



WORLD HISTORY ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

18 December 2017

WHA Election Results

We were thrilled to hold another successful election this fall and attract the interest of many talented professionals in the field of world history. Voting was higher than the past two years. From this election, we have a new Vice President/President-Elect, as well as three new Executive Council members. Two of our new EC members have forty-five years between them teaching on the secondary school level; another new member was recently awarded her Ph.D. in Spain.



VP & President-Elect
Laura Mitchell

These professionals share common threads in regard to their experience and views about the WHA. They noted the collegiality of the members, the bond over world history as an expanding field, and the originality and cutting-edge nature of the papers presented at the meetings.

Their collective representation on other boards and organizations outside of the WHA means they bring a wealth of experience wearing different hats and understanding a variety of perspectives. These other roles include involvement with the Forum for European Expansion and Global Interaction, VP of the California World History Association, collaborator on the *Middle Ground Journal*, serving on the Planning Committee for the AHA, working as a table leader for the AP World History reading, and serving on the Massachusetts Department of Education's History and Social Studies Review Panel.

With the election of Laura Mitchell as our VP and President-Elect, the future of the WHA is promising. She is an established author, an associate professor, and both an Africanist and a world historian. Having attended her first WHA meeting in 2000, she believes the organization helped forge her intellectual path. Since then, she has served the WHA as a past Executive Council member, an appointed representative to ACLS, chair of the Membership Committee, and currently chair of the Research Committee.

With her election, Mitchell brings a wealth of ideas to her new position. She looks forward to strengthening the collaboration between members teaching on the secondary level with

college, university, and community college faculty members. Forging more significant relationships with other organizations such as the National Council for the Social Studies is also a priority. She speaks specifically about other ideas for members stating, "I'd like to hear from members about the kinds of professional development opportunities that they would benefit from at our annual meeting . . . What kinds of resources—those available at the annual meeting and throughout the year—would members take advantage of?"

Our three new EC members holding three years terms have all been active in the WHA. Angela Lee, a teacher at Weston High School in Massachusetts, is also a board member of NERWHA. Lee exhibits a passion for world history and has been key in maintaining social media communications for the WHA. Like Laura Mitchell, Lee envisions building stronger connections between teacher members and faculty members. As she recalls, "I would also love to see more forums, panels, workshops in the program, as well as seeing joint presentations by a teacher and professor. I've had the good fortune to have presented with both Craig Benjamin and Rick Warner, and it's enriched my own experience."

Mariona Lloret's first WHA Conference was in 2012 in Albuquerque. Right away, she felt impressed by the environment and the members. While she has taught courses in globalization and the global history of Spain, the field of world history remains an unknown discipline in her native country. She states, "I would like to strengthen the WHA's connection with institutions and people outside of the USA. I believe we could make some links with Spanish universities. Starting a discussion about using languages other than English in the WHA publications and at conferences could open the door to others worldwide."

Like Lee and Lloret, Robert Hardmond has been a frequent attendee at WHA Conferences. Aside from teaching for over two decades in Brooklyn, he has served on committees in the field and participated in NEH seminars and Fulbright Hays programs. Like the other new EC members, he has high hopes for forging stronger relationships between teachers and professors. Beyond this, he has some additional visions for the conferences, "It's important for the WHA to keep establishing relationships with institutions that we can count on to host the conference, possibly multiple times. We should also

explore repeating very popular conference sessions, since there are always multiple sessions that are of great interest, but offered during the same time slot.”

New Web Hosting & Redesign

This year, our website team made changes in the spring to update our look and provide compatibility for the *Journal of World History* digital edition. To make accessibility more convenient, we have given WHA members access through Project Muse. In addition, back issues are all accessible through the University of Hawai‘i Press website. Only members are given access through the members-only area.



From these improvements, more growth has occurred within our website and what we can offer members. As WHA memberships increase, we thought about migrating to a new provider to improve performance, including speed, flexibility, and security. We recently switched to a new provider and that website is launching this month. The increased bandwidth means serving more users simultaneously. Moving to this provider gave our office the chance to redesign the code, which is important for the webmaster team.

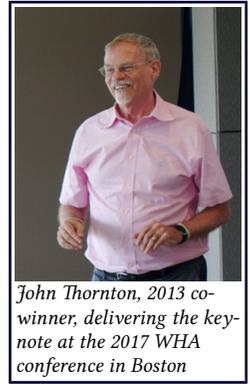
Webmaster Sreerag Sreenath is most excited about one upgrade. He states, “The entire website has been encrypted for greater security; the website connection over the network to the user is completely encrypted (128 bit) protecting the data of the users. It has improved the security of members account information even more. This includes installing SSL certification to authenticate the website.”

Within the new website, we have cleaned up redundancies and condensed items to make finding information easier and more logical. This process has included a long, step-by-step review of our tabs, sections, and pages.

The WHA Graduate Assistant, Thanasis Kinias, has been involved closely with the website upgrades. He notes, “Our bandwidth has doubled, which is connected to the move to the hosting provider, but also we redesigned the site to make the code cleaner and more standards-compliant. The advantage with this is it makes the site more maintainable in the long term, as well as further improving performance: we decreased the home page load time from 12 seconds to 1.2 seconds. Other improvements include much improved accessibility for users with disabilities and those on mobile devices.”

2018 Bentley Book Prize

The deadline for the WHA Bentley Book Prize is 1 February 2018. This award recognizes outstanding contributions to the field of world history. Authors, publishers, and WHA members are encouraged to submit books for consideration. Please note that only books published in 2017 will be considered. The prize includes an award of \$500, a one year membership to the WHA, a certificate, and a letter from our office. For submission details, see the [Bentley Book Prize page](#) on the WHA site.



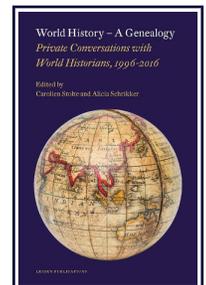
Giving Tuesday

WHA Giving Tuesday met its objective, providing funds to WHA Scholarships and Awards for 2018, as well as sharing the wealth with United for Puerto Rico. In total, we were able to share over \$300 to support the ongoing recovery effort on the island. The generosity of member participants has funded our next awards for the WHA Bentley Book Prize and the WHA Dissertation Prize. We hope even more members will consider participating in 2018. Across the United States, Giving Tuesday brought in approximately \$177 million dollars to charities and nonprofits.



Member’s Book: *World History—A Genealogy*

World History—A Genealogy, edited by WHA Executive Council Member Carolien Stolte, was published this past summer (Leiden University Press, 2017). The book charts the history of the discipline through twenty-five in-depth conversations with historians whose work has shaped the field of world history in fundamental ways.



These conversations, which took place over a period of twenty years for the world history journal *Itinerario*, cover these historians’ lives, work, and views of the academy in general and the field of world history in particular. An extensive introduction distills the most important developments in the field from these conversations, and sheds light on what these historians

have in common, as well as—perhaps more importantly—what separates them.

Professor Stolte has secured a 20% discount for all WHA members, good through 31 January 2018, accessible using code WHA1718.

- Members in the United States and Canada may [order through the University of Chicago Press](#).
- Members elsewhere in the world may [order through Leiden University Press](#).

World History Bulletin CFP

The *World History Bulletin*, a peer-reviewed journal of the World History Association, invites contributions to a thematic issue on the upheavals of 1968 and the long global Sixties. Submissions are due no later than 15 January 2018; earlier submissions are strongly encouraged. The issue is scheduled to appear in June 2018.



A tidal wave of unrest and rebellion swept over the world in 1968, breaking in places like Beijing, Calcutta, Chicago, Dakar, Dar es Salaam, Mexico City, Paris, Prague, Rio de Janeiro, Saigon, and Tokyo. It eroded the binaries of the Cold War and the hierarchy of the three worlds. In the global history of social movements and protest politics during the twentieth century, 1968 has few rivals. Nevertheless, what happened half a century ago was hardly confined to a single turbulent year. 1968 can be viewed as a peak in a longer cycle of contention that emerged in the mid-1950s and only decelerated unevenly in the 1970s.

While the events of 1968 continue to fascinate, the tendency remains to narrate them within the terms of nations, societies, and cultures. There is much still to do in exploring the cross-cultural, diasporic, inter/transnational, and global dimensions of 1968 and the surrounding era. With approaches that emphasize comparisons and connections, shifting scales and tem-

poralities, encounters, entanglements, networks, and mobilities, flows across borders and frictions between identities, interplays of the local and the global, and world-making from below, world historians can open up exciting new perspectives on 1968 and the long global Sixties.

The *WHB* specializes in lively short-form essays of 1,500–3,000 words. For this issue, we are especially interested in contributions that highlight fresh research on 1968 and the long global Sixties; innovations in teaching about these topics in schools, colleges, and graduate programs; and important archives, collections, exhibits, fiction, films, memoirs, and other sources for remembering or representing as well as documenting this global moment. We also welcome short interviews with activists/advocates, artists, writers, and scholars whose work addresses 1968 and the long global Sixties.

Please send submissions, requests for the style sheet, and any other inquiries to [the WHA <info@thewha.org>](mailto:info@thewha.org). Specific questions can be sent to [editor Ian Fletcher <icfletcher@gsu.edu>](mailto:icfletcher@gsu.edu).

2017 & 2018 WHA Conferences

With more than 340 registrants, the 26th Annual WHA Conference in Boston was the largest in five years. The conference themes of the Atlantic World and Food in World History drew in members from across the globe—as far west as Hawaii and as far east as Japan—to participate in sessions on these themes and many others.



The XK Cooking World History event in Boston featured President Rick Warner with four other faculty chefs.

We look forward to seeing many of you in Milwaukee for our 27th Annual Conference, 21–23 June 2018, where the themes will be the Anthropocene and Material Culture. The Call for Papers deadline is 20 December 2017. Once again, we will offer our conference scholarships, with applications due by 15 March 2018. For more information, see [the WHA on line](#).



Detail of nineteenth-century Sri Lankan wall painting of European Christmas celebration <https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Kataluva_Purvarama_0766.jpg>