



## NOTES FROM THE DEAN

Dear Alumn,

I hope you are enjoying your summer travels, vacations, and projects. To our May 2011 graduates, congratulations once again and welcome to your first alumni email from the CHSS!

I'm very proud to share with you the news that professors Suzanne Smith and Rosemarie Zagarri from the Department of History and Art History have been named [Distinguished Lecturers](#) by the Organization of American Historians. The OAH is the largest professional society dedicated to the study and teaching of American history. This is an honor for Mason, being one of only five schools having multiple lecturers selected this year.



Coming up during next year's spring break (March 2012), our faculty will lead three educational week long trips as part of the college's extensive study abroad offerings. These trips are open to alumni and outlined below:



Char Miller, a faculty member in the Department of Public and International Affairs, will be leading a [trip to Greece](#). The group will visit landmarks including Athens, the Acropolis, the Nike Temple, the National Archaeological Museum, the Old Olympic Stadium, Olympia, Mount Olympus, and the Byzantine Castle of Platamonas.

Marion Deshmukh, Robert T. Hawkes Professor of History, will lead a [trip to Germany](#). The delegation will visit Munich, Berlin, Potsdam, and explore some of the country's great sites, such as the Berlin Wall border area, Nymphenburg Palace, the Olympic Stadium, and Linderhof and Neuschwanstein - two of "Mad" King Ludwig of Bavaria's castles.



Finally, I, along with Jane Censer, a professor in the Department of History and Art History, will lead a [trip to Memphis, Tennessee](#). In an in-depth look at one of America's most

culturally rich and dynamic cities, the program will include a tour of the National Civil Rights Museum, a visit to Graceland, a stroll on historic Beale Street, and a detour to Oxford, Mississippi home of William Faulkner.

The application deadline for these three trips is October 1. Space is limited and reservations are first-come, first-served. [Learn more.](#)

In 2009, CHSS created the [Dean's Distinction for Public Service Award](#) to recognize students who have performed at outstanding levels of public service during their undergraduate careers at Mason. This past year, nearly 100 students submitted information about their public service activities. Congratulations to our two award winners, Beverly Nyokabi and Kristen Karinshak. Nyokabi has volunteered hundreds of hours at the Fairfax Adult Detention Center as well as at area hospitals. Karinshak volunteers with Wisdom Spring Inc., and through this organization, she started a fundraiser for building water wells in Burkina Faso. The fundraiser is now in its eighth year and has raised over \$200,000.

As part of Alumni Weekend, I hope you all will join me on the Fairfax campus on Saturday, October 1, from 4-6 p.m. for a [beer tasting](#) featuring Dogfish Head Ale and food pairings. I look forward to sampling the offerings and reconnecting with you.



Yours in Patriot Pride,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jack R. Censer".

Jack R. Censer  
Dean, College of Humanities and Social Sciences

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