



News2Note

April 2023

History major **Miles Abernethy** published "[Black, White, and Khaki: Lettow-Vorbeck and the African Askari](#)," *Virginia Tech Undergraduate Historical Review* 12 (2023): 1–13.

Three ASPECT doctoral students participated in the International Studies Association Conference, which took place March 15–18 in Montreal, Canada. **Sam Beckenhauer** presented "Theorizing Conspiracy Theory as a Discourse of Speculative Rationality in the Void of Politics"; **Hannah Gignoux** gave a paper titled "Socializing Needs in a Capitalist World"; and **Luther McPherson** presented "Entangling Quantological Security: Agential Realism and Performative State Identity."

ASPECT doctoral students **Cory Higgs**, **Michael Senters**, and **Hannah Steinhauer** served as the panelists for "The Digital Witch Hunt," which was part of "Gender, Bodies, and Technology: Post-Dobbs Precarity," which took place March 17 in the Newman Library Athenaeum.

Sweta Baniya, English, published "[Rethinking Access: Recognizing Privileges and Positionalities in Building Community Literacy](#)," *Community Literacy Journal* 17.1 (2022), Article 6.

Spencer Bennington, English, published "State-Run Martial Arts Institutions: The Rhetorical (Re)Inventions of *Taekwondo*," *Rhetoric Review* 42.1 (2023): 35–50.

Brian Britt, Religion and Culture and Director of ASPECT, published "The Inversions of Walter Benjamin's Anarchism," *New German Critique* 148 (2023): 83–102.

Claire Cahen, Public and International Affairs, was recognized with the American Association of Geographers' 2022 dissertation award, which she received from the Urban Geography Specialty Group for her 2022 dissertation titled "Failing Forward? Race, the Governance of School Reform and the Contest for a Dignified Future in Newark, NJ."

Mauro Caraccioli, Political Science and ASPECT Core Faculty, won the [2023 Best Book Prize from the Theory Section of the International Studies Association](#) for his monograph, [Writing the New World: The Politics of Natural History in the Early Spanish Empire](#) (Gainesville, Florida: University of Florida Press, 2021).

Sarah Castle [was named Human Resources Division Director for the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences](#). Division Directors lead the development and delivery of human resources (HR) services and programs within individual business units and colleges; they report to both the Division of Human Resources and to the unit leadership or college dean. Castle previously worked at Virginia Tech from 2005 to 2014 in a range of HR roles, including faculty specialist and human resources manager.

CLAHS faculty members **Shannon Bell**, Sociology, **Cara Daggett**, Political Science, and **Christine Labuski**, Science, Technology, and Society, published "[Pluralizing Energy Justice: Incorporating Feminist, Anti-Racist, Indigenous, and Postcolonial Perspectives](#)," *Energy Research & Social Science* 97 (March 2023), 102996, with Benjamin K. Sovacool et al. The three also are among the Co-Investigators for the project led by Sovacool titled "Advancing Transformational Energy Justice across the Renewable Energy Supply Chain," which was awarded an Alfred P. Sloan Foundation grant for approximately \$500,000 and which applies the theoretical arguments outlined in the article.

Higher Education doctoral student **Ashley Costello** presented "Visitor Engagement Framework in an Informal University Learning Environment" at the Eastern Educational Research Association Conference, which took place February 9–10 in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. In addition, Costello was named to the [editorial board](#) of the *Journal of Trauma Studies in Education* as a reviewer.

Clinton Craig, English, published [Dear CJ](#) ([Bowling Green, Kentucky:] The Hunger Press, 2023).

The College notes with sadness the death of **Glen Earthman**, Associate Professor Emeritus of Educational Leadership, who was a member of the Virginia Tech community for 46 years. In 1997-98 Earthman served as the first Director of the National Clearinghouse on Educational Facilities for school facility planning. In 2015 he was named Researcher of the Year by the Virginia Educational Research Association for outstanding research efforts in Virginia. Additional information can be found in the [Virginia Tech In Memoriam](#) and the [funeral home obituary](#).

Matthew Gabriele, Professor and Chair of the Department of Religion and Culture, [was named the 2023-2024 Bullough Fellow in Mediaeval History by the University of St. Andrews](#). Gabriele will spend the fall studying medieval history at the university in St. Andrews, Scotland.

Aarnes Gudmestad, Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures, published "Development of Grammar, Vocabulary, and Pragmatics in an Additional Language: Insights from Spanish Learner Corpus Research," *Journal of Spanish Language Teaching* 9 (2022): 161–73.

Kenneth Hodges, English, published “How Galahad Regained His Virginity: Nineteenth-Century Responses to Malory’s Catholic Grail,” *Arthurian Literature* XXXVIII (2023): 273–301.

Daniel Hoek, Philosophy, published “[Øystein vs. Archimedes: A Note on Linnebo’s Infinite Balance](#),” *Erkenntnis* 8 (2023): 1791–96.

W. Wat Hopkins, Communication, received the top faculty paper award in the Law and Policy Division at the 48th Southeast Colloquium of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication (AEJMC) for “Hate Speech is Not Free: A Case for its Exclusion from First Amendment Protection.” In addition, a panel session at the colloquium honored Hopkins for his research during more than 40 years of membership in AEJMC. The colloquium took place March 2–4 in Murfreesboro, Tennessee.

Brett Jones, Education, published “[Examining the Cross-cultural Validity of the MUSIC Model of Academic Motivation Inventory in English Language Courses](#),” *SAGE Open* 13.1 (2023), with Education alumna **Ming Li**, Gohlam Khajavy, et al.

Imani Lewis, a master’s student in Public and International Affairs, presented the research poster titled “The Role of Media in Critical Race Theory” at the 19th Annual Yale Bouchet Conference on Diversity and Graduate Education, which took place March 31–April 1 at Yale University in New Haven, Connecticut.

Theodore Lim, Public and International Affairs, was awarded an NSF CAREER grant from the Science of Organizations program. His project, “Governance of Computer Models in Sustainable Water Quality Management,” solidifies an integrative theory of model governance, and includes the development of both a qualitative framework and quantitative operationalization to predict future states of a scientific model based on model governance arrangements. Improved computer model governance will transform understanding of science-based environmental policy, including building public trust in computer models and characterizing uncertainty that is created by social and political factors embedded in models. The project is developing workshop materials for practitioners, as well as novel undergraduate and K12 experiences to link the fields of environmental science and policy.

Charles Lowery, Education, published “Collaborative Autoethnography as a Bricolage: An Authentic Approach to Constructing the Eastern–Western Bridge in Educational Research,” *Culturally Sensitive Research Methods for Educational Administration and Leadership*, ed. Eugenie A. Samier and Eman S. El-Kaleh, Routledge Research in Educational Leadership (London, United Kingdom/New York, New York: Routledge, 2023), pp. 137–49, with Chetanath Gautam.

Timothy Luke, University Distinguished Professor, Chair of the Department of Political Science, and Interim Director of the School of Public and International Affairs, co-edited [The Palgrave Handbook on Environmental Politics and Theory](#), Environmental Political and Theory (Cham,

Switzerland: Palgrave Macmillan, 2023), with Joel Jay Kassiola. Luke's individual contributions to the volume were: "Introduction: The Time for Social and Political Transformation Based on the Environment Is Now," with Kassiola, pp. 1–24; and "Earth Breaking Bad: The Politics of Deep Adaptation," pp. 89–103.

ASPECT doctoral student **Luther McPherson** presented a critique of the Qbook and the Q documentary at the Q7 Project Q symposium, which was hosted by the Center for International Security Studies at the University of Sydney and took place March 14 in Montreal, Canada.

Su Fang Ng, Clifford A. Cutchins III Professor of English, published "The 'Amboyna Massacre' Through Native Eyes," *Anglo-Dutch Connections in the Early Modern World*, ed. Sjoerd Levelt, Esther van Raamsdonk, and Michael D. Rose (London, United Kingdom: Routledge, 2023), pp. 71–79.

ASPECT doctoral student **Shreya Hari Nurani** was awarded the Forsyth Visiting Graduate Student Fellowship for study in the Department of Art at the University of Michigan during 2023–2024. Nurani's research focuses on the history of the temple of Mahākāleśwar in Ujjain, an ancient political and religious center of immense cultural significance located in Central India.

ASPECT doctoral student **Leah Ramnath** gave the following presentations: "Cynical Geographies: Critical Mapping Strategies," 2023 American Association of Geographers Annual Conference, held virtually on March 26; "Institutionalizing a Racialized and Gendered Environmentalism in State Agencies," Graduate Professional Student Senate 2023 Symposium, which took place March 29 on campus; and "Cartographies of (im)mobility: An Archival Inquiry of Women's Inclusion at Virginia Tech," 2nd Annual Virginia Conference on Race, which was held March 30–31 in Salem, Virginia.

Two Religion and Culture faculty published chapters in *Boots and Suits: Historical Cases and Contemporary Lessons in Military Diplomacy*, ed. Philip S. Kosnett (Quantico, Virginia: Marine Corps University Press, 2023): **Bestami Bilgiç**, "Diplomacy Through Arms Sales: The Case of the United States and the Ottoman Empire, 1865–1880," pp. 15–31; and **Tuba Bilgiç**, "Turkish–U.S. Defense Diplomacy in the Twenty-first Century," pp. 158–97, with Stallion Yang.

Emily Satterwhite, Religion and Culture and Director of the Appalachian Studies Program, and **Katrina Powell**, English and Director of the Center for Refugee, Migrant, and Displacement Studies, [were awarded a \\$3 million grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation for their project titled "Monuments Across Appalachian Virginia."](#) During a three-year period, Monuments Across Appalachian Virginia (MAAV) will support the creation of six to ten new monuments with a focus on: the diversity of Appalachian communities with regard to aspects such as race, ethnicity, indigeneity, national origin, gender expression, and sexuality; movement across the landscape via migration and population displacement; resource extraction and environmental change; and struggles for social justice, including feminist, anti-racist, environmental justice, and pro-labor movements. MAAV is part of the Mellon Foundation's

\$250 million Monuments Project to support public projects to commemorate stories of populations that have been denied historical recognition. ASPECT doctoral student **Sarah Plummer** and Urban and Regional Planning and Theatre master's student **C. Meranda Flachs-Surmanek** serve as graduate assistants for the project.

Rachel Midura, History, [was awarded a Paul Oskar Kristeller Fellowship from the Renaissance Society of America](#) to support travel for her research project titled "The Age of Conspiracy: Treason, Assassination, and the Hunt for Angelo Badoer (1600–1630)."

The [2023 volume of *The Philosophy, Politics, and Economics Review*](#) was published in association with Virginia Tech Publishing. The [journal](#) publishes work by current and recent undergraduate students worldwide and is housed in the Kellogg Center for Philosophy, Politics, and Economics. The editor in chief of this year's volume is **Megan Schaefer**, Criminology, Philosophy, Politics, and Economics (PPE), and Political Science. Peer review editors are Schaefer; **Jamal Ross**, Political Science and PPE; and **Elle Smith**, PPE. The faculty advisor is **Gil Hersch**, Philosophy. The editorial board includes the editor in chief, the peer review editors, and PPE Core Faculty members: Hersch; **Daniel Gibbs**, Political Science; Melinda Miller; **Michael Moehler**, Political Science and Director of the Kellogg Center; and **Fabian Wendt**, Political Science. The entire contents of the volume are available [here](#).

Department of Political Science faculty members **Caroline Alphin** and **François Debrix**, also ASPECT Core Faculty, published "Biopolitics in the 'Psychic Realm': Han, Foucault, and Neoliberal Psychopolitics," *Philosophy and Social Criticism* 49.4 (2023): 477–91.

Khadijah Queen, English, co-edited [Infinite Constellations: An Anthology of Identity, Culture, and Speculative Conjunctions](#) (Tuscaloosa, Alabama: University of Alabama Press, 2023), with Kiini Ibura Salaam.

Rhetoric and Writing doctoral students **Olayemi Awotayo**, **Megan Bronson**, **Priyanka Ganguly**, **André Jones, Jr.**, **Chloe Robertson**, **Luana Shafer**, and **Marti Wagnon** published "[Slack, Social Justice, and Online Technical Communication Pedagogy](#)," *Technical Communication Quarterly* 32.2 (2023): 134–48, with Jennifer Sano-Franchini.

Andy Scerri, Political Science, published "Democracy, Citizenship and Nationalism in Environmental Political Theory," *The Palgrave Handbook on Environmental Politics and Theory, Environmental Political and Theory*, ed. **Timothy Luke**, Political Science, and Joel Jay Kassiola (Cham, Switzerland: Palgrave Macmillan, 2023), pp. 43–63.

Donna Sedgwick, Sociology, published "Competing Logics in the Affordable Housing Industry: A Comparative Analysis of How Various Types of Professionals in the For-Profit and Non-Profit Sectors Conceptualize Their Work and That of Their Companies," *Housing, Theory, and Society* 40.2 (2023): 152–69, with Dustin C. Read.

The annual [Virginia Tech Authors Recognition Event](#) took place March 27 in Newman Library. The event honored authors' academic contributions to the university. The list of faculty and students who authored, coauthored, edited, and translated works not previously honored can be found [here](#). With more than 40 entries on this year's list, CLAHS faculty authors constitute more than one third of all entries.

Emmy Waldman, English, co-edited a special issue of *ASAP/J*, the open-access platform of ASAP (*Association for the Study of the Arts of the Present*)/*Journal*, titled "Graphic Formalism," posted March 27, with Eugenie Brinkema and Rebecca Clark. Her personal contribution to the issue was "Introduction: One Dialogue and Four Diagrams," with Brinkema and Clark.

John Wells, Education, was selected as the editor of the [Journal of Technology Education](#) by the Council on Technology and Engineering Teacher Education Management Board. The publication is the flagship research journal of the International Technology and Engineering Educators Association.

Anna Zeide, History, published [US History in 15 Foods](#) (London, United Kingdom: Bloomsbury Publishing, 2023).

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