

### Biographical Paragraph

I am a scholar of U.S. military history, of women's and gender history, of the history of U.S. foreign relations, and I have extensive experience in academic administration and advocacy. As both a historian and a higher education leader, I find that those identities reinforce each other more than they conflict. I went to graduate school because I wanted to work on intellectual problems; it has been a joy of my professional journey to connect and collaborate with colleagues who share that desire, whether it be in the classroom, in research, in public engagement, or in administration. While most of my time is not spent preparing lesson plans or parsing archival texts, I draw on my historian's training every day. When I synthesize information for different audiences or when I sift through stakeholder feedback, I draw on my skills of excavating the contours of scholarly debates, of meeting students where they are in the classroom, of connecting evidence and argument in order to clearly communicate.

As someone who was in graduate school during the Great Recession and worked for many years leading a national initiative exploring the value and purpose of a PhD in history, I believe strongly that newly minted graduates, be they PhDs or MAs, should not have to choose between the values that brought them to graduate study and reasonable compensation. Similarly, I believe that historians of all career stages are enriched by the pursuit of meaningful work, whatever that means to them.

### Candidacy Statement

In some sense, I have been an ambassador for military history ever since the SMH made me feel welcome as a graduate student, more than a decade ago. Since then, the SMH has been a touchstone of my scholarly development. As a past recipient of the Weigley Travel Grant and an honorable mention for the Coffman Prize, I know first-hand how important grants and awards can be to supporting and encouraging early career scholars. I know it will continue to nourish and sustain me, and others like me, throughout my career.

Working at the American Historical Association for eight years gave me insight into how scholarly associations like the SMH support the work of scholars and students. My career as an administrator, at the AHA and at Michigan, has given me experience working across organizations, listening to constituents with widely varied points of view, and a broad, yet nuanced, understanding of the higher education landscape. As the research and teaching enterprise of higher education is under threat, with history itself sometimes a political football, it is more important than ever to argue for the value of history and the humanities. In a world where conflict can feel omnipresent, I think the insights of military history can be especially valuable. Serving as a trustee for the SMH would allow me to give back to an organization that has supported my scholarly and professional journey and to help argue for the value of military history in the various arenas SMH members inhabit.

## EDUCATION

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- 2014      **PhD in History, University of Chicago**  
Dissertation: “Democracy’s Proving Ground: U.S. Military Families in West Germany, 1946-1961”
- 2007      **MA in History, University of Chicago**  
Thesis: “Democratic Persuasion: The Advertising Council and Conceptions of Democracy, 1941-1949”
- 2004      **BA in History and American Studies, University of Virginia**  
With Honors and Phi Beta Kappa, Minor in English Language & Literature

## EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

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University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI  
Oct 2022-present      Assistant Dean, Rackham Graduate School

American Historical Association, Washington DC

Jul 2018-Sept 2022      Director, Academic & Professional Affairs

Oct 2015-Jul 2018      Manager of Academic Affairs

Sept 2014-Oct 2015      Programs Manager

- Directed Career Diversity for Historians (2014-2022), a Mellon-funded initiative to rethink graduate education in history
- Served as staff liaison to AHA Teaching and Professional Divisions
- Directed several other grant-funded initiatives, including History Gateways (Mellon), Confronting a Pandemic: Historians and COVID-19 (NEH), Virtual Chairs Seminars (Teagle Foundation), and Revaluing the Humanities in General Education (Teagle).
- Developed annual Chairs’ Workshop, including transitioning event online during pandemic

German Historical Institute, Washington, DC

2014      Postdoctoral Fellow

## WORKS IN PROGRESS

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“An Uneasy Commitment: The Foreign Relations of U.S. Military Marriage Policy in Occupied Germany” in *Beyond I Do: Marriage in the Twentieth Century United States*, edited by William Kuby, Alison Lefkowitz, Traci Parker, Sarah B. Rowley, and Emily L. Swafford, (book proposal submitted to University of North Carolina Press, full manuscript expected to be submitted early 2025).

*Democracy’s Proving Ground: U.S. Military Families in West Germany, 1946-1961*, (book proposal in process for Cambridge University Press).

## SERVICE

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2022-2027      Board member, Friends of the German Historical Institute

2019      Outside reviewer for Association of American University PhD Initiative applications

2018 & 2015      Panelist for National Endowment for the Humanities, Humanities Collections and Reference Resources

2016-2022      Member, Committee on Excellence in Teaching Military History, Society for Military History

- 2016           Governors Island National Monument Scholars Roundtable, providing scholarly feedback on plans to re-interpret a National Park Service site
- 2016           Member of Program Committee for Play/Back, a symposium on the preservation of audio-visual material hosted by the National Endowment for the Humanities
- 2016           Member of selection committee for Teaching With Primary Sources program sponsored by the Library of Congress

### **SELECTED PUBLICATIONS**

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With Sarah Jones Weickel, “Confronting a Pandemic.” *Perspectives on History*, March 2021. <https://www.historians.org/publications-and-directories/perspectives-on-history/march-2021/confronting-a-pandemic-the-aha-supports-historians-with-the-help-of-neh-cares>

With James Grossman, “The Purpose-Driven PhD.” *Perspectives on History*, April 2019. <https://www.historians.org/publications-and-directories/perspectives-on-history/april-2019/the-purpose-driven-phd-the-third-stage-of-career-diversity-emphasizes-history-as-a-public-good>

With Julia Brookins, “Why Gateway-Course Improvement Should Matter to Academic Discipline Associations and What They Can do to Address the Issues.” *New Directions for Higher Education*, no. 180, Winter 2017: 75-85.

“Controversy Surrounds Department of Defense Commemorative Website.” *Perspectives on History*, December 2014: 11-12. <https://www.historians.org/publications-and-directories/perspectives-on-history/december-2014/controversy-surrounds-department-of-defense-commemorative-website>

“The Challenge and Promise of Girl Scout Internationalism: Progressive Roots to Troops on Foreign Soil.” *Bulletin of the German Historical Institute*, vol 55, Fall 2014: 105-124. [http://www.ghi-dc.org/fileadmin/user\\_upload/GHI\\_Washington/Publications/Bulletin55/bu55\\_105.pdf](http://www.ghi-dc.org/fileadmin/user_upload/GHI_Washington/Publications/Bulletin55/bu55_105.pdf)

### **BOOK REVIEWS**

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Review of, Carruthers, Susan L., *The Good Occupation: American Soldiers and the Hazards of Peace in German History*, 36, no.3, (2018): 485–487.

Review of “Special Forum: Transnational Generations: Organizing Youth in the Cold War West, 1945-1980” in *Diplomatic History* 38:2 (April 2014). H-Diplo, H-Net Reviews. November 2014. <https://networks.h-net.org/node/28443/discussions/52888/article-review-499-special-forum-transnational-generations>

Review of Brewer, Susan A., *Why America Fights: Patriotism and War Propaganda from the Philippines to Iraq*. H-War, H-Net Reviews. March 2014. <http://www.h-net.org/reviews/showrev.php?id=35559>

### **INVITED TALKS AND SEMINARS**

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- 2019           UVa PhD Plus Launch Event, Charlottesville, VA, “Every Historian Counts: Data Transparency and Career Diversity for Historians”
- 2014           Research Seminar, German Historical Institute, Washington, DC  
“Practicing Democracy: U.S. Girl Scouts in the Cold War at Home and Abroad”
- 2013           Graduate Seminar at the Institute for World War II and the Human Experience, Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL, “Making the Occupation Democratic”
- 2012           Annual Genevieve Staudt Guestship Lecture, Elmhurst College, Elmhurst, IL  
“Keeping *The Feminist Promise* Or, Rethinking Women and Gender in History”

## **AWARDS AND HONORS**

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2018	Honorable Mention, Coffman First-Manuscript Prize, Society for Military History
2014	Postdoctoral Fellow, German Historical Institute
2013-2014	Residential Fellow, Center for the Study of Gender and Sexuality, University of Chicago
2012-2013	Harry Barnard Dissertation-Year Fellowship in American History, University of Chicago Department of History
2013	Weigley Graduate Student Travel Grant, Society for Military History
2012	Doctoral Fellowship, German Historical Institute
2012	ABC-Clio Research Grant, Society for Military History
2011-2012	General and Mrs. Matthew B. Ridgway Research Grant, Military History Institute at the U.S. Army Heritage and Education Center

## **SELECTED CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS**

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2025	Chair and panelist, “Career Transitions Discussions, Part 2: Leaving the Professoriate,” American Historical Association (New York, NY), Jan 2025.
2025	Roundtable participant and co-organizer, “‘If the Army Had Wanted You to Have a Wife, It Would Have Issued You One’: How the U.S. Military Tried to Control Marriage in the 20th Century,” Society for Military History (Mobile, AL), Mar 2025.
2024	Roundtable participant and organizer, “Disciplinary Advantage: Historians as Administrators,” American Historical Association (San Francisco, CA), Jan 2024.
2024	Roundtable participant, “Breaking the Mold: Transforming the Future of History Education,” Society for Military History (Washington DC), April 2024.
2023	Chair and co-organizer, “Expanding Access for Underrepresented Students in Graduate Education,” American Historical Association (Philadelphia, PA), Jan 2023.
2022	“From Unwanted Dependents to Democratic Marriage: Making the Cold War Military Family.” American Historical Association. Accepted for canceled January 2021 meeting, presented virtually in 2022.
2018	Moderator, “Battlefield Germany: Militarized Landscapes in Cold War Central Europe,” Society for Military History (Louisville, KY), Apr 2018.
2017	Moderator, “Why They Fight: A Roundtable on Military and Civilian Morale in Global Wars,” Society for Military History (Jacksonville, FL), Mar 2017.
2017	Roundtable participant, “GI-Ville: Base Politics and Local Politics in Cold War West Germany and Beyond,” American Historical Association (Denver, CO), Jan 2017.
2015	“U.S. Girl Scouts and Cold War ‘Democratic’ Internationalism in Germany and Japan.” American Historical Association (New York, NY), Jan 2015.
2014	“Innocents Abroad: Military Families, Girl Scouts, and the Local Cultivation of Democracy in Cold War West Germany.” Organization of American Historians (Atlanta, GA), April 2014.
2013	“‘Way Out on a Limb’: The Dependent Medical Care Act of 1956 and the Debate about Socialized Medicine in the Early Cold War.” Society for Military History (New Orleans, LA), March 2013.