



News2Note

August 2019

Ananda Abeysekara, Religion and Culture, published “Protestant Buddhism and ‘Influence’: The Temporality of a Concept,” *Qui Parle: Critical Humanities and Social Sciences* 28.1 (2019): 1–75.

Two academic advisors in the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences completed the Virginia Tech Academic Advising Institute in 2018–2019: **Kelly Avery**, Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management, and **Kim Higgs**, Communication. The Academic Advising Institute is a semester-long cohort program designed to assist academic advisors with enhancing their advising skills, while also encouraging them to recognize the importance of advising concepts, content, and relational skills needed within the advising relationship.

The website [African American Fourth of July](#) traces the meanings of Independence Day based upon the writings in seven historical African American newspapers. The research was carried out by first-year students enrolled in Introduction to History in Fall 2018. **Brett Shadle**, History, taught the course; his commentary about the project can be found [here](#).

[Reflections on presentations in 2018 at New Zealand and Australian universities](#) by **Biko Agozino**, Sociology, are the focus of a special issue of the *Journal of Global Indigeneity*, 4.1 (2019). The issue comprises his thoughts as well as short responses from colleagues in New Zealand and Australia. In addition, Agozino published “Decolonizing Incarcerated Women’s Identities through the Lens of Prison Abolitionism,” [South African Crime Quarterly](#) 68 (June 2019), with Nontyantyambo Pearl Dastile.

ASPECT doctoral students **Sarah Plummer** and **Sara Wenger** gave papers at the Cultural Studies Association Annual Conference, which was held May 30–June 1 in New Orleans, Louisiana. Plummer presented “At the Circus: Politics of Play in Bread and Puppet Theater’s Festival Form,” and Wenger’s paper was titled “Performing Posthumanism: Robots, Dolls, and the Sex Industry.”

Amy Azano, Education, published "[Preparing Pre-service Teachers for Rural Schools](#)," *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Education* (New York, New York: Oxford University Press, 2019), online, with Jayne Downey and Devon Brenner; and "[Disrupting Dichotomous Traps and Rethinking Problem Formation for Rural Education](#)," *The Rural Educator* 40.2 (2019): 4–11, with Catharine Biddle.

Esther Bauer, Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures, published "'Queere' Romanzen bei Alain Claude Sulzer" (Queer Romances in Alain Claude Sulzer's Works), *Liebesgeschichte(n): Identität und Diversität vom 18. bis zum 21. Jahrhundert*, ed. Frank Becker and Elke Reinhardt-Becker (Frankfurt, Germany: Campus, 2019), pp. 253–77.

Shannon Bell, Sociology, published "Protecting the Power to Pollute: Identity Co-Optation, Gender, and the Public Relations Strategies of Fossil Fuel Industries in the United States," *Environmental Sociology* 5 (2019): 323–38, with Jenrose Fitzgerald and Richard York.

Brian Britt, Professor in the Department of Religion and Culture, has been appointed Interim Director of the School of Performing Arts.

David Brunσμα, Sociology, edited [Sociology for Human Rights: Approaches for Applying Theories and Methods](#) (New York: Routledge, 2019), with Keri E. Iyall Smith and Brian Gran.

Toni Calasanti, Sociology, received [a \\$425,000 National Institute of Aging award](#) for her R21 grant proposal, "Gender, Sexual Orientation, and Spousal/Partner Caregiving in Later Life." The study examines how 60 same-sex and heterosexual spousal and partner caregivers draw upon life-learned skills and resources based on their gender. The grant explores caregiving challenges, caregiver responses, and coping strategies. In addition, Calasanti is beginning her second three-year term on the United Nations International Board of the International Institute on Ageing.

The College is delighted to welcome the following tenure-track Assistant Professors: **Amaryah Armstrong**, Religion and Culture; **Binio Binev**, Political Science; **Letisha Brown**, Sociology; **D. Chase Catalano**, Education; **Thomas Dearden**, Sociology; **Yevgeny Dokshansky**, Performing Arts; **Gregory Galford**, Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management; **Fei Gu**, Education; **Lucien Holness**, History; **Caroline Hornburg**, Human Development and Family Science; **Brittany Howell**, Human Development and Family Science; **Javiera Jaque**, Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures; **Tonisha Lane**, Education; **Hyojung Lee**, Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management; **Jordan MacKenzie**, Philosophy; **Katalin Parti**, Sociology; **Edward Polanco**, History; **Theresa Rocha Beardall**, Sociology; **Dina Smith-Glaviana**, Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management; **Navdeep Sokhey**, Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures; **Hsiang Tu**, Performing Arts; **Tatiana Vintu**, Performing Arts; and **Rose Wesche**, Human Development and Family Science.

Two master's students in the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences were awarded a Critical Language Scholarship (CLS) for Summer 2019. **Yasmine Ameli**, Creative Writing, studied Persian in Dushanbe, Tajikistan, from June 9 to August 15, and **Jarrold Blair**, Philosophy, studied

Japanese in Okayama, Japan, from June 11 to August 10. The [CLS Program](#) is sponsored by the U.S. Department of State.

The following CLAHS faculty were awarded a [Curriculum Globalization Grant](#) for 2019: **Danna Agmon**, History and ASPECT Core Faculty, for revision of “Global Europe in the Modern Era”; **Mauro Caraccioli**, Political Science and ASPECT Core Faculty, for a new course titled “Global Latin America: Histories, Challenges, and Opportunities”; **Allan Lumba**, History, for a new course titled “Disability in the World”; **Suchitra Samanta**, Sociology and Women’s and Gender Studies, for revision of “Global Women’s and Gender Studies”; and **Balbir Singh**, Religion and Culture and ASPECT Core Faculty, for a new course titled “Global Fashion: Bodies, Cultures, Politics.”

Komal Dhillon-Jamerson, Sociology, published “Marketing Marriage and Colorism in India,” in *Race in the Marketplace: Crossing Critical Boundaries*, ed. Guillaume D. Johnson, Kevin D. Thomas, **Anthony Kwame Harrison**, and Sonya A. Grier (London, England: Palgrave Macmillan, 2019), pp. 121–36.

School of Education graduate students **Kizito Mukuni**, Curriculum and Instruction, and **Kaitlin Vose**, Counselor Education, presented graduate perspectives at the 2019 Graduate Education Summer Conference titled Building Graduate Community and a Culture of Inclusion. The conference took place June 19–20.

Department of English faculty members **Abby Walker** and **Katie Carmichael** were awarded \$15,000 from the Office of Undergraduate Research to scale up independent research in linguistics through a capstone course. The funds will be used for course development activities. Walker and Carmichael’s proposal was one of five granted funding from a pool of 30 proposals.

Joseph Eska, Professor, has been appointed Interim Chair of the Department of English.

ASPECT doctoral student **Jordan Fallon** published a book review of [Undoing the Demos](#), *SPECTRA: The ASPECT Journal* 7.1 (March 2019).

Katie Fanz, National Security and Foreign Affairs and Russian major, was selected to represent Virginia Tech [as one of 25 students statewide participating in the 2019 Governor’s Fellows Program](#). The students experience firsthand state government by working under cabinet secretaries and alongside staff in the governor’s office in the two-month program. Fanz was assigned to the office of Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security Brian Moran. In addition, Fanz presented research on dark web analytics to intelligence agencies in Washington, D.C., this summer; the research was conducted in Spring 2019 under the mentorship of **Eric Jardine**, Political Science.

April Few-Demo, Professor, has been appointed Chair of the Department of Human Development and Family Science.

Patti Fisher, Apparel, Housing, and Resource Management, published “Black-White Differences in Financial Risk Tolerance,” *Journal of Financial Service Professionals* 73.4 (July 2019): 16–28.

Matthew Gabriele, Professor and Chair of the Department of Religion and Culture, co-edited [*The Ghosts of the Nineteenth Century and the Future of Medieval Studies*](#), a special issue of *postmedieval: A Journal of Medieval Cultural Studies*, 10.2 (2019), with Cord J. Whitaker. Gabriele’s individual contribution to the issue were: “Mountain Haints: Towards a Medieval Studies Exorcized,” pp. 129–36, with Whitaker; and “The Terrors of the Year 1900: The Eleventh Century and a Debate about Modernity,” pp. 194–205.

Dennis Halpin, History, published [*A Brotherhood of Liberty: Black Reconstruction and its Legacies in Baltimore, 1865–1920*](#) (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2019).

Anthony Kwame Harrison, Sociology, [was named Edward S. Diggs Professor in Humanities](#) by the Virginia Tech Board of Visitors. The Diggs Professorship recognizes and promotes excellence in research and teaching in the humanities; recipients hold the position for a five-year term. A cultural anthropologist, Harrison conducts research on the impact of race in popular music, recreation, and higher education. The author of two books and editor of another, he also has published numerous journal articles and book chapters. Harrison is the recipient of more than two dozen awards that recognize his efforts to promote diversity and inclusion as well as teaching excellence; among these is the university’s 2015 Alumni Award for Excellence in Teaching. He has served as the Gloria D. Smith Professor of Black Studies since 2014. Harrison joined the Virginia Tech community in 2003; he earned his bachelor’s degree from the University of Massachusetts and a master’s degree and doctorate from Syracuse University. In addition, Harrison was appointed Visiting Professor in the MOST Team of Dauphine Recherches en Management (DRM – Université Paris-Dauphine, France) from June 24 to June 28. The cross-disciplinary MOST (Markets, Organisations, Society and Technologies) team comprises researchers specialized in different fields of management around a project based on the critical analysis of the managerialisation, financialization, and marketization of society. Harrison also produced “[White Reign](#),” *Dysfunction* 6 (2019), an issue dedicated to the career achievements of James A. “Billboard” Jackson. The issue features: visual art by Harrison, Asa Jackson, Kevin Earley, and Antoine Lefebvre; “Introduction” and “An Autoethnography of Black Automobility: The Ongoing Search for James ‘Billboard’ Jackson” by Harrison, pp. 1–3 and 4–11 respectively; “The Metaphysical Difficulty of Traveling While Black to the Field” by alumnus **Corey Miles**, Sociology Ph.D. 2019, p. 12; “White Reign,” a musical/lyrical essay by Harrison and BlakeNine, p. 2; and the short film “Sundown” by Harrison and **Karl Precoda**, Performing Arts and Sociology, p. 7.

James Hawdon, Sociology, published “Social Group Identity and Perceptions of Online Hate,” *Sociological Inquiry* 89.3 (2019): 427–52, with Mathew Costello, Colin Bernatzky, and Kelly Mendes.

Brett Jones, Education, published "[Validation of the MUSIC Model of Motivation Inventory for Use with Cognitive Training for Schizophrenia Spectrum Disorders: A Multinational Study](#)," *Schizophrenia Research* 206 (2019): 142–48, with Marie C. Hansen et al.

Jordan Laney, Religion and Culture, participated in the 42nd annual Appalachian Writers' Workshop, which took place July 22–27 at Hindman Settlement School in Hindman, Kentucky.

Jacob Levin, a senior Communication major, was a member of the [Hybrid Electric Vehicle Team that placed second in the first year of the four-year EcoCAR Mobility Challenge](#).

Timothy Luke, University Distinguished Professor, has been appointed Chair of the Department of Political Science. In addition, Luke published "Environmental Governmentality," *The Oxford Handbook of Environmental Political Theory*, ed. Teena Gabrielson, Cheryl Hall, John M. Meyer, and David Schlossberg (New York, New York: Oxford University Press, 2019), pp. 460–74; and "Afterword: On Technological Unemployment and Education," *Technological Unemployment and Education*, ed. Michael A. Peters, Petar Jandric, and Alexander J. Means (Singapore: Springer Nature, 2019), pp. 343–49.

Eric Lyon, Performing Arts, is serving as the artist/technologist in residence at Edith Cowan University in Perth, Australia, from July 25 to August 5. During the residency he is giving workshops in sound spatialization and audio programming and presenting a concert of his multichannel music.

Pianist **Richard Masters**, Performing Arts, performed at the Percy Grainger House and Museum in White Plains, New York, on May 5 and by invitation at the Richard M. Nixon Presidential Library in Yorba Linda, California, on June 2.

ASPECT doctoral student **Leigh McKagen** presented "Spaces of Empire: Ongoing Imperial Reality in the Narrative of *Star Trek: Voyager*" at the Science Fiction Research Association Conference, which took place June 21–24 in Honolulu, Hawaii.

Bradley Nichols, History, published "Nazi Germanization Policy in Occupied Europe: An Overview," *German-occupied Europe in the Second World War*, ed. Raffael Scheck, Fabien Theofilakis, and Julia Torrie (Oxon, United Kingdom, and New York, New York: Routledge, 2019), pp. 213–26.

The composition, *It does not shy away from the sword*, for bass clarinet and marimba, by **Charles Nichols**, Performing Arts, was premiered by the ensemble Transient Canvas on June 21 at the Charlotte New Music Festival in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Anthony Peguero, Sociology, published "Social-ecological Correlates of Cyberbullying Victimization and Perpetration among African American Youth: Negative Binomial and Zero-inflated Negative Binomial Analyses," *Children and Youth Services Review* 101 (2019): 50–60, with Sujung Cho, Hannarae Lee, and Seong-Min Park.

ASPECT doctoral student **Mohammed Pervaiz** presented “Body Studies of the Religious and the Secular: A View from Anthropology” on July 4 at Ibn Haldun University in Istanbul, Turkey.

Department of Political Science faculty members **Bettina Koch** and **Yannis Stivachtis** co-edited [*Regional Security in the Middle East: Sectors, Variables, and Issues*](#) (Bristol, United Kingdom: e-International Relations, 2019), available [here](#) as an e-book, and published together the “Introduction: Regional Security in the Middle East,” pp. 1–21. Koch’s individual contribution to the volume was “Unmasking ‘Religious’ Conflicts and Religious Radicalization in the Middle East,” pp. 168–84. The contributions of Stivachtis were: “Political (In)Security in the Middle East,” pp. 23–44; “Demography, Migration, and Security in the Middle East,” with Stefanie Georgakis Abbott, pp. 99–130; and “Science, Technology, and Security in the Middle East,” pp. 146–66. Included as well was “Economic (In)security and Economic Integration in the Middle East” by ASPECT doctoral student **Johannes Grow**, pp. 61–79.

Department of Political Science undergraduate majors **Taylor Livelli**, **Matthew Prillaman**, and **Isabelle Wyerman** and faculty member **Yannis Stivachtis** presented “Refugee Integration into European National Societies: The Cases of Greece, Italy, Spain, France, Austria, and Hungary” at the Refugee Project Workshop, which took place June 6 on the Virginia Tech campus.

The following staff were recognized at the Virginia Tech [Professional Development Certificate Program](#) ceremony for completion of programs during the 2018–2019 academic year: Administrative Professional Development Program Certificate: **Demetria Harris**, Communication, **Tasia Persson**, Office of the Dean, and **Ashley Snider**, Science, Technology, and Society; Customer Service Excellence Certificate: **Lisa Burns**, Office of the Dean; and Supervisory Excellence Certificate: **Kimberly Higgs**, Communication. The ceremony took place July 17.

The College is pleased to announce the following promotion and tenure decisions by the Virginia Tech Board of Visitors at its June 3 meeting. Promoted to Associate Professor with tenure were: **Jennifer Bondy**, Sociology; **Adrienne Ivory**, Communication; **Nneka Logan**, Communication; **Yuliya Minkova**, Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures; **Marcus (Cayce) Myers**, Communication; **Amanda Nelson**, Performing Arts; **Charles Nichols**, Performing Arts; **Jennifer Sano-Franchini**, English; **Andy Scerri**, Political Science; **Kelly Trogdon**, Philosophy; and **Ariana Wyatt**, Performing Arts. Promoted to the rank of Professor were: **Christine Kaestle**, Human Development and Family Science; **Gary Skaggs**, Education; **Vinodh Venkatesh**, Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures; and **Laura Zanotti**, Political Science. **Matthew Komelski**, Human Development and Family Science, was promoted to Advanced Instructor. The following were promoted to Senior Instructor: **Jennifer Barton**, English; **Edward Lautenschlager**, English; **Brandi Quesenberry**, Communication; **Vanessa Ruccolo**, English; and **Ila Schepisi**, Human Development and Family Science. **Brandy Faulkner**, Political Science, and **Courtney Thomas**, Political Science, were promoted to Collegiate Assistant Professor. **Suchitra Samanta** was promoted to Collegiate Associate Professor. **John Gratto**, Education, received promotion to Clinical Associate Professor, and **Carol Cash**, Education, was promoted to Clinical Professor.

Besnik Pula, Political Science, presented a keynote talk titled “Theorizing Structural Change in and after 1989” at the Revolutions and Transformations in Global Perspective, 1989-2019 international conference, which was held June 12–15 at the University of Leipzig in Leipzig, Germany.

Theresa Rocha Beardall, Sociology, was selected to join this year’s Rutgers University [Racial Democracy, Crime and Justice Network](#) junior scholar cohort and will be participating at the [Network’s Summer Research Institute](#).

Laura Sands, Center for Gerontology, is the founding editor and current editor-in-chief of [Innovation in Aging](#), The Gerontological Society of America’s first fully open access, online journal.

Andy Scerri, Political Science, was awarded a 2019 Research Stays for University Academics and Scientists grant from the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), in collaboration with Dirk Jörke and the Institute for Political Science at the Technische Universität in Darmstadt, Germany, for May through August. The research collaboration focuses on liberal pluralist and social democratic responses to the rise of populism in Germany and the United States.

Department of Science, Technology, and Society faculty members **Matthew Wisnioski** and **Lee Vinsel** published “[The Campus Innovation Myth](#)” in the *Chronicle of Higher Education* on June 11.

Brett Shadle, Professor, has been appointed Chair of the Department of History.

Carmen Giménez Smith, English, was awarded a [Guggenheim Fellowship for her book project, *Nostalgia Has Such a Short Half-Life*](#), a collection of poems that considers the construction and meaning of identity through media in terms of fans, aficionados, collectors, and viewers. Among the media involved are television, movies, memes, GIFs, and Vines. The book also will include poems centered on the work of Asco, a 1970s and 1980s Chicano art collective. Giménez Smith was one of 168 scholars, artists, and writers awarded a yearlong Guggenheim Fellowship from among more than 3,000 applicants. She earned her bachelor’s degree from San Jose State University and her M.F.A. from the Iowa Writers’ Workshop; she joined the Virginia Tech community in 2017.

Department of Sociology faculty members **Michael Hughes**, **Jill Kiecolt**, and **Hans Momplaisir** published “Gender Identity among U.S. Adults,” *Identities in Everyday Life*, ed. J. E. Stets and R. T. Serpe (New York, New York: Oxford University Press, 2019), pp. 195–216.

ASPECT doctoral student **Emma Stamm** published “[Present Perfect: How Chats and Livestreams Let Us Consume ‘real time’ as a commodity](#),” *Real Life Magazine*, posted May 9. Stamm presented “Psychedelic Research Methods and The Epistemic Limits of Machines” at *The Twenty-First Biannual Conference of the Society for Philosophy and Technology*, which took

place May 20–22 in College Station, Texas; she was awarded the 2019 Best Graduate Student Essay by the Society for Philosophy and Technology for her presentation.

Yannis Stivachtis, Political Science, edited [*Conflict and Diplomacy in the Middle East: External Actors and Regional Rivalries*](#) (Bristol, United Kingdom: e-International Relations, 2018), available [here](#) as an e-book; his individual contributions to the volume were: “Conflict and Diplomacy in the Middle East: An Introduction,” pp. 1–15, and “The EU and the Middle East: The European Neighborhood Policy,” pp. 110–27. In addition, Stivachtis published “Cold War International Society: Global Order in the Age of Nuclear Terror,” *Cold War: Global Impact and Lessons Learned*, ed. Allison L. Palmadessa, Political Science and History Series (Hauppauge, New York: Nova, 2019), pp. 1–46, with Chelsea Manning; and “Eastern Mediterranean: A New Region? Theoretical Considerations,” *The New Eastern Mediterranean: Theory, Politics and States in a Volatile Era*, ed. Aristotle Tziampiris and Spyridon Litsas (New York, New York: Springer, 2019), pp. 45–60.

The following CLAHS students were selected to serve as [Undergraduate Honor Council delegates for 2019–2020](#): **Caroline Chappell**, Communication Studies, and **Christopher Hareas**, Political Science. **Lauren Hoyns**, English, was selected to serve as council president.

Amanda Villar, Religion and Culture, was recognized as the [June 2019 Advisor of the Month](#).

Tom Ewing, Professor of History and Associate Dean for Graduate Studies and Research, and **Katherine Randall**, a doctoral candidate in Rhetoric and Writing, co-edited [*Viral Networks: Connecting Digital Humanities and Medical History*](#) (Blacksburg, Virginia: Virginia Tech Publishing, 2018); their individual contribution to the volume was “Introduction: Connecting Digital Humanities and Medical History through Viral Networks,” pp. 1–14. It is [the first peer-reviewed book to be released solely under the Virginia Tech Publishing imprint](#). The online edition can be found, free of charge, on the [VT Publishing website](#).

Edward Weisband, Political Science, published “The Macabresque: Human Violation in Comparative Analytical Perspectives,” *Journal of Genocide Research* 21.2 (2019): 323–34.

LaDale Winling, History, published “[Universities and Information Centers in U.S. Cities](#),” *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of American History* (New York, New York: Oxford University Press, 2018), online.

Four graduate students enrolled in WGS 5914 Feminist Theory in Spring 2019 wrote and performed “Living Beyond *Southern Living* (magazine): Personal Narratives from Southern Women,” in which they share their stories about embracing social justice and shedding conformity through an exploration of topics that include casting off white feminism, transitioning families through gender transition, and considering the role of mothers in our lives. Participating were **Lorraine Dresch**, English; **Katherine Gray**, English; **Anne Patrick**, Sociology; and **Adele Williams**, Creative Writing. The course was taught by **Bonnie Zare**, Sociology. **Brittney Harris**, School of Performing Arts, served as consultant for the

performances, which took place at the Blacksburg Public Library on July 26 and at the Christiansburg Public Library on July 31.

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