Letter from the Dean
Dear Colleagues,

For the 2018–19 academic year, we’re thrilled to welcome a talented new group of faculty members to the Arts & Sciences community. Thanks to the efforts of faculty search committees, department chairs, program directors, associate deans and other faculty, we continue to recruit and retain the best and brightest scholars, researchers and educators to join us in our important work.

As you may know, we are in a generational turnover of distinguished faculty, and those joining us this academic year are part of an ambitious campaign that will bring more than 200 new faculty members to the College in a relatively short number of years. By 2020, nearly half of the Arts & Sciences faculty are projected to have begun their UVA appointments within the last 10 years. We will continue to recruit at our highest caliber, seeking a diverse faculty to support an array of emerging cross-disciplinary initiatives.

The University of Virginia’s longstanding reputation for excellence in undergraduate education and graduate study is based on exceptional teaching and research, and this time of transition within the College only serves to strengthen this world-class institution. Arts & Sciences welcomes more than 30 new faculty members this year, and the biographies included in this booklet provide a snapshot of the varied gifts and talents each of them brings to the College. They all represent a key step forward in the College’s efforts to expand our vibrant and flourishing community.

To our new colleagues: on behalf of the College and Graduate School of Arts & Sciences, I celebrate your arrival and look forward to all that you will bring to the University of Virginia and beyond. Please do not hesitate to call on me, your chair, director, or other Arts & Sciences colleagues to help you in your transition to UVA. We are here to support you.

Sincerely,

Ian Baucom
Buckner W. Clay Dean
College and Graduate School of Arts & Sciences
University of Virginia
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Giulia Paoletti  
Assistant Professor  
McIntire Department of Art

A specialist of West African art history, Paoletti researches the histories of photography in Africa, the notions of mimesis and intermediality in the arts of Africa, exhibition histories and the intersection of Islam and art-making in the continent. She is working on a book manuscript on photography and portraiture in Senegal (1860–1960), based on two years of fieldwork. Her articles have appeared in Cahiers d’études africaines, The Metropolitan Museum Journal, Art in Translation, and African Arts. She also was a co-editor for The Expanded Subject: New Perspectives in Photographic Portraiture from Africa.

With a Ph.D. from Columbia University and an M.A. from the School of Oriental and African Studies, Paoletti received the 2017 Arts Council of the African Studies Association’s Roy Sieber Award for Best Dissertation. Her research was supported by fellowships from the Smithsonian, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and the Museum of Fine Arts in Houston. Before coming to UVA, she was the A.W. Mellon Foundation Curatorial Research Fellow at the Metropolitan Museum of Art (2016–18). She has co-curated exhibitions on African photography at the Dak’art Biennial, the Wallach Gallery (NY) and the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Paoletti will teach seminars on the histories of photography in Africa, the arts of Africa and exhibition histories this year. Her students will be exposed to a variety of aesthetics, media, and approaches—from archaeological objects to contemporary installations, from masquerade to Afro-Futurism—and will learn to use local collections as privileged sites to study these works and their histories.
Using theoretical models to guide ground and space-based observations, Ilse Cleeves explores how the fundamental building blocks of planets, comets, and other bodies come together to form the diversity of planets both within and beyond our solar system.

By studying the chemical compositions of planet-forming disks around young stars, Cleeves aims to understand how common the ingredients are for forming habitable planets. In a 2014 Science paper, she modeled water chemistry within such a disk, finding that about half of Earth’s water was originally inherited from the birth interstellar cloud prior to the formation of the sun itself, suggesting that water is prevalent throughout the planet-formation process.

Cleeves completed her Ph.D. in astronomy at the University of Michigan and has a B.S. in physics from Rice University. Last year, she received the Annie Jump Cannon award from the American Astronomical Society (AAS); the previous year, she received the Baldwin Award in Astrophysics and Space Science. Cleeves comes to the University of Virginia from the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics, where she held a Hubble Postdoctoral Fellowship, as well as the Institute for Theory and Computation and the Submillimeter Array fellowships.

Cleeves will continue this research at UVA, utilizing facilities such as the Atacama Large Millimeter/Submillimeter Array and the James Webb Space Telescope scheduled to launch in the coming years.
Using single-cell genomics to identify neuronal subtypes in key brain regions, John Campbell investigates the complex and interconnected neural processes behind appetite, digestion, and metabolism. Campbell and his molecular neurobiology lab apply genetic tools to map each neuronal subtype’s synaptic circuitry and monitor and manipulate their activity in vivo, revealing their physiological role. His current focus is parasympathetic neuron populations of the hindbrain that control different functions of the digestive system, including gastric motility and insulin secretion.

Campbell’s postdoctoral work led to two first-author research publications in *Nature Neuroscience* and five contributing-author publications in *Nature Neuroscience, Neuron*, and *eLife*. His doctoral work resulted in three first-author publications (*Journal of Neurotrauma, International Journal of Neurology & Brain Disorders*) as well as one contributing-author publication (*Epilepsia*). His work is currently supported by an American Diabetes Association Pathway to Stop Diabetes award and has previously been supported by an American Heart Association postdoctoral fellow award.

Campbell received a B.S. in biological psychology from William & Mary, a Ph.D. in neuroscience from Virginia Commonwealth University’s School of Medicine, and completed a postdoctoral research fellowship with Harvard Medical School and Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center. He previously held an instructor position at Harvard Medical School.

For his first academic year at UVA, John plans to build his lab in the Department of Biology and pursue opportunities for collaborative projects across departments. He will continue his ongoing investigations into parasympathetic control gastric motility and glucose metabolism, and pilot studies into the parasympathetic control of cardiovascular function.
As an evolutionary ecologist, Amanda Gibson tracks the evolution of natural populations, while also using experimental evolution to control the evolutionary process in the lab. Gibson has worked on snails and their parasites in New Zealand, sexually transmitted infections of plants in Europe, and tiny nematode roundworms in the United States. The questions tackled by her research include:

• Why is sex such a popular reproductive strategy?

• How do host populations evolve to defend against infectious diseases?

• Why are infectious diseases more prevalent in some areas than others?

Gibson’s work has been published in *Evolution Letters*, *Evolution*, *American Naturalist*, the *Journal of Evolutionary Biology*, and *Evolution: Education and Outreach*. She has received funding from the Fulbright Program, the National Science Foundation, and the National Institutes of Health. The Society for the Study of Evolution awarded Gibson the Huxley Award (2016) for evolution education and the Dobzhansky Prize (2018), which recognizes the career of an outstanding young evolutionary biologist. She also received the John Maynard Smith Prize (2017) from the European Society for Evolutionary Biology for achievements in the field.

Gibson received her B.A. in biology from Amherst College (2008) and her Ph.D. in evolution, ecology and behavior from Indiana University (2016). She held a postdoctoral position at Emory University with the Fellowships in Research and Science Teaching program.

Gibson is scheduled to join the Arts & Sciences faculty in January 2019. She looks forward to setting up her lab, finding local field sites for her nematode research, and developing a course on the biology of infectious diseases.
As a scholar of race, culture, and the environment, Tony Perry researches the environmental history of slavery in Maryland. In this work, Perry examines how the institution of slavery informed enslaved people’s relationship to the environment, how diversity among the enslaved contributed to asymmetries in this relationship, and how said relationship diverged from that of slaveholders. He argues that across several dimensions of the environment—the land and landscape, the aquatic, the weather, and the supernatural—enslaved women and men relied heavily on the latter as the primary arena of power from which they drew, even as they frequently found the environment an antagonizing entity in their daily lives.

Drawing on this research, Perry has published an article in *Slavery & Abolition* titled “In Bondage when Cold was King: The Frigid Terrain of Slavery in Antebellum Maryland” (2017). He completed this piece during his time in the Carter G. Woodson Institute for African-American and African Studies as a predoctoral fellow. He is currently working on his first book, based on this research.

Perry received his Ph.D. in American Studies from the University of Maryland, College Park, an M.A. in American Studies from Purdue University, and a B.A. in English and Africana Studies from Bowdoin College. He is teaching a course this fall on the environmental history of slavery in the United States.
Giulio Celotto’s primary research interests focus on Latin literature, in particular that of the Imperial Age. His scholarship attempts to uncover the deep political meaning of Latin epic poems through a systematic analysis of their narrative structure. He is currently working on a book project on the literary adaptation of the cosmological dialectic of love and strife in Lucan’s first century CE epic *Bellum Civile*.

His other research interests include the intersection of gender and genre in Greek and Latin poetry, and the reception of classical works in modern and contemporary literature and art. Celotto contributed two chapters to the collection of essays *Vergil’s Elegy and Elegists’ Vergil: Gender and Genre*, and to *Brill’s Companion to the Reception of Alexander the Great*, respectively. He recently published two articles on the Greek poets Hesiod and Leonidas of Tarentum, in the journals *Hermes* and *Mnemosyne*, respectively.

Celotto completed his B.A. (2007) and M.A. (2009) with honors at the University of Naples “Federico II,” and received his Ph.D. in Classics (2017) from Florida State University. After spending a research period at the University of California, Irvine, he served as a visiting assistant professor at Concordia College.

This fall, Celotto will be teaching an accelerated elementary Latin course for students with previous knowledge of Latin, and an advanced course on Pliny the Younger. In the spring, he will be offering an Intermediate Latin course, and two advanced courses on Lucretius and Juvenal.
An award-winning scholar whose research focuses on Roman sexuality, education and rhetoric, Anthony Corbeill joins the Arts & Sciences faculty after 26 years at the University of Kansas. After spending last year on sabbatical at All Souls and Corpus Christi Colleges (Oxford) and the Institute for Classical Studies (London), he is co-authoring a commentary on Cicero’s *De Haruspicum Responsis* with Andrew Riggsby (University of Texas at Austin).

Corbeill is the author of three previous books: *Controlling Laughter: Political Humor in the Late Roman Republic* (Princeton 1996); *Nature Embodied: Gesture in Ancient Rome* (Princeton 2004); and *Sexing the World: Grammatical Gender and Biological Sex in Ancient Rome* (Princeton 2015), which received the 2016 Charles J. Goodwin Award of Merit from the Society for Classical Studies. He also has published on ancient sexuality, education, and Latin poetry.

Corbeill received his M.A. in ancient Greek and his Ph.D. in classical languages from the University of California, Berkeley, and his bachelor’s degree from the University of Michigan. His fellowships include appointments at the Thesaurus Linguae Latinae in Munich, the American Academy in Rome, the Institute for Research in the Humanities (University of Wisconsin-Madison), and a term at All Souls College (Oxford). He has been a visiting professor at the University of Michigan and at Vassar College.
Exploring the implications of advances in artificial intelligence (AI) for our economy, for society, and for humanity, Anton Korinek analyzes how to shape economic policy to respond to rapid technological change. He studies how to steer progress in AI so as to maximize the beneficial impact for humanity and to avoid large increases in inequality. In earlier work, Korinek focused on policy measures to prevent financial crises. He also developed an influential framework for regulating international capital flows to emerging economies and analyzed under what conditions countries need to coordinate their policy actions. His work has won several fellowships and awards, including from the Institute for New Economic Thinking.

Born in Austria, Korinek studied economics, mathematics and law at the University of Vienna and worked for three years at the intersection of IT and finance. After earning his Ph.D. from Columbia University, he was an assistant professor at Johns Hopkins University and the University of Maryland. He also has been a visiting scholar at Harvard University, the Bank for International Settlements, the International Monetary Fund, and the World Bank, as well as a frequent visitor to numerous central banks.

This academic year, Anton plans to continue his work on artificially intelligent agents operating in our economy, and he will teach courses on the implications of AI for the future of work in both the Department of Economics and the Darden School of Business.
Applying econometric methods to real-world problems, Lidia Kosenkova develops new nonparametric and semiparametric tools to study questions of industrial organization. In her research on timber auctions, she examines how rational participants are and how their level of rationality and wrong expectations affect the profit of firms.

Kosenkova received the Richard Rosenberg Award in 2017 for promising graduate student research at Penn State University. She presented her research at the 2018 Stanford Institute for Theoretical Economics conference and has been a featured presenter at seminars in the United States, Australia, Canada and Mexico.

Kosenkova earned her Ph.D. in economics from Penn State (2018). She holds a master’s degree in economics from Russia’s New Economic School (2012), and a bachelor’s degree, with highest honors, in mathematics and computer science from Moscow State University (2009).

This academic year, Kosenkova will teach ECON 4720, a seminar on econometric methods.
Eric Leeper
Paul Goodloe McIntire Professor of Economics
Department of Economics

A research associate at the National Bureau of Economic Research and director of the Virginia Center for Economic Policy at the University of Virginia, Eric M. Leeper is also an external advisor to Sweden’s central bank and a member of the Research Council of the Bundesbank.

His research focuses on theoretical and empirical models of macroeconomic policy, with special emphasis on monetary-fiscal policy interactions. One line of work focuses on a new mechanism—called the “fiscal theory of the price level”—by which fiscal policy can influence economic activity and inflation. Leeper’s recent research examines the economic impacts of government spending, the macroeconomic consequences of alternative resolutions to long-run fiscal imbalances, and the modeling of the “fiscal limit” and sovereign risk.

Leeper received a Ph.D. in economics from the University of Minnesota (1989) and a B.S. in economics from George Mason University (1980). Before joining the Arts & Sciences faculty, Leeper spent 23 years at Indiana University and eight years in the Federal Reserve System. Leeper was born in Isfahan, Iran and spent his school-age years in Taiwan, Malaysia, Seattle, Hong Kong, and Northern Virginia.

In the coming years, Leeper’s research will focus on the policies that allowed the United States to recover from the Great Depression and on a project with the International Monetary Fund to quantify fiscal limits across countries.
A faculty research fellow at the National Bureau of Economic Research, Lee Lockwood researches public finance and labor economics, with a special interest in the effects of government social insurance programs on behavior and welfare. His research has been supported by the National Science Foundation and the National Institutes of Health. His teaching has been recognized by the Northwestern Associated Student Government, which named him to its Faculty Honor Roll in 2015. Lockwood spent the 2016–17 academic year as a visiting fellow at the Stanford Institute for Economic Policy Research at Stanford University.

Lockwood holds a Ph.D. in economics from the University of Chicago, an M.S. in economics from the London School of Economics, and a B.S. in industrial engineering and economics from Northwestern University. Before joining the University of Virginia’s College and Graduate School of Arts & Sciences, he was an assistant professor of economics at Northwestern.

Lockwood spent the 2017–18 academic year on research leave as a W. Glenn Campbell and Rita Ricardo-Campbell National Fellow at the Hoover Institution at Stanford University. This year, he will be teaching a seminar on the economics of the public sector, and half of the department’s “Public Economics II” course.
A literary critic, sound historian, and medical humanist, Kiera Allison specializes in the history of listening and sound in the context of the modern clinic. Her research covers the last two centuries of cardiology, neurology, and psychoanalysis (from the invention of the stethoscope in 1819 to the rise of Freud and the talking cure in the 1890s, to the narrative-medicine movement of the latter 20th century), which she studies against larger trends in postclassical dialogue, poetics, and music.

Allison was a doctoral fellow of the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada (2007–2010), and a postdoctoral fellow at Emory University’s Fox Center for Humanistic Inquiry (2017–18) where she worked on her current book-in-progress, Sound Relations: The Culture of Listening in Modern Medicine. Her articles have appeared in Victorian Poetry and The Journal of British Studies and have been solicited for a forthcoming volume on Victorian verse.

She earned a B.A. in English from the University of Toronto, and a Ph.D. in English language and literature from the University of Virginia.

This academic year, Allison will be teaching classes titled “Public Speaking” and “Writing about Medicine,” while researching the uses of narrative and close-listening in medical and premedical education.
An interdisciplinary scholar committed to studying how writing, language, and assumptions about literacy promote and complicate the wellbeing of Black women and African-American communities at large, Tamika L. Carey specializes in cultural and feminist rhetoric practices, African-American rhetorical and literacy traditions, Black women’s writing and Intellectual histories, and the memoir.


Before joining the Arts & Sciences faculty, Carey served as an English faculty member and a Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies faculty affiliate at the University at Albany, SUNY. She holds a doctorate from Syracuse University’s Composition and Cultural Rhetoric Program and a Certificate of Advanced Studies from its Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies department.

This fall, she will teach an advanced writing seminar on the multicultural memoir. She looks forward to teaching courses in Black women’s writing and rhetoric, and African-American rhetorics.
At the intersection of novel studies, new media studies and writing studies, Anastatia Curley’s research considers the relationship between the form and history of the novel and the ways that social media encourages users to share themselves with the rest of the world. Her book project, tentatively titled *Friends and Followers*, examines techniques of character in contemporary novels and the modes of relation they imply.

Her 2016 essay, “Smaller and Less Beautiful: Refusal Aesthetics in the Contemporary Novel,” was published by the quarterly journal, *Politics/Letters*. Her work also has appeared in *The Atlantic*, and she has a piece about the politics of domesticity forthcoming in *Dissent*.

Curley earned her Ph.D. in English from the University of Virginia (2018) and holds a bachelor’s degree in English from Yale University (2007) and a master’s degree in Irish studies from Boston College (2012). This academic year, she will be teaching “Writing and Critical Inquiry” seminars on writing about music and a graduate-level pedagogy seminar.
As a scholar of rhetoric, T. Kenny Fountain studies the ways words and images shape our perceptions, thoughts, feelings and actions—for good and for ill. His research in the rhetoric of science, technical communication, and disciplinary writing explores how we come to see and know the world according to the models and frameworks provided by our academic, professional and political communities.

He is the author of *Rhetoric in the Flesh: Trained Vision, Technical Expertise, and the Gross Anatomy Lab* (Routledge, 2014), an ethnographic study of the human cadaver lab that examines how rhetorical discourses, visual objects, and embodied practices facilitate learning while simultaneously shaping medical and dental students’ conceptions of the human body.

Fountain’s current book project, *To See What is Persuasive: Politics, Affect, and the Rhetorical Imagination*, reads contemporary political texts in light of ancient Roman rhetorical theory and recent cognitive science, in order to demonstrate how a kind of verbal vivacity stirs our passions by exploiting our memories, identifications and prejudices.

Fountain earned his Ph.D. in rhetoric and scientific communication from the University of Minnesota. Previously, he was the Director of the Writing Program at Case Western Reserve University. As the new Director of Writing Across the Curriculum, Fountain will assist the Quality Enhancement Program focused on student writing and will work with individual schools, departments and programs that seek to incorporate writing instruction into their courses. This fall, Fountain will teach the “Writing About Science and Technology” seminar.
An award-winning novelist, Micheline Aharonian Marcom has examined a variety of historical subjects in her literary work, including a trilogy of books about the Armenian genocide and its 20th-century aftermath, and the “Scorched Earth” campaign in Guatemala in the 1980s. Marcom also has written a trilogy of books narrated by female characters in the throes of domestic breakdowns incited by adultery, unrequited love, and betrayal. Her forthcoming novel, *The New American*, tells the story of a young DREAMer who is deported to Guatemala and makes his way back home riding on the tops of cargo trains, highlighting the current instability and violence in the Central American nations of Honduras, El Salvador and Guatemala and the large migrations that have consequently ensued.

Marcom has received fellowships and awards from the Lannan Foundation, the Whiting Foundation, the US Artists’ Foundation, and a PEN/USA award for fiction. She was a Fulbright Senior Specialist teaching creative writing in Beirut, Lebanon.

Marcom has a B.A. in comparative literature from the University of California, Berkeley and an MFA in creative writing from Mills College. She taught creative writing at Mills College for 15 years and was on the faculty of Goddard College’s MFA program for 10 years.

She is the co-founder and creative director of The New American Story Project (www.newamericanstoryproject.org), a digital oral history project enabling new Americans to tell their own stories. Its first project, “Welcome Children: Voices of the Central American Refugee Crisis,” focuses on recently arrived unaccompanied minors from Central America who fled violence in their countries to seek refuge in the United States. The project uses videos, audio clips, monologues, photography, and infographics to present their stories, contextualizing them with interviews of scholars, immigration attorneys and judges, and Central American experts.
Steve Parks
Associate Professor
Department of English

A composition/rhetoric scholar who works at the intersection of literacy and social change, Steve Parks researches and creates community projects rooted in local, national, and international contexts focused on social and economic justice. Over the last 20 years, he has worked with local communities in the United States, Europe, and the Middle East and North Africa to build community writing/organizing projects designed to enable the politically disenfranchised to advocate for their collective concerns and to gain increased agency over their own lives.

His publications include Class Politics: The Movement for a Students Right to Their Own Language (Parlor Press, second edition, 2013); Gravyland: Writing Beyond the Curriculum in the City of Brother Love (Syracuse University Press, 2010); Circulating Communities: The Tactics and Strategies of Community Publishing (co-editor, Lexington Books, 2011); and Listening to Our Elders: Working and Writing for Change (co-editor, Parlor Press, 2011). He has received approximately $2 million in grant funding from the Knight Foundation, the American Association of Colleges and Universities, the European Endowment for Democracy, the Euro-Mediterranean Human Rights Foundation and other organizations. Parks is the founder of New City Community Press (newcitycommunitypress.com) and co-founder of Syrians for Truth and Justice (stj-sy.com).

Parks earned his Ph.D. from the University of Pittsburgh. Prior to joining the University of Virginia, he was a tenured professor at Temple University and Syracuse University.

During his first year at University of Virginia, Parks is focusing on connecting his research and classrooms with the local Charlottesville community, while continuing to develop his international human rights work in Syria, Algeria, and Morocco.
Kevin G. Smith
Assistant Professor, General Faculty
Department of English

Sitting at the intersection of writing studies and the digital humanities, Kevin G. Smith’s research interests include digital rhetoric and writing, markup languages, rhetorical genre studies, writing pedagogies, and writing program administration. His research is broadly concerned with the rhetorical practices of students and other writers across contexts working within and through digital technologies.

Smith’s work has appeared in *Computers and Composition*, *Research in the Teaching of English*, and *Digital Humanities Quarterly*. He also has worked on a range of digital humanities projects, including Our Marathon (marathon.library.neostate.edu), which was named the “Best DH project for public audiences” in 2013 by the Digital Humanities Awards. He is currently working on revising his dissertation project, an Institutional Review Board-approved teacher research study that examines a novel approach to rhetorical genre pedagogy, into a print/digital manuscript. That project is titled “(Re)Making/(Re)Marking: Genre and Markup in the Writing Classroom.”

Smith earned a B.A. in English from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (2009), an M.A. in new media studies from DePaul University (2012), and a Ph.D. in English (with a concentration in rhetoric and composition) from Northeastern University (2018). This academic year, he will be teaching two “Writing and Critical Inquiry” courses focused on emerging forms of digital writing, “Writing in the Age of the Algorithm,” and an advanced writing seminar on writing space and place, called “Writing Charlottesville.”
Studying Earth surface processes and changes with a focus on glaciated landscapes and coastal environments, Lauren Simkins aims to understand the decay of glaciers in the past and associated sea level changes. She will teach courses that include research- and field-based observations of Earth surface processes that are societally relevant to help students build awareness of modern and future environmental changes.

Simkins is a principal investigator of a five-year project within the International Thwaites Glacier Collaboration jointly funded by the National Science Foundation Office of Polar Programs and the Natural Environment Research Council. The project is managing an integrated suite of marine and sub-ice shelf research activities aimed at improving knowledge of processes leading to collapse of Thwaites Glacier, one of the largest sources of modern sea level rise from the Antarctic Ice Sheet. Simkins has published peer-reviewed journal articles in *Nature Geoscience*, *Proceedings of the Academy of National Sciences*, *Marine Geology*, *The Cryosphere*, *Quaternary Science Reviews*, and *Sedimentology*.

Before coming to the University of Virginia, Simkins held a postdoctoral position in the Department of Earth, Environmental, and Planetary Sciences at Rice University. She holds a B.S. in geology from Oklahoma State University and a Ph.D. in geological sciences from the University of California, Santa Barbara.

In addition to her continued work in Antarctica, Simkins plans to develop projects in Washington state in areas formerly covered by the Cordilleran Ice Sheet and along the Virginia coast. During her first year at UVA, Lauren is teaching courses for non-majors called “Beaches, Coasts and Rivers” and “Polar Environments.”
Holding a joint appointment in the Corcoran Department of History and the Carter G. Woodson Institute for African-American and African Studies, Kevin K. Gaines is the Julian Bond Professor of Civil Rights and Social Justice. The new professorship was created to honor the legacy of Bond, the civil rights champion and former University of Virginia professor. Gaines’ current research is on the problems and projects of racial integration in the United States during and after the civil rights movement.

He is author of *Uplifting the Race: Black Leadership, Politics, and Culture During the Twentieth Century* (University of North Carolina Press, 1996), which was awarded the American Studies Association’s John Hope Franklin Book Prize. His book, *American Africans in Ghana: Black Expatriates and the Civil Rights Era* (UNC Press, 2006), was a Choice Outstanding Academic Title. Gaines is a past president of the American Studies Association (2009–10).

A graduate of Harvard University (B.A.), and Brown University (Ph.D., American Studies), Gaines has taught at Princeton University, the University of Texas, Austin, the University of Michigan and Cornell University.

This coming academic year, Gaines will be completing a global history of African-Americans and researching and writing on the integrationist projects of African-American activists, artists and intellectuals, interventions that redefined blackness and acknowledged the relationship of structural and ideological forms of racism to racial capitalism, patriarchy, and homophobia.
Caroline E. Janney is the John L. Nau III Professor of the American Civil War in the Corcoran Department of History and director of the John L. Nau Center for Civil War History. Her scholarship focuses on the Civil War with an emphasis on memory, gender, and race.

Janney has published five books, including *Burying the Dead but Not the Past: Ladies’ Memorial Associations and the Lost Cause* (University of North Carolina Press, 2008); *Petersburg to Appomattox: The End of the War in Virginia* (University of North Carolina Press, 2018); and *Remembering the Civil War: Reunion and the Limits of Reconciliation* (University of North Carolina Press, 2013). The latter was selected for the History Book Club and Military Book Club and won the Charles S. Sydnor Award by the Southern Historical Association as well as the Jefferson Davis Award by the American Civil War Museum. Janney serves as a co-editor of the University of North Carolina Press’s Civil War America Series and is a past president of the Society of Civil War Historians.

She earned her B.A. from the University of Virginia’s Department of Politics and her Ph.D. from the University of Virginia’s Corcoran Department of History. She was previously a professor of history at Purdue University.

This coming year, Janney will teach graduate and undergraduate courses on the Civil War and 19th-century United States. As director of the Nau Center, she looks forward to hosting speakers on Civil War-era topics, overseeing undergraduate internships at historic sites, and engaging in conversations with faculty, students, and alumni about the ways in which the Civil War still permeates our society.
A historian of modern France and its colonial empire overseas, Jennifer Sessions researches the 19th-century history of French Algeria. She is especially interested in the linkages between France and its colonies, and the intersections of culture and politics.

The French Colonial Historical Society awarded Sessions the Philip and Mary Alice Boucher Prize for her first book, *By Sword and Plow: France and the Conquest of Algeria* (Cornell University Press, 2011). Her research has been supported by grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Harry Frank Guggenheim Foundation, and she has held fellowships at the John W. Kluge Center for Scholars and the Institut d’Etudes Avancées de Paris.

Before joining the University of Virginia, Sessions taught at the University of Iowa. She earned her Ph.D. in history at the University of Pennsylvania and her bachelor's degree in history and literature from Harvard and Radcliffe Colleges.

She will be teaching courses on modern France and the relationship between France and Algeria in the coming year, while continuing work on two research projects about French Algeria: a study of the settler village of Margueritte and the anti-colonial revolt that took place there in 1901, and a biography of the equestrian statue that stood on the central square of Algiers throughout the colonial period.
Examining the intersections of African-American history, cultural history, and the study of the United States in global and transnational dimensions, Penny M. Von Eschen studies the projects and subjectivities of critics, activists, and artists as well as official multi-national state archives. Through her work, she explores the role of literature, popular culture, and mass media representations as a broader public and cultural arena for the making of foreign policy.


Von Eschen received her Ph.D. in history from Columbia University (1994). She is currently working on a book project titled “London 1948: Katherine Dunham and the crisis of authority in anticolonial counterpublics.”
Trained as a numerical analyst, James (Jim) Rolf currently focuses on the scholarship of teaching and learning mathematics. He has published a number of articles and is a co-author of the book *Explorations in Complex Analysis* (Mathematical Association of America, 2012). His work has been supported by numerous grants funded by the Association of American Universities, the National Science Foundation, Microsoft Corporation, Yale’s Center for Teaching and Learning, and others.

Rolf received a Ph.D. from Duke University in 1997, a Master of Divinity from Southwestern Theological Seminary, and a bachelor’s of science from Baylor University. Before coming to the University of Virginia, he served as the Shizuo Kakutani Lecturer at Yale University, as an associate professor of mathematics at the United States Air Force Academy and as an assistant professor at the United States Military Academy at West Point.

Joining the Department of Mathematics, Rolf will teach Math 1320 (Integral Calculus) this next year and will help design metrics to assess changes in student learning and attitudes in this course when changes to course design are implemented. He also will continue to work with other institutions as they seek to implement and assess innovative ways to help incoming students prepare for quantitative reasoning requirements at their institution.
A condensed matter theorist whose research focuses on quantum many-particle systems, Dmytro Pesin studies the effects of particle correlations and disorder physics in topological systems, providing guidance for material research by considering realistic aspects of topological phases. His research has been sponsored by several awards from the National Science Foundation, and his published work has appeared in Physical Review and Nature.

Pesin earned his Ph.D. degree in physics from the University of Washington (2009). He held a postdoctoral position at the University of Texas at Austin (2009–2012), followed by assistant and associate professorships at the University of Utah (2012–2018).

At the University of Virginia, Pesin plans to study the effects of band geometry on the electronic hydrodynamics in clean crystals. He also is working to develop the theory of current-induced phenomena in three-dimensional metals with nontrivial band geometry and will teach a graduate course on electricity and magnetism course next spring.
Using the recently developed techniques of quantum gas microscopy, Peter Schauss is working on quantum simulation of bosonic and fermionic quantum many-body systems with ultracold atoms in optical lattices. The single-site and single-atom resolved imaging of these systems enables a new view on strongly correlated condensed-matter-like systems with full tunability of all relevant parameters of the Hamiltonian, reaching into regimes where exact calculations on classical computers become inaccessible.

During his graduate studies, Schauss pioneered the quantum gas microscopy of long-range interacting Rydberg atoms in optical lattices. He was also involved in a series of pathbreaking experiments on the Bose-Hubbard model.

As postdoctoral scholar in Princeton, he worked on several high-impact studies of microscopic Hubbard model physics with ultracold fermions, with the latest results focusing on transport.

Schauss obtained his bachelor’s in physics and computer science and master’s at the Technical University of Darmstadt, Germany. He received his Ph.D. from LMU Munich working at the Max-Planck Institute of Quantum Optics in Germany. Before joining UVA he was a postdoctoral research scholar on a Dicke Fellowship at Princeton University (2015–2018).

This fall at UVA Schauss will teach a course on optics. He will also start his laboratory focusing on quantum simulation of exotic Hubbard models using quantum gas microscopy, and is looking for students interested in experimental work.
Justin Kirkland is an associate professor in the Department of Politics. His research focuses on legislative politics, representation, and U.S. state politics. In particular, he studies how legislators’ choices are constrained by the types of publics they represent. His work has concentrated on the U.S. Congress, U.S. state legislatures, and the U.K. House of Commons.

Kirkland is the coauthor of *Indecision in American Legislatures* (University of Michigan Press, 2018) with Jeffrey Harden (Notre Dame). He has also published research in major political science journals focusing on collaboration between legislators, ideology, and party disloyalty in Congress and the House of Commons, and the influence of empathy on the formation of political ambition. He was the recipient of the 2018 Emerging Scholar Award from the Legislative Studies Section of the APSA, and his research has been funded by the NSF and been the recipient of several disciplinary awards.

He received his bachelor’s degree from Campbell University, his master’s from Appalachian State University, and completed his Ph.D. work at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. From 2012–2018, Kirkland was an assistant and then associate professor of political science at the University of Houston. In the coming year, he expects to complete his second book manuscript, *Roll Call Rebels: Strategic Party Disloyalty in the U.S. and U.K.*, begin new studies on sunshine/open access laws and their influence on state legislative behavior, and continue to push forward on his work examining the role of empathy in American political attitudes.
Jennifer Lawless is the Commonwealth Professor of Politics at the University of Virginia. Prior to joining the UVA faculty, she was a professor of government at American University and the director of the Women & Politics Institute. Before that, she was an assistant and then associate professor at Brown University.

Lawless’s research focuses on political ambition, campaigns and elections, and media and politics. She is the author or co-author of six books, including *Women on the Run: Gender, Media, and Political Campaigns in a Polarized Era* (Cambridge University Press, 2016), with Danny Hayes; and *It Still Takes a Candidate: Why Women Don’t Run for Office* (Cambridge University Press, 2005), with Richard L. Fox. Her research, which has been supported by the National Science Foundation, has appeared in numerous academic journals, and is regularly cited in the popular press. She is an associate editor of the *American Journal of Political Science*, and holds an appointment as a non-resident senior fellow at the Brookings Institution.

Lawless graduated from Union College with a B.A. in political science, and Stanford University with an M.A. and Ph.D. in political science. In 2006, she sought the Democratic nomination for the U.S. House of Representatives in Rhode Island’s 2nd Congressional District. Although she lost the race, she remains an obsessive political junkie.
Shiran Victoria Shen
Assistant Professor
Department of Politics

Seeking to integrate relevant techniques from political science engineering, earth systems, computer science and other disciplines to illuminate the problems of energy and the environment, Shiran Victoria Shen explores how incentives shape environmental politics, especially in China and India.

Shen is currently writing a book based on her dissertation, *The Political Pollution Cycle: An Inconvenient Truth and How To Break It*. An article-length version of two dissertation chapters has won two “Best Paper” awards from the American Political Science Association (2017 Paul A. Sabatier Award) and the Southern Political Science Association (2018 Malcolm Jewell Award), respectively. Her research has been generously funded by many organizations, including the Horowitz Foundation for Social Policy and the Phi Beta Kappa Northern California Association.

During her graduate studies at Stanford University (2013–18), Shen created her own path by simultaneously completing a Ph.D. in political science and an M.S. in civil & environmental engineering, with a concentration in atmosphere and energy. Before Stanford, Shen graduated Phi Beta Kappa and Sigma Xi from Swarthmore College with concentrations in political science and environmental studies (2012).

This academic year, Shen is teaching three classes reflecting her research interests: “The Politics of Air Pollution,” “Environmental Politics in China,” and “Approaches to Environmental Politics.”
How do we remember? Nicole Long seeks to address this question through her research. Her work investigates the neural mechanisms which underlie our ability to organize our memories. Long records brain activity using both scalp electroencephalography and functional magnetic resonance imaging while subjects perform memory tasks. She uses multiple data analytic approaches to understand how we use top-down control and bottom-up inputs to guide memory formation and retrieval.

Long’s work has been published in multiple academic journals, including *Current Biology* and the *Journal of Neuroscience*. She received an Early Career Award from the Society for Experimental Psychology and Cognitive Science for a manuscript published in the *Journal of Experimental Psychology: Learning, Memory, and Cognition*.

Long received her Ph.D. in psychology from the University of Pennsylvania (2015). Prior to joining the Arts & Sciences faculty at UVA, Long was a postdoctoral scholar at the University of Oregon (2015-2018). She received her bachelor’s degree in psychology, with high honors, from New York University (2008).

At UVA, Long will continue her research and will teach cognitive neuroscience lecture and seminar courses.
A scholar of modern and contemporary Spanish literary history, cinema and culture, Samuel Amago returns to the University of Virginia from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where he served as chair of the Department of Romance Studies and as the Bowman and Gordon Gray Distinguished Term Professor of Spanish.

He is the author of *Spanish Cinema in the Global Context: Film on Film* (Routledge, 2013) and *True Lies: Narrative Self-Consciousness in the Contemporary Spanish Novel* (Bucknell University Press, 2006). Amago also coedited the volumes *Vademécum del cine iberoamericano: Métodos y teorías* (with Eugenia Afinoguénova and Kathryn Everly) and *Unearthing Franco’s Legacy: Mass Graves and the Recovery of Historical Memory in Spain* (University of Notre Dame Press, 2010, with Carlos Jerez-Farrán).

Amago is currently at work on a book on waste and space in modern Spain.

Amago received his Ph.D. and M.A. in Spanish from the University of Virginia. He earned his bachelor’s degree from the University of California, San Diego.

This fall, Amago will teach a graduate seminar on *fin de siglo* Spanish narrative and visual culture, and an undergraduate course on recent developments in the contemporary Spanish novel.
Working to develop statistical methodologies for network analysis and machine learning, Tianxi Li focuses his research on statistical theory and computational efficiency.

Li has published work on network cross-validation by edge sampling (with E. Levina and J. Zhu), the use of prediction models on network-linked data (with E. Levina and J. Zhu), high-dimensional mixed graphical models (with J. Cheng, E. Levina and J. Zhu) and high-dimensional Bayesian inference for Gaussian directed acyclic graph models (with E. Ben-David, H. Massam and B. Rajaratnam). He has received Best Student Paper awards from the American Statistical Association’s (ASA) sections on nonparametric statistics (2017) and statistical programmers and analysts (2015). Li also received a Rackham Fellowship for international students during his time at the University of Michigan.

Li received his bachelor’s degree in statistics from Zhejiang University (2010), and holds a master’s degree from Stanford University (2012) and a Ph.D. from University of Michigan (2018). From 2012 to 2013, he worked as a full-time applied researcher for Microsoft.

In addition to teaching a graduate-level seminar this fall on linear models, Li will be researching models and inference algorithms for large-scale networks, as well as approximation algorithms with screening properties for large-scale linear systems.
A strategist and social scientist who enjoys studying human behavior through the lens of communication, Connie Chic Smith honed her expertise in intercultural communication and rhetoric over the course of her work and research in Washington, D.C., London, Paris, South Africa, and beyond. She has worked for two members of Congress and has served as a senior staff member for federal initiatives and commissions. Smith has served on various mayoral commissions in Washington, D.C. and was the co-founder and vice president of the Urban Think Tank Institute, the nation’s first think tank developed to analyze the significance of politics and policymaking within the hip hop community.

Her scholarly research and memberships in various academic organizations keeps her abreast of the changing global landscape. In the classroom, Smith challenges students to think critically about issues impacting their lives. She’s had them examine pop culture icons (Colin Kaepernick, Jay-Z, Prince, and Celia Cruz) and historical figures (Frederick Douglass, Cesar Chavez, and Shirley Chisholm) to aid them in developing a blueprint of what is possible.

Smith is a native of Brooklyn, New York and holds a B.A. from Albertus Magnus College, an M.A. from Georgetown University, and a Ph.D. and a graduate certificate in women’s studies from Howard University.

Smith is scheduled this fall to teach a COLA seminar for first-year students called “Brooklyn’s in the House,” and a spring seminar titled “From the Margins to the Center: African American English.”