



# Department of History

Franklin College of Arts and Sciences  
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA



## GRADUATE STUDENTS AND FELLOWS

We welcomed 11 new graduate students this year, including Maya Brooks, a Presidential Graduate Fellow.

PG. 4



## NOTES FROM THE CHAIR

Greetings to our history crew! After more than a year of adapting to an ever-evolving pandemic over here in LeConte Hall, we've learned a lot about the importance of community — not only in an epidemiological sense, but also in the humanistic sense. Our faculty, staff, and students worked three times harder last year, and in the process they made the department a place of empathy and energy and creative thinking.

Meanwhile there were other successes to celebrate. Cindy Hahamovitch won a Guggenheim Fellowship to finish her book about guest workers, international labor markets, and the state. Chana Kai Lee was awarded a research fellowship from Harvard's Warren Center for Studies in American History, to participate in the center's workshop on slavery and American universities and to work on her book project about Juliette Derricotte and the history of medical racism.

*(continued on page 2)*



## THE RECORD 2021 History Newsletter

## AWARD WINNING FACULTY

A number of our faculty won prestigious awards this year, including Cindy Hahamovitch, recipient of a 2021 Guggenheim Fellowship

PG. 3



Cassia Roth received a fellowship from the National Endowment for the Humanities to write a history of enslaved women's reproduction and the abolition of slavery in Brazil. And Claudio Saunt's *Unworthy Republic* (published last year with Norton) won the 2021 Bancroft Prize in American History and the 2021 Robert F. Kennedy Book Award: two major accolades for one stunning book.

These are just a few of our faculty highlights — and our students are keeping pace with them! The new Museum Studies Program, directed by Akela Reason and now in its fourth year at UGA, assists dozens of students every year in securing internships, and some of them are winning highly competitive paid gigs: just this year Santana Nash was awarded an internship with the High Museum, and Alysa Matsunaga and Julia Mun both secured internships with the Art Bridges Foundation. As for our grad students: Ph.D. candidate Tracy Barnett was awarded several fellowships to support her research, including fellowships from the Georgia History Society and the American Historical Association. Ph.D. alum James Wall was hired as an oral historian at the National Forestry Service. And Ph.D. alum and former GA Representative Paul Bolster won the Southern Environmental Law Center's Philip D. Reed Environmental Writing Award for his book *Saving the Georgia Coast*.

If you'd like to pay a visit to campus, check out the roster of this year's Lunchtime Time Machine events. You can catch our faculty answering questions like: How did medieval Chinese paintings open up portals to other worlds? How did we double human life expectancy? And why did fire ants invade Georgia? Details for these and other events are available on our News and Events page over at [uga.history.edu](http://uga.history.edu).

Or if you can't stop by for a visit, please stay in touch anyway! If you're an alum, I'd encourage you to tell us what you've been up to, at [history.uga.edu/alumnusa-update-form](http://history.uga.edu/alumnusa-update-form). Our students truly benefit from hearing about all the ways you've activated your education in history after college. As you all know, history is a mindset and skill set that we carry well past the classroom. And whether you're an alum or not, your notes and updates help enlarge our sense of the community that radiates beyond this building. Take care, everyone.

Jamie Kreiner  
Department Head



## Upcoming

Stephen Berry, *Count the Dead: Coroners, Quants, and the Birth of Death as We Know It* (The Steven and Janice Brose Lectures in the Civil War Era). University of North Carolina Press, May 2022.

Nelson, Scott Reynolds, *Oceans of Grain: How American Wheat Remade the World*. Basic Books, February 2022.

## New Books 2021

Peter C. Hoffer, *Daniel Webster and the Unfinished Constitution* (University Press of Kansas, 2021).

Peter C. Hoffer and N.E.H. Hull, *Roe v. Wade: The Abortion Rights Controversy in American History*, 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. (University Press of Kansas, 2021).

Timothy M. Yang, *A Medicated Empire: The Pharmaceutical Industry and Modern Japan*, Studies of the Weatherhead East Asian Institute, Columbia University (Cornell University Press, 2021). See our article on p. 5 to read more about Timothy Yang's new book and research.

*Cindy Hahamovitch is the recipient of a 2021 Guggenheim Fellowship from the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation. The fellowship is intended to “add to the educational, literary, artistic, and scientific power of this country, and also to provide for the cause of better international understanding.” This is the second year in a row that a Guggenheim has been awarded to one of our faculty; Scott Reynolds Nelson received one last year. Doctoral student Bryant Barnes talked to Hahamovitch recently about the award, and what it means for her research.*

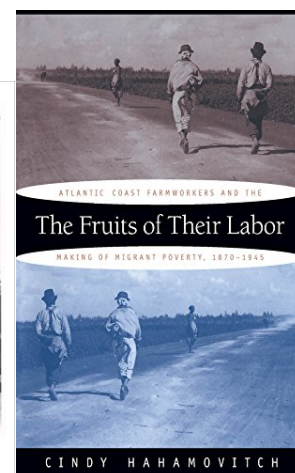
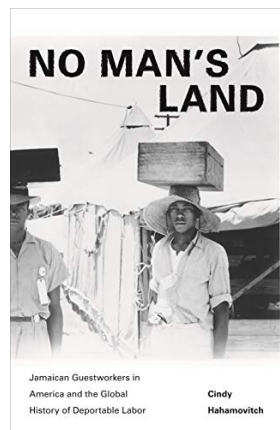
### What is your current project?

I’m currently working on two projects, but the one I got the Guggenheim for is a global history of labor migration from the end of slavery until the very recent pasts that tries to get at the issue of how poor people can move around the world for work without ending up vulnerable to gross exploitation and abuse. Many human trafficking victims are smuggled into other countries but I write about guest workers, people who migrate legally on temporary visas. Sometimes they are treated well, but many are not: some recruiters charge astronomical fees or make false promises; some employers offer housing and wages far inferior to what was promised; some workers aren’t paid at all or are locked in, or are beaten or sexually assaulted. Most are bound to a single employer; just as indentured immigrants were in the nineteenth century.

# THE GUGGENHEIM FELLOWSHIP

One of the things that drove me to write about this topic is that so much of the literature on this kind of labor trafficking focuses the blame on individuals: corrupt officials, abusive employers, piratical recruiters, etc. It’s always *a* person or type of person who’s holding someone in a kind of bondage. Individual actors do nasty things. That’s for sure. But a lot of trafficking is a product of the way states try to regulate immigration. By criminalizing immigration and trying to import immigrant workers only on temporary visas for one employer and one job only, governments create the conditions that make it possible for individuals to take advantage of immigrant workers.

For example, I look at 590 skilled workers from India, the place most indentured workers came from in the nineteenth century. And these men came to the US because they were promised green cards through a real program meant to meet skilled labor demand. This was supposed to be a permanent deal, which would allow them to bring their families to the U.S. and become citizens. They each spent thousands of dollars to make it happen — \$18,000 on average — in fees to an American attorney, an Indian recruiter, and an American recruiter. No one told the men there might be a 30-year wait for the Green Cards and they’d have to wait in India. They were told they’d have Green Cards in 24 months. Still waiting on their Green Cards, most accepted an offer to go to the



U.S. on temporary H-2B visas, which don't even last a year. They were told they'd be renewed twice and would then get the Green Card.

Arriving in Mississippi and Texas, they were packed 24 men to a trailer with bunk beds so close together that they couldn't sit up, and so little space that they had to sleep with their belongings. And they were charged over \$1,000 per month for room and board. Remember, this is a legal program. Because the H-2B program doesn't allow you to quit and find another job, and the company wouldn't let them out of the housing, if they didn't like it, they could go home, but then they'd owe loan sharks for the money they had borrowed plus a lot of interest.

After they started organizing and meeting with an attorney, the company fired and tried to deport the ringleaders. This resulted in a \$20 million settlement in a trafficking lawsuit. But these weren't smuggled workers; these people came as authorized workers. By allowing individual employers to import and deport people, employers create the conditions for all kinds of abuses. That's a lot of power for an employer to have. There are certainly "evil-doers," but they are riding on top of programs that exist because we are trying to limit poor people's mobility around the world.

**THIS BOOK GOES GLOBAL. I CAN'T GET OFF THE SUBJECT; I JUST KEEP GOING BIGGER. BUT IT'S A HUGE GLOBAL PHENOMENON...**

#### **How does this new project relate to your previous work?**

I keep writing about people who migrate. My first book was about migrant workers on the east coast of the U.S. My second book looked at guest workers from Jamaica who came to the U.S. as temporary workers. This book goes global. I can't get off the subject; I just keep going bigger. But it's a huge global phenomenon, though only a tiny fraction of the American workforce.

#### **What does the Guggenheim mean to you?**

It's a wonderful recognition of the work that I have done, and it frees me up from teaching so I can really focus on the book. Also, the Guggenheim is one of very few fellowships geared toward more senior scholars that allow you to stay where you are. ■

#### **GRADUATE STUDENT PROFILE:**

#### **MEET MAYA BROOKS**



Maya Brooks — from Covington, Georgia, with strong family ties to New Orleans, Louisiana — came to the Department of History after earning her B.A. from Agnes Scott College and her M.A. from the University of West Georgia. The University of Georgia was the ideal place to continue her research: "Since I focus on Georgia history," Maya said, "there is no better place to do the work."

Her research focuses on fair housing practices and community impact on black communities in Georgia in the twentieth and twenty-first centuries. Her master's thesis focused on the impact of the 1996 Atlanta Olympic Games on black communities in the city. While she was completing her master's degree, she worked as a research assistant in UWG's public history program, designing a public history tour of the campus. Now that she's at UGA, Maya is working with Dr. James Brooks, and she is the recipient of the Presidential Graduate Fellows Award. This is UGA's most prestigious fellowship for graduate students, awarded to the most qualified doctoral trainees in recognition of outstanding scholarship and excellent potential for success. Maya hopes to blend traditional academic history and public history in her future career.

What problems arise when medicine is both a humanitarian and for-profit enterprise?



# A Medicated Empire

THE PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRY AND MODERN JAPAN (Cornell University Press, 2021)

*Doctoral student Devin Jerome talked to Timothy Yang recently about his new book, A Medicated Empire. See our website for the complete article to learn more about the book and about Yang's research.*

## Tell us about your new book and the research behind it:

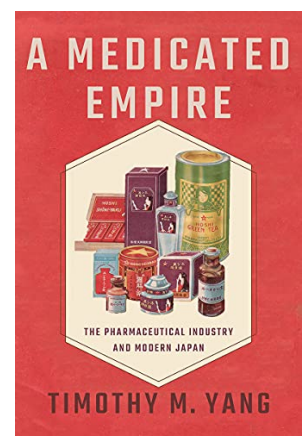
It is a business history that intervenes into histories of science and medicine. The anchor is a company called Hoshi Pharmaceuticals, which I used to examine the relationship between pharmaceutical companies and the state in the making of Japan and its empire in the early twentieth century. This company had its heyday at a time when laboratory research was less important for drug development. It relied, instead, on medicines derived from natural substances such as quinine, opium, and cocaine.

One part of this book concerns the nature of medicines as commodities, and how they are produced and distributed as well as marketed and sold. Another part of the book is how this company worked in connection to the Japanese state and its

regime of public health, both within the Japanese home islands and in its expanding empire in Asia.

Through Hoshi, I talk about how the pharmaceutical industry supports public health but also simultaneously subvert it, for example, through its involvement in

opioids. And because fundamentally it is a business, so the guiding question for the book is: can medicine—as a business—be both humanitarian and for profit? ■ See more on Dr. Yang's research at [https://history.uga.edu/!](https://history.uga.edu/)



## Faculty Awards

**Cindy Hahamovitch** was awarded a 2021 Fellowship by the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation. She will explore guest worker programs and human trafficking in a global context.

The American Society for Environmental History awarded **Jamie Kreiner** the George Perkins Marsh Prize for the best book in environmental history in 2020, for *Legions of Pigs in the Early Medieval West* (Yale University Press, 2020).

**Chana Kai Lee** has been awarded a Warren Center Faculty Fellowship at Harvard University for 2021-2022. Lee, who serves as director of the History of Slavery at UGA research project, will join other Fellows in presenting their work in a weekly seminar as she writes and organizes her research for a new book project about Juliette Derricotte and the history of medical racism.

**Jennifer Palmer** was named a 2020 recipient of an American Council of Learned Societies Fellowship. The ACLS Fellowship program honors scholarship in the humanities and humanistic social sciences with the potential to make significant contributions to knowledge in their fields. The awards support six to twelve months of full-time research and writing.

**Cassia Roth** was awarded a National Endowment for the Humanities fellowship. The fellowship will support Roth's writing a book based on her scholarship, "Birthing Abolition: Enslaved Women, Reproduction, and the Gradual End of Slavery in Nineteenth-Century Brazil." Also this year, Roth's 's book *A Miscarriage of Justice* won the 2021 Macleod Book Prize (in Latin American History) from the Southern Historical Association.

**Claudio Saunt** continues to receive accolades and awards for his 2020 book *Unworthy Republic: The Dispossession of Native Americans and the Road to Indian Territory*, a finalist for the 2020 National Book Award, and short-listed for the Cundill Prize in Historical Literature. Named a *New York Times* Critics' Top Book of 2020, one of the ten best books of 2020 by the *Washington Post* and *Publishers Weekly*, one of the fifteen best books of 2020 by *The Atlantic*, one of the best books of 2020 by the *Boston Globe*, and an NPR favorite book of 2020. This year Saunt was awarded the 2021 Bancroft Prize in American History and Diplomacy, the 2021 Robert F. Kennedy Book Award, the 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Ridenhour Book Prize, and his book was Short-listed for the 2021 Phi Beta Kappa Ralph Waldo Emerson Award.

## News and Notes

**Jamie Kreiner** is moving from her current position as Department Head to serve as Associate Dean of the Humanities; **Claudio Saunt** will serve as interim Head until summer 2022.

**Ari Levine** has been awarded the Horace Montgomery Professorship. The professorship honors the legacy of its namesake, Dr. Horace Montgomery (1906-2001), who served on the faculty of the Department of History between 1947 and 1978.

We are pleased to welcome **Tracey Johnson** (Ph.D., Rutgers University) to our faculty in fall 2022 as Assistant Professor of History and African American Studies.

## Graduate Student Awards

**Tracy Barnett** has received a number of awards to support her dissertation research this past year, including: AHA's Albert Beveridge Grant, Boston Athenæum Caleb Loring Jr. Fellowship, Winterthur Museum, Garden & Library Dissertation Fellowship, Georgia Historical Society's Dooley Distinguished Research Fellowship,

The John H. Daniels Fellowship, and the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation & Humanities Without Walls Fellowship.

**William R. Kelson** was recipient of a UGA Graduate School Dean's Award, a Graduate Education Advancement Board Fellowship, and a Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad Fellowship (DDRA). The former will fund research in archives in London this fall; the latter will fund ten months of research at Academia Sinica in Taiwan next year. All funding will support Kelson's dissertation, "Shanghai Panic: China's First Big Debt Crisis." The project is a study of the Shanghai Panic of 1883, China's first great empire-wide, Great Depression-style financial crisis.

**Matthew C. O'Neal** received a H.B. du Pont research grant from the Hagley Museum and Library in Wilmington, DE. The award funded a two-month visit while he conducted research on the coal industry in Appalachia.

The New Orleans Center for the Gulf South awarded **Terrell Orr** a Global South Fellowship to support his research project, "The Roots of Global Citrus in "Nuevo South" Florida and Rural São Paulo." Other recent awards also include a 2021 Janelle Padgett Knight Graduate Research Award from the Willson Center for Humanities and Arts, and the Hal Rothman Dissertation Fellowship, from the American Society for Environmental History. Orr also received a 2020 SSRC International Dissertation Research Fellowship, and 2020 Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad award.

**Rolando Rodriguez Gonzalez** is a 2021-2022 recipient of the Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship. Rolando is currently studying the political economy of colonial Brazil, and will use this fellowship to advance his research in Portuguese and Lusophone studies.

# ALUMNI PROFILE: MEET MARIE WALKER

**What is your current job? Can you give us the big picture and tell us what you do?**

I am the Director of the Ada Mae Ivester Education Center at the Northeast Georgia History Center (Gainesville). I develop and implement educational programming at the history center including field trips, group tours, family days, webcasts, and livestreams on a variety of topics. I also coordinate our Homeschool Connection Program, Chautauqua Series, and virtual summer camps.

**Tell about your career path, how your background and skills fit?**

I began working at the Northeast Georgia History Center my freshman year, doing in costume historical interpretation for their family day programming. Upon completing my history degree, minor in theater, and certificates in Museum Studies, British and Irish Studies, and Historic Preservation in 2020, I was offered and accepted the Director's position.

**How does your job play to strengths you developed as a history major?**

I am up to my elbows in history every day, researching, learning, and thinking of new ways to teach and interpret history. My history degree gave me the proficiency in how to research, identify themes in history, and synthesize information from a variety of sources to establish a narrative. I am especially thankful for the museum studies certificate as it gave me practical knowledge of how museums work and prepared me for life beyond the classroom.



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For questions about giving, please contact Alison Godley, Assistant Director of Annual Giving at Franklin College  
Office of Development: (706) 542-3581 or [alison.godley@uga.edu](mailto:alison.godley@uga.edu)

## SUPPORT HISTORY AT UGA!

Each year the Department of History actively supports students who need financial assistance to participate in Study Away programs and to conduct research, including those who are traveling to regional archives to complete research for their senior theses. If you would like to support our students, please consider donating to the History Undergraduate Student Support Fund. Your gift, no matter the size, opens doors for history students.



**YES!**, I would like to support History Undergraduate Students:

\$1,000 \_\_\_\_\_ \$500 \_\_\_\_\_ \$100 \_\_\_\_\_ Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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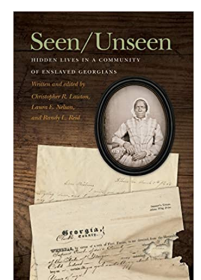
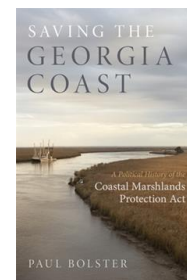
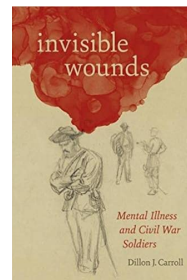
# Alumni News

Dillon Carroll (Ph.D. 2016) published the forthcoming *Invisible Wounds: Mental Illness and Civil War Soldiers, Conflicting Worlds: New Dimensions of the American Civil War* (Louisiana State University Press, 2021).

Former GA Representative Paul Bolster (Ph.D. 1972) won the Southern Environmental Law Center's Philip D. Reed Environmental Writing Award for his book *Saving the Georgia Coast: A Political History of the Coastal Marshlands Protection Act* (University of Georgia Press, 2020).

Laura E. Nelson (M.A. 2018) and Christopher R. Lawton (Ph.D. 2011), co-edited a volume with Randy L. Reid: *Seen/Unseen: Hidden Lives in a Community of Enslaved Georgians* (University of Georgia Press, 2021). In 2021 Nelson began her first year of study in the PhD program at Princeton University.

In September 2021, James B. Wall (Ph.D. 2018) was appointed Director of the Oral History Program of the National Museum of Forest Service History (NMFSH), in Missoula.



**We're online!**

<https://history.uga.edu/>

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