris

- *Aubade*, for flute and electronics, was selected for performance in the New York City Electroacoustic Music Festival on July 15, 2017.

- *King Rat*, a film with music composed by Harris, was selected for screening at the Indy Film Fest in Indianapolis on July 18 and 22, 2017. It won the festival's Audience Award, and was screened again on July 23rd.

Scott Hyman

Co-leader of a proposal accepted for funding through NASA's Fermi Guest Investigator Program, entitled "Targeting Millisecond Pulsars Through Radio Image of Fermi Unidentified Galactic Bulge Sources."

Bill Kershner

Attended the League of Historic American Theatres conference in Los Angeles in July. Restoration experts led discussions during visits to old theatres that included the El Capital Theatre, The Pantages Theatre, Grauman's Chinese Theatre.

Melora Kordos

Directed 4th annual production of *1776 the Musical*, and produced and directed the 2nd annual Shakespeare Under the Stars production of *King Lear* (running through September 2), both at Thomas Jefferson's Poplar Forest.

John Morgan

Exhibition titled *the shape of things* opens at Rivermont Studio in Lynchburg on September 1, and will be on display through October 14, with receptions on Friday, September 1, and Friday, October 6, from 6-8:30 p.m.

Laura Pharis

- Clayboard drawing used for cover of *Clinch River*, a book of poetry by Susan Hankla, published by Groundhog Press, Hollins, VA, July 2017.
- Taught Wood Engraving Workshop at Virginia Arts of the Book Center, Charlottesville, VA.

Geoffrey Pollick

Panelist, "Religious Liberty and the American Creed," June 14, 2017, Study of the U.S. Institute on U.S. Culture and Society, Multinational Institute of American Studies, NYU Steinhardt, New York, NY.

Brent Shea

- Interviewed about the livability of cities for the consumer personal finance website WalletHub.
- Participant, Council of Independent Colleges Division Chairs Workshop, Baltimore, May 18-20.
- Presenter, "A Sociocultural Perspective on Alcohol Use in Thailand"; session chair and member, conference paper review panel, Asian Conference on the Social Sciences, Kobe, Japan, June 9-11.
- Attended meetings of the Academic Council of the United Nations System, Sookmyung Women's University, Seoul, June 15-17.
- Presented an "oral intervention" on poverty, inequality, and human rights (with French, Spanish, Arabic, Chinese, and Russian simultaneous translations), General Discussion, Ministerial Segment, High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, "Eradicating Poverty and Promoting Prosperity in a Changing World", Economic and Social Council of the United Nations, Trusteeship Council Chamber, UN Headquarters, New York, July 20.
- Participant, "critical dialogue" panel on institutional ethnography; participant, SSSP Institutional Ethnography Workshop, Society for the Study of Social Problems Annual Conference, Montreal, August 11-13.
- Presenter, "A career as a teacher-scholar at a liberal arts college", American Sociological Association Teaching and Learning Section sessions on academic careers at different kinds of higher education institutions; participated in workshops on: learning outcomes of sociology major programs; connecting sociology majors to employment outcomes; incorporating the American Community Survey and US Census Data into undergraduate courses, American Sociological Association Annual Conference, Montreal, August 12-15.

- Peer reviewer, *Social Currents*.

Natalie Szabo

- Attended the International Clarinet Festival held in Orlando, FL. Performed bass clarinet with the Licorice Sticks Clarinet Orchestra, an Orlando based ensemble that specializes in American composed music from the 1920s-1930s. The ensemble commissioned three new works for clarinet orchestra and performed the world premiere of "The Artie Shaw Concerto" by Artie Shaw, "Blue Tango" by Leroy Anderson and "Rhapsody in Blue" by George Gershwin.
- Attended the 2017 National Educators Association Conference as an Arts Advocate in Boston. Participated in special training for the *Legacy Project* and Junior Student Leadership seminars.