



Dr. Carey Shellman (left), with Kelley Kimball at the McDaniel Farm in Duluth. Shellman's class, Intro to Public History, served at Georgia Environmental Heritage Society's Fall Event. She implemented the History Discipline's first Service Learning Course.

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## Hidden Contributions: History Faculty Serve Various Communities

If the public were asked about college and university faculty duties, people would recognize faculty for teaching, research, academic advising, and even working with student clubs. Few would recognize the faculty role in something called "service." While levels of service vary at different institutions, most universities expect some faculty commitment

to the campus, to the wider community in which the school is situated, and to the faculty member's profession. Faculty service was especially important for Georgia Gwinnett College when it became a newly created state college within the University System of Georgia. "The service our faculty offer the disciplines, the School of Liberal Arts and the College are the engine that drive so many of the functions of this institution," commented Dr. Adolfo Santos, Dean of the School of

Liberal Arts. "While it is difficult to quantify the value of our faculty's service in dollars, the service they offer is very meaningful to the lives of the people they touch."

Service includes administrative and committee work, helping the institution with managing its affairs, assisting professional organizations, reviewing manuscripts before publication, and collaborating with community groups. *For a sense of the history of GGC's History Faculty Service Contributions, turn to page 5.*

### Current Faculty Service Examples: Fall 2013

**Seth Kendall** sets the course schedule for the entire SLA, is the history assessment coordinator, and worked on the Green and Grey Task Force.



**Richard Rawls** served as one of the "Deep Facilitators" for GGC's QEP plan, which required summertime training & week at the University of Minnesota. Rawls is also the POC for history. He collaborates with Dr. Meg Keiley-Listermann (POLs) on QEP and the annual Constitution Day observances.



**Michael Gagnon**, at right, with Joshua Owens and Braedon Tabor, helped Phi Alpha Theta, History Honors Club, sell donuts as a fund-raiser for GGC's



History Honors Society. Gagnon also represents the History Discipline on the SLA Curriculum Committee

**Nathan Orgill** serves in several capacities, including as the History Discipline full-time faculty hiring coordinator, the discipline rep to the QEP Committee, and the History Program representative to the Teacher Ed Certification CAEP reaccreditation.



**Kathryn Gray-White** serves on the SLA Advising Committee and the SLA Internship Committee, and helped set up the readings for GGC's faculty who contributed to *Atlanta's Real Women*.



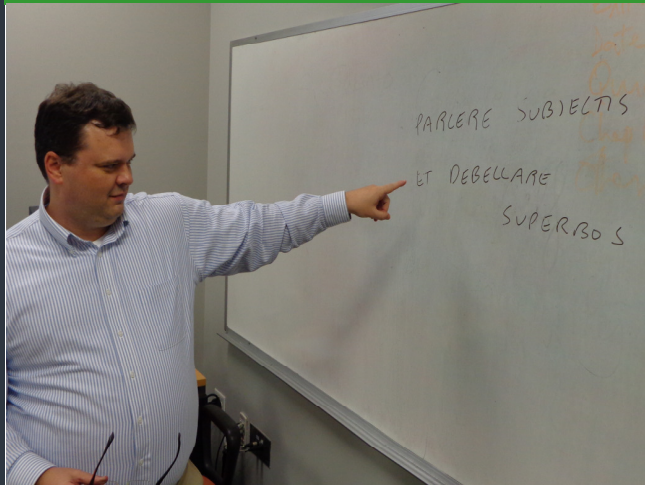
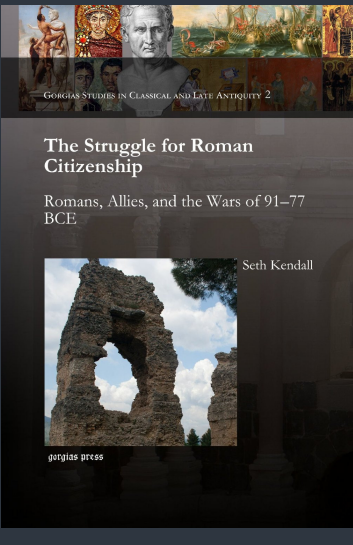
**Mazin Tadros** helped organize and speak at the symposium on the Syria Crisis on 13 October 2013. He also chairs a History Faculty Search Committee in World History.



**Michael Gunther** is the representative to the (Board of) Regents Academic Advisory Committee on History.



## Ex Libris: From the Bookshelves of GGC Historians



Dr. Seth Kendall has taught at GGC since 2008. In addition to publishing numerous encyclopedia entries and a book chapter, he just published *The Struggle for Roman Citizenship*, (left) with Gorgias Press (2013). In this section he discusses the utility of “Popular Histories.”

Just this month I completed *The Ghosts of Cannae* by Robert O’Connell. This was fairly remarkable for me, due to the fact that O’Connell’s book is of a type I have in the past often avoided: namely, it is a “popular history.” What that means is that it is a work about a historical subject, usually all narrative, which was not published by an academic press nor submitted for peer review. “Popular histories” are often not written by those with advanced degrees in history, though it happens that O’Connell himself has a doctorate (albeit in twentieth century history). Moreover, their bibliographies are typically very short, and their notes (if any) usually extremely brief, often amounting to mere citation; some in this genre have no notes or bibliographies at all. Finally, they almost always eschew in-depth analysis, either because their authors are not equipped to provide it or because, as they often claim, it will in some way weigh down the text and make it less interesting (as if it were impossible to make analysis interesting). Instead, they concentrate on narrative, which is usually done well, conducted in a style of prose which is engaging and witty. This would only make sense, as they are written for a general and therefore almost entirely amateur audience who want a good (true) story.

As I mentioned, historically (if one can pardon the awful pun) I have kept away from “popular histories.” This was mostly due to a supercilious attitude on my part; what I wondered, could works like these possibly teach me? And were its facts even right? Was there

anything resembling consultation of appropriate primary and secondary sources, something which could not be known without citations? And couldn’t I just do my own research, if I were curious about the topic?

Yet over the years I have come to see the use of “popular histories.” True, many of them are simply awful. Yet the better of them generally have their facts right,

**“So it must be admitted that “popular histories” do have their use, as long as caution is employed; one does not cite them in formal research papers, for example, unless to use a particularly good turn of phrase.”**

which means if the topic is something about which one truly knows nothing, they can provide broad-stroke outlines. The better ones - and O’Connell’s book qualifies - do have a some footnotes or at least a rudimentary bibliography, which can point the way to more serious academic

works on the topic in question. I’m not ashamed to admit that, while I know a fair bit about the Punic Wars, I found some good ideas for additional consultation in the references in *The Ghosts of Cannae*. Finally, it can’t be denied that their prose is often gripping: O’Connell’s certainly is, and he tells a good story. It is, I think, salutary for historians to see how those who do it solely to entertain pull it off, as it might spice up their own style.

So it must be admitted that “popular histories” do have their use, as long as caution is employed; one does not cite them in formal research papers, for example, unless to use a particularly good turn of phrase. Perhaps the best justification of all is that ultimately, their task is to tell a fine story, and with respect to my colleagues in English, what fictional story can come close to being as gripping as actual history?

**Dr. Seth Kendall earned his Ph.D at the University of Kentucky, his MA in Classics from the same institution, and his BA from the University of Memphis.**

# Standing Ovations! Faculty Accomplishments

## Drs. Nate Orgill, Seth Kendall, Richard Rawls



**Drs. Nathan Orgill, Seth Kendall, and Richard Rawls (pictured at left, l-r)**, published in the Encyclopedia, *The Philosophers of War: The Evolution of History's Greatest Military Thinkers*, published (2013) by ABC-Clio/Praeger Press. Orgill's entry covered Prussian reformers Scharnhorst and Gneisenau, and development of civic militarism in the Revolutionary period. Kendall composed several entries, including Gaius Marius, Quintus Fabius Maximus, Aeneas Tacticus, Archimedes, and Hero of Alexandria. Rawls wrote on the late Roman military historian, Vegetius.

**Seth Kendall** published *The Struggle for Roman Citizenship: Romans, Allies, and the Wars of 91-87 BCE*. Gorgias Press, 2013. See page 2

**Ellen Rafshoon** presented on role playing to teach immigration in US survey classes in a roundtable discussion with other historians of immigration titled "Approaches to Teaching Migration," at the Annual Conference of the Social Science History Association, Chicago, November 21-24, 2013. She also presented on the use of writing in the course, *US Since 1945*, in a panel she organized with other GGC faculty titled "Master Teacher Program: Inspiring Faculty to be Scholars of Student Learning," at the 13th Annual Conference of the International Society for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Elon University, Raleigh, North Carolina, October 2-5, 2013.

**Frank Smith**, part time faculty, presented "Reformed Theology in America: The Last 200 Years," at the Young American Leaders Association Missionary Training School, Los Angeles, on 3 December. He is President of the Institution.

**Eugene Berger** gave a lecture, "Ritual Cannibalism in Colonial Chile," to the OLAS Lectures on Latin American Culture and History, on September 26, 2013.

**Michael Gagnon** lectured on Athens' industrial history, and followed it with a book signing at the Colonial Dames Society of Georgia luncheon in Athens on October 17, 2013.

**Richard Rawls** presented "The Internationalization of the Curriculum at GGC" at the National Social Science Association Conference in New Orleans, 8 October 2013. He attended a training seminar related to GGC's QEP Plan at the University of Minnesota in late October. A collaboration with Drs. Janita Rawls and Amanda Wilsker was presented at the Southern Economic Association in Tampa in November 2013.

**Patrick Zander** concluded a book contract from Clio Publishing. His manuscript will be titled "The Rise of Fascism: A History with Documents." It is initially scheduled for publication in early 2015. Cheers!



**Chris Staaf**, part time faculty—and pictured with Alex Trebek—announced he will leave GGC at least for now to continue working on his doctorate at Georgia State University. He is GGC's only faculty member to appear on *Jeopardy*.



**David Mason** edited the four-volume, *The American Savings and Loan Industry, 1831-1935*, published by Pickering and Chatto in December 2013. The four volumes document and chart the origins, functions, operation, management, and regulation of the American Savings and Loans Industry. He previously wrote *From Buildings and Loans to Bailouts: A History of the American Savings and Loan Industry*.

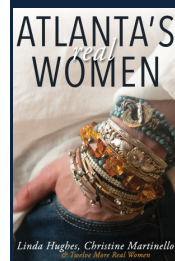


## Syria Discussion

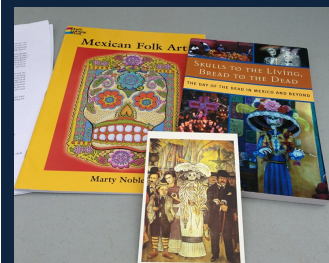


**Mazin Tadros** (Right) teamed with Ibrahim Ashour (Left, English) and Amir Azarvan (Center, Political Science) to produce and speak at a panel discussion on the Syrian Crisis, on October 15. Hank Johnson, Congressman from Georgia, was also slated to speak but had to withdraw due to Congressional duties.

## Kathryn Gray-White Arranges Talks on GGC's Faculty Chapters



Kathryn Gray-White arranged a series of talks from GGC's authors who contributed to *Atlanta's Real Women*. The talks were in Madison, Georgia and on GGC's campus, in October and November 2013.

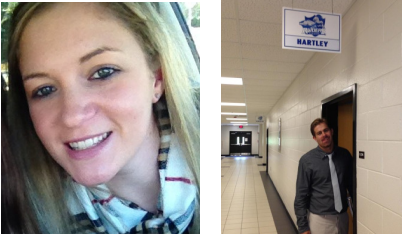


## "Day of the Dead"

**Lia Schraeder** helped OLAS (Organization of Latin American Students) learn about "El dia de los Muertos," Mexico's *Day of the Dead*, on October 31.

# Alumni/ae and Student News.

## GGC Graduates Earn Jobs in Education



Four of GGC's recent history alums were recently hired to teach at the middle school or high school level. All began their work in Fall 2013.

Christin Funderburk, (Spring 13), above left, teaches at Sweetwater Middle School. She teaches 8th and 9th grade social studies for the STEP Academy.

Samantha Mihalak (Dec 12) was hired by Central Gwinnett High School's Special Ed Department to US and World History Special Resources Classes.

Scott Hartley, (Spring 13), above right, was hired to teach at Louise Radloff Middle School, in Duluth, in Gwinnett County. He presently teaches sixth grade social studies.

Jacob Sagel (Spring 13) was hired by Dekalb County's Lakeside High School. The 2013-14 academic year finds him teaching history and social science courses at the freshman and sophomore level.

Congratulations to all four grads!

## 16 History Majors Graduate in December 2013



*GGC History Students prior to commencement and faculty afterwards*

GGC's Winter 2013 commencement ceremony tied the record for the largest class of students presented as candidates for graduation in History.

Graduating historians included: Rosanne Arledge, Ryan Beagle, Courtney Beasley, Tiffany McCarty, Valerie Cropanese, Lindsay Davis, Dorean Gonzalez, Allison Griswold, Heather Interholzinger, Doug Ludvigson, Mitchel Pittman, Jessica Trifoso, Laura Valiani, Danielle Vosburgh, Bryan Wasserman, and Matthew Wittwer. Elizabeth Peevy



graduated with a history minor.

These 17 graduating seniors included both History Majors and History Teacher-Certification Majors, as well as a History minor.

Homero Gonzalez, a GGC alumnus (2011), and winner of two Emmy awards, gave the Commencement Address.

This commencement also saw GGC "graduate" into use of the Gwinnett Arena instead of the Ball Room due to the College's growth.

## History Alumna Wins Research Paper Award

*Nikolich officially ends college career with award for paper.*



GGC History alumna, Kathryn Nikolich (SP 13), was the Co-Winner of the Roger N Pajari Undergraduate Research Paper Award contest. The Pajari award is given yearly to the best undergraduate paper nominated by a professor and meeting the requirements of an undergraduate political science course taught in Georgia.

Nikolich, a double major in POLS and History, submitted a paper based on her senior political science research paper, which was directed by Dr. Dovile Budryte. Nikolich's paper investigated urban sprawl and assessed its consequences in a case study of Gwinnett County. Budryte observed that Nikolich's paper, "presented a wealth of original data from various sources, including the Georgia Board of Education, Gwinnett County Schools, the Gwinnett County Tax Assessor, and the US Agricultural Census, to mention just a few." P. 4

### CONTACTING GGC & HISTORY DISCIPLINE

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# Faculty Service, Continued From Page 1

## Service Learning Project Donates Books on Victorian History and Lit

During the Fall Semester of 2013 the GGC Honors Program offered a course on British History and Literature in the Victorian Age. The class was co-taught by Dr. Kay Heath of the English Discipline and Dr. Patrick Zander of the History Discipline. The course investigated the major historical issues of the Victorian period through the literature of the time. A significant portion of the class was devoted to service learning projects, as is the general approach for Honors classes. The students worked to create a website that defines and explores the “Steampunk” phenomenon. Another project involved putting on a Victorian tea party in the Student Center which displayed authentic Victorian china, Victorian style treats, and photographs. The third service learning project focused on adding resources to the GGC Library collection. The class members worked to raise money and then worked with their two professors to create an extensive reading list on Victorian history and literary works. After checking the library’s existing collection, they selected the most important works that the library did not hold and purchased them through numerous booksellers. Finally, they produced an inventory report with descriptions of the books and explanations of their scholarly significance. When the project was complete the class was able to donate 31 books on subjects that included Industrialization, Imperialism, the women’s movement, and



Participants included from Left, Jose Gutierrez, Stephanie Abbott, Kelly Glass, and Dr. Patrick Zander

biographies of figures like William Gladstone, Benjamin Disraeli, David Livingstone and Charles Darwin. The class officially donated the books to the GGC Library on December 13. On the inside cover of each of these books, the Library staff is inserting a decal that indicates the books were donated by that class as a gift to the school. Dr. Patrick Zander, who supervised this project said, “Through their hard work and creativity, these students are leaving a kind of permanent legacy to GGC.” *Article Contributed by Dr. Zander*

## A Partial List of the History of Faculty Service, with Faculty Listed In Order of Hire. Search Committees Not Included

*Note: The longer faculty members have been at GGC, the more opportunities for service*

**Michael Gagnon:** Assistant to the VPASA (07-08), helped plan and script Spring and Winter commencement (08) and wrote the manual GGC uses to evaluate staff. College Historian and SLA Leaders Committee (09). Works on “History Commons.” Parking Committee (10). Learning Management System Committee (11). Faculty Senate’s Sabbatical Review Committee (12). Either History POC (Point of Contact) and/or “Cluster” leader (07-09). Loads of contributions related to GGC’s early years and its successful quest to earn accreditation from SACS. **External Service:** Judged students at National History Day state championships in Macon (09-10, 12-13). Judge for the Hall County Optimists Club student oratory contest (13); Lectures: public lectures on his book to the Athens Historical Society, the Mayflower Society of Georgia, and the Colonial Dames of Georgia; Button Gwinnett Day speaker (11); “The Spanish in Colonial Georgia,” at *Gwinnett County Library Reads*. (Oct 09).

**David Mason:** History POC who wrote History Major proposal (08-09); Assistant to the Dean/SLA Course Scheduler (09-12); Teacher Ed Advisory Committee (09, 11-13); Admissions Committee (07-present; Committee Chair 07-10); SLA Curriculum Committee (10-13); Bear Essentials Volunteer (07-13); New Faculty Orientation (09-10); Building Safety Committee (09-10). **External Service:** Lecture, “The French in Colonial America,” at *Gwinnett County Library Reads*. October (09); Peer-Reviewer for *Journal of Policy History’s* manuscripts (2012-13); Associate Book Reviewer for EH.Net (Economic History.Net).

**Richard Rawls:** History POC (present); QEP “Deep Facilitator” (13-14); Faculty Administrator/Assistant Dean for Part Time Faculty (10-12); SLA Curriculum Committee Chair (09-10); GGC Campus-Wide Curriculum Committee (09-10); SLA Leaders (10-12, 13-14); Library Planning and Policy Committee (08-10); Speaker’s Committee (09-10); Constitution Day Coordinator (in collaboration with colleagues in POLS) (09-13), and Speaker at Constitution Day Activities; *GGC History* co-editor. Announcer, “March Through the Arch,” (2010). **External Service:** Editorial Board, *Pacific Journal*, (08-present); GGC coordinator with Gwinnett County Public Library, for series “Gwinnett Reads.” (09). Lecture, “Spanish Conquistadors in 16th Century America” as part of the *Gwinnett County Library Reads* Series (09). Reader, AP European History Exams, (09-10); “College Day” at Bethesda Elementary School, Lawrenceville, GA (Nov 2013). Sermon, Berea Mennonite Church, Atlanta, GA.

# Service, Continued (Faculty Listed in Order of Hire)

## The Longer the Faculty Member Has Been at GGC, The More Opportunities for Service!

**Seth Kendall:** Assistant to the Dean for Scheduling (13-); History Discipline Assessment Coordinator (09-); History Annual Program Review Coordinator (10-); IEE Goal Team 8 (Quantitative Reasoning) committee member (09-13), Chair Elect (11-12), Chair (12-13); Green and Grey Task Force SLA Representative (11-13); Teacher Ed Advisory Committee (11-12); Library Planning and Policy Committee (08-10); SLA Peer Observation Form Committee (09); GGC SLA Assessment Committee Chair (08-09); GGC GE Goal 7 Committee; **External Service:** Gwinnett County Reads, "The Dutch in Colonial America" (09).

**Nathan Orgill:** History POC 2010-13; GGC Discipline Hiring Coordinator for Full-time faculty (13, 10-11); SLA Leaders Committee (10-13); Research Grants Committee (10-11); IEE 5 Goal Outcome Committee (10); GE Goal Committee 7 (09-10); **External Service:** Reader, AP European History Exams (08-11); Book Reviewer for H-Net (2004-); Book Reviewer for *German Studies Review* (10-); Textbook reviewer for Cengage Western Civilization textbook revision (13); "Elie Wiesel's Experience of the Holocaust," presented at Sweetwater Middle School, Lawrenceville, GA, November 2013; Commentator, "Talkback Session" following the performance of Academy, Aurora Theatre, Lawrenceville, GA, March 2011; Judge, Fresno County History Day, Fresno, CA, (08-09).

**Carey Shellman:** Institutional Review Board (12-14); GGC Library Planning and Policy Committee; IEE Goal Committees; Bear Essentials; Open House; Writing Curricular Proposals for Teacher Ed and other Courses (09-10); **External Service:** Docent, Oakland Historical Cemetery, Atlanta 2011-14). Docent, Georgia State Capital (2011-14).

**Kathryn Gray White:** History Internship Committee; SLA Committee on Mentoring (13-); GGC Speakers Committee (11-12); Part Time Faculty Mentor (10-12); Button Gwinnett Day (11-); **External Service:** Manuscript review for ELON College Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (Oct 13); Worked with Gwinnett Environmental Heritage Center (12) and Georgia Humanities Council (13) on sponsored grants for Button Gwinnett Day; working with external constituencies on future History Internships.

**Fang Zhou:** Helped repeatedly with Bear Essentials and Open Houses. Faculty advisor to men's and women's tennis teams, to help with scheduling. IEE Goal 4 Committee (12-13); Festival of Majors (repeatedly); Assisting Phi Alpha Theta with fund raising.

**Eugene Berger:** Inaugural Faculty for Honors Program (2012-); Latin America Week Planning Committee (2013); Internationalization Committee (2013); NCATE Standards Review; **External Service:** Scholarship review of tenure process at another university (13); Georgia Latino Vote organization (12); Chaperoned a Greenlight trip to the Frida Kahlo exhibit at the High Museum of Art (12).

**Lia Schraeder:** Full-time faculty hiring coordinator (2013); History Web Content Manager (2012); Various guest lectures on Mexican Culture and the "Day of the Dead," at GGC.

**Michael Gunther:** GGC Representative to the Regents Academic Advisory Committee on History (2013-); Bear Essentials Service (repeatedly); GGC Open House; Working on committee to organize conference to commemorate WW I; Papers given as part of GGC's observance of Constitution Day (2011, 12); lecture on controversial elections in U.S. History (Faculty Panel on Elections, 2012).; IEE Goal Team 6 (12-14); **External Service:** textbook reviewer for Bedford/St. Martin's.

**Nicole Ribianszky:** Open Houses (often); Bear Essentials (often); Led Common Reading Discussion Group of *Picking Cotton* (12) and *Blue Sweater* (12); Coordinator of US History portion of the legislative exam (12-13); Assisting Phi Alpha Theta with fundraising (13); Mentor of Part-Time Faculty member (14). **External Service:** Book Reviewer for *Journal of American Ethnic History*.

**Patrick Zander:** Selected reviews of manuscripts; Working on committee to organize conference to commemorate WW I; Chair of Part Time History Faculty Hiring; *GGC History Newsletter* co-editor; **External Service:** National History Day Judge @ Kennesaw State Univ (13); Keynote Speaker at Reinhardt University's "Year of Ireland" (12).

**Ryan Gaston:** Scholarship committee (2012-); Collegiality Committee (12-); Mentor to Part Time Faculty (11-); History Internship Committee. "Move-in" Day; Bear Essentials; Open House (repeatedly) **External Service:** National History Day (2012-13).

**Andra Knecht:** "Bear Essentials" (13). Assisted "Move-in" Day (13). Worked with D2L Home Page and Upgrade Navbar Planning Group in October and November (13).

**Wayne Ackerson:** Assisted "Move-In" Day (2013); Guest Lecture on Asperger's Syndrome to Dr. Michael Blake's education class (2013).



### Service In Pictures

**Photo Right:** Michael Gagnon, second from left in regalia, helped organize GGC's first graduation/commencement ceremony.

**Photo Left:** Eugene Berger lectured to the OLAS -Latin America Lecture Series.

