

Connections 2019-2020

Annual Newsletter of CLAW



COLLEGE of
CHARLESTON

CAROLINA LOWCOUNTRY AND
ATLANTIC WORLD PROGRAM

Letter from the Director

Friends of CLAW— I would like to introduce myself as the new Director and express my immense gratitude to Simon Lewis and the College of Charleston for entrusting me to steer the ship of this incredibly important program and institution. I began my engagement with CLAW when I first arrived at CofC in 2009 as a new hire in the Department of History. My specialization in gender and race in the broader Atlantic World, primarily the seventeenth century, made this a natural fit.

Over the years I have been impressed by the dedication of faculty and campus leadership to enhancing the profile of Charleston and Lowcountry to the history, culture, and identities of the broader Atlantic. Each year CLAW hosts a conference, various public lecture through an endowment by Wells Fargo, documentary showings, and provides access and support for scholars to make use of Charleston's vast collection of archives and manuscripts.

I can only hope to uphold the legacy set forth by my predecessors, especially as we celebrate the 25th anniversary of the CLAW program. We have a packed year ahead with an array of public programming, a book



club, and two events dedicated to celebrating both the 350th anniversary of South Carolina and the 250th anniversary of the College of Charleston. January 30th, Founder's Day, Dr. John McCurdy will provide a lecture on the early barracks of Charleston during the American Revolution, barracks that eventually became the College of Charleston. As part of that lecture, we will unveil a recent discovery by Harlan Greene of the only drawing known to exist of the original barracks. This is an exciting event for all of us.

Our conference in May, Celebrating 350: Port Cities in the Atlantic will be a large and international conference designed to showcase the most interesting interdisciplinary and historical work being done on the Atlantic World and Charleston's pivotal role in this vast history. We have two renowned

scholars, Emily Owens and Roquinaldo Ferreira. It's going to be an full year of programming and we encourage the public and members of the CofC family to join us! I look forward to working with public and scholarly institutions and programs. The CLAW program has an excellent and diverse Advisory Board and I am grateful for their commitment and support. Thank you for this opportunity.

2019-2020 Advisory Board

Carl Wise, Assistant Director, Hispanic Studies

Simon Lewis, English

Mary Jo Fairchild, Special Collections

Blake Scott, International Studies

Daron Calhoun, Avery Research Center

Jacob Steere-Williams, History

Mark Long, Political Science

Lenny Lowe, Religious Studies

Barry Steifel, Historic Preservation

Kameelah Martin, Af. Am. Studies



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2019 Conference Review

The Vesey Conspiracy at 200:

Black Anti-Slavery in the Atlantic World”

Working with Professor James Spady of Soka University in California, English Department professor Simon Lewis and Joe Kelly hosted a terrific, focused conference that drew top-notch scholars from the US, UK, Caribbean, and Africa. Spady, one of the leading experts on Vesey, had organized a wonderfully thoughtful set of panels and plenary sessions, complemented by two excellent public lectures by keynoters Bernard Powers and Michael Moore (CEO of the International African American Museum in Charleston). Dr. Powers’s lecture was particularly well attended, and the attention it paid to the centrality of Haiti in the history of Atlantic World anti-slavery movements resonated throughout the conference. Before the conference proper actually began, CCPRC staff member Shawn Halifax led a very well received tour of sites of the earlier Stono Rebellion (1739) for a group of about fifteen conference-goers. Soka’s contribution to the conference took the significant form of paying for the presence at the conference of Ghanaian historian Dr. Samuel Ntewusu. Dr. Spady also liaised with Shawn Halifax of the Charleston County Park and Recreation Commission to organize a highly successful tour of sites connected with the Stono Rebellion of 1739.



Gibril Cole (LSU) provided a lecture entitled "The Krio of Sierra Leone: A Transatlantic Cultural Society."



Students, Faculty, and Community Members turn out to hear a panel discussion of the importance of Gullah Music to the Lowcountry.

Upcoming Wells Fargo Distinguished Public Lectures

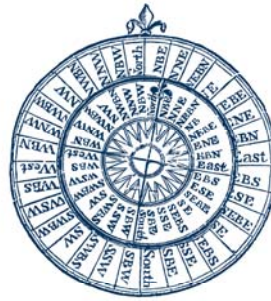
John McCurdy has been a member of the Department of History and Philosophy at Eastern Michigan University since 2005. He is the author of *Citizen Bachelors: Manhood and the Creation of the United States* (Cornell University Press, 2009). Professor of History John McCurdy has published his second book, *Quarters: The Accommodation of the British Army and the Coming of the American Revolution* (Cornell University Press, 2019). The book investigates quartering (housing, supplying, and transporting) British soldiers in eighteenth-century America, and asks why quartering helped lead to American independence. It answers this question by drawing on recent studies of place, asserting that the late colonial debates over quartering shaped perceptions of house, city, and nation. He will provide a public lecture on January 30, 2020 (Founders Day) discussing the military barracks that became the College of Charleston.

Terri L. Snyder is a professor of American studies at California State University, Fullerton. Her research focuses on the intersections of law, gender, and race in early America, and her most recent book is *Brabbling Women: Disorderly Speech and the Law in Early Virginia* (2003). She is currently working on two books: "The Power to Die: Slavery and Suicide in America, 1630-1830" and "Women on the Margins: Gender and Freedom in Early America."



Magnolia Plantation and Gardens History Fair, 2019

Celebrating 350: Port Cities in the Atlantic May 14-16, 2020



PORT CITIES 2020

*Carolina Lowcountry and Atlantic World Program
at the College of Charleston*

In order to mark the 350th anniversary of the settlement of Charles Towne, and the simultaneous 250th anniversary of the establishment of the College of Charleston, and the 25th anniversary of the Carolina Lowcountry and Atlantic World Program, CLAW will hold a major international conference entitled "Port Cities of the Atlantic World." We will have keynotes by

Emily Owens (Brown University) and **Roquinaldo Ferreira** (University of Pennsylvania).

The conference will commemorate the city of Charleston's international maritime links, examining cultural, economic, and historical connections between and among Charleston and other Atlantic World port cities. In addition to extending the usual academic style call for papers, the CLAW program will invite universities, museums, historic sites, and municipal authorities from other Atlantic World port cities to send delegates to attend the conference. These delegations would be able to describe their own cities' and institutions' histories and missions, but more than that will be able to make connections with the College of Charleston and the city in general that extend well beyond 2020. We would like, for instance, to feature plenary sessions during the conference that give snapshots of the Atlantic World in 1670, 1770, 1870, and 1970, with a final plenary that looks to 2070 and the issues, notably of sea-level rise, that confront Atlantic World port cities. These plenary sessions would be models of global intellectual and cultural exchange.

In many ways the planned conference is the logical culmination of all that we have been doing with the CLAW program over its 25 years of existence, drawing public attention to the circulation of people, things, and ideas around the Atlantic World. It would allow us to discuss all aspects of the Atlantic World – trade, migration, race and ethnicity, religion, foodways, material culture, political developments, gender, slavery, resistance, and freedom—in one fell swoop. It will be the biggest, most ambitious conference we have attempted and will make a significant contribution to the overlapping celebrations of the city's 350th anniversary and the College's 250th.

Our 2020 CLAW conference will trace the maritime routes and the historical roots that link port cities around the Atlantic World. Ships carrying people, goods, and ideas have been traversing the Atlantic and transforming the world at least since the Columbian exchange began in the fifteenth century. They still circle the globe today with cargo, tourists, and diverse sailors. In the spirit of this ongoing port history, "Port Cities of the Atlantic World" will bring academics and community leaders together to share their research on the history and culture of their respective ports of interest, whether it be Charleston, Savannah, New York, Havana, New Orleans or further afield – Panama, Cartagena, Bridgetown, Rio,

2019 Hines Prize Winner Announced

Dr. D. Andrew Johnson, Rice University, has been awarded the 2019 Hines Prize for his manuscript, "Enslaved Native Americans and the Making of South Carolina, 1659–1739." Johnson's manuscript derives from his doctoral dissertation at Rice University, where he had worked under the tutelage of some of the leading experts in colonial Carolina history, including Professors James Sidbury, Allan Gallay, and Rebecca Goetz. Up against typically strong competition, with manuscripts on topics ranging from pirate slave-traders operating out of New York to an archeological survey of the rice plantations of the East Cooper River, the Hines Prize committee was especially pleased to award the Prize to Dr. Johnson for his timely and meticulous attention to the too often overlooked Native American experience in the earliest colonial period. Archival work in this period raises particularly acute challenges, but our judges concluded that Dr. Johnson's "compelling and important piece of ambitious and original scholarship" provides a "formative and critical contribution in better understanding the early-colonial Lowcountry." Seen through the lens of the early-Carolina slave trade, Dr. Johnson persuasively shows that Native Americans were not passive actors in forming the colony. Instead, Johnson reveals how the complex acculturation between Native Americans, Africans, and Europeans shaped agriculture and footways, plus social and political formations.

The prize, endowed by former College of Charleston Dean Samuel Hines, is awarded every other year for the best first manuscript on a topic relating to the Carolina Lowcountry and/or Atlantic World.

Program in the Carolina Lowcountry & Atlantic World
College of Charleston
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Charleston, SC 29424-0001



Carolina Lowcountry and Atlantic World Program
2019-2020 Schedule of Events

September 9	"Breaking a Code: Charleston and Slavery in the Life and Narrative of Samuel Williams" Susanna Ashton	5:30pm	Addlestone 227
September 10	"A Plausible Man: The Storied Life of Fugitive Slave and Transatlantic Agitator, John Andrew Jackson" Susanna Ashton	5:30pm	Location TBA
September 12	<i>Traces of the Trade</i> Documentary Film Showing	4:30pm	RSS 235
September 25	Religion and Resistance: Music as Agency Eric Crawford (CCU) and Birgitta Johnson (USC)	4:00pm	Maybank 100
October 2-6	ASALAH Conference		
October 24	Reimagining the Middle Passage: Daniel Black's <i>The Coming</i> .	5:00pm	RSS 235
November 20	Elizabeth West (GSU)	5:30pm	Rita Hollings
November 21	"Ancestries of Enslavement" with Terri Snyder (SCUF)	5:00pm	Addlestone 227
Jan. 30, 2020	John McCurdy, "Quartering the British Army in the American Revolution" Image unveiling of American Revolution Barracks on land that became CoFC	5:00pm	Location TBA
Feb 16-23	Pablo Sierra, "The Pirate Link: Rethinking Early Charleston, Blackness and the 1683 Raid on Veracruz"		Location TBA
April 24	<i>Beyond Barbados</i> Documentary Film Showing	6:00pm	Location TBA
May 14-16	Port Cities in the Atlantic Conference (CLAW)		Stern Center on Campus
June	Carifest		

2019-2020 CLAW Book Club Selections

Bound to the Fire: How Virginia's Enslaved Cooks Helped Invent American
by Kelley Fanto Deetz

Every Nation Has Its Dish: Black Bodies and Black Food in Twentieth-Century America
by Jennifer Jensen Wallach

Our joint book club selections with AAST also reflect the larger QEP initiatives to support Sustainable Literacy. 2019-2020 highlights the issues surrounding food insecurity, just as our selections underscore black contributions to American cuisine and how issues of food insecurity led to the development of American dishes in an historical context. If you would like to join our book club, please email Sandy Slater slaters@corc.edu for a copy of the books and meeting times.



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