



VILLANOVA
UNIVERSITY

College of Liberal Arts
and Sciences

DEPARTMENT of HISTORY

GRADUATE NEWSLETTER

Happenings in the History Department



LAST SEEN: VOICES FROM SLAVERY'S LOST FAMILIES

Dramatic readings present "Information Wanted" newspaper ads in powerful light

During 2016, History Professor Judy Giesberg, PhD, began her "Last Seen" project to digitize newspaper ads placed by emancipated slaves searching for lost loved ones. Dr. Giesberg and her collaborators—including graduate history students and archivists at Mother Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Philadelphia—uncovered and digitized more than 3,000 of these "Information Wanted" ads and created an online database, informationwanted.org. The project, which has been featured in the national media including *CBS Evening News* and *The Washington Post*, has become a critically important tool for researchers, students and individuals looking to piece together their own family history.

Last summer, Dr. Giesberg developed an idea for bringing these important stories of family separation to life at this time. She reached out to associate professor and chair of the Villanova's Theatre Department, Valerie Joyce, PhD, who has written her own original play about the experiences of enslaved and free African American women before Emancipation. This conversation led to a collaboration between the Departments of Theatre and History for this past February's "Last Seen: Voices from Slavery's Lost Families" event.

"These ads—each a brief family story—hold crucial clues for the descendants of American slaves who seek to fill in their family trees," Dr. Giesberg explains. "And they hold great potential to inform our public conversation at this moment in our national history."

The event allowed the voices of former slaves included in these "Information Wanted" ads to take center stage in the form of short monologues and scenes. Dr. Joyce's theatrical staging featured music and movement to underscore the voices of "Last Seen." This unique performance featured more than 60 people, including parishioners from Bethel African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church of Ardmore and Mother Bethel AME Church in Philadelphia; high school students from Baltimore School for the Arts; Philadelphia public school teachers; and Villanova students, faculty, staff and alumni.

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Graduate Program Director:

Lynne Hartnett, PhD

lynne.hartnett@villanova.edu

gradhistory.villanova.edu

Villanova University College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

800 E. Lancaster Avenue, Villanova, PA 19085

610-519-4660

The Department of History Graduate Newsletter is published every spring. Please send your news to lynne.hartnett@villanova.edu so we can include you in next year's issue.

THE HOUSE IN THE CEMETERY

The Woodlands Podcasts Illustrate Depth of Scholarship of History Graduate Students

“Good history participates in ongoing conversations,” writes Villanova University Assistant Professor of History Whitney Martinko, PhD, in her blog post on The Woodlands website about a project undertaken last spring by graduate students in her public history practicum.

Dr. Martinko wanted her class to conduct an in-depth project that would not only immerse them in history research and writing but also show them how doing history can contribute to the vitality of an essential public space.

The Woodlands, at which Dr. Martinko volunteers, is a 54-acre, 18th-century estate and cemetery that serves as much-needed green space in West Philadelphia. The cemetery, Dr. Martinko notes, was created in 1840 to preserve the estate of William Hamilton as the city urbanized.

“I charged my students with designing and executing a class project that would make the 18th-century history of the site legible to listeners who frequent the site and to ones who might never visit,” Dr. Martinko says.

To do this, the class decided to research, write and record a series of podcasts about the history of The Woodlands before it became a cemetery. Specifically, the podcast project sought to interpret the lives of those who worked and lived at The Woodlands, including indentured and free servants, laborers, craftsman, visitors and Hamilton family members.

“Dr. Martinko referred to this project as a way in which to ‘people the space’ at The Woodlands and encouraged us to connect their experiences with broader historical understandings related to race, gender, class, empire, and material culture in 18th-century Philadelphia,” says history graduate student Madison Bastress.

To begin this comprehensive process, the class read published scholarship and unpublished research about the Hamilton family and The Woodlands, and learned about doing history with, and for, public audiences. The class met with Jessica Baumert, Executive Director of The Woodlands, and discussed The Woodlands master plan. They then studied the elements of Ben Franklin’s World episodes and participated in an on-campus workshop with Liz Covart, PhD, the creator of that popular podcast whom Dr. Martinko met on a tour of The Woodlands in 2014.



Bastress notes that the process of writing and recording the podcasts sharpened her writing skills, as she found she needed to re-write portions of her script once she started recording.

“I found that the project encouraged me to write more directly and actively, and also to be more attentive to organization,” she says.

Being more direct in writing has the effect of making history accessible to more people, an important principle of public history, and one that Baumert sees as essential for historians.

“So much academic research stays in academia,” she says. “We need to make sure that history gets out to the public.”

Aside from the incredible experience doing public history for her students, Dr. Martinko views the podcast project as fulfilling two important goals.

“We hope that listeners enjoy hearing about the people who lived and worked at The Woodlands when it was an estate,” she writes. “But we also hope that the episodes expose how historians think and reveal some of the principles that guided us in creating them.”

A YEAR AT THE MET WITH ART HISTORY PROFESSOR TIM MCCALL, PHD

During the 2017-2018 academic year, Tim McCall, PhD, served as the J. Clawson Mills Fellow at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York where he worked on a new research project, “Matters of Renaissance Fashion.” The fellowship program included weekly meetings with conservators, art historians, scientists, exhibition designers, educators and administrators of various sorts to learn the ins and outs of a major museum. McCall presented the paper “All that Glitters: Visual Rhetorics of Gold in the Fashion and Art of Renaissance Milan” at a colloquium in May, and recently published an essay “Material Fictions of Luxury in Sforza Milan,” in *Luxury and the Ethics of Greed in Early Modern Italy*.



LYNNE HARTNETT, PHD, CREATES LECTURE SERIES FOR THE GREAT COURSES



Lynne Hartnett, PhD, was selected to write and film “Understanding Russia: A Cultural History, for The Great Courses.” This 24-lecture course covers the political and cultural history of Russia over the last millennium—from the world of Ivan the Terrible, to the dawn of the Soviet Union, to the post Cold War tensions of Putin’s Russia.

In exploring Russian identity, she examines the lives of everyday Russian people alongside the contributions of historical and cultural Russian figures. “We miss out on key aspects of Russian history if we limit ourselves to the study of rulers and revolutionaries,” Hartnett says.

MEET OUR NEW FACULTY AND STAFF

Shannen Dee Williams, PhD

New faculty member Shannen Dee Williams, PhD, earned her doctorate in history and a graduate certificate in women’s and gender studies from Rutgers University and is at work on her first book, *Subversive Habits: The Untold Story of Black Catholic Nuns in the United States*. Dr. Williams teaches courses in African-American, civil rights, women’s, and religious history.

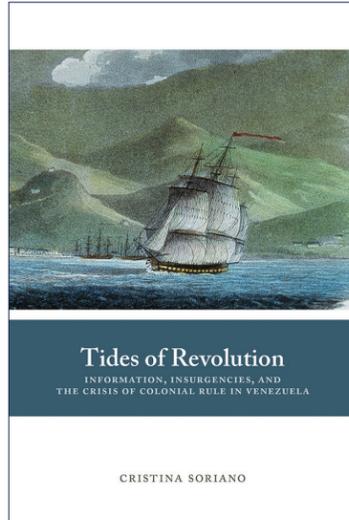
Vicki Sharpless

Vicki Sharpless is the new Program Coordinator for the Graduate History program. Vicki graduated from West Chester University with a bachelor’s in Geography. She has worked in higher education in admissions and advising for the past seven years, and prior to that, she worked in IT for more than 25 years, specializing in mainframe computer systems. She is happy to be a part of the Department.



Notable Publications

Cristina Soriano, PhD, Publishes First Book Analyzing Politics and Literacy in Late-Colonial Venezuela

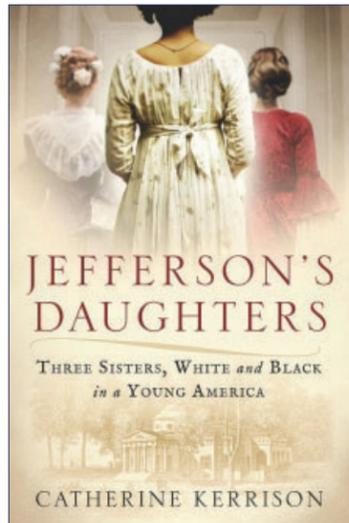


Today, activism spreads through a myriad of channels—social media, newspapers, online forums and more. Yet, in 18th century Venezuela, the people started a revolution without even the help of a printing press. In her new book, *Tides of Revolution: Information, Insurgencies, and the Crisis of Colonial Rule in Venezuela* (Diálogos Series, 2018), Cristina Soriano, PhD, associate professor of History and director of the Latin American Studies Program, offers an in-depth analysis of the links between politics and literacy, and how radical ideas spread without the benefit of mass communication.

Tides of Revolution is the first book-length study about the circulation of information and the formation of political communities in Venezuela during the Age of Revolutions. Venezuela was one of the first regions in Spanish America to declare independence from Iberia and became an influential force in the South American movement for independence.

Tides of Revolution is Dr. Soriano's first book. Her research focuses on Colonial Venezuela and the Spanish Caribbean.

Catherine Kerrison, PhD, Participates in Library of Congress National Book Festival



History professor Catherine Kerrison, PhD, participated in the 18th annual Library of Congress National Book Festival on September 1 in Washington, D.C. Kerrison discussed her recent book, *Jefferson's Daughters*. The Festival, which attracts tens of thousands of visitors every year, featured 115 authors, including former Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, renowned presidential historian Doris Kearns Goodwin, and United States Supreme Court Justice Sonya Sotomayor.

Kerrison shared the stage of a 1,500-seat auditorium with historian Erica Armstrong Dunbar, whose *Never Caught: the Washingtons' Relentless Pursuit of their Runaway Slave, Ona Judge*, has been nominated for the National Book Award. National Public Radio's Eric Deggans will moderate their conversation about race and gender in the early republic.

"I am deeply honored to have been considered for this prestigious event with so many well-respected authors," said Kerrison. "The stories of Thomas Jefferson's daughters are important to share as they explore the impact of the American Revolution on long-standing practices of race and gender that still persist today."

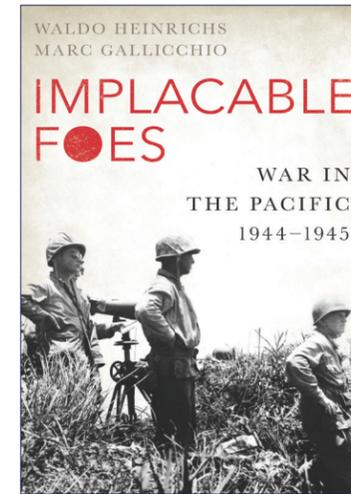
In *Jefferson's Daughters*, Kerrison tells the stories of Thomas Jefferson's daughters—Martha and Maria Jefferson and Harriet Hemings—and the vastly different experiences they faced in life. Harriet Hemings' story is both fascinating and mysterious. She was born into slavery. But at

age 21, Harriet boarded a stagecoach bound for Washington, D.C. Jefferson had given her \$50 for her travel expenses. Thereafter, passing as a freeborn white person, Harriet disappeared from the historical record. The story of Kerrison's search for Harriet Hemings illuminates the conditions of life in early America for slaves and free blacks as well as the pain experienced by those passing as white.

Jefferson's Daughters was released in January 2018 and is published by Ballantine Books, an imprint of Random House.

Notable Publications (continued)

Marc Gallicchio, PhD Wins Prestigious Bancroft Prize in American History and Diplomacy



Professor Marc Gallicchio, PhD, has been named as one of three winners of the prestigious Bancroft Prize in American History and Diplomacy for his book, *Implacable Foes: War in the Pacific, 1944–1945*. The book is co-authored by Waldo Heinrichs, PhD, Professor Emeritus at San Diego State University.

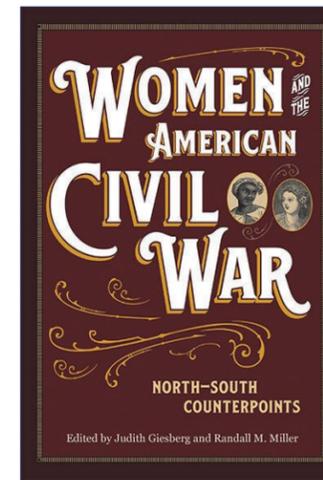
Implacable Foes covers a crucial period beginning in early 1944, as American forces began to shift from containment of Japanese advance to a sustained offensive. The two award-winning historians deliver a detailed account of a grueling campaign of bloody attrition against an enemy determined to fight to the last man. Gallicchio and Heinrichs, a World War II veteran, chronicle the final months of America's war with Japan and the critical decisions of well-known politicians, military leaders and ordinary citizens.

"Working on this book with my mentor and friend, Waldo Heinrichs, has been the highlight of my scholarly career," said Gallicchio. "I am especially grateful for the support I received from Villanova University while I was working on this project. *Implacable Foes* was a long time in the making but we were convinced that the time was right for a comprehensive reexamination of the final stages of the war with Japan."

Established in 1948, the Bancroft Prizes are awarded annually by the Trustees of Columbia University. Winners are judged in terms of the scope, significance, depth of research and richness of interpretation they present in the areas of American history and diplomacy. There were 247 books submitted for consideration for the 2018 prize.

"The Bancroft prize is one of the most competitive and prestigious prizes awarded to books in the fields of American History and Diplomacy," said Adele Lindenmeyr, PhD, Dean, Villanova University College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. "This is the latest example of the praise and national recognition received by Dr. Gallicchio and his co-author, Dr. Waldo Heinrichs, for their pioneering research on the final months of World War II."

Women and the American Civil War—New Book by Judith Giesberg, PhD, Features Chapter by Rebecca Capobianco '11 CLAS, '13 MA



History Professor Judith Giesberg, PhD, and co-editor Randall Miller, PhD, professor of history at Saint Joseph's University, examine the intersections of women's history and the Civil War through a series of paired essays on comparable experiences for women across race, class and geographic location. These eight topics include: politics, wartime mobilization, emancipation, wartime relief, families, religion, reconstruction and memory.

The book, as Giesberg and Miller describe in the preface, seeks to study women during the Civil War era across regional boundaries, rather than within them, in contrast to much existing scholarship.

"In order to cut across the sectional divide in scholarship that tended to focus on one section rather than engage in an ongoing investigation of people across regional lines, we paired essays on the North and South for each subject and encouraged the authors to share their work so that they would 'speak' to one another throughout the book," they note. "Simply put, the purpose and the plan was to encourage comparisons and counterpoints. By pairing essays by subject, we wanted readers to see the people and the period as dynamic and even dialectic, rather than fixed by circumstance and geography."

In compiling the essays, the editors reached out to scholars who could illuminate the "deep and richly textured" history of women during the Civil War. One of these scholars is a former student of Dr. Giesberg, Rebecca Capobianco '11 CLAS, '13 MA, whose chapter, "Southern Women and Emancipation during the Civil War," explores how Southern women encountered and negotiated the process of emancipation.

"Emancipation did not happen in a single all-encompassing moment," Capobianco says when describing her chapter. "It proceeded unequally across the South, and women both black and white experienced it differently depending on where they were and when. Moreover, they often competed against one another, as enslaved women took the opportunity to assert their freedom or at least a degree of autonomy, and women who owned slaves worked to constrain that process."

Capobianco is a PhD student at the College of William and Mary, and her research focuses on the construction and contestation of national identity in public spaces after the Civil War.

FACULTY NEWS

Marc Gallicchio, PhD

Dr. Gallicchio's *Implacable Foes: War in the Pacific, 1944-1945* also received the Bronze Award for best book of 2017 from *Military History Monthly*. Dr. Gallicchio's lecture to the New York Military Affairs Symposium aired on C-Span on January 3 through January 6, 2019, and is available for viewing through that channel's archive. Dr. Gallicchio received Villanova University's Outstanding faculty Research Award in 2018.

Judith Giesberg, PhD

Dr. Giesberg wrote two op-eds: "President Trump is playing politics with the 2020 Census. It could backfire," Made by History, *Washington Post*, January 12, 2018, and "Jeff Sessions is wrong. Sanctuary-city advocates aren't like secessionists. They're like abolitionists," Made by History, *Washington Post*, March 6, 2018.

She presented the following papers and participated in the following panels: "Material Culture and Warfare: The Civil War from a Multidisciplinary Perspective," Society for Military History, Louisville, Ky., April 5-7, 2018; "When All That is Left is Words: The Writings and Sensibilities of Civil War Soldiers," Organization of American Historians Annual Conference, Sacramento, Calif., April 12-14, 2018; "No Fractions: The 1870 U.S. Census and Republican Dreams for the Postwar Nation," American Literature Association Annual Conference, San Francisco, Calif., May 24, 2018; "Defining the Field of Battle: Gender and the Civil War," Southern Association of Women's Historians Conference, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, Ala., June 7-10, 2018; "Know(ing) it When You See It: Pornography, Soldiers, and the U.S. Civil War," Gettysburg College Civil War Institute, Gettysburg College, June 22-25, 2018; and "From the Archives: Sexual Relations between Men and Boys in the Mid-19C Military," The 60th Annual Convention of Midwest Modern Language Association, Kansas City, Mo., November 15-18, 2018.

Dr. Giesberg delivered three invited talks, including "Last Seen Digital Project: Finding Family After Slavery," Gilder Lehrman Center Conference on Digital History and Slavery, New Haven, Conn., May 5, 2018; Book Talk: *Sex and the Civil War: Soldiers, Pornography, and the Making of American Morality*, National Civil War Museum, Harrisburg, Pa., July 21, 2018; "The Fugitive Slave Law and the Crisis Over Immigration Policy: Assessing a Forgotten Legacy," Constitution Day Forum at Dickinson College, September 17, 2018; and "Information Wanted Ads and the History of Family Separation," Medford Leas, Medford, New Jersey, October 13, 2018.

She was awarded a \$4,000 Franklin Research Grant from the American Philosophical Society for her new research project, "One Hundred Days Count: The Administration of the 1870 Census."

Lynne Hartnett, PhD

Dr. Hartnett presented two invited talks at the annual Renaissance Weekend in Charleston, South Carolina in December 2018. She delivered the lectures, "Russia's Past, Putin's Future" and "Russian Cultural History" to audiences comprised of recognized leaders from diverse fields including government, education, science, technology, entertainment and the media.

Catherine Kerrison, PhD

Dr. Catherine Kerrison presented a paper, "The Pursuit of Happiness: Female Freedom Suits in Post-Revolutionary Philadelphia," at the Conference of the Omohundro Institute of History and Early American Culture, in Williamsburg, Va., in June 2018.

Throughout the year, Dr. Kerrison has given a series of invited talks on her recent book, *Jefferson's Daughters: Three Sisters, White and Black, in a Young America*, including at the National Archives, Washington D.C., in February; the Newberry Library in Chicago in June; and the National Book Festival, Washington D.C., in September.

Jeffrey Johnson, PhD

In 2018 Dr. Johnson spent several months in Germany as Guest Scholar in the Research Group on the History of the Max Planck Society (MPS) at the Max Planck Institute for History of Science in Berlin. Dr. Johnson gave an invited lecture at the University of Rostock on 20th-Century German chemists on June 14, and a presentation on German biochemists (1940s-1960s) to the MPS Research Group on September 10. On December 7, he presented a paper on German explosives factories to a conference in Paris on "The European Industrial Heritage of the First World War."

Dr. Johnson's article "Dr. Frankenstein, I Presume? Revising the Popular Image of Frankenstein," appeared in *Literature and Medicine, Theme Issue: Chemistry, Disability, and Frankenstein*, edited by Allison B. Kavey and Lester D. Friedman, 36/2 (Fall 2018).

Adele Lindenmeyr, PhD

Dean Lindenmeyr completed the manuscript of her new book, *Citizen Countess: Sofia Panina and the Fate of Revolutionary Russia*, which will be published by the University of Wisconsin Press in Fall 2019.

She co-edited two collections of articles: *Russia's Home Front in War and Revolution, 1914-1922: Book 3, National Disintegration*, and *Russia's Home Front in War and Revolution, 1914-1922: Book 4: Reintegration—The Struggle for the State* (Slavica, 2018). Dr. Lindenmeyr is currently working on another volume in this series, on *Women and Gender in Russia's Great War and Revolution*, with Melissa Stockdale of the University of Oklahoma.

In December 2018 Dean Lindenmeyr traveled to Boston to present a paper, "Common Sense Vanishes in Revolutionary Times": Sofia Panina and Ariadna Tyrkova-Williams Reflect on 1917," at the annual conference of the Association for Slavic, East European and Eurasian Studies.

Timothy McCall, PhD

Dr. McCall presented an invited lecture at the University of Richmond in February 2018, and in March 2018, presented a paper at the Annual Conference for the Center for Medieval Studies of Fordham University. His paper, "Where the garments gapes," focused on the relations between bodies and clothing. In November 2018, at the Sixteenth Century Studies Conference in Albuquerque, N.M., McCall chaired a session on Renaissance gems, and he delivered a paper on armored clothing and clothing armor in fifteenth-century Italy.

Paul Rosier, PhD

In January 2018 Dr. Rosier participated in the weeklong Oral History Workshop held at the Chemical Heritage Foundation. In April 2018 he presented a paper on American Indians' political history during the New Deal era at the annual meeting of the Organization of American Historians. Dr. Rosier chaired a panel on global indigenous activism at the annual meeting of the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations in July. During the summer Dr. Rosier served as Consulting Editor for Adam Matthew's digital American Indian Newspaper project.

As the fall semester got underway, Dr. Rosier gave an address on American Indian environmentalism at the Philadelphia Ethical Society; presented a paper on Navajo nationalism

during the Cold War at the Diné Studies Conference at Diné College on the Navajo Reservation; and gave an invited talk on American Indian military history and citizenship during the Warm Springs Indian Reservation's Veterans Day activities.

Cristina Soriano, PhD

Dr. Soriano presented her paper "Literacy, Rumors and Public Sphere in Venezuela during the Age of Revolutions" at the Gran Colombia Studies Committee/New Directions on Politics and Society in Pre- and Post-Gran Colombia Conference of Latin American History and the American Historical Association, Washington D.C., in January 2018. In April 2018, she also presented her paper "Negotiating Peace among the King's Vassals: Avoiding Haiti in Venezuela During the Age of Revolutions" at the 65th Annual Meeting of the *Rocky Mountain Council for Latin American Studies*, Reno, Nev.

Paul Steege, PhD

In September 2018 Dr. Steege attended the German Studies Association annual meeting in Pittsburgh, where he organized a session on war stories and German experiences of World War II. His paper explored a 1935 air raid drill in Berlin and the ways that fantasies of future war helped make that war imaginable.

Over the course of 2018, he published a number of blogposts and opinion pieces, including an essay for the *Washington Post's* "Made by History" that used British writer George Orwell to help us think about how to view international sporting competitions like the World Cup.

ALUMNI NEWS

Jackie Beatty, PhD, '12 MA began a tenure-track position as an assistant professor of History at York College of Pennsylvania in August. Her article, "Privilege in the Patriarchy: How Charleston Wives Negotiated Financial Freedom in the Early Republic," is in press with the *South Carolina Historical Magazine* and is scheduled to appear in print in summer 2019.

Sean Brennan, PhD, '03 MA, associate professor of History at the University of Scranton, had his second book published by Catholic University of America Press, *The Priest Who Put Europe Back Together: The Life of Rev. Fabian Flynn, CP*.

Chris Byrd '18 MA recently accepted a position as Library Collections/Management Intern at Oak Spring Garden Foundation in Virginia.

James Esposito '15 MA began a doctoral program in Environment, Health, Technology and Science at The Ohio State University.

Karyna Hlyvynska '18 MA is pursuing her PhD in History at the University of Georgia.

Robert Terrell, PhD, '11 MA earned his doctoral degree last May and started a tenure-track position as an assistant professor of Modern Germany and Europe at Syracuse University in the Fall of 2018.

Kenneth Wohl '17 MA began the doctoral program in History at SUNY Stony Brook University.

GRADUATE STUDENT NEWS

Kevin Anthony Fox Jr. serves as the graduate recruitment coordinator. He enjoys getting to be the face of the program and loves showing students around campus and telling them about his experience.



Justine Carre-Miller, recipient of the Villanova Graduate Summer Research Fellowship in the summer of 2018, presented her research at Villanova's Gender and Women's Studies conference and Patristic, Medieval, and Renaissance Studies conference. Justine's paper on Olympe de Gouges was published in *Concept*, and won the Graduate Research Prize.

Devin Creed presented "Between Theology and Republican Ideology: Catholic Liturgical Practice and Anti-Colonial Resistance in Northern Ireland" at the American Conference for Irish Studies Mid-Atlantic Conference.

Emily Heimerman presented her paper, "The Medieval Mind and its Role in Academia Today," at the Phi Alpha Theta Colloquium in Toledo, Ohio.

Andrea Spencer is the graduate fellow for the Lepage Center for History in the Public Interest. From conceptual event planning to making infographics, she has a hands-on role in almost everything the Center does.



Charles Withers presented his paper "Guiding Madison: An Examination of Madison Ulysses Ayles and his Experience with the Children's Aid Society" at the Regional Phi Alpha Theta Conference at King's College, where he won the Outstanding Graduate Writing Award.



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College of Liberal Arts
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Department of History
Villanova University
800 Lancaster Avenue
Villanova, PA 19085

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Dramatic readings from the “Last Seen” Project, a collaboration between Villanova researchers and Mother Bethel AME church, was one of this year’s highlights.