Media
James R. Fleming
(Science, Technology, and Society)

Inventing Atmospheric Science: Bjerknes, Rossby, Wexler, and the Foundations of Modern Meteorology
The MIT Press (2016)

Fleming, a renowned scholar of atmospheric science and history, fixes his gaze on the period from 1900 to 1960, a time of rapid-fire breakthroughs that saw the field advance rapidly, year by year, decade by decade. A century that began with the first heavier-than-air flight had progressed by 1960 to weather satellites, as technology and scientific exploration converged. Fleming illuminates this rich history through the lives and careers of three giants in the field of atmospheric science—Vilhelm Bjerknes, Carl-Gustaf Rossby, and Harry Wexler—who led the way like a relay team, handing the baton to the next runner.

These were the intrepid meteorological explorers who used breakthrough technology to take their science to new heights. Each successively felt they were in the midst of a revolution in meteorology and, later, atmospheric science, and each was correct. “There is grandeur in this subject,” Fleming writes. Indeed, the big-picture story he tells touches on the evolution of technology and society, as Bjerknes, Rossby, and Wexler found new and innovative ways to explore the Earth’s atmosphere. The book chronicles a period of unprecedented exploration that began in the advent of aviation and warfare (one call for better weather observation resulted from a desire for more accurate calculation of artillery trajectories) and continued with radio sensors and sounding rockets as scientists learned about the behavior of our planet’s “ocean of air.”

“Thereir lives span a full century, their work spans a period of technological flux, from Marconi wireless and the Wright Flier to digital computing and weather satellites and from roentgen and Becquerel rays to outdoor nuclear testing,” Fleming writes. His exploration of this time of forward-looking history reminds us that it took remarkable science and scientists to achieve what today we too often take for granted.

L. Sandy Maisel
(Government)

American Political Parties and Elections: A Very Short Introduction
Oxford University Press (2016)

In this, the second edition of the popular primer on American elections, Maisel, a leading scholar in the field of American political parties, brings readers up to date on this fast-changing subject: campaigning via social media, changes in campaign financing post the Citizen United ruling, the Tea Party’s influence, and the 2016 presidential nomination process.

Adrian Blevins
(English, Creative Writing) and Karey Salyer McElmurray, coeditors

Walk Till the Dogs Get Mean: Meditations on the Forbidden from Contemporary Appalachia

This collection of essays showcases today’s finest and emerging writers with roots in Appalachia. The essays, from bell hooks, Dorothy Allison, Silas House, and others, move away from their mountain roots but then return to the landscape and culture that shaped them as writers and people. The collection takes the theme of silencing in Appalachian culture, and it explores that theme through stories of identities chosen, risks taken, and selves transformed—but with the region’s legacy intact.
In the 19th century, reading was seen as an interpretive and political act, with implications for poets. This volume of essays focuses on ways poets approach reading, and the ways that reading affects their writing and relationships with readers. The essays cover the period from the 1830s to the 1890s and examine a wide range of authors working at the dawn of aesthetic modernity.

The auction is everywhere, from eBay to antiques to the U.S. Treasury. But how do auctions actually work? Economists Hubbard and Paarsch explain how auctions work, showing how these games of asymmetric information—participants do not have the same knowledge of the item on the block—can be analyzed through economic models. How do the rules of the auction affect bidder incentives? What is the role of auctions in our modern economy? The authors use real-world examples to explain the principles that govern this most common of economic relationships.

This volume, published in conjunction with the Maine Photo Project, traces the medium in Maine, from earliest daguerreotype portraits of the 1840s to today. Themes include the important role of photography in documenting Maine’s labor and economy, photography and tourism, and Maine photographers who advance the medium as an art form.

With more than 20 years of study of computer-related crime, Grabosky, professor emeritus at Australian National University’s College of Asia and the Pacific, has witnessed firsthand the development of cyber technology—and its use by criminals. There is no end in sight for this most sophisticated of crimes, as hackers use malicious code, counterfeit web pages, and other tools to swindle web users, drain bank accounts, steal credit card information. “We may be confident of one thing,” Grabosky writes. “Technology will not stand still.”
Gerry Boyle ’78

Straw Man
Islandport Books (2016)

Crime reporter Jack McMorrow is surrounded. A confrontation with renegade loggers ends with threats of revenge. His wife, Roxanne, weary of the violence that follows him, finds some respite in the company of a local farmer. The ATF suspects McMorrow is connected to a gun-running pipeline leading from Maine to Boston. And then a Mennonite teenager McMorrow has befriended is murdered. The world is collapsing in on Prosperity, Maine, and McMorrow sets out to determine how and why.

Lori Batcheller ’80

Rosa Blooms
Mother’s House Publishing (2015)

Batcheller has created a picture storybook filled with the wonder of childhood as she follows a wild rose seeking to find her place in the natural world. A Boulder resident, she was inspired by the beauty of nearby rock formations known as the Flatirons. The story uses lush illustrations to reproduce this setting for the story of Rosa and the challenges she faces as a tiny bush looking to grow into her true self.

Richard J. Cass ’73

Solo Act: An Elder Darrow Mystery
Five Star (2015)

Alcoholic Elder Darrow buys a seedy bar in Boston, hoping to transform it into a jazz nightclub, with his jazz singer ex, Alison. When Alison goes out a window in New York, it’s ruled suicide. Darrow doesn’t buy it and sets out to prove that the death was murder. Along the skillfully created and noir-inflected path, he encounters thugs, corrupt physicians, and counterfeit meds—and ultimately the truth.

Leslie R. Colitt ’59

Before the Berlin Wall Came Down: A Foreign Correspondent’s Search for Truth Behind the Iron Curtain
Amazon (2015)

Colitt penned the first biography of Cold War spymaster Markus Wolf, for 40 years head of the East German Stasi’s foreign intelligence network. A veteran Financial Times reporter, Colitt explores the life of the man who was the model for John le Carré’s spy Karla. The book, first published as Spy Master: the Real Life Karla, His Moles, and the East German Secret Police, describes Wolf as charming and ruthless—and unrepentant for the trail of casualties left by his deadly, clandestine career.

Allyson Giard Downey ’01

Here’s the Plan: Your Practical, Tactical Guide to Advancing Your Career During Pregnancy and Parenthood
Seal Press (2016)

The founder of weeSpring (described as “Yelp for baby products”), working-mother Downey has some help for women who find themselves facing a serious hurdle in their professional career: a new baby. Here’s the Plan offers both valuable guidance on negotiating leave and flex time, and discussion of society’s views of the place of the mother in the workplace. The conversation that has been inspired by notables such as Marissa Mayer at Yahoo continues in Here’s the Plan as women and corporate America look for ways to co-exist and thrive.

Erika Mailman ’91
(as Lynn Carthage)

Haunted (The Arnaud Legacy)
Kensington (2015)

In this young adult novel (the sequel Betrayed was published in 2016), California high schooler Phoebe is whisked off to the English countryside when her father inherits the ancestral mansion. Any silver lining in that cloud vanishes when the mansion proves to still be home to Madame Arnaud, the 18th-century matriarch who ran the household—and continues to haunt the reaches of the dilapidated manse. Mailman, an adept novelist, leaves her young protagonist to protect not only herself, but also her younger sister, from Madame’s nighttime prowls.


Joseph Atkins (Psychology), Bruce Maxwell (Computer Science), and Paul Berkner (Health Services), “Factors Associated with Concussion-like Symptom Reporting in High School Athletes,” JAMA Pediatrics, Vol. 169, No. 12, December 2015.


Reuben Hudson (Chemistry), “All eyes were on industry to stop ozone depletion. Same goes for climate change,” Bangor Daily News, December 2015.


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MORE FACULTY PUBLICATIONS


Loren McClenachan (Environmental Studies) Sahan T. M. Dissanayake (Economics), and Xiaoie Chen ‘16, “Fair trade fish: consumer support for broader seafood sustainability,” Fish and Fisheries, April 2016.


Laurie Osborne (English), “From Mary Cowden Clarke to Contemporary YA Novels: (Re)constructing Gender and Sexuality in Adaptations of As You Like It and Twelfth Night,” Borrowers and Lenders, Fall/Winter 2015. “Revising Cowden Clarke: Rewriting Shakespeare’s Heroines in YA Fiction,” Shakespearean Echoes, 2015.


W.A. Sullivan (Geology) and Morgan Monz ‘13, “Rheologic evolution of low-grade metasedimentary rocks and granite across a large strike-slip fault zone: A case study of the Kellyland fault zone, Maine, USA,” Journal of Structural Geology, May 2016.


