

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▾](#)[RSS](#)**Fall 2019****Volume 43, Number 1****IN THIS ISSUE**

1. President's Message - Michele Morrone
2. Mission Statement
3. 43rd Annual Conference at University of Kentucky - *Appalachian Understories*
4. New Submission Portal Software - Thank You Nick Arnold!
5. From the ASA Office
6. News - New Issue of *Appalachian Curator* ; *Journal of Appalachian Health* Launches; Shepherd offers MA Appalachian studies degree
7. Committee Reports - Education, Finance, International Connections, *JAS*, Membership, Scholarship, Silent Auction, Special Collections, Y'ALL
8. 2018-2019 ASA Award Winners
9. Wilma Dykeman "Faces of Appalachia" Post-Doctoral Research Report
10. 2018 Carl A Ross Appalachian Student Paper Award Winner Abstract
11. Call for Award Nominations
12. 2018-2019 Election Results
13. Call for Officer and Steering Committee Nominations
14. Mark Your Calendars
15. Follow ASA on Social Media for the latest news

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From the President



Dr. Michele Morrone, ASA President

The Road is Still Ahead

I now have two Steering Committee meetings under my belt, and I am getting comfortable with ASA. The comfort comes from the fact that the Steering Committee is genuinely the most caring and committed group of people that could ever be involved in a nonprofit association. They (we) sincerely want ASA to be successful, inclusive, representative, relevant, and meaningful. However, now is the time to reaffirm some of the commitments we have made in the past.

The last time ASA did long range planning was in 2006. This was led by a stellar group that included Deanna Tribe, Roberta Herrin, Carol Baugh, Chad Berry, Marie Cirillo, Ashley Cochrane, Steve Fisher, Wilburn Hayden, Sandra Hayslette, Phil Obermiller, Shaunna Scott, and Erik Tuttle. [The Road Ahead: Appalachian Studies Association's Plan for Action 2008-2013](#) resulted from months of researching the history, engaging all kinds of people, and discussing the future of ASA. If you haven't read this document, take some time to do so, it is available on the [website](#). I have relied extensively on The Road Ahead for its historical account of Appalachian studies in general and ASA in particular.

Two key commitments emerged from the plan:

Engagement: all the ways that ASA reaches out to, involves, and meets the needs of members and potential members—from opportunities to serve on committees to creating space and time for members' interests at conferences and other programs.

Sustainability: everything that is necessary to ensure that ASA is vibrant and strong in the years to

come. As conference attendance approaches 1,000 people, finding a host and keeping the engagement commitment is becoming an increasing challenge. This is one reason why you may see universities as hosts for years to come. We can offer free or inexpensive meeting space, low-cost labor, and state-of-the-art technology. I can only speak for Ohio University, but we understand that the main profit we will see from the 2021 conference will be how attendees perceive our beautiful campus and the city of Athens. We are preparing to spend money, not make money.

Conference attendance fluctuates from year-to-year, so it is difficult to plan ASA's budget. Add to this the fact that the Appalachian Regional Commission has withdrawn grants for scholarships it provided to support the conference for years as well as the general overall uncertainties of nonprofit funding. **These circumstances mean that it is time to renew our commitment to sustainability that we made more than a decade ago.**

In the short term, we are reaching out to our members and asking you to pay a little more for some of the benefits of ASA such as the print copy of the *Journal of Appalachian Studies* and possibly the cost of conference registration/ membership sometime in the future. In the long term, the finance committee, led by Rachel Terman, is revising policies and taking steps to more effectively manage our money. The ASA office is also in the midst of completing paperwork required for us to be registered as a charitable organization in multiple states; this will widen our reach for seeking donations and other financial support.

Also on the sustainability front, we need to continue to express gratitude to all of the those who generously support ASA including: Marshall University for providing office space and accounting support; all conference host institutions and organizations--past, present, and future; and, most importantly, conference chairs, program chairs, and planning committees who give so much of their time and energy to

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come—from ensuring fiscal stability and adequate staffing to mentoring and leadership development and fulfilling legal duties of a non-profit [501(c)3] organization.

From what I have seen over the past year we are doing a pretty good job keeping the commitment to engagement, but we need to double-down on our commitment to sustainability.

First, engagement. Although there is still work to do, the Steering Committee listens to every proposal for new projects and committees and responds thoughtfully to member concerns. In recent years, conference planning committees have paid particular attention to meeting the needs of all attendees by providing special meeting spaces and other resources as they could. We have a [Diversity and Inclusion Committee](#) that helped advise the Steering Committee; however, we are still looking for someone to chair this committee.

Now onto sustainability. For years, ASA has relied almost completely on proceeds from the annual conference for our operating expenses. This includes banking on the philanthropy of the conference chair and host. The chair raises money, contributes in-kind personnel, and arranges for space with the understanding that conference registration fees are critical for the viability of ASA.

organize the conference because they believe in ASA. These individuals dedicate months of their lives and are integral to our commitment to sustainability. This dedication was on display in Asheville in March as Carol Boggess and Kim Reigle from Mars Hill University planned the conference and collaborated with the University of North Carolina Asheville to make the amazing 2019 event happen.

I am reaching out to all of you to ask that you help us keep our commitments to engagement and sustainability.

First, vote. One of the easiest things you can do is vote in our officer elections, we have officer elections every year in conjunction with the annual meeting. In 2019, less than fifty people out of more than eight hundred members voted. **Second, volunteer.** You can see a list of committees on our website or in past conference programs. We are always in need of committee members and, in some cases, new chairs. **Third, run.** Consider running for office and taking a leadership role in ASA. **Fourth, participate.** Help us with our commitment to engagement by coming to the conference, reading the journal, and participating in as many activities as you can.

More than a decade after the last long-range plan for ASA, I can still see the Road Ahead and ASA needs you to help navigate it.

**- Michele Morrone, President
Appalachian Studies Association**

MISSION STATEMENT



The mission of the Appalachian Studies Association is to promote and engage dialogue, research, scholarship, education, creative expression, and action among a diverse and inclusive group of scholars, educators, practitioners, grassroots activists, students, individuals, groups and institutions. Our mission is driven by our commitment to foster quality of life, democratic participation and appreciation of Appalachian experiences regionally, nationally, and internationally.

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COME TO LEXINGTON FOR ASA 2020

43rd Annual Appalachian Studies Conference **Appalachian Understories: Growing Hope and Resilience from Commonwealth to Global Commons**

March 12-15, 2020

University of Kentucky - Lexington, Kentucky



Make plans now to join us in **Lexington, Kentucky (UK), March 12-15, 2020** for the 43rd annual meeting (**#ASA2020**) of the Appalachian Studies Association!

For the first time ever, we gather at the [University of Kentucky](#), the Commonwealth's flagship university. The University of Kentucky (UK) is, and for decades has been, a vital center of teaching, research, and service for our beloved region. It has a well-earned and longstanding reputation for leadership in Appalachian studies. Key supporters of the work beneath this reputation-- the [UK Appalachian Studies Center](#), the [College of Arts and Sciences](#), and the [Graduate Appalachian Research Community](#)--are among our on-campus hosts. Beyond-campus hosts include two inspiring Kentucky-based service organizations with deep Appalachian roots, [Appalshop](#) and [LiKEN](#) (Livelihoods Knowledge Exchange Network). The 2020 conference--like ASA itself--grows from the collaborative work of academics and activists.

Also on Thursday are several morning field trips and an **"Ask an Expert"** event featuring research professionals from the university. UK is one of only a handful of "R1" (meaning doctoral universities with very high research activity) universities serving the Appalachian region. "Ask an expert" offers conference participants ready access to university researchers' expertise.

Importantly, **UK classes will be in session Thursday and Friday.** Hundreds of Appalachian students enrolled at the university will therefore be able to attend the conference at no expense and with no travel costs. Please note that conference logistics will be more complicated while classes are in session than has been typical at past conferences where host institutions were on spring break. On-campus parking will be limited. The Gatton Student Center and other conference venues will be full of UK students as well as ASA participants. Please plan

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core location.

As always a team of dedicated volunteers has worked for three years to prepare this gathering. Taking inspiration from the magnificent native forests that grace and sustain our region, we have themed the 2020 ASA conference "**Appalachian Understories: Growing Hope and Resilience from Commonwealth to Global Commons.**" For the first time in ASA history our conference theme (**#AppalachianUnderstories**) invites us to closely consider the "understories" of the woods themselves. We human Appalachians are fortunate to have the world's richest temperate forests rooted in our region. ASA 2020 celebrates these native forests' beauty, cultural vitality, biodiversity, and healing power.

Recognizing that forest understories, though easily overlooked, are places of beauty and strength, the 2020 conference also invites us to focus on a range of human "understories." **Here we work to help amplify the many Appalachian voices that are too often obscured.** The 2020 gathering highlights black Appalachians; health and healing; women, gender, and sexuality; and hope spots. We also feature a variety of "understory" telling methods, including film-making, oral history, literature, music, photography, performance, and other art forms. And there's more! We tap UK's many intellectual and cultural riches. Here's a sample: Affrilachian poetry, cutting-edge medical research, globally recognized oral history collections, and the largest Appalachian archives on earth.

We congratulate [Appalshop](#) on its 50th birthday! We celebrate the Whitesburg studio's half century of visionary "understories" telling through film, media, education, theater, music, and other arts.

The program committee designed ASA 2020 not only with an eye to important "understories," but also to shared experiences and connections among conference strands. Instead of a keynote/plenary model we opted for a series of plenaries, each speaking to the "Appalachian Understories" theme and, as much as possible, to each other. **No other sessions will be scheduled during the plenaries, and we invite everyone to attend each.** Plenary sessions will focus on Appalachian forests, black Appalachians, Appalachian health and healing, and Appalachian hope spots. Each includes "understories" voiced by a panel of presenters, together with "understories" drawn from Appalshop's enormous body of creative work. We hope these common experiences will yield rich fruit in many forms, including ongoing conversations, collaborations, and creative projects across themes.

We also invite everyone to attend opening and closing ceremonies, a program innovation this year designed to further explore "Appalachian Understories," celebrate our annual gathering, and provide another set of rich common experiences.

You will notice that ASA 2020 begins on a Thursday rather than on the traditional Friday. We have made this expansion in order to more fully accommodate the

on Thursday and Friday--ASA 2020 is effectively a guest in UK students' campus home. We encourage everyone to extend to all UK students, staff, and faculty the courtesy and respect appropriate to generous hosts.

A tip for off-campus logistics: **book your lodging reservations early.** Lexington has a growing national travel reputation not only among horse and bourbon enthusiasts but also foodies and brewery fans. March is also hoops madness season, and Lexington is a major basketball destination. We have reserved room blocks at several hotels in walking distance from campus; check the full Call For Participation and the ASA website for complete information. Be forewarned that once the deadlines for our room-block priority reservations have passed, basketball fans will likely snap up any remaining rooms as if racing a shot clock.

In technology news, we are delighted to be piloting **new conference management software** this year, and most grateful to ASA super volunteer Nick Arnold for making this debut possible. Please be patient, however, as we work through the occasional glitches inevitable to any software pilot. Also **please consider volunteering to review proposal submissions** through the new system. Early submissions suggest a robust and diverse proposal pool; we need a similarly expansive team of thoughtful volunteer reviewers. To volunteer, contact Program Chair Jennifer Cramer at jennifer.cramer@uky.edu.

Finally, **see you in Lexington!** The 2020 program team is excited to host the Appalachian Studies Association's 43rd annual meeting. We hope you will join us on the UK campus this spring for another vibrant gathering as we consider "Appalachian Understories" and work at "Growing Hope and Resilience from Commonwealth to Global Commons." This will be a humdinger. Come pull up a chair.

**- Kathryn Newfont
2020 ASA Conference Chair**

*This event is made possible by support from UK and from a matching grant from Kentucky Humanities in cooperation with the National Endowment for the Humanities. *Any views, findings, conclusions, or recommendations expressed in this program, do not necessarily represent those of the National Endowment for the Humanities or Kentucky Humanities.*

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conference's learning and service potential. One Thursday feature to note is our celebratory afternoon "**Opening Ceremonies.**" Featuring poetry and storytelling with ties to the conference theme, the opening ceremonies welcome everyone to the Commonwealth of Kentucky, the University of Kentucky, the city of Lexington, and ASA's 43rd annual meeting.*



TELLING
KENTUCKY'S
STORY

KENTUCKY HUMANITIES COUNCIL, INC.



#ASA2020

#AppalachianUnderstories

Appalshop's 50th Anniversary | Health & Healing

Black Appalachians | Gender & Sexuality

Forest Commons | Oral History | Women

Kathryn Newfont, Conference Chair

Jennifer Cramer, Program Chair

2020 ASA Conference

[Call for Participation](#)

[Proposal Submission Portal](#)

Deadline extended to October 14, 2019

[Registration](#)

BIG THANKS

to ASA super volunteer Nick Arnold



Over the past year, ASA volunteer **Nick Arnold has made one of the most extraordinarily generous contributions in ASA history.** This is saying something, since extraordinary generosity is woven into the very sinews of our volunteer-built, volunteer-sustained, and volunteer-run organization. Yet Nick's gift stands out even in the crowded field. He has single-handedly solved one of our organization's most longstanding and seemingly intractable problems, and he has done it with grace and good humor.

Let me explain. **The BePress conference management software available to ASA through the generous ongoing support of Marshall University was**

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programs. It handled proposals and reviews--the tasks most akin to journal submission management--well. But it offered little support to conference organizers working to build the final program. Creating workarounds to this problem required enormous labor from our Marshall office staff members and volunteer conference organizers. In particular, it significantly increased the Program Chair's already demanding set of volunteer responsibilities, as former Program Chairs Kim Reigle (2019, Asheville), Joy Gritton (2018, Cincinnati), and Emily Satterwhite (2017, Blacksburg) and likely several others can attest. But we are a financially slim (let's be honest: shoestring) organization and good

conference software is expensive. We have researched alternatives and they have all proved beyond our means. Given these stubborn realities, a solution to the huge software problem seemed impossible.

Enter Nick Arnold. A software engineer connected to ASA through his spouse Tiffany Arnold (who not coincidentally serves as Program Chair for ASA 2021 at Ohio University), Nick has created an elegant solution. **He has worked closely with the 2020 and 2021 program teams, as well as the Steering Committee and staff at the Marshall office, and he has designed custom software to meet our organization's conference management needs.** Building this software from the ground up has required countless hours of his time. To purchase equivalent services would have cost more than ASA currently holds even in endowment funds. We could never have afforded it. But Nick has unstintingly donated both time and professional expertise, and he has created a software package beyond our fondest hopes. He has done all this at no cost to ASA. This is remarkable generosity, an enormous and valuable gift.

Nick has also been wonderful to work with, listening patiently to a variety of perspectives and responding with effective design solutions, and waving aside all expressions of gratitude. And he keeps on giving; **he has volunteered ongoing professional support as we take the new software live.**

So when you put in your proposal for ASA 2020 and find the experience more user-friendly, less time-consuming, more visually appealing and so much less frustrating than in the past, thank Nick Arnold. **He's our software super volunteer, and it is simply impossible to thank him enough.**

FROM THE ASA OFFICE



The summer has been a busy one for us at the ASA headquarters. Following the fabulous conference in Asheville, we began our annual post-conference work of processing all the on-site meal sales and finalizing the registrations to get our final attendance numbers. We again offer our deepest thanks to Carol Boggess, Kim Reigle, Dan Pierce, and their team for all of the endless hours and hard work, which made the conference such an amazing success.

As we finalized the Asheville conference, we were already diving deep into the planning for the next conference in Lexington, Kentucky. Kathy Newfont, Jennifer Cramer, Jane Jensen and their amazing team at University of Kentucky (UK) have some wonderful plans in the works for the next time the ASA family gathers in 2020. They also recently hosted the ASA Steering Committee as we took our annual business retreat and visited UK's campus to get a sneak peek at the location for next year. A big thank you to UK, Kathy, Jennifer, Jane, and their team for hosting us.

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▾](#)[RSS](#)**ASSOCIATION**

The retreat was a wonderful weekend as the Steering Committee members got to spend time with each other as we worked toward plans for the future and making ASA sustainable and stronger. Many thanks to the leadership of our president, Michele Morrone, for such a productive and fun weekend.

For those that do not know, the [ASA office](#) is hosted at Marshall University, and one of our Steering Committee positions is filled by a Marshall faculty member, who serves as a liaison between ASA and Marshall. We have been very fortunate to have Kathy Seelinger as our liaison officer for several years, but as she works toward a much deserved retirement, she has stepped down. We have been fortunate again, as Edna Meisel has agreed to succeed Kathy in this role. We wholeheartedly welcome Edna to our ASA team and thank Kathy for her years of exemplary service.

As the semester begins, and fall arrives, we will begin the annual review of the financial records to ensure completeness and accurateness before providing it to our accountant to file the required 990 forms with the IRS. Our treasurer will also present a financial report based on this at our next ASA business meeting for all our members to review.

As we continue the day-to-day of the office, we look forward to seeing all of our ASA family next year to share and explore our *Appalachian Understories*.

- **Mary Kay Thomas, Executive Director**

- **Ann E. Bryant, Office Manager**

ACADEMIC NEWS

Appalachian Curator

A newsletter about Appalachian special collections and archives | ISSN 2642-8822

Second issue of *Appalachian Curator* now available

[Appalachian Curator](#), "a newsletter about Appalachian special collections and archives," is a publication of ASA's Special Collections Committee. It is a free, online newsletter published triannually (Spring/Summer, Fall, and Winter) and hosted at the University of North Carolina at Asheville.

The first issue ([Vol. 1, No 1, Spring/Summer 2019](#)) was published in March 2019 during the ASA Conference in Asheville.

The second issue ([Vol. 1, No. 2, Fall 2019](#)) was released on September 20th and features an update on the Highlander Center's archives, profiles of the Collections Preservation Center at the Great Smoky Mountains National Park and the McClung Historical Collection in Knoxville, reports of five different community archives projects from across the region, and a list of new resources in Appalachian Special Collections.

Our application for an ISSN number (2642-8822) was approved and added in early April.

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The editorial board consists of Gene Hyde - Editor (UNC Asheville), Liz Skene Harper - Assistant Editor (Western Carolina University), Marc Brodsky (Virginia Tech), Dustin Witsman (Appalachian State University) and Stewart Plein (West Virginia University).

We held an open meeting during the 2019 ASA conference for anyone who had an interest in the newsletter, and nearly two dozen folks attended. We received a lot of great comments and article ideas from that meeting, and several attendees are working on articles for the next or following issue. Our intended audience includes scholars, students, researchers, archivists, librarians, and anyone else with an interest in resources that document Appalachia.

Please contact Gene Hyde (ghyde@unca.edu) or Liz Skene Harper (emskene@email.wcu.edu) with ideas for articles, or with news about events, exhibits, new collections, archiving projects, or anything else related to Appalachian special collections or archives.

Appalachian Curator is available [online](#) and can be read online and/or [downloaded as a PDF](#).

- Gene Hyde, Editor
Appalachian Curator



***Journal of Appalachian Health* launched February 2019**

The new online [Journal of Appalachian Health](#) (*JAH*) launched in February 2019 and published its first issue in April. Since then, it has published fourteen papers and has generated over 2,300 full downloads of these articles.

The overall objective of *JAH* is to improve the health status of the population of Appalachia through the rapid dissemination of knowledge of their health problems and evidence-based solutions to them. *JAH* will provide actionable knowledge through an online, open access, easily accessible peer-reviewed process focused specifically on Appalachia. *JAH* is available without charge to authors or readers, including those in the region who can and will use it in their work, whether in a healthcare or a non-healthcare field that has the potential for modification of factors that contribute to poor health.

The *JAH* features research reports from a wide range of sources, as well as shorter articles on preliminary research. All research articles are peer-reviewed. Other types of articles include editorials; commentary; book reviews; letters to the editor; announcements; "Notes from the Field," a section of short news and noteworthy contributions from federal, state, and local agencies and nonprofit organizations to announce program activities, grants, and research funding availability; new programs or news from those organizations about their activities that affect Appalachian health; and "Voices from the Hollow," a section that will highlight work, regardless of its source, being done in the community to improve the health of the population. We are actively seeking contributors to the journal.

The *Journal of Appalachian Health* was founded with the knowledge and support of the *Journal of Appalachian Studies*' editor, who also serves as an active member of the journal's advisory committee. We have committed ourselves to working closely with our Appalachian studies colleagues to seek to improve the health and well-being of those who live, work, and play in Appalachia. We are actively involved in supporting and collaborating with the meeting of Appalachian studies programs at the University of Kentucky this coming spring.

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▾](#)[RSS](#)[Shepherd University to offer MA in Appalachian studies degree this fall](#)

Shepherd University will begin offering a new [Master of Arts degree in Appalachian studies](#) in fall 2019. The new degree will appeal to students interested in improving their qualifications for the regional job market, those already working in a variety of areas such as education, politics and government, local and regional planning, economic development, historic preservation, and cultural and arts organizations, and those interested in understanding the region from a variety of historical, cultural, and global perspectives.

The Master of Arts degree in Appalachian studies is an interdisciplinary program requiring 30-33 credit hours, much of which can be taken through distance learning. There are two concentrations, the Appalachian History, Culture, and Heritage track, and the Preserving Appalachian Communities, Business Development, and Environment track. Students who have earned Shepherd's 15-hour graduate certificate in Appalachian studies can apply all those credits toward completion of the master's program. In lieu of the required electives, students can also opt to study abroad for a semester.

Students who select an optional semester abroad at the University of the West of Scotland (UWS) have the opportunity to earn two master's degrees, one in Media Studies from UWS and the other in Appalachian studies from Shepherd. The Shepherd degree is unique and appealing for anyone interested in living and working in the region and anyone interested in global Appalachia.

For more information about the program, contact Sylvia Shurbutt at 304-876-5207 or sshurbutt@shepherd.edu or Richard Stevens at 304-876-5313 or rstevens@shepherd.edu.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Education Committee



EXCELLENT TEACHERS NEEDED!

If you know of a K-12 or college/university teacher who excels in teaching Appalachian studies coursework, please nominate them for the 2020 Stephen L. Fisher Award for Excellence in Teaching. Preliminary nominations require only the completion of a brief form. Please remember that these awards are open to teachers who meet the criteria at any stage of their career; we want to recognize excellent teachers of all ages!

More information can be found in the Call for Award Nominations later in this newsletter or on the [ASA website](#).

Finance Committee

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Greetings from the Finance Committee! We are happy to report that we are up and running after a period of inactivity for the committee. We are currently focusing on two finance issues.

First, we are hoping to move the ASA Endowment to a community foundation. As of 7/23/2019, the ASA endowment has approximately \$35,974.28 (final amount pending close out of 2018-2019 fiscal year). The endowment is currently funded largely through a \$5.00 earmark from each member's dues. The endowment grows depending on the size of the membership year to year, and we have collected on average \$3,861.79 each year since 2013. The fund started in 2007. The endowment fund currently sits in a general (non-interest accruing) account with the Marshall University Research Corporation, which houses ASA's main account.

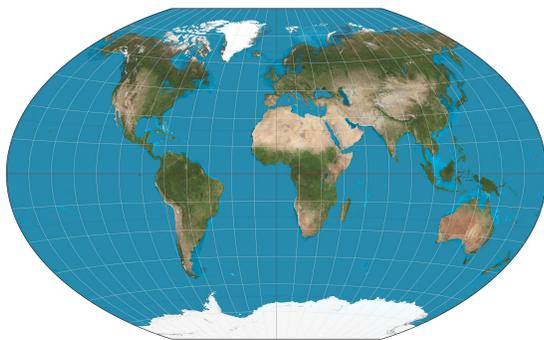
recommended that the Steering Committee change the endowment policy to reduce the amount needed to invest from \$50,000 to \$30,000 and that we move the endowment to a community foundation to invest our funds. We are currently researching options for a community foundation that is a good fit for our fund.

Second, through the Development Subcommittee we are developing an institutional membership option for the ASA. As we work on a proposal for institutional membership, we are also considering possible changes to the individual membership and conference fee structure in order to make our membership and conference offerings more understandable, transparent, equitable, and sustainable.

If you have ideas about the endowment or institutional membership, please let us know! In addition, if you have experience in development or fundraising or just want to get more involved, the ASA needs you! Please contact us!

**- Rachel Terman, Chair
Finance Committee**
terman@ohio.edu

International Connections Committee



The International Connections Committee organized participation by six international academics and one American academic at the 42nd annual conference in Asheville in 2019. All seven presenters focused their research on mountain studies, opening conversations about other mountains around the world and connections with the Appalachian Mountains.

Historian [Jon Mathieu](#) from the University of Lucerne

[Christian Quendler](#) from the University of Innsbruck focused attention on mountains in film, especially media representations of the European Alps.

Both [Siân Williams](#), librarian at the South Wales Miners' Library at Swansea University in Wales, and [Frédérique Spill](#), literature professor at the University of Picardy Jules Verne in France, focused on Appalachian identities through analyzing coal mining communities in a comparative context and the stories of Ron Rash, respectively.

All seven participants came together for a plenary session on "Forging New International Connections in Mountain Studies." The session was convened by Katherine Ledford of Appalachian State University, chair of the International

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Geneva shared their expertise on early modern and contemporary communities in the European Alps.

Historian [Dawn Hollis](#) from the University of St. Andrews in Scotland discussed ancient and medieval perceptions of mountains. Geographer [Alton C. Byers](#) from the University of Colorado, Boulder presented on community development in the Himalayan Mountains.

charged with encouraging conference participation by international scholars and promoting ongoing conversations between mountain studies experts in other parts of the world and Appalachianists.

**- Katherine Ledford, Chair
International Connections Committee**

Journal of Appalachian Studies



[Rebecca "Becky" Scott](#) will be taking over as editor of the [Journal of Appalachian Studies](#) in January 2020. Becky is Associate Professor of Sociology at the University of Missouri. She is the author of *Removing Mountains: Extracting Nature and Identity in the Appalachian Coalfields* (2010, University of Minnesota Press), and is currently working on her second book project--this time on fracking. Her research interests include feminist ethnography, environmental humanities, and material feminisms. I am happy to be leaving the journal in such capable editorial hands as I transition away from this position. I assure you that it is only a coincidence that Becky and I share research interests and the same surname.

In other editorial staff related news, [Carson Benn](#) has stepped into the Book Review Editor's role. Carson is a doctoral student in history at the University of Kentucky where he has also served as a teaching assistant in Appalachian studies and as a member of the Graduate Appalachian Research Community. A former book review editor for the Register

As we look to the future, the ASA Steering Committee and *JAS* editorial board have agreed that it will be necessary to raise the price of the paper edition of the journal from \$10 per year to \$10 per issue (\$20 per year). This change begins with Volume 26 in 2020.

In happier news, we currently have several manuscripts being considered for publication on both social justice and on the practicing of Appalachian studies in an era of political and cultural divisiveness. We are excited to publish a journal that speaks to timely and important topics, such as these and our recent forum on sustainable economic development. We hope that you find the journal helpful for your scholarly and other work in and for the Appalachian region.

As the final months of my editorship wind down, I must say that it has been my privilege to serve the *Journal of Appalachian Studies* for the past seven years. I am generally pleased with our accomplishments during this time, including our partnership with the University of Illinois Press, the journal submission and review portal, the special forum on sustainable economic development edited by William Hatcher, the round table on the internal colonialism model, and the round table on [Silas House's 2014 keynotes speech/performance](#) "Our Secret Places in the Waiting World: Becoming a New Appalachia."

To all the authors and reviewers who submitted their scholarship, to all the members of ASA and the readers elsewhere, and to the editorial board and production team, thank you with all of my heart! This has been a highlight of my career, and it would not have been possible without your support.

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Carson brings considerable experience to this position. The editorial board is delighted to have Carson on board and is looking forward to working with Becky in the future.

- **Shaunna L. Scott, Editor**
Journal of Appalachian Studies

Journal of Appalachian Studies - Call for Articles & Notes



Special Issue: Social Justice

Special Issue Editors: Jennifer Wies (jrwies@bsu.edu) and Caroline Reid (caroline.reid@eku.edu)

The *Journal of Appalachian Studies (JAS)* - a refereed, multidisciplinary publication on Appalachian history, culture, and society - invites scholarly articles and research, teaching or community notes on the topic of "Social Justice," broadly construed. We are especially interested in new and innovative directions for and about social justice in Appalachia. Please submit manuscripts and abstracts to the *JAS* review portal by **Friday, January 17, 2020**.

New users - [please submit here](#).

Existing users - [please submit here](#)

Scholarly articles should be no more than 8,000 words in length and written in language accessible to an educated non-specialist. Research, teaching, or community notes should be no more than 4,000 words in length in language accessible to an educated non-specialist. Our review process is blind and anonymous. Please remove your name and any other identifiers, including references to your own previously published work, from your manuscript.

For more information, access [author guidelines here](#) or email shaunna.scott@uky.edu.

Possible topics for this issue include, but are not limited to:

Environmental Justice	Gender
Social movements	Age
Just Transition Movement	Health care access
Land Ownership/Land Use	Health disparities
Criminal Justice/Prison Reform	Ability
White Supremacy	Access to education
Social Inequality and Stratification	Sexuality
Climate Justice	Migration and Urbanization
Homelessness	Religion
Poverty/Social Safety Net	Philosophy
Class/Labor Unions	Theory
Law/Tax Policy	Violence/Intimidation
Race/Ethnicity	Nationality/Citizenship/Immigration
Civil Rights/Voting Rights	Opioid abuse epidemic

Membership Committee

First, let me say that I am excited and honored to take on the role of Membership Committee Chair. Though I've only just started serving in this position and as a member of the Steering Committee, I have gained an immense new appreciation for the conference and ASA, and I'm looking forward to continuing this service.

A big thanks to members and conference attendees who completed the conference evaluation and membership surveys for 2018 and 2019. ASA's Steering and Program Committees use your responses to make the organization and conference a more equitable, accessible, and welcoming place for everyone, so **make sure that you take the time to complete the conference evaluation and membership survey after the conference in Lexington** this coming March.

If you have more ideas you'd like to share for how ASA can better serve its current members and reach out to new ones,

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- Carson Benn, Chair
Membership Committee

Become a Member

Scholarship Committee



Thank you to all of our 2019 conference scholarship supporters including the ASA Silent Auction, the Loyal Jones Appalachian Center at Berea College, the Dykeman Legacy, Lees-McRae College, the Ohio University Rural Health Institute, the Urban Appalachian Community Coalition, the Howard Dorgan Memorial Scholarship Fund, and individual donors who made it possible for individuals with financial need to attend the conference. With their help, we awarded 114 scholarships with 103 awardees utilizing the award and attending the conference. Final awardees received admission to the conference, ASA membership, and electronic copies of the journal and newsletter.

As a consequence of the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) not supporting 2019 scholarships, we were not able to award as many scholarships as we have in past years. In fact, the Scholarship Committee had the difficult decision of cutting 40 applicants. Even so, a little over a third of non-awardees were still able to register and attend the conference.

This was the first year since 2001 that ARC did not fund scholarships. Had we received the usual \$10,000 grant from ARC, we would have been able to fund all applicants. ARC has gone in a new direction and is no longer supporting conferences. That is unlikely to change in the near future. Even so, we are still exploring the possibility of applying for a targeted ARC grant for the 2020 conference.

The executive committee, knowing, from experience that not all awardees would attend the conference, decided, in accordance with past practice, to over-award scholarships. However, we had far fewer cancellations and no shows than in previous years and we awarded \$3,442.99 more than funds on hand. Given that this is the first year that members received an electronic rather than printed version of the journal, there were no additional printing or postage costs incurred from the unfunded awards. This decision allowed more people to attend the conference, making the conference more accessible for people in financial need.

You can help support scholarships by donating items to the silent auction and/or by placing generous bids during the auction. Remember, all funds collected go towards scholarships that help make the conference more accessible. Additional information is available in this newsletter about how to donate items.

- Mary K. Thomas, Executive Director
Appalachian Studies Association

SUPPORT THE 2020 HOWARD DORGAN SILENT AUCTION

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Since Howard Dorgan launched the silent auction in the late 1990s, this annual fundraiser has supported student and community member participation at ASA conferences. With the 2020 conference on the horizon, the silent auction team needs your help to translate this year's theme and its focus on growing hope and resilience, from commonwealth to global commons.

The Appalachian Understories conference calls for donations and bids to support this year's gathering in the Horse Capital of the World, Lexington, Kentucky. **The silent auction welcomes crafts, quilts, woodwork, memorabilia, pottery, home-canned goods, spirits, event tickets, music, art, getaway opportunities, gently-used and new books, and more!** Please start brainstorming and gathering your items now to help ensure that the 2020 Howard Dorgan Silent Auction reaches its fundraising goal of **\$6,000**.

We are also looking for **3-4 dedicated volunteers** to join our efforts. Ideally, our growing team will include ASA members from across Appalachia to ensure that this annual fundraiser reflects our many diverse communities and invites those not yet involved with the ASA to see and understand themselves within our shared work. If you are looking for a meaningful way to support the Appalachian Studies Association, please consider joining our efforts.

For more information about volunteer opportunities, as well as to coordinate donations, email silent auction co-chairs Natalie Sypolt at natalie.sypolt@gmail.com and/or Jessica Wills at jesskw7@gmail.com.

We look forward to seeing you—and your silent auction items—in Lexington!

Special Collections Committee



Changes have already taken place within the newly formed Special Collections Committee. With Rachel Vagts' recent move to Colorado, the new chair of the committee is Stewart Plein, curator of rare books & printed resources at West Virginia University. Stewart accepted the role as chair in May of this year.

A call for committee members was issued this summer with interest from some of our colleagues in the special collections community. We would like to reach more of our fellow archivists, librarians, and others interested in special collections to be a part of the committee. Another call for membership will go out this fall.

The Special Collections committee plans to continue the work of the Appalachian Consortium. Goals are to update information about Appalachian

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and similar, and to facilitate conversations and opportunities for professional development activities that may be held at future ASA conferences through a variety of events such as workshops, exhibits, and targeted sessions. Developing funding sources for projects and encouraging and recognizing new scholarly work focusing on primary source materials in the region are also part of the committee's goals.

If you'd like to be a part of the Special Collections committee, please contact Stewart Plein at Stewart.Plein@mail.wvu.edu.

**- Stewart Plein, Chair
Special Collections Committee**

Y'ALL



At the 2019 conference, Y'ALL sponsored or co-sponsored several events and activities, including a Y'ALL Space, Community Meet & Eat, and Possum Jenkins Concert. The **Y'ALL Space** was a great success. The activities provided by [Sassafras Workshop](#) brought many conference attendees to the space and resulted in the creation of a 'zine. The **Community Meet & Eat** produced an incredible discussion and brought out many ideas about the future of ASA and Y'ALL's role in it.

Y'ALL would like to have an expanded presence at the 2020 conference. We are working to host informal workshops in the **Y'ALL Space** at ASA 2020. These workshops would be facilitated by graduate students and geared towards undergraduate students on topics like applying to graduate school, building a resume, and job searching in the nonprofit sector.

Other Y'ALL-sponsored events to look forward to at the 2020 conference include **Friday Night Open Mic**, a sober-friendly event allowing ASA members to share their talents (poetry, music, comedy, etc.) and **Community Meet & Eat**, a brainstorming and reflection session paired with a regular Y'ALL business meeting.

Unfortunately, at the 2019 conference there were no **Y'ALL-sponsored panels or sessions**. We are working to remedy this in 2020.

We've recently launched a [new website](#) and continually update our social media accounts (follow us at the links below!). And please continue to use and share the Y'ALL hashtag (**#YALL4ASA**).

**- Sophia Enriquez, Co-Chair
- Korick Sisomphone, Co-Chair
Y'ALL**

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2018 - 2019 AWARD WINNERS

2019 Cratis D. Williams/James S. Brown Service Award

John Inscoe

2018 Helen M. Lewis Community Service Award

Protect Our Water, Heritage, Rights (POWHR)

2018 Carl A. Ross Appalachian Graduate Student Paper Award

Alana M. Berry, "The Queerbilly Working Class: Wars of Position, White Male Supremacy and Getting to Liberation in this Queer American Place?"

2018 e-Appalachia Award for Outstanding Website

[Mountain Valley Watch](#)

2018 Jack Spadaro Documentary Award

Shaena Mallett, *Farmsteaders*

Sally Rubin and Ashley York, *hillbilly*

2019 - 2020 Wilma Dykeman "Faces of Appalachia" Post-Doctoral Research Fellowship

Mary Elizabeth Schmid

2018 Stephen L. Fisher Award for Excellence in Teaching Appalachian Studies

Post-secondary: Erica Abrams Locklear

K-12: Carolyn Barry

Gates-Carawan Artist Award - no winner

Weatherford Awards:

Non-fiction - Michael Clay Carey, *The News Untold*, University of West Virginia Press

Fiction - Silas House, *Southernmost*, Algonquin Books

Poetry - Sarah McCartt-Jackson, *Stonelight*, Airlie Press

WILMA DYKEMAN "Faces of Appalachia" POST-DOCTORAL RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP

A Study of High-Tech Labor Transformation and Gender in Appalachia

Preliminary findings suggest that companies and former trainees negotiate work identities and transitions to technology labor through: 1) narrating ideas about new Appalachian tech towns through forms of nostalgia; 2) creatively employing narratives of complex work histories in various development contexts;

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▾](#)[RSS](#)**University of California, Davis**

I received the [Wilma Dykeman "Faces of Appalachia" Postdoctoral Fellowship](#) in 2018 for a project titled, *Creating "Silicon Holler": High-Tech Labor Transformation and Shifting Gender Dynamics in the Coalfields of Appalachia*. I presented preliminary results of my research at the 2019 Appalachian Studies Association's annual meeting in Asheville, NC.

The research project explores efforts in the Appalachian region to recruit and train individuals in technology fields. Development stakeholders and employers in the region have focused considerable effort and attention on post-coal employment projects like these, often situating former coal miners as cultural symbols of the future of tech work in the region. Media attention to these endeavors, while not always positively portraying outcomes, has fixated on masculine images of former miners-turned-coders. With support from this fellowship, I set out to explore how companies, trainees, and workers in Appalachia negotiate gendered work identities and ideas about economic development in light of occupational change to remote or high-technology labor.

Fieldwork for the project took place in eastern Kentucky and West Virginia at several sites, including: 1) a regional development conference and local job fairs; 2) a software development business employing a number of former coal industry workers; 3) an intensive training program for advanced manufacturing; 4) a training program for women interested in advanced manufacturing; and 5) a small advanced manufacturing business. Using an ethnographic approach, I conducted in-depth, informal ethnographic interviews, and two focus groups among workers who had transitioned to high-tech fields from service, coal industry, or industrial work or had engaged in training programs (n=25, 17 men and 8 women), and among business owners and instructors of these programs (n=4). Research also included participant observation and focused shadowing of workers during daily workplace activities.

ipping of stereotypes to transform elements of Appalachian culture, like local work ethic, into commodified elements marketable to outside companies.

Additionally, preliminary findings of women's interviews suggest that they experienced forms of exclusion in this new economic domain through several mechanisms, including: 1) early lifetime impediments to jobs in industry or mining led to women's pursuit of lower-paying service or healthcare positions. This may have isolated them from work networks that provide knowledge of opportunities for higher-paying tech-based training and labor, while also placing them at a disadvantage for training programs that advertise strengths in "technical skills;" and 2) discouragement from entering high-tech fields. Subtle media messages and interactions and materials used in trainings, sometimes discouraged women from entering male-dominated or technical fields with warnings about the male "culture" of these environments. Thus, shifts in media representations and awareness of advertising as well as women-focused tech training programs may allow more women to find and secure opportunities for higher-paying, and sometimes union, tech-based training and labor.

Based on these preliminary findings, ongoing research will continue to explore women's experience in these fields in Appalachia, particularly examining remote work, and the larger implications of marketing strategies that commodify Appalachian culture. I am honored to have had the opportunity to continue my research on gender and labor in Appalachia with support from the Appalachian Studies Association.

- **Lauren A. Hayes is a lecturer in anthropology at the University of California, Davis. She completed her dissertation research on gender and manufacturing work in Kentucky in 2017 and has continued research on tech work in the region with support from the Wilma Dykeman Postdoctoral Fellowship.**

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The Queerbilly Working Class: Wars of Position, White Male Supremacy and Getting to Liberation in this Queer American Place?

Alana M. Berry, M.A.
Georgia State University

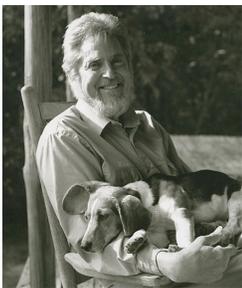
Abstract

The run up to the 2016 election brought enormous attention to the “white working class” in Appalachia. Regardless of the public's stereotypical narrative, the region is increasingly embracing its queer, person of color (POC), and leftist roots while remaining largely poor and working class. I posit that queerness for many “queerbillies” is not a master status, but a secondary or even tertiary identity. Rather than take up the cause of queer liberation, queerbillies make choices to align themselves with white male supremacy and by proxy the white working class. These choices cross into personal, political, and economic spheres. For instance, choosing work most closely aligned with gender expectations, maintaining social norms to “fit in,” and “voting against one’s political interests.” I argue this decision to assimilate rather than liberate is located within the two poles of Gramsci’s wars of position. I examine why this might be by applying Gramsci’s theory along with broader theoretical themes of white supremacy, masculinity, and privilege. I conclude by looking at the ways queerbillies do engage in liberation activities and pose questions about how liberations may be actualized for not just queerbillies, but other marginalized Appalachians in solidarity.

[Read the full paper on the ASA website.](#)

CALL FOR AWARD NOMINATIONS

For more information, please visit the ["Awards"](#) page on the ASA website.



GATES-CARAWAN ARTIST AWARD

The Gates-Carawan Artist Award recognizes an individual for artistic potential or artistic contributions to Appalachia in the realms of visual, oral, musical, literary, or other arts. With this award, the ASA seeks to recognize and cultivate artists who are working in the spirit of the award’s namesakes, independent filmmaker [Bob Gates](#) and activist musicians [Guy and Candie Carawan](#)—socially conscious artists who supported and encouraged the work of other regional artists.

The winner will receive a physical award produced by a regional artist and either a \$500 stipend (for artistic contributions) or the guidance of a mentor (for artistic potential). Nominators of a winning candidate with artistic potential will be strongly encouraged to develop a mentoring plan with the winning artist.

Nominations may come from any ASA member. Submission requirements are detailed on the [ASA website](#). Send nomination materials to: Scott Goebel, Gates-Carawan Artist Award

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December 1, 2019.



STEPHEN L. FISHER AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING

The Stephen L. Fisher Award for Excellence in Teaching seeks to honor individuals dedicated to intellectual rigor and pedagogical integrity in constructing and delivering inclusive knowledge about Appalachia and its people. There are two awards: one for college or university teaching and one for public school teaching.

The winners in each category will receive \$250. Candidates may be nominated or may self-nominate. The nomination process has two steps; the preliminary nomination deadline is **November 1, 2019**. Based on these nominations, the Education Committee will notify the finalists' nominators by December 1, 2019, at which time they will submit a full nomination packet that is due January 31, 2020.

Preliminary nomination forms, available on the [ASA website](#), must be submitted as an attachment to an e-mail to the chair of the ASA Education Committee, Ron Roach, at roachr@etsu.edu, by November 1, 2019. Selection of the award winners will be made by the ASA Education Committee.

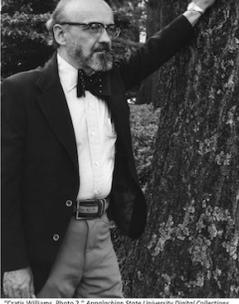


CARL A. ROSS APPALACHIAN STUDENT PAPER COMPETITION

The [Carl A. Ross](#) Appalachian Student Paper Competition is open to students in two categories: Middle/High School and Undergraduate/Graduate students. Middle/High School papers should be 8-15 pages in length. Undergraduate/Graduate papers should be 15-30 pages in length.

The authors of the winning papers will receive \$100 each. All papers must adhere to guidelines for scholarly research. Students who wish to present their papers at the conference must also submit a conference proposal following the submission guidelines. The cost of attending the conference is the responsibility of the winners.

Papers submitted to the undergraduate/graduate competition must have been completed during the current or previous academic year and must include proof of student status. Submissions should be sent in Microsoft Word attachments to the selection chair, Casey LaFrance, at TC-LaFrance@wiu.edu by **January 15, 2020**. More information is available on the [ASA website](#).

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*Cratis Williams, Photo 2, Appalachian State University Digital Collections

SERVICE AWARD

The [Cratis D. Williams](#) & [James S. Brown](#) Service Award is given to an individual who has made exemplary contributions to Appalachia, Appalachian studies, and/or the Appalachian Studies Association.

The selection process consists of two steps:

- 1) Nominations should include a statement regarding the individual's specific contributions to the region and/or the individual's C.V./résumé.
- 2) Following a review, the committee will request additional information about one or more finalists before selecting the award recipient.

Send nomination materials to Jinny Turman at turmanja@unk.edu by **January 15, 2020**. For more information, see the [ASA website](#).



HELEN M. LEWIS COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

The [Helen M. Lewis](#) Community Service Award is given to an individual or an organization that has made exemplary contributions to Appalachia through involvement with and service to its people and communities. Nominations should include a statement regarding the individual's or organization's specific contributions to the region or its people, accompanied by at least two letters of support.

Send [nomination materials](#) to Sandy Ballard, Belk Library, Box 32026, Appalachian State University, Boone, NC 28608, or to ballardsl@appstate.edu by **January 31, 2020**.



JACK SPADARO DOCUMENTARY AWARD

This award honors the activist and whistleblower Jack Spadaro, who spent his professional career working within the coal mining industry for the betterment of the Appalachian community. One award is given annually to recognize the best film, video, radio, television, or other media presentation on Appalachia or its people.

The winner will be awarded \$250. Nominations should be made by **January 31, 2020** to Tom Hansell or Meredith McCarroll at hansellts@appstate.edu and mmccarro@bowdoin.edu, respectively. Technical and submission requirements are detailed on the [ASA website](#).

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The [e-Appalachia Award](#) is given annually in recognition of an outstanding media source that provides insight on Appalachia and its people, or provides a vital community service to Appalachians. The winner will be awarded \$250. Nominations should be made to asa@marshall.edu; Attention: Roger May and Amanda Jo Slone, with "e-Appalachia Award" in the subject line, by **January 31, 2020**.



WEATHERFORD AWARDS

The ASA and Berea College annually present the Weatherford Awards to honor published works that "best illuminate the challenges, personalities, and unique qualities of the Appalachian South." The Weatherford Awards are named after [Willis D. Weatherford Jr. and Sr.](#) for their contributions to the region. The late Alfred Perrin began the award in 1970. Three awards are presented annually for nonfiction, fiction, and poetry in honor of Grace Toney Edwards. The subject matter of nominated books must be Appalachian or set in Appalachia and originally published in 2019.

Anyone may nominate, but nominations in any of the three categories must include seven copies. Nominations and copies must be received by Chris Green, Director, Loyal Jones Appalachian Center, CPO 2166, 205 North Main Street, Berea College, Berea, KY 40404, by **November 1, 2019**. If copies will be delayed, the nomination letter must specify the expected delivery date. For further information, visit [Berea's website](#) or the [ASA website](#).



WILMA DYKEMAN "Faces of Appalachia" POST-DOCTORAL RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP

The [Wilma Dykeman](#) "Faces of Appalachia" Post-doctoral Research Fellowship, which provides \$3,000 to support research related to gender, race, and/or ethnicity in Appalachia, is accepting proposals. The research is to be conducted during the 2020 - 2021 academic year and presented at the 2021 conference.

Members of the Appalachian Studies Association who have earned a doctoral degree from an accredited institution within the past seven years are eligible to apply. Fellowship applicants must have been members of ASA for one year prior to applying and must maintain membership throughout the course of the fellowship period. Current or recent ASA officers and Steering Committee members are not eligible to apply. No person may receive the fellowship more than one time. Please send applications to Mary Thomas at mthomas@marshall.edu by **December 31, 2019**.

For more information about the award and details on the application process, please visit the [ASA website](#). Althea Webb is the Wilma Dykeman Committee chair and may be contacted at althea_webb@berea.edu.

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Award winners will be announced at the spring 2020 ASA
conference awards ceremony.

ELECTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

NEW STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

Elected Positions

Vice-President/President Elect, 2022 Conference (appointed)

Natalie Sypolt, Writer and Associate Professor of English, Pierpont Community and Technical College, Fairmont, WV

Program Chair-elect, 2022 Conference (appointed)

Travis Stimeling, Associate Professor of Musicology, West Virginia University

At-Large Steering Committee Members, 2019-2023

Emily Blair, queer Appalachian poet and blue-collar scholar originally from Fort Chiswell, Virginia

Caleb Pendygraft, PhD Candidate and the English Fellow at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio

Secretary, 2019-2022

Sylvia Bailey Shurbutt, Director of the Center for Appalachian Studies and Communities at Shepherd University

Y'all Steering Committee, 2019-2021

Sophia Enriquez, PhD student in ethnomusicology at the Ohio State University

Appointed Positions

Archivist/Historian, 2019-2023

Stewart Plein, curator, rare books & printed resources, and managing director, West Virginia National Digital Newspaper Project, West Virginia University

2020 Silent Auction Co-Chairs

Natalie Sypolt, Writer and Associate Professor of English, Pierpont Community & Technical College, Fairmont, West Virginia

Jessica Wills, recently graduated from Ohio University with a BA in Political Science and Sociology-Criminology

CALL FOR OFFICER AND STEERING COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS

Your nominations are needed for ASA officers and Steering Committee members. The ASA bylaws call for the annual nomination and election of officers. Any member of ASA may nominate a fellow member to serve.

Self-nominations are also accepted. ASA is seeking nominations for the following elected positions:

1. **Vice President/President Elect and 2023 Conference Chair** is a four year term. This person chairs the nominating committee (2020-2021) and negotiates for conference support at the conference site. During the second year as the 2021-2022 President, this person presides at all meetings, directs fundraising, serves as a spokesperson, and serves on the Steering Committee. This person becomes the 2022-2023 Conference Chair, and remains on the Steering Committee for an additional year as Past Conference Chair (2023-2024).
2. **Two At-Large Members (2020-2024) of the Steering Committee** for four year terms. The Steering Committee transacts any necessary business, forms standing committees, and approves the annual budget. The Steering Committee meets twice a year for face-to-face meetings and has several additional meetings as needed by telephone.

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3. **One Y'ALL Steering Committee Member (2020-2022)** to serve for two years. Y'ALL Steering Committee members act as co-chairs of the Young Appalachian Leaders and Learners committee and work collaboratively with the President in support of the conference.
4. **Program Chairperson Elect/2023 Conference Program Chair** is a four year term (2020-2024). This person recruits and assembles program committee members and local arrangement committee members for the 2023 conference. In the second year of office the Program Chairperson leads the conference program organizing for his/her conference and assists the President with negotiations for conference support. In the third year the Program Chairperson Elect becomes Program Chairperson of the 2022-2023 conference and in the fourth year, serves as Immediate Past Program Chairperson. It is recommended that the program chair-elect is affiliated with the host of the 2023 conference.
5. **Four At-large Program Committee Members** (for 2022 conference in Morgantown, WV) serve a two year term (2020-2022) and help prepare the call for participation, review submitted abstracts, and compile the 2022 conference program.
6. **Treasurer (2020-2023)** provides financial oversight of the association's funds, accounts, and policy through the administrative office. The treasurer presents an assessment of the financial condition of the Association at each annual meeting and at other times when requested. The treasurer examines the books, provides reports, and maintains IRS documents with the assistance of the administrative office. The treasurer, working with the association's Executive Director and CPA, files all forms required by the Internal Revenue Service in a timely and accurate fashion.

How to Make a Nomination:

1. Make sure the nominee is willing to serve and understands the commitment involved.
2. Write a 100-word biography of the nominee that includes his or her involvement in Appalachian studies and/or ASA. This paragraph will be included in the spring Appalink with the ballot.
3. Self-nominations are welcome.
4. Send your nomination(s) to Natalie Sypolt, ASA Vice President/President Elect: natalie.sypolt@gmail.com by **December 15, 2019**.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

43rd Annual Appalachian Studies Conference

March 12-15, 2020, University of Kentucky

Kathy Newfont, Conference Chair, Kathryn.newfont@uky.edu

Jennifer Cramer, Program Chair, Jennifer.cramer@uky.edu

44th Annual Appalachian Studies Conference

March 11-14, 2021, Ohio University

Michele Morrone, Conference Chair, morrone@ohio.edu

Tiffany Arnold, Program Chair, arnoldt2@ohio.edu

45th Annual Appalachian Studies Conference

TBA, West Virginia University

Natalie Sypolt, Conference Chair, natalie.sypolt@pierpont.edu

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FOLLOW ASA ON SOCIAL MEDIA

to stay up-to-date on the latest news and events related to the Appalachian Studies Association.



Appalink is published twice a year.

We welcome submissions, announcements, and/or news.

Email submissions to Anne Chesky Smith at anne.chesky.smith@gmail.com.

Submissions for the fall issue are due August 1. Submissions for the spring issue are due December 1.

Editors: Anne Chesky Smith, Mary Kay Thomas, and Ann Bryant

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