

THE

# PRIMARY SOURCE

History and Political Science | Missouri S&T | Winter 2019

LARRY GRAGG:

## LEGACY OF SCHOLARSHIP, CARING FOR STUDENTS

page 4



# SCHOLARSHIPS MAKE THE LEADERS WHO MAKE HISTORY

In history and political science, students learn to ask the questions that matter most. For many students, the first step on this learning journey is scholarship support.

Our annual phonathon is underway, and we hope you'll take time to talk to the student who calls. We also hope you'll consider a scholarship gift to our endowments recognizing former history professors **Lawrence "Chris" Christensen** and **Larry Gragg**.

Your scholarship support will honor great teaching by helping future leaders make history.

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# DEAR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS,

It's been a while since we've put together a newsletter, and while a lot has changed, there's still a lot that's familiar. Our students are doing great things, including research projects on everything from the Renaissance to World War II, studying abroad in places like Estonia and Costa Rica, and taking on leadership roles.

Our faculty members continue to be active researchers and award-winning teachers. We have been lucky to welcome three new faculty members recently: **Andrew Behrendt**, **Alanna Krolikowski** and **Justin Pope**. We were sad to see **Larry Gragg** retire, but as you'll see, he continues to be active on campus.

The department has established the Larry Gragg Fund for Student and Faculty Development to honor Dr. Gragg's 40 years on campus. The generous support of an anonymous donor also created the Lawrence O. Christensen scholarship in honor of the late **Chris Christensen**. If you'd like to contribute to either of these funds, you can do so through the Miner Alumni Association.



We are also very proud of our graduates' continued successes. Last May, we enjoyed celebrating the Golden Alumni Reunion of our first bachelor of arts recipient. Perhaps it is also fitting that 50 years after our first graduate, we also celebrated our first graduate with a bachelor of science in history. Introduced in 2017, the B.S. degree provides our students with more options as they prepare for life after graduation and makes it easier for S&T students to double major in history and a scientific field.

As always, we are thankful for your continued support! We'd love to hear from you. Please follow us on Facebook at Missouri S&T History and Political Science Department or send us an email update at [hist-ps@mst.edu](mailto:hist-ps@mst.edu).

## Shannon Fogg

Professor and Chair,  
History and Political Science



## IN THIS ISSUE

- 2 Learning without borders**  
Donnie Morard and Devin Potter reflect on how studying abroad enriched their education.
- 3 History majors are "on FYRE" and loving it**  
CASB's First Year Research Experience (FYRE) program is growing exponentially.
- 6 Welcome our new faculty**  
Meet our newest faculty members.
- 7 Inspired by scholarship**  
Nicholas Villanueva, Hist'06, is an assistant professor of ethnic studies at the University of Colorado Boulder.
- 8 Groundbreaking graduates meet up at 2018 Golden Alumni Reunion**  
Glenda Dickman, Hist'68 and Dixie Finley, Psysc'68 were the first to earn bachelor of art degrees from S&T.
- 9 Faculty accomplishments**  
Find out what our faculty have been up to.

## LEARNING

# WITHOUT BORDERS

Two students reflect on how studying abroad enriched their education

As a history student who aspires to be a professor, **Donnie Morard** knew when he started classes at S&T that he wanted to attend graduate school. But it was a study abroad experience that helped him pinpoint his focus area of 19th and 20th century Eastern European history.

"I matured a lot over the course of that semester," says Morard, a senior from Fulton, Mo. "I'm now looking at grad schools outside the U.S., and that's something I wouldn't have done before."

Morard attended the University of Tartu in Estonia during the spring semester of his sophomore year. He took classes in political science, globalization, 20th century history of the Baltic states and Russian — which was taught entirely in the Russian language.

Estonia's location in northeastern Europe allowed Morard to travel to Russia, the Arctic, Finland and Sweden and to cruise the Baltic Sea.

"The whole experience of doing stuff on my own is something I gained," Morard says. "And I can see things in more of a global light."

**Devin Potter**, a senior from Loveland, Colo., also says his study abroad experiences gave him a more global perspective.

When Potter started his job as a work study student in S&T's international affairs office, he thought study abroad was out of his reach. With the encouragement of staff member **Hannah Helmick**, he applied for — and received — a national scholarship for students of limited financial means.

Potter was one of approximately 850 American undergraduate students from 359 colleges and universities across the U.S. selected for the Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship from the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs.

During his spring 2017 semester, Potter studied at the University of Navarra in

Pamplona, Spain, a city fortified in history and known for the annual running of the bulls. He took classes in Spanish, history of the world and sociology, all taught in Spanish.

"I loved my experiences and recommend study abroad to anybody," Potter said. "It's not just a vacation — you still have roommates, homework and deadlines. You experience and learn so much."

That semester opened Potter's mind to other experiences. When he learned about a summer course on eco-tourism in Costa Rica, he jumped at the opportunity. **Kathryn Dolan** and **Kathryn Northcut**, both faculty in English and technical communication, led the three-week program that took students to four cities in Costa Rica last summer.

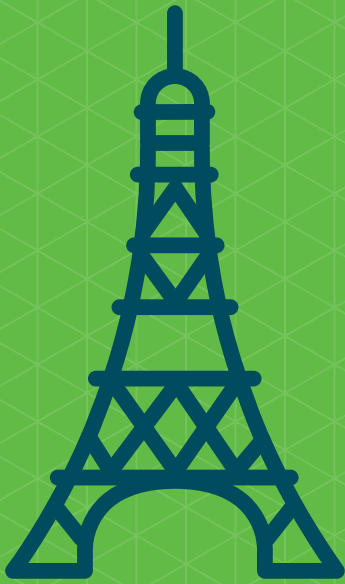
"There are so many benefits to studying abroad," says **Shannon Fogg**, chair and professor of history and political science. "Students grow so much by seeing different cultures, by experiencing different political systems and university systems."



## NO PASSPORT REQUIRED

**Jeff Schramm**, associate professor of history, led a three-credit-hour summer course May 14–25 in Chicago. Students explored the history of modern architecture and the dialog between architecture and technology, society, economics, politics and culture. Students toured several historical and contemporary architectural sites to gain a better understanding of architectural history and the history of modern America.

From left: Jeff Schramm, **Ali Banyan**, **Mitchell Kroeger**, **Harman Rashid**, **Ali Alwael**, **Elizabeth Borgmeyer** and **Kelly Pachowicz**.



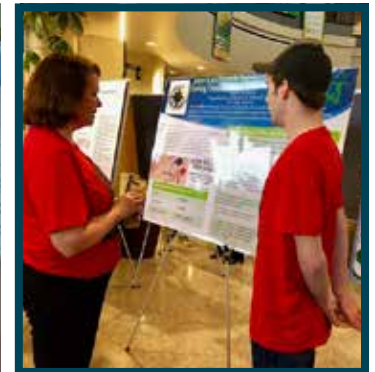
## AN AMERICAN IN PARIS

History and political science chair and professor **Shannon Fogg** spent January 2018 in Paris as a visiting scholar at the Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales, which is considered an international innovation hub for the social sciences.

A European historian, Fogg specializes in the history of modern France with an emphasis on the social history of World War II and the Holocaust.

While in residence, Fogg delivered a keynote address titled “Housing in Paris and the Restoration of the French Republic: The Implementation of the November 14, 1944 Order” at a conference focused on urban housing as a place for anti-Jewish persecution in Europe from 1936–48. This topic has been overlooked in the documentation of Holocaust history, which tends to focus on persecution in the camps and ghettos, Fogg says. Her talk examined the first post-war ordinance related to returning homes to Holocaust survivors.

Fogg also delivered three seminars on her recent research on the rebuilding of Jewish lives in Paris after World War II and collaborated with a transnational team of researchers on a project to address the cities and social dynamics of anti-Jewish persecution in Europe before, during and after World War II.



## HISTORY MAJORS ARE “ON FYRE” AND LOVING IT

Now into its third year, the First Year Research Experience (FYRE) program offered by the College of Arts, Sciences, and Business (CASB) is growing exponentially.

FYRE started in 2017 with nine faculty-student research teams, grew to 18 teams in 2018, and now 35 CASB faculty members are offering research apprenticeships for interested students.

Each spring semester FYRE gives first-year and transfer students an opportunity to work one-on-one with a faculty mentor on a specific research project. The program helps students improve critical thinking, communication, presentation and leadership skills while learning solid research methods.

It also paves the way for students to progress into more advanced research programs or to work in a professor’s lab and be part of a peer-reviewed journal publication — these real successes are occurring for FYRE students.

History majors **Randy Greeves** and **Arthur Schneider** participated in the 2018 FYRE program. **Shannon Fogg** mentored Greeves, a junior from Oologah, Okla., in a project focused on the American Friends Service Committee, a Quaker group that aided children during World War II in France.

“Randy really focused his research on newspapers to find information from the time period,” says Fogg. “As a result, he got first-hand experience in archival research and came up with some great information on how publicity was used during the war to support humanitarian aid.”

**Justin Pope** mentored Schneider, a senior from Hermann, Mo., in a project that searched for news of slave uprisings in the first American newspapers.

“Schneider made great use of these early American newspapers,” explains Pope. “He focused on a single slave conspiracy in New York City in 1741, and then searched for news of the event in the other provinces. He found colonists responded to news of the conspiracy with more oppressive racial laws in Virginia, South Carolina and even Bermuda, proving the early American press influenced the early black codes of colonial America.”

Schneider’s research won first prize at the S&T Undergraduate Student Conference.



# LEGACY OF SCHOLARSHIP, CARING FOR STUDENTS

**Larry Gragg, Curators' Distinguished Teaching Professor emeritus of history and political science, asks each of his students a question, "20 years from now, what should I remember about you?"**

He says his intent is to give students an opportunity to define themselves and to get to know each of them better. It's his care for students that has shaped his legacy at S&T, his former students say.

"His attention was focused on his students the entire time class was in session," says **Brenda Brugger**, Hist'88, assistant vice chancellor emeritus at the University of Arkansas. "Dr. Gragg pushed us all to higher standards without our even realizing it. There was no 'failure,' in any class project or assignment, only encouragement and advice on how to do better."

Gragg has won numerous teaching awards from the campus, the University of Missouri System and the state. He taught nine different history classes to more than 6,400 students in his over-40-year career with Missouri S&T that started in 1977 as a one-year lecturer. He earned bachelor's and master's degrees at Southwest

Missouri State University and earned his doctorate in history at the University of Missouri-Columbia. In 1982, Missouri S&T appointed Gragg as a tenure-track history professor after a national search.

Gragg's career has included 17 years off and on as the chair of the history and political science department before he officially retired from the department in 2017. He's written nine books, mostly about colonial and revolutionary American history, several books about the history of Las Vegas and his 10th book will be on the 150-year history of the university.

He says the biggest change he's seen during his tenure in the history and political science department is that the faculty are outstanding history researchers.

"Everybody does a great job in the classroom, but they are also researchers of merit, and they are recognized as such," says Gragg. "This is a great department of teaching scholars. We're not great teachers or researchers — we're teaching scholars."

Colleagues credit Gragg for creating that top-notch department.

"He built the department," says **Jack Ridley**, Missouri S&T Curators' Distinguished Teaching Professor emeritus. "It's a very good department, and Larry's primarily responsible."

Gragg says he's grateful for his long career — especially his work with the students.

"I know how lucky I am to have this job," he says. "For four decades, I got to help students be successful."

And in 20 years, how does Gragg want to be remembered?

"He never forgot why he was here — undergraduate students."



## MINI RENAISSANCE FAIR SHOWCASES ENTHUSIASM

Philosophers and billionaires alike believe the best way to learn is by doing. And about 20 students experienced that opportunity in **Michael Bruening's** *History of Renaissance Thought* class last spring semester.

Excitement was in the air as the class displayed their handcrafted research projects on topics such as Filippo Brunelleschi's architectural and engineering innovations; Thomas More's Utopia; Venetian glassmaking; Renaissance herbal manuals; bronze casting; the works of Thomas Hobbes, René Descartes, and Michel de Montaigne, and more at a mini Renaissance fair held on campus in April.

Presenters included **Bryce Greer**, a sophomore in aerospace engineering, who presented his life-sized fabric recreation of Leonardo da Vinci's leather scuba suit designed for the Venetian military. **Lisa Wilson**, a junior in history and education, reported on the bubonic plague pandemic wearing a plague doctor's costume with a beak-like mask designed to defend against airborne diseases. **James Bahm**, a senior in history and technical communication, described his findings on the mechanical physics of the hoist Brunelleschi designed to help build the Florence Cathedral's dome.

"I designed the Renaissance fair assignment as a way to engage the students more fully in learning about the past," says Bruening, associate professor of history and political science. "Often, it can be difficult for students to understand the relevance of events that took place five hundred years ago. When students have the chance to develop their own projects, constructing Leonardo da Vinci's inventions, for example, or building models of Brunelleschi's crane or dome, they better appreciate the inventive genius that lay behind so many of the innovations of the Renaissance."

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## HOMEcoming HONORS

A history alumna and a former department chair were among nine people with ties to Missouri S&T honored by the Miner Alumni Association during the Legends Luncheon as part of Homecoming in October.



**Traci Walker**, Hist'00, of Centerville, Va., received the Distinguished Young Alumni Award. The award is granted to S&T graduates age 40 or younger who demonstrate strong leadership ability, commitment to service to others and a high level of achievement early in their career. Walker is director of digital service procurement, United States Digital Service, Office of Management and Budget in the Executive Office of the President.

**Larry Gragg** (photo on page 4), Curators' Distinguished Teaching Professor emeritus and former department chair, received the Alumni Merit Award. The award is presented to faculty, friends of the university, or alumni for outstanding achievement or service to the campus or the Miner Alumni Association.



## IN THE NAVY

**John McManus**, Curators' Distinguished Professor of history at Missouri S&T, is putting his expertise in American military history to work during this academic year as a visiting professor at the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Md.

McManus is holding the Dr. Leo A. Shifrin Chair, an endowed rotating professorship that began in August and will continue through May of this year.

According to the Naval Academy, Shifrin Chair holders are renowned naval and military historians who teach and pursue research while in residence in the Naval Academy history department. By bringing their research into the classroom, they demonstrate the relevance of naval and military history to the development of midshipmen as professional naval officers.

"Midshipmen might become commissioned officers in the U.S. Navy or U.S. Marines, Navy Seals or members of electronic warfare teams," says McManus. "Because I research and write about combat at the soldier level, I believe this perspective will benefit their development as military leaders."

While in Annapolis, McManus plans to complete his most recent work, *The United States Army in the Pacific, Volume II, To the End of the Earth: Hollandia Through the Occupation of Japan*, while he has onsite access to the Naval Academy library and the National Archives. The book will be published in June.

McManus is the author of a dozen books on U.S. military history. His book *American Courage, American Carnage* formed the basis for the tactical wartime video game "Burden of Command," which is expected to be released later this year.

# INNOVATIVE TEACHING METHODS

## WORK WONDERS WITH ENGINEERS

Inspiring future engineers with humanities course topics has its unique challenges, says **Kathleen Sheppard**, associate professor of history and political science. But Sheppard has discovered and deployed an innovative pedagogy to overcome the challenges.

Thanks to grants from the Department of Education and the National Endowment for the Humanities, Sheppard had the opportunity to teach a new course.

The History of Science in Latin America is a survey lecture course similar in format to the History of Science course Sheppard has taught every semester for seven years. She typically uses a blended teaching format that incorporates online work and traditional classroom instruction.

To re-engage herself and her students, Sheppard turned to the Wikipedia Education Foundation to create an experiential learning project, consisting of editing and adding to Wikipedia articles in real time. A full semester project, it aims to develop students' critical thinking, research and writing abilities without requiring the typical term paper.

"Students, especially the non-humanities engineering majors, tend to think the reason for writing in many classes is for the professor to see, grade, and then stuff their paper in a file to be forever lost, making their writing seem like a waste of time," says Sheppard. "They quickly learn that writing for Wikipedia is a real-world transaction between themselves and the online reader. That reality is a powerful motivator."

After the initial Fall 2017 course, Sheppard implemented the Wikipedia project in the general History of Science survey, too.

In their reflections at the end of the course, students were passionate about their topics and excited about the process.

"As with every new classroom tool, we must ask ourselves how the tool will help students thrive," says Sheppard. "With the Wiki Education resources, students gained in-depth understanding of how Wikipedia works and they learned the writing process — from beginning to end — and had fun doing it."

# WELCOME

## NEW FACULTY IN 2018

**Andrew Behrendt** joined us in 2018 as an assistant teaching professor. Before joining S&T, he was an academic advisor at the Center for Russian and East European Studies at the University of Pittsburgh and NewsNet editor and program coordinator for the Association for Slavic, East European and Eurasian Studies. Behrendt's research interest is the cultural and social history of interwar east central Europe. He teaches Modern Western Civilization and looks forward to reviving Making of Modern Russia and developing new courses in food history and the representation of history in video games. Behrendt holds a Ph.D. in history from the University of Pittsburgh.



**ANDREW BEHRENDT**  
assistant teaching  
professor

## NEW FACULTY IN 2017

**Alanna Krolkowski**, an assistant professor of political science, is an expert in science and technology policy. Her most recent article explores how governments can make better policy for new activities in outer space. She holds a Ph.D. in political science from the University of Toronto and was a postdoctoral fellow at Harvard University and the University of Alberta. Krolkowski teaches American Government and a course in policy for science, technology and innovation.



**ALANNA KROLKOWSKI**  
assistant professor  
of political science

**Justin Pope**, an assistant professor of history, studies early American and Atlantic history. His most recent article, which won the 2017 John Murrin Prize from the University of Pennsylvania for best historical writing, examined how colonists spread false reports of slave uprisings throughout the British Empire in the early 1700s. Pope teaches classes on colonial American history, U.S. history, the American revolution and the history of slavery. He holds a Ph.D. in American history from George Washington University.



**JUSTIN POPE**  
assistant professor  
of history





# INSPIRED BY SCHOLARSHIP

Never underestimate the power of a protest song. It might not spur everyone to join a cause, but it can influence people in unexpected ways.

For **Nicholas Villanueva**, Hist'06, that inspiration came one day during a history class at S&T when assistant professor **Petra DeWitt**, Hist'96, played Barry McGuire's 1965 social protest song "Eve of Destruction."

The song and DeWitt's teaching "really made the time period in history come to life," says Villanueva, who had planned to become a history teacher. "Many of the discussions in class went far beyond what I learned during my K through 12 education, and I realized that I did not want to feel restricted as an educator. I wanted to have critical conversations with students that might even become controversial."

Now an assistant professor of ethnic studies at the University of Colorado Boulder, Villanueva is not shying away from controversial topics. His 2017 book, *Lynching of Mexicans in the Texas Borderlands*,

examines the mob violence against Mexicans between 1910 and 1920. Those were the years of the Mexican Revolution, when refugees flooded into the United States.

"The Mexican Revolution destabilized the borderland and intensified Anglo fear and suspicion of ethnic Mexicans," Villanueva writes in a chapter on the "legal" lynching of a Mexican boy who was under the legal age for execution. "The destabilization led to an increase of hostile campaigns directed against ethnic Mexicans, and these crimes often went unpunished."

Villanueva's book received the National Association for Chicana and Chicano Studies 2018 Non-Fiction Prize and a 2017 Southwestern Studies Book Prize from the University of Texas and the Border Regional Library Association.

Villanueva also credits three other history faculty for preparing him for an academic career: his undergraduate advisor, Curators' Distinguished Teaching Professor **Diana Ahmad**, whom he acknowledges in his book; current department chair **Shannon Fogg**, for setting up an independent study course that "helped me realize how much work is involved in graduate studies"; and **Larry Gragg**, Curators' Distinguished Teaching Professor emeritus, who "stressed the importance of a strong writing sample for my (graduate school) application."

"You can say that this department took me under its wing and really wanted to see that I succeeded," he says.



## GROUNDBREAKING GRADUATES MEET UP AT 2018 GOLDEN ALUMNI REUNION

Two 1968 Missouri S&T graduates stood out among the crowd at this year's Golden Alumni Reunion — **Glenda Dickman** (above left), Hist'68 and **Dixie Finley** (right), Psyc'68. Not only were they the sole female graduates at the 50-year milestone

celebration, Dickman was the first history major to graduate from S&T, and Finley was the first psychology graduate.

Both were part of a significant academic expansion in S&T's 148-year history — 1968 was the first year the school offered bachelor

of arts degrees, and Dickman and Finley were the first two recipients.

Even though Dickman was a history major, she joined the Society of Women Engineers because it was the only women's student organization on campus.

She was also a cheerleader.

"There were so few girls that they didn't have many choices for cheerleaders, but the school and the teams were so good to us and made us feel special," says Dickman.

In her junior and senior years, Dickman was a non-traditional, married student. Typical of many educated women from the era, after graduation she began her career as a public-school teacher.

Dickman considers teaching her calling. Although she loves history, especially the American Colonial period, she taught both history and English for 37 years in public school systems in Illinois and Missouri. She also worked as a writer for NASA in Alabama.

"Life is good," says Dickman who is now semi-retired at Lake of the Ozarks. She works when she pleases for her husband Richard's engineering business there and remotely for her son's law firm in Kansas City. "My greatest pleasure now comes from spending time with my two children and four delightful grandchildren.

I attribute much of my success and happiness to having gotten a great start in Rolla," says Dickman.

## MAKING HISTORY

When **Nicholas Lehde** (left), Hist'18, crossed the stage during May commencement ceremonies at Missouri S&T, he became the first recipient of the university's bachelor of science in history.

It was a historic moment, since 50 years earlier the first recipient of a bachelor of arts in history, **Glenda Dickman**, Hist'68, crossed the same stage.

The bachelor of science degree program was created to give S&T students a chance to combine their technical know-how with a solid foundation in the humanities and social sciences. The program also helps bridge the gap that often separates STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) fields from humanities and social sciences.

"With over 100 students minoring in our department over the past few years,



this new degree will offer students another educational option that broadens their opportunities," says **Shannon Fogg**, chair and professor of history and political science.

The bachelor of science degree program removes the foreign language requirements for students and increases the number of science courses required for graduation.

# FACULTY

# ACCOMPLISHMENTS



## BOOKS AND PODCASTS

- » A podcast featuring **Shannon Fogg** discussing her book *Stealing Home, Looting, Restitution and Reconstructing Jewish Lives in France, 1942-1947*, was published on New Books Network in October. Listen at [rol.la/Fogg\\_podcast](http://rol.la/Fogg_podcast).
- » **Patrick Huber** co-authored *A&R Pioneers: Architects of American Roots Music on Record* (Vanderbilt University Press and the Country Music Foundation Press, 2018) with Brian Ward, professor of American Studies at Northumbria University. It is the first collective biography of over 100 individuals who worked behind the scenes to discover recording artists, manage and produce their work, and often exploit them in the process.
- » **Michael Meagher** completed a new edition of his book *American Government: Presidential and Global Impacts* (Cognella, 2018).
- » **Kathleen Sheppard's** book, *My dear Miss Ransom: Letters between Caroline Ransom Williams and James Henry Breasted, 1898-1935* (Archaeopress Publishing Ltd., 2018), is an edited collection of the correspondence between America's first female Egyptologist and her mentor, who founded the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago. It chronicles Ransom's career and her contributions to the field.



## AWARDS

- » Our department continues to excel in teaching with multiple members receiving the Outstanding Teaching Award or the Faculty Excellence Award. The campus has recognized **Michael Bruening, Petra DeWitt, John McManus, Jeff Schramm** and **Kate Sheppard** for their excellence in teaching over the last two years.
- » **Tseggai Isaac** received the 2017 Faculty Research Award.
- » **Justin Pope** won the John M. Murrin Prize for the best essay published in *Early American Studies: An Interdisciplinary Journal* in 2017. His winning essay, "Inventing an Indian Slave Conspiracy on Nantucket, 1738," received the historical writing award at a ceremony at the University of Pennsylvania.



## INVITED LECTURES

- » **Shannon Fogg** spoke at Knox College in Galesburg, Ill., in October. Her lecture, "The American Friends Service Committee and the Holocaust in France," was sponsored by Knox's department of religious studies and the Glossberg Fund in Jewish Studies.
- » **Petra DeWitt, Hist'96**, presented a talk about the central powers during World War I, titled "Clash of Egos: The Competing Political and Military Interests within the Central Powers during the Great War" at the National World War I Museum in Kansas City in October. The presentation is available for public viewing through the museum's YouTube channel.



## ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS

- » **Shannon Fogg's** book chapter, "The American Friends Service Committee and Wartime Aid to Families," was published in *Vichy France and Everyday Life: Confronting the Challenges of Wartime, 1939-1945* (Bloomsbury, 2018). The book explores ordinary life and its challenges during the World War II in chapters by 13 scholars.
- » **Larry Gragg's** chapter, "Avoid Advertising the Obvious: Gambling and the Chamber of Commerce Promotion of Las Vegas in the 1950s," is included in the book, *All In* (University of Nevada Press, 2018). The book explores five aspects of American gambling history: crime, advertising, politics, religion and identity.
- » An article titled "Making policy for new asteroid activities: In pursuit of science, settlement, security, or sales?" co-authored by **Alanna Krolikowski** and Martin Elvis, of the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics, was published in the May 2018 issue of the journal *Space Policy*.
- » **Diana Ahmad's** article, "Scoundrel or Gentleman: The Reign of Captain Benjamin Franklin Tilley, U.S.N., on American Samoa, 1900-1901," was published in the Spring 2018 issue of *The Nautilus*, a peer-reviewed journal publishing scholarship on the literature, history and culture of the sea.



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# Graduation doesn't mean goodbye

We'd love to hear about new appointments, degrees earned, job promotions, and other family or professional news.

Tell us what you're doing with a degree in history or political science so we can feature your accomplishments among our alumni achievement stories.

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