Michael Faubion specializes in 20th century U.S. history with an emphasis on diplomatic and military history. In the fall he developed and taught a course on Big History (history since the Big Bang). He finished an article on the creation of UTRGV which is pending publication and plans to complete his book on the Sect Crisis in Vietnam this year. He will also be presenting a paper on the relationship between Ngo Dinh Diem and Wesley Fishel in the early years of South Vietnam titled "With Friends Like These: Diem and Fishel in the formation of South Vietnam at the Southwestern Social Sciences Convention in Las Vegas in March 2016.