

## Contributors' Biographies

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### **T. Michael Davis**

Michael Davis graduated from Troy University in December 2016 where he earned his bachelor's degree in History with a minor in Math. He graduated from Malone High School in the top five in his class, and earned an Associate of Science degree from Lurleen B. Wallace Community College in Andalusia, Alabama. He presented his paper on medieval European siege practices at the second annual Troy University Research Conference in 2016 and joined the Troy University History Club in the fall semester of 2016. He is also a member of Phi Alpha Theta and currently pursuing a career in business.

### **Logan Horton**

Logan Horton received his bachelor's in History with a minor in Leadership Development from Troy University in July 2016. During his time at Troy, Logan was an active member of the Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity, was initiated into the Phi Alpha Theta Honor Society, and served as a guest speaker at the Alabama Governor's Youth Leadership Forum for Students with Disabilities from 2012-2016. He is currently engaged to Kelsey Reynolds, a Senior Social Work Major, and resides in Mobile, Alabama where he is employed at Prometric as a Test Center Administrator. Logan plans to pursue his Master's Degree in the spring of 2018.

### **Ansley Markwell**

Ansley Markwell is a senior at Troy University graduating in May 2017. She is from Montgomery, Alabama, where she graduated from Eastwood Christian School. Ansley is double majoring in History and Human Services with a minor in English. She is also Vice President of both Phi Alpha Theta and the History Club, as well as co-editor of *The Alexandrian*. After graduation, Ansley plans on taking a gap year before pursuing a Master's degree in International Cold War History.

### **Saraelizabeth Parker**

Saraelizabeth Parker is a junior at Troy University, majoring in History and minoring in Classics. She is from Montgomery, Alabama, where she attended Montgomery Catholic Preparatory. Saraelizabeth is President of Eta Sigma Phi, former Executive Secretary of Chi Omega, and current Secretary of Phi Alpha Theta and History Club, as well as a member of Phi Kappa Phi. Saraelizabeth will graduate a semester early and take a gap year to work and travel before pursuing a postgraduate degree. She plans to earn a Master's in History with a focus on the Catholic Church or in Museum Studies.

### **Manning Russell**

Manning Russell is a senior at Troy University pursuing a major in History and a minor in Leadership. He is from Montgomery, Alabama, where he attended Eastwood Christian School.

Manning is heavily involved in Campus Outreach, and spent the past summer in Brazil on a cross-cultural project at the Universidade Federal de Minas Gerias in Belo Horizonte with Campus Outreach. After graduation, Manning will attend Washington and Lee School of Law on a merit scholarship.

### **Jason Smith**

Jason Smith graduated from Troy University with dual Bachelor's Degrees in Psychology and History in 2014. He is currently pursuing his Master's Degree from Troy University in American History and is a member of Psi Chi. Smith was raised in Dover, Florida, and currently resides in Saint Petersburg, Florida, with his wife Kristen, step-daughter Taylor, and son Alex. Currently, Smith teaches history and is the head baseball coach for Chamberlain High School in Tampa, Florida. He plans to pursue his Ph.D. in History upon graduation.

### **Whitney Spake**

Whitney Spake is a senior at Troy University graduating in December 2017. She is from Chattanooga, Tennessee, and is majoring in History with a minor in Classics. Recently, Whitney presented at the 2017 Regional Phi Alpha Theta Conference. She is the current Scholarship Chair for Troy's Alpha Delta Pi chapter, Vice President of Eta Sigma Phi, as well as a member of Phi Alpha Theta, Phi Kappa Phi, and Omicron Delta Kappa. After graduation, Whitney plans on volunteering with Peace Corps Armenia and attending graduate school in the Netherlands.

### **Alexander Thompson**

Alexander Thompson is in his last year of graduate school at Troy University in International Relations with a focus on National Security. He graduated with a bachelor's degree in Psychology from St. Mary's College of Maryland in 2010. Alex is an active duty service member in the U.S. Air Force but will be ending his military service in September 2017, completing six years of service. He will be applying his military experience and his degree in International Relations towards contracting work in Afghanistan later this year.

### **Matthew West**

Matthew West graduated from Troy University's History MA program in 2016. He graduated from the University of Tennessee with a BA in Sociology, and from University of Alabama, Birmingham, with an MA in Sociology. He currently teaches Western Civilization, U.S. History, and Sociology at Lawson State Community College, in Birmingham, Alabama, where he also coaches the College Scholars Bowl teams. He has published in the *Encyclopedia of Mathematics and Society* (2012), as well as in the journals *The Review of Disability Studies* (2011), *Religions* (2011), and *Sociological Spectrum* (2010).