

51:1 | MARCH 2020

INSIGHTS: NOTES FROM THE CCWH



CO-PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

BY CRYSTAL FEIMSTER

With the celebration of CCWH 50 th Anniversary behind us and with both a new executive director and co-president in place, it is an ideal time to begin a conversation about CCWH's future. A conversation that requires that we not only return to old questions, but that we ask new questions. More specifically, we must insist on answers that will allow us to reimagine the role of CCWH moving forward. What does it mean to define ourselves as a feminist organization committed to "coordinating" and improving the status of women in the historical profession? How can we best promote the study of women and gender history? The answers to these questions can be found in the work that CCWH has committed itself to over the years. Most of our work and coordination happens at the



annual meeting of the American Historical Association. During the AHA we hold our annual board meeting, host a luncheon and award ceremony, welcome members at our evening reception and book raffle, and connect with members at CCWH sponsored panels and roundtables. CCWH offers a range prizes in support and celebration of the work that our members do as scholars, mentors, and public intellectuals. We offer mentoring, create networking opportunities, and publish a newsletter. We have a range of networking and mentoring initiatives that take place online and face-to-face.

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Over the course of our fifty-year existence, CCWH has risen to meet the challenges that have and continue define women's experience in the historical profession and have no doubt that we will continue to do so. What we confront as women in the historical profession today is very different from what we faced half a decade ago. Moreover, as female historians working at diverse institutions at different ranks and levels means that our experiences are far from universal. In fact, as more and more women historians chose careers outside of the academy or find themselves regulated to non-tenure track and adjunct positions, we are faced with a set of issues that look quite different from those that led to our founding in 1969. Thus, faced with new challenges we must come up with new solutions.

When I was nominated as co-president of CCWH, I was asked to write a statement that was published in the Fall 2019 newsletter. In my statement I highlighted my early commitment to CCWH as a graduate student representative as well as how I have benefited from the work of CCWH over the course of my career. In closing my statement, I promised to continue CCWH's "effort to improve the status

of women in the historical profession and to promote the fields of women and gender history," and insisted, "the challenges we face are many, but I have no doubt that CCWH with a diverse and active membership working in collaboration with our affiliate organizations is fully prepared to meet them." Since writing that statement and stepping into the role of co-president, I have asked myself, "Crystal, what exactly are you going to do as co-president of CCWH to 'improve' the status of women historians?" Indeed, it's easy enough to say that CCWH is committed to improving the status of women historians, but it is much more difficult to articulate a clear plan for improving women's status, beyond what we already do. Without question, CCWH has and continues to do an amazing job of promoting and supporting scholars in the fields of women and gender history. Yet, I wonder what more we can do to resolve systemic problems such as unequal pay and sexual harassment in the work place. More importantly, I worry that we might not be fully prepared to meet these challenges. I say this not to question what we have done in the past or our capabilities as an organization, but to initiate a conversation about our future.

I have no doubt that CCWH's future depends on "a diverse and active membership working in collaboration with our affiliate organizations." As a member-driven organization, it is important that our membership is diverse, not just in terms of race, gender, and sexuality, but intellectually as well. Our base needs to include more public historians, high school history teachers, academics and activists, graduate students and administrators, archivists and curators, and documentary film makers. In other words, I believe that the first step in building an organization that is prepared to meet the challenges of our day requires recruiting new and diverse members. We all know that there is strength in numbers and getting our numbers up is the first step in building an innovative and powerful organization. At the same time, I believe that we need to strengthen our existing bonds with affiliate organizations and create new alliances with women's organizations outside the academy and institutions such as the Ford Foundation and Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

Most importantly, however, I think we need to hear from our existing members about how they imagine CCWH's future. What do you want from CCWH?

How can you contribute to CCWH? What are the pressing issues that you believe we should be addressing? What are your ideas about how to expand our membership and strengthen our alliances? What does CCWH do well and what can CCWH do better? We want to hear from you—we want to know not only what CCWH can do for you, but what you can do for CCWH. On our website you can “Contact Us”—not only with questions about the CCWH but with suggestions and comments. You can also email me directly. Moreover, we invite you to consider writing a piece for the newsletter as part of our ongoing conversation about CCWH’s future. I look forward to hearing from you.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S COLUMN

BY ELIZABETH EVERTON



Dear CCWH Members,

Happy new year and happy new decade! I’d like to open my first column as Executive Director by giving a hearty thank you to my illustrious predecessor, Sandra Trudgen Dawson. Sandra’s vision, diligence, and devotion over her ten years as Executive Director have done much to make the CCWH the organization it is today. On a personal note, I want to thank Sandra for her generosity and guidance as a mentor and a friend.

Many thanks are owed, too, to Barbara Molony, our outgoing co-president, and to Ilaria Scaglia, our outgoing Membership Outreach Committee Chair. Barbara and Ilaria have worked tirelessly and given so much during their terms, and I cannot thank them enough. I would also like to thank all of our outgoing award committee chairs: Jennifer Spear (Carol Gold Best Article Prize Committee Chair), Reena N. Goldthree (Ida B. Wells Graduate Student Fellowship Committee Chair), Michelle Marchetti Coughlin (CCWH/Berkshire Conference Graduate Student Fellowship Committee Chair), and Nicole Pacino (Nupur Chaudhuri First Article Prize

Award Committee Chair). Jennifer, Reena, Michelle, and Nicole, thank you for your time and effort in guiding these committees!

Yet January, of course, is a time for new beginnings, and in that spirit I would like to welcome our new Executive Board members. Welcome first to Crystal Feimster, who is starting her term as co-president. Crystal, Sasha, and I met during the AHA Conference in January, and we are looking forward to working together. Einav Rabinovitch-Fox will be joining the Executive Board as Membership Outreach Committee Chair. Our members are the heart of the CCWH, and so I want to thank Einav for taking on this most important role. Finally, though Ilaria is leaving her role with the Membership Outreach Committee, she will be remaining on the board in the newly created position of CCWH Connections Coordinator. In this role, Ilaria will work in concert with our University Representatives and Conference Liaisons to increase the visibility of our organization, our resources, and our prizes. Thank you, Ilaria!

I'd also like to welcome our new award committee chairs. Jessica Brannon-Wranosky will be stepping up as chair of the Carol Gold Best Article Prize Committee, and Sharon Kowalsky will be chairing the Nupur Chaudhuri First Article Prize Award Committee. Rafaela Acevado-Fields will be the chair of the Ida B. Wells Graduate Student Fellowship Committee, and Cherisse Jones-Branch will be the chair of the CCWH/Berkshire Conference Graduate Student Fellowship Committee. Finally, Stephanie McBride-Schreiner will continue for another year as chair of the Catherine Prelinger Award Committee.

On this note, I'd like to spend the remainder of my first column as Executive Director talking about one of the things about the CCWH that is closest to my heart: its awards. I have had the good fortune to serve on both the CCWH/Berkshire Conference Graduate Student Fellowship Committee and the Nupur Chaudhuri First Article Prize Award Committee, and I have always relished having the opportunity to read the wonderful scholarship being created by CCWH members.

Before talking about the awards themselves, I'd like to make an important

announcement: after much discussion, the decision was made to push the deadline for all awards back to May 15, 2020. We believe that this change will make it easier for applicants to meet the deadline, as it will be in greater alignment with those of comparable awards. We've also made some other exciting changes to selected awards, which I will discuss below.

I would like to start with the Catherine Prelinger Memorial Award, which is given to a scholar who has not followed a traditional academic path of uninterrupted and completed secondary, undergraduate, and graduate degrees leading to a tenure-track faculty position. The winners of this remarkable award, founded in 1998, are celebrated in an equally remarkable collection of autobiographical essays, *Reshaping Women's History: Voices of Nontraditional Women Historians*, edited by Julie A. Gallagher and Barbara Winslow (2018). If you haven't had the opportunity to browse this collection, I strongly recommend it as a testament to the power of this award and its winners.

While the Prelinger Award is open both to PhDs and to graduate students advanced to candidacy, we also offer two awards specifically for

graduate students: the Ida B. Wells Graduate Student Fellowship and the CCWH/Berkshire Conference of Women Historians Graduate Student Fellowship. As a reflection of our increasingly global membership, the Executive Board has made the decision this year to extend these awards to graduate students in institutions outside of the United States. The CCWH/Berks Award is open to graduate students completing dissertations in history, and the Wells Award is given to a graduate student working on a historical dissertation that interrogates race and gender.

In addition, we offer two prizes for outstanding articles. The Nupur Chaudhuri First Article Award recognizes the best first article published by any CCWH member in any field of history. The Carol Gold Best Article Award, originally limited to articles published by members at the rank of associate professor, has been extended going forward to all CCWH members. I strongly encourage any and all members who published an article in the past year to apply! Finally, I'd like to conclude by talking about our newest award, the Rachel Fuchs Memorial Award. This award recognizes and

applauds service, including mentoring, that supports women and LGBTQI people in the historical profession. As a historian and activist, a mentor, role model, and friend, Rachel touched so many lives in her long career. She is much missed, and I strongly believe this award is a fitting tribute to her. To learn more about these awards, please visit <https://theccwh.org/ccwh-awards/>. I am so glad to be starting this journey with the CCWH, and I would love to hear from any and all members with questions, ideas, and updates. Please feel free to reach out to me at execdir@theccwh.org.

In sisterhood and solidarity,

Liz

GRADUATE STUDENT COLUMN: THE WRITING GROUP

BY BETH ANN WILLIAMS



Every Monday at 2:50pm I rush out of class and quick

walk back to my windowless office. I hurry because my writing group meets at 3pm. Comprised of five women who study East Africa across a variety of (humanities) disciplines, the group has become one of my most important and cherished weekly rituals. These days I am usually the last one to join the call. That means I get the treat of suddenly seeing four smiling faces pop up on my screen. There are many different forms and functions a writing group can adopt. My Monday group focuses on providing writing feedback. We sign up for submission slots ahead of time, email out drafts two to three days before our meeting, and come with comments, questions, and encouragement as needed. There are many benefits to configuring our group this way.

- Writing accountability. There is no expectation that what you turn in will be polished, or even coherent, but if you are signed up then you must send something. Get words on a page.

- Practice asking for feedback. We've all learned overtime that telling the group explicitly where you are in the writing process is key to having a good meeting. The best help comes when you're clear about what you need: clarifying the argument, restructuring the organization, finding buried thesis sentences, polishing the writing, etc...
- Practice giving feedback. Anyone who has tried to run a peer-review session with a class knows that reading someone's work and helping them make it better is not an obvious process. Writing group is an opportunity to practice the art of giving feedback every week.
- Learning to enjoy talking about your work. I am not the best about sharing my writing. I know I need to, but it feels vulnerable. This group has taught me the joy that can emerge when you share your uncertain and messy thoughts with a (trusted) group of colleagues.
- Encouragement. We critique and question each other but our professional relationships are built on the foundational understanding that all of us are doing good and important work.

- Content discovery. Because we all study the same geographical region, the content, themes, and literature from others' drafts informs my own knowledge of my research and teaching.
- The message: "You are normal." While our main focus is intellectual, content-oriented feedback we inevitably end up discussing process-oriented and interpersonal facets of graduate life. It is incredibly valuable just to hear someone say "I understand that feeling." or "I've been there too."

This all sounds great, and it is. But how does it happen? If you are interested in building this kind of accountability into your graduate (or professorial) life, where do you start?

Our group formed through the efforts of two members who had the idea and reached out to friends and acquaintances they made while conducting research. Three of them were strangers to me when we started. Here are, in my opinion, the key pieces that helped us move our group from relative strangers to a professional support network of friends.

- Purpose and priorities. We had serious and extended discussions when we started about where various people were at in their grad school process, what we wanted to get out of the group, and how to help create accountability.
- Regularity. Other than a few weeks over the summer, we don't cancel. People can miss, but even if only two or three people can make it the meeting happens. Those who don't come are still expected to send written comments.
- Communication. We are explicit and open with each other about what we need, what we're feeling, and how the group is or is not serving our needs. We've had members leave or take extended periods of absence, and that's okay.
- Positivity. We talk to each other about things that the group is doing well- how specific conversations or people's comments are helpful, how we are moving forward with feedback- as well as negative or critical things- like how discipline has been a struggle or we're lacking clarity about where a chapter draft is heading.

- Process and practice-oriented conversations. We often have conversations about research, organizational, and writing practices. One group member was in the position of needing to finish her dissertation very quickly (to take a job). We dedicated a session to talking about a range of software tools for writing, writing strategies, and rituals that helped the rest of us get work done. It's both fun and useful to talk about how different people manage themselves and the writing process.

I could go on and share ten more stories about conversations, inside jokes, insights, and emotional labor performed by this group. For me Writing Group is one shining example of the best of academic life- a group of engaged, thoughtful, kind colleagues who delight in sharpening and encouraging each other.

I hope this piece will spark a few more of these groups, eventually contributing to an abundance of richly supported and personally engaged scholars across our discipline.

INTERVIEW WITH ASSISTANT MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR COURTNEY LACY AND MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE MEMBER STEFANIE SHACKLETON

BY JACQUELINE ALLAIN

A few months ago, Ilaria Scaglia suggested that I interview Assistant Membership Coordinator Courtney Lacy and Membership Committee Member Stefanie Shackleton about the important behind-the-scenes work they do for the CCWH. Both women are graduate students who study women's/gender history. Our interview is below.

Jacqueline Allain: What does your research focus on?

Stefanie Shackleton: I am a PhD candidate at the University of Texas at Austin, and my adviser is Philippa Levine. I am a first-generation student, non-traditional, single-mom student. My research interests are in social and cultural history, hovering around the intersection of class, labor, and gender. My dissertation explores the role played within the nineteenth-century culture of 'improvement' by informal

adult learning activities in the creation of class identities and ideas of respectability, as they occurred in the similar, but culturally distinct, areas of the metropole, the 'Celtic fringe', and the white settler colonies. My second project uses a microhistorical approach to explore gender and class in the city of London and in early Australia through the words and experiences of an individual working-class woman, from the 1830s to the 1870s.

Courtney Lacy: I am a PhD Candidate in Religious Studies at Southern Methodist University (although I live in the Chicago area now) and my focus is on American Religious History. My dissertation research is on the relationship between nineteenth century religious history (specifically the Spiritualist and Holiness Movements), insanity, and asylums. I am currently finishing my dissertation titled: "Religion Wrecked Her Mind: Religious Insanity in Nineteenth-Century America." More broadly I study nineteenth-century religion, medicine, with a focus on mental health in particular.

JA: What is your role at the CCWH?

SS: At the CCWH, I am the Membership Committee Member. We take the information sent in by new and renewing members and update the CCWH database of members, welcoming new members and keeping track of the payments once they are processed on the other end. I was the main person from about May 2018 until I started my research travel. Then Courtney came on in April 2019 as my backup, but then took over as the main contact for this position and I took over as backup by the end of Summer 2019.

CL: As Assistant Membership Coordinator, I keep an ongoing record of payments and membership renewals, send out receipts, correspond when members have a question about their status, and help the Membership Coordinator, Einav Rabinovitch-Fox, as needed.

JA: Why did you take on the position and what interested you about getting involved with the CCWH?

SS: I really wanted to learn more about how things worked and wanted to help with the day-to-day of things in the CCWH. I was drawn to the fact that the CCWH is specifically for women historians, and that it is so focused on support and connections.

CL: I took on this position because I wanted to volunteer for an organization that was making a difference for women in academics. I just recently became a mother (I have an 8 month old daughter) and as I work on finishing my dissertation, I struggle to keep a balance with family and work.

JA: What do you find challenging about the role?

SS: There are a few months of the year where we have to keep up with dozens of renewals and new memberships per week, and it can be a tough task to keep up with everything.

CL: The challenge can be sometimes getting inspired to update a spreadsheet. Ha! Sometimes it is not particularly exciting. But I worked as a receptionist and bank teller for a few years in between my Master's and PhD so I learned how to efficiently manage a spreadsheet. It was something I could do to help that is very needed but not everyone has the patience to do! (Which I totally get).

JA: What do you like best about it?

SS: This role keeps me somewhat up-to-date with things and lets me be involved without too much of a time commitment. That's

important because I'm not just writing my dissertation, I'm also having to work since I'm a single mom and raise two teenage boys. But I'm also able to be involved in other ways. For instance, I will be assisting as a notetaker on the Mentorship sessions. I have noticed that once someone joins the CCWH, they tend to stay. I think that says a great deal about how important and useful the association is for its members.

CL: My favorite part of the job is getting to meet strong, brilliant women who are working in academics (online and at meetings like AHA). It is wonderful to feel less alone in a field that often requires a lot of alone time in research and writing.



(Stefanie Shackleton, above)



(Courtney Lacy, above)

MEMBERSHIP OUTREACH COMMITTEE CHAIR'S COLUMN

**BY EINAV RABINOVITCH-
FOX**



Dear CCWH members,

This is my first column as the membership coordinator and I am very much excited to begin this new role. Like many in the CCWH, I came to this role after participating for a few years in the organization, in its luncheons and activities, as well as part of the mentorship committee, and I look to continue this work in my position as the membership coordinator.

Indeed, while the CCWH does a lot of great and important things, one of its main strength as an organization is the support networks it gives for those who identify as females in academia. The issue of mentorship is very close to my heart and I was very happy that in the last AHA I got to participate

in a panel sponsored by the CCWH that addressed exactly this topic. Titled “Surviving and Thriving: Inclusive, Meaningful Mentorship for Women across the Profession,” the panelists and I shared our experiences and perspectives on mentors, mentees and the relationship between them. This is also a great opportunity to thank Kathleen Feeley, who organized this panel, and my other fellow panelists – Barbara Molony and Sarah Litvin who made this panel such an empowering experience. I think it is safe to say that we all came to the conclusion that cultivating support networks, whether it is through advising, mentoring, or collaborations, is crucial for women to thrive in academia, which is not always the most welcoming place for those who identify as females.

Finding mentors is not always easy. Not always your academic adviser is a good mentor, and even if you are those lucky ones who have a wonderful adviser, it is rare that one person can be a mentor for all your needs. And our needs as academics, as scholars, as women, and as teachers are changing. Instead of looking for a one know-all mentor, we should cultivate a community of

of mentors, “collecting” advise and advisors along the way from multiple people. These people can be some other professors on your committee, they can be your peers, they can be a senior person in your department, or a colleague in the college you teach in. And it can be the CCWH and the community it offers.

The mentorship program connects junior and senior people according to mutual interests and needs. This is a wonderful opportunity to cultivate a relationship with someone who might not be connected to you formally due to their roles or the institution. In our panel, Barbara Molony, the outgoing CCWH co-president, described how through the mentorship program, where she served as a mentor for a graduate student, she got to collaborate with a young scholar and assist with her career. Yes, mentorship is a two-way street, and oftentimes mentors are getting out of this relationship no less than their mentees.

Yet, mentorship is not always just the building of personal relationships. It can also be a form of crowd-sourcing advise and the creation of networks and

communities. Beyond connecting member with mentors, the mentorship program also runs e-sessions series on topic ranging for navigating the job market, the publishing world, academia and beyond. On the website there is a list of our past and upcoming sessions and you are all welcome to tune in to those. Notes from each previous session are also available upon request, just email mentorship@theccwh.org for details. We are also always on the lookout for new topics and suggestions for sessions, so if you have one, or want to participate in one, just let us know.

I also recommend coming to CCWH sponsored events and receptions in conferences. This is a great way to meet new people, to form connections, and to build communities. Getting involved in the organization activities, committees, and work is a great way to build a community that will allow you not only to “survive” but also “thrive” in academia. Our strength is in our numbers, and the more of us to join the CCWH, its mentorship program, and its activities, the better we could serve us all.

So, I will end with this message. If you haven't yet renewed your membership for 2020, there is no time like the present. If you are advising graduate students, introduced them to the organization and ask them to consider joining. You might also consider to join as a mentor to our program. And if you are a graduate student or a junior scholar at the beginning of your academic career, check out our mentorship program and reach out – we are here for you.

Changing the culture of academia is not easy, but if we band together into a community of female solidarity and support we can do it – one step at a time.

CCWH CONNECTIONS COORDINATOR'S COLUMN: BACK TO CAPITAL

BY ILARIA SCAGLIA



For my last column, I have decided to share some thoughts matured during my three-year term as CCWH Membership Coordinator on the interplay of money and academia. By keeping track of membership, by corresponding with many of you, and especially by moderating the CCWH e-mentorship sessions, I gained a unique perspective on both the beauty and the challenges of our profession. Most notably, I had the opportunity to observe the effects of capital—or lack thereof—on CCWH's large and diverse family. To be sure, such interplay is neither new nor necessarily bad, nor even impossible to navigate. In fact, CCWH offers much guidance in this respect. Yet, a fairly recent shift towards extreme neo-liberal models has normalized the idea that we operate in a money-driven academia—we live not in a republic of letters but in a world of advertising leaflets and brochures. In witty and less witty terms, this notion is often repeated, taken for granted, assumed to be irreversible, and used as justification for all sorts of nefarious policies. Comments about this shift are frequently exchanged among academics, whispered and bemoaned in various settings, but they

are seldom discussed openly with students, the wider public, and the media. Yet, serving in CCWH made it clear to me that this truism is simply not true. A substantial part of our work (from mentoring to reviewing each other's manuscripts) is often done at no charge. Most of us did not enter the profession out of greed; at every stage, we looked for a position because we believed in what we could do once we had a job; and, despite numerous obstacles, many continue to produce meaningful scholarship and to help others thrive—and do so for free.

Strikingly, little is said about some of the great challenges to the academic home that many of us worked hard to inhabit. I will begin with an example of one seemingly pedantic, yet vital issue that emerged in our CCWH conversations yet is seldom discussed outside: recent changes in book access that have reduced their dissemination, and then move on to the broader implications of surrendering to similar money-driven developments. In the last ten years, due to the rise of electronic publishing, there was a drastic reduction in book access. This might seem surprising, since common knowledge has it

that we live in an age of increased circulation and democratization of knowledge. Not quite. As a Ph.D. student at a state school in New York, I could access all the books I needed through Inter-library Loan (ILL), as did my students in Columbus, Georgia, for the first few years I was teaching there. That is not the case anymore. As paper copies, which we and our students were able to read and borrow for free, become more and more of a rarity, and as electronic copies stored in external databases (which libraries can subscribe to but not own) become the norm, few institutions can afford to pay for access to books (especially when these come in expensive bundles). Crucially, electronic copies of full books do not travel through ILL. We are heading backward to the year 1886, when the University of California Berkeley began the borrowing system on which we all relied on for decades until fairly recently.

The reaction in most institutions has been either to question the value of books altogether or to reduce book usage (with the loss and the fragmentation of knowledge this implies, particularly in a book-heavy discipline like ours). Some hope that “technology”

will miraculously arise to solve the problem or turn towards open access without any quality, accountability process, or peer-review guarantee. Meanwhile, all sorts of private/illegal websites and databases have sprouted up. To be sure, a handful of well-endowed institutions have made great investments to continue to buy and store books both in paper and in electronic copies, and individuals scramble to travel to these repositories to get by. But the problem is far from being solved.

Full access to existing literature on any given topic is effectively denied to most. This not only discriminates against their ability to produce scholarship but also hinders trusted peer-review and accountability mechanisms. Moreover, a handful of corporations and institutions control access to an enormous body of knowledge. In the wrong hands, these entities could destroy or prevent access with an inch-long piece of code, and with a speed and efficiency the Nazis could have dreamt of in the 1930s. Meanwhile, in the name of progress, paper copies are continuously being destroyed while sustainable digital storage and access are far from guaranteed.

All of this happened with remarkably little reporting in the press. While visiting campuses few students or parents ask about book access and availability while choosing where to enroll: as they walk through libraries, they seldom inquire about their contents. There is no data available to compare how much—or how little—each institution offers in this respect. Yet the CCWH membership roster makes it clear that we are a diverse crowd, and each name adds to the richness of the whole. While many of our members might not directly experience the effects of this shift, many others already have. Regardless, we are all poorer in the moment in which diversity and the multiple perspectives this brings are eroded.

A look at the broader context in which this transformation has taken place further reveals its gravity. In recent years, extreme neo-liberal models have transformed the work we do. Historical topics are routinely commodified, sensationalized, and emotionalized in

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***PUBLIC HISTORY
COLUMN :
COMMEMORATION
OF THE NINETEENTH
AMENDMENT***

BY ELYSSA FORD



As we are in the centennial year of women's suffrage in the United States, it seems only appropriate for the Public History column to reflect on the commemorative process for this momentous occasion. Celebrations of and reflections on this 100-year anniversary are simultaneously all around us and yet also strangely absent. Perhaps my own location in Missouri, which currently is trying to mount its own bicentennial celebrations of statehood, has led to a perceived silence on women's suffrage. This column will examine why suffrage commemorations are more present in some parts of the country and less present in others, what may explain these differences, and what is

being done on the national level.

In Missouri, little has been readily apparent regarding centennial events. The website Missouri Women, a privately run endeavor, features the writings and activities of suffragist Alice Curtice Moyer Wing while the Boone County Historical Society and the State Historical Society of Missouri are mounting exhibitions that present the suffrage movement nationally and highlight actors and events within the state. There likely are other events and exhibits in Missouri, but they have received limited attention across the state. Part of the issue in Missouri, beyond the competition from the state's bicentennial, is that the state first granted limited suffrage (presidential only) in 1919, the year before the national suffrage amendment was ratified. Similarly, other key suffrage events for the state, such as the Golden Lane demonstration in 1916 (a "walkless, talkless" parade protest of the Democratic National Convention, held in St. Louis that year), occurred in other years and already were celebrated at the local and state levels. In my own community in northwestern Missouri, events were held

in 2013 to recognize the involvement of a local women's band in the National Woman Suffrage Procession, held in Washington, D.C., in 1913. While all of these events were a part of the overall suffrage movement and culminated in the passage of the national amendment, locally the events have been remembered and celebrated on their own anniversaries, rather than that of the amendment.

Just as these events have competed with the national amendment, many of the states that granted women's suffrage prior to the Nineteenth Amendment did so in the years just preceding its passage and so celebrated the granting of state suffrage, which may have led to a burnout of suffrage commemorations. Furthermore, in some parts of the country, especially in the Midwest, the suffrage movement had fewer active members across the state as a whole. Missouri's suffrage movement was centered in St. Louis, and while there were suffrage organizations in other parts of the state, they were not as long lived and little is known about their members or activities, making it more difficult for all parts of the state to feel as invested in

in the fight for suffrage and perhaps, therefore, the celebration of a national event without many local ties, even though all women in the state benefitted from its passage.

Despite the limited public commemorations in some states, others have been more organized and active. Idaho is holding a statewide celebration throughout the year thanks to a partnership between the Idaho Women in Leadership and the Idaho State Historical Society (<https://www.idahowomen100.com/>), along with support from universities across the state and entities like Arts Idaho, the Idaho Humanities Council, and the League of Women Voters of Idaho. Their website shares guides for communities and museums on how to celebrate women's suffrage. Even with statewide support like this, it is difficult to gauge the impact of this effort because the events themselves are unclear and the effort seems to rely on disseminating information and encouraging local communities to share their own events, rather than a centrally organized celebration in the state.

The suffrage centennial in Washington has benefited from this kind of central organization

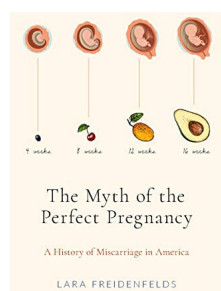
(<https://www.suffrage100wa.com/>). Run by the state historical society, which appointed a suffrage centennial coordinator, the centennial project appears much more public, active, and organized. The historical society earmarked grants for non-profits and other organizations to hold programming related to women's suffrage. They also undertook a series of efforts to better promote women through a Wikipedia Edit-a-Thon to add information about local suffragists to Wikipedia and through a crowd sourcing initiative to add Washington suffragists to a virtual cemetery to help people in the state identify and preserve suffragist burial sites. The Washington suffrage website promoted national initiatives like the transcription of suffragist papers at the Library of Congress (<https://crowd.loc.gov/topics/suffrage-women-fight-for-the-vote/>), the National Votes for Women Trail (<https://ncwhs.org/votes-for-women-trail/>), and the Online Biographical Dictionary of the Woman Suffrage Movement in the United States, edited by Thomas Dublin (<https://documents.alexanderstreet.com/VOTESforWOMEN>).

Some of these national projects are not just important in raising the stature of women suffragists, they also are creating materials for future research and have provided an important engagement opportunity for university classrooms. My own women's history classes transcribed suffrage documents for the Library of Congress and two classes produced a total of seventeen entries for Dublin's important and incredibly far-reaching project. It is more than the typical encyclopedia or biography project. Little is known about so many of the women, especially the state and local women, involved in the suffrage movement, and so to even produce a 500-word essay requires extensive research using genealogical sources, newspapers, and primary source materials. This project has created a true trove of information and will be one of the lasting legacies of the centennial year. The National Park Service also has been expanding its materials on women's suffrage (<https://www.nps.gov/subjects/womenshistory/19th-amendment.htm>) with articles written on the various regions of the country, the passage of the Nineteenth Amendment by state, and materials for teachers.

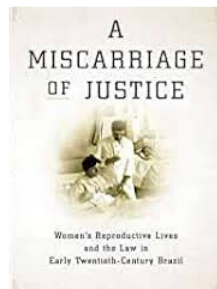
Even though the centennial year of national women's suffrage may be less visible than many of us as women's historians and public historians may have hoped, there is important work being done, and it has led some states to investigate their own scholarship. For instance, no book had been written on women's suffrage in Indiana and so Anita Morgan took on the project as a part of the Indiana Women's Suffrage Centennial. Her book "We Must Be Fearless": The Woman Suffrage Movement in Indiana is being published this year by the Indiana Historical Society Press. For those of us in states still lacking in suffrage scholarship or with limited commemorative plans for the centennial, I hope we take from this year not dismay but a reason to continue the conversation well beyond 2020.

MEMBER NEWS

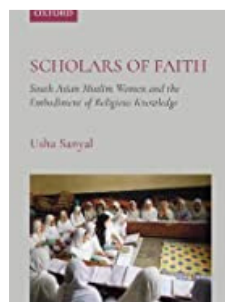
- Lara Freidenfelds' new book, *The Myth of the Perfect Pregnancy: A History of Miscarriage in America*, is now available from Oxford University Press



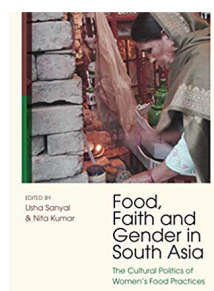
- Cassia Roth's first book, *A Miscarriage of Justice: Women's Reproductive Lives and the Law in Early Twentieth-Century Brazil*, is now available from Stanford University Press



- Usha Sunyal's new book, *Scholars of Faith: South Asian Muslim Women and the Embodiment of Religious Knowledge*, will be available Summer 2020 from Oxford University Press



- Usha Sunyal's co-edited volume, *Food, Faith and Gender in South Asia: The Cultural Politics of Women's Food Practices* (eds. Usha Sunyal and Nita Kumar) is now available from Bloomsbury Academic



AFFILIATE NEWS & CFPS

- Conference announcement: Western Association of Women Historians (Costa Mesa, CA) April 23-25
- Conference forum: The discussion about issues related to non-tenure track faculty begun in January 2018 will continue at the annual meeting of the Organization of American Historians. We invite you to the Forum at the OAH annual meeting on Saturday April 4, 2020, from 9:30-11:00 am at the Marriott Wardman Park in Washington DC. Please feel free to suggest agenda items for consideration. Please let us know if you or a representative of your association wish to join us and if you have any agenda items by emailing Amy Essington at amycessington@gmail.com by March 15, 2020.

NOTES FROM THE CCWH ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

CCWH Annual Business
Meeting, AHA New York
3 January 2020, 1:30-3:00 PM

Notes taken by Elizabeth
Everton

I. Welcome and Introductions

a. Present in person: Sandra
Trudgen Dawson, Barbara
Molony, Nupur Chaudhuri,
Barbara Winslow, Einav
Rabinovich-Fox, Sasha
Turner, Ilaria Scaglia,
Elizabeth Everton, Crystal
Feimster

II. Executive Director Report: Sandra Trudgen Dawson

a. Thanks to membership and
leadership for 2019;
looking forward to future
b. AHA 2019 very successful,
with numerous
well-attended plenaries;
incident of fraud marred
celebrations (check
fraudulently cashed by a
Jessica Diaz, and Sandra had
to struggle with bank to
get monies refunded. Bank
paid back
December 2019.
c. Sasha Turner, Barbara
Molony, and Sandra Dawson
co-authored "The
Coordinating Council for
Women in History at Fifty,"
published in Perspectives in
March 2019.

d. Finances: strong stock
market has grown
endowment account
(approximately \$200,000 in
account). \$20,000 put in
endowment
account earlier in 2019.
Sandra recommends
continuing relationship with
Stralem.

e. CCWH received \$40,000
from anonymous Prelinger
donor, who also asked that we
do as much fundraising as
possible to try to
reach full \$20,000 amount,
which has not happened
before. Endowment is for all
awards, not just the Prelinger.
f. Awards committees worked
well and all 6 awards
have winners. 6 winners will
be at luncheon Saturday.

g. Change in 2019 to award
committee members:
Ilaria sent email requesting
volunteers for 3 year term.
Sandra recommends
continuing this process next
year. Sasha recommends
being aware of
over-commitment, which can
occur when CCWH is over-
reliant on Executive Board
networks. Ilaria says that
while recruiting volunteers
enhances democratization
of organization, it can open
the door for volunteers to
abuse position. Ilaria
suggests and Sandra agrees
that this can be mitigated by
not allowing volunteers to
select committee they join.
Sasha mentions issue of
overlapping committee

committee timelines. CCWH
deadlines had been moved up
to April, but moved back to
May because of drop in
applications.

h. Currently, members send in
notifications of new books to
be published on CCWH
website. Sandra would like to
suggest adding
notifications of journal
articles as well.

i. None of the awards received
high numbers of applications,
particularly Gold award (5)
and graduate fellowships (12
and 14). Einav asked whether
it's publicity, but Sasha says
it's a problem for other
organizations as well.
General agreement that
application processes can be
opaque, both for authors and
for publishers/journals. Ilaria
proposes a mentorship
session on awards. Sandra
suggests that grad students
may feel uncomfortable
nominating themselves for
awards or even asking
for letters of
recommendation. Einav
says that in her experience
the grad student awards are
getting applications
outside of the scope of the
award. Sasha states that it's
an issue of knowledge (about
self-nomination, about
existence of awards) and self-
advocacy, where authors
approach press about
nominating them for awards.

j. Barbara W. suggests using Berks as a way to advertise for awards. Elizabeth suggests extending the deadline to June 15 to accommodate Berks attendees. Ilaria says an issue is that this reduces the amount of time of membership.

k. Changes to expand award pool: (1) applications opened to CCWH members at non-US institutions; (2) Gold Award opened to all CCWH members.

l. Barbara W. says someone needs to contact Illinois (book fair) to pick up copies of Prelinger book. She would like the current winner to receive a copy of the book and optimally review it (reach out to Whitney Leeson about this).

m. New board position (voted on by executive board): mentorship coordinator. Einav is leaving mentorship to be membership coordinator. Ricki Bettington has agreed to serve as mentorship coordinator. Ilaria and Sandra suggest that CCWH really needs outreach to conferences and universities and propose new position of CCWH Connection Coordinator. Ilaria nominated for this position. This is different than Affiliate Outreach position occupied by Julie de Chantal. Need to take another vote to establish CCWH Connection

Coordinator as Executive Board position and to ask Ricki whether she wants to be a board member.

n. NY Hilton has been very difficult to work with and very expensive. For this reason, Sandra had to limit the number of luncheon tickets to limit subsidy. Barbara M. says Asia Studies luncheon has been off-site for 5+ years and it has worked very well.

o. Recommendations for increasing funds:

i.) Increase institutional membership from \$120 to \$150

ii.) Increase each category of membership by \$5-10 (membership is income graded except for graduate students). Ilaria suggests putting language about financial duress on membership form (if in financial duress, contact membership committee)

iii.) Increase cost of luncheon, which has been \$35 for the past 10 years, or cancel or have off-site

iv.) Greater awareness for awards

v.) Webpage for CCWH member published articles

p. How can the CCWH navigate changes to the AHA? AHA probably going to see decrease in attendance because of lack of job interviews. Can the CCWH create a conference within a conference, or can it put

together practical panels? CCWH Executive Director can put in panels not accepted by AHA, which could be a marketing tool.

q. Elizabeth proposes maintaining lists of applicants, particularly for graduate awards, and reaching out to them to try to encourage them to maintain membership by offering opportunity to present at AHA.

r. Sandra wishes to conclude by saying that CCWH has been her home for 12 years and she is glad to be a part of it.

III. Co-presidents' report:

Barbara Molony

a. Enormous thanks to Sandra!

b. CCWH is US affiliate for International Federation for Research in Women's History (IFRWH), for which Eileen Boris is current president.

c. 50th anniversary celebration at AHA last year was great success.

d. Sandra thanks Barbara for serving 4 years.

IV. Treasurer's report: Pamela Stewart

a. Donations rose from about \$8000 to about \$13,000, and anonymous Prelinger donor gave \$40,000. When members make unspecified donations, go into Prelinger account.

- b. AHA expenses going up.
- c. IFRWH rollover: 18,136 left of IFRWH funds in CCWH account. Sandra going to withdraw it and put it in its own account.
- d. Administrative costs went down, with exception of website costs, which went up slightly.
- e. Executive Director and Treasurer get stipends from CCWH. Sandra proposes raising stipend for Executive Director from \$500 to \$1000.

V. Membership Coordinator's report: Ilaria Scaglia

- a. Wanted to get membership to 500, and it didn't happen, but CCWH membership remained stable when other organizations declined—more people have renewed in the last few months than did the last few months of 2018
- b. Mentorship program is now established and growing
- c. Membership rosters have been simplified (name, email, date of expiration). Sandra suggests adding membership date field. Privacy issues with salary information have also been addressed.
- d. Ilaria finally would like to see revitalization of conference/university liaisons.

VI. Other reports not covered: Awards, Graduate Students, and Publish History

VII. Fundraising for Rosalind Terborg Penn joint award with ABWH: Nupur Chaudhuri

- a. Stress need to give to the award and not the organization.
- b. Fundraising during luncheon on Saturday.
- c. Need to write proposal for AHA by June. Jim Grossman sent email, which Sandra will forward. This will be the only award given to memorialize a woman of color and only second award to honor a woman (after Joan Kelly award).
- d. Need to convene awards committee

III. Meeting adjourned at 3:20

NOTE: Due to time constraints, the meeting concluded without all Agenda items being covered. Topics not covered include fundraising for the CCWH Endowment and Visibility at the Berkshire Conference.

AWARD BYLAWS

In December 2019, the Executive Board voted unanimously to revise the bylaws for three of awards: the CCWH Ida B. Wells Graduate Student Fellowship, the CCWH/Berkshire Conference of Women Historians Dissertation Fellowship, and the CCWH Carol Gold Article Award. The changes are as follows:

1. To better align with the international nature of our membership, the CCWH Ida B. Wells Graduate Student Fellowship and the CCWH/Berkshire Conference of Women Historians Dissertation Fellowship will no longer require applicants to be students at US institutions. The applications will remain in English and the award will be given in US dollars.

2. The CCWH Carol Gold Article Award will be extended to articles written by all CCWH members, regardless of academic rank. Articles must still be published in scholarly journals.

The updated bylaws are reproduced below.

CCWH Ida B. Wells
Graduate Student Fellowship
Bylaws

1. The Ida B. Wells Graduate Student Fellowship is an annual award given to a graduate student working on a historical dissertation that interrogates race and gender, not necessarily in a History Department. Funds from these Awards may be used for purposes directly or indirectly related to the dissertation, such as expenses for research, attendance of scholarly conferences, and the preparation of the dissertation.

2. Applicants to the Ida B. Wells Graduate Student Fellowship must be current members of the CCWH when they submit their application. Current CCWH Executive Board members or prize committee members are not eligible to apply. Applicants for the fellowship may apply more than once but may win only once.

3. All applicants should have advanced to candidacy in an institution of higher education and be writing the dissertation. The dissertation should be historical in nature, although the degree may be in related fields. Applicants should expect the Ph.D. no earlier than December of the calendar year in which the award is made.

4. Applicants may only apply for one CCWH award each year.

5. Applicants for the Ida B. Wells Dissertation Fellowship must submit their completed application to the selection committee in one electronic file.

a.) A copy of the completed application form with the signature of a representative of the applicant's Department verifying that qualifying exams have been passed or that A.B.D. status has been achieved in some other way.

b.) A current Curriculum Vitae

c.) A summary of the dissertation project that includes an explanation of how the dissertation project will advance our understanding of the issue(s) under study, a survey of the major primary sources, a discussion of the historiography, a summary of research already accomplished, and an indication of plans for completion of the dissertation in no more than five double-spaced pages, 12 font.

d.) Two letters of recommendation sent separately to the award email.

e.) Applicants who do not meet the deadline for submission or include all the required materials will not be

considered.

6. The Award Committee Members shall:

a.) Be appointed by the Co-Presidents and or the Executive Director for a three-year term.

b.) Have terms that are staggered in a three-year cycle. Each year a new committee member shall be appointed. In case of an incomplete term of service, an appointment shall be made to complete the term of service.

c.) Ideally the committee members should represent different geographical and temporal areas of expertise.

7. The Award Committee Chair shall:

a.) Ideally have at least one year of experience on the committee prior to taking over the position of Chair.

b.) Be responsible for overseeing the work of the committee, including checking to see if applicants are CCWH members, emailing each applicant to let them know their application has been received, the timely determination of award recipient(s), and for the notification of the decision to all applicants, selected or not, as well as the Executive Director.

c.) Present, or appoint someone to present, the award to the winner at the annual award luncheon at the American Historical Association.

8. Each Committee member shall review and rate each application for the Ida B. Wells Graduate Student Fellowship. From their individual ratings, Committee members shall confer and reach a consensus on the recipient.

9. The Committee shall use the following criteria in selecting recipients (all are given equal weight):

- a.) Scholarly potential of the graduate student.
- b.) Significance of the dissertation project for historical research.
- c.) Originality and clarity of argument.
- d.) Progress already made toward completing research for the dissertation.
- e.) Timeliness of the topic.

10. The award will be determined by the Ida B. Wells Graduate Student Fellowship Committee subject to funding availability and the applicant pool.

11. The Ida B. Wells Graduate Student Fellowship recipient shall be announced at the CCWH annual awards luncheon at the American Historical Association.

Revised January 2020

CCWH/ Berkshire Conference of Women Historians Dissertation Fellowship Bylaws

1. The CCWH/Berkshire Conference of Women Historians Dissertation Fellowship is awarded annually to a Ph. D. candidate in a history department who may specialize in any field of history. Funds from this fellowship may be used for purposes directly or indirectly related to the dissertation, including but not limited to expenses for research, attendance of scholarly conferences, and the preparation of the dissertation.

2. Applicants to the CCWH/ Berkshire Conference of Women Historians Dissertation Fellowship must be current members of the CCWH when they submit their application. Current CCWH Executive Board members or committee members are not eligible to apply. Applicants for the fellowship may apply more than once but may win only once.

2. All applicants should have advanced to candidacy in a History Department in an institution of higher education and be researching or writing the dissertation. Applicants should expect the Ph.D. no earlier than December of the

calendar year in which the award is made.

3. Applicants for the CCWH/ Berkshire Conference of Women Historians Dissertation Fellowship must submit the required materials as directed on the application. The application will include:

- a.) A copy of the completed application form with a signature of a representative of the applicant's Department verifying that qualifying exams have been passed or that A.B.D. status has been achieved in some other way.
- b.) A curriculum vitae
- c.) A summary of the dissertation project that include an explanation of how the dissertation project will advance our understanding of the issue(s) under study, a survey of the major primary sources, a discussion of the historiography, a summary of research already accomplished, and an indication of plans for completion of the dissertation in no more than five double-spaced pages, using 12 font, Times New Roman, and one inch margins.
- d.) Two letters of recommendation from members of the dissertation committee.

5. CCWH members may only apply for one CCWH award, prize or fellowship each year.

6. The Fellowship Committee members shall:

a.) Be appointed by the co-presidents and or the Executive Director, for a three-year term. In case of an incomplete term of service, an appointment shall be made by the co-presidents to complete the term of service.

b.) Ideally, have terms that are staggered in a three-year cycle. Each year a new committee member shall be appointed.

c.) Ideally, the committee members should represent different temporal and geographical areas of expertise.

7. The Fellowship Committee chair shall:

a.) Be confirmed by the co-presidents and Executive Director at the start of each award cycle.

b.) Usually be the senior-most member of the committee, but ideally have at least one year of experience on the committee prior to taking over the position of chair.

c.) Be responsible for overseeing the work of the committee, including checking to see if applicants are CCWH members; emailing each applicant to say that their application has been received and when the winner has been determined,

contacting all applicants with the decision

about their application.

d.) Present or appoint someone to present the fellowship to the winner at the CCWH Award Luncheon at the annual meeting of the American Historical Association.

e.) Make a summary report to the Executive Board at the annual meeting.

8. Each committee member shall review and rate each application for the CCWH/Berkshire Conference of Women Historians Dissertation Fellowship. From their individual ratings, committee members shall confer and reach a consensus on the recipient.

9. The committee shall use the following criteria in selecting recipients (all are given equal weight):

a.) Scholarly potential of the graduate student.

b.) Significance of the dissertation project for historical research.

c.) Originality and clarity of argument.

d.) Progress already made toward completing research for the dissertation.

e.) Timeliness of the topic.

10. The fellowship will be determined by the CCWH/Berkshire Conference of Women Historians Dissertation Fellowship Committee subject to funding availability and the applicant pool.

10. Should questions of eligibility arise during the evaluation and application period, the chair in consultation with the co-presidents decide on the applicant's eligibility.

11. The CCWH/ Berkshire Conference of Women Historians Dissertation Fellowship recipient shall be announced at the CCWH awards luncheon at the annual meeting of the American Historical Association.

Revised January 2020

By-laws for CCWH

Carol Gold Article Award

1. The Carol Gold Award is an annual prize that recognizes the best article published in the field of history by a CCWH member.

2. Applicants to the Gold award must be current members of the CCWH when they submit their article for consideration for the prize. All current members of the CCWH are eligible to apply for the award unless they are current CCWH board members.

3. The article must be published in a refereed journal in the year preceding the prize year. An article may only be submitted once. All fields of history will be

continued on p. 35

THE COORDINATING COUNCIL FOR WOMEN IN HISTORY ANNUAL AWARDS 2020

CCWH Nupur Chaudhuri First Article Award 2020

The Coordinating Council for Women in History Nupur Chaudhuri First Article Award is an annual \$1,000 prize that recognizes the best first article published in any field of history by a CCWH member.

Rachel Fuchs Award for Mentorship and Service to Women/LGBTQ 2020

Named for longtime women's advocate and former CCWH Co-President, the annual Rachel Fuchs Award is a \$500 award given to a person who best represents Rachel's legacy of service, exemplary scholarship and mentorship.

CCWH/Berks Graduate Student Fellowship 2020

The Coordinating Council for Women in History and the Berkshire Conference of Women's History Graduate Student Fellowship is a \$1,000 award to a graduate student completing a dissertation in history.

CCWH Ida B. Wells Graduate Student Fellowship 2020

The Coordinating Council for Women in History Ida B.

Wells Graduate Student Fellowship is an annual award of \$1,000 given to a graduate student working on a historical dissertation that interrogates race and gender, not necessarily in a history department.

CCWH Catherine Prelinger Memorial Award 2020

The Coordinating Council for Women in History will award \$20,000 to a scholar, with a Ph.D. or who has advanced to candidacy, who has not followed a traditional academic path of uninterrupted and completed secondary, undergraduate, and graduate degrees leading to a tenure-track faculty position.

Carol Gold Best Article Award 2020

The Carol Gold Best Article Award is named for longtime member, activist, and scholar, Carol Gold, whose life and work exemplify the dual mission of the CCWH – to promote women's history and to support women in the historical profession.

Deadline for all awards: May 15, 2020. Details and application instructions may be found at:

<https://theccwh.org/ccwh-awards/> Open only to CCWH members – to join see <https://theccwh.org/membership/>. May only apply for one CCWH award per year

BOOK REVIEWS

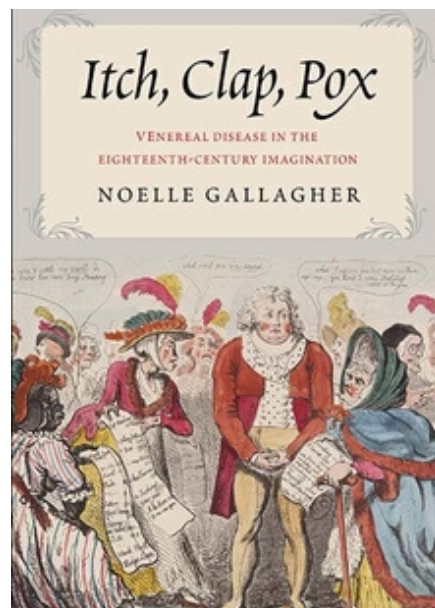
***Itch, Clap, Pox: Venereal Disease in the Eighteenth-Century Imagination.* Gallagher, Noelle. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2018. 267 pp. \$65.00 ISBN 978-0-300-21705-6.**

By Idolina Hernandez, Saint Louis University

Insights about the prevalence of “no-nose” jokes are not what readers will expect while reading about venereal disease in early modern England, but Noelle Gallagher’s *Itch, Clap, Pox: Venereal Disease in the Eighteenth-Century Imagination* is an unexpected and refreshing take on the study of sexually transmitted diseases. Historiography about scabies, gonorrhea, and syphilis are regularly centered on the theories, diagnoses, and treatments of such ailments. Centering her analysis on literary and visual representations of venereal disease, Gallagher reveals how it was commonly used as a metaphor in English society throughout the Restoration and the eighteenth century. She argues that venereal disease was a part of English society as economic, political, and social systems were in flux due to colonization and

and commercialization. Literary and visual representations of the itch, clap, and pox revealed public concerns about threats to England at a time when traditional notions of gender norms, class boundaries, and racial hierarchies were challenged by a globalizing society.

The book is divided into four chapters that highlight how masculinity, prostitution, foreigners, and noses were associated with venereal disease and repeatedly invoked in literature, prints, cartoons, and pamphlets to ridicule and critique English society. Gallagher begins her analysis with an exploration of the patriarchal systems that sustained conflicting messages about contracting sexually transmitted diseases, extolling them as a sign of virility but also leading to the mental and physical decline of men. Having syphilis was a “badge of sexual or social prowess” for military men as well as gentlemen (16). Contracting the disease and enduring its consequences as part of naval service were interpreted as worthy “battle scars” (22).



While venereal diseases affected both sexes, the economic and social status of those suffering its consequences tempered how they were judged. Women were often portrayed as victims when they contracted the disease through promiscuous husbands, often discounting the possibility that married women could get infected through their own infidelities. Some of the literature of the time also shows how women engaged in prostitution to survive while others became prostitutes due to the actions of unscrupulous men who lured and then abandoned them. Women were important both as prostitutes and mothers, both affecting the future health of kingdom.

Prints of the period, such as William Hogarth’s “Marriage A La Mode” (1743-45) illustrates the threat of pox to future generations,

vividly depicting changing class dynamics that normalized infection within families and the threats of hereditary transmission. The six prints portray the marriage and life of a first-born aristocrat with a diminishing fortune, and a wealthy alderman's daughter. There are visual representations associated with pox during this period, such as black lesions and gout, both mistakenly believed to be symptoms of clap and pox. They are examples of a "moralizing medical discourse" that criticized the tacit acceptance of infidelity and "inevitability" of contracting sexually transmitted diseases. Moreover, his prints illustrate the consequences of infidelity, showing the deterioration of husband and wife as a result of infection. The progressive decline of the marriage and the protagonists' bodies comes to a dramatic end as the last print displays the aftermath of the wife's suicide, after the birth of a sickly child whose health signals the decline of the next generation. This dire portrayal of domestic life was a common theme that betrayed larger concerns about how the pox posed a direct threat to Britain's security as the transmission of disease to innocent women and children periled military might and future generations.

Prostitution was the means by which sexually transmitted diseases were thought to proliferate in England. However, Gallagher's analysis moves beyond a superficial treatment of women as vectors of disease and provides evidence of representations of women as victims and agents of the economic and social systems that supported prostitution in English society (64). That is not to suggest that misogyny ceased during this period, indeed, even the more complicated versions of prostitution and disease are embedded within a patriarchal lens, but her evidence shows that perspectives varied in the public imagination.

Discussions of women as "female fire-ships" vilified prostitutes in causing men to feel fire, just as in combat, old ships were set on fire to attack enemy fleets (68). However, prostitutes were also acknowledged to be part of transactional sex that existed at all levels of the economy, serving within a spectrum that included poor and wealthy men. Not even the monarchy was exempt from the association with venereal diseases. Satires about the body politic during this period featured both men and women as corrupt, infected both physically and politically.

Both Charles II, who was later crowned James II, and his French mistress Louise of K  roualle, Duchess of Portsmouth were targeted in poems for their illicit relationship. Described in one poem as "Portsmouth, that pocky bitch," K  roualle was feared for her Catholicism and alleged influence over the king (74). It was not uncommon for famous women associated with powerful men to be accused of spreading sexually transmitted diseases, connecting female promiscuity and infection with political participation.

Attributions of venereal disease against foreigners was a manifestation of perceived internal and external threats to English society. References to the "French pox" and "French Quacks" in cultural representations were connected to migrations of Huguenots during this period. The trope of the starving and infected Frenchman was applied to these newly arrived immigrants who were perceived as threats to the health and economic wellbeing of local communities. French wigs, a fashion necessity for the wealthy, was also the means of hiding baldness, an advanced symptom of pox. The Scottish were often associated with the "itch" or scabies, which was called the

“Scottish Itch” (140). Scotland was referred to as “Itchland” where life was judged to be “nasty, brutish, and short.” (141-142). Gallagher presents persuasive evidence to show that associations between the itch, clap, and pox extended to a long list of “foreigners” during the eighteenth century and made evident fears about outside influence in English social, economic, and political affairs.

Lastly Gallagher shows that noses were strongly associated with sexually transmitted diseases. The “no-nose” joke was a common feature of different literary and visual forms. A man or woman with no nose was assumed to be a victim of the pox and therefore deserving of ridicule. Flat noses were perceived to be a sign of deterioration of the hereditary line, alluding to transmission of venereal disease as well as a consequence of advanced infection. No-nose jokes and depictions of flat noses were symbols of political corruption, infection, infertility, and impotence. More than just a facial feature, noses were a tangible representation of health or disease for the individual and English society.

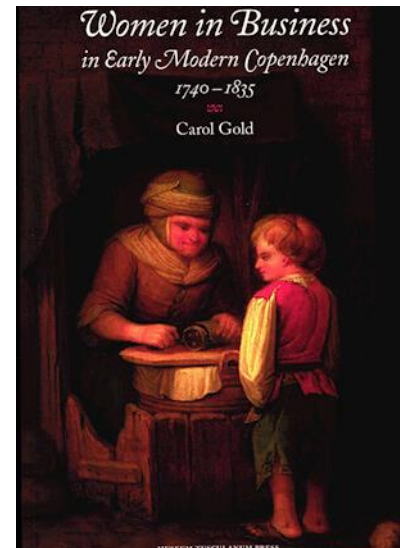
Ultimately, *Itch, Clap, Pox* shows how venereal

shows how venereal disease was not just a part of medical discourse during the Restoration and eighteenth-century England, but instead was an integral part of the economic, political, and social imaginary of the time. Readers may be challenged by the non-linear narrative of the chapters but will be rewarded by the rich descriptions and examples of each of her themes. Gallagher’s work affirms the importance of interrogating medical histories beyond the science and takes cultural histories of disease seriously, an endeavor that will surely encourage other historians to follow her lead.

Women in Business in Early Modern Copenhagen, 1740-1835. Gold, Carol. Copenhagen: Museum Tusculanum, 2018. 1818pp. \$38. ISBN 978-87-635-4597-6.

By Ute Chamberlin, Western Illinois University

For her new study, Carol Gold has delved deep into Danish archives to assemble a database comprising about 3,000 self-employed women who participated in Copenhagen’s



urban economy over a time span of a little less than one hundred years. She relies primarily on documentation that illustrates women’s regular interactions with government officials to show how accepted and integrated women were into the Danish capital’s economy. Applications for permits and licenses and tax assessments indicate that women went about their businesses legally and with the approval of local and state authorities. During the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries Danish women took advantage of new opportunities made possible by enlightened reforms and changing practices. Married women’s legal status of coverture was already being weakened in practice well before it was ended in 1880: Women conducting business for themselves were simply assumed to be acting with their husbands’ consent, and widows were allowed to retain control of property as long as they did not remarry.

Even divorced women could receive permission to continue their former husbands' businesses, a practice apparently so common that the city of Copenhagen had a preprinted form for such applications. Gold argues that these concessions were made at least partly for pragmatic reasons: Divorced or widowed women who were able to support themselves would not become a burden to the poor relief system. Gold makes two major claims: She argues that many women who were conducting business on their own were not necessarily operating within the context of a family economy as is usually assumed for the early modern period; and second, that evidence of Danish middle-class women's active involvement in local businesses well into the nineteenth century challenges the notion that a separate-spheres ideology was pushing women back into domesticity.

The book is organized into three main chapters that each focus on a different stratum of enterprising women, from street vendors to owners of major businesses. The chapter on women who sold their wares in the markets and streets of Copenhagen presents a mostly familiar picture. As Merry Wiesner-Hanks (1993) has already demonstrated, women were ubiquitous in the premodern urban marketplace

as peddlers of food and clothing, and Copenhagen was no different. Here, military wives whose husbands were not paid enough to support a family constituted a significant subgroup. Gold focuses on the legal aspects of urban trade; each woman was required to have a license. One particularly intriguing example is that of Lene Sønder who applied for a license to sell fruit in the streets after already having done so for more than thirty years. One has to wonder whether she was truly ignorant of the licensing requirement or had deliberately ignored it for decades. One might suspect the latter from an experienced street vendor, thus her example somewhat undermines Gold's characterization of "well-behaved" or law-abiding women in the marketplace. More interesting still are women who received permission to leave town and sell their wares in regional markets on specific routes and dates; their number was relatively small, 103 in all, but their mobility and independence stand out.

The second chapter focuses on women higher up the socio-economic ladder who conducted business from permanent physical locations (as grocers, fishmongers, and brewers), most of them widows. Gold estimates that at least ten

percent of all bakers in Copenhagen were women. Tax records indicate that many of them operated outside of the guild system; guilds were no longer able to completely control their membership and exclude women in this transitional economy. Among the women who were providing services, midwives and owners of private schools constituted the largest groups (Gold published a separate monograph about the latter in 1996). A small but unique group was made up of six so-called assessment women who were employed as civil servants to evaluate women's property upon their death.

The third chapter takes a look at a handful of women who owned and ran a significant family business for a prolonged period of time. They owned breweries, printing businesses, soap factories, and merchant houses, and managed them competently and successfully. Gold has successfully woven together their often elusive life stories from scattered documents and records to show how these women were accepted and embedded into Copenhagen's business elite. Gold concludes with a brief chapter on women who she considers as most distinctly breaking the mold of the typical early modern woman who dedicates her labor to the family economy. Most

married women in her sample were working in an occupation unrelated to that of their husbands. Several married middle-class women operated their own businesses, for instance Frederikke Eichel, who received a license to sew and sell clothing in 1820 and whose husband was a wholesaler. Gold compares this arrangement to the modern two-income family and regards these examples as a clear indication that some middle-class women successfully resisted the pressure to retreat into domestic life.

Throughout, Gold strikes an optimistic tone and emphasizes women's seemingly modern economic behaviors and choices by using terms such as "corner office" or "double-income earners". She speculates that young girls might have seen the successful business women in their community as empowering role models, but one should be cautious of superimposing such attitudes on early nineteenth-century thinking in the absence of concrete evidence for such views.

Gold paints a vibrant picture of the women who were part of Copenhagen's early modern economy. She emphasizes their agency and individual autonomy, but also concedes that many

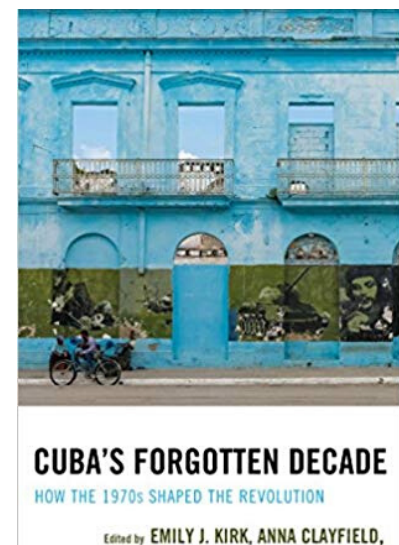
women included in her sample led a financially precarious existence and experienced economic hardship. By focusing on women who complied with existing legal regulations she wants to show "the extent of the possible" or rather the extent of the acceptable, as she does not discuss women whose economic endeavors might have brought them into conflict with the authorities or raised the opprobrium of Copenhagen society. Though admittedly not the focus of the study such examples could further elucidate the extent and limits of women's actions in Copenhagen's early modern marketplace. While the women in her sample are not necessarily representative of working women in general (women working for wages for instance are excluded) they do create a larger picture that is diverse and adds new facets to what is already known about women's integral place in the early modern urban economy. Gold succeeds in painting a picture that shows that "women have always worked." It adds to existing literature on women entrepreneurs such as Alison Kay's study of female entrepreneurship in London (2009) or Galina Ulianova's recent work on female entrepreneurs in nineteenth-century Russia (2015).

Gold's study is based on meticulous archival research; it is beautifully

illustrated with several samples of the archival documents that she was able to unearth, such as a woman's butcher license or a pass to sell on markets outside of Copenhagen. An appendix listing women and men's self-employed occupations in Copenhagen further illustrates the city's vibrant economy of which women were not a small part.

***Cuba's
Forgotten Decade:
How the 1970s Shaped
the Revolution. Kirk,
Emily J., Anna
Clayfield, and Isabel
Story, eds. Lanham:
Rowman and
Littlefield, 2018. 260
pp. \$100.00. ISBN
978-1-4985-6873-9.***

*By Nicole L. Pacino, University of
Alabama in Huntsville*



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As the editors of *Cuba's Forgotten Decade: How the 1970s Shaped the Revolution* point out, the 1970s is an overlooked decade in scholarly assessments of the Cuban Revolution. Unlike the 1960s, which was full of euphoria and idealism, or the 1980s and 1990s, when the Soviet Union's collapse greatly impacted Cuban society, the 1970s have received little scholarly attention. This anthology's contributors convincingly argue that the 1970s were a pivotal moment in the revolution's development and challenge a general sentiment that the Cuban Revolution became "Sovietized" during this decade. In three sections focusing on politics and international relations, healthcare and education, and culture—each containing five chapters—the book shows how policy initiatives in the 1970s built on those of the 1960s and shaped those of 1980s/1990s. This collection demonstrates that the 1970s had more continuity with the 1960s than previously suggested and argues that the 1970s are better understood as a period of institutionalization and bureaucratization of the revolution that borrowed from, but was not always subservient to, the Soviet Union.

The first section focuses on politics and international relations with

specific attention to Cuba's relationship with the Soviet Union and other nations. Antoni Kapcia's and Mervyn Bain's chapters question two well-accepted premises about the 1970s: that it was a period of Sovietization and that Raúl Castro spearheaded this process. While Kapcia argues that Raúl Castro was not as hard-lined or pro-Soviet as previously considered, Bain shows that Cuba had more of an equal relationship with the Soviet Union than is generally accepted. H. Michael Erisman and John Kirk demonstrate that Cuba actively engaged in diplomatic relations beyond the Soviet Union. Erisman explains that Cuban foreign affairs, especially in Africa, showed that the island nation could influence world events and even neutralize U.S. power, while Kirk documents the pursuit of a bilateral relationship with Canada that benefitted both countries. Finally, Anna Clayfield's chapter challenges the idea that Cuba became increasingly militarized during the 1970s by showing how this tendency mirrored the guerrillerismo—or guerrilla ethos—pervasive in Cuban society following the guerilla movement's success in 1959. Each chapter emphasizes Cuba's influence on international affairs and autonomy in diplomatic relations.

In the second section, the authors address some of the Cuban Revolution's major successes—health care provision and educational initiatives—and emphasize the important role played by Cuban actors and organizations in developing these programs. Robert Huish demonstrates how Cuba used international health organizations' best practices, rather than Soviet ideology, to develop their health care system. Emily Kirk's and Hope Bastian Martínez's chapters focus on the Federación de Mujeres Cubanas (Cuban Women's Federation, or FMC) and their contributions to the development of reproductive health care. Rosi Smith shows how, despite ongoing challenges, educational programs continued to focus on developing youth to mobilize them for building a stable and independent society. Isaac Saney's chapter, perhaps out of place in this section but with a welcome focus on race and racism, explains how, despite Cuba's international stance of challenging racism and colonialism abroad, racial inequalities continued to exist at home and attempts to address racism were hampered by a discourse that centered class as a category of oppression. Overall, this section details some of the Cuban Revolution's incredible successes—especially for a nation with limited resources—while also outlining

some of their limitations and ongoing challenges.

Section three focuses on cultural initiatives and continues to situate Cuba in relation to world affairs and challenge the idea that the island became Sovietized during this time. Isabel Story's chapter elucidates this idea directly, showing that Cubans never wholeheartedly embraced Soviet cultural policy; while they implemented some initiatives they rejected others, and the Soviet Union was seen as both a source of inspiration and a potential imperial force. Other chapters elaborate more fully on how Cuban cultural politics intersected with other global events, such as Par Kumaraswami's analysis situating Cuban cultural policy firmly within Latin American literary debates and global decolonization struggles, Raquel Ribeiro's discussion of how Cuba's interventions in Angolan political affairs allowed them to create an "invented tradition" of being a leader of the decolonization movement, and Anne Luke's focus on Cuban youth politics, which mirrored other global events but with a distinct Cuban flavor. Guy Baron's chapter shows that Cuban cinema was not subjected to some of the same limitations and criticisms as other Cuban art forms, which were often suppressed and led to political ramifications for Cuban artists. In this

section, the reader learns that Cuban leaders were in full control of their cultural policy even if they took inspiration from the Soviet Union or other nations.

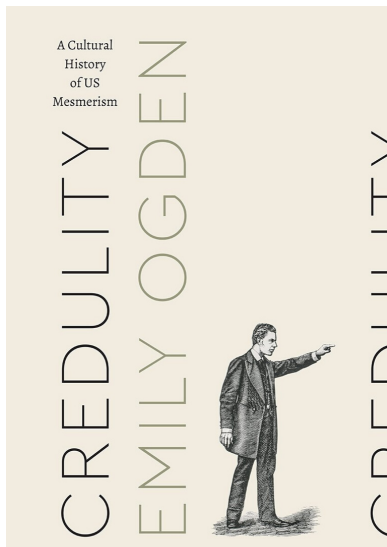
Although it is not a central focus of most of the analytical chapters, the book takes the disastrous 1970 ten-million-ton sugar harvest, or *zafra*, in which the revolution's leaders wanted to increase Cuban sugar production to ten million tons annually, as a starting point for their discussion. The *zafra* was a miserable failure, leading to political crisis within Cuba and heavy reliance on Soviet subsidization of the Cuban sugar industry. As a result, the revolution's leaders were forced to reckon with new political and economic realities. From this starting point, one can better understand some of the policy decisions around international relations, social issues, and culture developed in the book's three sections. A clearer picture of the limits of Soviet dependency also emerges, as does a keen awareness of how important autonomy was to the revolution's leadership. While the *zafra* is not the anthology's focus, it does appear in most of the book's chapters and proves helpful for understanding shifts and continuities in the revolution's policy initiatives.

Overall, this is a very cohesive edited collection written by an interdisciplinary

group of scholars. One of the anthology's principle strengths is the diverse disciplinary perspectives used to examine a relatively short period in Cuban history. The essays are historically grounded and work well together, and the anthology avoids the pitfalls of other interdisciplinary volumes in which scholars from the humanities, literary studies, international affairs, and social sciences fail to speak to each other's work. On the contrary, these chapters sustain a natural and enjoyable dialogue with each other and provide a nuanced reassessment of an understudied decade of the Cuban Revolution.

In conclusion, this collection presents a Cuba in the 1970s whose main struggle was finding its identity, protecting its autonomy, and trying to navigate the world in its second decade of revolution. In this way, the book successfully questions established narratives about the 1970s as a period of growing Soviet influence on Cuban policy and emphasizes the revolutionaries' agency in creating their own unique society. The book's fifteen chapters are short and very readable, and would be easily accessible to undergraduate students in addition to being valuable for specialists in a variety of fields. It is a useful book for anyone interested in

the Cuban Revolution's trajectory and the development of its signature (positive and negative) political, social, and cultural policies.



Credulity: A Cultural History of Mesmerism.
Ogden, Emily.
Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2018.
272 pp.
\$27.50. ISBN 978-0226532332

By Courtney Lacy, Southern Methodist University

Emily Odgen's *revives in Credulity* the strange world of nineteenth-century Mesmerism, all the while showing the ambiguity involved in systems of belief. Her writing is engaging and her research is thorough in her story of a relatively unsung philosophical movement. Ogden chose a compelling topic and manages to address layers of complexity while weaving the strange tale of psychic sleeping patients and mysterious magnetic bodily fluids.

patients and mysterious magnetic bodily fluids.

In her introduction, she discusses the issues with assumptions of progression in historical studies, especially in discussions of belief. Belief did not simply happen “back then” and time has never marched toward a progression. Historians often make ethical judgments based on when something was created or when someone lived. The reality is much more complicated.

In Chapter 1, “It Does Not Exist, Animal Magnetism Before It Was True,” Ogden covers the beginning of Mesmerism that is as delightful as her chapter titles. The main character of this chapter is Benjamin Franklin who holds a recurring role throughout the book.

Mesmerism came to the United States in an unusual manner. In the 1780s, prominent men such as Benjamin Franklin and Thomas Jefferson heard about Mesmerism while in Europe. In Franklin's case, he joined a commission to prove that Mesmerism was a sham. Mesmerism did not succeed as a significant movement until the 1830s; however, Americans heard about it much earlier as a false philosophy via Franklin's commission of disbelief. Because of the order of events, Mesmerism entered the U.S. as something not to believe. This skeptical introduction eventually worked in its favor because of American

curiosity and the need to know why Franklin went out of his way to disprove something no one had even heard of. Ogden effectively shows that belief and believing in belief are two different things. The men of the disbelief commission wanted to show that they were not duped by Mesmerism by telling people it was a scam before those people had the chance to hear about it. The men of the commission wanted to show that they were ones who knew better.

Ogden's second chapter grapples with issues of race and power. Charles Poyen, a Mesmerist and one of the major reasons for Mesmerism's success, owned slaves. He found his ability to mesmerize his slaves particularly helpful when attempting to assess their dedication to their workload. He discusses its use as a way of sneaking up on his slaves to make sure they are working as hard as possible at all times. He, in fact, uses his skills as a mesmerizer to threaten and control his slaves into obeying even in his absence. Ogden highlights how his approach reveals the need of powerful men to use the method to control people in less privileged positions such as women, slaves, and minorities. Although such people are believed to be more susceptible to Mesmerism, in some cases, Mesmerism could also be used by the disempowered in a way that

advantaged them as Ogden demonstrates in the following chapter.

Chapter 3 is a particularly charming chapter because the reader learns about a skeptic William Leete Stone who winds up believing in the powers of a blind clairvoyant Lurena Brackett, who was able to take fantastic journeys in her mind and describe them to him as she traveled along. His peers who were also skeptics were troubled because they saw a lower-classed woman taking control of a middle-class white man who was respected as a skeptic unlikely to be duped. Stone and Brackett traveled together in a suspended space where neither believed nor did not believe. They remained in a state of credulity. In this chapter, Ogden discusses how Lurena Brackett as a disabled woman did her best to mitigate her dependency through her skills as a clairvoyant. The dynamics of power when embarking on Mesmeric journeys placed the entranced in a vulnerable position. Since Brackett would have often been in a position of dependency as a blind woman, having sight through Mesmeric journeys temporarily shifted the balance of power in her favor.

Joseph Rodes Buchanan takes center stage in chapter 4 as a prominent practitioner of Phrenomesmerism, which is the

combination of Phrenology (the study of the skull to understand someone's character) and Mesmerism. Unexpectedly enough, this practice required the interpreter to change the patient's character and behavior in order to map out their brain. Ogden uses this example as a way to show that individual agency does not exist in the way that skeptics assume. The contradictions of believers and nonbelievers reveal the inconsistencies and show that no person has the ability to make decisions without some sort of outside influence.

Lastly, Ogden's discussion of the disagreements between various Mesmerists and how they helped to break apart the power that Mesmerism held in the U.S. unfolds in chapter 5. She revisits the introduction of Mesmerism to the states by referencing the skepticism that Franklin represented in his early commission of disbelief. Franklin's skepticism brought the movement to the U.S. but the in-fighting skepticism tore it apart.

While the book is a very enjoyable and thoughtful read, the added sections of fiction lacked continuity with the historical sections. For example, in the section about Edgar Allen Poe's stories, the

retelling feels disjointed with the remainder of the book. On its own, the analysis is solid but it does not contribute to the book in a meaningful way and her historical sections are so well done that it feels extraneous. The historical sections are the most enjoyable pieces and really bring out Ogden's strength as a writer and analyst. Credulity will be of value to anyone interested in nineteenth-century history, student, teacher or otherwise. Although there are moments that lack accessibility, she still makes a beautiful contribution to scholarship on the complexities of an often overlooked movement.



The Codex Mexicanus

A Guide to Life in Late Sixteenth-Century New Spain

Lori Boornazian Diel

***The Codex Mexicanus: A Guide to Life in Late Sixteenth-Century New Spain.* Diel, Lori Boornazian. Austin: University of Texas Press, 2018. 216 pp. \$55.00. ISBN 978-1-4773-1673-3.**

Patricia A. Schechter, Portland State University

This book is about hybrid intellectual practices among Nahua intellectuals or tlamatinime (“wise men”) in sixteenth-century New Spain. Lori Boornazian Diel examines a complex literary artifact called the Codex Mexicanus (c. 1580), one of several dozen extant codices from the period. Like its kindred volumes, the Mexicanus is a polyglot, multiauthor artifact that includes calendars, medical and astrological information, a royal genealogy, and a history of the Aztec empire. Produced by elites, the codices nonetheless were public

documents that circulated in an oral context. The Mexicanus was pocket-sized and carried around for ready reference; its largely pictorial script worked as a prompt for storytelling or teaching. Diel’s volume has a kind of hybrid appeal as well, conventionally readable by academic experts but also user friendly for those who are interested in the beautiful glossy plates and numerous other illustrations of the codex itself. The dense and erudite reading text can be slow-going for even a focused scholar, but the book also presents as a visually attractive art book. A digital copy of the original held in France is viewable at www.gallica.bnf.fr/ark:/12148/btv1b550058334g.

Concerned as the source text is with cultural translations in a time of social and political upheaval, Diel’s publication re-centers a distant episode that speaks to our world historical context of colonialism, migration, tense religious encounters, and structural inequality. Thus in her fresh parsing of the Mexicanus, Diel makes a welcome intervention in global and world history. She takes big-lift translation activities involving time, cosmology, and religious/social authority out of the scribal towers and libraries and into the forefront of life in an empire. She does so by

placing the Codex Mexicanus in its interlocking contexts. The first context is the need for Nahua intellectuals to regroup and assert their powers and competencies in the late sixteenth century, a period of intense change and, specifically, epidemiological crisis. Second is the bi-directional flow of ideas and information between Spanish clergy and native guides and interpreters, albeit in a setting of Spanish domination. And finally, Diel reminds us throughout that Christian thinkers grappled in very similar ways with pagan, specifically Roman calendars, medical information, and astrology at the time. The tlamatinime had the Spanish examples of this work, the Reportorios de los tiempos, at their elbow. For their part, Spanish clergy solicited extensive detail and information from neophytes and converts in their many written efforts at explaining their own history in colonial New Spain.

Diel’s thesis is bold. Most scholars have read the codices from this period as evidence of Catholic triumph and the assimilation of indigenous leadership to Spanish rule. Instead, in her foundational chapter, Diel reads the calendrical and time-mapping pages of the

of the Mexicanus as a reassertion of Nahua intellectual leadership and a re-balancing of cosmologies rather than one-way assimilation of Christian norms of time, sacred observance, or ritual practice. The result was a “newly hybridized calendar” specific to a “distinctively New Spanish form of Catholicism” (54-55). She embellishes her thesis with a variety of evidence and facts, notably the creation of distinctive new holidays, especially November 1 and 2 as All Saints Day and All Souls Day, observances that “would become a key part of Mexico’s national identity” (32).

Other chapters on medical astrology, royal genealogies, and Aztec history each emphasize Diel’s reinterpretation thesis as propounded in the Mexicanus. Components of the health information can be sourced to European conventions found in the Reportorios, like “the Zodiac Man,” (matching of star signs to individual bodily organs) but Diel emphasizes that for centuries, “Nahuas too linked the body with time,” and that the scribes were selecting and harmonizing knowledge rather than swapping out old for new. Her reading of the genealogy of the Royal House of Tenochca stresses the coherent and divinely ordered succession of Aztec rulers. Here the scribes adjusted legitimate authority

slightly away from its previous link to land (which the Spaniards were pressing on) and slightly more toward what we might today call identity: “to show New Spain as the equal of Spain, and accordingly the Mexica dynastic line as the equal of Hapsburg line” (93). Diel’s final chapter on history strikes this reader as a tour de force. She parses the year-count annals illustrated in the codex as nothing short of a reorganizing of time, cause, and effect in Mexica history. Recast as “chapters” that sequence migration, imperialism, and colonialism, the scribes re-recorded details and landmarks of their past to make sense of their present (92-93) again, with multiple sources at their elbow. Diel emphasizes the orality of the text in this section, and how the pictorial script could key in to multiple concepts of time, including cyclical time and prophetic time. The Nahua tlamatinime wrote a history that recast their imperial city of Tenochtitlan into a new capital, “a Christian capital controlled jointly by Mexica and Spaniards” (158). In so doing, they mourned the waning powers of their former gods and wrote themselves a new path to salvation in Christian history. Reading this book is very challenging, but very rewarding as well.

Books Available for Review

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*The Making of Inequality:
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CCWH CONNECTIONS COORDINATOR'S COLUMN: BACK TO CAPITAL

BY ILARIA SCAGLIA

continued from p. 11

in anything from program and course descriptions aimed at increasing enrolment to grant applications geared at bringing in funds. We have all become accustomed to treating events as if they were ad-campaign slogans. Marketing criteria are often used as the sole measures to determine which positions are opened, which classes are taught, which history is written and read. There is not much discussion on the validity of the proposition that any field (from women and LGBT history, to race, to class, to genocide, to “old school” economic, political, and

and diplomatic history) can be eliminated if students/consumers are no longer interested in them (or some data collected on their behalf says so). There is little resistance to the trivialization of the past or the devolution of history into a form of “infotainment” that amuses but does not challenge, unsettle, and empower. The strength of this trend is such that one is met with a shrug, a sigh, or a cackle if he/she/they dare(s) to reaffirm the inherent value of history per se (which is separate from the skills or the earning opportunities it can offer) and the political implications of its being researched and taught. A look at the names that make the CCWH community reveals that we have in our ranks some of the most remarkable feminists and civil rights activists of the last decades, and might inspire us to act and to oppose these developments.

To make matters worse came the economic and human cost of turning history into a business. We have come to accept the reality of graduates whose student loans exceed the value of their education; the friend whose field was “not marketable” enough to grant a job; the colleague who was a wonderful historian but was not good at “playing the game”—a reality that always existed, to be sure, but one that has dramatically worsened

in the age of rankings, ratings, and questionnaires; the countless mentees and peers we lost to the excessive financial and familial sacrifices required by our training and career; the sense of self-worth of the scores who left due to unfair labor practices or never even entered our profession due to the economic challenges it poses. Not many students and parents ask about the proportion of classes that are taught by contingent labor versus tenured, full-time faculty, and fewer inquire about fair pay. Not many look into how many students each instructor is asked to follow, or how many papers one has to grade each session, the administrative tasks one has to perform, or how much support—if any—faculty members are offered to keep up with their fields by conducting research or by presenting at conferences. No questions are posed in regard to their living conditions. There is no negative stigma attached to sweatshop institutions that fare poorly in all of these categories or to the people who attend them. Work and learning have thus worsened. Against this backdrop, defeatism has taken hold, and a silence on these matters has prevailed as a result. To be sure, some discussions have taken place—especially online—but despite these attempts these have never become a central topic, never quite made into mainstream

national discussion. Our chats during CCWH e-mentorship sessions—together with the many email exchanges I had with many of you over the last three years—revealed this reality to be as critical as ever.

Particularly hidden is the fact that much academic work is done for free. Research and conference attendance are often unfunded or largely supplemented by one's own private income or savings. Ironically, in our capital-driven reality, a great amount of substance is delivered through non-commercial means. Serving as CCWH Membership Coordinator has exposed me to the dire needs of many of our colleagues and also to the many ways in which these can be (and often are!) met by people volunteering their time and donating their money.

Furthermore, since CCWH is comprised of both students and faculty, its forum allows for free discussions on issues that can be taboo on one's own campus. Few faculty members are in the position to encourage students and the public to request crucial information: indeed, many of us agree, people need to ask the right questions and must demand clear answers. In concrete terms: they should know how much teaching staff is paid—or not—and they should be able to compare their salaries with the pay received by

those in administrative positions. They should access clear breakdowns of how much money is spent in activities directly related to education and how much goes into “playing the market game” with recruitment and rankings. They have the right to know what faculty members think of the building of impressive—yet not educationally relevant—infrastructure to lure them on campus, and of how students' education could be improved instead. Accreditation processes and results should be made open, and non-profit, independent entities should evaluate how institutions fare in all of the realms mentioned. This is the only path toward free, informed choices.

Students and the broader public need also to be made aware of the social and cultural consequences of researching, teaching, and writing history. They need to know the possible political uses and misuses of the past, its legitimization mechanisms, and they need to act to ensure that these are not misappropriated or put out for sale. They—more than faculty—have the power to defend history's moral capital. CCWH can be a place where they can gather key information to do so. More broadly, as our colleagues from times past once did when they set up mandatory education systems, tenure, public

universities, and libraries that disseminated knowledge to all, we have to come up with a way to maintain quality and peer-review together with access and preservation for our scholarship. There needs to be a public discussion on this matter, together with an argument for investing public funds for this endeavor. The same applies to all of the broader issues discussed above. There is a lot that can be done, but time is tight. Soon, a new generation of scholars will not realize the progress that had been made in the past century in matters such as accountability and diversity; they will not know of history's political and cultural values and responsibilities in a democratic society. Unless we act and dare to open a conversation about this crisis now and figure out concrete ways to address it, the current situation will become the undisputed status quo. All of us, individuals and institutions, will be judged by future generations depending on how we behaved at this moment. I am hopeful that CCWH—the largest and most diverse organization of its kind—will take the lead. Meanwhile, I am thankful for everything I have received simply by serving in it for the last three years.

AWARD BYLAWS

continued from p. 20

considered, and articles must be submitted with full scholarly apparatus.

a.) Applicants for the Gold

Award must submit the following to the online e-mail set up for this purpose, Goldaward@theccwh.org:

b.) One copy of the entry,

c.) A statement that the applicant is a current member of the CCWH

d.) Current members are those individuals whose dues have been received by the treasurer prior to the application for the prize.

4. The prize committee members:

a.) Be appointed by the Co-presidents with the consent of the Board for a three-year term

b.) In the case of an incomplete term of service, an appointment will be made to complete the term of service.

c.) The prize committee will have three members

5. The Prize Committee Chair shall:

a.) Be appointed by the Co-presidents with the consent of the Board for a three-year term

b.) Be responsible in overseeing the work of the committee, including receipt and distribution of applications to committee members, timely determination of prize recipient(s), and notification of

of the decision to those applicants selected and not selected as well as the Executive Director.

c.) Present or appoint someone to present the prize at the annual award luncheon at the AHA.

d.) Make a summary report to the Board at the annual meeting.

6. Each member of the Committee shall review and rate each application for the Carol Gold Award.

From their individual ratings, Committee members shall reach a consensus on the recipient (s). If there are two papers of equal merit, the award may be split.

7. The Committee Shall use the following criteria in selecting recipients:

a.) Clarity of the article

b.) Originality and cogency of the argument presented

c.) Originality and appropriateness of the research
d.) Significance of the article as a contribution to historical knowledge and interpretation.

8. The prize shall be determined by the Carol Gold Article Award Committee subject to funding availability and the prize pool. If no entry is judged worthy of the award, no award will be given that year.

9. The Carol Gold Article Award recipient(s) shall be announced at the annual awards luncheon at the AHA.

10. CCWH members are eligible to apply for only one CCWH award each year.

11. Should questions of eligibility come up during the evaluation and application period, the chair in consultation with the co-Presidents decide on the eligibility of the entry. That decision shall be final.

Revised January 2020