

LAURA F. EDWARDS

History Department
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EMPLOYMENT

Princeton University

Class of 1921 Bicentennial Professor of the History of American Law and Liberty, 2021-

Duke University

Peabody Family Professor of History and Gender, Sexuality and Feminist Studies, 2014-2020;
Professor, History, 2005-2014; Associate Professor, History, 2001-2005; Visiting Associate
Professor, History, 2000-2001

University of California, Los Angeles

Associate Professor, History, 2000-2001; Assistant Professor, History, 1997-2000

University of South Florida

Assistant Professor, History, 1993-1997

University of Chicago

Visiting Assistant Professor, History, 1992-1993

Newberry Library

Administrative Assistant, Family and Community History Center, 1990-1992

EDUCATION

Ph.D., History, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, 1991

M.A., History, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, 1987

B.A., American Culture, Northwestern University, 1985

FELLOWSHIPS AND VISITING APPOINTMENTS

American Council of Learned Societies, Postdoctoral Fellowship for Full Professors, 2019-2020

National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship, the Newberry Library, Chicago, Illinois, 2019-2020
Fellowship, National Endowment for the Humanities, Research Triangle Park, North Carolina, 2019-
2020, declined

Visiting Neukom Fellows Chair in Diversity and Law, American Bar Foundation, Chicago, Illinois, 2016-
2017

Mellon Research Fellowship, the Library Company of Philadelphia and the Historical Society of
Pennsylvania, one month in 2014

John Simon Guggenheim Foundation Fellowship, 2012-2013

Rockefeller Foundation Fellowship, National Humanities Center, Research Triangle Park, North Carolina,
2007-2008

Mellon Postdoctoral Fellowship in the Humanities, the Newberry Library, Chicago, Illinois, 2006-2007

Senior Postdoctoral Fellowship, Stanford Humanities Center, 2006-2007, declined

National Endowment for the Humanities Postdoctoral Fellowship for University Professors, 1999-2000

Research Fellow, American Center for Politics and Public Policy, UCLA, 1998-99

Presidential Young Faculty Award, University of South Florida, 1996-97

Smithsonian Postdoctoral Fellowship, National Museum of American History, Washington, D.C., 1995

Monticello College Foundation Postdoctoral Fellowship, Newberry Library, Chicago, Illinois, 1994

Research and Creative Scholarship Award, Research Council, University of South Florida, summer 1994

Albert J. Beveridge Research Grant, American Historical Association, 1991

AWARDS

- Choice Outstanding Academic Title, 2015, for *A Legal History of the Civil War and Reconstruction: A Nation of Rights*
- Dean's Award for Excellence in Mentoring, the Graduate School, Duke University, 2013
- Howard D. Johnson Award for Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching, College of Arts and Sciences, Duke University, 2009-2010
- Charles Sydnor Prize, awarded by the Southern Historical Association for best book in southern history, 2009, for *The People and Their Peace: Legal Culture and the Transformation of Inequality in the Post-Revolutionary South*
- Littleton-Griswold Prize, awarded by the American Historical Association for best book in American Law and Society, 2009, for *The People and Their Peace: Legal Culture and the Transformation of Inequality in the Post-Revolutionary South*
- Fletcher M. Green and Charles W. Ramsdell Award, awarded by the Southern Historical Association for best article published in the *Journal of Southern History* in 1998-1999, for "Law, Domestic Violence, and the Limits of Patriarchal Authority in the Antebellum South"
- Vernon Carstensen Award, awarded by the Agricultural History Society, for best article published in *Agricultural History* in 1998, for "The Problem of Dependency: African Americans, Labor Relations, and the Law in the Nineteenth-Century South"
- Choice Outstanding Academic Book, 1997, for *Gendered Strife and Confusion: The Political Culture of Reconstruction*
- Martin Luther King, Jr. Award for Best Scholarly Article in African-American History Published in the Years 1991-1992, for "Sexual Violence, Gender, Reconstruction, and the Extension of Patriarchy in Granville County, North Carolina"

PUBLICATIONS

Books

- America's Unintended Journey: The Civil War and Reconstruction* (commissioned by the University of North Carolina Press, under contract and in progress)
- Only the Clothes on Her Back: Textiles, Law, and Governance in the Nineteenth Century United States* (under contract to Oxford University Press)
- A Legal History of the Civil War and Reconstruction: A Nation of Rights* (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2015)
- The People and Their Peace: Legal Culture and the Transformation of Inequality in the Post-Revolutionary South* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2009)
- Scarlett Doesn't Live Here Anymore: Southern Women in the Civil War Era* (Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 2000; paperback ed., 2004)
- Gendered Strife and Confusion: The Political Culture of Reconstruction* (Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1997). Excerpted in: Paul Escott, David R. Goldfield, Elizabeth Hayes Turner, and Sally G. McMillan, eds., *Major Problems in the History of the American South*, 2nd ed. (Boston: Houghton

Mifflin, 1999); Sylvia D. Hoffert, ed., *A History of Gender in America: Essays, Documents, and Articles* (New York: Prentice Hall, 2003)

Peer-Reviewed Articles

- “James and His Striped Velvet Pantaloon: Textiles, Commerce, and the Law in the New Republic,” *Journal of American History* 107 (September 2020): 336-61.
- “Response: Rebecca Scott’s ‘Discerning a Dignitary Offense,’” *Law and History Review* (Spring 2020).
- “The Legal World of Elizabeth Bagby’s Commonplace Book: Federalism, Women, and Governance,” *Journal of the Civil War Era* 9 (December 2019): 504-523.
- “Sarah Allingham’s Sheet and Other Lessons from Legal History,” *Journal of the Early Republic* 38 (Spring 2018): 121-47
- “The Reconstruction of Rights: The Fourteenth Amendment and Popular Conceptions of Governance,” *Journal of Supreme Court History* 42 (November 2016): 310-328; revised and republished as “The Fourteenth Amendment: Transforming Our Relationship to Rights and the Federal Government,” *Insights in Law and Society* 17 (Winter 2017): 4-10; and “Rights that Made the World Right: How Freed Slaves Extended the Reach of the Federal Courts and Expanded Our Understanding of the Fourteenth Amendment,” *Judicature* 102 (Summer 2018): 64-75
- “Textiles: Popular Culture and the Law,” *Buffalo Law Review* 64 (January 2015): 193-214
- “The History in ‘Critical Legal Histories,’” *Law and Social Inquiry* 37 (Winter 2012): 187-199
- “The Peace: The Meaning and Production of Law in the Post-Revolutionary United States,” *University of California, Irvine Law Review* 1 (September 2011): 565-585
- “Southern History as U.S. History,” *Journal of Southern History* 75 (August 2009): 1-32
- “The Forgotten Legal World of Thomas Ruffin: The Power of Presentism in the History of Slave Law,” *North Carolina Law Review* 87 (March 2009): 855-900
- “Status Without Rights: African Americans and the Tangled History of Law and Governance in the Nineteenth-Century U.S. South,” *American Historical Review* 112 (April 2007): 365-393; revised and republished as “Reconstruction, Women, and Political Culture,” in Paul D. Escott, ed., *Reconstruction in North Carolina* (University of North Carolina Press, 2008), 155-191; excerpted in Jules R. Benjamin, *A Student’s Guide to History*, 12th ed. (New York: Bedford/St. Martin’s 2010)
- “Enslaved Women and the Law: The Paradoxes of Subordination in the Post-Revolutionary Carolinas,” *Slavery & Abolition*, 26 (August 2005), 305-323; republished in Gwyn Campbell, Suzanne Miers, and Joseph C. Miller, eds., *Women in Slavery: The Modern Atlantic*, vol. 2. (Athens: Ohio University Press, 2007), 128-51
- “Law, Domestic Violence, and the Limits of Patriarchal Authority in the Antebellum South,” *Journal of Southern History* 65 (November 1999): 733-70; republished in Nancy Bercaw, ed., *Gender and the Southern Body Politic* (Jackson: University Press of Mississippi, 2000), 63-86; J. William Harris, ed., *The Old South: New Studies of Society and Culture* (New York: Routledge, 2007), 295-319; and Richard Chused and Wendy Williams, eds., *Law and Gender in American History* (Durham: Carolina Academic Press, 2016)
- “The Problem of Dependency: African Americans, Labor Relations, and the Law in the Nineteenth-Century South,” *Agricultural History* 72 (Spring 1998): 313-40
- “The Disappearance of Susan Daniel and Henderson Cooper: Gender and Narratives of Political Conflict in the Reconstruction-Era U.S. South,” *Feminist Studies* 22 (Summer 1996): 363-386; republished in Martha Hodes, ed., *Sex, Love, Race: Crossing Boundaries in North American History* (New York: New York University Press, 1999), 294-312
- “‘The Marriage Covenant Is at the Foundation of All Our Rights’: The Politics of Slave Marriages in North Carolina after Emancipation,” *Law and History Review* 14 (Spring 1996): 81-124; republished as “Marriage, Households, and the Politics of Reconstruction in North Carolina,” in Glenda Gilmore,

Jane Dailey, and Bryant Simon, eds., *Race, Gender, and Politics in the New South, 1865-1980* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2000), 7-27

“Sexual Violence, Gender, Reconstruction, and the Extension of Patriarchy in Granville County, North Carolina,” *North Carolina Historical Review* 68 (July 1991): 237-260

Book Chapters and Essays

“Foreword,” in Stewart L. Winger and Jonathan W. White, *“Ex Parte Milligan Reconsidered: Race and Civil Liberties from the Lincoln Administration to the War on Terror* (Lawrence, KA: University of Kansas Press, 2020).

“Epilogue,” in Van Goss and David Waldstreicher, eds., *Emancipations, Reconstructions, and Revolutions: African American Politics and U.S. History from the First to the Second Civil War* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2020).

“Law as Social History,” in Markus D. Dubber and Christopher Tomlins, eds., *The Oxford Handbook of Legal History* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2018), pp. 119-133

“Afterword,” in *The Civil War and the Transformation of American Citizenship*, Paul Quigley, ed. (Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 2018), pp. 217-236

“Epilogue: Emancipation and the Nation,” in William Link, ed., *Rethinking American Emancipation: Legacies of Slavery and the Quest for Black Freedom* (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2015), pp. 252-270

“Reconstruction and the History of Governance,” in Gregory P. Downs and Kate Masur, eds., *The World the War Made* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2015), pp. 30-44

“Laura Edwards on the Early Republic, the Civil War, Reconstruction, and Women’s History,” in Megan L. Bever and Scott Suarez, eds. *The Historians Behind the History: Conversations with Southern Historians* (Birmingham: University of Alabama Press, 2015), pp. 26-45

“The Material Conditions of Dependency: The Hidden History of Free Women’s Control of Property in the Early Nineteenth Century South,” in Sally Hadden and Patricia Minter, eds., *Signposts: New Directions in Southern Legal History* (Athens: University of Georgia Press, 2013), pp. 171-92

“The Contradictions of Democracy in American Institutions,” in Joanna Innes and Mark Philp, eds., *Re-Imagining Democracy in the Age of Revolutions* (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2013), pp. 40-54

“What Constitutes a Region?” *Diplomatic History* 36 (June 2012): 483-486

“Up from the Pedestal: The Influence of Anne Scott’s Ladies on Southern Women’s History,” in Elizabeth Payne, ed., *Writing Women’s History: A Tribute to Anne Firor Scott* (Jackson: University Press of Mississippi, 2011), 28-63

“Civil War and Reconstruction,” in Christopher Tomlins and Michael Grossberg, eds., *The Cambridge History of Law in America*, vol. 2, *The Long Nineteenth Century (1789-1920)* (New York: Cambridge University Press, 2008), 313-44

“The People’s Sovereignty and the Law: Defining Gender, Race, and Class Differences in the Antebellum South,” in Stephanie Cole and Alison M. Parker, eds., *Beyond Black and White: Race, Ethnicity, and Gender in the United States South and Southwest* (College Station: Published for the University of Texas, Arlington by Texas A.& M. University Press, 2004), 3-34

“Reflections on Law, Culture, and Slavery,” in Winthrop Jordan, ed., *Slavery and the American South* (Jackson: University Press of Mississippi, 2003), 82-92

“Emancipation and Its Consequences,” in John B. Boles, ed., *The Blackwell Companion to the American South* (Oxford: Blackwell Publishers Limited, 2001), 269-83

“Women, Gender, and Labor,” in William L. Barney, ed., *The Blackwell Companion to 19th Century America* (Oxford: Blackwell Publishers Limited, 2001), 223-37

“Women and Domestic Violence in Nineteenth-Century North Carolina,” in Michael Bellesiles, ed., *Lethal Imagination: Violence and Brutality in American History* (New York: New York University Press, 1999), 115-36; republished as “Women and the Law: Domestic Discord in North Carolina

After the Civil War," in Donald Nieman and Christopher Waldrep, eds., *Local Matters: Race, Crime, and Justice in the American South* (Athens: University of Georgia Press, 2000), 125-54
"Captives of Wilmington: The Riot and Historical Memories of Political Conflict, 1865-1898," in Timothy B. Tyson and David S. Cecelski, eds., *Democracy Betrayed: The Wilmington Race Riot of 1898 and Its Legacy* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1998), 113-41

Other

"You Can't Go Home Again: Politics, War, and Domestic Life in the Nineteenth-Century South," *Reviews in American History* 25 (December 1997): 570-76
"Women and Work in Florida: A Photographic Essay," *Tampa Bay History* 18 (Fall/Winter 1996): 32-48
"U.S. Women's History," in the *Encyclopedia of Social History* (New York: Garland, 1994), 775-777
Book reviews: *Law and History Review*, *Journal of American History*, *Journal of Southern History*, *North Carolina Historical Review*, and *Georgia Historical Quarterly*

INVITED TALKS AND PRESENTATIONS

"The Fourteenth Amendment and the Reconstruction of Rights After the Civil War," for University of Las Vegas, Nevada's Constitution Day, September 2018
"James and His Striped, Velvet Pantaloon: Textiles, Commerce, and Law in the New Republic," for the Workshop on Democracy in America, The Tobin Project, Cambridge, Massachusetts, May 2018
"The Reconstruction of Rights After the Civil War," Teach-In on the Strength and Fragility of Constitutions, University of Oklahoma, September 2017
"The Fourteenth Amendment and the Reconstruction of Rights," Jack Stalworth Lecture, University of South Alabama, September 2017
"Take No Account of Anything Made Entirely Within Yourself": The Legal Power of Textiles and the Status of Women Between the Revolution and the Civil War in the United States," Legal History Roundtable, American Bar Foundation, May 2017
"Petitioning in Local Forums: Democratic Participation in an Undemocratic System, 1780-1860," History of American Democracy Conference, The Tobin Project, Cambridge, Massachusetts, May-June 2017
Panelist, "Fourteenth Amendment: Transforming American Democracy?" Leon Jaworski Public Program Series, Sponsored by the American Bar Association, Washington, D.C., May 2017
"Textiles and the Material Culture of Law and Governance," for Emancipations, Reconstructions, Revolutions: African American Politics and U.S. History in the Long Nineteenth Century, 1776-1920, CUNY Graduate Center, New York City and the McNeil Center in Early American History, Philadelphia, February 2017
Panelist, "The History of the Courts and Individual Rights," A History of the Federal Judiciary, Federal Judicial Center, Washington, D.C., April 2016
"The Reconstruction of Rights: The Fourteenth Amendment and Popular Conceptions of Governance," Leon Silverman Lecture, Supreme Court Historical Society, October 2015
"Law Outside the Nation: Overlapping Jurisdictions and Conflicting Conceptions of Citizenship," keynote address for "Citizenship in the Era of the American Civil War," The Virginia Center for Civil War Studies, Virginia Tech, April 2015
"Looking at Nation-Building Through Local Eyes: Rethinking Law in the Reconstruction-Era United States," Milton Klein Lecture, History Department, University of Tennessee, March 2014
"Reconstruction, Rights, and the Nation's Legal Culture," for "The World the Civil War Made," 2013 Steven and Janice Brose Distinguished Lecture and Book Series, Civil War Era Center, Penn State University, June 2013
"Law and Culture in Conversation," Keynote Address for "Disrobing the Law in American Culture: The 2013 American Studies Graduate Student Conference," Princeton University, April 2013

- “Women, the Civil War, and the Legal Transformation of the United States,” 2013 Annual Gary C. & Eleanor G. Simons Lecture, University of Florida, April 2013
- “The People and Their Peace: Legal Culture in the Post-Revolutionary South,” Third Annual Society of the Cincinnati Lecture, Virginia Commonwealth University, November 2012
- “Women and Reconstruction,” New Voyages to Carolina: Redefining the Contours of the Old North State, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill and North Carolina Central University, October 2012
- “The Civil War and the Legal Transformation of the United States,” for “Another March Madness: The Civil War at 150,” Duke University, March 2012
- “How Legal History Can Help Us Redefine the Contours of Southern History,” keynote address, Southern Intellectual History Conference, University of Alabama, February 2011
- “The Meaning of Democracy in the Post-Revolutionary United States,” Two Eras of Democracy Conference, Oxford University, England, June 2010
- “The Peace: The Meaning and Production of Law in the Post-Revolutionary United States,” Law As . . . Theory and Method in Legal History, University of California, Irvine, Law School, April 2010
- “The Hidden History of the Southern Legal System,” Region, Class, and Culture: New Perspectives on the American South, Honoring Pete Daniel, Rhodes College, Memphis, Tennessee, June 2009
- “Rethinking Women and Political Activism in the South, Whisnant Lecture, Clemson University, April 2009
- “Women’s History in the South before 1880,” Texas Women, American Women: New Historical Scholarship and Fresh Approaches, Texas Christian University, Fort Worth, Texas, February 2009
- “Honey, I’m Going to See a Magistrate: Rethinking Women and Political Action in the Nineteenth-Century South,” in the series Understanding the South, Understanding America, The Creation of Citizenship in the Nineteenth Century South and Beyond: An International Symposium, University of Florida, January 15-17
- “The Perils of Inclusion,” Workshop on American Democracy in Context, Oxford, England, June 2008
- “Up from the Pedestal: The Influence of Anne Scott’s Ladies on Southern Women’s History,” Porter L. Fortune Symposium in Honor of Anne Firor Scott, Oxford, Mississippi, March 2008
- “The Forgotten Legal World of Thomas Ruffin: The Power of Presentism in the History of Slave Law,” The Perils of Public Homage: Thomas Ruffin and *State v. Mann* in History and Memory, Center for the Study of the American South, November 2007
- “African Americans and the Law,” Low Lecture in History, History Department, University of Maryland, Baltimore County, March 2007
- “Politics in the Backyard: The Lessons of Gender for the Political History of Reconstruction,” Glasscock Lecture, Texas A&M University, October 2006
- “Status Without Rights: African Americans’ Tangled History with Law, Governance, and the State,” Jean Gimbel Lane Humanities Lecture Series, Northwestern University, January 2006
- “Reflections on Legal History from a Recovering Social Historian,” J. Willard Hurst Summer Institute in Legal History, sponsored bi-annually by the American Society for Legal History, Madison, Wisconsin, June, 2005
- “Honey I’m Going to See a Magistrate: The Problem of Women, Rights, and the Law in the Nineteenth-Century South,” delivered at LaTrobe University, Melbourne, Australia, and the University of Sydney, Australia, October, 2003
- “Legally Active Wives: The Problem of Individual Rights, Citizenship, and Marriage for Women in the Post-Emancipation South,” delivered at the symposium, “Making, Remaking, and Unmaking Modern Marriage,” organized by the Law School, University of Southern California, February, 2003
- “Slaves, Law, and Justice in the Post-Revolutionary South,” Summersell Lecture in Southern History, University of Alabama, October, 2002

Commentator on “Reflections on Law, Culture, and Slavery,” by Ariela Gross, delivered at the Porter L. Fortune, Jr. History Symposium, “Slavery in Retrospective,” University of Mississippi, October, 2000

“What’s Next? The Nineteenth-Century South after Gender, Race, and Class,” delivered at the Walter Prescott Webb Memorial Lectures on “Beyond Black and White: Race, Ethnicity, and Gender in the United States South and Southwest,” University of Texas at Arlington, March, 2000

"Captives of Wilmington: The Riot and Historical Memories of Political Conflict, 1865-1898," delivered at "The 1898 Wilmington Race Riot and its Legacy: A Symposium," Wilmington, North Carolina, October, 1998

"When Physical Violence is Not Assault: Domestic Relations, Legal Personhood, and Political Discourse in the Antebellum South," delivered at the Porter L. Fortune, Jr. History Symposium on "Gender and the Southern Body Politic," University of Mississippi, October, 1997

I have also given talks or presentations on various aspects of my work for: History Department, Brown University; Legal History Seminar, Vanderbilt University; University of Wisconsin Law School; University of Virginia Law School; History Department, Dartmouth, University; History Department, College of Williamsburg; History Department, Harvard University; History Workshop, Tulane University; Law and History Workshop, University of Oregon Law School; History and Politics Workshop, University of California, Berkeley; History Department Speakers’ Series, University of South Florida; Legal History Workshop, Law School, University of Minnesota; Legal History Workshop, Law School, University of Wisconsin, Madison; Legal History Workshop, Johns Hopkins University; History Forum, Duquesne University; History Colloquium, Washington University; History Department, Franklin and Marshall University; Legal History Seminar, American Bar Foundation; Labor History Seminar, Newberry Library; Political History Workshop, University of Chicago; Early American History Seminar, Newberry Library; Early American History Seminar, University of Georgia; History Department, Clemson University; Seminar in Southern History, University of Virginia; History Department, University of Texas, Austin; Legal History Workshop, University of Michigan; History Colloquium, Yale Law School; History Colloquium, Harvard Law School; Public Lecture Series in History, University of North Carolina, Wilmington; Workshop on Gender and History, University of Minnesota; Public Policy Speaker Series, Northwestern University; Organized Research Program in Southern History, University of California, San Diego; Seminar Series, American Bar Foundation, Chicago, Illinois; The Social

History Workshop, University of Chicago; Seminar in American Social History, the Newberry Library; Afro-American Studies Colloquium, University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana.

CONFERENCE PAPERS

- Panelist, “Law, Equity, and Accountability in the Early Republic,” American Society for Legal History, Boston, Massachusetts, November 2019
- Panelist, “Legal History and the Persistent Power of State and Local Governments: Historiography,” a Pre-Conference Workshop, American Society for Legal History, Boston, Massachusetts, November 2019
- Panelist, “New Directions in the Study of the Fourteenth Amendment,” Society of Civil War Historians, Pittsburgh, May 2018
- “Extending Conceptions of Women’s Political Participation,” for the roundtable, “State of Field: Which Way Forward? A New Synthesis for Nineteenth-Century Women’s Rights,” Organization of American Historians, Sacramento, April 2018
- Panelist, “The Reconstruction Amendments in Law, Politics, and History,” Organization of American Historians, New Orleans, Louisiana, April 2017
- “The Hidden World of Governance in Jacksonian America and the Artificial Line between Legal History and Political History,” for the conference, Andrew Jackson at 250: Race, Politics, and Culture in the Age of Jacksonian “Democracy,” Yale University, December 2017
- “Only the Clothes on Her Back: Textiles, Law, and Commerce in the Nineteenth-Century United States,” American Society for Legal History, Las Vegas, October 2017
- Panelist, “The History of the Courts and Individual Rights,” History of the Federal Judiciary Conference, Washington, D.C., April 2016
- “Popular Conceptions of Law and Citizenship: Layered Jurisdictions and the Expansion of Government Power During the Civil War Era,” American Society for Legal History, Denver, Colorado, November 2014
- “Popular Culture and the Law,” Opportunities for Law’s Intellectual History, a conference at the Baldy Center, University of Buffalo, October 2014
- “The People and the Law: The Civil War and the Transformation of the Nation’s Legal Culture,” for “From Property to Personhood: The Intents and Unintended Consequences of the Reconstruction Amendments,” the Third Biennial UnCivil Wars Conference, Athens, October 2013
- “Rethinking the Legal Context of Emancipation,” for the roundtable, “Commemorating the 150th Anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation,” Law and Society Association, Boston, May 2013
- “The Meaning of Size: The Local vs. the Global,” for the roundtable, “Are There Costs to ‘Internationalizing’ History, Part 1: The Intellectual and Geo-Politics of Research Agendas,” American Historical Association, New Orleans, Louisiana, January 2013
- “Slave Law,” American Society for Legal History, Dallas, Texas, November 2010
- “Individual Rights and the Transformation of Slave Law, 1787-1860,” Organization of American Historians, Seattle, Washington, March 2009
- “The Forest and the Trees: Political History in the Early Republic,” Roundtable on Sean Wilentz, *The Rise of American Democracy*, Organization of American Historians, Minneapolis, Minnesota, April 2007
- “Going Local: Historicizing Citizenship in the Early Republic,” American Society for Legal History, Baltimore, Maryland, November 2006
- “Sex, Authority, and the State in the Nineteenth-Century South,” Southern Historical Association, Atlanta, Georgia, October 2005
- “Social History and *Been in the Storm So Long*,” for the roundtable, “The Scholarship of Leon Litwack,” Organization of American Historians, San Jose, California, April 2005

- “Enslaved Women and Slave Law in the Post-Revolutionary U.S. South,” Fourth Avignon Conference on Slavery and Forced Labor, Avignon, France, October 2002
- “Gender, Women, and the Politics of Emancipation,” Berkshire Conference on the History of Women, Storrs, Connecticut, June 2002
- “What’s Love Got to Do With It: Wives and Agency in the Law,” Roundtable on Hendrik Hartog, *Man and Wife in America*, American Society for Legal History, Chicago, Illinois, November 2001
- “Visible Invisibility: The Problem of Women and Violence in the Antebellum U.S. South,” British Association for American Studies, Swansea, Wales, April 2000
- “Violence and Authority in the Post-Revolutionary South,” American Society for Legal History, Toronto, Canada, October 1999
- “Legal History and Women’s History,” Society for History of the Early American Republic, Lexington, Kentucky, July 1999
- “Bodies, Violence, and Citizenship in the Nineteenth-Century U.S. South,” British Association for American Studies, Glasgow, Scotland, March 1999
- “Physical Violence, Authority, and Emancipation in the U.S. South,” Organization of American Historians, Indianapolis, Indiana, April 1998
- “How can they do it on three barrels of corn a year?: African Americans, Labor, Dependency, and the Law in the Nineteenth-Century South,” Agricultural History Society Symposium on “African Americans in Southern Agriculture, 1877-1945,” Chapel Hill, North Carolina, June 1997
- “If I had not been as strong as I am’: African-American and Poor White Women’s Legal Claims in Postemancipation North Carolina,” American Society for Legal History, Richmond, Virginia, October 1996
- “Law and the Politics of Domestic Discord in Postemancipation North Carolina,” Organization of American Historians, Chicago, Illinois, March 1996
- “Public Space and the Limits of Universal Rights in the U.S. South,” American Historical Association, Atlanta, Georgia, January 1996
- “Local History and the History of Reconstruction,” Southern Historical Association, Louisville, Kentucky, November 1994
- “The Marriage Covenant is at the Foundation of all Our Rights’: Slave Marriages and Reconstruction Politics,” Organization of American Historians, Atlanta, Georgia, April 1994
- “Sexual Violence and the Politics of Reconstruction,” American Historical Association, San Francisco, California, January 1994
- “Sexual Violence and Political Struggle: Finding Women in Reconstruction Politics,” Berkshire Conference on the History of Women, Poughkeepsie, New York, June 1993
- “Reconstructing Race: The Courtroom as an Arena of Political Struggle during Reconstruction in the U.S. South,” Social Science History Association, Chicago, Illinois, November 1992
- “‘I was going to see a magistrate’: The Courts as an Arena of Political Struggle in the Postbellum South,” American Society for Legal History, New Haven, Connecticut, October 1992
- “‘To act like men’: The Collapse of Radical Politics in a North Carolina County,” Organization of American Historians, Chicago, Illinois, April 1992
- “Defiance and Protection: The Reconstruction-Era Struggle Over Concepts of Womanhood in Granville County, North Carolina,” Second Southern Conference on Women’s History, Southern Association of Women’s Historians, Chapel Hill, North Carolina, June 1991
- “Reconstruction’s Achilles Heel: Gender and Politics in Granville County, North Carolina,” National Graduate Women’s Studies Conference, Ann Arbor, Michigan, March 1991
- “Wage Labor and Tenancy in Granville County, North Carolina, 1865-1900,” Southern Historical Association, New Orleans, Louisiana, November 1990
- “Sexual Violence, Gender, and Reconstruction,” North Carolina Women’s History Symposium, Raleigh, North Carolina, March 1990

OTHER CONFERENCE PARTICIPATION

- Comment, “The Social Nature of Public Action: Southern Women and Politics in the Mid-to-Late Nineteenth Century,” Southern Historical Association, Louisville, Kentucky, November 2019
- Comment, “Politics in the Civil War Era,” Remaking Political History Conference, Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana, May 2019
- Comment, on Gautham Rao, “Slavery’s Leviathan: The State the Slaveholders Made,” Legal History Roundtable, American Bar Foundation, Chicago, Illinois, May 2019
- Comment, “Reconstructing Culture: Objects, Images, and Texts in the Work of Slave Emancipation,” Organization of American Historians, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, April 2019
- Comment, “Author Meets Readers: Kimberly Welch’s *Black Litigants in the Antebellum American South*,” American Society for Legal History, Houston, November 2018
- Comment, “Preyer Panel,” a panel composed of recipients of the award for best conference papers submitted by graduate students, American Society for Legal History, Toronto, Canada, November 2016
- Comment, “Workers’ Compensation and the Historicization of Labor,” Law in the History of Capitalism: A Conference, American Bar Foundation, June 2016
- Comment, “Reconstructing the Family: Reform, Kinship, and Intimacy in the Aftermath of Emancipation,” Organization of American Historians, Providence, Rhode Island, April 2016.
- Comment, “Bad Credit: Capital, Commodification, and Slavery in the Nineteenth Century,” Southern Historical Association, Little Rock, Arkansas, November 2015
- Comment, “Immigrants and Other Foreigners in America, 1600-2000,” United States Legal History Roundtable, American Bar Foundation, Chicago, April 2013
- Comment, “Race and the Law: African Americans in Southern Courts, 1865-1920,” Organization of American Historians, Washington, D.C., April 2010
- Comment, “African Americans, Native Americans, and Narratives of Citizenship,” American Historical Association, New York, New York, January 2009
- Comment, “Southern Women and the Law in the Nineteenth Century,” Seventh Conference on the History of Women, Southern Association for Women Historians, Baltimore, Maryland, June 2006
- Comment, “Wives and Mothers,” American Society for Legal History, Cincinnati, Ohio, November 2005
- Comment, “Changing Notions of Manhood and Womanhood during the Civil War,” Southern Historical Association, Memphis, November 2004
- Panel Discussant, “Open Forum: Academic Integrity Committee,” Organization of American Historians, Boston, Massachusetts, March 2004
- Comment, “Race, Gender, and the Law,” Southern Historical Association, Baltimore, Maryland, November 2002
- Comment, “Race, Gender, Politics, and Crime: Reconstruction in the Urban South, 1867-1877,” Organization of American Historians, Washington, D.C., April 2002
- Comment, “The Southern Home Front Under Attack,” Southern Historical Association, Louisville, Kentucky, November 2001
- Comment, “Interracial Violence, 1850-1960: Oppression, Resistance, and Retaliation,” Organization of American Historians, St. Louis, Missouri, March 2000
- Comment, “Southern and New England Women in Crisis Times,” Southern Historical Association, Ft. Worth, Texas, November 1999
- Comment, “Abortion Debates, Gender, National Identities, and the State,” Organization of American Historians, Toronto, Canada, April 1999
- Comment, “Race and Law in the American South,” American Historical Association, Seattle, Washington, January 1998

- Comment, “Law and the Status of Women in the Nineteenth-Century South,” Fourth Southern Conference on Women's History, Charleston, South Carolina, June 1997
- Comment, “Having Sex and Making Race: Sex, Heredity, and Nation-Building in American Social Movements,” Berkshire Conference on the History of Women, Chapel Hill, North Carolina, June 1996
- Panel Discussant, “Enriching the Curriculum through the Use of Primary Sources: Integrating Legal History in the U.S. Survey Course,” sponsored by the History Teaching Alliance and the National History Education Network at the annual meeting of the Organization of American Historians, Chicago, Illinois, March 1996
- Panel Discussant, “How Did They Do It in the 19th Century? Historicizing Women's Activism,” at the conference, “Natural Allies? Academics and Women's Activism,” Duke University, Durham, North Carolina, May 1995
- Comment, “The Ascendancy of White Supremacy: Racial Politics, Gender, and Imperialism at the Turn of the Century,” Organization of American Historians, Washington, D.C., March 1995
- Comment, “Religion and Ethnicity in Rural Women's Lives,” Fifth Conference on “Rural and Farm Women in Historical Perspective,” Washington, D.C., December 1994
- Comment, “The Culture of Labor Reform in Nineteenth-Century Boston,” American Studies Association, Boston, Massachusetts, November 1993

COURSES

- A History of American Democracy (lecture)
- U.S. Legal History (lecture)
- Introduction to U.S. History, to 1877 (lecture)
- Women, Gender, and Sexuality in U.S. History (lecture)
- Women and Popular Culture in U.S. History (lecture)
- Cold War Culture (lecture)
- Clothing in U.S. History (research seminar)
- Southern Women in U.S. History (seminar)
- Southern History as U.S. History (seminar)
- Graduate courses on various topics, including women, gender, race, law, and the nineteenth-century United States
- I have chaired or am chairing dissertation committees for the following: Brandi Brimmer, Kelly Kennington, Felicity Turner, Treva Lindsay, Heidi Giusto, Samanthis Smalls, Emily Margolis, Ashley Young, Mandy Cooper, Meggan Farish, Vivien Rendleman, Sam Walburn, and Siobhan Barco

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

- Atlanta Cyclorama, Atlanta History Center: Advisory Board
- American Bar Association and the Federal Judicial Center, faculty presenter, Summer Institute for Teachers, 2018
- American Bar Foundation: Affiliated Scholar (2016-); Faculty Mentor in the Postdoctoral Fellowship Program.
- American Council of Learned Societies: fellowship selection committee member, 2014-2017.
- American Historical Association: Littleton-Griswold Book Prize Committee, 2000-2002; 2015-2017
- American Society for Legal History: Chair, Publications Committee, 2013-2015; Cromwell Book Prize Committee, 2012-2014; Co-Chair, ASLH Program Committee, Annual Meeting, 2008; Board of Directors, 2003-2006; Program Committee, 2004 annual meeting; Program Committee, 2003 annual meeting; Associate Editor, *Law and History Review*, 1998-2003

Editorial and Advisory Boards: *Journal of Supreme Court History*, 2018- ; *Journal of the Civil War Era*, 2018-; Southern Legal Studies Book Series, University of Georgia Press, 2015-present; *Law&History* (the journal of the Australian and New Zealand Law and History Society) 2014-present; *Law and History Review*, 2005-present; *Journal of Southern History*, 2004-2008; *Agricultural History*, 2000-2007; *North Carolina Historical Review*, 2001-2006

National Constitution Center, Philadelphia, PA: Advisory Board

National Endowment for the Humanities: Selection Committee, Postdoctoral Fellowships for University Teachers and Independent Scholars, 2002; Instructor, NEH Summer Institute on "The Legal Status of Southern Women," Furman University, June-July, 1995.

National Humanities Center: Fellowship referee, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011; unit on Southern Women and the Civil War, online teacher training seminar.

National Women's History Museum: Advisory Board, 2016-

Newberry Library: Selection Committee, Monticello Foundation Postdoctoral Fellowship, 2007; Selection Committee, NEH/Mellon Postdoctoral Residential Fellowships, 2001; National Historic Landmark Nomination for the Puckett Family Farm in Satterwhite, North Carolina, submitted to the National Park Service for the Newberry Library's Theme Study in American Labor History, 1996; Selection Committee, Lloyd Lewis Postdoctoral Fellowship, 1995, 1998, 1999; Reviewer, Short Term Fellowships, 1993-99

Organization of American Historians: Distinguished Speaker Program, 2003- ; Chair, Committee on Ethics and Professional Conduct, 2005-2007; Ad Hoc Academic Integrity Committee, 2003-2004

Referee, *American Historical Review*, *Journal of Southern History*, *Law and History Review*, *Law and Social Inquiry*, *Journal of American History*, *Feminist Studies*, *Agricultural History*, St. Martin's Press, University of Illinois Press, University of Pennsylvania Press, University of North Carolina Press, University of Florida Press, Harvard University Press

Southern Association for Women Historians: Past President, 2008-2009; President, 2007-2008; First Vice-President, 2006-2007; Second Vice-President, 2005-2006; Chair, Willie Lee Rose Book Prize Committee, 2005; Chair, Program Committee, Sixth Annual Conference of the SAWH, Athens, Georgia, June 2003; Chair, Julia Cherry Spruill Book Prize Committee, Chair, 1999; Chair, Long-Range Planning Committee, 1998-1999; Nominating Committee, 1997-98; Book Exhibit Chair, annual meeting, 1997; Graduate Committee, 1995-96

Southern Historical Association: Chair, Program Committee, 2014 Annual Meeting; Executive Council, 2010-2012; Editorial Board, 2009-2012; Nominating Committee, 2003-2004; Simkins Book Prize Committee, 2002-3; Program Committee, annual meeting, New Orleans, 2001

Richards Civil War Era Center, Penn State University: Academic Advisory Committee

Tobin Project: Organizer with Naomi Lamoreaux and Maggie McKinley, Working Group on America Democracy, 2017-

Other:

Interview, "The Durrs of Montgomery," documentary by the Center for Documenting Justice, University of Alabama.

Interview, "The Civil War through the Window of Art," documentary by Jesse Bryant Wilder. Faculty, Graduate Student Workshop, Law and Society Association, St. Louis, Missouri, May 1997

INSTITUTIONAL SERVICE

Duke University

Distinguished Professors Selection Committee, 2017-
Bass Connections, Advisory Committee, 2013-2014
Trustee's Standing Committee on Academic Affairs, 2010-2011
University Priorities Committee, 2010-2011
Duke liaison and reviewer, ACLS New Faculty Fellows, 2009

Provost's Academic Programs Committee, member 2008-2010; chair, 2010-2011
Duke University Press Editorial Board, 2003-2006, 2007-2010
Co-Director, Institute for Critical U.S. Studies, Fall Semester 2005
Steering Committee, Institute for Critical U.S. Studies, 2004-2007
Member, Planning Committee for the Institute in Critical U.S. Studies, 2003-2004
Search Committee, History Department Chair, 2002-2003
Organizational Committee, Program on the Americas, 2001-2003
Arts and Sciences Council, Duke University, 2001
Selection Committee, Franklin Center Research Grants, Duke University, 2001

History Department

Associate Chair, History Department, 2003-2004, Fall Semester 2004, Spring Semester, 2010
By laws revisions, Committee Chair, Spring Semester 2016
Carnegie Initiative on the Doctorate, Chair and Departmental Coordinator, 2003-2004
Colloquium Committee, 2018-
Director of Graduate Studies, History Department, 2005-2006
Executive Committee, History Department, Duke University, 2001-2004, Spring Semester 2010;
2015-2016
Graduate Committee: Chair, 2003-2004, Fall Semester 2004, Spring Semester 2010; Member, 2000-
2001, 2005-2006, 2008-2009
Mentor to two junior faculty, 2008-present
Promotion Committees, 2008
Renewal Committees, 2004, 2006, 2009
Search Committees: chair, Colonial North American History, 2013-2014; member, Latino/a History
2008; co-chair, joint position with the Public Policy Department, 2001-2002
Selection Committee, Anne Firor Scott Awards, Women's Studies Program and History Department,
Duke University, 2001, 2003, 2004
Strategic Planning Committee, member, 2002
Tenure Committees, 2008, 2009, 2010
Undergraduate Awards Committee, History Department, Duke University, 2001, 2003

Department of Gender, Sexuality, and Feminist Studies

Tenure committees, 2015, 2018