**James Risk, Ph.D.**

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**EDUCATION:**

University of South Carolina , Columbia. Ph.D. in History with emphasis on History of Science & Technology, May 2017. Dissertation Title: *Lamps, Maps, Mud-Machines, & Signal Flags: Science, Technology, and Commerce in the Early United States*. Dissertation Committee: Ann Johnson, Cornell University, Co-Chair (deceased), Allison C. Marsh, University of South Carolina, Co-Chair, Joseph A. November, University of South Carolina, Carol E. Harrison, University of South Carolina, Cary J. Mock, University of South Carolina.

University of Maryland Baltimore County, Baltimore, Maryland. MA in Historical Studies, May 2011.

Fairmont State University, Fairmont, West Virginia. BA in History with Summa Cum Laude Honors, December 2008.

**APPOINTMENTS:**

University of South Carolina, Columbia. History Instructor, May 2017 – May 2020

University of South Carolina, Columbia. Bridge Humanities Fellow, August 2016 – May 2017.

University of South Carolina, Columbia. Graduate Instructor, August 2014 – August 2016.

**CURRENT RESEARCH:**

*The National Glassblowers Strike of 1904* – Shortly after the turn of the century, glass workers at the Macbeth-Evans Glass Company went on strike over the factory owners eliminating jobs and reducing wages in favor of adopting machinery. The strike spread rapidly through other glassworks factories crippling the industry on a national level. Using this strike as a lens to the larger process of automation in the early 20th century, this research examines the social impact of machines on labor and industry. Additionally, this research examines the economic and political impact of automation by addressing the conflict between the property rights of industrialists and the individual rights of workers.

*Promoting the Fresnel Lens in America* – During the first half of the 19th century, American engineers promoted the universal adoption of the French manufactured Fresnel lighthouse lens as part of their efforts to gain recognition for their expertise. At the time, formally trained engineers were still looked up with suspicion. By promoting the adoption of the Fresnel lens, the engineers hoped to establish their expertise and, thus eliminate the suspicion. This research delves into the debate over who should perform science and technology and the de-democratization of science in the United States.

**PUBLICATIONS:**

*Refereed Articles & Essays*

“Seven Flags over the Cooper: James Maud Elford and the Quest for a Universal Maritime Signal Code,” *South Carolina Historical Magazine* -  **Forthcoming**

“The Fresnel Affair: Manufacturing, Technology Transfer, Republicanism, and the Adoption of the Fresnel Lighthouse Lens, 1819 – 1852,” *The Northern Mariner / Le marin du nord*, XXVIII, no. 4 (Autumn 2018): 363-84.

 “Garitee vs. Mayor and City Council of Baltimore: A Gilded Age Debate on the Role and Limits of Local Government,” *Maryland Historical Magazine*, 109, no. 4 (Winter 2014): 453-72. Lead author with Kevin L. Attridge.

*Book Chapters and Sections*

*The American Yawp!: A Free and Online, Collaboratively Built American History Textbook*, edited by Joseph Locke and Ben Wright, e-book, <http://www.americanyawp.com>, Fall 2014. Contributed to section on the Naval War of 1812 of Chapter 7, “The Early Republic.”

*Reviews*

Book Review, *The Free Sea: The American Fight for Freedom of Navigation* by James Kraska and Raul Pedrozo. *Strategy Bridge* (October 15, 2018). <https://www.strategybridge.org/the-bridge/2018/10/15/reviewing-the-free-sea>

Book Review, *Congress Buys a Navy: Politics, Economics, and the Rise of American Naval Power, 1881 – 1921* by Paul E. Pedisich. H-Net: War (January 20, 2018).

Book Review, *Brilliant Beacons: A History of the American Lighthouse* by Eric Jay Dolin. *The Northern Mariner / Le marin du nord*, vol. 26, no. 3 (July 2016): 322-4.

Book Review, *The Telegraph in America, 1832 – 1920* by David Hochfelder. *Maryland Historical Magazine*, vol. 109, no. 1 (Spring 2014): 121-23.

Book Review, *A Short Bright Flash: Augustin Fresnel and the Birth of the Modern Lighthouse* by Theresa Levitt. *Sea History: The Art, Literature, Adventure, Lore and Learning of the Sea*, (Winter 2013-14): 60.

Book Review, *Measure of the Earth: The Enlightenment Expedition that Shaped the World* by Larry D. Ferriero. *The Northern Mariner / Le marin du nord*, vol. 23, no. 1 (January 2013): 61.

Book Review, *Darwin’s Sacred Cause: How a Hatred of Slavery Shaped Darwin’s Views on Evolution* by Adrian Desmond and James Moore. *Tuckasegee Valley Historical Review*, vol. 18, no. 1 (2012): 142-45.

*Other Publications*

“Captured in Film: The Civil War Seen Through a Camera’s Eyes,” *MdHS News* (Fall 2010): 10-14.

“The Pacific Theater of Naval Warfare in the Mexican-American War,” *California Military History*, <http://www.militarymuseum.org/NavyMexWar.html>, (Feb 21, 2009).

**INVITED PAPERS:**

“The Introduction of the Fresnel Lens into the United States Light-House Establishment,” *National Lighthouse Museum*, Staten Island, NY, July 2017.

“Lemuel Moody and the Portland Observatory: A Case Study in the Transmission of Lay Knowledge in the Early American Republic,” *Greater Portland Landmarks, Inc.,* Portland, ME, October 2013.

**CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS, POSTERS, AND ACADEMIC PAPERS:**

“Innovating Maintenance or Maintaining Innovation?: Policy and Practice in the United States Lighthouse Establishment, 1789 – 1852,” *Maintainers III Conference*, Washington DC, October 2019.

“Seven Flags over the Cooper: James Maude Elford and the Quest for a Universal Maritime Signal Code,” *Southern Association for the History of Medicine and Science (SAHMS)*, Augusta, GA, February 2018.

“Promoting Fresnel in America: The Army Corps of Engineers and the De-democratization of Science in the Nineteenth Century United States.” *Society for the History of Technology (SHOT)*, Philadelphia, PA, October 2017.

“Delaying Fresnel: A Study in Nineteenth-Century Maritime Technology Transfer,” *North American Society for Oceanic History (NASOH)*, Charleston, SC, May 2017.

“Importing the Fresnel Lens: A Reinterpretation of Stephen Pleasanton, the United States

 Treasury and the Adoption of the Fresnel Lighthouse Lens in America,” *10th Maritime*

 *Heritage Conference*, Norfolk, VA, September 2014.

“Lemuel Moody and the Portland Observatory: A Case Study in KnowledgeTransfer in the

 Early American Republic” *Society for the History of Technology (SHOT) Annual*

 *Conference*, Portland, ME, October 2013.

“Marine Observatories: Maritime Communications in the Antebellum Era,” *Public History of Science and Technology Conference* Columbia, SC, September 2011.

“Ship to Shore: Infrastructure and the Growth of American Seaports, 1790 - 1850,” *North American Society for Oceanic History (NASOH)*, Norfolk, VA, May 2011.

**MEDIA PRESENTATIONS:**

“Presentation Illuminates Most Historic Development in Lighthouse Technology.” *NY1 News*, July, 24, 2017.

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE:**

University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC. History Instructor, May 2017 – May 2019

* *HIST 108 Science and Technology in World History –* undergraduate introductory survey
* *HIST 108 Science and Technology in World History* (online) *–* undergraduate introductory survey
* *HIST 111 United States History to 1865* – undergraduate introductory survey
* *HIST 112 United States History since 1865* – undergraduate introductory survey
* *HIST 201 America’s Founding Documents* – undergraduate survey
* *HIST 493 Special Topics: History of the Automobile* – undergraduate upper division seminar

University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC. Bridge Humanities Fellow, August 2016 – May 2017**.**

* *SAEL 200 Social Advocacy and Ethical Life* – interdisciplinary undergraduate course on rhetoric, moral philosophy, and social advocacy

University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC. Graduate Instructor, 2014-2016.

* *HIST 108 Science and Technology in World History* – undergraduate introductory survey
* *HIST 112 U*. *S. History since 1865* – undergraduate introductory survey

University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC. Teaching Assistant, 2011-2014.

* Classes Assisted: *HIST 108 Science and Technology in World History* (undergraduate introductory survey), *HIST 109 Latin American History* (undergraduate introductory survey), *HIST 102 Western Civilization since 1700* (undergraduate introductory survey), *HIST 111 U. S. History to 1865* (undergraduate introductory survey), *HIST 112 U. S. History sine 1865* (undergraduate introductory survey).

University of Maryland Baltimore County, Baltimore, MD. Teaching Assistant, 2010-2011.

* Classes Assisted: *HIST 201 Introduction to Historical Methods* (undergraduate majors only methodology course), *HIST 304 United States and the Vietnam War* (upper level undergraduate survey).

**SERVICE TO UNIVERSITY:**

Carolina Judicial Council, University of South Carolina

* Panelist, 2019 - 2020

Discover USC Day, University of South Carolina

* Judge of Undergraduate Oral Presentations, 2017

**PUBLIC HISTORY EXPERIENCE:**

*Archives and Manuscripts*

“Richard Lemay Papers, 1962 – 2004,” MS 2004:9, Irvin Department of Rare Books and Special Collections, Ernest F. Hollings Special CollectionsLibrary, University of South Carolina Libraries, Columbia, SC. Collection of research papers relating to medieval and Arabic philosophy and science.

“Robert B. Ariail Papers, 1803 – 2011,” MS 2011:1, Department of Rare Books and Special Collections, Ernest F. Hollings Special CollectionsLibrary, University of South Carolina Libraries, Columbia, SC. Collection of personal papers of a local amateur astronomer primarily concerned with the author’s astronomical observations and his restoration of a historic telescope.

“Boyd Family Civil War Photograph Collection, 1861 – 1935,” PP230, Maryland Historical Society, Baltimore, Maryland. Updated collection of photographs from the American Civil War and the collection originator’s personal travel to Civil War sites in the early 20th century.

*Museums Exhibits and Collections*

Sandy Spring Museum, Sandy Spring, MD. Fall 2009. Built a database for the museum which was used by a collaborative team to document the museum’s large collection of farm implements and agricultural related artifacts. As part of the team, I also advised the museum staff on the proper storage and care of the artifacts.

Snodgrass One-Room Schoolhouse Museum, Fairmont, WV. Spring 2007. Worked on a collaborative exhibit highlighting various aspects of education in rural America in the early 20th century and of attending a one-room school.

*Public History Outreach*

National History Day is a program for high school students to engage in historical research and present their findings on a pre-selected historical topic. Presentations may be in the form of essays, posters, or websites.

* Local Regional Judge, Columbia, South Carolina, 2015-2016, 2019
* Local Regional Judge, Rock Hill, South Carolina, 2019
* State Level Judge, Baltimore, Maryland, 2011.

Historic Columbia Foundation, Columbia, SC. Historic Columbia Foundation is the steward of several historic house museums in Columbia, SC.

* Assisted with the Historic Earlewood District Survey for consideration for the National Register of Historic Places, 2014 - 2015. (Project Lead: Kimberly Campbell).
* Assisted with staff preparation for special occasion exhibits, annual care and inspection of artifacts on permanent display, and holiday preparations, 2014 – 2015. (Project Lead: Ellen Robinson, 2014 and Janie Campbell, 2015).

**GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS:**

Linda Hall Library Travel Fellowship, March 2019. Grant awarded by the Linda Hall Library to conduct research on the professionalization of engineering in the United States in the 19th century.

Rakow Research Grant, March 2019. Grant awarded by The Rakow Research Library at the Corning Museum of Glass to research the American Flint Glassworkers Strike of 1904.

Hayek Fund for Scholars, March 2017. Grant awarded by the Institute for Humane Studies at George Mason University to present at the 2017 NASOH Conference.

Richard A. Bacas Scholarship, August 2015. Scholarship awarded by the Institute for Humane Studies at George Mason University to pursue Ph.D.

Pam Laird Research Grant (Mercurians Special Interest Group of SHOT), October 2015. Funding to conduct research on marine telegraph signal flags at Nantucket Historical Society and Mystic Seaport.

USC Graduate Student Association Travel Grant, May 2014. Funding to present research at *10th Maritime Heritage Conference* in Norfolk, VA.

Society for the History of Technology (SHOT) Graduate Travel Grant, October 2013. Funding to present research at annual conference in Portland, ME.

USC Graduate Student Association Travel Grant, September 2013. Funding to present research at SHOT annual conference in Portland, ME.

UMBC Graduate Student Association Research Grant, January 2011. Funding to conduct research for Master’s Thesis.

UMBC Graduate Student Association Research Grant, January 2010. Funding to conduct research for Master’s Thesis.

**FELLOWSHIPS:**

Bridge Humanities Fellowship, 2016

Clyde Ferrell Summer Dissertation Research Fellowship, 2015

Consortium for the History of Science, Technology, and Medicine Research Fellow, 2015

**HONORS AND AWARDS:**

Two Thumbs Up Award, Univ. of South Carolina Office of Student Disability Services, 2019

 (For significantly impacting the academic career of a student with a disability.)

John A. & Annie Rice Excellence in Teaching Award, Univ. of South Carolina Department of

 History, 2015

Guest Coach, Univ. of South Carolina Equestrian Team, 2015

 (Student nominated award.)

Phi Alpha Theta, Fairmont State University, 2008

Pi Gamma Mu, Fairmont State University, 2007

President’s List, Fairmont State University, 2005

Phi Theta Kappa, Fairmont State University, 2004

Eagle Scout, Boy Scouts of America, 1984

**PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS:**

Maryland Historical Society (MdHS)

Maintainers, SIGIS

Mercurians, SIGIS

National Maritime Historical Society (NMHS)

North American Society for Oceanic History (NASOH)

Society for the History of Technology (SHOT)

Southern Association for the History of Medicine and Science (SAHMS)

**OTHER ACADEMIC RELATED WORK EXPERIENCE:**

Educational Testing Service (ETS), Princeton, NJ. AP Reader, 2014-present. Read and score AP essays in U. S. History for high school students applying for college credit

University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC), Baltimore, MD. Orientation Advisor, 2010-2011. Assisted new students with scheduling of classes and provided said students with information on campus resources.

**NON-ACADEMIC WORK EXPERIENCE:**

West Virginia University Center for Excellence in Disabilities, Morgantown, WV. 2004-2009. Created and maintained accessible content for Center’s website. Created and maintained accessible content for West Virginia Positive Behavior Support Program. Managed various facilities projects to ensure accessibility and adherence to ADA regulations.

Mt. Lebanon Office Equipment, Pittsburgh, PA. Distribution Manager. 2003 – 2004. Oversaw all aspects of office furniture warehouse and delivery including supervising six employees, complete project management of office furniture installations, inventory control, and warehouse shipping and receiving.

Champion Industries, Morgantown, WV. Sales Assistant. 2001-2003. Researched products for outside sales reps, assisted sales reps with calculating product costs and profit margins, produced annual sales catalog, and conducted outside sales of office furniture.

Commercial Office Environments, Indianapolis, IN. 2001. Project Manager. Supervised up to 20 sub-contractors while overseeing all aspects of office furniture installations.

Atlas Office Supply / Boise Cascade Office Products, Indianapolis, IN. 1994-2001. Final position Furniture Distribution Manager. Oversaw all aspects of office furniture warehouse and delivery including supervising fourteen in-house employees and numerous sub-contractors, complete project management of office furniture installations, inventory control, and warehouse shipping and receiving.