

Randal L. Hall

Rice University
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Education

Ph.D. (1998), M.A. (1997), History, Rice University
Fields of study: American South, twentieth-century America, modern China
B.A. (1994), History (minor in economics), Wake Forest University
summa cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa (jr. year), History honors thesis on U.S. Populism

Academic Experience

Rice University

Professor of History, July 2019–
Associate Professor of History, July 2013–June 2019
Editor, *Journal of Southern History*, July 2013–present
Managing Editor, *Journal of Southern History*, July 2006–June 2013
Adjunct Associate Professor of History, July 2008–June 2013
Associate Editor, *Journal of Southern History*, July 2003–June 2006
Acting Editor, *Journal of Southern History*, Jan. 2005–Jan. 2006, Oct. 2009–Jan. 2010

Wake Forest University

Part-time Assistant Professor of History, Fall 2001–Spring 2003
Adjunct instructor, Spring 2000–Spring 2001
Taught or co-taught courses for six semesters in the History Department, the Freshman Seminar Program, and the Interdisciplinary Honors Program, all with emphasis on critical writing and student discussion.

Administrative Experience

Wake Forest University, Admissions and Financial Aid Offices

June 1998–June 2003

Worked as a scholarships counselor and assistant director of admissions responsible for recruiting and admitting the fourth of the class made up of in-state residents. Promoted to associate director of merit-based scholarships, involved with all aspects of recruiting, selecting, counseling, and renewing academic scholarship students in programs awarding more than \$4 million annually.

Publications

Books

A Rape in the Early Republic: Gender and Legal Culture in an 1806 Virginia Trial. By Alexander Smyth. Edited and with an introduction by Randal L. Hall. Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 2017.

Mountains on the Market: Industry, the Environment, and the South. Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 2012.

William Marsh Rice and His Institute: The Centennial Edition. Edited by Randal L. Hall. First edition by Sylvia Stallings Morris Lowe, from the papers and research notes of Andrew Forest Muir. College Station: Texas A&M University Press, 2012.

Seeing Jefferson Anew: In His Time and Ours. Co-edited with John B. Boles. Charlottesville: University of Virginia Press, 2010.

Lum and Abner: Rural America and the Golden Age of Radio. Edited and introduced by Randal L. Hall. Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 2007.

Thomas Dixon Jr. and the Birth of Modern America. Co-edited with Michele Gillespie. Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, cloth edition 2006, paperback edition 2009.

William Louis Poteat: A Leader of the Progressive-Era South. Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 2000.

The Southern Albatross: Race and Ethnicity in the American South. Co-edited with Philip D. Dillard. Macon, Ga.: Mercer University Press, 1999.

Peer-Reviewed Articles

"Louis Bromfield and the Pursuit of Agroecological Abundance: The Use and Limits of an Environmentalist Alternative." *Environment and History* 24 (November 2018): 519–42, doi: 10.3197/096734018X15137949592052.

"Paradoxical Infrastructures: Ruins, Retrofit, and Risk" (coauthor with Cymene Howe et al.). *Science, Technology, & Human Values* 41 (May 2016): 547–65, doi: 10.1177/0162243915620017.

"Robinson Newcomb and the Limits of Liberalism at UNC: Two Case Studies of Black Businessmen in the 1920s South" (with Ken Badgett). *North Carolina Historical Review* 86 (October 2009): 373–403.

"Carnival of Speed: The Auto Racing Business in the American South, 1930–1950." *North Carolina Historical Review* 84 (July 2007): 245–75.

"A Courtroom Massacre: Politics and Public Sentiment in Progressive-Era Virginia." *Journal of Southern History* 70 (May 2004): 249–92.

"Before NASCAR: The Corporate and Civic Promotion of Automobile Racing in the American South, 1903–1927." *Journal of Southern History* 68 (August 2002): 629–68.

"Southern Conservatism at Work: Women, Nurses, and the 1878 Yellow Fever Epidemic in Memphis." *Tennessee Historical Quarterly* 56 (Winter 1997): 244–61.

Book Chapters

"Constructing Violence: Historical Memory and a 1912 Courtroom Massacre in Virginia's Blue Ridge Mountains." In *(Re)Constructing Cultures of Violence and Peace*, edited by Richard Jackson, 31–44. Amsterdam: Rodopi, 2004.

Essays

"Jackson Boulevard: Palimpsest of Urban Life and Southern Myth," *OffCite*, June 2018, <http://offcite.org/jackson-boulevard-palimpsest-of-urban-life-and-southern-myth-by-randal-hall/>.

"Closing the Book on a Half-Century Project." *Rice Magazine*, Summer 2016, p. 48.

"Privy Thoughts." *Southern Cultures* 15 (Summer 2009): 111–15.

"The Suburb of Tomorrow: Frank Sharp and the Legacy of Oak Forest." *Cite: The Architecture and Design Review of Houston*, no. 77 (Winter 2009): 36–37.

"A Black Minister at the Nadir: The Poetry of Charles Roundtree Dinkins." *Journal of Southern Religion* 11 (2009), <http://jsreligion.org/Volume11/Hall.htm>.

"The Plan for the Class of 1914," *Wake Forest Magazine* 46 (June 1999): 28–31.

"William Louis Poteat: An Introduction." In William Louis Poteat, *Youth and Culture: Baccalaureate Addresses*, reprint of 1938 edition (Winston-Salem, N.C.: Wake Forest University, 1998), xii–xxiv.

"Something Absolute and True," *Wake Forest Magazine* 41 (March 1994): 57.

Commissioned Book Reviews

Reconstruction's Ragged Edge: The Politics of Postwar Life in the Southern Mountains. By Steven E. Nash. (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2016). *Register of the Kentucky Historical Society* 115 (Summer 2017): 439–41.

The Slain Wood: Papermaking and Its Environmental Consequences in the American South. By William Boyd. (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2015). *American Historical Review* 121 (June 2016): 969; doi: 10.1093/ahr/121.3.969.

Southern Water, Southern Power: How the Politics of Cheap Energy and Water Scarcity Shaped a Region. By Christopher R. Manganiello. (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2015). *H-Environment Roundtable Review* 6, no. 5 (2016), <https://networks.h-net.org/system/files/contributed-files/env-roundtable-6-5.pdf>.

Boll Weevil Blues: Cotton, Myth, and Power in the American South. By James C. Giesen. (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2011). *EH.Net* (sponsored by the Economic History Association), January 2013, http://eh.net/book_reviews/boll-weevil-blues-cotton-myth-and-power-in-the-american-south/.

Blood and Smoke: A True Tale of Mystery, Mayhem, and the Birth of the Indy 500. By Charles Leerhsen. (New York: Simon and Schuster, 2011). *Indiana Magazine of History*, 108 (December 2012): 405–7.

Real NASCAR: White Lightning, Red Clay, and Big Bill France. By Daniel S. Pierce. (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2010). *North Carolina Historical Review* 87 (October 2010), 462–63.

Burying the Dead but Not the Past: Ladies' Memorial Associations and the Lost Cause. By Caroline E. Janney. (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2008). *Journal of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era* 8 (April 2009): 283–85.

D. W. Griffith's The Birth of a Nation: A History of "The Most Controversial Motion Picture of All Time." By Melvyn Stokes. (New York: Oxford University Press, 2007). *North Carolina Historical Review* 86 (January 2009): 122–23.

Beach Racers: Daytona before NASCAR. By Dick Punnett. (Gainesville: University Press of Florida, 2008). *Florida Historical Quarterly* 87 (Summer 2008): 128–30.

Henry Watterson and the New South: The Politics of Empire, Free Trade, and Globalization. By Daniel S. Margolies. (Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 2006). *Journal of American History* 94 (September 2007): 571.

Silent Speedways of the Carolinas: The Grand National Histories of 29 Former Tracks. By Perry Allen Wood. (Jefferson, N.C.: McFarland and Company, 2007). *North Carolina Historical Review* 84 (July 2007): 329–30.

Ivory Towers and Nationalist Minds: Universities, Leadership, and the Development of the American State. By Mark R. Nemecek. (Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press, 2006). *Register of the Kentucky Historical Society* 104 (Summer–Autumn 2006): 741–42.

Isaac Taylor Tichenor: The Creation of the Baptist New South. By Michael E. Williams Sr. (Tuscaloosa: University of Alabama Press, 2005). *Register of the Kentucky Historical Society* 103 (Autumn 2005): 772–74.

A Murder in Virginia: Southern Justice on Trial. By Suzanne Lebsack. (New York: W. W. Norton, 2003). *Journal of Southern History* 70 (August 2004): 704–5.

Gerald W. Johnson: From Southern Liberal to National Conscience. By Vincent Fitzpatrick. (Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 2002). *Journal of Southern History* 69 (November 2003): 973–74.

The Record-Setting Trips: By Auto from Coast to Coast, 1909–1916. By Curt McConnell. (Stanford, Calif.: Stanford University Press, 2003). *Montana: The Magazine of Western History* 53 (Autumn 2003): 82–83.

The Last Days of Big Grassy Fork. By Hunter James. (Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 2002). *Journal of Southern History* 69 (August 2003): 724–25.

Fixin' to Git: One Fan's Love Affair with NASCAR's Winston Cup. By Jim Wright. (Durham, N.C.: Duke University Press, 2002). *Business History Review* 76 (Winter 2002): 888–90.

To Raise Up the South: Sunday Schools in Black and White Churches, 1865–1915. By Sally G. McMillen. (Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 2001). *Register of the Kentucky Historical Society* 100 (Summer 2002): 380–82.

Castles in the Sand: The Life and Times of Carl Graham Fisher. By Mark S. Foster. (Gainesville: University Press of Florida, 2000). *Journal of Southern History* 68 (August 2002): 732–33.

Lessons in Progress: State Universities and Progressivism in the New South, 1880–1920. By Michael Dennis. (Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 2001). *Georgia Historical Quarterly* 85 (Winter 2001): 659–61.

Appalachians and Race: From Slavery to Segregation. Edited by John C. Inscoe. (Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 2000). *Virginia Magazine of History and Biography* 109, no. 1 (2001): 103–4.

When All the Gods Trembled: Darwinism, Scopes, and American Intellectuals. By Paul K. Conkin. (Lanham, Md.: Rowman and Littlefield, 1998). *Georgia Historical Quarterly* 84 (Summer 2000): 343–45.

Visions and Vanities: John Andrew Rice and Black Mountain College. By Katherine Chaddock Reynolds. (Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 1998). *Journal of Southern History* 65 (November 1999): 905–7.

Encyclopedia Entries

“Poteat, William Louis,” and “Wake Forest University.” In *The New Encyclopedia of Southern Culture*, vol. 17, *Education*, edited by Charles Reagan Wilson and Clarence L. Mohr, 277–78, 339–40. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2011.

“William Louis Poteat.” In *Encyclopedia of Religion in the South*, 2nd edition, edited by Samuel S. Hill, Charles H. Lippy, and Charles Reagan Wilson, 600–601. Macon, Ga.: Mercer University Press, 2005.

“William Louis Poteat.” In *The North Carolina Century: Tar Heels Who Made a Difference, 1900–2000*, edited by Howard E. Covington Jr. and Marion A. Ellis, 256–58. Charlotte, N.C.: Levine Museum of the New South, 2002.

“Annie Cook.” In *The Tennessee Encyclopedia of History and Culture*, edited by Carroll Van West et al., 205. Nashville, Tenn.: Rutledge Hill Press, 1998.

Recent Course Offerings

FWIS 116 American Journeys (first-year writing-intensive seminar)
Hist 321 US Environmental History (upper-level undergraduate course)
Hist 570 US Environmental History (graduate reading seminar)
Hist 583 Southern History (graduate research seminar)
Hist 595 The American South (graduate reading seminar)
HURC 501 Environment, Culture, Limits (2-sem. Mellon Graduate Research Seminar)

Graduate Comprehensive Examination Committees (chair)

John Crum (U.S. South, anticipated 2019)
Patricia Bell (U.S. South, completed 2017)
Cami Beekman (U.S. South, completed 2016)

Graduate Comprehensive Examination Committees (member)

Saaya Kamata (U.S. South, anticipated 2020)
Bryson Kisner (U.S. South, anticipated 2020)
K. James Myers (U.S. South, anticipated 2019)
Edward Valentin (U.S. South, completed 2017)
Christina Regelski (U.S. South, completed 2016)
William R. Black (U.S. South, completed 2015)
Keith McCall (U.S. South, completed 2015)
D. Andrew Johnson (U.S. Environmental History, completed 2014)

Doctoral Thesis Committees (member)

Hannah Biggs, English Department, “Regional Agrarian Modernisms: Farming Fiction and Rural Modernity in 20th-century UK and US Prose” (in progress)

Hannah Francis, History Department, "Passports to the Atlantic: Travelers of Color from Nineteenth Century New Orleans" (in progress)

Maureen Haver, Anthropology Department, "Contested Adaptations and Resource(ful) Extraction in Alaska: Understanding the Political and Ethical Dimensions of Climate Adaptation in a Carbon State" (in progress)

Clint Wilson, English Department, "Toxic Media: Modernism and the Avant-garde's Poisonous Imaginary" (in progress)

Joseph Thomas Carson, English Department, "Savage Arcadia: The American Romance in the Anthropocene" (defended 2019)

Keith McCall, History Department, "In Search of Freedom: The Politics and Ideology of Black Migration in the Era of Emancipation" (defended 2019)

William R. Black, History Department, "No Northern or Southern Religion: Cumberland Presbyterians and the Christian Nation, 1800–1877" (defended 2018)

David Andrew Johnson, History Department, "Enslaved Native Americans and the Making of South Carolina, 1659–1739" (defended 2018)

David Ponton, History Department, "Criminalizing Space: Ideological and Institutional Productions of Race, Gender, and State-Sanctioned Violence in Houston, 1948–1967" (defended 2017)

Kevin Smiley, Sociology Department, "Industrial Pollution and Civic Capacity in Metropolitan America" (defended 2017)

Andrew Baker, History Department, "Southern Landscapes in the City's Shadow: Environmental Politics and Metropolitan Growth in Texas and Virginia, 1900–1990" (defended 2014)

Katie Knowles, History Department, "Fashioning Slavery: Slaves and Clothing in the U.S. South, 1830–1865" (defended 2014)

Undergraduate Honors Thesis (director)

Trevor Egerton, Environmental history of Caddo Lake State Park (Rice University, expected 2020)

Cory Brazile, "Men at Play: The Role of Masculinity in a 1910s Baseball Labor Union" (Rice University, 2016)

Andrew McNeill Canady, "The Return of Cotton to North Carolina" (Wake Forest University, 2002)

Professional Service

Reviewed article and book manuscripts for Louisiana State University Press, University of Pittsburgh Press, *Engineering Studies*, *Southern Spaces*, the *Indiana Magazine of History*, Cambridge Scholars Publishing, the University of Alabama Press, the University Press of Kentucky, *Homicide Studies*, *New Jersey History*, the *Journal of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era*, the University Press of Mississippi, the *Register of the Kentucky Historical Society*, the University of Arkansas Press, and the *Journal of Southern History*

Member of the Local Arrangements Committee for 2018 annual meeting of the American Society for Legal History, Houston, Texas, November 2018

Organizer of the Southern Forum on Agricultural, Rural, and Environmental History (SFARE), tenth annual meeting, held at Rice University, February 10–11, 2017

Co-organized "Jefferson Davis's America: New Perspectives on the Mid-Nineteenth-Century United States," symposium held at Rice University, February 19–20, 2016

Faculty adviser, "Atlantic Environments and the American South," conference organized by Rice University history graduate students, February 5–6, 2016

Agricultural History Society, Search Committee for editor of *Agricultural History*, 2015

Judge for the History Fair, Shotwell Academy, Aldine Independent School District, Houston, Texas, October 2015

Co-organized "As Others See Us: British Perspectives on Nineteenth Century American History," a special conference of the Association of British American Nineteenth Century Historians, held at Rice University, April 3–6, 2014

Interviewee for public history podcast, Regional Initiative for Collecting the History, Experiences and Stories of Central Florida, University of Central Florida, March 2014

Jury member, Powers Brown Design Competition for memorial in Sugar Land Memorial Park to honor veterans from Fort Bend County, Texas, May 2013

Organization of American Historians Binkley-Stephenson Award Committee (to select best article in *Journal of American History*), May 2009–May 2012 (chair May 2010–May 2011)

Co-organized "Slavery in the Colonial South," symposium held at Rice University, February 18–20, 2011

Agricultural History Society, ad hoc committee on open access, 2010

Southern Association for Women Historians, ad hoc committee on publishing, 2009

Southern Historical Association Membership Committee, 2006, 2009

Co-organized "The South and the World in the Civil War Era," symposium held at Rice University, February 20–22, 2009

Co-organized "Thomas Jefferson: In His Time and Ours," symposium held at Rice University, February 23–25, 2007

Selection committee, Ben H. Procter Research Paper Award, Phi Alpha Theta History Honor Society, Southwestern Social Science Association, 2005–2010

Co-coordinator, Houston Area Southern Historians seminar (later Houston Area Seminar in History), 2005–2016

Co-organized "The Transformation of the South in the Twentieth Century," symposium held at Rice University, February 25–26, 2005

Project consultant for Light in August Films documentary project titled "Racing Dixie," September 2003

Co-organized interdisciplinary conference, "Thomas Dixon Jr. and the Making of Modern America," held at Wake Forest University, April 10–12, 2003

Originated and co-coordinated Southern Historians of the Piedmont SHOPTalk working group, Fall 2000–Spring 2003

Co-organized Graduate Symposium on Southern History, Rice University, May 1997

Southern Historical Association Editorial Intern, Rice University, 1997

Coordinator, Graduate Student Seminar Series, Rice University History Department, 1995–96

Academic Presentations

"The Energy of Cultures: Political Fears, Resource Shortages, and Science Fiction in 1950s U.S. Environmental Thought," VII Rice-Unicamp-Mora Seminar—"Rights in historical perspective: advances and setbacks," Campinas, São Paulo, Brazil, March 2019

"Democracy, Resources, and the Environment in 1950s America: Systems Thinking at the Birth of Environmentalism," Japanese Association for American Studies annual meeting, University of Kitakyushu, Kokura, Japan, June 2018

Invited talk, "The Significance of the Long Anthropocene in American History," Center for the History of Agriculture, Science, and the Environment of the South, Mississippi State University, Starkville, Mississippi, October 2017

"Civilization, Savagery, and the Environment: Comparing John Wesley Powell and Euclides da Cunha," Rice-UNICAMP Seminar IV—Local and Global: National and Transnational Connections, Campinas, São Paulo, Brazil, May 2016

"Frontiers with a Future: An American Soil Conservationist in the Post-WWII U.S. South and Brazil," Rice-UNICAMP Seminar III: Crossing Places/Crossing Cultures, Houston, Texas, March 2015

"*Lum and Abner*: Radio and the Southern Renaissance," Houston Area Southern Historians seminar, Houston, Texas, January 2005

"*Lum and Abner*: Hillbillies on the Make," Re:Visions II: Broadcasting Histories conference, University of Central Lancashire, Preston, United Kingdom, July 2004

"A 1912 Courtroom Massacre and Political Conflict in Virginia," SHOPTalk seminar, University of North Carolina at Greensboro, April 2003

"Before NASCAR," Social Science Research Seminar, Wake Forest University, Winston-Salem, North Carolina, September 2002

"Justifying Violence: Ninety Years of Remembering a 1912 Courtroom Massacre in Virginia's Blue Ridge Mountains," Cultures of Violence conference, Prague, Czech Republic, August 2002

"William Louis Poteat and Science in Late-Nineteenth-Century North Carolina," Southern Historical Association, Phi Alpha Theta Session, Birmingham, Alabama, November 1998

"Worlds in Conflict: Women Nurses during the 1878 Yellow Fever Epidemic in Memphis," Houston Area Southern Historians seminar, Houston, Texas, February 1996

Community Outreach Presentations

"William Marsh Rice and His Institute," invited talk, Society of Rice University Women, Houston, Texas, February 2013

"William Marsh Rice and His Institute," invited talk in Jerry and Marvy Finger Lecture Series, The Heritage Society at Sam Houston Park, Houston, Texas, August 2012

Other Conference Participation

Moderator of session titled "Extraction," Cultures of Energy 8, annual symposium of the Center for Energy and Environmental Research in the Human Sciences, Rice University, Houston, Texas, April 2019

Moderator of session titled "Climate and History in the Anthropocene," Culture of Energy 7, annual symposium of the Center for Energy and Environmental Research in the Human Sciences, Rice University, Houston, Texas, April 2018

Moderator of session titled "Colonialism, Climate & Energy," Cultures of Energy 6, annual symposium of the Center for Energy and Environmental Research in the Human Sciences, Rice University, Houston, Texas, April 2017

Chair for session titled "Labor," Rice-UNICAMP-Mora Seminar V: Rights, Citizenship and Labor," Houston, Texas, April 2017

Moderator of session titled "Living the Anthropocene," Fifth Annual Cultures of Energy Spring Research Symposium, Center for Energy and Environmental Research in the Human Sciences, Rice University, Houston, Texas, April 2016

Chair and commentator for session titled "Rural Culture," Agricultural History Society, Lexington, Kentucky, June 2015

Moderator of session titled "Infrastructures, Materials, Geographies," Fourth Annual Cultures of Energy Spring Research Symposium, Center for Energy and Environmental Research in the Human Sciences, Rice University, Houston, Texas, April 2015

Moderator of session titled "Energy, Space and Materiality," Third Annual Cultures of Energy Spring Research Symposium, Center for Energy and Environmental Research in the Human Sciences, Rice University, Houston, Texas, April 2014

Panelist for session titled "Publishing De-Mystified," Agricultural History Society, Banff, Alberta, Canada, June 2013

Commentator for session titled "Frontiers," The First Rice-UNICAMP Seminar: Free and Unfree Labor in Comparative Perspective, Houston, Texas, April 2013

Chair for session titled "The Movement Comes to the Cumberland: Reimagining Appalachia through Activism," Southern Historical Association, Mobile, Alabama, November 2012

Panelist for session titled "Recent Texas History," Sam Houston Symposium: The State of Texas History, Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, Texas, April 2011

Chair and commentator for session titled "Art and Culture in Rural America," Agricultural History Society, Orlando, Florida, June 2010

Panelist for session titled "Researching without Teaching: A Roundtable Discussion of Writing History in Non-Teaching Careers," Agricultural History Society, Little Rock, Arkansas, June 2009

Chair for session titled "Nineteenth-Century American Cities, North and South," Urban History Association, Houston, Texas, November 2008

Panelist for session titled "Scholarly Publishing: Books and Journal," Mid-America Conference on History, Springfield, Missouri, September 2008

Panelist for session titled "Publishing Agricultural History," Agricultural History Society, Ames, Iowa, June 2007

"Public Space and the Civic Imagination," comments for session titled "Architecture and History," Southwestern Social Science Association, San Antonio, Texas, April, 2006

University Service

Faculty Steering Committee member, Center for Energy and Environmental Research in the Human Sciences (CENHS), 2014–present

Faculty Board, *Rice Historical Review* (undergraduate history journal), 2015–present

Graduate Committee, History Department, Fall 2013–Fall 2019

Faculty advisor, Alternative Spring Break project on environmental justice, Center for Civic Leadership, 2019–2020

Internal Review Committee chair, promotion and tenure case, summer 2019

Rice University Committee on Fellowships and Awards, member, 2013–2019

Project Advisor, "Measuring Visitor Experience at the Houston Arboretum and Nature Center," Houston Action Research Team, Center for Civic Leadership, Rice University, Spring 2019

Faculty Advisory Panel member, Humanities Research Center, 2015–2018

Houston Philosophical Society member, elected 2009; Section chair, 2009–2011; Treasurer, 2014–2016; Vice-President, 2016–2017; President, 2017–2018

Social Analytics Cluster co-chair, Center for Energy and Environmental Research in the Human Sciences (CENHS), 2014–2016

Judge, social sciences division, Rice Undergraduate Research Symposium, Rice University, April 2016

Elected member of the executive committee, History Department, 2014–2016

Internal Review Committee, promotion and tenure case, fall 2014

Selection Committee, Humanities Research Center Special Prize, Rice Undergraduate Research Symposium, April 2014

Shapiro Library Staff Innovation Award Selection Committee, Fondren Library, Rice University, faculty representative, Spring 2014
Phi Beta Kappa chapter, Rice University, Chapter Secretary, 2008–2009, 2009–2010; Selection Committee, 2007–2008, 2010–2012
University Associate, Brown College, Rice University, 2004–2011
Member, President's Lecture Series committee, Rice University, 2005–2008
Outside reader, Rice University Admissions Office, 2006–2007
University Council, Rice University, graduate student representative, 1995–1997

Awards and Fellowships

2019 OAH/AHRAC China Residency, Southwest University, Chongqing, awarded by the Organization of American Historians and the American History Research Association of China (taught intensive week-long seminar on "Sectionalism, the South and American Diplomatic History" to 30 graduate students and faculty from around China)
Humanities Research Center Teaching Release Fellowship, Rice University, Spring 2015, Spring 2020
Archie K. Davis Fellowship, North Caroliniana Society, 2014
Distinguished University Associate, Brown College, Rice University, 2004–2005, 2005–2006
Mary Hayes Ewing Publication Prize, Rice University History Dept., 1999
Charles Septimus Longcope Award (for best written work by a graduate student), Rice University History Dept., 1998
Rice University Presidential Fellow, 1994–1998
Southern Historical Association Editorial Intern, Rice University, 1997
William and Ruth Archie Award, College of Arts and Sciences, Wake Forest University, 1994
Forrest W. Clontz Award (top graduating senior), History Dept., Wake Forest University, 1994
W. J. Cash Award for Southern Studies, Wake Forest University, 1993
Wake Forest University Carswell Scholar, 1990–1994