

Hello friends of SHPRS,

This year was an eventful one for the **School of Historical, Philosophical, and Religious Studies** and for me personally. After five years of serving as the school director, I will be stepping down in June to pursue my research. When I arrived at ASU six years ago, directing was not in my plans but it has been an honor to serve. We created an enduring administrative structure and established programs that have expanded our footprint on campus and around the globe.

I am particularly proud of our success in online education, especially our Philosophy BA and History MA degrees that we created from scratch and built into national leaders. We graduated our largest class of History MA students to date this spring, with many of our graduates going on to PhD programs, JD programs, and applying their knowledge at work, from environmental consulting, to publishing, to K-12 classrooms across Arizona and beyond. Philosophy has continued to build strength on campus and online with their Politics, Morality, and Law concentration that appeals to future leaders in the United States. Concentrations focused on political leadership in both History and Religious Studies have also drawn new students and garnered generous support from our community. Our faculty has been recognized as leaders in the classroom and in research. This past year, we celebrated faculty who won the most prestigious awards in our country, including full-year fellowships from the American Council of Learned Societies, National Endowment for the Humanities, the National Humanities Center, and the John Simon Guggenheim Foundation. We began a monthly events program that features the thoughts of many of our faculty on timely topics, from Presidential transitions to dissent in our society. We have also taken our ideas on the road through our successful participation in National History Day in Arizona and our work with Mesa Arts Center the “Jazz from A to Z” program. This was an outstanding year in every respect.

It is my pleasure to welcome my friend and colleague, Professor Matthew Delmont, who will be our next director. He will be supported by the best administrative staff in the college and surrounded by an administrative faculty team with new ideas and infectious energy. We are eager to meet the challenges of our society by offering thoughtful and deeply researched ideas that encourage debate and inspire creativity. I welcome you to join us in the journey as we cross new boundaries and transform our world for the better.

Sincerely,
Dr. Matthew Garcia



2016-2017 Academic Year Annual Report

Undergraduate Students

 **698** online students

 **543** on-ground students

Graduate Students

 **187** online students

 **106** on-ground students

Total Students

 **24,615** total students taught

 **\$65,000** awarded in student scholarships

 **44%** of student population is female

 **29%** racial and ethnic diversity

Faculty

 **91** total faculty

 **20+** total fellowships, awards and grants received

 **578** total classes taught

 **75+** publications produced (books, articles, interviews)

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