

- **Project Title:** Abolition, Irish Freedom, and Immigrant Citizenship: The Rise and Fall of the American Associations for Irish Repeal

Investigator: Angela Murphy

Department: History

Project Summary:

My study investigates the transatlantic interactions among abolitionists, Irish nationalists and Irish immigrants as the issues of slavery and abolition complicated the first Irish nationalist movement in the United States. One of the central questions of my work is why anti-abolitionist sentiment was so pervasive among members of Irish American repeal societies – Irish nationalist groups so-named because they promoted the repeal of the parliamentary union between Great Britain and Ireland. Though several historians have noted the hostility of Irish American repealers towards the American antislavery movement, my own work will be the first book-length study of the phenomenon. In addition, my explanation of anti-abolition among members of the repeal associations departs from the traditional interpretation, which focuses on the economic status of the Irish American population.

Publications:

1.) "Slavery and Irish Nationalism in the Antebellum American South," in *The Irish in the Atlantic World*, ed. David Gleeson, University of South Carolina Press, forthcoming, Winter 2009.

2.) *Abolition, Irish Freedom, and Immigrant Citizenship: The Rise and Fall of the American Associations for Irish Repeal*, Louisiana State University Press, accepted pending revisions.

Presentations:

"Slavery and Irish Nationalism in the Antebellum American South," Carolina Lowcountry and Atlantic World Program, Irish in the Atlantic World Conference, Charleston, SC, February 2006.