Face to Face with Miss Freedom

The gold dome of the Georgia Capitol is an architectural icon of the New South. In *Democracy Restored*, Georgia State University historian Timothy Crimmins and Georgia State Capitol historian Anne Farrisee document its recent restoration in a rich display of blueprints, architectural drawings, and more than 225 photos—including contemporary shots by Diane Kirkland and a wealth of historical photos. But the authors have created something more than just a beautiful coffee-table book. In describing the momentous events that have unfolded beneath the dome since its completion in 1889, they have created a compelling political history of Georgia.

The book is published in association with the Georgia Humanities Council, and the state legislature has generously provided funds to allow UGA Press to send a free copy to every middle and high school in the state. Here, a coauthored account that is told from the perspective of Crimmins recalls the day Farrisee and he were able to stare into the face of Miss Freedom and how that inspired the structure and format of this unique capitol history.

A decade ago, Anne and I stood below the landing pad atop the parking deck just east of the Georgia State Capitol, our hair and jackets blowing in the rotor-induced wind. Anne was envying two documentation specialists as they climbed aboard the Governor’s private helicopter with very expensive and specially modified cameras. The purpose of their flight was to take measured photographs of the exterior of the dome. From these images and many others the first complete set of measured drawings of the statehouse would be made. They would then be digitized so that a few clicks of a mouse could yield an entire façade or a single window frame.

Anne’s envy turned to excitement when she realized I had arranged for a second flight. A photographer from the *Atlanta Journal-Constitution* was going to take a few shots for a story in the next day’s Metro section. As chair of the Commission for the Preservation of the State Capitol, I was seeking publicity for the documentation project and support for a major restoration of the statehouse. As historian for the project, Anne had already completed much of the research on the Capitol and was compiling a comprehensive account of the building and an inventory of its contents. A ride in a helicopter for a close-up look at normally inaccessible areas of the building was a rare opportunity. Luckily, the helicopter had four seats.

In the course of its work in the 1990s, the commission had convinced the Georgia General Assembly to undertake a restoration of the public areas of the building, including the atria, rotunda, house and senate chambers, and the former Supreme Court Room. The rehabilitation brought the interior of the building largely back to its original 1889 appearance while updating the legislative chambers for the twenty-first century.

When Anne and I teamed up to write what would become *Democracy Restored*, we still had to find both a focus and a voice for the book. Although we had a decade of collaborative work together, our writing styles and work habits were complementary but very different. After years of chasing down facts in her work as Capitol historian, Anne had command of the details. As an academic and urban historian, I looked more at the big picture.

High above us, atop the Capitol dome, stood the statue known as Miss Freedom. We had learned from Anne’s research that the statehouse architects Edbrooke and Burnham had picked the statue from a catalog...
FROM THE DIRECTOR

Our cover story for this second issue of Inside UGA Press focuses on the recently published Democracy Restored: A History of the Georgia State Capitol by Timothy J. Crimmins and Anne H. Farrisee, featuring photographs by Diane Kirkland. Publication of this first illustrated history of “the people’s house” would not have been possible without generous contributions and support from a number of organizations, including the state legislature, the Georgia Department of Economic Development, the Atlanta Journal-Constitution, and the architectural firm of Lord, Aeck, and Sargent. Published in association with the Georgia Humanities Council, Democracy Restored exemplifies the impact of successful collaboration through partnerships. The resulting publication will, we hope, provide the citizens of Georgia with a deeper understanding of their state’s political heritage.

Over the past few years, the Press has been able to publish several important books by partnering with organizations that share our education and outreach missions. These include the Georgia Humanities Council, the Atlanta History Center, the State Botanical Garden of Georgia, Georgia Sea Grant, the New Georgia Encyclopedia, the Southern Texts Society, Cave Canem, and the Center for American Places. In early 2008, the Press will announce new publishing partnerships with the Southern Foodways Alliance, Georgia’s Department of Natural Resources, the Virginia Quarterly Review, and the Telfair Museum of Art. I would like to take this opportunity to thank our current and future project and funding partners for their deep commitment to and support of high-quality, peer-reviewed publishing. By working together, we can better serve, inform, and reach our readers both locally and nationally. By collaborating, we can make a difference.

Nicole Mitchell
Director

FROM THE PROVOST

Like all other academic and support units on campus, the Press is subject to a seven-year comprehensive program review mandated by the Board of Regents, which meets the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) requirement for program reviews. The overall goal of these reviews is to assess the viability, quality, and productivity of each unit’s program and measure its contributions to the University’s overall goals. I am pleased to report that the program review team for UGA Press found the Press to be “an efficiently and creatively administered unit,” one that “contributes significantly to the [University’s] three-fold institutional mission and strategic goals.” The Press is “now as strong as it has ever been and poised to expand and grow further.” As the Press moves forward into digital publishing, its new development program will play a vital role in helping redefine the ways in which new scholarship and ideas are consumed by readers. And so, again, I would like to thank the twenty volunteer members of the Press’s Advisory Council for their generous and enthusiastic support of the Press’s publications and new initiatives. I would also like to thank the twelve members of the Press’s faculty Editorial Board for guiding and upholding the quality of the Press’s publishing program. Thank you for your support!

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In the decades after the Capitol dedication, the Georgia General Assembly passed Jim Crow laws that codified racial segregation and refused to consider the requests of suffragists demanding voting rights for women. For many years, the statues erected in and outside the Capitol and the portraits hung on its walls memorialized those who were champions of restricted citizenship. As our research found, there was great dissonance between the democratic symbolism inherent in the architectural details of the statehouse and the actual legislation enacted there in those early decades.

Yet in the course of the twentieth century, forces for democratic change emerged that eventually brought a dramatic transformation of the Capitol itself. We were convinced that we had an uplifting story to tell. With the extension of basic rights to women and blacks, the composition of the legislature changed and racial and gender restrictions began to fall. New memorials were introduced to the Capitol, including a water fountain honoring suffragist Mary McLendon, a statue commemorating the black legislators who were expelled from the Legislature in 1868, and a portrait of Martin Luther King Jr. Democracy Restored would begin with the construction of the statehouse and then trace the successful struggles for the extension of rights to all Georgians.

We would close with our tale. As the helicopter returned to the pad where we waited and emptied its load of technicians and their camera equipment, the pilot asked who wanted the “seat with the view.” The photographer did not seem interested, and seeing me blanch at the prospect of sitting next to an open door, Anne quickly volunteered. The second flight that day may have been shorter and its purpose less scientific, but it was a thrill to see Miss Freedom face to face, an encounter that inspired and focused our story of Georgia’s actual and symbolic center of state government.

Helicopter hovering next to the cupola of the Georgia State Capitol as it is photographed, 1997.
THE HANGING OF ANGÉLIQUE was included in a group review in the Washington Post Book World, sharing space with books about slavery by Adam Rothman, James T. Campbell, and Erskine Clarke.

The Wall Street Journal ran a glowing review of JOURNEY TOWARD JUSTICE, calling it a “moving biography . . . showing generally what compassionate, thoughtful people can do in the face of oppression.”

David Kirby was interviewed on XM Public Radio’s The Bob Edwards Show, where he discussed ULTRA-TALK and his recent poetry books.

PEACHTREE CREEK received extensive coverage in the Atlanta-area media. Atlanta Magazine ran an 8-page excerpt in the August issue. Both the Atlanta Journal-Constitution and Creative Loafing ran feature stories just prior to the book launch event at the Atlanta History Center. Atlanta Homes & Lifestyles featured the book in the September issue.

The Bloomsbury Review called THE RINGING EAR: BLACK POETS LEAN SOUTH “a timely, vital collection that insists the uses of poetry must be redefined and examined through the work of some of our best poets.”

GEORGIA QUILTS received statewide review attention in places like Atlanta Home Magazine, Athens Magazine, WGAU’s Barbara Dooley Show, and the Savannah Morning News. It was reviewed in the August issue of Southern Living. Georgia Public Television will re-air a quilting special featuring editor Anita Weinraub for their fall fund-raiser and the book will be used as a gift for donors.

Atlanta Magazine and Atlanta Style & Design both will run stories on PROPHET FROM PLAINS. The Mobile Register is going to run an excerpt from the book. A book launch event will be held at the Carter Center on October 24.

Labor Day weekend, thousands of book lovers swarmed the streets of downtown Decatur, Georgia, for the second annual ATLANTA JOURNAL-CONSTITUTION DECATUR BOOK FESTIVAL. Business at the the Press’s booth was brisk both days, selling hundreds of books to an eager crowd. Many of our authors gave talks and signed books throughout the weekend, including Frye Gaillard, Tim Crimmins and Anne Farrisee, Perry Dilbeck, Roy Blount Jr., Anita Weinraub, Nathalie Dupree, Jack Bass, David Kirby, David Kaufman, and Vernon Burton.

Authors Vernon Burton and Nathalie Dupree stop by the UGA Press booth.
Julia Oliver received the 2007 John Esten Cooke Award for *DEVOTION: A NOVEL BASED ON THE LIFE OF WINNIE DAVIS, DAUGHTER OF THE CONFEDERACY*.

Dwonna Goldstone, author of *INTEGRATING THE 40 ACRES*, won the 2006 Coral Horton Tullis Memorial Prize for the best book on Texas history.

**SHORT STORIES OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT** won the 2006 *ForeWord* Book of the Year in the Anthologies Category and was chosen by the American Library Association for their “Best of the Best of the University Presses: Books You Should Know About.”

Vincent Carretta was awarded the University of Maryland’s Kirwan Faculty Research and Scholarship Prize for *EQUIANO, THE AFRICAN*, the first time someone in the humanities received this prestigious award. Carretta was also granted a Distinguished Visiting Fellowship at Queen Mary, University of London, for spring 2008.

Two UGA Press authors, Hugh Ruppersburg and Philip Lee Williams, received Governor’s Awards in the Humanities given by the Georgia Humanities Council.

Dr. Paul M. Pressly (left), member of the UGA Press Advisory Council and the Hodge Foundation, Inc., was instrumental in arranging for the talks in Savannah.

Press author Mark Bixler takes *The Lost Boys of Sudan* to Savannah in February 2007

More than 300 world history high school students attended a presentation by Atlanta Journal-Constitution writer Mark Bixler in Savannah, Georgia, on February 15, 2007. Bixler’s highly acclaimed *The Lost Boys of Sudan* (UGA Press, 2005) chronicles, with compassion and admiration, the journey of four of the 3,800 Sudanese refugees relocated to this country in 2001.

More than 100 people from Savannah and Chatham County turned out for a second, evening presentation for the community.

Jacob Magot, one of the Lost Boys featured in the book, accompanied Bixler to Savannah. He spoke of the horrors of war-torn Sudan and of his new life in the United States. When he landed at the Atlanta airport, he had never seen a tall building or turned on a light switch. He is now a student at Georgia State University. Both audiences were moved by the story and heartened by Magot’s nobility, perseverance, and faith.

Bixler was invited to speak in Savannah by the Hodge Foundation, Inc. His visit was made possible by generous gifts from the UGA President’s Venture Fund, the Savannah–Chatham County Public School System, Dr. and Mrs. Paul M. Pressly, and the Wormsloe Foundation, Inc.
What goes into creating a book of lasting worth? UGA Press’s publishing professionals cultivate original research and capture new ideas by scholars and writers to produce important new books that will, we hope, nourish and stimulate generations of readers.

In today’s competitive publishing climate, advances are critical to attracting the best authors and the best books in our major subject areas. Gifts to the Press can support these advances and also support the rigorous peer-review process that turns book proposals and ideas into manuscripts of enduring scholarly or artistic significance. Donations can also help underwrite the costs of the high-quality editing, design, and production values expected from university press publications.

Our thanks to all of you who enjoy and support the important work we do. Please contact me with questions or comments at lstewart@uga.edu or (706) 369-6049.

Lane Stewart
Director of Development

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“The worth of a book is to be measured by what you can carry away from it.”—James Bryce

Development News
The University of Georgia Press is pleased to announce the establishment of a fund to support new publications. We are grateful for the enthusiasm shown by our Advisory Council members and other supporters for this fund. Many thanks to early contributors, whose gifts total more than $65,000.

If you enjoy our publications and would like to support the Press by making a gift of any amount to the UGA Press Friends Fund, please contact Lane Stewart at (706) 369-6049 or lstewart@uga.edu.

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UGA Press Friends Fund

August 23, 2007, AGL Resources Private Foundation board meeting. In November 2006 AGL Resources Private Foundation, Inc., awarded UGA Press $50,000 to support the publication of The Guide to the Natural Environments of Georgia. Pictured from left to right are Press acquisitions editor Judy Purdy; Guide editors Jonathan Ambrose, James Renner, Leslie Edwards, and Katherine Kirkman; Melanie Platt, President, AGL Foundation; and Lindsay Thomas, Press Advisory Council member and Senior Vice President for Governmental Relations at AGL Resources.

Advisory Council members and spouses: 1st row: Louise McBee, Judy Hales; 2nd row: Diana Barrow, Bruce McEver, Ed Hales; 3rd row: Clare Ellis, Henrietta Singletary, Rosie Kay, Craig Barrow; 4th row: Wiley Ellis, Sarah Ross, Ben Kay, Nancy Thomas; 5th row: Marvin Singletary, Linda Bachman, Lindsay Thomas; back: Rick Meyer, Peggy Galis, Roy Barnes.
After decades of being both celebrated and dismissed as the exception within American exceptionalism, the South is emerging as central to debates in fields ranging from American Studies and African American Studies to cultural studies and postcolonial theory. The chief aim of this series is a floor-to-ceiling rethinking of some of the central ideas of the last twenty years of critical theory: objecthood, identity, space, nation, region, abjection, the body, empire.

NANCY GRAYSON, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF, SPEAKS WITH JON SMITH AND RICHÉ RICHARDSON, SERIES EDITORS

Grayson: What is “the new southern studies,” and how does it differ from the more traditional southern studies?

Smith: I’d say southern studies has gone through three phases. First, you had people talking about how distinctive the South was from the rest of the nation, because of—it’s become a litany—a sense of community, a sense of place, the presence of the past, and so on. That lasted from the 1930s through the 1980s, but people chiefly meant the white South, and often male at that. Then the baby boomers came along, with their interests in race and gender, and they tried to expand the old models to include white women and African Americans, but it didn’t really work. “Sense of place,” for example, was just too close to “knowing your place.” So in 1998 one scholar, Michael Kreyling, actually declared the field dead. It wasn’t. The new southern studies started when people finally said, let’s throw out the old models and rethink things from the ground up. Though some of that energy came from senior scholars, it helped that a new generation had emerged who had been trained at places like Yale and Chicago and Duke; they weren’t as invested in the old models because their dissertation directors weren’t.

Grayson: You’ve said that the South is emerging as central to debates in fields ranging from American studies to postcolonial theory. How is this so?

Richardson: The raising of the southern question in some areas of theory, including postcolonialism, has begun to transform them. More and more scholars are recognizing and grappling with the impact of the South in both national and global contexts. All the major journals in American literature have had features and forums on the South in recent years. These transformations could not have come about without the revolution that has happened in southern studies. The dynamics are even mirrored in popular culture. For instance, the critical mass of rappers proclaiming roots in the “dirty South” is a cohort that has done a lot to globalize hip-hop in recent years.

Grayson: How do the three books already published in this series reflect what is new about the new southern studies?

Smith: Leigh Anne Duck’s The Nation’s Region is essentially an American studies book: it forces American studies to pay attention to what it conveniently gets away with by characterizing the South as some kind of backward exception to the nation. Riché Richardson’s Black Masculinity and the U.S. South draws its methods from African American studies and cultural studies: it makes visible a kind of black masculinity that has tended to be written out of African American studies. Jim Peacock’s Grounded Globalism asks what happens when the South starts looking outward to the world instead of narcissistically inward at its history. To put it mildly, the old models discouraged people from thinking in these ways. For many, progress consisted of talking about [Louisiana African American novelist] Ernest J. Gaines’s sense of place instead of Faulkner’s. This is a kind of thinking that really doesn’t bring anything new to the table in southern studies, much less other fields.

Grayson: What other topics would you like to see addressed in this series?

Richardson: The series is designed to be interdisciplinary. We are concerned about how various epistemologies might be challenged or even changed in some ways by a closer look at the South. We want to keep diversifying our offerings. Religion, for instance, needs to be there. We have our eye on some anthologies. Some conference panels coming up focus on individual books in the series, and we are also pitching for conferences that are in part an outgrowth of the new southern studies. We are pleased that the series also seems to be emerging as a valuable teaching tool on the South in academe, as well as for the public.

JON SMITH is an associate professor of English at the University of Montevallo. He is the coeditor of Look Away! The U.S. South in New World Studies and several special journal issues on the South. RICHÉ RICHARDSON is an associate professor of English at the University of California, Davis.
Grounded Globalism: How the U.S. South Embraces the World is a paradigm-shifting study of globalism’s impact on a region legendarily resistant to change. In this third book in The New Southern Studies series, James L. Peacock looks at the South to develop the idea of “grounded globalism,” in which global forces and local cultures rooted in history, tradition, and place reverberate against each other in mutually sustaining and energizing ways. “The U.S. South is admired around the world for its unique culture,” President Jimmy Carter said of the book. “Peacock offers an original and hopeful view of how we can engage the world while keeping, and even enhancing, the best of what the South has to offer.”

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Q&A WITH JAMES L. PEACOCK

Grayson: The title of your book, Grounded Globalism, is a phrase you coined. What does it mean?
Peacock: “Grounded globalism” tells us that our global connections—whether economic, technological, or cultural—are grounded in particular locales and groups. Furthermore, they should be! Sheer globalization without grounding becomes gimmicks, irresponsible fantasy, unguided missiles, and maybe oppressive world powers. In my book, I analyze in detail how these groundings take place; in my work (for example, overseeing a 95-county K–12 outreach program), I try to implement them. That work, as well as scholarship, informs this book.

Grayson: What are some examples you see of the South embracing the world?
Peacock: My examples range from outreach to inreach: Coca-Cola and Jimmy Carter reaching out to the world, and immigrants coming into the South. I analyze the impact of global engagement on sense of place, self concept, and racial relations. One of my key arguments is that the South’s sense of opposition to the nation—a crippling if sometimes heroic attitude—is being transformed into a sense of community with the world. The South lifts its infamous “burden of history” by dropping its resentment toward the nation and embracing the world. The fun is in fieldwork to discover hidden treasures: Mobile mayor Mike Dow’s joint venture with Indonesia, for example, and Lucy Daniels’s psychoanalytic institute which brings Central European psychology to Cary, North Carolina. I look at objective and subjective examples—economics and demography but also dreams, jokes, and the arts. David Payne’s Back to Wando Passo, for instance, engrossingly fuses South Carolina with global histories and futures. In the book, an ancestor’s youthful liaison in Cuba sets in motion sorcery that haunts an emerging interracial liaison in the low country. A Chinese woman’s ambivalence manifests in a dream about a meatless sandwich.

Grayson: In some sense, you’re challenging Thomas Friedman’s theory that the world is flat. Could you explain how?
Peacock: Friedman’s argument is valid and basic—to a point. But “the world ain’t flat” down home, because local ties remain so important. An old mountain story tells of a man who left home but wrote his sweetheart every day; she married the postman. Today, the postman might be the local software salesperson. The closer one looks, the more varied is the terrain. “Flat” is a view from way above. As an anthropologist, I see human qualities, including the importance of local groupings, abiding over millions of years. “The world is flat” names a trend of the decade.

Grayson: Could you say a few words about how your book fits into The New Southern Studies series and why you were interested in publishing it as part of this series?
Peacock: The series captures necessarily new ways to see the South while intelligently sustaining profound and poignant older views and situations. Thus the series can point to directions in which the South is headed, ways to discern these directions, and why that discernment is important. That is what I do too, which is why I am thrilled to be in the series. Getting down to specifics, my book is a counterpoint to some others in the series. Editors Riché Richardson and Jon Smith emphasize edgy viewpoints such as “postcolonialism,” while I am more holistic. But my view is radical too. It shifts paradigms, transforms our perspective, and offers a new way to view the South. Those who read this book are invited to enter a psychoanalysis of culture. They work through a process of social and self analysis that is analogous to Freud’s “transference” of fixation on a narrow parental figure (here, the North) to a broader emancipating one (here, the world).
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David R. Kaufman paddled the entire length of Peachtree Creek in order to better understand its history—seeing firsthand the beauty and environmental degradation that often exist side by side. His sixteen years of research on and photographs of Atlanta’s watershed were the basis for an exhibit at the Atlanta History Center. UGA Press and the Atlanta History Center published the book in July.

“This is a beautiful account of a tenacious journey through space and time. Kaufman has given an environmentalist’s testimony intertwined intimately with a historical lesson about Atlanta’s development. Read it to reawaken a sense of reverence and wonder for nature’s resilience.”
—Ray Anderson, Chairman of Interface, Inc., and Executive Board member of the Georgia Conservancy

Photograph from
Peachtree Creek: A Natural and Unnatural History of Atlanta’s Watershed,
by David R. Kaufman.

The dam and generator house at Walter T. Candler’s 1920s Lullwater estate.