



Health, Globally: World History Association Annual Meeting, 2021

What are the metrics and meanings that describe health: for individuals, communities, institutions, governments, economies, cultures, ecosystems, epistemologies, or philosophies? The WHA invites teachers, scholars, and activists to reflect broadly on the many possible meanings of health, to both include and transcend bodily and biomedical applications of the term in order to consider the health of our world and the history of our planet that brings us to an online conference July 5–11, 2021. Sessions will not run continuously, and they will be scheduled so that some live content is optimal in a variety of time zones.

The conference organizers invite WHA members and friends to consider this year's theme of **Health, Globally** to be capacious enough include presentations on last year's insufficiently explored theme of Sustainability + Preservation. Individual papers and panels accepted for the 2020 conference are welcome to roll their presentations over to 2021. To request a paper or panel roll-over, please email info@thewha.org by January 25, 2021.

The fully online format of this year's conference opens up a variety of formats. The program committee encourages you to collaborate with your colleagues to develop live and pre-recorded sessions, which might include (but are not limited to): book roundtables that address a collection of related scholarship; author Q & As, ideally with multiple authors; workshops in which participants actively engage with relevant materials; e-posters; Baobab-style panels, live or prerecorded; and live discussions based on pre-circulated materials, either written or recorded.

As always, the program committee invites papers and panels on aspects of world history that do not directly address the conference theme.

Paper and panel proposals can be submitted [here](#) by February 1, 2021.

Authors will be informed of the program committee's decision by April 1, 2021

Pre-recorded sessions will be due on June 1, 2021

Pre-recorded sessions will be published by June 15, 2021, so that conference participants can view them and incorporate their insights into the live sessions in July.



The Journal of World History

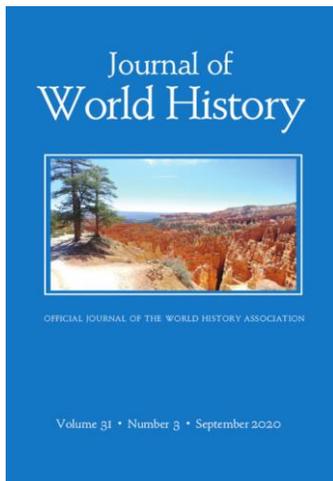
2021 will be a year of visible changes for JWH, which will debut its new cover and style with issue 1 of volume 32 (March 2021). The contents, however, will continue to uphold the high standard of the journal to produce research that “transcends the boundaries of single states, regions, or cultures” as we proudly proclaim on the website.

While the ongoing pandemic has not slowed our production process, it will influence the published contents this year. We will be publishing a fewer number of book reviews in this next volume than in previous ones, because of Covid-related mailing challenges both for academic presses and our own editorial offices. Hopefully as conditions improve, we'll return to managing a robust schedule of book reviews. However, this is not a warning that the journal itself will be changing its published size as we have a substantial number of articles waiting to be published. A smaller number of reviews has only provided an opportunity for more articles to arrive sooner, which has its own benefits.

In better news, this summer we will be publishing our second special collection of articles from our archives to highlight an important theme for the field. In coordination with this year's upcoming WHA conference, the topic will be “Health, Globally” and feature ten articles published over the past twenty-five years as well as a new introduction. All of the articles will be freely available (outside the paywall) until fall 2021 to make this material available to a broader audience. Last year, in recognition of the thirtieth anniversary of the journal we organized the first collection, “Roads and Oceans,” which produced a significant uptick in downloads of articles from our back catalog. We're optimistic that this new format is allowing the journal to reach new readers, as well as engage our existing ones, by placing some key articles in



new contexts. We hope these articles enrich your conference experience this summer, and even begin new conversations for us all!



New WHA Council Members

The WHA Office is preparing for the Council transition, which takes place each January 1. We remain very grateful for the work of outgoing Council members – Robert Hardmond, Angela Lee, Mariona Lloret and Michele Louro. The transition began earlier this year, when Council member Eric Nelson stepped in as our Acting Treasurer. As a result of last month’s election, Professor Nelson is now our Treasurer. He brings a wealth of knowledge to this position, as he also holds the financial officer position at the Sixteenth Century Society and Conference. His visions have already contributed to a more efficient, streamlined system with the addition of our application of Quickbooks online.

At our 2018 Milwaukee conference, the William H. McNeill Teacher Scholarship was awarded to Eric Beckman. This summer, Mr. Beckman presented as part of the Baobab III panel on “Reframing Revolutions” and now, we welcome him as a 2021 Council member. In this age of virtual classrooms, his graduate certificate in E-Learning and Online Teaching is particularly noteworthy and beneficial to the WHA. He has been a high school educator for the past 20 years.

From San Francisco State University, we welcome Trevor Getz to the Council. Professor Getz discovered world history when he began his first semester of teaching and since that time, has authored and co-authored texts on the subject with publishers such as Oxford and Duke. His

engagement in the teaching process opened the door as lead content developer and evaluator for The World History Project (Gates Ventures). Full of creative vision in the field, he notes about his Council position, “I also REALLY want to find ways to harness the superpowers of high school teachers in terms of curriculum and pedagogy, and translate those into the tertiary level.”

Like Eric Beckman, Alex Holowicki was also a recipient of the William H. McNeill Teacher Scholarship at the 2016 WHA Conference in Ghent and now, one of our 2021 Council members. A young scholar with solid teaching experience at the community college system in Hawai’i during his graduate studies, he is now an assistant professor at San Diego Mesa College. Embracing the diversity of living history, he has sat on the Hawai’i Council for the Humanities and Hawai’i History Day. We look forward to working with him on WHA community college expansion and initiatives.

Another HS educator new to the Council is Marjorie Hunter, PhD, who teaches at the Academy of West Memphis. For the past decade, she has taught AP World History and has been deeply involved with the AP World History reading as a reader, table leader, and question leader. Her current research studies the Yellow Fever epidemic of 1878 in Memphis. She is delving deeper into the connection between the disease-carrying mosquito and the Atlantic Slave Trade.

Please note that with the move of Eric Nelson from Council member to Treasurer, four Council seats were open for 2021. We look forward to these talented Council members terms commencing in January and working with them during the next three years.

WHA Giving Tuesday

On Tuesday, December 1, 20% of all donations given to the World History Association were passed on to Direct Relief, an organization dedicated to "improving the health and lives of people affected by poverty or emergency situations by mobilizing and providing essential medical resources needed for their care." This important non-profit scored a 100% on Charity Navigator.





The link for WHA Giving Tuesday was sent out to members on December 1 and multiple other times through emails and social media. Giving Tuesday kicks off 3 weeks of opportunity to donate to the WHA. Per our Advancement page [www.thewha.org/support/giving-2020/] priorities for giving include sponsor a member, which is new for 2021; scholarship support; the operating budget; and the endowment. Moreover, any person donating within the 3-week window will be listed in the spring edition of the World History Bulletin. To be listed in the World History Bulletin, this window runs from December 1-22.

World History Bulletin

The *World History Bulletin* is calling for quality essays, lesson plans, and classroom activities for its two 2021 issues!

The first issue, for Spring 2021, focuses on the subject of “the Ottoman Empire Since the Time of Kanunî Sultan Süleyman,” which will be guest edited by Djene Rhys Bajalan at Missouri State University. Submissions to this issue will be due on February 15, 2021.

The second issue, for Fall 2021, emphasizes the importance of resistance in world history and commemorates the 500th year anniversary of the fall of Aztec Tenochtitlan to Spanish conquistadores. Submissions to this issue will be due on September 15, 2021.

Interested parties can direct inquiries to Micheal Tarver, WHB Editor-in-Chief, at bulletin@thewha.org.



Bentley Book Prize

Over 20 years ago, the WHA began its book prize, now the Bentley Book Prize, recognizing outstanding works in

the field of world history. The committee, comprised of three faculty members, is ready to accept submissions for 2021 prize. To learn more about the qualifications, see our webpage:

<https://www.thewha.org/awards/bentley-book-prize/>

The 2020 award went to Alan Strathern for his book, *Unearthly Powers: Religious and Political Change in World History*, published by Cambridge University Press. It can be seen here on the publisher website:

<https://bit.ly/3m6UsC5>

According to prize chair, Anand Yang, “As Alan Strathern’s magisterial account of *Unearthly Powers: Religious and Political Change in World History* highlights the interplay between religion and political authority characterized states and societies in many world regions prior to the twentieth century. His rich theoretical and empirical study demonstrates how and why both immanentist and transcendentalist traditions were critical in the construction of states and political power and legitimacy.”

Applications are due no later than February 1, 2021.

Career Diversity Spotlight: Suzanne Litrel, Ph.D.

Suzanne Litrel has taken the long road to a career as an educator and historian and a journey, one that continues to unfold and surprise with new adventures. As an Economics major at the University of Michigan, and a regular cartoonist for the school’s *Michigan Daily*, it never occurred to her that she would one day teach at the high-school and college levels and conduct historical research on colonial Brazil and the Portuguese Atlantic world. Instead, she envisioned a career in business, law, and even cartooning. Having grown up in Rome, Singapore and São Paulo, it seemed natural for her to purchase a one-way ticket and head to Taipei just weeks after earning her undergraduate degree. In order to support her extended stay and Chinese language studies, she taught English to elementary, middle, and high school students by day and was a business executive at night. After nearly a year of studying Chinese and teaching English, she backpacked through Mainland China, departing Beijing just as the Tiananmen Square protests were heating up. Upon her return to the United States, her former professor and mentor Rhoads Murphey convinced her to enroll in Michigan’s graduate school and pursue Chinese Studies. This she did but, due to a death in the



family, opted out of the Ph.D. program. Instead, she fulfilled her M.A. requirements and graduated one semester early.

Litrel spent the next five years working at her husband's small family food business on Long Island as Accounts Receivable and Office Manager, helping out as needed while he attended law school at night. She still sold cartoons, served for a few years as newsletter editor for a local business, and was published by a national running magazine. Eighteen months after her son's daycare provider suggested she look into teaching, she earned her NYS certification and accepted a position to teach high school social studies at Bay Shore High School on Long Island. For the next fourteen years she taught a total of eleven different courses, including two of her own creation—Chinese Culture and Tradition and International Studies. She wrote the Jackie Tempo historical fiction series, approved by the New York State Council for Social Studies, to help provide historical context for students in world history. She was also an active member of and served on the executive board of the Long Island Council for Social Studies. But it was as an AP World History and as an IB 20th century History (HL) teacher that Litrel found her true scholarly passion in history.

A year after her family's move to Georgia, Suzanne opted to return to graduate school and eventually pursue a Ph.D. in History. She had decided it was time to stop inventing stories about imagined peoples of the past and start listening instead; her research for her lesson plans and historical fiction had long since sparked her interest in digging deeper. She enrolled at Georgia State University and pursued studies in World and Latin American History, with a third field in Atlantic World History. Suzanne found that her time as an AP and IB teacher served as great preparation for what it meant to "do" history. Not only did she have to prepare extensively in order to teach content, but she had to understand the historical and critical thinking skills the students had to master to do well. During her years as a teacher, Suzanne also learned the importance of reaching beyond her physical school for a deeper understanding of the curricula. She was the first teacher in her high school building to serve as an AP Exam Reader. She has served in this capacity and as Table Leader whenever possible since 2005. She has written world history instructional material, as well as exam questions. Teaching AP World History also connected her to the World History Association and scholar-educator-mentors who encouraged and critiqued her presentations, research, and writing. During her time at GSU, she earned research and travel grants to conduct archival work, and most recently earned the 2020 John T. Matthews Distinguished

Dissertation Award for her work on the Portuguese reaction to the seventeenth-century Dutch challenge for Brazil.

Suzanne is glad to put all professional and life experience to use and help strengthen connections between secondary school teachers and higher ed faculty, even as she maintains an active research and writing agenda. She is a contributing author to Candice Goucher, ed.'s *Women Who Changed the World* (ABC-CLIO, 2021), a co-author, with Jim and Linda Henderson, for *Notable Women of Colonial Latin America* and *Notable Women of Modern Latin America* (Rowman & Littlefield, 2022); she was also awarded an advance publishing contract with the University of New Mexico Press for *Negotiating Dutch Brazil: Portuguese Atlantic Resistance and Renewal, 1580-1654* (2022/2023). She is currently on a team of four historians working on the American Historical Association's Remote Teaching Resources, an NEH CARES-funded project designed to support college and high school instructors, especially those who have had to shift quickly to teaching hybrid or online courses. Suzanne will continue to work as an independent consultant and writer on related such projects; in 2021 she also expects to return to writing her fourth in the Jackie Tempo series, *Jackie Tempo and the Secret of the Samurai*, set in late Meiji-era Japan. As her professional journey continues, she is all the more grateful for her WHA travelling companions who continue to inspire and point to new adventures along the way.





Publications and News

- **David Blanks** has been appointed editor of the [*Journal of Big History*](#).
- **Amanda DoAmaral**, a WHA Executive Council Member, [has founded a company called Fiveable](#), dedicated to aiding students to prepare for Advanced Placements (AP) exams. Fiveable [has raised \\$3.5 million dollars](#) from a number of investors, including Chelsea Clinton. Fiveable is currently serving 1.5 million high school students, and students who study with Fiveable have a 92% pass rate on AP exams.



- **Michele Louro, Carolien Stolte, Heather Streets-Salter, and Sana Tanoury-Karam** have published their new edited collection, [*The League Against Imperialism: Lives and Afterlives*](#). According to University of Chicago Press, this anthology “capture[s] the global history of the League Against Imperialism by bringing together contributions by scholars researching the movement from various regions, languages, and archives.”
- **Patrick Manning** has published [*A History of Humanity: The Evolution of the Human System*](#), in which he “traces how this human system evolved from Homo Sapiens' beginnings over 200,000 years ago right up to the present day.”
- **John McNeill** has recently published a new world history textbook, entitled [*The Webs of Humankind: A World History*](#), which relies on connective webs to “organize details” about world history and “keep the big picture in view.”
- **Elizabeth Pollard** [has been awarded the CSU Faculty Innovation and Leadership Award](#), which “recognizes CSU faculty accomplishments associated with student success or the implementation of innovative practices that improve student outcomes or eliminate equity

gaps. [It] acknowledges faculty who have demonstrated leadership at the program, department, college or university level to improve student success and outcomes in courses with traditionally low success rates or persistent equity gaps.” Dr. Pollard “is being recognized for her work in redesigning humanities courses using innovative digital methods.”

- **H. Micheal Tarver**, co-edited with Colleen Boyett and Mildred Diane Gleason, have published [*Daily Life of Women: An Encyclopedia from Ancient Times to the Present*](#).
- **Kelsey Utne** has published “Bodies in the Way: Delhi’s Dead and the Pressures of Space” in [*Nursing Clio*](#). Kelsey is a sixth-year Ph.D. Candidate at Cornell University working on her dissertation, entitled “Corpse Politics: Disposal and Commemoration of the Indian Interwar Dead, 1919-1939.” Her dissertation traces the intersecting histories of necropolitics, heritage, and colonialism. It explains how the materiality and commemoration of the dead altered physical, bureaucratic, and social landscapes in the decades between the first and second world wars.
- **Julie van den Hout** is excited to launch her new digital humanities project, "[Voyages of New Netherland](#)," a database of more than 250 voyages to New Netherland (1609–1664), including many stops in the Caribbean. The project aims to integrate the activities of ships into the larger story of the colony by highlighting myriad details of these voyages and exploring visual analyses of the data. More broadly, the project invites inquiry into maritime activities surrounding New Netherland, and the system of ships at the helm of seventeenth-century Dutch imperial expansion into the Atlantic.
- **Peter Von Sivers, Charles Desnoyers, and George Stow** have published the 4th edition of their textbook, [*Patterns of World History*](#).
- **Kit Wainer**’s new article, “Using Primary Source Documents to Teach Nationalization and Imperialism in the Modern Middle East,” was recently published in [*Understanding and Teaching the Modern Middle East*](#), edited by Omnia El Shakry.
- **Barry Wood** has published his book, [*Invented History, Fabricated Power: Narratives Shaping Civilization and Culture*](#). His “book examines more than twenty cultures, both ancient and modern, Eastern and Western, emphasizing how kings, empires, religions and societies have enhanced their authority and power through fictional histories, claims of divine origins,



fabricated genealogies, and miraculous events presented in literary works and forged doctrines.”

- **Alex Zukas** has published an article and a chapter. The first, “Negotiating Oceans, Islands, Continents, and British Imperial Ambitions in the World Maps of Herman Moll, 1705-1730,” can be found in [*Negotiating Waters: Seas, Oceans, and Passageways in the Colonial and Postcolonial Anglophone World*](#), co-edited by André Dodeman and Nancy Pedri. The second, “Enchanted Capitalism: Myths, Monsters, and Markets,” will arrive in an upcoming issue of *History Compass*.
- **Alex and Lorna Zukas** were jointly awarded a \$100,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities’ “Dialogues on the Experience of War Program.” Their specific program, “A Soldier’s Place: Veterans and Civilians Speaking about War,” trains veterans to be discussion leaders and brings together veterans and civilians for five months to reflect upon their experiences and discuss powerful accounts of military conflict from the Trojan War to the Iraq War. Initially designed as a series of in-person meetings, the sessions will now be conducted using remote meeting software due to COVID-19.

