

### **Winner of the 2018 Graduate Prize**

#### **Murphy Temple (Stanford), "Spiritualism, the Body, and 'Good Death' in the First World War"**

The paper skillfully argues that the concept of a "good death" for Great War military victims cannot be so easily placed in the boxes of Jay Winter's argument for a resurrection of the past, or Paul Fussell's early notion of looking forward. Responses to the death of relatives, in particular, and those for whom no body could be discovered, built upon Victorian practices and views in addition to some of the more contemporary developments. The mechanized destruction and death of 1916 met and converged with the seemingly anti-material spiritualism of the later Victorians. Seances among other rituals made missing and eviscerated bodies whole again, ensuring what Murphy calls "the traditional Victorian 'good death'" without the overly pious and mind-numbing deathbed scenes and mourning periods. Specific historical examples are well documented and the paper provides a way to transcend the iron cage of limitations of rational and irrational, Victorian and post-War.

### **Honorable Mention**

#### **Elizabeth Schmidt (UC Santa Barbara), "Culinary Commonplacing: An Examination of Borders in 18<sup>th</sup>- and 19<sup>th</sup>-Century Personal Recipe Collections."**

This delightful paper blended together with clarity, suggestiveness, and good taste the historical ingredients of food, women's, and reading histories. One might also add: the history of privacy. What can recipes and comments about recipes tell us? Schmidt successfully concludes: a lot. A further strong point of this paper was the recognition of the complications resulting from using her sources within existing categories of analyses. This was, then, both an historical and historiographical essay.