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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

UCLA: Robert and Dorothy Wellman Chair in Medieval History, 2024-present

University of Georgia: Professor of History, 2021-2024
Associate Professor of History, 2017-2021
Assistant Professor of History, 2012-2017

Stanford University: Andrew W. Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow in the Humanities, 2011-2012

EDUCATION

Princeton University Ph.D. in History, 2011 (advisor: Peter Brown)
M.A. in History, 2007

University of Colorado B.A. in History, *summa cum laude*, 2004
B.A.-Music, high honors, 2004

AUTHORED BOOKS

The Wandering Mind: What Medieval Monks Tell Us About Distraction (New York: Liveright/Norton, 2023), xiv + 274 pp.

Legions of Pigs in the Early Medieval West, Yale Agrarian Studies Series (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2020), xxii + 340 pp.

The Social Life of Hagiography in the Merovingian Kingdom, Cambridge Studies in Medieval Life and Thought, Fourth Series 96 (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2014), xii + 329 pp.

CO-EDITED VOLUME

Motions of Late Antiquity: Essays on Religion, Politics, and Society in Honour of Peter Brown, ed. with Helmut Reimitz, Cultural Encounters in Late Antiquity and the Middle Ages 20 (Turnhout: Brepols, 2016), x + 350 pp.

TRANSLATION

How to Focus: A Monastic Guide for an Age of Distraction, Ancient Wisdom for Modern Readers (Princeton University Press, 2024), xxx + 257 pp. Selections from John Cassian's *Collationes*.

PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES

"Agricultural Brokers," *Early Medieval Europe* 28 (2020): 425-43

Co-author, with Merle Eisenberg, David J. Patterson, Ellen F. Arnold, and Timothy P. Newfield, "The Environmental History of the Late Antique West: A Bibliographic Essay," *Journal of Late Antique Archaeology* 11 (2018): 31-50

"Pigs in the Flesh and Fisc: An Early Medieval Ecology," *Past & Present* 236 (2017): 3-42

"Autopsies and Philosophies of a Merovingian Life: Death, Responsibility, Salvation," *Journal of Early Christian Studies* 22 (2014): 113-52

"About the Bishop: The Episcopal Entourage and the Economy of Government in Post-Roman Gaul," *Speculum* 86 (2011): 321-360

CHAPTERS IN BOOKS

"Merovingian Hagiography," in *Oxford Handbook of the Merovingian World*, ed. Bonnie Effros and Isabel Moreira (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2020), 508-30

"Gaul's Insiders: Hagiography and Entitlement," in *Hagiography and the History of Latin Christendom, 500-1500*, ed. Samantha Kahn Herrick and Paul Antony Hayward (Leiden: Brill, 2020), 211-31

"A Generic Mediterranean: Hagiography in the Early Middle Ages," in *East and West in the Early Middle Ages: The Merovingian Kingdoms in Mediterranean Perspective*, ed. Stefan Esders, Yaniv Fox, Yitzhak Hen, and Laury Sarti (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2019), 202-17

"Romanness in Merovingian Hagiography: A Case Study in Class and Political Culture," in *Transformations of Romanness in the Early Middle Ages: Regions and Identities*, ed. Walter Pohl, Clemens Gantner, Cinzia Grifoni, and Marianne Pollheimer-Mohaupt (Berlin: De Gruyter, 2018), 309-23

Co-authored with Helmut Reimitz, introduction to *Motions of Late Antiquity: Essays on Religion, Politics, and Society in Honour of Peter Brown*, Cultural Encounters in Late Antiquity and the Middle Ages 20 (Turnhout: Brepols, 2016), 1-16

COMMENTS AND REVIEW ESSAYS

"Our Pigs, Ourselves," *Historical Studies in the Natural Sciences* 51 (2021): 553-65, review essay of J. L. Anderson, *Capitalist Pigs*; Alex Blanchette, *Porkopolis*; Thomas Fleischman, *Communist Pigs*; Tiago Saraiva, *Fascist Pigs*

Co-author with Henry Cowles, "Another Claim for Cognitive History," *Behavioral and Brain Sciences* 43 (2020), doi: 10.1017/S0140525X19001547, comment on Falk Lieder and Thomas L. Griffiths, "Resource-Rational Analysis: Understanding Human Cognition as the Optimal Use of Limited Computational Resources"

Co-author, with Henry Cowles, "A Claim for Cognitive History," *Behavioral and Brain Sciences* 42 (2019), doi:10.1017/S0140525X19000256, comment on Nicolas Baumard, "Psychological Origins of the Industrial Revolution"

MAJOR FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

2024 Distinguished Research Professorship, University of Georgia
2024 Jerome E. Singerman Prize, Medieval Academy of America

- 2022 Visiting fellow, Centre for Medieval & Viking Studies, Aarhus University
 2022 Creative Research Medal in the Humanities and Arts, University of Georgia
 2021 George Perkins Marsh Prize, American Society for Environmental History
 2019 M. G. Michael Award, University of Georgia
 2018 William Koren, Jr. Prize, Society for French Historical Studies
 2018 Wayne D. Rasmussen Award, Agricultural History Society
 2017-2018 Institute for Advanced Study Mellon Fellowship for Assistant Professors (declined fellowships: Stanford Humanities Center External Faculty Fellowship, Yale Program in Agrarian Studies Postdoctoral Fellowship, National Humanities Center Fellowship)
 2017 Michael F. Adams Early Career Scholar Award, University of Georgia
 2014-2015 Andrew W. Mellon Fellowship, Huntington Library
 2014 Summer Fellowship, UCLA Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies
 2013-2014 Willson Center Research Fellowship, University of Georgia
 2013 Robert L. Platzman Memorial Fellowship, University of Chicago Library
 2013 Van Courtlandt Elliott Prize, Medieval Academy of America
 2012 Honorable mention, William Koren, Jr. Prize, Society for French Historical Studies
 2010-2011 Center for the Study of Religion Graduate Research Fellowship, Princeton University
 2009-2010 Mrs. Giles Whiting Foundation Fellowship in the Humanities, Princeton University

INVITED TALKS (LAST FIVE YEARS)

- 2024 “Sweetness and Poison: Musical Tastes in the Early Middle Ages,” Hebrew University, Israeli Forum for the Early Middle Ages
 2024 “Cognitive Vigilance in the Early Middle Ages,” Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität Munich, Cultures of Vigilance Collaborative Research Center
 2024 “Late Antique History and Western Civ,” Annual Meeting of the American Historical Association
 2023 “Music vs. the Mind,” Stanford University, Knowledge and the Sciences of Improving the Mind Workshop 2
 2023 “Good Music and Bad Music in Late Antiquity,” Princeton University, Committee for the Study of Late Antiquity Lecture
 2023 “Pigs and Their Partners in Early Medieval Europe,” Journées internationales d’histoire de Flaran, Le porc dans tous ses états dans l’Europe médiévale et moderne
 2023 “How to Focus: Medieval Lessons for an Age of Distraction,” Syracuse University, Otey Scruggs Memorial Lecture, Department of History
 2023 Premodern Pigs and Their People: A Conversation about Life, Death, and the Divine Order,” University of Tennessee Chattanooga, Department of History
 2023 “The Meaty Mind: Eating and Thinking in Early Christian Monasticism,” University of Maine, History Department Symposium Series
 2023 “Meditating Monks and the Meandering Mind,” guest seminar with the Friends of Attention (an international network of artists, writers, activists, and academics)
 2022 “The Cognitive Culture of Monasticism,” Institute for Advanced Study / Johannes Gutenberg University of Mainz, Reflections on Byzantium from a Global Perspective Symposium
 2022 “John Cassian,” Max Planck Institute for the History of Science in Berlin, Knowledge and the Sciences of Improving the Mind Workshop
 2022 “The Early Medieval Metaverse,” University of Kentucky, World Religions Program [pandemic=virtual]
 2022 “Fattening Agents in the Early Middle Ages,” Cornell University, Medieval Studies Lecture Series [pandemic = virtual]

- 2021 “From the Mud to the Cosmos: Pigs in the Early Medieval West,” Loyola University Chicago, Medieval Studies Lecture Series [pandemic = virtual]
- 2020 “Pig History and Big History,” Institute of Historical Research (London), Earlier Middle Ages Seminar [pandemic = virtual]
- 2019 “Pig Work in the Early Middle Ages,” University of Toronto, Labour and Humanities Seminar
- 2019 * “The Hoof of Destiny,” University of Michigan, Eisenberg Institute for Historical Studies Lecture

COURSES TAUGHT

UCLA

Premodern Ecologies (CMRS-CEGS methods seminar) / HIST 200 (fall 2024)
The Early Middle Ages / HIST 119A (winter 2025)

UGA

A History of Western Civilization to 1500
The Middle Ages
Christianity and Society from Constantine to Luther
The Animal and the Human in the Middle Ages
Economy and Society before Capitalism
The Medieval Mind (Cognition, Media Culture, Ethics)
Saints in the Middle Ages
The Barbarian Kingdoms (Senior Thesis Seminar)
Theory and Practice of History (graduate seminar)
Medieval Mind Games (First-Year Odyssey)

ADMINISTRATION

Senior Associate Dean, Franklin College, UGA, 2023-2024

Major responsibilities:

- Leadership of twelve humanities units comprising 200+ faculty, 1000+ majors and grad students, and 125,000+ credit hours (Departments of Classics, Comparative Literature and Intercultural Studies, Germanic and Slavic Studies, History, Linguistics, Philosophy, Religion, and Romance Languages; African Studies Institute; Center for Asian Studies; Latin American and Caribbean Studies Institute; Institute for Native American Studies)
- Oversight of faculty affairs for 1000+ faculty in the college (hiring and retention, promotion and tenure, grievances, reappointments and searches for department heads, faculty recognition)
- Leadership development for faculty and administrators in the college
- Strategic budget planning (>\$130M) with the Dean and the Senior Director of Finance and Administration
- Representation of the dean’s office when the Dean is unavailable

Major achievements:

- With Associate Dean Marshall Shepherd: submitted NEH proposal to establish a Center for Data Criticism at UGA, involving twenty-three faculty in the humanities, social sciences, computer science, and law (a \$1M project)

- With Associate Dean Paula Lemons: developed and ran a two-year pilot program for service workload equity to make service more transparent, accountable, and rewarded among faculty in the college (involving thirteen departments in the arts, humanities, social sciences, life sciences, and physical and mathematical sciences)
- Coordination of operations among dean's office leadership for strategic review and reform of (among other things) indirect cost return, cost-share for startup funding, compensation of faculty administrators, supporting mid-career faculty, and program development in the School of Computing and Institute for Artificial Intelligence
- Developed program for research-intensive semesters for college faculty

Associate Dean, Franklin College, UGA, 2021-2023

Major responsibilities:

- Leadership of humanities units (as above)
- Management of the college's international portfolio: review of study abroad and field study programs, review of partnership proposals and student study abroad scholarship applications, coordination with OGE of seed-grant programs for international short-term exchanges, oversight of international operating budget and foundation accounts for international education
- Oversight of Experiential Learning, SACSCOC accreditation compliance, Academic Program Reviews, and student learning outcomes for the college

Major achievements:

- Established the UGA Humanities Seminar, a two-year pilot program for mid-career faculty to foster cross-disciplinary thinking and humanities advocacy (internal funding: \$50,000 per FY)
- Created and supervised the college's first administrative position for internship and career coordination for students, targeting the humanities

Head of the Department of History, UGA, 2019-2021

Major responsibilities:

- Leadership of approx. 30 faculty members, 4 administrative staff, 40 grad students, 300 majors, 100 minors
- Coordination with directors of undergraduate and graduate studies and regular communication with the department's policy, personnel, travel, and search committees
- Authority over department's operating budget (\$50,000), travel budget (\$20,000), instructional budget (\$630,000), discretionary account (\$150,000), and 27 endowed accounts (\$100,000, excluding professorships); cultivation of relationships with donors
- Oversight of hiring, promotion, and tenure processes at the departmental level; annual evaluation of faculty and business manager

Major achievements:

- Guided the department through the peak pandemic years, while maintaining continuity in instruction and communication as protocols shifted
- Oversaw the successful promotion of six faculty members in two years (four to Associate Professor, two to Professor) and the successful hire of three Assistant Professors
- Coordinated department-wide DEI initiatives (workshops for grad students on time management and self-care, funding for summer writing workshop to support grad students finishing their theses, diversity training for TAs, elimination of GRE requirement for applicants to grad program, voluntary committee audits of faculty syllabi, analysis of major/minor demography to inform program development, hiring in underrepresented fields)

on the faculty, incorporation of DEI work and CDI training into annual evaluations, new race and history reading library)

Director of Undergraduate Studies, UGA, 2015-2017, 2018-2019

Major responsibilities:

- Program and curriculum development, including data collection and analysis
- Development and oversight of recurring series aimed at undergraduates, including Lunchtime Time Machine, History at Work, and Black History Month (see below)
- Publicity and promotional materials, website maintenance (undergraduate and alumni sections)
- *Ex officio* member of Undergraduate Studies Committee (grade appeals, instruction evaluations, HIST curriculum design, undergraduate awards); *ex officio* member of Policy Committee

Major achievements:

- Launched and coordinated annual programming for Black History Month in the department, emphasizing student-oriented opportunities (including book clubs, student-driven collective research projects, walking tours, accessible talks by guest faculty).
- Launched and organized the Lunchtime Time Machine lecture series, featuring accessible talks by faculty members geared toward undergraduates of all majors.
- Launched and organized History at Work programming to promote the many potential uses of a history degree. Included authorship of an online guide to the benefits and applications of historical analysis in post-college careers, working with alumni to feature their own career trajectories on the department site, and hosting workshops featuring alumni and humanities advocates to speak with students about their experiences and offer advice.