
ASPECT doctoral student Judson Abraham presented “Why, Exactly, Does Trump 'Dig Coal'”? Monopoly Capitalism in an Extractive Industry” at the 6th annual Rural Studies Student Conference, which was held November 1–2 in University Park, Pennsylvania.


ASPECT doctoral student Caroline Alphin and François Debrix, Director of ASPECT and Professor of Political Science, presented “‘Necro-geopolitics’ Exploited Vulnerabilities, Disadvantaged Lives, and Death-Making” at the Annual Meeting of the Social Science History Association, which was held November 8–11 in Phoenix, Arizona.


Toni Calasanti, Sociology, was appointed to the American Sociological Association (ASA) Committee on Professional Ethics for a three-year term beginning in January 2019. The ASA has more than 13,000 members; the nine-member committee is appointed by the association’s Council.


The Center for Gerontology’s Research Team on Caregivers for Persons with Memory Loss in Rural Appalachia presented the following papers at the Gerontological Society of America 2018 Annual Scientific Meeting. Human Development doctoral students Shelby Borowski and Kevin Lancki; faculty members Rosemary Blieszner, Dean and Alumni Distinguished Professor, Karen Roberto, Director of the Institute for Society, Culture, and Environment and University Distinguished Professor, and Tina Savla; Anna Harris, Aubrey Knight, and Andrew Vipperman presented “Daily Use of Services and the Association between Stress and Negative Affect among Family Caregivers.” Blieszner, Borowski, Harris, Knight, Lancki, Roberto, Savla, Pyrros Telionis, and Vipperman, were presenters of “A GIS Approach to Identifying Service Access Disparities in Rural Appalachia.” Human Development senior Emily Hoyt, Blieszner, Borowski, Harris, Knight, Roberto, Savla, and Vipperman gave the presentations “Dementia Caregiving in
Rural Appalachia: Culture Matters” and “Service Use and Barriers to Service Access among Family Caregivers in Rural Appalachia.” Hoyt, Blieszner, Borowski, Harris, Lancki, Roberto, Savla, and Vipperman presented “For the Love of Land and People: Cultural Reasons for Providing Care to Family Members with Dementia.” In addition, Blieszner, Human Development alumnus Aaron Ogletree, who earned his doctorate in May, and faculty member Laura Sands, along with Mark Brennan-Ing and Stephen Karpiak presented “Health Burden, Instrumental and Emotional Support Adequacy, and Depressive Symptoms in Older Men with HIV.” The meeting took place November 14–18 in Boston, Massachusetts.

Emily Hoyt, a senior Human Development major, organized the first Elder Abuse Awareness Day in Wytheville, Virginia and served as the committee chair. The event, which took place June 15, was hosted by the Virginia Tech Center for Gerontology, the Virginia Tech Women’s Resource Center, the Elder Justice Task Force of the New River Valley, the New River Valley Area Agency on Aging, and the League of Older Americans Area Agency on Aging hosted a one-day multidisciplinary elder abuse conference on June 15th, 2018 for World Elder Abuse Awareness Day; approximately 200 professionals from different backgrounds participated. Hoyt is also a Pamplin Scholar in the Honors College and a Cloyd Fellow.


Emma Braxton Miller, a sophomore Political Science major, participated in the student conference, SCUSA 70: Cooperation Reimagined: American Influence in Increasing Complex World, which was held October 24–27 at West Point. The conference focused on terrorism and non-state actors; Miller worked with other students from around the world in teams. Participation was funded by the Hume Center and West Point; it is an annual opportunity for a Virginia Tech Political Science or International Studies student.

Carol Mullen, School of Education, edited Creativity Under Duress in Education? Resistive Theories, Practices, and Actions, Creativity Theory and Action in Education 3 (Cham, Switzerland: Springer, 2019). Her individual contributions to the volume were “Creative Synthesis: Combining the 4C and Systems Models of Creativity” and the Coda, pp. 3–25 and 413–19 respectively.

Composer and violinist Charles Nichols, School of Performing Arts, presented his composition, Traffic SONATA, for amplified violin, oud, and qanun, sonified traffic data, and traffic simulations on November 1 at the National Conference of the Alliance for the Arts in Research Universities, which was held at the University of Georgia Center in Athens, Georgia. The piece is a collaboration between Nichols, transportation engineer and oudist Monty Abbas, qanunist Anne Elise Thomas, and transportation engineer Qichao Wang.
The Office of the Dean officially moved into its new headquarters in the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences Building on November 8. The building is located at 200 Stanger Street.


**Paul Quigley**, James I. Robertson, Jr. Associate Professor of Civil War History in the Department of History and Director of the Virginia Center for Civil War Studies, and **James Hawdon**, Sociology and Director of the Center for Peace Studies and Violence Prevention, edited *Reconciliation after Civil Wars: Global Perspectives*, Routledge Studies in Modern History (London and New York: Routledge, 2018). Quigley’s individual contribution to the volume was the introduction, “Reconciliation: Civil War by Other Means,” pp. 1–13; that of Hawdon was the final chapter, “United We Heal, Divided We Reconcile: Group Solidarity and the Problem of Status after Civil Conflicts” pp. 251–64.


ASPECT doctoral candidate **Mary Ryan** presented the following: “The Democratic Kaleidoscope in the United States: Vanquishing Structural Racism in the U.S. Federal Government” at the University Research Showcase for the Class of 1968 Alumni 50th Reunion, which was held on November 2 at The Inn at Virginia Tech; “Harvesting U.S. Democracy: The Kerner Commission on Police Brutality, White Supremacy, and Race” at the Northeastern Political Science Association 50th Annual Conference, which took place November 8–10 in Montreal, Canada; and “(Re)Collecting U.S. Democracy: Riots, Race, and the State of the Republic Through the Lens of the Kerner Commission” at the Northwestern University Graduate Student Conference in Political Theory, “Spectres of Domination: Politicizing the Terms of Resistance,” which was held November 16 in Evanston, Illinois.


**Donna Sedgwick**, Sociology, and collaborators Liz Allen, Charlotte Baker, Mary Beth Dunkenberger, Kathy Hosig, Robin Lemaire, and Laura Nelson received an Advancing Transdisciplinary Communities in Rural Health Research seed grant from the Office of the Provost. The project, “Supporting Healthy Rural Communities Through Increased Awareness of Well-Being and System Factors,” will serve to establish a new model for understanding the
unique dynamics of health disparities and inequities within local communities. Sedgwick serves as co-Principal Investigator; the amount of the grant is $20,000.

Sociology doctoral student Jonathan Lloyd and faculty member James Hawdon, also Director of the Center for Peace Studies and Violence Prevention, published “Framing Hate with Hate Frames: Designing the Codebook,” *Companion of the 2018 ACM Conference on Computer Supported Cooperative Work and Social Computing* (Jersey City, New Jersey: ACM, 2018), pp. 201–04, with Shruti Phadke, Mattia Samory, and Tanushree Mitra.


Please submit items for inclusion in upcoming *News2Note* newsletters to Associate Dean Debra Stoudt at dstoudt@vt.edu.