

Christopher J. Olsen

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**EDUCATION:**

University of Florida Phi Beta Kappa	1990-1996	Ph.D., United States History Minors: Colonial Latin America Political Culture Theory
University of Nebraska	1988-1990	M.A., United States History Minor: British Empire
North Dakota State University	1984-1988	B.A., History

**BOOKS and PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES and CHAPTERS:**

“The Politics of Honor and Masculinity,” in *Southern Identities: New Essays in the History of an American Region*, eds., Daniel Kilbride and Lisa Tendrich Frank, “Southern Dissent” series, eds. Randall Miller and Stanley Harrold (Gainesville, FL: University Press of Florida). [forthcoming, 2011]

“White Families and Political Culture in the Old South,” in *Family Values in the Old South*, eds. Craig Thompson Friend and Anya Jabour (Gainesville, FL: University Press of Florida, 2010).

“Eliza Frances Andrews: ‘I Will Have to Say ‘Damn!’ Yet, Before I Am Done with Them,’” in *Georgia Women: Their Lives and Times*, Volume I, eds. Betty Wood and Ann Short Chirhart (Athens, GA: University of Georgia Press, 2009).

Nominated for:

A. Elizabeth Taylor Award (Southern Association for Women Historians)

*The American Civil War: A Hands-On History* (New York: Hill & Wang [Farrar, Strauss, & Giroux], 2007; paperback edition).

*The American Civil War: A Hands-On History* (New York: Hill & Wang [Farrar, Strauss, & Giroux], 2006).

Nominated for:

The Lincoln Prize

*Political Culture and Secession in Mississippi: Honor, Masculinity, and the Antiparty Tradition, 1830-1860* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2002; paperback edition).

*Political Culture and Secession in Mississippi: Honor, Masculinity, and the Antiparty Tradition, 1830-1860* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2000).

Nominated for:

Frederick Jackson Turner Prize (Organization of American Historians)  
Avery Craven Award (Organization of American Historians)

Ellis Hawley Prize (Organization of American Historians)  
Frank L. and Harriet C. Owsley Award (Southern Historical Association)  
Francis B. Simkins Award (Southern Historical Association)  
Social Science History Prize (Social Science History Association)  
Richard Aubrey McLemore Prize (Mississippi Historical Society)  
Eugene D. Genovese Book Prize (The Historical Society)

“Women and Party Politics in the Old South: Mississippi in the 1840s and 1850s,” *Journal of Women’s History*, 11:2 (Autumn 1999): 104-125.

“‘Molly Pitcher’ of the Mississippi Whigs: The Editorial Career of Mrs. Harriet N. Prewett,” *The Journal of Mississippi History*, LVIII (Fall 1996), 237-254.

### **OTHER PUBLICATIONS**

“Sectionalism and Regionalism,” [contextual essay] in *American Centuries: The Ideas, Issues, and Trends that Made U. S. History, Volume II: The 17<sup>th</sup> Century*, ed. John Demos (New York: MTM Publishing, Inc.) [expected 2011]

“Paternalism,” [contextual essay] in *The New Encyclopedia of Southern History, Volume 13: Gender*, eds. Ted Ownby and Nancy Bercaw (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2009), 201-205.

“Sectionalism,” in *The Encyclopedia of United States Political History, Vol. II*, ed. Michael Morrison (New York: MTM Publishing, 2010).

“Politics,” [contextual essay], “Secession,” “Election of 1860,” and “Election of 1864,” in *Women in the Civil War*, ed. Lisa Tendrich Frank (New York: ABC-CLIO, Inc., 2007), 54-60, 234-235, 236-237, 489-492.

“Secessionist Movement,” in *The Mississippi Encyclopedia*, ed. Charles Reagan Wilson (Jackson: University Press of Mississippi, expected 2011).

“Mexican-American War: Democrats,” and “Civil War: Recruiting Bounties,” in *The United States at War* (New York: ABC-CLIO, Inc., 2005).

“Secession,” in *Americans at War: Society, Culture, and the Homefront*, ed. John P. Resch (New York: Macmillan, 2004).

“Jefferson Davis,” “States Rights,” and “Political Conventions,” in the *Reader’s Guide to American History*, ed. Peter J. Parish (Chicago: Fitzroy Dearborn Publishers, 1998).

### **CONFERENCE PAPERS and PANELS:**

“Defining the Right to Vote in the Old South,” Southern Historical Association Annual Conference, Charlotte, NC, November 4-7, 2010 (paper).

“The Honor Paradigm for the Early Republic: Whither the Interpretation?,” Society for Historians of the Early American Republic Annual Conference, Springfield, IL, July 18, 2009 (invited panel member; could not attend).

- “Roundtable Discussion of 2008 Advanced Placement U. S. History Exam,” Organization of American Historians Annual Conference, Seattle, WA, March, 2009 (invited panel member).
- “Gauging the Impact of Social Sciences on the U. S. History A. P. Exam,” Social Science Historical Association Annual Conference, Chicago, IL, November 16, 2007 (paper).
- “Student Performance on the 2006 Advanced Placement U. S. History Exam and Antebellum Themes in the U. S. History Survey Course,” Organization of American Historians Annual Conference, Minneapolis, MN, March 29, 2007 (paper; withdrawn).
- “Immigration as a Theme in the U. S. History Survey Course,” Advanced Placement Annual Conference, Orlando, FL, July 15, 2006 (paper).
- “The Politics of Honor and Masculinity,” Honoring a Master: Rethinking the History of the American South, a Conference in Honor of Bertram Wyatt-Brown, Gainesville, FL, Oct. 14-15, 2005 (invited paper).
- “Teacher Preparation and Liberal Education: The Challenges of Integrating Academic Cultures,” AAC&U Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA, Jan. 26-29, 2005 (invited panel member).
- “Political Culture and Secession: Local Politics and the Origins of Disunion,” Southern Historical Association Annual Meeting, Memphis, Tennessee, November 6-9, 2004 (paper).
- “The Rituals of Election Day in Antebellum America: Negotiating Class, Gender, and Race,” Social Science History Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, Illinois, November 18-21, 2004 (paper).
- Book Session: *The Rude Republic*, by Glenn Altschuler and Stuart Blumin, Social Science History Association Annual Meeting, Baltimore, Maryland, November 13-16, 2003 (invited paper).
- “From Grassroots to the Capitol: Women’s Experiences in Formal Politics in the Post-Suffrage Era,” Social Science History Association Annual Meeting, Baltimore, Maryland, November 13-16, 2003 (comment).
- “Masculinity, Honor, and the Antiparty Political Culture in Antebellum Mississippi,” Historic Natchez Conference, Natchez, Mississippi, February 13-17, 2002 (invited paper).
- “Elections as Ritual: Voting and Running for Office in the Old South,” Southern Historical Association Annual Meeting, New Orleans, Louisiana, November 16-19, 2001 (paper).
- “Political Culture in the Nineteenth Century: A Ritualistic Perspective on Voting and Elections in the United States, Brazil, and Great Britain,” Organization of American Historians Annual Meeting, St. Louis, Missouri, March 30-April 2, 2000 (paper).
- “Women and Party Politics in the Old South: Mississippi in the 1840s and 1850s,” presented at the Society for the History of the Early American Republic Annual Meeting, July 18-21, 1996 (paper).
- “Political Culture in Mississippi, 1850-1860,” presented at “Reflections on the History of the Old Natchez District” Conference, January, 1994 (invited paper).
- “Yeoman Farmers and the Death of Unionism in the Deep South--Mississippi, 1851-1860,” Missouri

Valley History Conference, March, 1990 (paper).

**RESEARCH INTERESTS and WORKS in PROGRESS:**

Nineteenth-century political culture; Antebellum America; Secession and Civil War; comparative slavery.

“Politics and Political Culture in Antebellum America,” book research and manuscript in progress.

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE:**

Associate Professor, Nineteenth-Century American History, Indiana State University,  
Fall 2002 to present

Assistant Professor, Nineteenth-Century American History, Indiana State University,  
Fall 1999 to Spring 2002

*Classes taught:* Civil War and Reconstruction, 1848-1877; Comparative Slavery; The South; Antebellum America, 1815-1848; The American Civil War [general education survey: in person; on-line; and interactive television versions]; Historiography; United States survey to 1865; The Age of Jackson and Lincoln; United States Political Culture and Populist Movements [graduate seminar]

Assistant Professor, American and Colonial Latin American History, Virginia Wesleyan College,  
Fall 1996 to Summer 1999

*Classes taught:* America in the Middle Period, 1820-1877; The Old South; Comparative Slavery: Issues and Interpretations; Colonial and Revolutionary America: Issues and Interpretations; Political History of the United States since 1789; Colonial Latin America; Research Methods Seminar; Internships in Public History; America to 1877; America since 1877

Adjunct Professor, American History, University of Florida, Fall 1995; Spring 1996

*Classes taught:* American survey to 1877

**BOOK REVIEWS:**

*Military Education and the Emerging Middle Class in the Old South*, by Jennifer R. Green, *American Historical Review*, 114:4 (October 2009).

*The Age of Lincoln*, by Orville Vernon Burton, *H-Law*, posted August 7, 2009.

*Diehard Rebels: The Confederate Culture of Invincibility*, by Jason Phillips, *Journal of Military History*, 72:4 (October 2008).

*History Teaches Us To Hope: Reflections on the Civil War and Southern History*, by Charles P. Roland, *Ohio Valley History*, 8:4 (Winter 2008).

*Politics and Culture of the Civil War Era: Essays in Honor of Robert W. Johannsen*, edited by Daniel McDonough and Kenneth W. Noe, *Journal of Southern History*, 73:4 (November 2007).

*Divided Mastery: Slave Hiring in the Old South*, by Jonathan D. Martin, *Georgia Historical Quarterly*, 91:1 (Spring 2007).

*The Last Generation: Young Virginians in Peace, War, and Reunion*, by Peter S. Carmichael, *Journal of American History*, 93:3 (December 2006).

*Halls of Honor: College Men in the Old South*, by Robert F. Pace, *H-South*, posted May 15, 2007.

*Conjectures of Order: Intellectual Life and the American South, 1810-1860*, by Michael O'Brien, *Alabama Review*, 58:2 (April 2005).

*Notorious in the Neighborhood: Sex and Families across the Color Line in Virginia, 1787-1861*, by Joshua D. Rothman, *H-South*, posted December, 2004.

*All That Makes a Man: Love and Ambition in the Civil War South*, by Stephen W. Berry II, *American Historical Review*, 109:4 (October 2004).

*Roots of Secession: Slavery and Politics in Antebellum Virginia*, by William A. Link, and *A Perfect War of Politics: Parties, Politicians, and Democracy in Louisiana, 1824-1861*, by John M. Sacher, *Civil War History*, 54:2 (June 2008).

*Look Away! A History of the Confederate States of America*, by William C. Davis, *Journal of Illinois History*, 6:1 (Spring 2003).

*The Peculiar Democracy: Southern Democrats in Peace and War*, by Wallace Hettle, *The American Historical Review*, 107: 1 (April 2002).

*The Union that Shaped the Confederacy: Robert Toombs & Alexander Stephens*, by William C. Davis, *Journal of American History*, 89:1 (June 2002).

*Long Gray Lines: The Southern Military School Tradition, 1839-1915*, by Rod Andrew, Jr., *Journal of Military History*, 66:1 (January 2002).

*Apostles of Disunion: Southern Secession Commissioners and the Causes of the Civil War*, by Charles B. Dew, *H-South*, posted January 10, 2002.

*The Counterrevolution of Slavery: Politics and Ideology in Antebellum South Carolina*, by Manisha Sinha, *Georgia Historical Quarterly*, LXXXV (Summer 2001).

*The Papers of Ulysses S. Grant, Volume 23: February 1–December 31, 1872*, edited by John Y. Simon, *The Filson History Quarterly* 75 (Spring 2001).

*The Men of Secession and Civil War 1859-1861*, by James Abrahamson, *Georgia Historical Quarterly*, LXXXIV (Summer 2000).

*John Quincy Adams: A Public Life, A Private Life*, by Paul Nagel, delivered at Westminster Canterbury, Virginia Beach, VA, March 10, 1999.

*Alexander William Doniphan: Portrait of a Missouri Moderate*, by Roger D. Launius, and *Senator James Murray Mason: Defender of the Old South*, by Robert W. Young, *Journal of the Early Republic* 18 (Winter 1998).

*Washington County: Politics and Community in Antebellum America*, by Paul Bourke and Donald

DeBats, *Australasian Journal of American Studies* 16 (July 1997).

*Old Southampton: Politics and Society in a Virginia County 1834-1869*, by Daniel W. Crofts, *The Southern Historian* XV (Spring 1994).

*Political Parties and American Political Development from the Age of Jackson to the Age of Lincoln*, by Michael Holt, *The Florida Historical Quarterly* LXXII (April 1994).

*The First New South, 1865-1920*, by Howard Rabinowitz, *The Southern Historian* XIV (Spring 1993).

**SELECTED GRANTS, AWARDS, and FELLOWSHIPS:**

Liberal Learning in Action Grant, Indiana State University and the Lilly Foundation Slavery in American History and the World Today	2009
Alliance for Excellence through Engagement & Experiential Learning Grant Indiana State University and the Lilly Foundation Civil War and Reconstruction in Indiana	2008
Program of Promise Grant, Indiana State University and the Lilly Foundation The Research Center for Local History and Culture	2006-2010
Focus Indiana Grant, Community-Based Learning Initiative Internships in Public History	2005-2008
Alliance for Excellence through Engagement & Experiential Learning Grant Indiana State University and the Lilly Foundation Internships in Public History and Oral Histories of the Wabash Valley Faculty Fellow	2005-2006
Liberal Learning in Action Grant, Indiana State University Preserving the Past, Engaging the Present: Oral Histories of the Wabash Valley	2004-2005
Experiential Learning Planning Grant, Indiana State University and the Lilly Foundation Developing Internships for History Majors	2004
University Research Grant University Research Council, Indiana State University Antebellum Political Culture	2001-2003
Faculty Development Grants (various) Indiana State University	1999-2010
Faculty Development Research Grant Virginia Wesleyan College	1999
Samuel Nelson Gray Distinguished Teaching Award, Finalist Virginia Wesleyan College	1999
Mednick Research Grant Virginia Foundation of Independent Colleges Slavery in Antebellum Virginia	1998
Planning Grant, Virginia Foundation for the Humanities Virginia Perspectives on the Federal Experiment	1997
Dissertation Fellowship College of Arts and Sciences, University of Florida	1995-1996
Dissertation Fellowship College of Arts and Sciences, University of Florida	1993-1994

Samuel Proctor Graduate Teaching Award History Department, University of Florida	1992-1993
Graduate Council, Doctoral Fellowship Graduate School, University of Florida	1990-1991
Heitzman Research Grant University of Nebraska	1990
Valeda Wood Research Grant University of Nebraska	1990
<i>Who's Who in America</i>	
<i>Who's Who in the World</i>	
<i>Who's Who in American Education</i>	

***SELECTED INSTITUTIONAL SERVICE:***

at Indiana State University:

History Dept., Chair	2003-present
African and African American Studies Dept., Interim Chair	2005-2010
The Research Center for Local History and Culture, Director	2006-present
University, Faculty Senate, Administrative Affairs Committee	2009-present
University, General Education Task Force	2007-2009
University, African American Cultural Center Task Force	2007-2009
University, Faculty Performance Review Task Force	2008-2009
University, African American Cultural Center Director Search Committee	2009-2010
University, Corrections Education Program Academic Advisory Committee	2009-present
College of Arts & Sciences, Interdisciplinary Programs Task Force	2007-2008
College of Arts & Sciences, Associate Deans Screening Committee, Chair	2007
University, Director of Honors Screening Committee, Chair	2006
University, Project PRE Planning Task Force for Elementary Education Curriculum	2004-2005
University, Friends of Cunningham Memorial Library, Board of Directors	2005-2007
University, Eugene V. Debs Fellowship Committee, Chair	2003-present
College of Arts & Sciences, Council of Academic Advisors, Dept. Rep.	2003-2004
History Dept., Internship Coordinator	2005-2007
History Dept., Graduate Committee, Chair	2002-2003
History Dept., 19th/20th Century United States Search Committee	2002-2003
History Dept., United States since 1865 Search Committee	2002-2003
History Dept., English/British Search Committee, Chair	2001-2002
History Dept., Graduate and Curriculum Committees	1999-2003
History Dept., Salary & Performance Review Committee	2000-2002
History Dept., undergraduate academic advisor	1999-present
African and African American Studies Dept., undergraduate academic advisor	2007-present
College of Arts & Sciences, Faculty Council, Dept. Representative	2001-2003
University, Faculty & Employee Benefits Committee, Secretary	2001-2002
University, Special Program Grant, Dept. Representative: "Integrating Technology into Standards-Based Teaching"	2001-2003
University, Faculty Learning Community	2000-2001
University, Speakers' Series Sub-Committees	1999-2001
History Dept., Latin American Search Committee	1999-2000

at Virginia Wesleyan College:

History Dept., Internship Coordinator	1996-1999
College, Rhodes Scholarship Advisor and Coordinator	1998-1999
College, Representative, Virginia History Day	1996-1999

***OTHER PROFESSIONAL SERVICE:***

The College Board, Advanced Placement Exam, Development Committee Member, U. S. History	2005-present
<i>Indiana Magazine of History</i> Editorial Board Member	2008-present
<i>Civil War Historian</i> Editorial Board Member	2008-present
Indiana Crossroads 200 Planning Committee Member	2008-present
Ivy Tech Community College Liberal Arts Advisory Committee Member	2009-present
The College Board, Advanced Placement Exam, U. S. History Exam Reader	2003-2004, 2006
The College Board, Advanced Placement U. S. History Syllabus Review, Senior Reviewer	2007-2008
Terre Haute Landmarks Member of the Board of Directors	2006-2007
Southern Historical Association, Membership Committee	2002-2003
Phi Alpha Theta, Faculty Advisor, Indiana State University Hosted Indiana Regional Conference, April 20, 2002	1999-2005
Friends of Ferry Farm, historic preservation project, Member of the Board of Directors and Historical Advisor Virginia Beach, Virginia	1997-1999
Associate Editor, <i>The Southern Historian</i>	1994-1997

***HONORARY and PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS:***

Organization of American Historians  
 Southern Historical Association  
 Society for Historians of the Early American Republic  
 Indiana Historical Society  
 South Dakota Historical Society  
 Vigo County Historical Society  
 Phi Beta Kappa  
 Phi Alpha Theta

***REFERENCES:***

Thomas G. Sauer, Indiana State University  
Dean, College of Arts & Sciences  
Terre Haute, IN 47809  
812.237.2788  
sauer@indstate.edu

Ann Short Chirhart, Indiana State University  
Associate Professor of History, Department of History  
Terre Haute, IN 47809  
812.237.2710  
achirhart@indstate.edu

Kenneth Prouty, Michigan State University  
Associate Professor of Music, College of Music  
506 MPB  
East Lansing, MI 48824  
517.432.7297  
proutyk@msu.edu