**Brent J. Ruswick, Ph.D.**

**ACADEMIC TEACHING APPOINTMENTS**

**West Chester University, West Chester, PA**

*Associate Professor, Department of History*, June 2018—Present.

*Assistant Professor, Department of History*, August 2013—May 2018.

**Nebraska Methodist College, Omaha, NE**

*Instructor*, Summer 2013.

**University of Central Arkansas**, Conway, AR

*Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of History*, August 2006–May 2012.

**University of Wisconsin,** Madison, WI

*Lecturer, Department of History of Science*, Fall 2004.

**EDUCATION**

**University of Wisconsin at Madison**

Doctor of Philosophy in History of Science, May 2006.

Individualized minor in science policy.

Master of Arts in History of Science, May 2001.

**University of Nebraska at Omaha**

Bachelor of Science–Secondary Education, May 1999.

Graduate coursework to renew teaching license, Spring 2013.

Certified to teach History and Political Science, grades 7-12, 1999-2004, 2013-2018.

**TEACHING AND FULFILMENT OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES**

**Courses Taught**

* EDS 411-412 - Student Teaching Internship.
* HIS 150 – The American Experience.
* HIS 151 - History of the United States I.
* HIS 215 – History of Science (previously HIS 415.)
* HIS 300 - Varieties of History.
* HIS 398/399 – Special Topics: History of Intellectual Disability.
* HIS 400 – Research Seminar.
* HIS 413 – Atomic America.
* HIS 414 – The History of Medicine.
* HIS 415 – History of Science.
* HIS 450 - Student Historical Internship.
* HIS 602 - Science and Religion.
* SSC 331 - Social Studies Education Methods.
* World History 1; World History 2; American Nation 1; American Nation 2 (taught at UCA.)
* History of Modern Biology (taught at UW.)

**Course Revisions and Proposals Developed at WCU**

New Courses:

* HIS 413–Atomic America.
* HIS 414–The History of Health and Medicine.

Course Revisions

* HIS 415-History of Science
* HIS 413 – Added an Interdisciplinary course designation.
* HIS 414 – Added a Diverse Communities course designation.
* HIS 100, 101, 102, 150, 151, 152, 444 –Submitted courses for Gen. Ed. Humanities Distributive Re-validations, with course description/title changes to HIS 100 and HIS 150.

**Teaching and Advising Awards at WCU**

* West Chester University Honors College “Outstanding Faculty Recipient” 2014-2015.
* Omicron Delta Kappa Academic Advising Appreciation Award 2018, 2019.

**AWAs**

* Co-Facilitator, Pathways of General Education Initiative: Spring 2020.
* Participant, Ethics-designation course-design working group: Fall 2019.
* Program Coordinator, Social Studies Education: 2013-4, 2017-Fall 2018.
* Facilitator, Council on Professional Education: Fall 2017- Spring 2019.

**Advising**

* Advisor to undergraduate history majors, 2014-ongoing.

**SCHOLARSHIP**

**Publications:**

**Books**

*Almost Worthy: The Poor, Paupers, and the Science of Charity in America, 1877-1917.*

Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 2013.

**Books Under Contract**

Editor, *A Cultural History of Poverty in the Age of Empire: 1800-1920*. London: Bloomsbury Press, 2021.

**Articles**

*“*Introduction: Poverty in the Age of Empire*” in A Cultural History of Poverty in the Age of Empire: 1800-1920*. London: Bloomsbury Press, 2021.

With Elliott Simon, co-author, “Industry, Improvement, and Intellectual Disability: Finding the Hopes and Fears of Parents and Superintendents at the Pennsylvania Training School.” *Journal of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era* 17, no. 1(January, 2018), 145-69.

“Eugenics” *The Encyclopedia of Greater Philadelphia* (2017) URL: <http://philadelphiaencyclopedia.org/archive/eugenics/>

“What Does it Mean to be an American? Training History Students and Prospective Teachers to See the Assumptions in their Textbooks.” [*The History Teacher* 48, no. 4 (August, 2015), 667-692](http://www.societyforhistoryeducation.org/pdfs/A15_Ruswick.pdf).

“The Idle Woman in Therapy and Fiction: S. Weir Mitchell’s Literary Career and the Gilded Age Fear of Malingering.” [*Ageless Arts* 1 (2015), 77-86](http://digitalcommons.wcupa.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1015&context=hist_facpub).

“Just Poor Enough: Gilded Age Charity Applicants Respond to Charity Investigators.” *Journal of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era* 10 (July 2011): 265–87.

“Teaching Historical Skills through JSTOR: An Online Research Project for Survey Courses.” *The History Teacher* 44 (February 2011): 285–96.

“The Measure of Worthiness: The Rev. Oscar McCulloch and the Pauper Problem, 1877—1891.” *Indiana Magazine of History* 104 (March 2008): 3–35.

**Book Reviews**

“Kristin O’Brassill-Kulfan. *Vagrants and Vagabonds: Poverty and Mobility in the Early American Republic*” *American Historical Review* 125 no. 3 (June 2020): 1015-6

“David Baron. *American Eclipse: A Nation’s Epic Race to Catch the Shadow of the Moon and Win the Glory of the World*” H-SHGAPE, H-Net Reviews (July, 2017) URL: <https://www.h-net.org/reviews/showpdf.php?id=49509>

“Clare Virginia Eby. *Until Choice Do Us Part: Marriage Reform in the Progressive Era*” H-SHGAPE, H-Net Reviews. (July, 2014) URL: <http://www.h-net.org/reviews/showrev.php?id=41273>

“Paul A. Lombardo. *Three Generations, No Imbeciles: Eugenics, the Supreme Court, and Buck v. Bell*” *Isis* 100 (December 2009): 953–4.

**Other**

Contributor to “The Progressive Era,” *The American Yawp: A Free and Online, Collaboratively Built American History Textbook* (2014) URL: <http://www.americanyawp.com/text/20-the-progressive-era/>

**Papers and Presentations at Professional Meetings Completed while at WCU**

**International Conferences:**

“Hidden Problematic Figures: Recovery without Rehabilitation of an Uncredited Eugenicist” History of Science Society, New Orleans (held remotely via teleconferencing) Nov. 23, 2020.

“A Forgotten Field Worker and the Picturesque Framing of Poverty, Eugenics, and ID,” presentation as part of co-organized conference panel, “Retelling the History of ID During the Eugenic Era---An Inclusive Approach With Current Implications.” With Chelsea Chamberlain, Ry Marcattilo-McCracken, Elliott W. Simon. American Psychological Association, Washington, D.C., August 3, 2017.

“In the Field with Elizabeth Kite: Recovering the Voices of an Overlooked Architect of Intelligence Tests and the Families She Tested.” Poster Presentation American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, Hartford, CT, June 27, 2017.

“Rediscovering the Ramapo Mountain Study: A Lost Eugenic Travel Narrative about a “Lost” People.” American Association for the History of Medicine 89th Annual Meeting, Minneapolis, MN, April 30, 2016.

“NCSS Thematic Standards Worksheet Presentation and Poster Session.” With Dr. Karin Gedge, Chuck Gedge. National Council for the Social Studies Annual Meeting, Boston, MA, November 21-22, 2014.

“Training Teachers: What History of Science Offers to Social Studies Education." Paper presented at The History of Science Society Annual Conference, Boston, MA, November 22, 2013.

**National and Regional Conferences:**

“’Water Always Finds its Own Level’: The Questionable History of the Questionable Physics of Flat Earth Belief.” Southern Association for the History of Medicine and Science, New Orleans, March 2020.

Moderator, “Authoritative Visions” panel session at Southern Association for the History of Medicine and Science, Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, March 17, 2017.

“The Life of a ‘Somewhat Improvable’ Mind: Admission, Education, and Elopement at Elwyn.” Southern Association for the History of Medicine and Science, Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, March 17, 2017.

“The NCSS Worksheet: A Teaching & Assessment Tool for Secondary Social Studies Student Teachers and Mentor Teachers” with Dr. Karin Gedge and Aaron Lockard, Pennsylvania Council for the Social Studies, Harrisburg, PA, October 21, 2016 (did not attend due to strike. Sent material prepared before the strike to Mr. Lockard to be incorporated into his presentation.)

“Medical and Parental Perspectives: Views on Causes of Intellectual Disability and Therapeutic Goals at Elwyn in the Late Nineteenth Century.” Pennsylvania History Coalition Honoring People with Disability: Second Statewide Disability History Conference, Millersville, PA, March 28, 2016

“Creating a Narrative of Disability Rights in Pennsylvania: A Roundtable” *Rethinking Pennsylvania History in the Digital Age*, Lebanon Valley College, Annville, PA October 9, 2015

“A Survey of the Causes of Feeble-mindedness: Assessing Parents’ Answers on Intake Records.” Paper presented at the Southern Association of the History of Medicine and Science, Jackson, Mississippi, March 14, 2015. Dr. Elliott Simon, co-author.

“The Ramapo Mountain People and the Lost Sequel to the Kallikak Eugenic Study.” Paper presented at the Missouri Valley History Conference, Omaha, Nebraska, March 6, 2015.

Commentator, “Progressive Era Environmental Experiments” panel session, Missouri Valley History Conference, Omaha, Nebraska, March 5, 2015.

“The Fiction of the Nervous Women: Dr. S. Weir Mitchell’s Rest Cure in Literature and in Practice.” Paper presented at the Southern Association for the History of Medicine and Science, St. Louis, Missouri, March 28, 2014.

**Research Awards, Grants, & Honors Earned at WCU:**

Recipient, $5000 Research and Creative Activities grant, College of Arts and Humanities, for “Hidden, Problematic Figures: A Forgotten Inventor of IQ and Her Pursuit of the “Feeble-minded” 2020-2021.

Nominated by WCU Office of Sponsored Programs to apply for National Endowment of the Humanities Summer Stipend, 2016, 2017.

Recipient of the WCU Teaching, Learning, and Assessment Center’s “Scholarship of Teaching, Learning, and Assessment” award. Nov. 2014.

**Scholarly Lectures/Demonstrations Completed as WCU Faculty**

“Distant Voices: Recovering the Histories of Impoverished and Institutionalized Americans.” Public lecture by invitation of Bucks County Genealogical Society, August 1, 2020.

“Flat Earth Belief Around the Globe”- Public lecture at the WCU Planetarium by invitation of planetarium programming director Dr. Karen Schwarz, October 24, 2018.

“Being Efficient, Being Productive: Hopes for Children at Elwyn.” *Magic Happens: A Symposium on Preserving the History of People with Disability* Elwyn, Media, PA August 19, 2015.

“Revisiting the Galileo Affair: Busting Myths of Galileo, the Church, and the Cosmos” Public lecture at the WCU Planetarium by invitation of planetarium programming director Dr. Karen Schwarz. October 24, 2014.

**Professional Growth and Recognition, and Teacher-Scholar Activities**

**Outside peer-reviewer of manuscripts:**

* Reviewer for book manuscript submission, Dawn Greeley, *Beyond Benevolence: The New York Charity Organization Society and the Transformation of American Social Welfare, 1882-1935* for Indiana University Press, 2019.
* Reviewer for article manuscript submission, “’Dealing with the Poor:’ Linked Ecologies and the Centralization of U.S. Charity,” Social Science History, 2019.
* Reviewer for Encyclopedia Entry submission, “Phrenology” The Encyclopedia of Greater Philadelphia, 2019.
* Reviewer for article manuscript submission, “Public Opinion and Social Welfare Policy: Stereotypes of the Poor, Social Workers, and Charity in American Popular Culture, 1890-1930” for *Social Service Review.* November 2015.
* Reviewer for article manuscript submission, “A Sentiment of Pity and a Flood of Charity: The Shifting Context of the Early Indianapolis Benevolent Society, 1835-1878” for *The Nineteenth Century*. February 2015.

**Joint research with students:**

* History Department Graduate Assistants Research Forum: organized readings and research in history of poverty with Jeffrey Markland and Steve Zaharick. 2019-ongoing.
* History Department Undergraduate Summer Internship in Disability History: organized the archiving of materials from the history of the Vineland Training School with Grace Citro and Celine Butler. 2019-ongoing.

**Support of professional organizations, advisory groups.**

Guest round-table panelist with Dr. Elliott Simon, at University of Pennsylvania Disabilities Studies Group, October 4, 2016.

Member, National Council for the Social Studies; American Historical Association; History of Science Society; Society for History Education.

**SERVICE**

**Faculty Service: University-level Service**

**Committees**

* History Department Representative to CAPC, 2019-ongoing.
* CAPC General Education Council 2020-ongoing
* CAPC Executive, 2017-2019.
* CAPC Graduate Programs and Policies, 2017-2019.
* CAPC Undergraduate Programs and Policies, 2017-2019.
* CAPC General Assembly, 2017-2019.
* Committee for Advising Excellence, 2019-ongoing.
* Faculty Mentor, Faculty Mentoring Program 2018-ongoing.
* Process Advisor, Office of Student Conduct: 2018-ongoing.
* Student Success Initiative: 2018.
* CAH Faculty Advisory Committee, 2016-7.
* Search Committee, Associate Dean of College of Education, Spring 2015.
* Search Committee, Undergraduate Program Counselor, Teacher Education. Fall 2015.
* CAPC Interdisciplinary subcommittee proxy, Spring–Summer 2015.
* Secondary Education Forum, 2013–2016.
  + Co-chair, 2015-16.
* Consensus member, Council on Professional Education, 2013–2014.
* Proxy, Social Studies Education representative to Council on Professional Education, 2014-2016.
* Student Teaching Coordinators Committee 2013­–2014.
* Student Teaching Supervisors Committee 2013­–2016.
* Secondary Education Working Group 2013.

**Presentations**

* Panelist, “Human Centered Instruction: Teaching with Empathy, Presence, and Awareness,” Teaching Learning and Assessment Committee, Oct. 8, 2019.
* Panelist, “Demystifying the Diverse Communities (“J”) Course,” Teaching Learning and Assessment Committee, Feb. 27, 2019.

**Other Working Groups and Professional Development Experiences**

* CAH Annual Faculty Retreat, August 25, 2016.
* CAS Annual Faculty Retreat, July 24, 2015.
* Green Dot training 2016.
* LGBTQQ “Ally” training 2013.

**Faculty Service: Departmental-level Service**

**Committees**

* Executive Committee, 2018-2019.
* Undergraduate Committee, 2014-ongoing.
* Undergraduate Curricular Reform Working Group, 2018-ongoing.
* Ex Officio member, Executive Committee 2013–2014, 2017-2018.
* Elections Committee, 2013-2014.
* Underrepresented Minorities Committee, 2015.
* Social Studies Education Advisory Committee 2013-ongoing.
* Phi Alpha Theta Initiation ceremony presenter, 2014-ongoing.

**Classroom Evaluations**

* Evaluations of Lawrence DeAngelis, Charles Gedge in EDS 411-412. 2014-2015.

**Presentations**

* “Unearthing the Ramapo Mountain People: Rediscovering a Lost Eugenic Manifesto” presentation to History department new faculty research workshop, September 11, 2015.
* CAS Open House presentation to prospective history majors on the Social Studies Education program, February 2015.
* Student Teaching Practicum, Roundtable for new student teachers, Fall 2014, Spring 2015, Fall 2017.
* Student teaching orientation online presentation and discussion, January 2014.

**Professional and Community Service:**

**Historical Consulting**

* Advisor to Gideon Hill, genealogist pursuing the development of a permanent annual conference for collaboration between professional historians and genealogists. 2016-Ongoing.
* Advisor and on-camera interview for Doug Gahm’s documentary on G. Raymond Rettew, to be displayed at the Chester County Historical Society. May-June 2015, 2019-20
* Advisor to Elwyn archival collections 2014-ongoing.

**Volunteer work in community**

* Friends Association for Care and Protection of Children, 2016-2018.
* Phi Alpha Theta Regional Conference, Chair and Commentator, Ursinus College, April 2015.
* National History Day Judge 2014, 2018, 2019, 2020.