



## Annual Report: 2018- 2019

### *Introduction*

**The Department of History is a collection of teachers, scholars, and students committed to excellence.** We are a diverse and vibrant community of learners engaging with each other through an exploration of the past. Our faculty members are prolific, accomplished, and award-winning historians who bring a powerful sense of mission to our classrooms, to our work within the profession, and to our partnerships with the community. Our students excel in the classroom and in their research and our alumni serve their fellow citizens in a variety of ways. Many of our graduates move into the field of professional public history, holding important positions throughout Connecticut and the nation. Other graduates serve in virtually every school district in the state, while others go on to pursue higher degrees at premier universities. All of our alumni are better writers, thinkers, and citizens after taking our classes.

**Excellence in the classroom is a distinguishing feature of the Department.** As in years past, we had an Excellence in Teaching finalist and semi-finalist this year, as well as many members of the Award's Honor Roll. One of our members was a "top tier" finalist for the 2020 Robert Foster Cherry Award for Great Teaching from Baylor University. Our students consistently rate our classroom teaching with the highest possible assessments. This year, we offered new, unique, and interesting courses that challenged students. We also take pride in our work advancing the scholarship of teaching and learning. A volume in a book series coedited by a faculty member won the American Historical Association's James Harvey Robinson Prize for "the most outstanding contribution to the teaching and learning of history" in the nation in the last two years.

**The quality and amount of our scholarship continues to exceed all expectations.** This year we saw faculty members produce books published by Yale and Oxford University presses, the two most prestigious publishers of history monographs in the world. Two other monographs and a revised edition and foreign language edition of another book were also published. Faculty members also published eight chapters in edited collections, edited a book, wrote four journal articles, and published ten book reviews. We gave invited talks and conference papers in New

Britain and throughout Connecticut, as well as Poland, the United Kingdom, Japan, the Netherlands, Canada, and New Zealand.

**We integrate our teaching and scholarship directly into our involvement with the community and our service to the University.** This is evident most clearly in both our Public History and Social Studies Education programs' community engagement efforts. Because of the national reputation of our Public History MA program, the National Council on Public History organization selected the Department to host its 2019 Annual Meeting. We partnered with over thirty community history organizations throughout the state in the planning and implementation of the conference. Our students and alumni worked together with our partners on panels, tours, and workshops. The conference also featured a major Department project on Connecticut's LGBTQ history. The project is a pop-up public history exhibit that started in one of our classes, was advanced through joint faculty-student research, and will now tour the state before coming a permanent part of the Connecticut Historical Society. Recognizing the Social Studies Education program's continued work to advance the quality of teaching across the state, the CT Council for the Social Studies presented the "Service to the Social Studies" Award to the Department. These two examples highlight major Department initiatives, but our community engagement efforts extend to almost every member of the faculty. We are especially honored that Prof. Warshauer's work that resulted in him being awarded this year's "Distinguished Service Award."

We are proud of our accomplishments this past academic year and of our contributions to the profession, the university, and the community. We look forward to building on this culture of success in the years to come.