

ISSUE

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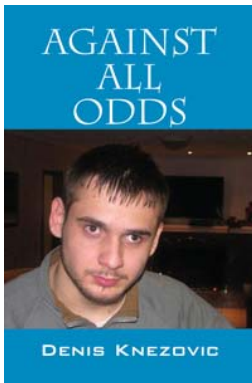
Successful history students include Katheryn Nikolich, admitted to Ph.D. programs at GSU and Auburn, and Jordan Sanders, winner of GGC's "Got Talent" in 2013

This Issue

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GGC History Students & Faculty: 10 Years of Past and Current Success

Denis Knezovic First History Grad to Publish A Book



GGC History Graduate (2013) Denis Knezovic is the first GGC History alumnus to publish a book. *Against All Odds* is an autobiography of his life. The book relates

Knezovic's life as a war refugee and the obstacles he subsequently overcame. One of these obstacles might have proven insurmountable, but Knezovic faced several. These included: dealing with cerebral palsy from infancy, living in three different countries, receiving physical therapy in a fourth, attending college while dealing with mobility difficulties. Each obstacle overcome presented new challenges. The book, published in 2015 by Outskirts Press, has generated positive feedback on Amazon and other websites. Cheers!

GGC Grads Earning Access to Graduate Schools

In less than ten years, GGC's History Discipline has seen its students proceed to some of the finest graduate schools in the United States. The grads of 2015 continue in this tradition. Graduate Programs to which GGC students have been admitted: Boston College; Drexel Univ; Georgia State Univ; Auburn Univ; Univ. of NC; Univ. of Cincinnati; Valdosta State Univ; George Washington Univ; Georgia Southern Univ; East TN State U; Brenau; John Marshall Law School; Emory Univ;

Historians Win and Show in Global Competency Quiz

In early April, Dr. Funwi Ayuninjam announced the results of the global competency quiz. John Jones (right), a History major with a Western Civ Emphasis, placed first, and Dr. Michael Gagnon placed third. You've made the historians proud!



Six Years Later: Remembering Dr. Linda Lane

In looking at GGC's ten-year history, it is important to remember one of its first historians. Since she has passed away, neither many students nor faculty may remember her. Dr. Linda Lane (1955-2009) was the first Associate Professor of History hired at GGC. She earned her bachelor's degree from the University of Maryland, her master's from Columbus (GA) State University and her doctorate from Clark Atlanta University. She began teaching at GGC in 2007, but soon thereafter commenced her struggle with cancer. Her articles and books focused on black women in the United States military and African American women educators. Of her teaching, Dr. Michael Gagnon observed, "Not limiting herself to just teaching the content of a course, she was equally interested in developing the student as a person."

Ex Libris: From the Bookshelves of GGC Historians

Dr. Nathan Orgill, right, at GGC's Fall Convocation, 2014. He earned his B. A. and M.A. degrees from California State University, Fresno, and his Doctorate from Duke University



Dr. Nathan Orgill has taught History at GGC since Fall 2009. In addition to survey courses, he teaches classes on Early Modern and Modern European History, Modern Germany, World War II. His research agenda focuses on German foreign policy and public relations from 1890 to 1920

Working with original manuscripts, archives and special-collections libraries is among the most important activities professional historians can expect to perform. It can be among the most rewarding moments of a historian's life, as well as the most frustrating ones. It is usually in an archive where historical researchers uncover new evidence about the past and experience the past firsthand—while sometimes also unfortunately failing to discover materials they hoped to find. I have had many experiences working in archives, both as a researcher analyzing subjects in (mainly) late nineteenth-century European history, as well as in the capacity of the archivist who has had to organize, preserve and catalogue original primary sources to make them available to specialists. Before coming to GGC, I worked in a special collections library in Central California and in an archive dedicated to preserving California's political history; in both places I helped organize manuscript collections and write guides to assist with research, while also working to preserve historical documents. Moreover, in completing research for my dissertation on German foreign policy and public relations from 1890 to 1914 (mainly at the Federal Archives in Berlin and Coblenz) and subsequent research completed while teaching at GGC (at the British Library, the US and UK National Archives, the records of the Reich Foreign Office, and at various university manuscript collections at home and abroad), I have also experienced working on the other side of the desk.

The combination of those experiences has impressed upon me a number of best practices to keep in mind as you plan and undertake visits to archives and special-collections libraries. These include: **Locating relevant manuscripts and compiling a list of what specifically you think might help when you arrive to do research:** You can create a list of possible materials to work through by consulting the bibliographies of scholarly works on your subject, contacting specialists working in the field, or searching online catalogues that hold information on multiple repositories. It is also a very good idea to obtain copies of finding aids, indexes, or hand-lists for collections you wish to consult in order to narrow down the list of files you are likely to find.

Planning your trip to an archive or special-collections library well in advance: Many repositories have circumscribed hours of operation when research can be conducted, or they might close access to materials regularly throughout the year. Some materials may be closed to researchers if they include official classified materials or records the originator has closed to research for a period of time following their death or donation. In addition, some archives will require a formal letter of introduction from a mentor or scholar

in your field before allowing you to work in their collections. **Making sure to leave enough time to complete your research:** Unless you can request materials ahead of time, you may need a day or so to familiarize yourself with the collections. Expect at least an hour to be spent registering with the institution; ordinarily, a researcher can expect to wait at least a couple of hours and in

some cases a full day before getting access to the collections they have paged from the research desk on the first day. You will likely be allowed only a handful of files at one time. This means, your trip is going to involve at least a couple of days, and maybe even longer depending on the materials you need. Allot yourself enough time during the visit to work through all the materials you need. **Be aware of the special nature of the materials you are utilizing:** Historical sources are frequently fragile and always rare by their very nature. Archives usually require researchers to use pencils rather than pens when taking notes and limit what you can bring into a reading room. They place restrictions on the use of materials to prevent damage and theft. Sometimes historians even have to undertake a brief training program before gaining access to materials to prevent unintentional damage. The best researchers are always aware of the special nature of the materials they are using. **Develop a system to keep track of the information you want to take away from the trip:** The temptation is to make copies of everything, but photocopies are expensive. Limit yourself to the most relevant materials, or you will be overwhelmed in data. **Expecting the unexpected: You never know what will happen when you visit an archive:** It is best to anticipate every possible problem that might slow you down during your visit. **Finally, have an exciting and amazing experience.** Working in an archive is one of the rare times historians get to "live" in the past.

"You will get to touch and see documents that people involved with your subject of study held and read themselves. You might even find some new piece of evidence that transforms our understanding of history."

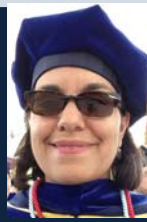
Standing Ovations! History Faculty News & Accomplishments

Jeffrey Marlin



Schraeder Earns Master's Degree

Dr. Lia Schraeder, pictured at right, earned a Master's Degree in Learning, Design, and Technology at UGA this semester and graduated "with distinction." She added this to her Ph.D. and M.A. in History. Cheers!



Ellen Rafshoon presented "Birth Control in Georgia: A Conservative Revolution" at the Georgia Association of Historians Conference (Hereafter GAH) in Statesboro, GA, in February 2015. She also hosted an alumni event for Emory University.

Michael Gagnon presented "Augustin Clayton, Nullification, and the Emergence of the Whig Party in Georgia" at the GAH. While on sabbatical, he also chaired a panel at the same conference titled "Georgia Gwinnett College Student Research Posters on Georgia in the Age of Jackson." He also presented, with Jennifer Arrocena from the GGC Disabilities Services office, on the transition to college for students with disabilities.

Patrick Zander served as Chair and Discussant for a panel titled "Nazism, Art, Media, and War" at the GAH conference in February.

Fang Zhou was panel moderator for "Family Strategies and Public Responsibilities in India and China" at the Southeast Conference Association for Asian Studies at University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA January 16-18, 2015.

Edward Simmons, part-time faculty, presented "Big History, Meaning, and Paradigm Shift," at the *International Big History Conference* in Santa Rosa, CA, in August 2014.

Jeffrey Marlin (left) received the first "Outstanding Part-Time Faculty Award," which was initiated by the GGC Part-Time Faculty Committee and approved by the Provost. "His students consistently report that he is a knowledgeable and enthusiastic instructor who cares about his students and is willing to spend the time needed to help them understand the course material," said Dr. Laurel Holland, Associate Dean of the School of Liberal Arts. **Luke Ryan (right)** recently took on summer employment at the Voyageurs National Park in northern Minnesota. He will be working as a Park Ranger—Interpreter. Duties include leading canoe and hiking tours while explaining the region's human and natural history. "I hope to use this as a learning experience and broaden my knowledge of the U.S.-Canadian borderlands," he said.

Richard Rawls, Janita Rawls (Management & Leadership), and Amanda Wilsker (Economics)

published "Are You Talking to Me? On the Use of Oral Examinations in Undergraduate Business Courses." *Journal of the Academy of Business Education* vol. 16 (Spring 2015): 22-33. Rawls also gave a lecture on the Roman *testudo* formation at the University of Georgia in February.

Michael Gunther published encyclopedia articles on Churches, Oratory, Ships, and Wine in *World of the American Revolution: A Daily Life Encyclopedia*, ed., Merril D. Smith (Santa Barbara: ABC-CLIO).

Carey Shellman presented a paper at the Intersections Conference in March, "Oh Brother Where Art Thou: A Retrospective."

Luke Ryan presented "Re-Claiming the Civil War Dead in a Native American Community: Commemoration at Stockbridge-Munsee" in February 2015 at the Southwest Popular Culture Association meeting in Albuquerque.

Shane Tomashot, part-time faculty, earned his Ph.D. at Georgia State University in April 2015. His dissertation was titled "Selling Peace: The History of the International Chamber of Commerce, 1919-1925." Congratulations Dr. T!

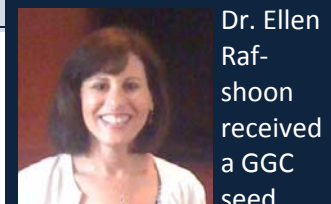
Andi Knecht took (l-r) Jessica Rayman, Helen McDaniels, Kyla Neill and Caitlyn Hanrahan to the Appalachian Studies Association. They gave posters in a session "Family, Gender, and Community: Music, Dance, and Coal."



Luke Ryan



Rafshoon Receives GGC Seed Grant



Dr. Ellen Rafshoon received a GGC seed

grant for Academic Year 2015-16. Titled "The Struggle for Women's Reproductive Freedom in Atlanta, GA," the grant pays for archival research expenses and hiring a GGC student assistant. She is also beginning a two-year term as Assistant Dean for Part-Time Faculty.

NEH Fellowship for Fara Driver

Part-time faculty member Fara Driver received a National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Fellowship for study in Washington D.C. at the Library of Congress, research, and participation in a series of lectures and discussions surrounding the topic: "On Native Grounds: Native American Histories and relationships with land." Driver said, "My hope is to get a paper out of it, though that won't be for a while yet." Congratulations!

Alumni/ae and Student News.

Alumni News

Braedon Tabor (14) was recently admitted to the University of Cincinnati Law School.

Whitney Herrington Puckett (13) is currently working on a Masters degree in Library & Information Sciences at Valdosta State University.

Nichole Monge (15) was hired as a Georgia History Teacher at Richards Middle School, right here in Lawrenceville.

Jessica Rayman (15) was admitted into a Masters of Library and Information Sciences degree at the University of North Carolina, in Chapel Hill.

Allison Wilker (13) works as a teacher and head basketball coach at Crouch Middle School in Grayson.

Taylor Deneau (15) was recently hired by "Connected Technologies" in Athens, GA, as part of their IT Team.

Hayley Cunningham (14) was offered a full time job at Engineering Systems Inc., in an administrative position.

Jillian McGinty (14) was admitted to Brenau University's Masters of Arts in Teaching Program.

Terrence Stover (15) was hired at South Gwinnett High School where he will teach and also coach football.

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GGC Students Enrolled in Phi Alpha Theta



Dr. Nathan Orgill, left, and GGC Provost and Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs, Dr. Lois Richardson, right, congratulate Andrea Greenberg, center, for her admission to PAT.

On April 30, GGC's chapter of Phi Alpha Theta added its newest group of inductees to the roll of students achieving academic excellence in the study of history. Although not all attended, the following students were admitted: Daniel Aristizabal, Justin Carlyle, Meagan DuBose, Andrea Greenberg, Caitlyn Hanrahan,

Matthew Izzo, Brandon Littleton, Janet Lively, Antonieta Mackoul, Joseph Mendoza, Denise Norton, Jeanene Reese, James Rooks, Stephanie Shivelhood, Jason Stafford, and Ailicec U. Tuesca. SLA Dean, Dr. Adolfo Santos, gave the address and was made an honorary member. Congratulations to all!

History Students Graduate in May



Dr. Michael Gunther, Assistant Professor of History (left) with Don "D.J." Melville Jr., (right) after the commencement ceremony. The History Discipline graduated one of its largest classes ever.

The May 2015 Commencement ceremony saw the following historians graduate with their B.A. degree in History: Nichelle Akins; Paul Amato; Timothy Bennett, Justin Carlyle; Tayler Deneau, Justin Harris; Sean Herzog, Russell Hutchins, Janet Marie Johnson, Chelsea Kelley, Adam Laliberte, Richard Lancaster, Adam Melcher, Nicole Oquendo; Kyla

Neill; Kyle Norton; Joshua Owens; Vickie Perez; Brendan Sanders; Terrence Stover; Thomas Walker; Heath Wallace; and Michael Wilson.

Jeremiah Sulunteh, Liberian Ambassador to the United States, gave the commencement address. His address focused on themes of internationalization and upward social mobility.