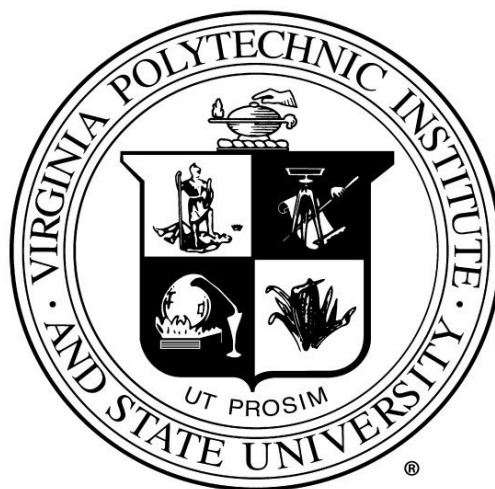


THE **22<sup>nd</sup>** ANNUAL  
**B** BRIAN BERTOTI  
INNOVATIVE PERSPECTIVES IN HISTORY  
GRADUATE CONFERENCE  
March 29-30, 2019



Sponsored By  
The History Graduate Student Association  
The Department of History  
The College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences  
The Virginia Center for Civil War Studies  
The Departments of English, Religion & Culture, and Philosophy  
Material Culture and Public Humanities MA Program  
The Alliance for Social, Political, Ethical, and Cultural Thought (ASPECT)  
The Women and Minority Artists and Scholars Lecture Series  
The Virginia Tech Student Budget Board

# **Welcome to the 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Brian Bertoti Innovative Perspectives in History Conference**

This year marks the 22<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of the Brian Bertoti Innovative Perspectives in History Conference. We have continued this tradition since 1998, when a group of graduate students led by Brian Bertoti saw the need for an outlet for graduate student research and founded this student-organized event. Over the past two decades, the Brian Bertoti Conference has given more than 150 aspiring historians from over 45 colleges and universities the opportunity to come to Blacksburg and present their research in a cordial, constructive, and professional environment. Our 2019 conference features presenters from six institutions, with research topics that reflect the creativity of the next generation of historians.

The History Graduate Student Association wishes to thank the faculty and staff of the Department of History for their support and dedication to the continuing success of the conference. We are also grateful to the Women and Minority Artists and Scholars Lecture Series, the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences, ASPECT, the Material Culture and Public Humanities MA Program, the Virginia Center for Civil War Studies, the Departments of English, Philosophy, and Religion & Culture and as well as the family and friends of Brian Bertoti for their continued support. Most of all, we thank Brian Bertoti for providing the inspiration for this conference.

## **About Brian Bertoti**

Brian Bertoti was raised in the small town of Boyertown, Pennsylvania. At the age of four, his grandfather took him to visit the battlefield at Gettysburg. This was when Brian first realized his love of history. During his junior year at Boyertown Area High School, he won a scholarship to the Civil War Institute. Brian's studies always concentrated on the South, surprisingly. When someone would ask why, he would explain in detail why he favored the Confederates and that General Robert E. Lee. Brian graduated from Bloomsburg University. While at Bloomsburg, he wrote an essay about Confederate Soldiers and the Battle of Gettysburg that was published in the 1999 *Bloomsburg Annual Journal*.

Brian joined the Master's Program at Virginia Tech. As peers and faculty have told us, Brian was the first to arrive each morning in the department, ready to talk to anyone about history. During the fall of 1997, he initiated work on this history conference. His family clearly remembers the excitement in his voice when he spoke about what his conference would provide for students and scholars. Brian died that fall before his conference came to fruition, but his peers picked up the pieces and the first "Innovative Perspectives in History" conference was held in 1998. Each year since, the Master's students have carried forward Brian's idea, and we are proud to contribute this year's conference to Brian's legacy.

# VT History Graduate Student Association

All students in the history master's program are members of HGSA and all contribute to conference planning. You can read about our experiences as graduate students and stories from our alumni at <http://www.myvthistoryma.com>.

## Keynote Speakers

### ***Dr Malinda Maynor Lowery***

Malinda Maynor Lowery is an Associate Professor and Director of the Center for the Study of the American South at University of North Carolina- Chapel Hill where she received her PhD in 2005. She works in social and political history from interdisciplinary and minority perspectives. Lowery is the author of *Lumbee Indians in the Jim Crow South: Race, Identity, and the Making of a Nation*. Her interests include Native American history; southern history; historical geography; foodways; music; race and ethnicity; identity; and community-engaged research, including documentary film and oral history. Her current book manuscript in-progress is titled "The Lumbee Indians: An American Struggle" (under advance contract at University of North Carolina Press). She is also working on three articles: "'You Seem Like a Pied Man:’ Racial Ambiguity and Murder in Montgomery County, Georgia, 1893," (under review at the *Journal of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era*); "Kinship and Capitalism in the Choctaw and Chickasaw Nations" (book chapter under review at the University of Nebraska Press); and "'White in Fact but Black in Theory': The Story of Charlie Patton, 'King of the Delta Blues'" (in progress).

### ***Dr. Michael Fischbach***

Michael R. Fischbach is Professor of History at Randolph-Macon College in Ashland, Virginia, where he has taught since 1992 after receiving his doctorate in modern Middle Eastern history from Georgetown University. He researches issues relating to land and property ownership in the modern Middle East, particularly in connection with Israel/Palestine, Jordan, and the Arab-Israeli conflict. Fischbach is the author of *Jewish Property Claims Against Arab Countries* (Columbia University Press, 2008); *The Peace Process and Palestinian Refugee Claims: Addressing Claims for Property Compensation and Restitution* (United States Institute of Peace Press, 2006); *Records of Dispossession: Palestinian Refugee Property and the Arab-Israeli Conflict* (Columbia University Press, 2003); *State, Society, and Land in Jordan* (Brill, 2000). He was also editor-in-chief of *The Biographical Encyclopedia of the Modern Middle East and North Africa* (Gale Cengage, 2007); and co-editor of *The Encyclopedia of the Palestinians* (New York: Facts On File/InfoBaseLearning, e-book, 2017). His two books on Palestinian refugee property have been translated into Arabic.



# **Dr. Malinda Maynor Lowery**

University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

“Writing Public-Facing Scholarship:  
A Personal View on Native American History”

Notes:

# **Dr. Michael Fischbach**

Randolph-Macon College

“Researching ‘Black Power and Palestine’:  
The Mechanics of Interpreting the Past.”

Notes:

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## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

### Friday, March 29, 2018: Owens Banquet Hall

Virginia Tech Department of History Reception.....	4:30 pm – 6:00 pm
Keynote Address by Dr. Malinda Maynor Lowery (UNC Chapel Hill)..	5:00 pm – 6:00 pm
<i>“Writing Public Facing Scholarship: A Personal View on Native American History”</i>	

### Saturday, March 30, 2018: Graduate Life Center

Registration.....	8:00 am – 10:30 am
Continuous Breakfast Bar .....	8:00 am – 10:30 am
Session I.....	8:30 am – 10:00 am
Session II.....	10:15 am – 11:45 pm
Lunch & Brian Bertoti Award.....	12:00 pm – 12:15 pm
Lunch Speaker: Dr. Michael Fischbach (Randolph-Macon College.)	12:15 pm – 1:15 pm
<i>“Researching ‘Black Power and Palestine’: The Mechanics of Interpreting the Past.”</i>	
Roundtable: Dr. Melanie Kiechle, Dr. Peter Potter,	1:30 pm- 2:45pm
Dr. Aaron Purcell, and Dr. Dale Winling	
Moderator: Nick Bolin	
<i>“Innovative Perspectives on Writing and Publishing History”</i>	
Session III.....	3:00 pm – 5:00 pm

## SESSION ONE: 8:30-10:00

### *Memory, Mobility, and Movements in Native American History*

**Discussant: Dr. Jessica Taylor**

**Moderator: Jenni Gallagher**

**Room: A**

**John Legg** (Virginia Tech)

“Changing Perspectives: The Contested Memories of the U.S.-Dakota War of 1862”

**Wendy Qian** (Tufts University)

“The U.S.-Canadian Border and Native Americans in the 18th to 19th Century: Beyond the State-Centric Debate”

**Hayley Bowers** (East Tennessee State University)

“Dennis Banks: Anarchy in the Name of His People”

### *Knowledge, Empire, and Nation Building*

**Discussant: Dr. Glenn Bugh**

**Moderator: LT Wilkerson**

**Room: B**

**Heath Furrow** (Virginia Tech)

“We Can Do Very Little with Them” : British Discourse on Shi’is in Iraq”

**Kyu-hyun Jo** (University of Chicago)

“Unitary Socialism” and the Aspiration for the Humanistic Unification of Korea”

**Nick Bolin** (Virginia Tech)

“The Population Problem:” Origins of American and Indian Concerns Over Population”



## SESSION TWO: 10:15-11:45

### *Poverty, Politics, and Place in Virginia History*

**Discussant: Dr. Dan Thorp**

**Moderator: Heath Furrow**

**Room: A**

**Jenni Gallagher** (Virginia Tech)

“Remove Him to the Poorhouse”: Poor-Relief in Montgomery County, VA, 1830-1880”

**Taylor Boyd** (Virginia Tech)

“Establishing a Narrative: Local Historical Memories of the Martinsville Seven Case in Martinsville, Virginia”

**Ryan Wesdock** (Virginia Tech)

“The Floatplane Controversy: Proscription, Procedure, and Protection in Carroll County”

### *Centering Women in US and World History*

**Discussant: Dr. Marian Mollin**

**Moderator: Emily Stewart**

**Room: B**

**Casey Price** (University of South Carolina)

“Women, Gender, and the Spatial Construction of Upper East Tennessee, 1750-1830”

**Marlee Putnam** (Virginia Tech)

“A Jane of all Trades: Janet Taylor’s Contributions to Victorian Navigation”

**Kaitlyn Martin** (Virginia Tech)

“The Thesmophoria and the Women of Thebes”

## **SESSION THREE: 3:00-5:00**

### *Legacies of American Activism*

**Discussant: Dr. Allan Lumba**

**Moderator: Tyler Balli**

**Room: A**

**Stephanie Riley** (University of South Carolina)

“Beyond Jimmie Higgins: An Examination of Ben Hanford’s Rhetorical Contributions to the 20th Century American Working Class”

**Garland Mason** (The City University of New York)

“The Actualization and Legacy of the Self-Help Message within the Black Extension Service”

**Kathryn Walters** (Virginia Tech)

“20,000 Fewer: The Wagner-Rogers Bill and the Jewish Immigration Crisis”

**Spenser Slough** (Virginia Tech)

“Forgetting by Avoidance: African American Burial Grounds, Forgotten History, and Jettisoned Memory in Northwest Wake County, NC, 1870-2018.”

### *New Perspectives on American War, State, and Society*

**Discussant: Dr Matt Heaton**

**Moderator: John Legg**

**Room: B**

**Carlie Todd** (University of South Carolina)

“To “Have It All”: The Evolution of Women in US Intelligence and The Barriers That Remain”

**Jeff Felton** (Virginia Tech)

“The Realities of Defeat: The Turning Points of the Civil War in Virginia, September – December, 1864.”

**Donovan Fifield** (University of Virginia)

“Analyzing Revolutions with Game Theory: The Case of Colonial America, 1733-1783”

**Emily Wild** (Virginia Tech)

“The Complexities of Womanhood: The Identities of Female Quaker Unionists in the Civil War”

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