

History/political science professor **Philip Otterness** delivered the opening keynote address at an academic conference in Mainz, Germany, marking the 300th anniversary of large-scale German migration to America. The title of his talk was “The Palatines of New York: First Arrivals as Exemplars and Exceptions.”

Writing professor **Catherine Reid** has an essay, “When an Ox Blinks,” forthcoming in *Redivider: A Journal of New Literature and Art*. She was the journal’s featured writer in December 2009. Another essay, “When a Fox Skull No Longer Points Home,” appeared in *Hunger Mountain*, the journal of Vermont College of Fine Arts.

Sociology professor **Laura Vance** made the following conference presentations: “The Evolution of Sexual Norms in Mormonism and Seventh-day Adventism” at the 32nd Annual Meeting of the Southeastern Women’s Studies Association; “From Polygamy to Proposition 8: Evolving Sexual Norms in Mormonism and Adventism” at Queer Art/Queer Actions (Politics of Possibility); and “‘Not a Hand Should be Bound, Not a Soul Discouraged’: Ellen White’s Writings on Women,” at The Ellen White Project conference.

Alissa Whelan, MFA Program office manager, was awarded a grant by the Asheville Area Arts Council to fund a photography show. The show will be comprised of portraits from the Lake Eden Arts Festival. One of her images appears on the back cover of this *Owl & Spade*.

David Moore and colleagues receive DAR medal

Warren Wilson archaeology professor **David Moore** and fellow archaeologists **Robin Beck** and **Christopher Rodning** have been selected to receive the Daughters of the American Revolution History Award Medal for their ongoing research at the Berry archaeological site near Morganton, North Carolina. The award goes to an “individual or group whose study... has significantly advanced the understanding of America’s past.”

The 12-acre Berry site along Upper Creek is the location of an ancestral Catawba Indian town named Joara, at which the Spanish captain Juan Pardo built Fort San Juan in 1567. The garrison was the earliest European settlement in the interior of what is now the United States, predating the “Lost Colony” by 20 years.

With the aid of the nonprofit Exploring Joara Foundation, Moore and colleagues are researching the long-forgotten episode of Fort San Juan’s founding and subsequent fiery destruction in the spring of 1568. Professors Beck, of the University of Oklahoma, and Rodning, of Tulane University, are working with Moore to help write this early story of European exploration and settlement in eastern North America. Warren Wilson and Western Piedmont Community College also lead a field school at the site each summer.

On the Web: warren-wilson.edu/~arch and joarafoundation.org

Dave Ellum works to raise the profile of the College forest



Forestry/environmental studies professor **Dave Ellum**’s article “Floristic Diversity in Managed Forests: Demography and Physiology of Understory Plants Following Disturbance in Southern New England Forests” appeared in *Journal of Sustainable Forestry*. Another of his articles, “Proactive Coevolution: Staying Ahead of Invasive Species in the Face of Climate Change and Uncertainty,” appeared in *Forest Wisdom*. As the College’s forest director, Ellum has been working to raise the profile of the College forest as a regional demonstration site for sustainable forestry practices. As part of this effort, he and the Forestry Crew have hosted the Land Trust Alliance, the Forest Guild, and Paul Smith’s College for meetings and tours of the College forest.