Congratulations to Dr. Raphael Njoku

Dr. Njoku published two books this year, which is an outstanding accomplishment! The first book was published by Rochester University Press and is about the tradition of masking in West Africa. The second book was published by Yale University Press and is a history of United States-African relations.

A note from Dr. Raphael Njoku:
"First, I would like to thank my colleagues in the Department of History and the Department of Global Studies and Languages for all their strong support in writing these books. Apparently, something about ISU enables critical thinking. Second, reflecting on each of the two books reveals a couple of coincidences. West African Masking Traditions and Diaspora Masquerade Carnivals: History, Memory, and Transnationalism coincided with the COVID-19 masking new normal. Then United States and African Relations, 1400s to the Present coincided with the ongoing Black Lives Matter protests. I am not sure why the coincidences, but they make both books exciting reads. As I highlighted in the U.S.-Africa Relations book, back in time, the lives of Americans and people of African descent have been intertwined on the most complex sociocultural, economic, and psychological levels. Understanding this dynamic and appreciating it is the route to a better America."

A Thank You to our Students

We would like to thank the students for all that they are doing this semester. We know that this semester has its difficulties, but you all are doing a great job navigating this unprecedented time. We ask that you continue to wear your masks and practice social distancing, so the rest of the semester can run as smoothly as possible.
History students at ISU recently published articles about how the 1918 Spanish Influenza affected the state of Idaho. This project was undertaken by students in Dr. Marsh’s Idaho History course. "The 15 articles examine the local context of the influenza pandemic, each on a different community, each using available digital sources from the time." To better understand what Idahoans were experiencing exactly one hundred years ago, we encourage you to read more here. (https://arcg.is/0r4qzn)

Welcome Dr. Lauren MacDonald

The History Department would like to introduce Dr. Lauren MacDonald. She is a new Assistant Professor at ISU and she specializes in Latin American history. Please help us welcome her to ISU. Her research focuses on the Caribbean, religion, and the Spanish empire. This semester, she is teaching HIST 2251 - Latin American History and Culture and HIST 1101 - World History I. We hope that you all get to know Dr. MacDonald and that she has a great time working at ISU.

Calling students, alumni, faculty, and staff. If you would like to have a story featured, please send the information to histdept@isu.edu.