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David Library to Present Panel at 33rd Annual Meeting of the Society of Historians of the Early American Republic in Philadelphia

WASHINGTON CROSSING, PA -- When the 33rd Annual Meeting of the Society of Historians of the Early American Republic convenes in Philadelphia July 14 – 17, the David Library will be well represented.

Established in 1977, the Society for Historians of the Early American Republic (SHEAR) is an association of scholars dedicated to exploring the events and the meaning of United States history between 1776 and 1861. SHEAR’s mission is to foster the study of the early republican period among professional historians, students, and the general public. It upholds the highest intellectual standards of the historical profession and encourages the broad diffusion of historical insights through all appropriate channels, including schools, museums, libraries, electronic media, public programming, archives, and publications. SHEAR’s Annual Meeting is held in different host city every year.

“Having SHEAR in Philadelphia this year provides the David Library with a valuable opportunity to pursue new connections with the profession while... MORE
strengthening our existing relationships with members of the scholarly community and parity organizations,” said William P. Tatum III, Sol Feinstone Scholar at the David Library.

Tatum will preside over an academic panel that will be presented as part of the Meeting. Titled, “The Color of Allegiance: Intersections of Ethnicity, Race, and Politics in the Early Republic,” the panel will include two recent David Library Fellows who will present papers based in part on research they conducted at the David Library. Peter Gilmore, Ph. D. of Carlow University will present his paper, “Scotch-Irish or Merely Irish: Brackenridge, Findley, and Contestation of Ethnic Identity in the Early Republic.” Jonathan D. Sassi, Ph. D., of the College of Staten Island and the City University of New York Graduate Center will & the Graduate Center, CUNY will present his research in a paper called, “The Antislavery Challenge in Revolutionary New Jersey.” Providing commentary on the papers will be Richard A. Ryerson, a leading senior scholar in the era of the Early Republic, and Senior Historian Emeritus of the David Library of the American Revolution.

The David Library will also be a presence at SHEAR though sponsorship of and attendance at an array of events throughout four-day conference. “Our goal is to make sure every academic who does research in the era of the American Revolution knows about the David Library of the American Revolution,” said Meg McSweeney, Chief Operating Officer. “We are an unparalleled research center located right between Philadelphia and Princeton. Professional scholars should be coming through our doors
every day, and we think they would if they knew about us.”  ###