

The Sextant

Banner Semester for Dr. Veit

It has been a banner semester for outgoing Chair of the Department of History and Anthropology, Dr. Richard Veit. Yes, folks, that said outgoing. If you haven't heard, Dr. Veit was recently selected as the Associate Dean of the Wayne D. McMurray School of Humanities and Social Sciences, effective July 1, 2019! According to the April 15 announcement made by Dr. Ken Womack, Dean of the School, "Dr. Veit has been a member of the Monmouth University faculty since 1996 and has served as Chair of the Department of History and Anthropology since 2014. He is a recipient of both Monmouth's Distinguished Teaching award and the Donald Warncke Award for service. He was the founding director of Monmouth's Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning and of Monmouth's MA program in anthropology. Dr. Veit has been deeply involved in faculty governance and has served as chair of the Faculty Council at Monmouth University."

The announcement continued, "By training, Dr. Veit is a North American historical archaeologist, and his research focuses on the Middle Atlantic region in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. An accomplished author, he has published numerous scholarly books and articles. His work has been supported by grants from the National Park Service (NPS), the New Jersey Historical Commission, New Jersey Council on the Humanities, and numerous local historical organizations. I believe that our School will clearly benefit from his engagement and expertise."

As if this wasn't exciting enough, Dr. Veit capped off the semester by winning the inaugural Eugene Simko Faculty Leadership Award on May 8 in recognition of making a significant impact on Monmouth University and the surrounding community. Gene Simko, a beloved faculty member here at Monmouth, passed away suddenly on Tuesday, June 12, 2018, shortly after celebrating 40 years of teaching.



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Student Awards	2
Campbell Ted Talk	3
Stunkel Tribute	4
Hendrickson Excavation	5
Anthropology Day	6
Research; Race Conference	7
Club News	8
History Day	9
News and Notes	10-11
Theses and Comps	12

We wish Dr. Veit all the best in his new role!

Dr. DeRosa to Lead Department

While we are sad to see Dr. Veit move over to Plangere, we are thrilled to report that Dr. Chris DeRosa will be taking over as the Chair of the Department of History and Anthropology, effective July 1. DeRosa joined Monmouth University's faculty in 2003. He teaches courses on the history of warfare and politics and is the author of *Political Indoctrination in the U.S. Army*. DeRosa was awarded the 2018 Distinguished Teacher Award, which is the highest teaching award Monmouth offers and is given to one faculty member a year. He earned his bachelor's in history at Columbia University and his Ph.D. in history at Temple University.

When asked if he'd like to share a message with our readers, Dr. DeRosa replied as follows: (continued on next page)



"It's really an honor to represent the students and faculty of this department. You all give us a lot to brag about! One big priority for my colleagues and me is to look at our curricula in light of the move from 128 credits to 120 credits. We want to make sure we get students both the courses they need as efficiently as possible, and give them as much freedom to explore the university's offerings as we can. Please don't hesitate to drop in and let me know how it's going."

We wish Dr. DeRosa all the best in his new position!

Students Shine at Awards Ceremony

Congratulations to the following students who were feted at our awards ceremony on April 26:

Outstanding Undergraduate Scholar in Anthropology: Lauren Rossi

Outstanding Undergraduate Scholar in History: William Elwell

Outstanding Graduate Scholar in Anthropology: Marilyn Scherfen

Outstanding Graduate Scholar in Anthropology: Casey Hanna

Outstanding Graduate Scholar in History: Gary DeSarno

Department of History & Anthropology Service Award: Jenna Paterno

Department of History & Anthropology Service Award: Matthew Del Guercio

Susan Douglass Future Educator Award: Samantha Papa

Brian Greenberg Social Justice Award: Juliana Illiano



Chaos Theory and the Beatles

The following is the text of a Tedx Talk delivered by Dr. Ken Campbell on May 18 at the famed Paramount Theatre in Asbury Park.

According to Michael Walker, author of a book on the famous Laurel Canyon neighborhood in Los Angeles, one morning everyone decided to open their windows and begin playing the Beatles' "Let it Be" at exactly the same moment. This is just one example of the kind of harmony the Beatles were capable of creating among people through their music in one of the most chaotic periods of recent history. Social upheaval, racial tensions, political controversies, cultural divisions, a sexual revolution, and protests and demonstrations opposing the Vietnam War all marked the decade of the 1960s. Yet the 1960s was also a period characterized by love-ins, a sense of community and destiny shared by many young people in the Baby Boom Generation, and, perhaps most importantly in retrospect, a common musical heritage that began with the revolution sparked when the Beatles first appeared on the Ed Sullivan Show on February 9, 1964.

No one could have anticipated the Beatles' enormous success and wide-

spread popularity in 1964, despite their prodigious talents and infectious personalities, though the 74 million people who watched them that night, at the time the most watched television program in history, might have provided a clue. Perhaps the Beatles succeeded in becoming, not just a popular music group, but also one of the greatest cultural phenomena of all times, because of the chaotic period in which they thrived—a period of such radical change and controversy that the culture needed some kind of unifying force to hold it together.

Chaos theory, in part, suggests that nature has a way of breaking down and devolving into chaos, but that this very chaos and apparent randomness creates patterns and similarities among diverse phenomena capable of producing great beauty and harmony. The Beatles were great songwriters and their early love songs and ballads have stood the test of time as great pop music compositions. However, it was the ways in which the Beatles responded to and reflected the chaos of their times that catapulted them into the cultural stratosphere. In other words, the Beatles created the music,

but the culture and the chaotic nature of the times created THE BEATLES.

When Beatles fans, many of them eagerly anticipating their next single or album, brought Revolver home and heard the first song, George Harrison's biting indictment of the "Taxman," they had their anti-establishment views reinforced or perhaps initiated. In 1967, when they heard the Beatles introduce themselves as "Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band," on the album of the same title, they joined them in an escapist fantasy many young people found so appealing at the time. The Beatles influenced and reflected the hippie ideal with songs such as "All You Need is Love," available via satellite broadcast to 300 million people that same year.

In short, they influenced the culture and reflected it back to itself, much in the same way that the universe in chaos theory responds to endless and unpredictable feedback mechanisms. Chaos theory states that chaos can appear random, but it is not random. Thus, the Beatles began to fray as a group as divisions even within the youth culture emerged from the chaos of 1968, while responding to the

chaos caused by revolutions and assassinations in such songs as "Revolution" and "Happiness is a Warm Gun." They then ended their recording career just as the sixties ended by stepping outside of history into the realm of spiritual enlightenment in 1969 with the message at the end of "The End" on Abbey Road: "The Love you take is equal to the Love You Make," a perfect equation of harmony in the midst of chaos.

What does all of this mean for us? In our own chaotic and divided times, will some kind of unifying force emerge to hold our own fractured culture together? Perhaps it is hoping for too much for our times to produce another Beatles, although if chaos theory is correct some similar phenomenon would not be out of the question. Perhaps we just still need the Beatles, who left us a musical legacy that might help us cope as much with our own troubled times as it did for millions of their fans across the globe in the chaos of the 1960s.



Prof. Ken Stunkel: A Tribute



Ken Stunkel, Emeritus Professor of History at Monmouth University, died on February 7th in his Neptune, NJ, home in the arms of his wife of close to half a century. He was 87.

Dr. Stunkel taught at Monmouth through his 80th year, ending a distinguished 47-year career there as Professor of History and Dean of Humanities and Social Sciences (1996-2001) and Dean of Art and Sciences (1993-1996). He taught over 25 different courses and was instrumental in Monmouth College's promotion to University status.

He was the author of 10 academic books, including *Ideas and Art in Asian Civilizations*, *Understanding Lewis Mumford: A Guide for the Perplexed*, *50 Key Works of History and Historiography* and countless articles. Since retiring, he coauthored a play *Lives of Reason* with friend and colleague Robert Rechnitz. It was produced in 2016 at Two River Theater for sold-out performances with a stellar cast. Last year, Ken's second play *How to Live* was given a staged reading at Two River.

Ken had a short career as a modern dancer in his 20s, then served in Korea as Psychiatric Social Worker in a MASH unit and later as a choreographer of USO soldier shows.

He is survived by his wife Mary Carol, his sister Shelley, his daughters Sally and Mira, his son Reagan, grandson Elon, and three adoring cats.

I saw you before I met you;
You appeared to me before I knew you;
You came to me as a mentor,
To make my profession better.

Gradually climbing the career ladder,
You were Up there...were waiting for me,
On my way up, you were my cheer-leader,
All the way to the top you stood by me.

At Monmouth, you accepted me;
I became your professional protégé.
To me, you were a man of integrity,
A man of dignity.

You were a source of inspiration,
A man of conviction,
I knew you as a man of hard work,
I knew you as a man of honor.

You were Great; Intelligent;
Thoughtful; Considerate;
Humanistic; Visionary; Loving;
Understanding; Helpful;
Organized; Supportive;
Friendly; Proactive...
Honorable. A worthy example.

I knew you as a:
Historian; Reader; Writer; Thinker;
Philosopher;
Leader; An Encourager.

Your family misses you,
The academic community misses you,
Ethical people miss you,
Monmouth University misses you,
I miss you.
You shall live on in my heart.
Always...

Julius O. Adekunle, Ph.D.

Hendrickson Farmstead Excavation

By Dr. Adam Heinrich

On May 11, 2019, a salvage archaeological investigation was led at the Hendrickson farmstead in Middletown, NJ by Kristen Norbut, Historic Preservation Specialist at the Monmouth County Park System and a Monmouth alumni.

The house, which will

soon be demolished, may date to the late 17th or early 18th centuries, and includes mid-18th and 19th century additions.

The salvage efforts hoped to learn a little more about life at the property and save some material culture before it was lost to development.

The investigation found a 19th-century smoke house, 18th and 19th century coins, bones, and large amounts of domestic artifacts including medicine and alcohol bottles.

Monmouth University participants included other current students and alumni Matthew Del Guercio, Michael Gall, Evan Mydlowski, Ryan

Radice, and Marilyn Scherfen, as well as faculty Richard Veit and Adam Heinrich.

Below: Matt Del Guercio, Michael Gall, Evan Mydlowski, and University of Mary Washington student Rick Altenburg work at the site of the smoke-house at the Hendrickson farmstead.



National Anthropology Day Inspires Meaningful Conversations

By
Professors Heidi Bludau
and Brooke Nappi

In November 2018, the FBI reported that hate crimes in the U.S. have increased for the 3rd year in a row. As a part of National Anthropology Day activities, the Department of History and Anthropology hosted a café-style event to explore the complex topic

of hate crimes in order to gain a better understanding of what exactly a hate crime is, and why they are on the rise. Professors Heidi Bludau and Brooke Nappi, along with Prof. Michael Phillips-Anderson (Communication) hosted the event on February 13.

After a brief lecture on the definitions and sta-

tistics around the rise in hate crimes, attendees broke up into small groups to delve deeper into the subject.

Katie Yoder said, "This experience was incredibly enlightening and I am so happy I had the opportunity to attend." Her group discussed how the media normalizes hate crimes, among other things. Another

student, Scott Dressel, summed up the impact of the event, saying, "This was a great experience and was a wake up to me. We have a lot of work to do in America."



Works in Progress Series

This semester, the following “works in progress” talks were delivered:

Presenter: Dr. Hettie Williams

Topic: “Laboratory of Democracy: African American Students at Columbia University Before 1954”

Presenters: Drs. Richard Veit and Heidi Bludau

Topic: “We’re going to need a bigger boat to cross the Delaware: Studying the Culture of Revolutionary War Reenactors”

Presenter: Dr. Nancy Mezey

Topic: “Work in Progress: Illuminating the Affects of Climate Change on Families”

Presenter: Dr. Benjamin L. Rolsky

Topic: “In Defense of the Public: Religion, American Liberalism, and the Production of the Christian Right”

You can find the abstracts, and more about the works in progress series, [here](#). Thanks to Dr. Hettie Williams for organizing this!

Race Conference Returning to MU

Our sixth biennial Interdisciplinary Conference on Race will be held on Thursday, November 14 to Saturday, November 16, 2019 right here at Monmouth University. This conference aims to bring together scholars from multiple disciplinary perspectives to broadly explore the intersections of Race, Memory, and Identity. Contemporary social, political, and media discourses demonstrate the continued need to evaluate the differing ways that race and identity impact memory in connection to history, trauma, loss and remembrance. Understanding memory as both a subject and a tool can act to promote conversations about how memories of the past impress upon individual and collective memory to affectively shape racial and cultural identities. How might we remember the legacies of personal and historical injustices in the present while at the same time shaping the future to allow for an exploration of the persistently entangled forces of remembrance, identity, and justice?

The Monmouth University race conference was founded in 2008 by Dr. Julius Adekunle and Dr. Hettie V. Williams. This conference has brought together scholars from more than fifteen U.S. states, four continents, and twelve nations. Robin D.G. Kelley, Tera Hunter, David Roediger, and Jonathan Holloway have all previously served as keynote speakers for this event. This year, historian Dr. William Sturkey, UNC, Chapel Hill, will deliver the opening plenary lecture. Dr. Qiana Whitted, USC, and other distinguished speakers will also participate in this conference (TBA).

The Interdisciplinary Conference on Race program committee, chaired by Professor Brooke Nappi, eagerly invites proposals from students, scholars, researchers, artists, and teachers around the world on topics related to the scholarly and/or pedagogical aspects of the conference’s themes.

Proposals should be sent to muraceconference@monmouth.edu by July 1, 2019 and should include: a maximum 250-word abstract, with title, for each paper, a panel title for organized panels, and brief a one page curriculum vitae for each participant. You can view the full call for papers [here](#).

History and Anthropology Club News

The History and Anthropology Club had another action packed semester, including a faculty versus student trivia competition, a trip to Washington DC, and more. Perhaps the highlight of the semester was the team's third 19th century baseball game on April 6. This was their second matchup against the Monmouth Furnace Base Ball Club. While the students were not victorious, a good time was had by all!

The Club ran another t-shirt fundraiser this year. Once again, the shirt featured one of a kind student artwork. Graciela St. Onge inked the winning design this year, and the students raised several hundred dollars.

Thanks to Club President Jenna Amore for all of her hard work this year. You might be surprised by how much red tape goes into managing the Club, but Jenna handled it all with a smile. She was supported by board members Bill Elwell, Matthew Del Guercio, and Jamie Esposito.



4th History Day at MU

On March 23, 2019, Monmouth University's Department of History and Anthropology hosted one of three regional NJ History Day competitions. This was the fourth consecutive year that we hosted a regional competition. Our participation in this event is a Strategic Plan Initiative.

These NJ History Day competitions, part of the broader National History Day platform, are the culmination of a year-long academic program for students in grades 6-12. Student participants submit poster "exhibits," videos, performances, websites, and papers to be judged. Winners from regional competitions move to the state finals. (In NJ, the state finals always take place at William Paterson.) State winners then attend the national competition.

In 2019, there were 543 students assigned to the MU competition.

These students, many accompanied by parents and teachers, came from Middlesex, Monmouth, Ocean, Hudson, Somerset, and Sussex Counties.

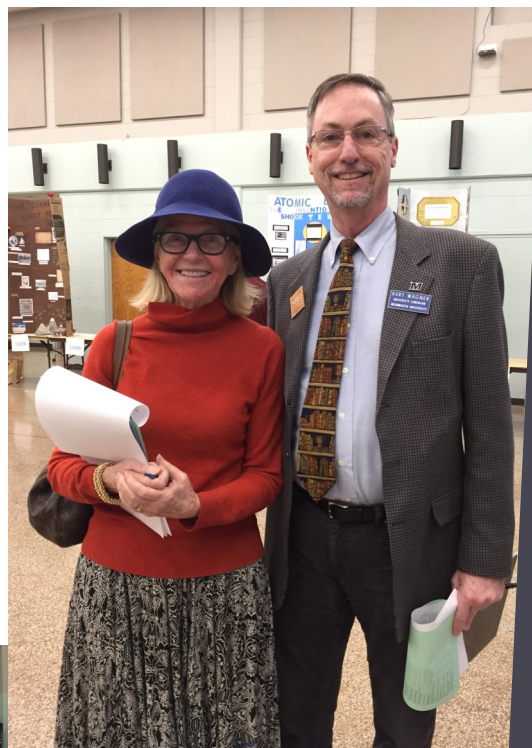
Rutgers-Camden and Kean University also served as 2019 regional hosts. Monmouth was the largest regional competition once again this year.

Approximately 70 judges participated in History Day at MU in 2019. The judging pool consisted of MU faculty, graduate students, alumni, and community partners. They provided invaluable mentorships to our student guests, while networking themselves. Monmouth undergraduates worked throughout

the day to hand out backpacks and provide tours, directions, and other logistical support. Many received volunteer credit for honor societies and the like. All were tremendous MU ambassadors. This event is a great networking experience for them, too.

We welcomed this opportunity to bring these highly motivated, bright young students, and many of their teachers and family members, to our beautiful campus and hope to see many of them again as they begin considering their college options.

Below: University Librarian Kurt Wagner and Professor Maureen Dormont serve as judges; the crowd at one of two award ceremonies. Monmouth County Clerk Christine Giordano Hanlon, in red, was our guest speaker.



News and Notes

Congratulations to Sebastian Castillo Giraldo, who not only passed his comprehensive exams with distinction, but also got accepted to a PhD program at Drew this fall!

Congratulations to Trent Broderick, a newly minted graduate who accepted a job with Enterprise as a Manager Trainee.

Our Department participated in Student Scholarship Week again this year. One project showcased was a video of a recreation the Jockey Hollow winter encampments from the Revolutionary War. The exhibit showcased some of the research, both of historical sources and technical, that is being conducted to create a virtual reality (VR) experience based on the site in the National Historic Park in Morristown, N.J. Another panel, called "Public History Practicums: Preparing for Life after Monmouth," showcased the following student projects: Hannah Van Note, "Crowdsourcing a Bruce Springsteen Exhibit;" Alex Stantz, "Clio: Connecting Thousands to Nearby Culture and History;" Matthew Del Guercio, "Research and Interpretation at Monmouth Battlefield;" and Jenna Paterno, "Preserving Monmouth Memories." We are so

proud of the meaningful work our students consistently produce!

Dr. DeRosa was one of a select group of faculty members nationwide chosen by the Council of Independent Colleges (CIC) and the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History to participate in a special American history seminar "The Civil War in American Memory." The seminar for faculty members in history, political science, and related fields is especially important for those who may be called upon as resources and experts when questions arise over what should be done with controversial historical statues and markers on their campuses and in their communities. From a pool of 51 highly competitive nominations, 25 faculty members were selected to participate in the seminar, which will be held June 23–27, 2019, at Yale University in New Haven, Connecticut. Congrats, Dr. DeRosa!

Congrats to Dr. Benji Rolsky on the publication of his new book, *The Rise and Fall of the Religious Left. Politics, Television, and Popular Culture in the 1970s and Beyond* (Columbia University Press).

Drs. Katherine Parkin and Hettie Williams, with

student Catherine Harvey, won a mini-grant from MU's Center for Excellence in teaching and learning to support their research into 20th century teaching materials in the history of slavery in America. Huzzah!

The Department co-sponsored the Oral History in the Mid-Atlantic Region (OHMAR) 2019 conference, "Access and Inclusion in Oral History" on campus on April 18–19. Keynote speakers Brian Greenwald and Jean Bergey of Gallaudet University provided a thought-provoking overview of deaf interviews. Dr. Ken Campbell and students Bill Elwell, Alex Stantz, and Jenna Paterno all presented papers, and Professor Ziobro was elected the new president of OHMAR. It was a wonderful opportunity for us to mix and mingle with scholars from across the region!

Congrats to students Richard Adamczyk and Matthew Del Guercio, who both gave very well-received presentations at the Archaeological Society of NJ meeting in March!

Students in HS314, "Exploring History and Heritage Sites: Preservation, Management, and Interpretation" authored

entries for [Clio](#), an "educational website and mobile application that guides the public to thousands of historical and cultural sites throughout the United States. Built by scholars for public benefit, each entry includes a concise summary and useful information about a historical site, museum, monument, landmark, or other site of cultural or historical significance." Be sure to check out this wonderful resource this summer and explore the history around you, wherever you are!

Dr. Maryanne Rhett took SIX Monmouth University History Graduate Students to the annual Northeastern World History Graduate Conference in March: Jessica DiFranco, Owen Flanagan, Tedi Pascarella, Michael Achimov, Jenna Paterno, Courtney Hageman. Congrats to all!

For the second year in a row, the history and anthropology club team won the Monmouth Challenge trivia competition! Congratulations to Stephanie DeLaat, Mario Bertinelli, Kelly Schuld, and Thomas Prioli!

Congrats to Dr. Hillary DelPrete, who has been named as the new Anthropology Undergraduate Program Director.

News and Notes



Congrats to grad student Casey Hanna, who presented a poster at the Society for Applied Anthropology conference in March! Dr. Heidi Bludau also presented a paper.



Here's a snap of Dr. Richard Veit, Professor Sean McHugh, and co. heading down to the Middle Atlantic Archaeological Conference in March! Several of our students and alumni attended and presented.



On March 29, Dr. Veit of brought his Ancient Technologies class to the Parker Homestead in Little Silver for a blacksmithing workshop.

MA Theses and Comprehensive Exams Completed

History Comprehensive Exams Taken:

Sebastian Castillo Giraldo *

History Theses Defended:

Michael Achimov, "The Space Between: 'Ghosts' of the Past" *

Michelle Scott, "Selling the Slim Silhouette: The Commodification of the Diet Industry, 1890-1920"

Maggie Smith, "A Brief History: Pennsylvania Lumbermen's Mutual Insurance Company"

Marc Sweet, "From Legionaries to Missionaries, the Synthesis of the Christian Roman Empire"

Anthropology Comprehensive Exams Taken:

MacKenzie Avallone and Hannah Van Note

Anthropology Theses Defended:

Casey Hannah, "The Benefits and Complications of Creating a Service-Learning Archaeology Project with Descendant Communities and Public Schools: A Projection of a Model to be Employed at the Brotherton Reservation, Burlington County, New Jersey"

Peter Samaras, "Smartphones and the Quantum Leap: Power and Agency in the Information Revolution" *

Jennifer Falchetta, "Site Identification Through Artifact Collector Pit Survey: Lithic Use on Broad Mountain"

Marilyn Scherfen, "Is the Collecting Bug Dead? A Look at Hunting and Gathering 'Stuff' from the Stone Age to the Age of Amazon"

Nikole Ghirardi, "From VPK to UAS: Aerial Photography In Support of Archaeology"

* Denotes completion with distinction.

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