

[Books, Awards and Newcomers](#)

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New books, accolades and newcomers to Tulane lead the latest campus news.

The Spaso House in Moscow was the setting for a presentation on Russian architecture and historic preservation by **William Brumfield**, professor of Russian studies, hosted by John Beyrle, U.S. ambassador to the Russian Federation on March 30. The event honored the 40th anniversary of Brumfield's first visit to Russia. [Brumfield](#) is internationally known for his photography and books documenting historic Russian architecture.

[Dr. Marilyn Pelias](#), who has both undergraduate and medical degrees from Tulane, has joined the faculty as assistant professor of clinical surgery. She is a general surgeon at Tulane-Lakeside Hospital. Her interests include a wide variety of women's surgical issues.

Mark I. Vail, assistant professor of political science, has written a new book, *Recasting Welfare Capitalism: Economic Adjustment in Contemporary France and Germany*. He is a contributor to *The State After Statism*, edited by Jonah D. Levy, and has published work in *Comparative Politics*, *European Journal of Political Research* and *West European Politics*.

Elisabeth McMahan, assistant professor of history, received the 2010 Primary Source Award for Access from the Center for Research Libraries in recognition of a service-learning project completed by students in her "Archiving Africa" class. [McMahon's](#) students indexed materials in a set of American Committee on Africa files that are part of the Amistad Research Center's collection.

The Salt Flowers, the debut book of poetry by **Travis Ian Smith**, adjunct lecturer in the School of Continuing Studies, has been published by MTPages. To celebrate the new release, Smith will give a reading at Octavia Books, 513 Octavia St., on May 24 at 6 p.m.

New Tulane head men's basketball coach [Ed Conroy](#) announced the additions of assistant coaches **Andy Fox**, **Harold Juluke** and **Doug Novak** to the men's basketball coaching staff and the hiring of **Ronnie Hamilton** as the director of basketball operations. Fox, Novak and Hamilton all come to Tulane from The Citadel where they coached under Conroy, while Juluke comes home to New Orleans from the University of Louisianaâ€“Monroe.