

May 2022

## My Time at LU

Jennifer D. Bolan  
*Liberty University*, [jbolan@liberty.edu](mailto:jbolan@liberty.edu)

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.liberty.edu/ljh>

---

### Recommended Citation

Bolan, Jennifer D. (2022) "My Time at LU," *Bound Away: The Liberty Journal of History*. Vol. 4: Iss. 2, Article 7.

Available at: <https://digitalcommons.liberty.edu/ljh/vol4/iss2/7>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by Scholars Crossing. It has been accepted for inclusion in Bound Away: The Liberty Journal of History by an authorized editor of Scholars Crossing. For more information, please contact [scholarlycommunications@liberty.edu](mailto:scholarlycommunications@liberty.edu).

---

## My Time at LU

## **My Time at LU**

**Jennifer Ulrich**

I came to Liberty in August 2009 as a graduate student after attending a secular university part time. My relationships with the faculty and my fellow students operated on a more personal level at LU, which the academic community I needed. My professors were willing to meet and discuss books, my research, or teaching. Drs. Smith, Mann, Blass, and Saxon saw me regularly, and Professor Ritchie was always friendly and engaging in the hallway!

My fellow graduate assistants showed me what was possible, especially the second-year students. Shelley, Rachel, Katie, and Sarah were writing their theses, and I followed their progress and challenges. Initially, I had no plans to write a thesis. After encountering a quotation from one of my ancestors in an assigned book, I discovered a topic I could research with enthusiasm.

Sir George Paish became my research subject, and he gave me an education in free trade economics through his writings. Dr. Saxon generously let me use economic conditions at the beginning of World War I as an acceptable topic for European Military History. I had planned an international trip in 2009, but it was providentially delayed until summer 2010, enabling me to route my way through England to visit several archives. The late Dr. Blass was such a wealth of knowledge with insightful questions and suggested sources, and he was such an encouragement as I researched. Dr. Mann provided excellent feedback on my writing, and his admonition to not miss the forest for the trees led me to cut about 10 pages. Dr. Blass was so enthusiastic about my work that he did about half of my thesis defense for me!

In 2019, *The American Journal of Economics and Sociology* reached out to me to compose a journal article for a free trade issue. My archived photos and Zotero files made that process easier. I'm thankful for the people I met at Liberty and for the opportunities that my degree has given me since graduation.