History professor Jim Brown retired this summer after 45 years of teaching at Samford. “Right now, it seems as if there’ll be lots of time out there in retirement world,” he said as his final semester drew to a close. But those already retired almost universally tell me it’s only a preretirement illusion.” If all goes as Brown imagined, he’ll be whiling away happy hours writing books, visiting with grandkids, fishing with buddies and learning to play the fiddle in his old age. “I’ve got the raw material for several books in small piles of stuff around the house, based on my travels and readings,” he said. “One would be about the Himalayas and the plains below, from Pakistan and India wrapping around through Bhutan to Yunnan and Sichuan, China. All the books, of course, would have matching Google Earth folders.” One of the highlights of his career was his completion of a modern world history text, *Fairy Tales, Patriotism and the Nation-State*. It combines a cultural nationalism with a Google Earth-based “corridor” treatment of different regions of the world and took many years to write. “I changed from being an engineering major to history midway through college because I was puzzled about what was happening in the world,” he said. Forty-five years of teaching helped him answer many questions, he said, “and most are spelled out in the book.” Brown said Samford set the conditions for him to be a more creative teacher by involving him in teaching programs that drew from a number of disciplines and perspectives. He used landscape architect, Ian McHarg’s *Design with Nature* as a framework for integrating other disciplines into a larger approach to teaching history that included geology, botany, zoology, anthropology, economics and political science. “Early on, I began teaching what was then called Man and Environment classes with biology profs such as Bob Stiles,” Brown said. “We started out with a nontraditional history/biology course of Alabama, looking at history through commercial fishermen, game wardens and farmers.” Later, they did similar courses in China, Uzbekistan, Peru, Kenya and Russia. Brown said the courses challenged him to prove his usual stand-up lectures were educating his students, and he found “it wasn’t necessarily so.” He added that the coming of age of geographic information systems, including Google Earth, had transformed his teaching. Brown said he has loved working with Samford students over the years. “The substantial majority come with an ethical bent, including a drive to do something for others in their lives.”

**Historian, New Arts and Sciences Dean**

Timothy D. Hall was named dean of Samford University’s Howard College of Arts and Sciences, effective July 11. His appointment followed a national search to replace David W. Chapman, who retired as dean at the end of the 2015-16 academic year. Hall will also hold the title professor of history in Howard College, which is Samford’s largest undergraduate academic unit and the historic foundation for Samford’s liberal arts and core curriculum.

“Dr. Hall’s long record as an internationally renowned scholar and exemplary higher education leader made him the solid choice for this key position,” Provost Michael Hardin said. “His academic credentials are extraordinary, and his record of leadership and growth at Central Michigan University, Mount Pleasant make him uniquely qualified as a visionary dean at this pivotal time in Samford’s history.” Hall earned his doctorate in American history from Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois, in 1991. He also has a master’s degree in British history from the University of Chicago and a master’s degree in theology from Dallas Theological Seminary. He is the author or co-author of several books on Colonial American history and has been widely published in professional journals.
We’ll Miss You, J. Brown

When word hit the department’s Facebook page that Dr. Brown was retiring, former students, alumni, friends, and colleagues started sharing their memories and well wishes. Here are only a few.

“My absolute favorite professor at Samford.” - Jeremy Hunt

“I, personally, and my family owe so much to this man as a teacher, a mentor and a friend when each was needed. A wonderful man and true educator in every sense of the word. First, he was a great educator. Whether it was single taught classes on Russia, the Middle East, China or any other place or time, this prof knew his stuff and made learning fun. The trip to Peru, the fishing trips—all those joint excursions with Stiles and others. The camping, the visits with his wonderful family. I even sat with his kids on a few nights so he and the Mrs. JB could have a night out. He was always there to help with class work. But more importantly, he was there to help with life and growing up. He was fortuitously in London when my sister suffered a tragedy and was able to comfort her until we could get her home. He has been the face of the department for many of us from the ’70s and early ’80s for all these years. He has been a good and faithful servant to the university, but more so to the students who were blessed enough to have had him as a prof. Of those of us who had him as a mentor, counselor, professor and friend. Godspeed to you on your lifetime of giving what matters most, yourself, and I do so hope to see you soon.” - Kenny White

“A giant in scholarship and a true gentleman in life. Congratulations.” - Monty Hogewood

“I wasn’t a history major, but by golly, if J. Brown was teaching it, I wanted to take it! Congratulations, there’s a national park waiting for your retirement celebration!” - Leisa Watterson DeVenny

“Wow, the end of an era, indeed. Dr. Brown remains one of the best, most interesting teachers I’ve ever had the privilege to study under. To use Pixar language, Dr. Brown’s Folklore class is one of my core memories from undergrad.” - Mary V. Thompson

“A true friend of students and (as my grandfather used to say) a ‘scholar and a gentleman.’ You will be missed, but your legacy will live on in countless numbers of students. I count myself as one of the fortunate ones who had the privilege of sitting under your teaching and your wonderfully developed (and entertaining) lectures. Congratulations on a wonderful career!” - Dick Bodenhamer

“Congratulations to Dr. Brown—one of the most important people I’ve ever met.” - Sarah McCullough Springer

“When I invite new faculty I work with to consider what lessons they are bringing with them from their favorite college professors, I typically include either a story about his Russian History class or one about the final exam question he gave us for Modern Middle East in the early ’90s (that I still remember)” - Deandra Little

“One of my most inspiring teachers ever.” - Clay Smith

“You have been a treasure to Samford. Huge loss for SU students. All the very best to you in retirement. Enjoy every second.” - Ginny Ireland

“Tenth the years of service.” - Nicholas Kromann

“Congratulations Dr. Brown! I cannot imagine Samford without you.” - Amanda Culver Wynns

“Thanks for your service, Doc!” - Glenn Allen Bobo

“I became a history major largely because of a class with Dr. Brown. Now I teach, and I hope that I have one tenth the contagious passion and intellect that Dr. Brown never failed to exude.” - Adam Oliver

“Your teaching and your wonderfully developed (and entertaining) lectures. Congratulations on a wonderful career!” - Josh Crute

“Sigh—I knew it was coming. Hopefully, you’ll have time to do research you always wanted to do and never could work into the schedule. Some of my fondest memories of Samford relate to this wonderful gentleman. It is the end of an era at my college—there is no one like this fabulous professor.” - Mary V. Thompson

“I was a history major, but by golly, if J. Brown was teaching it, I wanted to take it! Congratulations, there’s a national park waiting for your retirement celebration!” - Leisa Watterson DeVenny

“I wasn’t a history major, but by golly, if J. Brown was teaching it, I wanted to take it! Congratulations, there’s a national park waiting for your retirement celebration!” - Leisa Watterson DeVenny

“James Brown was the reason I changed majors and stayed put with history. That was one of the best decisions I’ve made—next to getting baptized—of course. As a minister and faithful Baptist, I believe that my history background has helped me to see the crossroads between culture and faith. Best wishes to you, Dr. J. Brown! Tomorrow, I will wear denim on denim in your honor.” - Alyssa Aldape

“Wow, the end of an era, indeed. Dr. Brown remains one of the best, most interesting teachers I’ve ever had the privilege to study under. To use Pixar language, Dr. Brown’s Folklore class is one of my core memories from undergrad.” - Josh Crute

“Congratulations.” - Monty Hogewood

“One of my most inspiring teachers ever.” - Clay Smith

“Thanks for your service, Doc!” - Glenn Allen Bobo

“J. Brown’s retirement is another tectonic plate shift for Samford—what a major player in Samford’s standard of academic quality for 45 years—big, big shoes to fill. But, congrats to Jim (and Linda). Time for some serious hiking/boating/fishing/whatever-ing! And travel!” - Timothy Paul Banks

“My absolute favorite professor at Samford.” - Jeremy Hunt

“All the very best to you in retirement. Enjoy every second.” - Ginny Ireland

“When word hit the department’s Facebook page that Dr. Brown was retiring, former students, alumni, friends, and colleagues started sharing their memories and well wishes. Here are only a few.

“Sigh—I knew it was coming. Hopefully, you’ll have time to do research you always wanted to do and never could work into the schedule. Some of my fondest memories of Samford relate to this wonderful gentleman. It is the end of an era at my college—there is no one like this fabulous professor.” - Mary V. Thompson

“I wasn’t a history major, but by golly, if J. Brown was teaching it, I wanted to take it! Congratulations, there’s a national park waiting for your retirement celebration!” - Leisa Watterson DeVenny

“He was the best teacher I had. He taught me to think of history in new ways. Congratulations on your years of service.” - Patrick McDonald
"Congrats Dr. Brown! Best history professor I ever had." - Penny Wilhite Urbanek

“One of the absolute best professors I have ever had. Dr. Brown heightened my appreciation of history and taught me to think more critically. A professor like him makes one a better person, as well as a life-long student. I wish Dr. Brown all the best.” - Jeff Styres

“Simply the best of professors. Made my graduate school professors at Vanderbilt look like ‘also-rans.’ Dr. Brown is the greatest of lecturers, a friend, later a colleague, and a mentor. No finer person in life, either. A devastating loss for Samford University, generally, and the Department of History, specifically. You will be sorely missed, Dr. Brown.” - Todd Heifner

“He is the living embodiment of a Renaissance man.” - Chase Trautwein

“Jim Brown taught us how to look at why people and governments act and evolve and not just dates. He was and still is one of my best teachers.” - Jane Reed Ross

“My favorite professor from undergrad studies. Passion, humor, humility, encyclopedic knowledge, and an embrace of new cultures and all that can be gleaned from drawing close to them. He was amazing. I went to Samford debating between majors in journalism, history/political science toward pre-law, or education. After one class period with Dr. J. Brown, the decision was easy. A wise ministry mentor told me to study what I loved for undergrad and to do lots of volunteer ministry outside of the classroom, as I would get to study theology formally in seminary. J. Brown made the study of history thoroughly enjoyable every day. I loved every minute. Bravo and congratulations, Dr. Brown.”

- Ryan Doyle

“One of the most charismatic and amazing professors at Samford. The future classes at Samford will be missing out on a wonderful professor.” - Lindsey Duncan Graham

“No better teacher, mentor, and friend. Jim Brown is a treasure, and he leaves a strong legacy at our beloved Samford.”

- Kitty Rogers Brown

“This is truly the end of an era, and J. Brown will be forever missed in the department. To all Samford history alums, I will see you in November.” - Bryan Kessler

“Dr. Brown was one of my favorite professors! Thanks for your years of service and great history lessons!” - Vaughn Pruett Bell

“Such a great privilege to have studied under you, Dr. Brown.”

- Kris Furlow Linkins

“Perhaps the best teacher I’ve ever had. He has no idea the impact he had on me. Amazing.” - Kevin D. Phillips

“My Samford experience was meaningful in a lot of ways, but it was academically meaningful because of Dr. Brown. He taught me how to study history, how to dissect a fairytale, how to speak a little Italian, how to travel, how to speed read and remember minute details, and how to weave a basket. Thanks for always pushing me to write better, read more and think deeper.”

- Meg Spears Newsome

“The look that says: ‘Really, Northrup, really?’ Great teacher, mentor, father, husband, mensch. Creator of the denim on denim look, and memories from Wuhu to Oak Mountain to Philadelphia. My friend, Bolshoe spasibo.” - Jeff Northrup

“J. Brown—INVENTOR

Did you know that Jim Brown is also an inventor? Among his many other accomplishments, Dr. Brown was given a grant of Letters Patent in November 1997 from the US Patent Office for an educational tool he created which would allow students to visualize cities, mountain ranges, rivers, and other land formations. The invention was a three-dimensional graphic depiction of specific structures, such as islands. It enhanced the learning experience by allowing students to assemble the model and analyze why roads, cities, and even civilizations were developed in various regions as a result of topographical constraints.

(Department Newsletter, Vol. 27, No. 1, 1998)
Carlos Alemán, as the director of the Latin American Studies Scholars Program, took his second cohort of LAS Scholars to study abroad in a new location, Nicaragua, in June. They trekked across the country learning about its history and culture. Alemán also serves as the faculty advisor for the Latino Student Organization (LSO), which won Outstanding New Student Organization for the 2015-2016 academic year.

In addition to his involvement in the Howard College of Arts and Sciences’ Strategic Planning Workshops, he also served on the HCAS Dean Search Committee (2015-2016), the QEP Enhancement Review Team (Fall 2015) and chairs Samford University’s Faculty Diversity Committee.

Alemán was invited to speak at several events in the community. He served as a panelist for two events at the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute: “The Discussion Lounge: Brown/Black Relations in Birmingham” (May 2015) and “Nuestra Cultura (Our Culture): The Impact of Hispanic/Latino Cultures in America” (January 2016). He also gave a talk on “Immigration and Christianity,” at Shades Mountain Baptist Church in October 2015. In September 2016, he was guest lecturer for a class at the School of Medicine of the University of Alabama.

Alemán is serving as Vice Chair for the Board of Directors of the Hispanic Interest Coalition of Alabama in 2016-2017 and President of the Board of Directors for Adelante Alabama Worker Center. He also serves on the Board of Directors for Fiesta!, Alabama’s largest Latino Cultural Festival.

Ginger Frost (University Research Professor of History) gave four papers at conferences in 2015-2016. In October, 2015, she presented a paper at the Northeast Conference on British Studies in Ottawa called “Alien Marriages: Transnational Marriage and Divorce in Britain, 1860-1940.” In May, she attended a symposium at Oxford Brookes University in Oxford, England, on the topic of “Trauma, Tragedy and Triage: Narratives of Troubled Children and Families in Late Nineteenth-Century England and Wales.” Her paper was titled, “‘I Have Got to Like England Too Much to Leave Canada’: Migration and Illegitimacy in England, 1880-1930.” She was the only American of the eight participants at that symposium. In June, she gave a paper at a conference on children’s history, “Horrible Histories? Children’s Lives in Historical Context,” at King’s College, London. Her paper was “‘This Most Barbarous Usage’: Illegitimacy and Servant-Beating in England, 1860-1920.” In late June, she traveled to Plymouth, England to speak at a conference at Plymouth University titled, “‘A Time of Judgement’: The Operation and Representation of ‘Judgement’ in Nineteenth-Century Cultures.” Her paper was “‘Infamous Falsehoods’: Judges, Perjury, and Affiliation Trials in England, 1860-1930.”

In May, 2016, Frost’s fourth book, *Illegitimacy in English Law and Society, 1860-1930*, was published by Manchester University Press. She also had an article published, “‘As if She Was My Own Child’: Cohabitation, Community and the English Criminal Courts, 1855-1900,” *History of Family* 20 (October 2015), 546-62, and two others accepted. She wrote the introduction to a translation into Mandarin of E.M. Delafield’s classic comic novel, *Diary of a Provincial Lady*, translated by Li Jing and forthcoming from Shanghai Press. She also published two book reviews, both in *Victorian Studies*, and continued to serve on the editorial boards of *Victorian Institutes Journal* and *The Journal of Victorian Culture*.

In March, Frost received a Franklin Research Grant from the American Philosophical Society for research in the summer in Liverpool for her new project, *Crossed Lines and Crossed Hearts: Mixed Marriages in Britain, 1837-1939*. She also received a faculty development grant from Samford University for this project, which she will use during her sabbatical in 2016-2017.

Erin Mauldin was named the winner of the 2016 Harold N. Glassman Award for best dissertation at Georgetown University, the highest scholarly accolade bestowed on recent doctoral alumni.

She had two articles accepted for publication in peer-reviewed journals. One is on the ecological aspects of contract negotiations between planters and recently freed slaves, to appear in *The Journal of the Civil War Era*. The other is about hog cholera and the assault on subsistence practices in the late nineteenth century for a special issue of *The Alabama Review*. Her edited collection for Wiley-Blackwell Press, *The Companion to Global Environmental History*, was re-released in paperback. She had book reviews published for *The Journal of Southern History, Civil War History,* and *H-Net Environment*.

She presented at several conferences, including the Agricultural History Society annual meeting and “New Paths in the Environmental History of North America and the Ohio Valley,” sponsored by the Filson Historical Society and the University of Louisville. She also gave a talk to New Horizons, the multidisciplinary lecture series for retired academic faculty, hosted by UAB.

Mauldin organized and hosted the Ninth Annual Southern Forum on Agricultural, Rural, and Environmental History (SFARE) at Samford University April 15-16, a conference that brought together environmental historians from all over the country. Dr. Bart Elmore, a professor at Ohio State University, and award-winning author of *Citizen Coke: The Making of Coca-Cola Capitalism* (Norton, 2015), delivered the keynote address. She was named the new Book Review Editor for the journal, *Agricultural History*, a position that begins January 2017.

John Mayfield had a busy year. In addition to teaching the senior seminar and the class in Colonial history in the fall, he took a sabbatical leave in the spring to begin work on a new book.
While doing that, he presented a paper entitled, “Honor and the Marketplace” to the Southern Intellectual History Circle which met this year at the University of the South in Sewanee. He also completed the final editing process of The Field of Honor: Essays on Southern Character and American Identity, which is an anthology of essays on honor by twenty scholars in the field. His co-editor is Todd Hagstette of the University of South Carolina at Aiken. The volume is due out in February 2017. Mayfield was recognized at Samford’s Service Awards luncheon in January for twenty years of service. However, the most important event, was the birth of his first grandchild, Marley Jane Renfroe, in December. She is perfect in every way.

**Delane Tew** published the chapter, “Adoniram Judson: American Baptist Bridge to the World” in Witnesses to the Baptist Heritage edited by Michael Williams, Sr. published by Mercer University Press. She also wrote five articles for the three-volume Encyclopedia of Christianity in the United States (Rowman & Littlefield Publishers, October 2016). Finally, she is working on a chapter entitled, “‘A Greater Influence than You Imagine’: Women Lead the Way to Centralization, 1890-1930” in Reimagining Southern Baptist History: Women, Gender and the Politics of the Past, Betsy Flowers and Karen Seat, editors, which is currently in negotiation with the University of Tennessee Press.

**Elizabeth (Liz) Wells** (Special Collection and Archives), has retired after forty years of service at Samford. During last year’s homecoming, friends and alumni, gathered in Davis Library to celebrate her service to the University as well as the library. During those forty years, Liz helped countless history majors with their research papers and senior projects. Among her activities in retirement, Liz plans on serving as co-editor with Yvonne Crumpler of “Adventures in Genealogy” for Alabama Heritage, and writing the first-ever history of The Alabama Baptist which is celebrating 175 years of continuous ministry. The four-color fully illustrated book is scheduled for release in 2017.

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**Former Faculty Member Hamilton Remembered**

Many history alumni will remember Dr. Frances Dew Hamilton who was known for her enthusiastic teaching of courses in World and U.S. history, the Ancient Near East, the Greeks and Romans, and the history of England. Dr. Hamilton passed away on July 25, 2016, at age 79. She began teaching full-time at Howard College (now Samford University) in 1960 and was faculty advisor to Phi Alpha Theta and Zeta Tau Alpha. Dr. Hamilton was voted the Friendliest Professor by the student body in 1988. She was involved in the London Study Program and co-directed the British History and Heritage Tour with Dr. Marlene Rikard.

A 1957 *magna cum laude* graduate of Judson College (Alabama) in history and French, Dr. Hamilton went on to earn the Master’s of Arts degree in history from the University of Georgia in 1959. She received the Doctor of Humane Letters degree from Judson College in 1992 and received that institution’s Outstanding Alumna Award in 2011.

She was the first woman to head an Alabama Baptist Convention agency when elected executive director of the Alabama Baptist Historical Commission in 1994, retiring in 2006. She was also the president of the Alabama Baptist Historical Society, as well as chair of the Continuing Education Committee of the Birmingham Baptist Association.

Dr. Hamilton was an accomplished author and historian. She co-authored the sesquicentennial history of Judson College, Daughters of the Dream: Judson College 1838-1988, with Elizabeth Crabtree Wells, Samford’s Special Collection librarian (retired). She also prepared the history of First Baptist Church Trussville for its 175th anniversary, “A Mind to Work: A History of the First Baptist Church of Trussville, AL,” by drawing from her family’s recollections. (Hamilton’s family has been on the rolls at FBC Trussville since the 1840’s.)

Dr. Hamilton is survived by a son, Col. Charles T. Hamilton (AB ’88 IREL) and three grandchildren.

The department extends condolences to Dr. Hamilton’s family, friends, and colleagues.

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**New Faculty Publications**

In May, 2016, Dr. Ginger Frost’s fourth book, *Illegitimacy in English Law and Society, 1860-1930*, was published by Manchester University Press.

**Dr. John Mayfield** and Todd Hagstette, the University of South Carolina at Aiken, are editors of The Field of Honor: Essays on Southern Character and American Identity due out February 2017 (The University of South Carolina Press).


History Professor Erin Mauldin Earns Top Dissertation Award

Samford University history professor Erin Mauldin has earned Georgetown University’s 2016 Harold N. Glassman Award for a Dissertation in the Humanities. The award is the university’s highest accolade to its recent doctoral alumni for scholarly accomplishment. Mauldin completed the dissertation, Unredeemed Land: The U.S. Civil War, Changing Land Use Practices, and the Environmental Limitations of Agriculture in the South, 1840–1880, for her 2014 Ph.D. from Georgetown.

Mauldin’s research interests center on 19th-century environmental history, and also include the history of the U.S. South, the Atlantic World and environmental science. She coedited A Companion to Global Environmental History with J. R. McNeill (2012), and has published book chapters in global and U.S. environmental history and book reviews in journals. She frequently presents her work at the American Society for Environmental History, the Society for Civil War Historians and the Agricultural History Society. She organized the 2016 Southern Forum on Agricultural, Rural and Environmental History (SFARE) at Samford in mid-April.

Mauldin’s current book project, Unredeemed Land: Confronting the Ecological Legacies of Civil War and Emancipation in the South, 1840–1880, is an environmental history of Reconstruction in the rural South, but connects changes to Southern economy and ecology during that period back to the Civil War.

Department Adds New Faculty Members

Dr. Anthony Minnema joined the department as Assistant Professor of History in the fall. Minnema is a historian of Christian-Muslim relations in the Middle Ages. He comes to Samford from Valparaiso University, where he was a Lilly Postdoctoral Fellow. He received his doctorate in history from the University of Tennessee in 2013. His research focuses on conflict and coexistence between different faiths in the premodern period. He has written on the translation of Arabic works of philosophy and religion into Latin and their readership at European universities and other centers of learning. He is also interested in the experience of Muslims living under and near Christian kingdoms in medieval Spain, as well as attempts by Spanish Muslims to create independent states on the Iberian Peninsula in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries. Dr. Minnema enjoys gardening and cooking. His wife, Linnea, also works at Samford as the Academic Grants Officer.

Dr. Annalise DeVries will join the department Spring 2017 as Assistant Professor of History. DeVries came to Samford after previously holding teaching positions at the University of Alabama and Birmingham-Southern College. Her professional interests include global and comparative history, imperialism, modern Egypt, the modern Middle East, and women’s and gender history. She is currently working on a book manuscript based on her dissertation research, which looks at Cairo’s cosmopolitan society in the late-nineteenth and twentieth centuries. She also enjoys watching a good soccer match, hiking, knitting, sewing and traveling near and far. She and her husband, Stephen, a food and travel photographer, have one child, Lily, who was born in September.
1. Lauren Ziemer (’13) and Blakely Lloyd (’16) strike a pose with Dr. Jim Brown
2. Nick Kromann, Phi Alpha Theta Award recipient, and Dr. LeeAnn Reynolds, Phi Alpha Theta faculty advisor
3. Franklin Lowe, Rikard Award recipient, and Dr. Jonathan Bass, Department Chair
4. Everyone gathers in Howard Room for annual awards banquet
5. Amelia Hagler, Vess Award recipient, with Dr. Bass
6. Phi Alpha Theta Spring 2016 inductees: Ann Potter, Margaret Schultz and Dr. Mike Ledgerwood, Professor/Chair, World Languages and Cultures (honorary)

OCTOBER 25, 1979
First Annual Phi Alpha Theta/History Awards Dinner
The Epsilon Rho Chapter of Phi Alpha Theta, the history honor society, inducted nine members last year under the leadership of president Franklin Lowe and vice president Nicole Poland. Members included: Katherine Ann Blackburn, Claire N. Blackmon, Jessica Dell Brewer, William Evan Craig, Austin Chase Friday, JoAnn E. Hughes, Ann Potter, Morgan A. Roettele, and Margaret F. Schultz.

Phi Alpha Theta hosted events in 2015-16 focused on the many career options available to history majors. In November, the chapter sponsored a tour of Vulcan Park led by history department alumna Maggie Blow, who highlighted the merits of a career in public history. In April, guest speakers in the fields of publishing, law, and religion explained how their history degrees prepared them for their careers.

In other news, Franklin Lowe represented the chapter by presenting his research this past March at the regional Phi Alpha Theta conference at Spring Hill College in Mobile.

Stockham Scholarship Recipients Announced

The History and Classics Departments welcomed the first cohort of Stockham Scholarship recipients in the Fall of 2016. The Stockham Scholarship offers funding for tuition and international travel to students pursuing a double major in History and Classics. Scholarship recipients complete courses in three primary areas: classical Greece and Rome; modernity and the American political project; and religion and politics from antiquity to the present.

In addition to coursework on campus, Stockham Scholars are provided financial awards to travel to Greece and Rome with the Classics Department. Coursework and travel are supplemented with guest lectures and special functions hosted by the Stockham Chair of Western Intellectual History. Each of these components are designed to provide students broad critical thinking skills so that no matter their career path—business, law, education, ministry, or even the sciences—they possess exceptional historical, linguistic, and interpretive training for navigating today’s complicated marketplace of ideas.

Stockham Scholarship recipients are chosen by application, and any Samford student seeking to double-major in History and Classics may apply.

The first class of Stockham Scholars are:

- Spencer Bissell
- Justin Heydt
- John Kegley
- Jess Vaughan

- Dallas Knight
- Jenesia Porter

In the spring of 2014, Dr. William Jason Wallace, Associate Professor of History, was appointed the inaugural holder of the Richard J. Stockham, Jr. Chair of Western Intellectual History. The endowed chair is responsible for developing curricular initiatives in the Howard College of Arts and Sciences that promote the study of Western ideas and institutions from antiquity through the modern period. The chair is named in honor of Mr. Richard Stockham, Jr., a Birmingham native and Princeton graduate who cared deeply about the educational value of the Western and Christian intellectual traditions.
Eleven Samford University students have been honored by the Birmingham Center of Colonial Dames of America for outstanding papers. The winners received cash prizes for their work submitted in the annual Colonial Dames’ American Independence Awards essay contest.

Hannah James, a senior history and religion major from London, Kentucky, won the first place prize of $600. Her paper was entitled “For the Kingdom of God or for the Kingdom of Man? American Indigenous Societies and Their Alterations of Environmental Practices during Colonization, Sixteenth to Mid-Eighteenth Century.”


William Higgins, a junior political science and classics major from Knoxville, Tennessee, won third place and $500 for his paper, “It Started with Paxton’s Case: An Explanation and Analysis of the Weak Legal Cases and Political Rhetoric That Founded the United States.”

Sam Fink, a freshman from Fayetteville, Georgia, won fourth place and $400 for his paper, “The Hero of Two Worlds.”

Trevor Waldrop, a junior classics and history major from Birmingham, won fifth place and $300 for his paper, “The Exile of Thomas Hutchinson.”

Anna-Drake Stephens, a freshman history major from Dothan, Alabama, won sixth place and $300 for her paper, “Thomas Jefferson.”

Nicolas Kromann, a senior history major from Huntsville, Alabama, won seventh place and $300 for his paper, “Loyalism and Its Consequences: The Tribulations of Thomas Hutchinson.”

Honorable Mention and $50 prizes went to four essay writers: Sarah Harbaugh, a freshman voice major from Owens Crossroads, Alabama; Rachel Johnson, a freshman mathematics major from Memphis, Tennessee; Delaney Harrison, a junior political science major from Cataula, Georgia; and Cole Arn, a freshman music and worship leadership major from Plant City, Florida.

The awards were presented by Samford history department chair S. Jonathan Bass at a luncheon at Mountain Brook Country Club March 16. Winners were also recognized at the annual departmental awards banquet in April.

A collection of the winning papers was dedicated to Kathryn Hicks Porter in recognition of her service as Colonial Dames president. A bound volume of the essays will be housed in the Samford library.

NOW ACCEPTING SUBMISSIONS FOR THE 60TH ANNUAL AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE AWARDS ESSAY CONTEST FROM SAMFORD STUDENTS THROUGH FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2016

For More Information: Ivy Alexander, ilalexan@samford.edu, 205-726-2858
William A. “Bill” Nunnelley ’63, longtime Samford employee and veteran journalist is the 2016 inductee on the Wall of Fame for Samford University’s Department of Journalism and Mass Communication. The Wall of Fame was created to recognize people who have “made exceptional contributions to the department or to the field of journalism and mass communication.” Nunnelley received the BA (’63) and MA (’83) in History from Samford and joined the university staff in 1964. He currently serves as the senior editor and director of public relations in the Division of Marketing and Communication. Nunnelley received the President’s Award in 2013 for his outstanding services to the university. He credits his Samford education for forming a strong foundation of editorial knowledge.

Janie L. Shores ’68 recently published her autobiography, Just Call Me Janie. She was the first female professor at Cumberland School of Law and went on to become the first female justice on the Alabama Supreme Court where she served for 24 years. When she took office in January 1975, Justice Shores was only the fourth woman in U.S. history to serve on any state supreme court.

More accolades for Samford history alum Lee Van Orsdel ’69 and her leadership in designing the award-winning Mary Idema Pew Library Learning and Information Commons, Grand Valley State University (GVSU), Allendale, MI. Praised for setting the standard for both new construction and renovations, this library has been named one of only five “2016 New Landmark Libraries” in the U.S. by Library Journal. Lee was on the faculty of Samford’s Davis Library before receiving an MA in History from FSU. She later served as director of the libraries at Montevallo, and Eastern Kentucky before accepting the position as Dean of University Libraries at GVSU.

Jeffrey Anderson ’97, assistant professor of history at the University of Louisiana - Monroe (ULM), will be taking a position as Associate Director of the School of Humanities at ULM beginning in January. Jeff says that it will be his first foray into the administrative field.

Meredith McDonough ’05, digital assets coordinator with the Alabama Department of Archives & History has been involved in a crowdsourcing project between The Archives and Prime Montgomery to identify people in thousands of images spanning five decades. This project was an outgrowth of work that she and other archivists completed on the collections of several professional photographers. For more information, go to www.archives.alabama.gov and www.primemontgomery.com.

Matthew Scales ’07 recently shared that back in 2007, while working as a historian at the Air Force Historical Research Agency in Montgomery, he located the lead aircraft for the main wave of paratroopers on D-Day. He says that all of the twists and turns the story took over a span of eight years is a long story, but the end result has been his assisting the Commemorative Air Force in confirming some details and unearthing more information on the aircraft’s history. He was interviewed by the National Air and Space Museum, the Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel, CNN and al.com. Matt remains a historian in the Air Force Reserve where he serves as the wing historian for the 908th Airlift Wing in Montgomery.

Mary Kathryn Steel ’07 has joined the AbbVie Corporate Communications team where she focuses on government affairs and public policy, access, global philanthropy, corporate responsibility, patent litigation, and ethics and compliance. She is a New York Times published essayist and chairs the Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation’s Advisory Board, an organization that has awarded millions of dollars in scholarships to thousands of high school students. She and her husband, Michael, make their home in Washington, D.C.

Lauren Doss ’08 has been named Samford’s Director of Global Engagement. The Office of Global Engagement connects international students to Samford University and provides study abroad opportunities for Samford students. Since graduating in 2008, Lauren has spent the past several years in international education at the University of Kentucky and the University of Evansville. She will coordinate international student and scholar services and study abroad. She also will teach in the English Language Learning Institute program. Doss replaces Angela Ferguson, who is returning to the German program.

Andrew Farrell ’08 writes that he has relocated to England and is involved in a project called The Eighth in the East which is looking at the social history of the “Friendly Invasion” of the 8th USAAF into East Anglia during World War II. In his position as Learning Officer, he works with local communities, schools and museums in developing the resources and relationships necessary to keep the history and spirit of the 8th USAAF alive in East Anglia. One of the latest programs is a play entitled Somewhere in England which addresses racism and inter-racial relationships between Black GIs and local communities. For more information, see http://www.8theast.org.

Haley Aaron ’10 was featured in the Winter 2016 Alabama Department of Archives & History newsletter in an article on The Archives’ collection of World War I pilot and Montgomery native Penrose Vass Stout. Haley is a manuscripts archivist at The Archives. The Stout collection can be viewed online at www.digital.alabama.gov. Haley was also featured on C-SPAN where she gave an overview of items from the George C. Wallace Collection, as well as explaining Wallace’s influence on Alabama and the nation. This segment aired as part of C-SPAN’s City Tours Series in March.

Alyssa Aldape ’11 emailed to say that she graduated last May from the McAfee School of Theology in Atlanta with a Master of Divinity degree. She is currently the Interim Minister of Community Ministry and Missions at First Baptist Church of Dalton, GA. For the past year, she was in a fellowship through the Baptist...
Joint Committee for Religious Liberty in which she committed to promoting religious liberty in her local church setting. “I certainly have put my History background to good use during my fellowship!” says Alyssa. Alyssa was ordained in October 2015 at Northside Drive Baptist Church, Atlanta.

Evan Musgraves ’13 and wife Anna welcomed son, Harrison, born July 28, 2016. Harrison weighed in at 9 pounds, 12 ounces. Evan is working toward the Master of Divinity degree at Beeson Divinity School. Congratulations, Evan and Anna.

Casey Thompson ’13 writes that post-graduation is great! The internship he held in London really helped boost his resume for the job he has now and he would really encourage students to travel abroad whenever they get the chance. He is working for EWTN (Global Catholic Network) in Irondale. He works in the Acquisitions Department and helps to acquire programming, TV shows, and videos for all EWTN’s English territories (USA, Canada, UK/Ireland, Asia Pacific and Africa/India). Thankfully, says Casey, that does require a lot of traveling. Since starting in August 2014, Casey has traveled to Cannes, France; Rome, Italy; Cologne, Germany; Vienna, Austria; Paris, France; London, UK; and domestically to Florida, California and Hawaii. Casey often uses his research skills he learned from being a history major to background check producers, actors, etc., to make sure they represent the EWTN brand.

Morgan Ramsey ’15 was one of four students who, as a Samford Global Missions Scholar, worked through Greater European Mission, a nondenominational mission agency to respond to the current humanitarian crisis in Greece by ministering to the physical and spiritual needs of refugees. Morgan and the rest of the team from Samford spent three months this past winter assisting Syrian refugees as they arrived on the Greek island of Lesbos.

Holly Howell ’16 is enjoying being a student at Cumberland School of Law as one of two students blazing the trail for the 3+3 accelerated law degree program. Holly graduated summa cum laude with a Bachelor of Arts in History in May. In Holly’s first semester at law school, she made the Dean’s List, became a member of Phi Alpha Delta Legal Fraternity and Omicron Delta Kappa Leadership Honor Society, and participated in the Parham Williams Mock Trial Competition. She is slated to graduate in 2018.

Nick Kromann ’16 is in law school at the University of Alabama on full scholarship.

Blakely Lloyd ’16 is in law school at the University of Alabama and has just begun her 1L year. She says that she is loving it (so far). She is part of the Dorbin Association, Christian Legal Society, SBA and hopes to soon become a member of the Public Interest Board.

Before graduating in May, Franklin Lowe ’16 was named a winner of the Rufus W. Shelton Community Service Award, which honors a student who has done the most for betterment of life at Samford. He also received the Omicron Delta Kappa Circle Leader of the Year Award for exemplary service to the circle and to the Samford community. Franklin is attending the University of Georgia where he is working on a Master of Arts degree in Art History.

Breonna Scott ’16 writes that she has been chosen for a year with AmeriCorps.

69th Annual AHA Meeting
by Marlene Rikard

The Alabama Historical Association (AHA) met in Montgomery, April 12-14, 2016. Samford was well represented in attendance. On the program, former faculty member, Carolyn Green Satterfield presented “Robert Sylvester Munger: Birmingham Inventor, Educator, Philanthropist,” and Samford alum Robert D. England (’70) of Tuscumbia, Alabama, presented “Hellish Historiography Meets Wandering Welshman.”

In the Spring 2016 AHA Newsletter, alum Chriss Doss’s (’57) essay, “Memories of the 1956 Annual Meeting in Montgomery,” recalled his undergraduate time at Howard College when he attended his first AHA meeting as a student and assistant to historian and Howard College history professor/dean Dr. William Pratt Dale. To read this very interesting recollection of Doss’s observations on that trip, which included city buses in Montgomery during the Bus Boycott and a visit to the Governor’s Mansion with a tour by Gov. Folsom’s daughter, go to http://www.alabamahistory.net/newsletters.html and click on Spring 2016 link.

The 70th annual meeting will be in Auburn, Alabama, April 20-22, 2017 at the Auburn University Hotel and Dixon Conference Center.
Footnotes at 45

For forty-five years, this newsletter has continuously provided a glimpse into the life of the department, its faculty, students, staff, and alumni. Department chair, Dr. David M. Vess, typed up the first edition in January 1971. That first issue consisted of a single legal-sized sheet of paper which was folded in half and mimeographed as four 4” x 7” pages. It was one of the first departmental newsletters at the university and was sent to our majors and some 1200 alumni. In its pages, students were reminded of the day of academic counseling on February 1st and the history courses listed for the Spring 1971 semester.

That first humble effort was such a success that, with growing alumni support, it doubled in size and went to a multiple page 8.5” x 11” format the next year. What began on an electric typewriter took on a more polished look in the 1980’s with the advent of personal computers, printers, and copiers. A masthead was also added which would evolve into what we have today. The newsletter was titled “Footnotes” in 1999 and the first four-color edition was printed five years later.

Even after Dr. Vess stepped down as department chair in 1985, he continued to guide and contribute to its production well past his retirement in 1996. He faithfully reported the comings and goings of the department with obvious pride. After his death in 2012, his family presented the department with a bound edition Dr. Vess had compiled of every issue he edited for 25 years. Twenty years later, we continue the tradition. The edition you have before you is available in electronic format as well as paper and is still being disseminated to our majors, alumni, and friends.

Throughout its production, from typewriter to the first PC to the typeset page to the internet, we appreciate the efforts of Dr. Vess and all of those who have been a part for forty-five years. Thank you.

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