

NORTH CAROLINA

May 16, 2012

Chancellor Holden H. Thorp
The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
103 South Building
CB# 9100
Carolina Campus

Dear Chancellor Thorp:

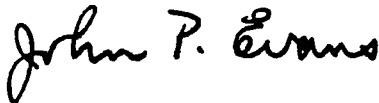
I am writing to inform you about the work of the FY12 Nominating Committee of the UNC Press's Board of Governors, for your transmittal to President Ross and to the UNC Board of Governors. The Committee this year is chaired by Professor James Peacock and includes Professor Barbara Moran, and Professor W. Fitzhugh Brundage.

At our meeting on 16 May 2012, the Nominating Committee recommended and the UNC Press Board of Governors unanimously approved the following new nominee to replace Dr. Gillian Cell who retired effective May 11 due to ill health:

- Dr. Marcie Cohen Ferris, Assistant Professor, Curriculum of American Studies, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (appointment effective 1 July 2012; term expires 30 June 2016)

Thank you for your attention to this matter, and please do not hesitate to contact Kate Torrey (Director, UNC Press) or me with any questions or concerns.

With best wishes.



John P. Evans, Chair
UNC Press Board of Governors

cc: L.B. Corgnati, Jr., Secretary of the University ✓
Thomas J. Harrelson, UNC Board of Governors

Marcie Ferris

Marcie Ferris is associate professor and director of undergraduate studies in the Department of American Studies at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Since 2008, she has served as the department's coordinator of Southern Studies. She received her Ph.D. in American Studies from George Washington University (2003); her M.A. in History from the College of William and Mary (1985); and her B.A. in American Civilization from Brown University (1981). Prior to receiving her Ph.D., her work in public history focused on developing educational programs, exhibits, and teaching resources. While working at a living history farm museum in rural Maine, at Plimoth Plantation, at Elderhostel, and while serving as director of the Museum of the Southern Jewish Experience, she organized lectures, academic symposiums, study abroad programs, teacher workshops, curated exhibits, produced films and oral histories, developed classroom curriculum materials, and organized archival collections.

Her research interests include the history of the Jewish South, food in American culture, American Jewish women's history, and the foodways and material culture of the American South. In 2007, she received the University of North Carolina's Tanner Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Education. From 2006-2008, she served as President of the Southern Foodways Alliance at the University of Mississippi Center for the Study of Southern Culture.

Her publications include *Matzoh Ball Gumbo: Culinary Tales of the Jewish South* (UNC Press, 2005), a study of Jewish history, foodways, and culture in the American South. *Matzoh Ball Gumbo* was nominated for the 2006 James Beard Foundation Award in the category of "Writings on Food," and was also recognized by the International Association of Culinary Professionals with their 2006 Jane Grigson Award for distinguished scholarship in research and presentation. Dr. Ferris is co-editor of *Jewish Roots in Southern Soil: A New History* (University Press of New England, 2006), an anthology of contemporary scholarship on the Jewish South.

Her current work, "The Edible South: Food and History in an American Region," is a social history of southern foodways—the cultural, social and economic practices that relate to food in the American South. "The Edible South" documents both the mythic and the daily meaning of food in the lives of generations of southerners using rich archival collections on southern history and important publications on southern foodways. She is currently co-editing a related work on the foodways of North Carolina, a collection of essays by scholars, food writers, and journalists who examine the state's history and culture through its distinctive regional foodways.

She has published articles and chapters in numerous journals and anthologies, including *Southern Crossroads: Perspectives on Religion and Culture*, ed. Walter H. Conser Jr. and Rodger M. Payne (2008), *Cornbread Nation 1, 2, 4, and 5. The Best of Southern Food Writing* (2002, 2004, 2008, 2010), *American Jewish Women: An Historical Reader from Colonial Times to the Present*, ed. Pamela Nadell (2002), *Shalom Y'all: Images of Southern Jewish Life in America*, photographs by Bill Aron, edited by Vicki Reikes Fox with Bill Aron and Marcie Cohen Ferris (2002), *Southern Jewish History* (1998), and *Southern Cultures* (Guest editor, special issue on food, Winter 2009, Spring 2012).