

Recipients of the Arts & Sciences Graduate Studies Advisory Board's Distinguished Thesis and Dissertation Awards

2010-11 Award Recipients

A&S Distinguished Thesis Award in the Humanities:

Elizabeth Marie O'Grady, American Studies

“You Have No Boss Here to Work for’: Women and Labor in Chesapeake Bay Fishing Communities”

A&S Distinguished Thesis Award in the Social Sciences:

Ivo Ivanov Gyurovski, Psychology

“Spontaneous Categorization: Assessment of Implicit Stereotype Content Awareness”

A&S Distinguished Dissertation Award in the Humanities and Social Sciences:

Edward Downing Maris-Wolf, History

“Liberty, Bondage, and the Pursuit of Happiness: The Free Black Expulsion Law and Self-Enslavement in Virginia, 1806-1864”

A&S Distinguished Dissertation Award in the Natural and Computational Sciences:

Michael Bagge-Hansen, Applied Science

“Enhanced Field Emission from Vertically Oriented Graphene by Thin Solid Film Coatings”

2009-10 Award Recipients

A&S Distinguished Thesis Award in the Humanities:

Elizabeth Cook, History

“Art, Mystery, and Occupation: Building Culture in Eighteenth-Century Williamsburg, Virginia”

A&S Distinguished Dissertation Award in the Humanities and Social Sciences:

Ella Maria Diaz, American Studies

“Flying Under the Radar with the Royal Chicano Air Force: The Ongoing Politics of Space and Ethnic Identity”

A&S Distinguished Thesis Award in the Natural and Computational Sciences:

Sara Katherine Kampfe, Chemistry

“Processing and Conversion of Algae to Bioethanol”

A&S Distinguished Dissertation Award in the Natural and Computational Sciences:

Steven Robert Gianvecchio, Computer Science

“Application of Information Theory and Statistical Learning to Anomaly Detection”

2008-09 Award Recipients

A&S Distinguished Thesis Award in the Humanities:

Amy Catherine Green, History

“‘Dance, Dance Revolution’: The Function of Dance in American Politics, 1763-1800”

A&S Distinguished Thesis Award in the Humanities:

Carolee Klimchock, American Studies

“Plastic Capital: Wilmington, Delaware and the Deregulation of Consumer Credit”

A&S Distinguished Thesis Award in the Social Sciences:

Gillian Palm Freeman, Psychology

“Does Humor Benefit Health in Retirement? Exploring Humor as a Moderator”

A&S Distinguished Dissertation Award in the Humanities and Social Sciences:

Jennifer Bridges Oast, History

“Forgotten Masters: Institutional Slavery in Virginia, 1680-1860”

A&S Distinguished Dissertation Award in the Natural and Computational Sciences:

Karl Wayne Kuschner, Physics

“A Bayesian Network Approach to Feature Selection in Mass Spectrometry Data”

2007-08 Award Recipients

A&S Distinguished Thesis Award in the Humanities:

Jackson Norman Sasser, Jr., American Studies

“Escaping into the Prison Civil War Round Table”

A&S Distinguished Dissertation Award in the Humanities:

Caroline Carpenter Nichols, American Studies

“Celebrity and the National Body: Encounters with the Exotic in Late-Nineteenth Century America”

A&S Distinguished Thesis Award in the Social Sciences:

Danielle Christine Risse, Anthropology

“‘A Graine of Marveilous Great Increase’: A Political Landscape Approach to Powhatan Maize Production and Exchange in Seventeenth Century Virginia”

A&S Distinguished Dissertation Award in the Social Sciences:

Daniel Owen Sayers, Anthropology

“The Diasporic World of the Great Dismal Swamp 1630-1860”

A&S Distinguished Thesis Award in the Natural and Computational Sciences:

Alexander Rahn Gunderson, Biology

“Interactions between Feather-degrading Bacteria and Feather Coloration”

A&S Distinguished Dissertation Award in the Natural and Computational Sciences:

Andrey Nikolayevich Chernikov, Computer Science

“Parallel Generalized Delaunay Mesh Refinement”

2006-07 Award Recipients

A&S Distinguished Thesis Award in the Humanities:

Jenna Anne Simpson, American Studies

“Screening the Revolution”

A&S Distinguished Dissertation Award in the Humanities:

Seth Charles Bruggeman, American Studies

“Objects, Memory, and the Creation of a National Monument”

A&S Distinguished Dissertation Award in the Natural and Computational Sciences:

James Robert McCombs, Computer Science

“Toward a Robust and Efficient Iterative Eigensolver”

2005-06 Award Recipients

A&S Distinguished Thesis Award in the Humanities:

Caroline Chandler Morris, History

“‘Down Where the South Begins’: Virginia Radio and the Conversation of Nationhood”

A&S Distinguished Dissertation Award in the Humanities:

Susan A. Kern, History

“The Jeffersons at Shadwell: The Social and Material World of a Virginia Family”

A&S Distinguished Dissertation Award in the Humanities:

James Spady, American Studies

“‘Like the Spider from the Rose’: Colonialism, Knowledge Competition, and the Cultural Politics of Education in the Lower South, ca.1700-ca.1820”

A&S Distinguished Thesis Award in the Natural and Computational Sciences:

Caitlin Rebecca Kight, Biology

“Effects of Human Disturbance on the Breeding Success of Eastern Bluebirds (*Sialia sialis*)”

2004-05 Award Recipients

A&S Distinguished Thesis Award in the Humanities:

Benjamin Anderson, American Studies

“Blue Notes and Brown Skin: Five African-American Jazzmen and the Music They Produced in Regard to the American Civil Rights Movement”

A&S Distinguished Dissertation Award in the Humanities:

Amanda L. Howard, American Studies

“‘More than Shelter’: Community, Identity, and Spatial Politics in San Francisco Public Housing, 1938-2000”

A&S Distinguished Dissertation Award in the Natural and Computational Sciences:

Zhengmao Zhu, Applied Science

“Photochemical Modification of Polyethylene Terephthalate Surfaces”