Dear friends and colleagues;

This newsletter marks the end of an unprecedented academic year! Because of the global pandemic, Boston University ended face-to-face instruction and closed the campus in the middle of the spring semester. However, while individuals steered clear of Bay State Road, much of the day-to-day activity of education continued. Classes met remotely. Students scheduled and undertook comprehensive exams. Dissertation chapters were submitted. Research continued. AMNESPers persevered amidst adversity.

At the time of this writing, we all still feel uncertainty about the future. Racial injustice, disease, and economic hardship weigh heavily upon us. The path to the “new normal” is not clear. Yet, if the past provides any perspective, the ties which bind the members of the AMNESP community will continue to be important. Whether or not we inhabit the same physical space, we will find inspiration in each other’s scholarship, will be strengthened by our diverse insights and trajectories, and be bolstered by our collective strength and ambition. Whether it has been two months or four decades since you walked on Bay State Road, I ask you to please take to heart the words of noted epidemiologist Dr. Anthony Fauci: “Now is the time,” he said, “for us to care selflessly about one another.”

Yours,

William D. Moore
Director, American & New England Studies Program
The program owes a debt of gratitude to Prof. W. Huntting “Hunt” Howell who, after five years of service, is stepping down from the position of Director of Graduate Studies. Hunt brought great empathy and insight to his role within the program. In the new academic year, Hunt will assume the mantle of Associate Chair of the Department of English. Please reach out to let him know how much you appreciate his service.

Dr. Katherine J. Lennard will be joining AMNESP in January of 2021 as the inaugural Abbott Lowell Cummings Postdoctoral Fellow in American Material Culture. After a nationwide search, she was chosen by a committee composed of Prof. Kim Sichel, Prof. Mary Beaudry, and Prof. William Moore. Dr. Lennard holds a Ph.D. in American Culture from the University of Michigan and is a scholar of textiles and costume. Most recently she has served as a Thinking Matters Fellow at Stanford University. During her two years with us, she will offer four courses on American material culture.

Dr. Lennard writes, “I am delighted to be joining the AMNESP community as the inaugural Cummings Postdoctoral Fellow. The study of material culture provides students with a powerful set of tools for investigating both the past and the present. This is a moment of instability and transformation, both for US higher education, and the foundational institutions that shape American life as we know it. I look forward to joining AMNESP students and faculty as we make sense of the role that material life is playing in our changing world.”

The Abbott Lowell Cummings Postdoctoral Fellowship, endowed by an anonymous donor, will allow Dr. Lennard to contribute to the intellectual development of students within AMNESP while she conducts research and advances her own scholarly career. The program is very fortunate to have Dr. Lennard joining us. Please give her a warm welcome when she arrives.

The global COVID-19 pandemic has forced us to postpone our planned celebration for the fiftieth anniversary of the program. Although a date of October 10, 2020 was announced in the fall of 2019, the current uncertainty surrounding health issues and University policies mean this date is no longer viable. Details related to rescheduling the celebration will follow as conditions become more stable and the University administration determines the safest and best paths forward. We hope to celebrate with you in the future!
Aaron Ahlstrom was awarded and completed a Scholar-in-Residency at the Grey Towers National Historic Site, in Milford, Pennsylvania.

Sean Case was selected for the 2020 BUCH summer internship with the Massachusetts Historical Society.

Mariah Gruner was named a research fellow for the Women's Gender, and Sexuality Studies Program for summer 2020. She also was awarded a Winterthur Research Fellowship and a BU Center for the Humanities Dissertation Fellowship, both for the 20/21 academic year.

Rachel Kirby had three articles published: "The Life and Times of Mr. Peanut" by Contingent Magazine, "Unenslaved through Art: Rice Culture Paintings by Jonathan Green" on Panorama, and "Melanie Newman & Suzie Cool: Salem Red Sox' New Female Broadcast Team Making History" in Red Sox Magazine. Additionally, she received a Scholar Award from P.E.O. International for the upcoming 20/21 academic year.

Alyssa Kreikemeier’s essay "Whose Heritage? U.S. History Textbooks, American Exceptionalism, and Hispanophobia" was published in Contested Commemoration in U.S. History: Diverging Public Interpretations (Routledge, 2019).

Megan LeBarron received a BU Center for the Humanities award.

Perri Meldon was published on the African American Intellectual Historical Society blog with her article "Landscape as Witness: Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad State Park." She was also selected as a summer 2020 intern with the National Park Service’s Park History program.

Samantha Pickette’s article "Suffering, stereotypes, and psychosis: the representation of Jewish femininity in Crazy Ex-Girlfriend" was published in the Journal of Modern Jewish Studies.

Kayli Rideout was awarded a Summer 2020 Research Grant from the Decorative Arts Trust to document and study Confederate memorial stained glass windows manufactured by New York’s Tiffany Studios.

Jessica Samuel was featured in the online journal The St. John Source for her work in understanding politics, identity, and culture on the island of St. John.

Chris Stokum received a BU Center for the Humanities award.

Astrid Tvetenstrand received the New England Regional Fellowship Consortium from the Massachusetts Historical Society, as well as completed the Linsdell Fellowship at the Nichols House Museum.

Maddie Webster was selected for the 2020 BUCH summer internship with the Boston Red Sox.

Marina Wells earned a 2020 BUCH summer internship working with Professor Anthony Petro (Department of Religion) on his health humanities initiative.

The following students passed their Oral Examinations: Julia Carroll, Jason Henson, Megan Lu, Alex Olkovsky, Emily Palombella, Astrid Tvetenstrand, and Marina Wells.
Conference Presentations

**Mariah Gruner**
- NEASA conference in Fall 2019 as a panelist on a pedagogy roundtable regarding “American Imagery in the Classroom.”
- "Women's Work: The Politics of Stitching Suffrage Sentiments" at the Popular Culture Association meeting (cancelled)
- “Stitching Domestic Anti-Slavery: The Uses of Needlework in Women’s Anti-Slavery Activism” at the Wellesley-Deerfield Symposium (cancelled)
- "Stitching Resistance" at Winterthur (postponed)

**Alyssa Kreikemeier**
- "Western skies: An environmental history of air in the Rocky Mountain West" at Light and Color in Nature Conference, College of the Atlantic, Bar Harbor, Maine
- “Enchanted or Unwanted? The Uses and Abuses of Air in Northern New Mexico” at The American Historical Association Conference, New York City.
- “Studying Western Skies: How Art and Science Sold the Southwest at the Turn of the Twentieth Century” at The American Society for Environmental History Conference, Ottawa, Ontario (cancelled)

**Grace McGowan**
- “‘Seated at a Table, Facing Left, Writing With a Quill’: African-American Women Writers and Toni Morrison's Classicism” at the American Literature Association’s conference in San Diego (cancelled)
- “‘This Fault’ring Music Dies Upon My Tongue’: Phillis Wheatley’s Classicism and American Identity” at the New England American Studies Association conference (cancelled)

**Tom Nunan**

**Samantha Pickette**
- "‘When You’re a Funny Girl’: Confirming and Complicating Accepted Cultural Images of Jewish Femininity in the Films of Barbara Streisand" at the Symposium on Jewish Civilization at Creighton College
- Panelist at the Association for Jewish Studies Conference in San Diego, CA
- Attended the Mentoring Conference at the University of New Mexico, presenting a co-authored paper along with a group of faculty from BU’s Writing Program about the efficacy of their new Collaborative Mentoring Initiative (paper to be peer-reviewed and published)

**Kayli Rideout**
- "A Tale of Two Families: An Engraved Tea Service in Antebellum Augusta, Georgia" at the Emerging Scholars Colloquium of The Decorative Arts Trust in NYC

**Astrid Tvetenstrand**
- "Eden’s Landscape: Nineteenth-Century Renderings of Mount Desert Island and the Visual Articulation of Progress" at College Art Association annual conference in Chicago
Incoming Students
We are so excited to welcome you this fall!

Anne Boyd graduated with Highest Honors and with distinction from the University of Michigan this year (2020), double majoring in American Culture and Political Science. Her senior thesis, “Jim Crow’s Confederate Monuments: How the United Daughters of the Confederacy Fought the Civil Rights Movement with Confederate Monuments” launched her interest into material culture studies. Anne plans on continuing this work on Confederate monuments, specifically taking a comparative approach and examining the differences between monuments across the country. She hopes to weave in her political science training by eventually including quantitative analysis in her work. Anne will be working under the direction of Professor Nina Silber in the Department of History.

Makenzie Coker has a BA in History and Medieval Studies from The University of Chicago. She earned an MA in History from The College of William & Mary, where her Master’s thesis explored how romance novels convey historical knowledge and the continued life of textiles in archival collections. Her doctoral research will explore how people, particularly historians or future historians, interact with historical narratives in non-academic contexts, and how this shapes their historical imaginaries. Makenzie has interned at the Field Museum and the Dewitt-Wallace Decorative Arts Museum and has most recently worked in the local history department of the Norfolk Public Library. She will be working under the guidance of Professor William Hunting Howel from the Department of English.

Jesse Dritz received her BA in American Studies and Art from Colby College, culminating in her American Studies honors thesis: “The Discreet Charm of the Bourgeoisie: American Upper-Class Anxiety in the Comedies of Whit Stillman.” Fascinated by American photography, film, and visual culture, Jesse has worked at arts and cultural organizations such as Aperture Foundation, the Freeport Historical Society, and the Portland Museum of Art. In her graduate work she plans to study the cultural construction of Maine’s identity through photography and visual culture. She is particularly concerned with narratives of exclusion, in examining the role of social class in visual representation and how the erasure of racial minorities has been central to the image of Maine in the popular imagination. Specifically, she plans to explore the photographic archives of the Salt Institute for Documentary Studies in Portland, Maine. Jesse will be working with Professor Kim Sichel in the Department of History of Art & Architecture.

PhD in American Studies

Fallon Murphy graduated Magna Cum Laude from the University of Pennsylvania with a BFA in Fine Art, and this spring, she completed a Graduate Certificate in Heritage Conservation at the University of Arizona. For five years, she worked in conservation and collection care of museum objects. She was employed at the Center for Creative Photography, the Philadelphia Museum of Art, and the Peabody Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology. This practical experience catalyzed her interest in how conservation decisions both shape the public’s perception of history and instigate inequity in public space. As a PhD student, Fallon plans to investigate the concepts of permanence and nostalgia as it interweaves with the commemoration of post-conflict sites and cultural landscapes in the United States. Fallon will be mentored by Professor William Moore, AMNESP Director and Associate Professor of Material Culture.

Graham Peterson earned his BA in History with a minor in Music from the University of New Hampshire in 2013. He then went on to the University of Washington where he earned an MA in Ethnomusicology with special attention paid to issues surrounded race, politics, and American Music. Graham has presented at national conferences for the Society of Ethnomusicology and the Society for American Music. During his time at UW, Graham’s work often intersected with the disciplines of remix studies, hip-hop studies, and African American Studies. While at Boston University, he intends to develop a course of study centered around antiracist research while expanding his knowledge on the history of racialized oppression in the United States and its relationship to popular music genres. Graham will be working with Professor Michael Birenbaum Quintero, Chair of the Department of Musicology & Ethnomusicology in the College of Fine Arts.

Meghan Townes is coming to AMNESP from Richmond, VA, where she has spent the past six years as Visual Studies Collection Registrar for the Library of Virginia. She received a BA in Anthropology with a minor in History from the College of William and Mary and spent her junior year with the School of Scottish Studies at the University of Edinburgh, where she first became intrigued by the role of material culture in identity construction. After graduation she worked for the Department of Architectural Collections Management and Conservation at the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation. She then received a master’s in Public Humanities from Brown University’s Department of American Studies and served a summer practicum working for the Curator of the Musical Instruments Collection at the Library of Congress. In her current role, she has been responsible for cataloging works from Virginia’s state art collection and has become particularly interested in how art was commissioned, produced, and consumed in Reconstruction and New South Richmond. She hopes to understand how the creation and reception of artwork in Richmond during this time period reflects, or challenges, larger political, economic, and social changes. Meghan will be working with Professor Ross Barrett from the Department of History of Art & Architecture.
Betsy Walters received her BA in Electronic Media from George Washington University and recently received her MFA from BU's Film & Television Studies program. Her thesis "Cinematic Art in All Its Forms": Netflix and the Film Festival Network" examines the relationship between Netflix and premier festivals like Sundance, Cannes and Venice, and her PhD research will similarly examine the modern American film and television industry through its sites of prestige, such as film festivals and industry awards. Before coming to BU, Betsy worked for the DC-based nonprofit CINE designing awards programs and educational programming for emerging and established media creators, and has worked with film festivals including AFI DOCS in Washington, DC and the Ekotopfilm/Envirofilm festival in Bratislava, Slovakia. She will be working under Dr. Deborah Jaramillo in the Film & Television Studies department.

Genevieve (Genna) Weidner earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in History from the University of Massachusetts Amherst. After graduation, she worked for several museums and historic sites in the Boston area, including Old North Church, the Paul Revere House, and the John F. Kennedy National Historic Site. She then received her MS in Nonprofit Management from Northeastern University in June 2020. Her Master's Degree capstone project focused on how museums develop educational programs, and how they communicate the value of those programs to visitors and stakeholders. At BU, Genna plans to focus on the historic sites along the Freedom Trail in Boston. She would like to examine when certain sites were preserved, and why they were turned into historic monuments. What did the sites focus on when they were established? And what topics do the sites educate the public on currently? She will be working under the guidance of Professor Andrew Robichaud in the Department of History.

MA in Preservation Studies

Gabriela Amore earned her BA from Suffolk University with a major in History. Her courses focused mainly on colonial American history and public history practices. During and after school, she volunteered with the National Park Service and the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum to apply her interests in making history accessible to the public. After graduating, Gabriela began working as the Preservation Assistant at the Boston Landmarks Commission, the City of Boston's historic preservation agency. Upon completing her MA in Preservation Studies, Gabriela plans to continue using her knowledge to stay in the public sector and help maintain and protect the historic integrity of Boston.

Carmela Farago graduated from Boston University with a BA in History of Art & Architecture and a minor in Archaeology, a degree obtained after realizing a desire to pursue a career in the field of preservation. Preservation Studies perfectly encapsulates and combines her lifelong interests in science, history, and art, and will set her up to do the very important work of preserving cultural artifacts for generations to come. Since graduation, Carmela has been employed at the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, which has built upon her academic education and reinforced her desire to be in the field.

Rebecca Green graduated Magna Cum Laude from Salem State University with a BA in Public History and a minor in Geological Sciences. While an undergraduate, she interned with The Jewish Heritage Center in Boston working on the organization and preservation of one of their collections, while also completing her thesis "The Jewish People of Colonial Era Newport, RI.". After graduating she spent a semester in the Historic Preservation Masters program at Columbia University before enrolling in our program here at BU. Rebecca intends to complete the Concentration in American & New England Studies, with the hope to work professionally in a career that will further the preservation and study of life during Colonial America.

Emily Pate holds two degrees from the University of Alabama in Huntsville – a BS in Business Administration and a BA in Art – both of which were earned Summa Cum Laude. As a studio art student, Emily spent time as a volunteer in the UA Archives and Special Collections and studied the history of photography abroad at the home of William Henry Fox Talbot at Lacock Abbey in England. Both these experiences brought her to the field of Preservation Studies, a natural fit that incorporates her love and appreciation for art, museums, and historic sites, as well as the practicalities of her background in business administration. Emily plans to pursue the concentration in Museum Studies while at BU, with hopes of working in a museum or historic home in the future.
Anthony Buccitelli (PhD 2012) was named a “Featured Folklorist” with the American Folklore Society. He also co-authored (with PhD Candidate Rachel Kirby) the lead article in the upcoming book Folklore in the United States and Canada: An Institutional History from Indiana University Press. The article is entitled “The Quintessence of the Humanities: Folklore and Mythology at Harvard.”


Jared Champion (PhD 2013) edited and provided the introduction for the recently released Laura White Brunner memoir Cliffs and Challenges: A Young Woman Explores Yosemite, 1915-1917 (University Press of Kansas).

Mike D’Alessandro (PhD 2014) had his article “Storms! Shipwrecks! Massacres! Playbill Puffery and Other Visual Collisions in Nineteenth Century America” featured in the Fall 2019 issue of American Art.

Paul D’Ambrosio (PhD 2001) was quoted in a May 2020 New York Times about museums reopening to the public during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Boston Globe published an article about Elizabeth Duclos-Orsello (PhD 2002) and her work concerning the history of immigrant communities in Salem, MA entitled “Tracing Salem’s history through its immigrants.” She also had an OpEd published in MinnPost about the history of racial terrorism in the Twin Cities.

Paul Edwards (PhD 2017) accepted a tenure-track position as Assistant Professor in the English Department at Southern Methodist University.

Desiree Garcia (PhD 2007) was awarded tenure in the Latin American, Latino and Caribbean Studies Department at Dartmouth College.

Kerri Greenidge’s (PhD 2012) new book Black Radical: The Life and Times of William Monroe Trotter was released by W. W. Norton/Liveright, and won her the Mark Lynton History Prize from the Columbia School of Journalism and Harvard’s Nieman Foundation and a review in the New York Times.

Channon Miller (PhD 2017), Assistant Professor of History at University of San Diego, explained the importance of Juneteenth in a video released on the school’s Facebook page.

Susan Reverby (PhD 1982), professor emerita from Wellesley College, had her new book, Co-Conspirator for Justice: The Revolutionary Life of Dr. Alan Berkman, published by the University of North Carolina Press.

George Schwartz’s (PhD 2015) book Collecting the Globe: The Salem East India Marine Society Museum was released by the University of Massachusetts Press.

Zachary Violette (PhD 2014) had an article in the Fall 2019 issue of Buildings & Landscapes – “Plans and Priorities: Multifamily Housing Types and French Canadian Builders in Northern New England, 1890-1950.”
The Preservation Studies Program completed another remarkable year that started with energetic activities, while unexpectedly facing the challenges of a global health crisis and the recent social outcry in the United States.

The preservation students again actively engaged in internships in the heritage field, with Hannah Noser at the Gibson House in Back Bay, Menqxi Qian at the Chinese National Museum of China, and Josh Dorin at the Massachusetts Historical Commission. This upcoming summer hosts include the Willa Cather Centre, NE; Minute Man National Historical Park, MA; Greater Portland Landmarks, ME; the Metropolitan Waterworks Museum, MA; the American Institute of Afghanistan Studies; the National Parks of Boston; Waltham Museum, MA; and others. A special thank you to all hosts and students for the internship efforts during the unprecedented circumstance of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Global Heritage Conservation course again explored current topics in the field, such as post-war reconstruction with guest Syrian architect Anas Soufan; and Eric Peterson on the industrial heritage of Waterworks Museums in North America. The preservation field trip to the Lawrence, MA Heritage State Park (☞) hosted by Jim Beauchesne looked at the heritage and conversion of industrial mills, with insights on mill construction techniques by Professor Sara Wermiel.

Approaches towards Adaptive Reuse and Revitalization were compared by looking at on-campus projects, such as Josep Lluís Sert’s Law Tower, the Dahod Family Alumni Center, and Automobile Row, and recent projects along the Charles River Basin, such as the Charles Street Jail’s transformation into Liberty Hotel, and revitalization at North Bank Bridge Park. Joel Smith, Landscape Architect at Sasaki Associates offered a most valuable office perspective. Students studied recent projects, including the conversion of a sugar refinery in Montreal, plans for the Obama Presidential Center in Chicago, the High Line in New York City, and various projects in Detroit and Boston. The Field Trip to Eustis Estate, MA allowed for an introduction into Historic New England’s approach towards opening a historic house to the wider public.

Museum practice and curatorship was again highlighted by Professor Melanie Hall, attendance of the Association for Preservation Technologies Northeast Symposium (☞) on New Uses for Old Buildings, and the preservation planning course by Professor Sara Wermiel added planning and technical perspectives. The dilemmas of balancing economic development and landscape preservation in China were the focus of Mengxi Qian’s capstone on the Pagoda of Fogong Temple, Shuozhou.

In the spring semester, we faced the impacts of a global pandemic and national unrest with calls for racial justice and equity, demanding introspection and reflection. Heritage places and organizations are impacted and new insights and expertise will be needed. Old questions resurface, such as the global controversy over commemorative monuments, including the Confederate monuments in the States. Community voices take center stage. The Capstone projects with the City of Boston by Hannah Noser on Allston, and Rose Grenier on Brighton, are samples of engaging in ways to implement the Community Preservation Act in Boston. Our guest lecturer Professor Chingwen Cheng, Arizona State University, also called out for improving community participation under the topic of Post-Colonial Decolonization in Hawaii and Taiwan.

In preservation, we continuously reflect on significance and meaning, and I look forward to seeing how everyone’s contributions to the Preservation Studies Program and American & New England Studies Program will continue to support constructive and positive change.

Jan Haenraets
Acting Director of Preservation Studies
Faculty Accomplishments

Paula Austin (History) had her new book *Coming of Age in Jim Crow DC: Navigating the Politics of Everyday Life* released by NYU Press.

Mary Battenfeld (AMNESP) had an article released on The Conversation entitled “3 lessons from how schools responded to the 1918 pandemic worth heeding today.” She was also a panelist for one of the BU Office of Diversity & Inclusion’s virtual conversations addressing broader societal impacts of COVID-19 entitled “Social Class - Impacts and Considerations in Higher Education.”

Deborah Carr (Sociology) was quoted in the May 2020 New York Times article “If Life is a Movie, It’s Called 'Closed Until Further Notice.'”

Victor Coelho (Musicology & Ethnomusicology) was interviewed by WBUR’s Here and Now about the new Cambridge Companion to the Rolling Stones for which he was a co-editor. This segment provides some of Coelho’s insights on the world’s greatest rock and roll band.

Nazli Kibria (Sociology) co-authored an article with AMNESP alum Walter Suarez Becerra for Social Problems entitled “Deserving Immigrants and Good Advocate Mothers: Immigrant Mothers’ Negotiations of Special Education Systems for Children with Disabilities.”

Maurice Lee’s (English) new book *Overwhelmed: Literature, Aesthetics, and the Nineteenth-Century Information Revolution* was released by Princeton University Press.


Stephen Prothero (Religion) published the religious literacy textbook *Religion Matters* with W.W. Norton.

Kim Sichel’s (History of Art & Architecture) new book, *Making Strange: The Modernist Photobook in France*, was released by Yale University Press. She was subsequently featured on an episode of the Press’s podcast to discuss the book.

Nina Silber (History) was published in the Washington Post online with her piece “‘Gone With the Wind’ is also a Confederate monument, but on film instead of stone.”

Andy Robichaud’s (History) new book *Animal City: The Domestication of America* was released by Harvard University Press, earning him a feature in BU Today.

Tom Whalen’s (CGS, Social Sciences) seventh book “Kooks and Degenerates on Ice: Bobby Orr, the Bib Bad Bruins, and the Stanley Cup Championship that Transformed Hockey” was released by Rowan & Littlefield to excellent reviews.

AMNESP is very pleased to welcome Michael Birenbaum Quintero, Associate Professor and Chair of Musicology and Ethnomusicology in the College of Fine Arts, to the ranks of our affiliated faculty.
In recent years, AMNESP has marked the start of the academic year with a trip to the ballpark. In September of 2019, rather than going to Pawtucket for a minor league game, Rachel Kirby and Julia Kline organized a group outing to see the Red Sox at Fenway Park subsidized by the AMNESP Graduate Student Association.

AMNESP’s ties to the Red Sox have been strengthened through Provost Kleinman’s Public Humanities doctoral internships. In past summers, Chris Stokum and Rachel Kirby have worked with the team’s historian. Because of that connection, we were welcomed to Fenway on the outfield scoreboard! Maddy Webster is continuing the tradition by spending the summer of 2020 within the walls of Fenway. Hopefully we can resume our baseball outings once we emerge from the current crisis.

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Fiscal Year 2019/2020
Thanks to all for your ongoing support!

Philip J. Carlino
Paul D’Ambrosio
Jere Gibber
John Gordon
Charlotte Emans Moore

William Moore
Peyton Paxson
Gretchen Pineo
Earle Shettleworth, Jr.
Charles Ian Stevenson

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