GREETINGS FROM THE CHAIR

Time passes, time flies, time “like an ever flowing stream / bears all who breathe away.” That last bit comes from hymn lyrics by Englishman Isaac Watts in the eighteenth century, with a bit of modern gender-neutral language thrown in ex post facto. The past haunts the present, and perhaps we haunt the future even now. Or maybe the three times, past, present, and future, are one big holographic projection in some alien machine. Still, we have this impression that time passes.

Earlier civilizations regulated time by the sun and the moon. The lunar fortnight was a waxing (bright) two-week cycle or waning (dark) two-week cycle. The year fell into the rhythms of agriculture, and festivals were celebrated accordingly. The use of clocks and watches was uncommon until the advent of the railroad, when precise time-keeping first became necessary for the masses. Little did we know that these clocks would become our masters, that we would lose our sense of connection with the planets and seasons.

At USC Aiken, we organize time in fifty minute or seventy-five minute periods, but we should always be aware of Kairos, the acceptable or auspicious time, in addition to Chronos, time as measured in increments. As an instructor, I try to be aware of the “mood” of the room before I start barreling through my lesson plan. As a department chair, I try to be cognizant of the various points of view before proceeding with a new initiative. I sometimes fail, but I do try to gauge the appropriate timing.

I would like to say that the Sun is rising on USC Aiken, and on the department as well. Sometimes we can get so immersed in our daily routines that we forget to look at the bigger picture. The university is emerging from a slump in the Great Recession (or Second Great Depression?). Enrollments are up, and classes are full. Our faculty and students are doing intriguing research of vital importance to the world. We don’t have everything we want, but we are able to continue the living traditions of scholarship to which we belong. We continue to graduate students with excellent academic skills and great potential, as you will see in these pages.

I want to take this moment to say thank you to our donors, for providing us with some of the extra resources that we need. I would also like to thank the faculty for their tireless work on behalf of the University. I would like to thank our support staff and the administration for taking care of millions of small details. I would like to thank the students for their curiosity and insight. Here’s a health as well to the State of South Carolina, for weathering the storm and for providing us with this place we call home! If I might be permitted to speak in my native dialect (my father was born in Woodruff, SC), she ain’t perfect, but she’s all we’ve got.

David Dillard-Wright

THE 2ND PALMETTO CONNECTIONS SYMPOSIUM

Networking, peer review, and mentoring are critical for success in the modern global economy. Several of USCA’s history majors had a unique opportunity to experience the academic world first hand. In April 2015, the second Palmetto Connections Symposium convened at USC Beaufort. Begun by then departmental chair, Dr. Steve Millies, the first Palmetto Connections Symposium met at USCA in the fall of 2012. The symposium, as originally conceived, afforded scholars to share their research with interested colleagues and the general public.

Last fall, Dr. Brent Morris of USC Beaufort, a former USCA instructor, contacted current chair Dr. David Dillard-Wright and proposed a collaboration. As a result, USC Beaufort hosted the spring 2015 meeting of the symposium. The spring meeting had two components – the Palmetto Connections Symposium and the Carolinas Regional Conference of Phi Alpha Theta History Honor Society, a conference for undergraduate history students.

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WELCOME DEAN MARK HOLLINGSWORTH

Dean Mark Hollingsworth comes to the University of South Carolina Aiken from East Central University, Ada, Oklahoma where he served as the Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences there.

The deans’ responsibilities include faculty recruitment, development, evaluation and promotion; management of financial, personnel and physical resources; supervision of relevant accreditation processes; cultivation and stewardship of alumni and community relations; collaboration with partners within and outside the university; securing and facilitating external funding, both public and private.

As USC Aiken Dean of the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, he will be responsible for the following departments: English; Sociology; Communications; Visual and Performing Arts; Languages, Literatures, and Cultures; History, Political Science, and Philosophy.

Interesting fact about Dr. Hollingsworth: he plays jazz saxophone and the bagpipes in addition to several other wind instruments!

STUDENT AWARD RECIPIENTS SPRING 2016

Several students from the department merited special recognition in the Spring of 2016 for their dedication in the classroom and in our clubs. Congratulations!

Outstanding Student in Political Science

Courtney Templeton is a member of Pi Gamma Mu Honors Society and is the President of the Political Science Club. She has held internships with the South Carolina Democratic Party and the White House Executive Office in the Special Projects Division. She has been accepted into the Master of Arts in Political Science program at the University of Central Florida with a full tuition scholarship and a stipend.

Outstanding Student in History

Ajay Krishnakumar is the recipient of the Rosamond McDuffie Public History Scholarship at USCA. He has volunteered at the Aiken County Museum and currently works as an assistant in the USCA Archives. He presented papers on Catawba pottery at Research Day and at the Palmetto Connections Symposium.

Well done to our Outstanding Students!

LUMANS AWARD RECIPIENT

The Valdis O. Lumans Award, named after our beloved Latvian raconteur, professor emeritus, and former chair, recognizes one professor each year for excellence in teaching.

Dr. Heather Peterson is the recipient of the 2015-2016 Valdis O. Lumans Award for Excellence in Teaching! Please be sure to congratulate Heather for her accomplishment. The award carries with it the satisfaction of a job well done! Heather’s name will also be added to the plaque in the hallway.

Congratulations, Dr. Peterson!
FACULTY NEWS

DR. ROGER DEAL • HISTORY

Dr. Deal presented the paper, “Sexual Relations in Post-World War Two Ankara” at the Middle East Studies Association in November 2015 in Denver. He presented another paper, “Abdülhamid İstanbul’un Polis Olmak / A Policeman’s Life in Manidian Istanbul,” at the 1st International Symposium on the History of Law Enforcement, Antalya, Turkey, organized by the Turkish National Police Academy, in April of 2016. He has received a contract to publish a translated version of his book, Crimes of Honor, Drunken Brawls, and Murder: Violence in Istanbul under Abdülhamid II. The book will be published under the Turkish title, Namus Cinayetleri, Sarhoş Kavgalari ve Cinayetler: II. Abdülhamid İstanbul ‘unda Şiddet, with the independent academic press, Kitap Yaynevi. His teaching in 2015-2016 included the Ottoman Empire, the Modern Middle East, Islamic Political Movements, and Introduction to World Civilizations.

DR. CAROL SEARS BOTSC H • POLITICAL SCIENCE

Dr. Carol Sears Botsch has retired from the faculty after 21 years of full-time service. She received her Ph.D. in Public Administration from the University of South Carolina, Columbia in 1988. Botsch received a Master of Public Administration from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, in 1975, and a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology from Syracuse University in 1971. She was hired as a part-time instructor at USC Aiken in 1979 and was hired as a full-time Instructor in the fall of 1995. She was appointed to a tenure-track position in Political Science in 1997 and became a full Professor in 2009. She was an early adopter of internet-based technology and made the first “home page” for the Department of History, Political Science, and Philosophy in 1996. She created some of the first web-based courses at USC Aiken through successful grant-based funding and has been teaching online for twenty years. She is a creator and editor of African Americans in South Carolina, a web-based encyclopedia. She has published numerous chapters and articles on African Americans in South Carolina politics and on the use of technology in the Political Science classroom. She has been active in the South Carolina Political Science Association and the American Society for Public Administration. She has served the department as pre-law advisor and supervisor for the Political Science Internships Program. She is the faculty advisor for the Pacer Law Society. The department thanks Dr. Carol Botsch for her many years of service!

DR. DAVID DILLARD-WRIGHT • PHILOSOPHY

David published an article, “A Goddess-based Path to A Sustainable Future,” in Sutra Journal, based on his presentation at the Parliament of the World’s Religions in Salt Lake City in October of 2015. His new book, A Mindful Morning, was released in August 2016 by Adams Media. He serves as General Secretary of the Anahata Chakra Satsanga / Heart Chakra Society, which held its annual meeting in conjunction with the American Academy of Religion in Atlanta in November of 2015. David also presented at the Mid-Atlantic Regional meeting of the AAR and at the “Water in the World” interdisciplinary conference at

PROF. ALEXIA JONES HELSLEY • HISTORY

Alexia Helsley completed a chapter to be included in the book, Recovering the Piedmont Past II: Bridging the Centuries in the Piedmont Upcountry, 1877-1936, edited by Timothy Grady (under contract with USC Press). She is also writing an essay for an anthology celebrating the life of author Pat Conroy. The book will be published in time for the annual Conroy literary festival, which will be held in Beaufort, SC in the fall of 2017. She is also editing and transcribing the diary of a Civil War prisoner of war from Henderson County, NC, who had a post-war career as an educator. Helsley serves on the board of the SC Historical Association and continues in her role as University Archivist. She served on the planning committee for the Palmetto Connections Symposium, held on the Aiken campus in April 2016.

DR. ELIZABETH GEORGIAN • HISTORY

Dr. Elizabeth Georgian received a USC RISE grant to fund completion of her book, Undemocratic Christianity: What the James O’Kelly Schism Reveals about Early American Desire for Lay Equality. Her article, “Medicine and Politics: The Primitive Physick and Early American Methodism” appeared in Wesleyan and Methodist Studies. She taught two new upper division courses, Senior Capstone and Exploring the Cold War through Film, in addition to United States History from Discovery to 1865. She is active on many university committees and has volunteered in the community.

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The third Palmetto Connections Symposium was held in the Convocation Center on the USC Aiken Campus on Saturday, April 9th, 2016. The planning committee was comprised of David Dillard-Wright, Meaghan Dwyer-Ryan, Alexia Helsley, and Heather Peterson. The theme of the conference for this year was, “Race and Immigration in the American South.” The first morning speaker was Marcia G. Synnott of the University of South Carolina, who gave a talk during the morning session on the topic, “Interpreting History on University Campuses and at the South Carolina State House.” Fritz Hamer of the Confederate Relic Room and Military Museum gave a talk in the same session on the topic, “Reexamining Public Memorials: National and International Perspectives on Revising Old Public Perspectives.” The morning talks focused on the ways in which public memorials can exacerbate racial tensions and gave ethical perspectives on how to deal with the legacy of racism and Jim Crow in a responsible manner in public areas like museums and parks. Discussion touched on the removal of the Confederate flag from the State House grounds and the parallels between racism in the American south and the apartheid regime in South Africa.

The keynote address for this year was given by Janet G. Hudson of the University of South Carolina-Extended University. She gave a talk on the topic, “Why didn’t World War I Change the South? A Centennial Examination of Black Carolinians’ Expectations of the Great War.” The talk centered around the ways in which black South Carolinians leveraged war service and calls for unity to improve quality of life and civil rights for African-Americans, only to have these gains quickly reversed in later years. The keynote talk was followed by a lunch in the Practice Gym.


The third session, chaired by USC Aiken Emeritus Professor of History, Jim Farmer, was entitled, “African-Americans in the Civil War-A South Carolina Perspective.” Elizabeth Laney, of the Redcliffe Plantation State Historic Site, gave the paper, “Exercising the Rights of Freedmen: Black Votes, the Republican Party, and the 1878 Election in Colleton County, South Carolina.” She was followed by our own Alexia Helsley, who gave the paper, “Fight or Flight: South Carolinians after Secession.”

Concurrent with the afternoon session were two separate student research panels, one on the topic “Perspectives on the Viking Age,” chaired by Tom Wood, and another on “Differing Views of Community,” chaired by Matt Thornbug. Presenting in the Viking session were Dylan Timmerman, “The Foundation of Denmark,” Ajay Krishnakumar, “Viking Architecture in Transition,” and Jason Hadden, “Anglo-Danish Interaction: Beginnings of the Danelaw.” Presenting in the second student session were Andrew T. Quirk, “The Thatcher Years: The Defining Moment for Identity in the United Kingdom,” and Luntadila Paulo, “Manifesto of Foreign Exchange Students in the South.”

The day concluded with a reception held in the practice gym. Overall, the day was a thoughtful reflection on the history and future of race relations in the American south, with a dash of Viking history and international politics thrown in for good measure! USC Aiken Students and alumni had the opportunity to interact with professors from our campus and from peer institutions from around the country. We look forward to the next Palmetto Connections Symposium, which will be held on the Beaufort campus. Stay tuned for details!
**DR. THOMAS WOOD • POLITICAL SCIENCE**

Dr. Wood attended the annual meeting of the Central Asian Studies Society at George Washington University (October 2015), serving as a discussant for the panel, "External Actors and Internal Transformations." Dr. Wood responded to papers by four Kazakh academics. He continues to work on a previous conference paper on the neofunctionalist theory of European integration. Dr. Wood has been very active in University service, serving as Secretary of the Faculty Assembly. He has also taken over as interim campus representative for AAUP, after the retirement of Dr. Bob Botsch. He is now chairing the search for the Assistant Professor position in Public Administration and American Government. He is the Faculty Advisor for the Political Science club.

**DR. MEAGHAN DWYER-RYAN • HISTORY**


**DR. STEVE MILLIES • POLITICAL SCIENCE**

Dr. Millies’ new book, *Joseph Bernardin: Seeking Common Ground*, was released by Liturgical Press in September of 2016. From the book jacket: “Relying on interviews with the cardinal’s assistants, friends, and family members, as well as on some previously unavailable archival material, ...Millies explores Bernardin’s controversial ‘seamless garment’ approach to life issues, his founding of the Catholic Common Ground Initiative, the disturbing abuse allegations against him that were later retracted, and his experience of cancer that prompted him to write the best-selling book *The Gift of Peace* and that ultimately took his life.” Millies also presented at an interdisciplinary conference at Trinity College, Dublin, in June of 2016 and has recently been named Strom Thurmond Endowed Chair in Political Science.

**DR. HEATHER PETERSON • HISTORY**

Dr. Peterson received a USC RISE grant for the summer of 2015 for the book project *Sucking the Blood of the Miserable Indians: Interpretations of Indian Mortality*, which enabled her to conduct research in Mexico and Texas. This work was completed at the Benson Latin American Collection in Austin and the Archivo General de la Nacion in Mexico City. Dr. Peterson developed a new Race in the Americas course in addition to teaching Introduction to World Civilizations to 1750. She has mentored two Magellan scholars, our outstanding students, Andrew Quirk and Ajay Krishnakumar.

**DR. SAMUEL PIERCE • HISTORY**

With support from a USC ASPIRE-1 grant, Dr. Pierce was able to complete two months of archival research in Spain in the summer of 2015. He was able to visit six major archives. This work is intended to expand the scope of his book project, titled, *From the Church to the Street: The CEDA and Catholic Mobilization in the Spanish Republic, 1931-1936*. Dr. Pierce also gave two conference presentations: “Catholics and the Spanish Civil War: The CEDA and the Origins of Francoism,” presented at the European Studies Conference, Omaha, Nebraska, and “Catholics and Asturias: The CEDA and the October Revolution of 1934;” presented at the Association for Spanish and Portuguese Historical Studies, San Diego. Dr. Pierce developed a new Special Topics course on the Industrial Revolution in addition to teaching The Historian’s Craft and introductory courses.

**DR. MATT THORNBURG • POLITICAL SCIENCE**

Dr. Matthew Thornburg had a great first year as our new Assistant Professor of Political Science. He created a Special Topics course on Political Psychology in addition to teaching Introduction to Politics, American National Government, and Scope and Methods of Political science. He presented a paper on crossover voting at the Midwest Political Science Association in April and was interviewed by news outlets such as WRDW-TV Channel 12, WJBF-TV Channel 6, and the Aiken Standard on the presidential primaries. Thornburg served as advisor to the College Democrats and as a moderator for the Aiken Mayoral Town Hall meeting. He is working with emeritus professor, Dr. Bob Botsch, to conduct some survey work for the City of Aiken under the auspices of the USC Aiken Social Science and Business Research Laboratory, which continues to be an important venue for connecting the community to the USC Aiken campus.
As a result, USCA proposed a successful panel that included presentations by three USCA history majors: Michael Gordon, Julius Sykes, and Robert Rosa-Cruz. The title of the panel was “The Long Arm of Rome” and instructor Helsley chaired and commented on the session. Graduating senior Michael Gordon spoke on “Byzantines and the Rest,” first-semester seniors Julius Sykes and Robert Rosa-Cruz presented papers on, “Purple Reign: Emperor Charles’ Roman Holiday, 25 December 800,” and “Faith under Fire: Two Worlds in Conflict,” respectively. This was the first time a group of USCA history majors had presented at a historical conference. The students originally researched their topics using available primary and secondary materials for HIST 319 “Birth of Europe.” Several of the students are considering graduate studies, and Caravel, the USC journal of undergraduate research, selected the Sykes paper for publication.

Dr. Heather Peterson, USCA History Club advisor, accompanied a group of interested students that included, in addition to the presenters, Aja Krishnakumar, Andrew Seigler and Lauren Gonzales. USCA alumnus and former history major, Sean Wills, also attended. The students had the opportunity to attend sessions given by students form South Carolina institutions such as: Coastal Carolina University, Winthrop University, Francis Marion University, Columbia College, USC Beaufort and the College of Charleston, as well as Wake Forest University, East Carolina University, Queens University of Charlotte, and High Point University.

Dr. Mark Smith of USC presented a keynote address on “The Smell of Battle, the Taste of Siege: a Sensory History of the Civil War.” In addition, several USCA students attended the panel “Notable Early Carolinians.” Dr. Michael Morris, formerly of USCA, spoke on “George Galphin: Carolina’s Continental Indian Commissioner” and Helsley on “Richard Pearis – Conflict and Challenge on the Southern Frontier.”

The symposium and student conference were an educational experience for students and faculty!

Alexia J. Helsley, Senior Instructor of History

USCA History Majors in intellectual combat mode.
Janet Hudson gives keynote at Third Palmetto Connections Symposium

Dr. Meaghan Dwyer-Ryan in action

Fritz Hamer on Public Memorials

**HAPPENINGS 2015-2016**

Political Science Alumnus Kelvin Coleman and family with POTUS Barack H. Obama. Coleman oversees Government Engagement for DHS’s Office of Cybersecurity and Communications (CS&C). He is responsible for managing CS&C’s relationship with Federal and non-Federal public sector stakeholders, including all the states.

Alumnae Elizabeth Smith, Executive Director of the First Tee of Aiken, was recognized by the First Tee with a Chairman’s Award by the organization in 2015.