

Insights: Notes from the CCWH

Winter 2017
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A Letter

Barbara Molony, Co-President, CCWH

Before digging into the difficult theme of this Newsletter's Co-President's column, I am delighted to report that Professor Sasha Turner, Quinnipiac University, has accepted the current CCWH leadership's nomination to serve as CCWH Co-President beginning in January, 2018. Please see Sasha's statement and our request that you vote on our nominee in this Newsletter. For the past two years, I have been honored to serve as Co-President alongside Mary Ann Villarreal, California State University at Fullerton, whose term is ending in January. Mary Ann's contributions to the CCWH have been extraordinary. She helped to lead the CCWH through our major study on contingent faculty as well as the transition to a new administrative

structure with an executive director shared by the CCWH and the Berkshire Conference of Women Historians. We'll miss her!

We are very much looking forward to adding Sasha to our leadership team, so please vote as soon as possible. Sasha is a very fine historian. Earning degrees from the University of the West Indies (BA) and Cambridge (MPhil and PhD), she has published an extraordinary list of works. Her major book, *Contested Bodies: Pregnancy, Childrearing, and Slavery in Jamaica* (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2017), examines the struggles for control over biological reproduction and the importance of childbearing to plantation work, the care of slaves, and the development of

of their culture. Sasha has published numerous articles on gender, race, and the body in *Journal of Women's History*, *Slavery and Abolition*, and *Caribbean Studies*. Sasha teaches courses on the Caribbean and the African Diaspora, women, piracy, colonialism, and slavery. She is an Associate Professor at Quinnipiac University.

Are We Complicit?

Dictionary.com selects an annual "word of the year," and in 2017, that word is "complicit." A simple, old-fashioned, mainstream word, "complicit" is not the shiny neologism or new-use-of-an-old-word that one might expect to receive that honor. The Dictionary.com website defines complicit as

“choosing to be involved in an illegal or questionable act, especially with others, having complicity.”

Many of us viewed the brilliant Saturday Night Live sketch in March 2017 in which actor Scarlett Johansson portrayed Ivanka Trump as a saleswoman for a new perfume called Complicit. The context of the sketch was not explicitly sexual. But it made us all think about one’s choice to accept the unacceptable either out of avarice, as in the case of Ivanka, or out of a need to maintain silence to survive. The term reemerged after Harvey Weinstein and other entertainment-industry leaders, politicians and government officials, and business leaders were exposed for having committed various forms of sexual abuse while those who suffered that abuse were deeply intimidated into maintaining silence, and others if they knew about it, were either intimidated or else accepted powerful men’s abusive behavior as normative. Many thoughtful people have been forced to consider that their silence may have made them complicit in an abuser’s continuing behavior.

Millions of us marched on January 21st wearing pink pussy hats to protest the President’s admitted, at that time, sexual abuse, which was apparently shrugged off by 60 million voters, including over 50% of white women voters, as “locker room talk.” Complicit.

There has been some hopeful discussion that we may be approaching a national sea change in how sexual abuse (harassment,

discrimination, rape, and other forms of abuse) is viewed. Many of us had hoped such a change was coming in 1991 when Anita Hill testified – convincingly to many women, but clearly not to the complicit male Senators on the Senate Judiciary Committee – that Supreme Court nominee, Clarence Thomas, had sexually harassed Professor Hill. Indeed, there was some positive response to Hill’s testimony; the number of women elected to government office increased the following year. But sexual abuse continued in all walks of life.

As I write this in late fall, there seems to be a new revelation of sexual abuse by yet another prominent man almost every day. Many women (and some men) have been emboldened to speak out, but doubtless many more have not been able to do so. As in the case of rape, the number of reported cases of harassment is far below the number of instances of the crime. In the case of rape, studies have shown that survivors are reluctant to step forward for fear of not being believed, fear of being mocked and shamed as contributing to causing the crime and deep anxiety about being considered a victim. We often forget about this last concern, as it is not related to the criminal justice system, but for women who value their agency and strength, it is equally important. Victimhood is humiliating. Not reporting one’s rape, harassment, or abuse may seem counterproductive, but it saves a women -



Barbara Molony

who may be trying to find her way in a society that is inclined to take her less seriously than a man – the added condemnation of being too weak to resist violation and thus lacking in agency. Is her desire to avoid victimhood a survival tactic or is it an act of complicity with the culture of sexual abuse? If one tries to avoid victimhood through silence, does a woman allow the perpetrator to harm other women? Can silence be both self-preservation and complicity at the same time?

It is clear that women are coming forward in many professions, but we have seen much less public discussion of sexual abuse by leaders in academia. To be sure, most readers of this column have either experienced this kind of sexual abuse or know of individuals who have. And many of us live in states that mandate sexual harassment “training” for university employees. So the topic is not new in academia. But most of us are silent about harassment, and the culture of silence is just as dam-

aging in academia, where success is dependent on subjective evaluations and personal patronage, as it is in Hollywood, which has been very much in the news. In the latter case, it took the courage of already very successful women to break the silence about the abuse committed by Harvey Weinstein, a powerful king- and queen-maker. Once that logjam was broken, others started to come forward. It was also clear that many, though not all, of Weinstein's colleagues were complicit in the silence for decades. Others in the entertainment business, knowing nothing about this abuse because of the culture of fear and silence, were stunned. Some people found it impossible to believe that colleagues were not aware, but I find it very plausible, as Weinstein and other entertainment moguls were protected by a cone of men's and women's silence. Similar exposure of significant numbers of senior powerful men in the historical profession has not yet happened at the time I am writing this, but it certainly could. A few egregious cases have already been exposed.

Many of us know of individuals who have been subjected to harassment, ranging from leering, touching, and suggestive comments all the way to sexual violation. The perpetrators may include fellow graduate students and faculty members, all of whom may create a hostile climate that drives targets of abuse away from academia. Many of us know of women, especially younger wom-

en in graduate programs or in their first years in university jobs, who are particularly dependent on the support of senior professors for letters of recommendation for grants and for help in getting published or accepted on conference panels. Old fashioned discrimination may already make it harder for young women to compete, and many young scholars bear the extra burden of trying to avoid the appearance of rejecting sexual harassment for fear that it will damage their careers.

Instances of harassment are whispered about in hushed tones, as reporting them can define one as a whiner, a troublemaker, potentially a slut, and a victim. The consequences of speaking out can be career ending or career modifying. But if we don't speak out, are we complicit with a culture of silence that will continue to support sexual oppression? If we more senior faculty know of younger scholars who are dependent on the good will of other senior faculty in supervisory positions, what should our role be? If we speak out, do we risk hurting the junior scholars who are the primary targets of abuse? If we urge junior scholars to find ways to circumvent or stoically endure harassment without calling it out (as women in my generation who were not forced to flee academia did), are we guilty of perpetuating complicity?

These are painful and difficult questions, and they have an impact on all of us. As I have reported in earlier columns, officers of organizations of his-

torians of gender and sexuality meet periodically. We will be meeting at the AHA in January, and dealing with harassment, silencing, and complicity will be one of our major topics. If you have ideas you would like to share, please send them to me, at bmolony@scu.edu. I look forward to your contributions to this critical discussion.

CCWH MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

As we come to the end of 2017, please remember to renew your membership in the CCWH!

Your membership goes a long way to support the \$23,500 we give in awards each year. We really want to keep these awards going for many more years.

To all those of you who have given so generously, thank you! We are really close to raising the matching \$30,000 for the Prelinger Award by December 31st. Can you help us raise the last \$11,000? Every dollar helps us get closer. Please consider sending your tax-deductible donation before December 31st.

Next year, we will be launching the Rachel Fuchs Mentorship and Service Award to honor a member whose commitment to others and service to the profession best exemplifies the work and life of Rachel Fuchs, former co-president and friend. To support this award and our others, please consider donating along with your membership renewal.

Notes from the Executive Director

Sandra Trudgen Dawson
Executive Director, CCWH

Dear Members and Friends,

As the year comes to an end and the AHA approaches, I wanted to remind everyone that the tickets for the Annual CCWH Awards Luncheon are still available. Ula Taylor, of UC-Berkeley, will give the keynote on “The Promise of Patriarchy.” The talk will be based on Ula’s current book, *The Promise of Patriarchy: Women and the Nation of Islam* (University of North Carolina Press, 2017). Please contact me if you would like to buy a ticket - \$35 for employed members and \$10 for graduate students. Please introduce yourselves!

While we look forward to celebrating with our winning members, as an organization, we have a lot of work to do to support women in the historical profession more actively. For those of us who have experienced sexual harassment, sexual abuse, or other forms of gender violence, these past few weeks have exposed a variety of emotions. The social media #MeToo campaign has revealed the pervasiveness of workplace harassment and abuse of power. To date, we don’t really have a sense of the extent of the problem in academia. Nevertheless, wherever there is a power structure within a profession or workplace, the potential exists.

The question remains, do we speak up against sexual harassment and abuse of power, or do we remain silent for fear of the ramifications. These are difficult questions. Is the time right to expose abusers and how do we support our colleagues making these difficult choices?

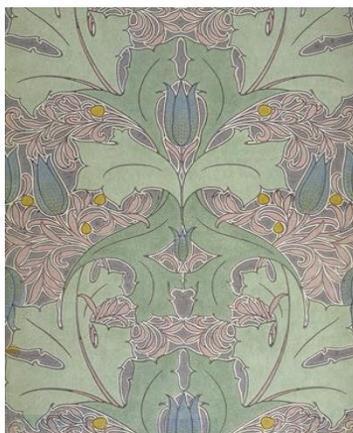
At the AHA in January 2019, we will be celebrating our 50th anniversary. Let’s use this time to have a hard conversation about sexual harassment in academia. Please contact me at execdir@theccwh.org if you are interested in joining the roundtable discussion.

We ask that the AHA take steps towards ending sexual harassment and assault within our profession. Please read and consider signing in support of this letter to the AHA. If you are so inclined, please forward and otherwise circulate.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScZa_rxvl_2dXPp7IUEdn-YZ-ZgCcd-hRQ2HDdXr42e1wNx5g/viewform

In Sisterhood,

Sandra



Sandra Trudgen Dawson

Join Us for the CCWH Annual Awards Luncheon at the AHA

Make plans to join us for the CCWH Annual Awards Luncheon at the AHA in Washington, D.C. on Saturday, January 6th from 12:15 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. The awards luncheon will be in Delaware Suite B of the Marriot Wardman Park, Lobby Level. Those of you interested in understanding historical forms of oppression will be excited to hear Ula Taylor of the University of California - Berkeley who will give the keynote address entitled “The Promise of Patriarchy.”

Please consider coming to the luncheon. Tickets are \$35 for full-time employed members and \$10 for graduate students. Tickets are available for purchase through the AHA registration portal or by contacting Sandra Trudgen Dawson (execdir@theccwh.org).

Public History Forum

Elyssa Ford

Public History Coordinator

Public historians in the United States have been engaged in several contentious and highly debated discussions since my last report. Some of these, like the white nationalist march in Charlottesville and the federal push to eliminate the National Endowment for the Humanities (alongside the Arts), have had national attention and have been addressed by this group. Others, like the lengthy tenure and promotion process for public historians, have remained more localized within the public history realm and, even then, centered among public historians in academia. While these discussions are central to the work that public historians do, they are relevant to all of us as working historians, whether we exist without or outside the academy. In this column, I will highlight just one of these issues, that of humanities funding.

The discussion to cut NEH funding did not begin the fall of 2017; it started earlier in March as soon as the newly inaugurated president released his budget plan for the year. It called for the elimination of the NEH and NEA, along with a myriad of other programs like the Institute for Museums and Library Services and Fulbright-Hays program funding. The same day that the budget proposal was released, the National

Council of Public History published a statement outlining the proposal, explaining what was included in the cuts and what was not in terms of relevance for NCPH members (for instance, the National Archives, Smithsonian Institution, and the Library of Congress, among others, were not facing elimination), and vowing to keep its membership updated on the budget process. At that early point, the NCPH reminded readers that the “Trump Administration’s blue-print is fundamentally advisory – it is important to remember that Congress ultimately controls appropriations” and that there historically had been strong bipartisan support for the humanities in the past. Even with this conciliatory tone, the NCPH statement also stated that the organization remained ready to advocate for the humanities and would do so, if and when necessary.

The necessity soon emerged, and in its next statement regarding the proposed budget, the NCPH took a much stronger stance and used a firmer tone. On May 23rd, the President sent his proposed budget to Congress, and on June 14th the NCPH released the statement: “Advocacy Alert: Take Action for Humanities Funding!” This was published on the NCPH website and sent directly to the membership and digital subscribers. The NCPH urged that large audience to act now and provided specific advice on who to contact and how to do so; they also provided links to statements and form letters made



Elyssa Ford

by each of the impacted agencies. The NCPH called out the budget for its “devastating cuts” and asked readers to show members of Congress that these programs are “vital to our community.” The statement ended with a line that demonstrated the deep concern that the NCPH and many historians felt: “Never before have federal history and archival programs been under attack to this extent. Members of Congress are under tremendous pressure to hold the line on spending, so you must make your voices heard today!”

Other public history-related organizations took an even more immediate and more urgent call to action. The American Alliance of Museums has been particularly vocal in their opposition to these cuts and persistent in their member messaging. The first AAM publication related to the budget was released not with the proposed budget in March, but on January 21st, the day after the presidential inauguration. In it, they addressed rumors that cuts to the elimination of the NEA and NEH could be coming. In anticipation of this, the

Public History Forum (cont.)

AAM called *then* for “every museum professional, every trustee, and every volunteer to speak with one voice to preserve these vital agencies.” The AAM used some of the language from the inaugural address to forward their concerns: “we have the power to make our voices and our priorities heard, and together we – the united museum field- must fight for the ideals *we* believe in.” From that point in January, the AAM has been unrelenting in its push for humanities and museum funding. In contrast to fifteen advocacy alerts in 2016, they have published 24 advocacy alerts in the first eleven months of 2017. In addition to the NEH cuts, they have written about concerns with the tax reform bill and cuts to charitable giving, pushed for increased participation in Museum Advocacy Day, and sent a letter to Congress with support from almost 950 museums.

These calls to action turned historians from studiers of the past to advocates for it, an unfamiliar role to many. This, too, was true for public historians. While public historians may be more used to engaging with the public and confronting potentially contentious issues, the idea that we must advocate for the value of historical knowledge and the value of knowing our past is a jarring one, and it demonstrates how

easy it is to be complacent in believing that our work inherently has value. While I would argue that it does, it is also important to advocate for it and to demonstrate loudly, clearly, and publicly that value. We saw historians and public historians alike rise to the challenge, and we can look to organizations like the National Council of Public History and the American Alliance of Museums for a model on how to be active, on how to voice our concerns, and on how to step outside of the ivory towers to advocate for the work that we do.



JOIN CCWH AT THE AHA

Here is a list of the CCWH events at the AHA in Washington, D.C. in January 2018.

Thursday, January 4, 2018

1:30 p.m. – 3 p.m.

AHA Session 11

Black Women and Internationalism in the 20th Century

3:30 p.m. – 5 p.m.

Coordinating Council for Women in History

Organizations and Collaboration: A Conversation about Women in History

5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Coordinating Council for Women in History

Annual Business Meeting of the CCWH (New Time!)

Friday, January 5, 2018

8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

AHA Session 65

The Politics of Domestic Service in Asia and the Americas, 1870-2015

10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Coordinating Council for Women in History 4

Dismantling Boundaries: Women’s Historians and the Transformation of History

1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Coordinating Council for Women in History 5

Experiencing War: Refugees, Alliances, and Fighters

Saturday, January 6, 2018

12:15 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Coordinating Council for Women in History

Annual Awards Luncheon of the CCWH

Membership Programs & Opportunities

Ilaria Scaglia
Membership Coordinator

New CCWH's e-mentorship sessions

The CCWH Mentorship Committee has inaugurated a series of e-mentorship sessions whose impact and potential to help women in history cannot be overestimated. During each session, which lasts 50 minutes, expert panelists answer questions that participants send in advance or ask live via chat. Notes for each session are made available to members on request. Individual sessions are announced to the entire CCWH email list. If you have not been receiving them and wish to be included, please contact membership@theccwh.org.

Four sessions have already taken place:

How to Tailor a Job Application (September 13, 2017)

Panelists included:

Dorothy Chansky, Director of the Humanities Center, Texas Tech

Natanya Duncan, Assistant Professor of History & of African Studies, Lehigh University

Emily Tai, Associate Professor of History, Queensborough Community College, CUNY

Skype and Phone Interviews (October 12, 2017)

Panelists included:

Ilaria Scaglia, Department of History and Geography, Columbus State University

Nicole Pacino, Assistant Professor of History, University of Alabama, Huntsville

Campus Interviews (October 19, 2017)

Panelists included:

Dorothy Chansky, Director of the Humanities Center, Texas Tech University

Ilaria Scaglia, Department of History and Geography, Columbus State University

AHA Interviews (November 13, 2017)

Panelists included:

Cassia Roth, PhD, UCLA; current Marie Curie-Sklodowska Postdoctoral Research Fellow, University of Edinburgh

Upcoming sessions (date TBA) include the following:

1. How to Negotiate a Contract
2. Handling the "two bodies" Problem – "spousal hires" (or lack thereof), etc.
3. Starting out as an Assistant Professor in a New Department
4. How to Handle a Visiting Position
5. Understanding Different Kinds of Service



Ilaria Scaglia

6. Hopping from one T/T to another
7. I am an Associate, now what?
8. Serving as a Chair (or other administrative positions) – useful tips
9. How to Remain Active while Working as an Adjunct.
10. First Year in a Tenure-Track Job
11. Leaving Academia – of Alternative Careers and Retirement
12. How to Apply for a Job in Europe

We are always open to suggestions for new sessions! Send them our way!

If you are willing and able to contribute as a panelist, please email membership@theccwh.org. No special equipment is needed: only a computer equipped with Firefox or Chrome (with a camera, if one wishes to be a panelist). Time and date can be scheduled at your convenience.

For more information on the Mentorship Program, see <http://theccwh.org/ccwh-resources/mentorship-program>.

Graduate News

Kelly Midori McCormick
Graduate Representative

It can't be said enough that great mentorship makes all the difference during graduate training and as one is striking out into early career roles. In the next few issues, the Grad Column would like to solicit anecdotes from CCWH members on the best advice they have received. To kick off this series, CCWH member Cassia Roth shares her reflections on the most effective guidance she has received during her graduate training:

1. Make a plan. When you get into graduate school, sit down with your adviser, other grad students, faculty members, etc., and write out a 5-year and 10-year plan. What overall goal do you have for each year of your PhD and beyond? What smaller steps do you need to take to reach that goal? Then, every semester, make a semester plan. What is the main goal for that semester? It might just be writing an abstract or attending a conference. What steps do you need to take to achieve that goal? And then, every week. What is your goal for the week? How can you schedule your time to meet that goal? Of course, you can always spend more time planning than doing. But if you write down overall goals and then the mini-goals needed to achieve that, you will be able to organize your time and see your priorities.

2. "Ignore everyone else and forge ahead." One of my PhD advisers told me this repeatedly throughout my graduate career. Now, I didn't ignore *everyone*, but I did choose wisely in my interactions, and I definitely forged ahead! With the funding and job markets in an abysmal state, it can be very easy to fall into a negativity trap in which it's a Game of Thrones situation where we are all fighting to the death. Collaborate and network with people who are *nice*, collegial, and helpful. Reciprocate in kind. And, most of all, keep going.

3. Say no. Women, people of color, and other minorities often get asked to do a lot of extra work. This can be "care work," where students feel more comfortable talking to you in your office hours about their personal lives or it can be administrative tasks, like you get asked to be on every committee because you are a woman/person of color/etc. Choose wisely, and be confident in saying no. I give a lot of time to the CCWH because I have received much help from them in the past. However, I also know that I can't do more. If you are unsure of whether or not saying "no" will affect your career, talk to a more senior person who you trust.

Please send your favor pieces of advice to share with the community to: Grad@theccwh.org.



Kelly Midori McCormick

MEMBER NEWS

We invite CCWH members to keep us updated about their professional activities. New book, award or prize, promotion, new position – whatever it might be, share it with your CCWH colleagues.

Send your news to the Newsletter Editor at newsletter@theccwh.org.

Breaking News

The AHA will be holding a special session entitled "Historians and Sexual Harassment: The Challenge for the AHA." This session will be on Saturday, January 6, 2018 from 10:30 a.m. – 12 noon in the Marriott Wardman Park, Exhibit Level, Roosevelt Room 5. The incoming AHA President, Mary Beth Norton, will chair the session. We encourage our membership to attend this important gathering.

CCWH Elections

Election season is upon us. Co-President Mary Ann Villarreal's current term ends in January 2018. The Co-President serves for a term of three (3) years pursuant to Article IV, Section 5 of the CCWH's Bylaws. There is one candidate running for Co-President, Sasha Turner, and her candidate statement is below. The position is described as follows: "The co-presidents shall preside at all meetings; shall be the general managers of the corporation; shall have general supervision over the affairs of the corporation and over the other board members; shall have the authority to sign written contracts on behalf of the organization; and shall perform all other duties as are incident to the office. In case of the absence of or disability of either co-president, those duties shall be performed by the other." (Article IV, Section 3).

*Any current member of the CCWH may vote for Co-President. Balloting **via email** will begin on **December 10, 2017 and will run through December 24, 2017**. Emails should contain the words "CCWH Co-President Election" in the subject line. In the body of the email you may type the name of the current candidate, Sasha Turner, or any write-in candidate who is a current member of the CCWH. Ballots are to be emailed to: Sandra Trudgen Dawson, CCWH Executive Director, execdir@theccwh.org. Any questions should be address to Sandra Trudgen Dawson.*

Candidate Statement: Sasha Turner

My scholarship as a historian of slavery and the Caribbean will continue the strong intellectual leadership tradition of the Coordinating Council of Women Historians. Specifically, my current research, centered on women and children and how race, emotions, and the body shape their lives under slavery will advance the CCWH's commitment to explore the diverse experiences and histories of all women. Understanding the diverse needs of women historians is vital to responding effectively to the inequalities that burden women within the historical profession. Critical attention to the inherent intersectionality of women in history brings

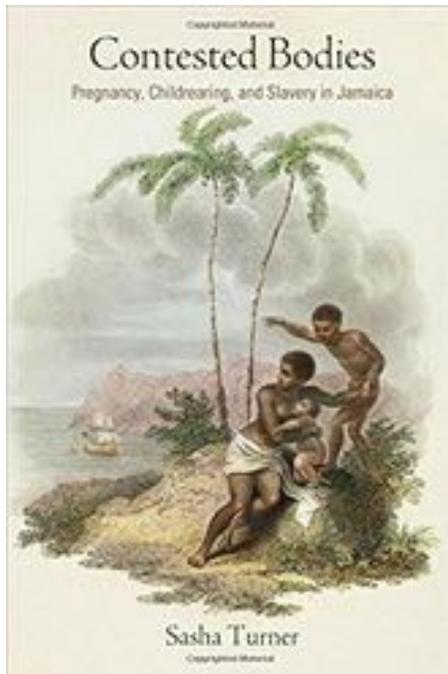


Sasha Turner

further insight into how better to serve marginalized women. Such attention also makes clear the urgency in promoting areas of study sidelined within the discipline. As a Caribbeanist, I remain committed to the ongoing work of the CCWH to support women historians and to cooperate with academic organizations that aim to center histories of Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, and the Middle East.

My work that engages with the broader public through blog writing, public lectures, and academic programming that brings together scholars, activists and community organizers will also foster the Council's mission to strengthen ties between the academy and the general public. Indeed, such programs are vital for building more equitable partnerships between the profession and the wider community. The current moment of crisis, in which already stigmatized groups face further discrimination, also requires more activist-historians, willing to resist the erosion of liberty and human dignity. Historians must bring their expertise to ensure that all members of society, regardless of race, gender, sexuality, religion, age, marital status, immigration status, or country of origin, can participate fully and equally in society. The demands for more public service of historians, therefore requires rethinking the divide between public history and academic history.

CCWH Elections



My research has benefitted from several awards and fellowships. Providing well needed resources for international travel and writing retreat from teaching and institutional service, my scholarship would not be possible without such support. More significantly, the mentoring and networking opportunities the fellowships provided have been invaluable in my transition from graduate student, to tenured faculty, as well as my transition as an immigrant woman of color who received graduate training outside the American academy. Creating opportunity to secure research and teaching resources and make meaningful connections across generational, regional, and subdisciplinary categories is both the CCWH's most important function and my utmost goal.

Although women historians have made significant gains through increased entry into the profession within the last few decades, they remain underrepresented as academic leaders. Moreover, women historians continue to lag in progressing from graduate student promoted and tenured faculty, to full professor. The CCWH's future program of assessing life-work factors that limit

women's ability to realize their full potential in the profession and to create a "tool-box" to navigate such difficulties is not just a critical goal. As a spouse and a mother, developing strategies for women historians to respond to the challenges of balancing family, childbearing, and childrearing responsibilities with professional commitments is also a personal aspiration.

Yet, as a historian of black motherhood and the body, I recognize that to guarantee women entering the field the opportunity to realize fully their potential we cannot just leave it to women to figure out how to balance their multiple responsibilities. We must also weigh the basis for evaluating promotion against the gendered needs of childbearing and historic inequalities that complicate the life demands of women and minority women, which further increase mentoring and networking needs among them. Historic inequalities also mean that minority women faculty enter the profession with fewer resources, and requires equitable attention to their vulnerabilities.

The CCWH's mission to serve the diverse needs of women historians and historians of women is urgent and important. I am grateful for the opportunity to bring my experiences and expertise as a black, immigrant, woman historian of enslaved women to further the goals of the CCWH.

Interested in Becoming a CCWH Conference Liaison?

We have a goal to ensure that the CCWH has somebody representing us at as many conferences as possible, large and small, and that women in history receive all the support they deserve. Consider becoming a CCWH conference liaison for any conference you attend regularly!

You can find details as well as a list of current liaisons here: <https://theccwh.org/ccwh-resources/conference-liaisons/>.

For further information, contact Dr. Cassia Roth at conferences@theccwh.org.

Archives of Interest

Editor's Note: As a new feature for Insights, we are looking at archives of interest to our membership. Some archives may be familiar and others may be hidden gems. If you are an archivist, or would like to suggest an archive for us to feature, contact newsletter@theccwh.org.

With this issue, we look at The Special Collections at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County.

The Special Collections of Albin O. Kuhn Library & Gallery University of Maryland, Baltimore County

**By Lindsey Loeper
Acting Director and Curator
Special Collections**

The Baltimore and D.C. metro area is well known for rich archival repositories – the Library of Congress, the National Archives, the Archives of American Art, and the National Library of Medicine to name a few. Less well-known are the vibrant special collections and archives at a mid-sized public university outside of Baltimore, the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC).

UMBC's Special Collections, founded in 1973, is part of the Albin O. Kuhn Library & Gallery. The department supports the mission of the Library and actively participates in research and teaching initiatives on campus. With collecting areas in photography, science fiction, and biological sciences, the collections are a destination for national and international scholars, in addition to serving as a research and classroom space for the students at UMBC and other area schools. Curators work closely with the Library Gallery to prepare annual exhibitions drawn from the Special Collections holdings and increasingly the librarian faculty in the department are working to make collections available remotely through online ex-



Lindsey Loeper, Acting Director and Curator, with the Mildred Grossman Papers

hibits and digital collections.

The largest collecting focus for UMBC's Special Collections department is photography and the history of photography. We have over two million photographs in our collection including fine art photography, news and documentary photographs, and samples of various processes and formats such as daguerreotypes, tintypes, and cyanotypes. Female photographers represented in our collection include Berenice Abbott, Judy Datar, Diane Arbus, Margaret Bourke-White, Irina Ionesco, Donna Ferrato, and Lotte Jacobi. Scholars and students frequently use the photography collections; professors from UMBC and other area colleges will teach classes using the print photographs or will work with the librarian faculty to offer visual literacy instruction.

Complementing the photographs are related collections of books, archival collections, and photography equipment. The Edward L. Bafford Photographic Book Collection includes books and serials on the history and development of photography as an aesthetic medium with a special emphasis on photography as a social force. The photography equipment collection contains cameras and related items that show the technological development of the machinery and tools in use since the 1800s. Highlights from the historical archival collections include the records of the Baltimore Camera Club, the oldest photo-

Archives of Interest (cont.)



A thoughtograph from the UMBC Special Collections

graphic society in the United States; the personal papers of Mildred Grossman, a New York City photographer dedicated to the mid-century labor and civil rights movements and a member of the Photo League; and the personal archive of Robert Fichter including his papers, paintings, prints, and a selection of props. One frequently used archival collection is the Jule Eisenbud collection on Ted Serios and thoughtographic photography; the research notes, recordings, and “thoughtographs” produced during research sessions with parapsychologist Dr. Jule Eisenbud and Chicago bellhop Ted Serios have been used to produce books, exhibits, and films.

Our science fiction holdings are one of the top collections at an academic library in the United States. The Azriel Rosenfeld Science Fiction Research Collection contains books and serial publications charting the history of U.S. science fiction and fantasy writing. We hold first editions by significant writers such as Ray Bradbury, Arthur C. Clarke, Harlan Ellison, Ursula LeGuin, and Brian Daly. There is an extensive collection of science fiction pulp magazines dating to the 1920s; these inexpensive paperback serial publications

were mass-produced and contain early stories from many famous authors. Finally, we have tens of thousands of amateur press sci-fi and fantasy magazines, called fanzines, dating from 1937-1972. Fanzines were typically created using mimeograph or photocopying machines and were distributed through the mail to subscribers or members of a fan association like the Fantasy Amateur Press Association (FAPA). Fanzines serve as a way for scholars to learn more about the science fiction fan community – how they communicated with each other, how they participated in the larger science fiction publishing community, and how they celebrated or critiqued sci-fi authors and genres during this time.

UMBC also collects archival collections that document the history and development of the field of the biological sciences. This may seem to be a humorous contrast to the science fiction collections, but our interest is closely tied to UMBC’s long commitment to STEM education. The American Society for Microbiology located their library and archives at UMBC in the 1980s. This partnership, along with UMBC’s affiliation with well-known microbiologist, Keith Porter, led to the

Archives of Interest (cont.)



A daguerreotype from the UMBC Special Collections

formation of the Center for Biological Sciences Archives (CBSA) and the acquisition of the records of the American Society of Cell Biology and the Tissue Culture Association, now the Society for In Vitro Biology. Our collection strength is still the records of professional member associations; the latest to join the CBSA was the Society for Invertebrate Pathology in 2013. From basic cellular research to cancer research to AIDS research, the CBSA tells the stories of the organizations that facilitated scholarly communication among researchers. Personal paper collections include Keith Porter and Rita Colwell; Colwell's papers, unprocessed at this time, consist of the research and teaching records of the acclaimed microbiologist and first female director of the National Science Foundation.

Other large collections available at UMBC include the holdings of the Alternative Press Center, the records and photography collection of the Baltimore *Sun*, and since 2013, an increasing focus on Maryland folklife in partnership with Maryland Traditions, the state folklife program of Maryland. Folklife collections include the records and field recordings of Maryland Traditions and its

predecessor the Maryland Folklife Program, the oldest state operated folklife program in the United States; research and course materials from folklorist and professor Dorothy Howard; recordings and personal ephemera from the families of Ola Belle Reed and Jason Pate; and documentation created and collected by Maryland folklorist Elaine Eff. Special Collections staff work closely with Maryland Traditions to process, describe, and promote these collections throughout the region.

UMBC's Special Collections Department is open to the public during the fall and spring semesters, Monday through Friday, 1 – 4 p.m. with extended hours on Thursday until 8 p.m. All other times by appointment. You can learn more about our collection holdings at <http://library.umbc.edu/spec-coll> or contact us directly at speccoll@umbc.edu.



CCWH Award Recipients

Each year, the CCWH is privileged to present awards to outstanding women historians. The CCWH awards recognize excellence in diverse ways – from established scholars to graduate students. Join us in congratulating this year’s recipients.

The Prelinger Award

This year’s Prelinger Award recipient is Charlene Fletcher, a PhD candidate in the Department of History at Indiana University-Bloomington.

Ms. Fletcher’s application dossier, particularly the evidence of her commitment to serving women and girls and her dedication to highlighting women’s less familiar narratives and experiences, was impressive. Her fascinating study, *Confined Femininity: Race, Gender, and Incarceration in Kentucky 1865-1920*, is a highly original and timely work. Fletcher examines Southern black women’s legal confinement within Kentucky jails, workhouses, and mental institutions. Fletcher’s work on the carceral state is in direct conversation with and brilliantly builds on the outstanding work of leading carceral studies scholars.

The CCWH/Berks Graduate Student Fellowship

Lucia Carminati has won this award and is currently working on her dissertation – “Būr Sa īd/Port Said, 1859-1922: Migration, Urbanization, and Empire” at the University of Arizona. Her research focuses on Port Said, the Suez Canal’s northern harbor, placing it in a broader Mediterranean context. She explores the themes of mobility, crime, public health, gender, urban development, and geography in this wide-ranging dissertation.

Receiving an Honorable Mention is Kelly Kean Sharp for her dissertation “Farmers’ Plots to Backlot Stewpots: The Culinary Creolism of Urban Antebellum Charleston.”

The Chaudhuri Award

This year’s recipient of the Chaudhuri Award is Dr. Alix Genter, who received her PhD in United States Women’s and Gender History from Rutgers University. She is currently completing her first manuscript, *Risking Everything for That Touch: Lesbian Culture from World War II to Women’s Liberation*, which expands understandings of butch-femme culture and identities in mid-century America. The award committee valued her article, “Appearances can be Deceiving: Butch-Femme Fashion and Queer Legibility in New York City, 1945-1969,” for its use of oral history as a site of analysis, and found the article highly readable, engaging, and accessible to a wide audience. The study was heralded for its “reassessment of the butch-femme dichotomy and assertion that butch/femme expressions of identity were incredibly diverse in the post-war era.”

Gold Award for Best Article by an Associate Professor

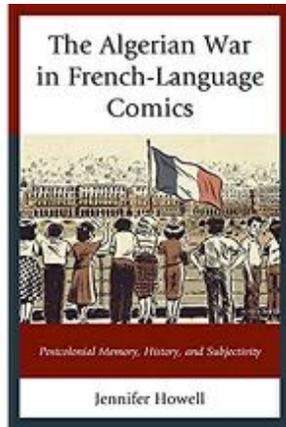
Marjoleine Kars received this award for her article “Dodging Rebellion: Politics and Gender in the Berbice Slave Uprising of 1763,” published in the *American Historical Review*. Professor Kars teaches courses in early American history, women’s history, and Atlantic history. She is the author of *Breaking Loose Together: The Regulator Rebellion in Pre-Revolutionary North Carolina* (University of North Carolina Press).

The Ida B. Wells Graduate Student Fellowship

Jordan Lynton has won this award for her dissertation, “Diasporic Identities in the Age of Rising China: Examining Chinese Community Membership in Jamaica.” Jordan’s interests include migration, citizenship, migrant networks, diaspora, hyphenated communities and cultural citizenship.

Receiving an Honorable Mention is Joan Flores-Villalobos for her dissertation, “Colon Women: West Indian Women in the Construction of the Panama Canal.”

Book Reviews



Jennifer Howell. *The Algerian War in French-Language Comics*. Pennsylvania: Rowman and Littlefield, 2015. 223 pp. ISBN 978-1-4985-1606-8. \$90.00.

Erika Cornelius Smith
Nichols College

In a thoroughly researched and detailed study of French-language comic book representations of the Algerian War, Jennifer Howell carefully considers the ability of that genre, with its marginal or paraliterary status, to problematize collective memory, dominant discourses, and official histories. Her work joins a growing body of scholarship that not only recognizes the academic value of studying comics and graphic novels, but also specifically focuses on their significance in problematizing question of history, collective memory, post-memory, and post-colonial identity in the Algerian War (p. xxvii). Most notable would be Mark McKinney's *The Colonial*

Heritage of French Comics (Liverpool: Liverpool University Press, 2011) and *Redrawing French Empire in Comics* (Columbus: The Ohio University Press, 2013), as well as Ann Miller's *Reading Bande Dessinée: Critical Approaches to French-language Comic Strip* (Bristol: Intellect Books, 2007).

The Algerian War is a deeply important event, not only for the two communities whose identities are linked inextricably to its outcome, but also for world history and contemporary French policy (p. xviii). As Howell writes, "Unlike any other war in French history, the Algerian War (1954-1962) has remained pivotal in determining French immigration and naturalization policies, national identity, media-constructed islamophobia, and social stratification" (p. xvii). While not all cartoonists function as "guardians of postmemory or as *frontaliers*" of the Algerian War, Howell finds that many of their albums make a unique contribution to how the war is "transmitted" to future generations of French citizens (p. xxx). In this educational context, she argues, comics are particularly useful sources because their "recycling of texts and images" encourage reader participation by engaging with "collective memory, dominant discourses, and official histories" transmitted by schools and mass media (p. xxx).

Chapter 1, titled "De case en classe: Teaching the Algerian War," dissects the contents of high school textbooks in France

published between 2007 and 2012. Howell notes that this "important component" of her book project "developed from conversations with a French secondary school teacher" (p. 3). Based on this conversation and her own analysis, Howell concludes that "[n]otwithstanding the importance of textual documents, textbook publishers clearly privilege iconic images of war" (p. 5). She concludes that textbooks are therefore "not successful at encouraging a global and continuous understanding of national history, meaning one that is positioned within the larger continuum of world history." The reason for this failure is that "they put forward hagiographic depictions of historical figures" that led to simplified versions of otherwise complex events, resulting in representations that are mythical rather than historical: "subjects exit historical narrative and enter the realm of national mythology" (p. 7).

Building on the idea that these somewhat simplistic representations dominate French textbooks, Howell believes it is important that the "cartoonists studied" in her work "belong to or identify with marginalized memory communities" (p. 21). Chapter 2, "Historical Narrative, French Colonial Culture, and Comics," she argues that "readers" can "simultaneously classify these albums as historical documents situating the history of marginalized communities within French meta-narratives and as documents of history reflecting the colonial past," including the experiences

Book Reviews (cont.)

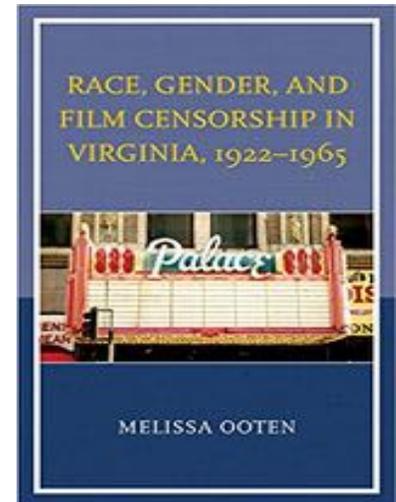
and perspectives of the “Pied-Noir, soldier, [or] immigrant” (p. 21).

Chapter 3 follows with discussion of the ways comic books effectively are “Packaging History for Mass Consumption,” while Chapter 4, “Atrocity Photographs and Reporting War” questions the reproduction of disturbing images that emerge from violent conflict. In the latter, Howell argues that “atrocity images” function differently in comics than they do in the larger press: “[they] engage with the reader’s imagination and empathy through their contextualization, narration, and the personalization of events” (p. 87). Here, she not only engages difficult questions about images from war, but also reiterates the ability of comics, as a “self-reflexive or meta-cognitive medium,” to help us remember what is missing from official discourses: “As a unique form of cultural production, comics can use the media to disrupt official memory making and the politics of forgetting” (p. 91).

The final chapters continue to examine the use of comics, including the attention to “Self, Other, and Self-Othering” in Chapter 5, a focus on gripping images in Chapter 6, “Mapping Colonial Landscapes,” and the ways comics facilitate healing in Chapter 7, “French Comics as Postmemory.” Howell em-

phasizes the “therapeutic nature of artistic creation” in a carefully detailed analysis that reveals how comics present readers with a “nonlinear concept of time in which dominant memories no longer replace minority memories” (p. 192). Continuing, she writes, “All memories become part of a national narrative mosaic that is constantly evolving and growing. Here, memories no longer compete with each other; alternatively, they interact and negotiate meaning” (p. 192).

In her conclusion, “The Postcolonial Turn in Teaching, Remembering, and Cartooning,” Howell returns to the positive potential that comics have for education, quoting Jo McCormack’s argument in *Collective Memory: France and the Algerian War (1954-1962)* that “[w]hat is taught in schools is perhaps one of the last widely shared cultures in what is an increasingly fragmented society” (p. 195). Comics, as an example of popular culture, provide an “opportunity for readers to explore questions of representation as well as the limitations and possibilities of Franco-Algerian postcolonial relations” (p. 195).



Melissa Ooten. *Race, Gender, and Film Censorship in Virginia, 1922-1965*. Lanham, MD: Lexington Books, 2015. 211 pp. ISBN 978-0-7391-9029-6. \$84.00.

Marisela Martinez-Cola
Emory University

Melissa Ooten, with her book *Race, Gender, and Film Censorship in Virginia, 1922-1965*, fills two critical scholarly gaps. First, she moves the epicenter of popular culture analysis of films from New York and California to the overlooked role of the South. Second, in addition to recounting the development, legislation, and maintenance of various entities who possess the power of censorship, she discusses the role of race and gender in the decision-making process.

In Chapter 1, Ooten distinguishes herself by covering an area with the history of censorship that is often left out of First Amendment narratives: The South. She begins by providing the national statistics related to the film industry and outlines where Virginia fits in

Book Reviews (cont.)

the scheme. Beginning in 1922, the Virginia governor created a three-member censorship board that screened every film between 1920 and 1965 to determine whether it was good for Virginians. This power, Ooten demonstrates, was exclusively in the hands of elite, white men who censored for reasons clearly rooted in racist, sexist, and conservative ideals. From outright banning of films to cutting thousands of scenes from “approved” films, the censorship board’s power was far-reaching and helped to shape, support, and maintain hegemonic notions of decency. As the remainder of this book outlines, this power was wielded under the guise of guarding children, protecting white womanhood, and preventing race riots and/or racial discord.

Chapter 2 provides behind the scenes perspective that reveals how a foundation that would guide censorship in Virginia for the next 40 years was created. According to the law, the three members of the censorship board would be “well qualified by education and experience to act as censors under this act” (p. 26). With such general requirements, it is easy to see how this small group of people wielded so much power. Their decisions were shaped by race, religion, and the protection of what Ooten identifies as “vulnerable populations.” Accord-

ing to Ooten, the debates surrounding censorship were about challenging or upholding the social, political, and economic status quo of white, middle- to upper-class men.

In Chapter 3, Ooten deftly describes how the censorship board used films to maintain rigid racial hierarchies between the 1920s and 1930s thereby entrenching Jim Crow segregation for years to come. At the heart of censorship decisions was not only the desire to strengthen white supremacy, but also to ensure it by promoting anti-miscegenation messages and policing Black films for characters who were biracial and/or passing for white. She demonstrates this through a fascinating case study of the interactions between the censorship board and filmmaker Oscar Micheaux. Micheaux, she explains, was an author, writer, filmmaker, and businessman who tried to, “successfully establish a black film business over the course of three decades” (p. 72). His efforts were thwarted by the censorship board’s objection to most, if not all, of his films, including, but not limited to, *Birthright* (1924), *Body and Soul* (1925), and *Love Mart* (1928). The reasoning behind this kind of censorship, according to the board, was to maintain peace between the races and to not incite violence or racial discord.

In Chapter 4, Ooten pulls the lens back from specific films, moves on from the 1920s, and situates the role of film censorship in the Cold War era

marked by McCarthyism and the beginnings of the Civil Rights Movement. She explains the role of World War II in filmmaking and messaging of a brand of patriotism and anti-communism that failed to include, and often punished, African Americans. One critical difference, however, was the growth of several allies including the Southern Conference for Human Welfare, B’Nai Brith, and the National Conference of Christians and Jews. These organizations joined African American citizens and the NAACP to challenge the censorship decisions of the board. Nonetheless, they still used their power and authority to censor films with biracial characters and any trace or suggestion of interracial sexual relations. It should come as no surprise that the state that generated the *Loving* case would have an organization so averse and fearful of racial mixing. But Ooten’s review of board decisions provides fascinating evidence of the lengths this three-member board were willing to go to maintain racial hierarchies.

Chapter 5 left me wondering why the author did not include the word “sex” in the title of the book. In this chapter, she introduces the concept of “Sex Hygiene” to discuss how Virginia censors attempted to control women’s on-screen sexuality. Sex hygiene, she explains, is the “Social reformers’ promotion of practicing hygienic, healthy sexual relations for the good of both the individual and community” (p. 132). She finds

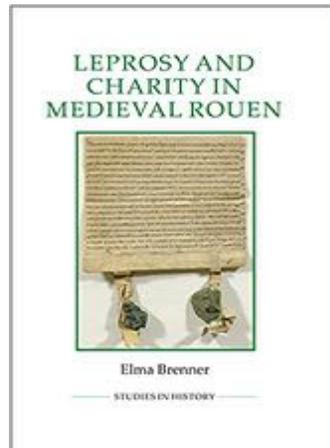
Book Reviews (cont.)

that censor's decisions resulted in preserving racialized ideas of a woman's sexuality: middle class white women were pure while black women were promiscuous. Though she attempts to establish the significance of this chapter, its connection to the rest of the book is tenuous. Her contention that the censors played a significant role in the dissemination of sexual knowledge falls short. Nonetheless, this particular chapter seems to belong in a different book or could even be the basis for a stand-alone project.

Her conclusion demonstrates the delayed demise of the censorship board. In her final case study, she examines the film *Island in the Sun* (1957), which depicts an interracial relationship. With their hands "legally" tied by the Supreme Court, the board became obsolete even though it would take several years to pry racial segregationist practices from the citizens of Virginia.

Overall, Ooten brilliantly induces the critical lens of film censorship from the coasts to a southern state. Through several informative case studies, Ooten exposes how black and white bodies were policed to maintain rigid racial hierarchies. Their choices, she reveals, were not simply racial, but also classed and gendered. This well-researched book could be used in any course on film, cultural sociology, women's studies, and

legal courses on censorship and the First Amendment. In closing, her almost exclusive reliance on the works of other women historians to establish social and historical context is inspiring and refreshing.



Elma Brenner. *Leprosy and Charity in Medieval Rouen*. Suffolk: Boydell and Brewer, 2015. 203 pp. ISBN 978-0-86193-339-6. \$90.00

Kristen C. Howard
University of Arizona

In her recent monograph, *Leprosy and Charity in Medieval Rouen*, Elma Brenner, subject specialist in medieval and early modern medicine at the Wellcome Library, examines *leprosaria* in medieval Rouen, paying special attention to the tension between the charity that linked *leprosaria* with their communities and the changing and imprecise notions of disease and contagions that led these communities to distance themselves from lepers. Brenner's focus on two particular *leprosaria*, Mont-aux-Malades and Salle-aux-Puelles, both established in the twelfth century

follows the greater availability of documents for these institutions.

Chapters 1 and 2 are devoted exclusively to Mont-aux-Malades, with Chapter 1 focusing on the twelfth century, after Normandy's annexation by the French in 1204. Mont-aux-Malades enjoyed extensive royal patronage from the English in the twelfth century, including the establishment of an annual fair that financially benefitted both the leper community as well as the English king, and led to the creation of community and connections between lepers and non-lepers (pp. 29-30). Mont-aux-Malades continued to enjoy aristocratic patronage after Normandy traded hands in the thirteenth century, simply from the French rather than the English. Brenner suggests that high-status patronage demonstrates that charity stemmed from multiple objectives: piety, concern for personal salvation, a sense of responsibility for the needy, and political skill.

But Brenner is concerned with more than just the funding of Rouen's largest *leprosarium*: she is also concerned with the community at Mont-aux-Malades. Beginning in the thirteenth century, the community at Mont-aux-Malades was interpreted by contemporaries as consisting of four categories: religious canons, healthy brothers, male lepers, and female lepers (p. 48). Brenner argues that the community organization within the institution was in fact far more complex than this four-part division, although

Book Reviews (cont.)

the perception of this organization persisted into the fourteenth century. Brenner notes that there were additionally healthy laywomen at the *leprosarium*, and – as Brenner argues – these women shouldered a great deal of responsibility for nursing the sick (p. 52). Brenner also points to a number of subcategories, which were primarily based on social class and religious status. Leprous monks and nuns were afforded the highest status within the institution. Lepers of high social status who gave large entrance gifts to Mont-aux-Malades were likewise particularly entitled within the institution. Mont-aux-Malades also provided care to the “passing sick,” or vagrant lepers, who might stay at the institution for only a short time, and had relatively low status. As Brenner argues, these multiple subcategories each had “respective entitlements and duties” (p. 55).

After devoting two chapters exclusively to Rouen’s largest *leprosarium*, Chapter 3 turns to examining Rouen’s other leper houses, with particular focus on Salle-aux-Puelles because of its particularly large and rich number of extant records. Brenner argues that Salle-aux-Puelles is particularly unique as the only all-female leper house in Normandy. Although, as Brenner notes, there were contemporary

all-female leper houses in England (pp. 59-60). However, the institution only admitted women of aristocratic birth, and it seems that just as at Mont-aux-Malades, high social status was a more salient characteristic than gender. Indeed, at least one of the lepers at Salle-aux-Puelles, Isabel of Avènes, was healthy, although she was perhaps misdiagnosed with tuberculoid leprosy as a child (pp. 70-1). Surely, both gender and social class were key identity markers of the women living at Salle-aux-Puelles. This reviewer, however, wishes Brenner had paid more attention to the social class of its inhabitants – especially after her thorough consideration of the multiple classes and subcategories of patients and inhabitants within Mont-aux-Malades.

Chapter 3 further considers a number of smaller, and in some cases short-lived, leper houses around Rouen. Brenner shows convincingly that these smaller leper houses had links to each other as well as to Mont-aux-Malades, and that their variety demonstrates the wide range of social statuses of the afflicted. Also key here is the geographical layout of these houses. As Brenner notes, the “arrangements made by Rouen parishes and suburban villages resulted in a ring of *leprosaria* around the city, a feature not unique to Rouen, but also apparent in other medieval cities such as Toulouse and London (p. 134). Brenner also demonstrates this on a map (unpaginated, facing page 1). This layout of *leprosaria* around Rouen reveals the

tension between the desire to provide charity and care for lepers with the desire to keep lepers outside of the city, which is the crux of Brenner’s book.

Chapters 4 and 5 provide wider context for understanding the care of Rouen’s lepers: Chapter 4 focuses on the medieval medical world, with particular attention to the medical care provided to lepers, and Chapter 5 focuses on Rouen’s religious culture, with particular attention to charity and the material care of lepers. Here, Brenner argues, in line with François-Olivier Touati, that understandings of leprosy and contagion did not simply change after the Black Death. Instead, these understandings changed gradually over time, and there was a wide variety of understandings about, and attitudes toward, leprosy the disease and lepers as persons. Brenner’s treatment of notions of leprosy is particularly judicious. Beyond her simple, yet critical argument that medieval understandings of disease and contagion were imprecise, Brenner points to other factors that could lead to negative understandings and treatments of lepers, such as their “shocking physical appearance” due to manifestations of the disease (p. 81). This, perhaps, explains why medieval Normans kept *leprosaria* outside of their cities – the “ring” effected noted above – but simultaneously attended the annual fairs of Rouen’s largest *leprosarium*, Mont-aux-Malades. Brenner also frequently notes the porousness of the walls of *leprosaria*: although

Book Reviews (cont.)

people unassociated with *leprosaria* were supposed to keep out, Brenner provides many examples of non-lepers and non-*leprosaria*-personnel within the walls of the institutions and interacting with lepers (pp. 70-2, 74, and 91).

Brenner's monograph is clear, concise, and tightly argued. Her judicious consideration of understandings of disease and contagion and her explication of the roles of charity are the most important contributions of this work. It is a welcome inclusion in the historiography of disease, health care, and charity in medieval France. Students, both undergraduate and graduate, will find particular benefit from Appendix 2, an annotated bibliography of one hundred sixteen archival sources, which are mostly charters (pp. 142-81).

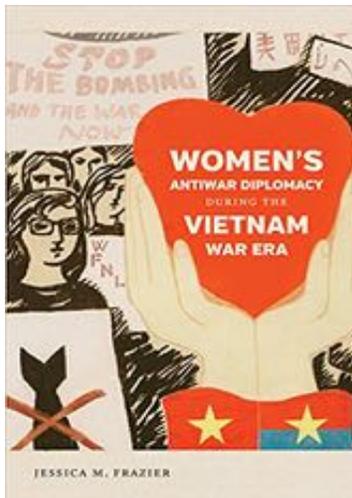
Book Reviewer Wanted!

The following book is available for review. If you are interested contact Whitney Leeson at: wleeson@roanoke.edu.

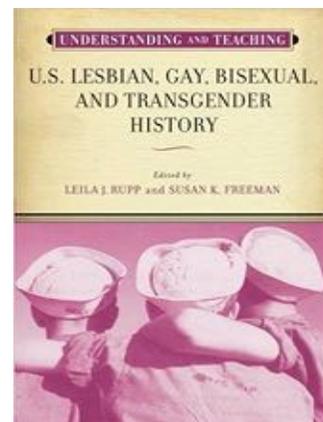
Fran Leadon, *Broadway: A History of New York City in Thirteen Miles*. New York: W.W. Norton and Company, 2018.

Member News

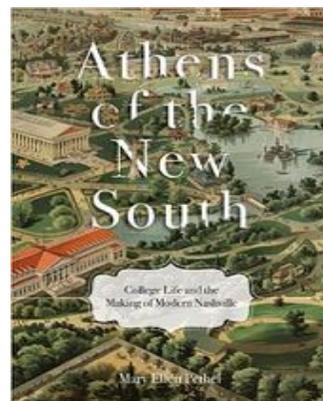
In this issue of Insights, we highlight a number of new publications by CCWH members.



Jessica M. Frazier writes to tell of the publication of her book, *Women's Antiwar Diplomacy During the Vietnam War Era* (University of North Carolina Press). The book chronicles how a group of female American peace activists decided to take matters into their own hands and meet with Vietnamese women to discuss how to end U.S. intervention in Vietnam. While other attempts at women's international cooperation and transnational feminism led to cultural imperialism or imposition of American ways on others, Jessica reveals an instance when American women crossed geopolitical boundaries to criticize American Cold War culture, not promote it.

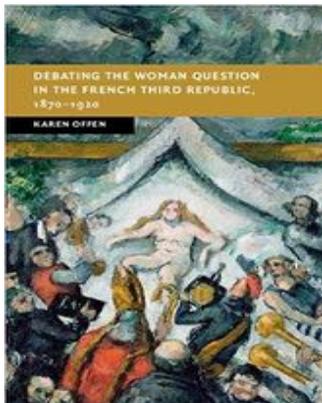
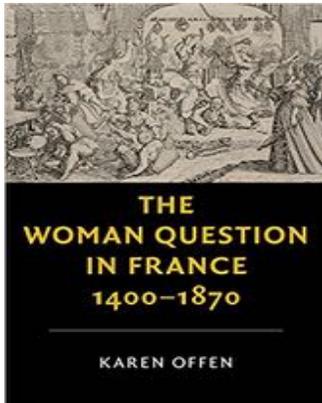


Leila Rupp and co-editor, Susan K. Freeman, have published a new edition of *U.S. Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender History*. The book helps illuminate important figures and events, with essays by experts who possess substantial teaching experience, about queer lives. It is a guide for teachers, helping them to understand how the central narratives of U.S. history speak to queer lives and, just as importantly, vice versa.



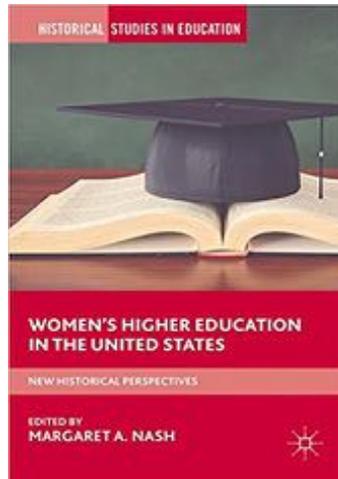
Mary Ellen Pethel's new book, *Athens of the New South: College Life and the Making of Modern Nashville* (University of Tennessee Press) has been nominated for the Tennessee History Book Award. Congratulations, Mary Ellen!

Member News (cont.)

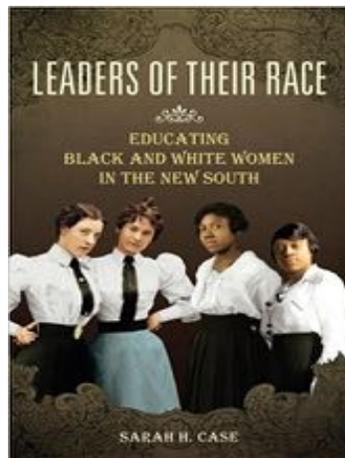


Karen Offen advises of two publications. The first, *The Woman Question in France, 1400-1870* (Cambridge University Press) offers a panoramic account of changing ideas of who women were and should be and what they should be restrained from doing.

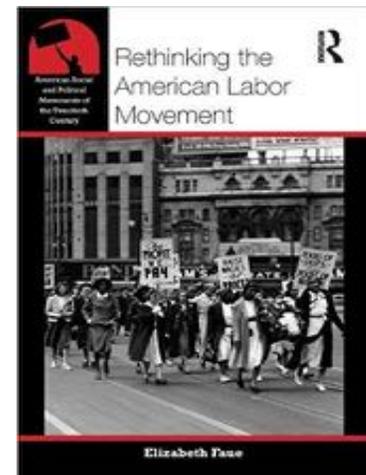
Karen's second publication, available early 2018, is entitled, *Debating the Woman Question in the French Third Republic, 1870-1920* (Cambridge University Press). This publication looks at the debates around relations between men and women, how they were constructed and organized during the French Third Republic.



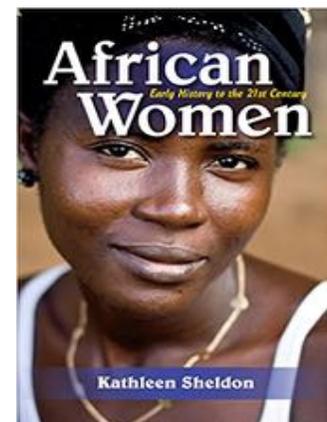
Jennifer Talerico-Brown has contributed a chapter to the edited volume *Women's Higher Education in the United States: New Historical Perspectives* (Palgrave Macmillan). Her chapter is entitled "From Haskell to Hawaii: One American Indian Woman's Educational Journey."



Sarah Case has published a new book with the University of Illinois Press entitled *Leaders of Their Race: Educating Black and White Women in the New South*. By focusing on two separate schools between 1880 and 1925, Sarah's comparative approach shows how female education embodied the complex ways racial and gender identity functioned at the time.

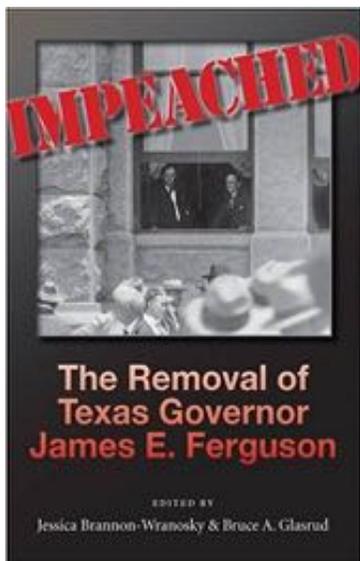


Routledge has published Elizabeth Faue's latest book, *Rethinking the American Labor Movement*. Elizabeth reconsiders the varied strains of the labor movement, situating them within the context of rapidly transforming twentieth-century American society to show how these efforts have formed a political and social movement that has shaped the trajectory of American life.

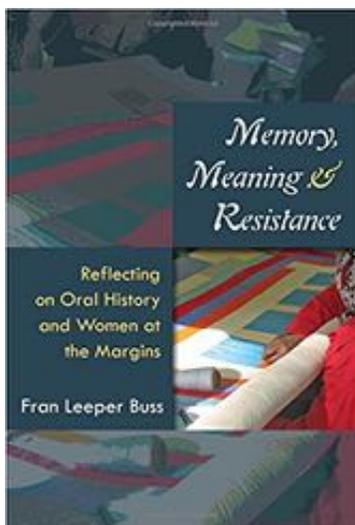


Kathleen Sheldon's new book is titled *African Women: Early History to the 21st Century* (Indiana University Press). Kathleen's work comprehensively embraces an array of societies in over fifty countries with different geographies, social customs, religions, and historical situations within Africa.

Member News (cont.)



Jessica Brannon-Wranosky, along with co-editor, Bruce A. Glasrud, has edited a volume of essays entitled, *Impeached: The Removal of Texas Governor James E. Ferguson*, regarding the impeachment, conviction, and removal from office of Texas Governor James E. Ferguson. The collection provides a new examination of the rise and fall of Ferguson's political fortunes, offering a focused look at how battles over economic class, academic freedom, women's enfranchisement, and concentrated political power came to be directed toward one politician. The essays reveal how power ebbed and flowed in twentieth-century Texas and include several annotated primary documents critical to understanding the Ferguson impeachment.



The latest book from Fran Leep, *Memory, Meaning, and Resistance: Reflecting on Oral History and Women at the Margins* (University of Michigan Press), is based on over 100 oral histories gathered from women from a variety of racial, ethnic, and geographical backgrounds including a traditional Mexican American midwife, a Latina poet and organizer for the United Farm Workers, and an African American union and freedom movement organizer. Buss identifies common themes in women's lives and resistance that unit the oral histories she has gathered.



CCWH Mentorship 2.0 New Program

Ilaria Scaglia, CCWH's Membership Coordinator reports that the Mentorship Program has undergone an impressive process of expansion and transformation.

If you are a graduate student, or if you have a Ph.D. and are seeking guidance about issues such as applying for your first tenure-track job and/or submitting your first article, please write "graduate" in the subject line and provide the following information: Name; Institution, including Department/Program; Fields/Interests; Aspirations.

If you have obtained your Ph.D. and seek guidance about junior/mid-career issues, or if you are available to serve as a mentor, please write "postgraduate" in the subject line and provide the following information: Name; Institution, including Department/Program; Fields/Interests; Current Position; Aspirations.

Please indicate if you are interested to serve as a mentor, a mentee, or both (e.g., an associate could act as a mentor for an assistant and could also receive mentorship by a full professor).

Women at the advanced stage of their career (e.g., full professors, independent scholars, and/or people in administrative positions) can also ask for a peer mentor.

Please do not hesitate to email if you have questions to membership@theccw.org.

Announcements

International Federation for Research in Women's History

The International Federation for Research in Women's History/Federation Internationale Pour la Recherche en Histoire des Femmes will come to North America on August 9-12, 2018 at Simon Fraser University Downtown Campus, Vancouver British Columbia, Unceded Coast Salish Territory-Squamish, Tsleil-Waututh, and Musqueam Nations. We are in the middle of finalizing a cutting-edge program with scholars from nearly every continent at various stages of their careers. Under the theme, "Transnationalisms, Transgressions, Translations: Conversations and Controversies," we will address indigenous feminisms and settler colonial societies, new and old sexualities, women's movements, the impact of the Cold War, labor and work in a globalizing world, gender and human rights, transnational feminisms, questions of method and translation, and more. There are tours, a banquet featuring m'girl indigenous women's ensemble, receptions, and more. While the call for papers is closed, we are accepting chair and comment volunteers who can sign up at the early bird rate. Please contact us at ifrwh18@gmail.com if you are interested.

When you go to our webpage, <http://www.femst.ucsb.edu/>

ifrwh/home, you will see that we are asking for support for scholars from universities in regions under distress or who are under or unemployed. Moving an international conference to Canada was prudent last winter after the kinds of assaults that the current administration in Washington was making – and continues to make – on entrance into the United States. But that has upped our expenses considerably and has meant that I could not receive funds from my institution for subventions. So I ask you to give even if you cannot attend yourself so others might. The CCWH, as the U.S. affiliate of IFRWH, is collecting registrations and donations. There are two formats for payment: If you would like to pay by credit card or bank debt, send an email to Dr. Sandra Dawson at execdir@theccwh.org to request a donation invoice. If you would like to pay by check, please make your check out to Coordinating Council for Women in History with IFRWH in the memo line and send this to Dr. Sandra Dawson, 6042 Blue Point Ct., Clarksville, MD 21029. We can only accept U.S. checks.

Eileen Boris, President of the IFRWH, notes that she began to be involved with the IFRWH in the 1990s by attending its conferences and later serving as its newsletter editor. She found this experience broadening and eye opening and something that she says, "has truly shaped my trajectory as a scholar." Further, she remarks, "The meetings of earlier generations of

feminists across borders that many of us studied became tangible as I, too, crossed national boundaries and had the opportunity to listen and learn from researchers from around the world. But I fully recognize that it was my own privilege – being tenured and then holding an endowed chair – that allowed travel. So, I began to feel like the Western feminist abroad, even the best of us, who still gain power through English and our citizenship in an empire. How to give back? Putting on this conference and trying to finance those who otherwise could not come is the least we can do."

Cornell University College of Human Ecology History of Home Economics Fellowship

The College of Human Ecology at Cornell University is accepting applications for the 2018 Dean's Fellowship in the History of Home Economics.

We invite faculty members, research scholars, and advanced graduate students (must be eligible to work in the United States) with demonstrated background and experience in historical studies to apply for this post-graduate opportunity. The fellowship recipient will receive an award of \$6,500 for a summer or sabbatical residency of approximately six weeks to use the unique resources available from the College and the Cornell University Library system in pursuit of scholarly research in the history of Home

Announcements

Economics and its impact on American society.

At the conclusion of the residency, the fellowship recipient will provide a final report to the Dean, including a bibliography of research pursued, and preservation recommendations for pertinent library and archival holdings. In addition, the recipient will be invited to give a public presentation on their research at a later date. Research projects should be intended for publication.

Relevant historical subject areas may include, but are not limited to: the role of women in the family and society, the history of women in higher education, the history of food, nutrition, housing, consumer economics, the family, child development, design clothing and textiles among other key topics in American social history. We welcome applications in which the historical subject area may inform the investigation of contemporary societal issues.

The deadline for receipt of all application materials is Friday, March 2, 2018. For additional information, see: <http://www.human.cornell.edu/fellowship>. To learn more about the history of the fellowship, visit: http://www.human.cornell.edu/fellowship/fellowship_exhibit_home.cfm.



Call for Papers: “Critical Feminist Exits, Re-Routings, and Institutional Betrayals in Academia”

While universities often identify diversity as an important concern and goal, the neo-liberalization of academic contexts has in many ways fostered the entrenchment and rearticulation of hegemonic racial and gendered ideologies and practices. As a result, critical scholars often face institutional environments that are hostile and/or unresponsive to their concerns and perspectives, and broadly speaking, to issues critical to women, LGBTIQ people, people of color, and other marginalized groups. Scholars who experience discrimination, bullying, harassment, and/or hostile work environments may find themselves relocated, either by “choice” or as an outcome of administrative processes.

This special issue of *Feminist Formations* focuses on the politics of the movement of critical feminist scholars – those who routinely challenge racialized gendered ableist, heteronormative or homophobic, and/or first-worldist scripts within their fields or departments, through their embodied presence and their substantive work. We invite manuscripts that map out and examine scholars’ movements within, across, and out of academic institutions. Of interest also are analyses of how administrators and academic institutions initiate, negotiate, and/or respond to moves and exits by critical

Scholars. We seek thoughtful examination of institutional failures to support critical feminist scholars, analysis of the consequences of such failures, as well as discussion of administrative responses that embrace and support critical feminist scholars and their work, as a way to identify transformative possibilities.

The fact that critical feminist scholars move within, across academic institutions is not new. It is also not unique as scholars whose work is not particularly feminist or critical move and exit academic units and institutions routinely. The premise that motivates this special issue, however, is that there are particular institutional and structural constraints and conditions which impel the moves and exits of critical scholars, especially of those who occupy marginalized social locations through their embodiment of non-dominant ethnoracial and gendered characteristics, identities, and histories.

Manuscripts must be submitted by February 15, 2018. Questions about the submission process may be sent to editorial assistants Andrés López and LK Mae at femnistformations@oregonstate.edu.

Inquiries to the co-editors in advance of submission are welcome: Marta Maria Maldonado (marta.maldonado@oregonstate.edu) and Katja M. Guenther (katja@ucr.edu).



Announcements

**Position:
Program Coordinator of the
Smithsonian Institution's
American Women's History
Initiative Program**

The Smithsonian's Office of the Provost is seeking a highly motivated and qualified individual as Program Coordinator of the Smithsonian Institution's American Women's History Initiative Program. Note: this is a temporary, full-time position and not a federal position.

The Program Coordinator's major responsibility will be supporting the staff in the Office of the Provost and curators across the Smithsonian responsible for organizing the activities of the pan-Smithsonian American Women's History Initiative, which could include developing publications, exhibitions, and educational programs, surveying existing collections and establishing a new collection plan, producing online resources for the Institution, and organizing events and symposia. Substantively, the incumbent could support the research and design related to the Smithsonian American Women's History 100 Book Project; as well as organize and plan for the survey of Smithsonian's women's history objects for broader digital access.

The Program Coordinator will be expected to provide such daily tasks as: support in scheduling and maintaining cal-

endars related to the program; planning and coordinating meetings and special events; collaborating across units to survey and gather data; inputting and tracking data in various systems; and drafting program content for various outlets, including the website, which will need frequent tending. Applicants must be able to perform all duties with a high level of tact and attention to detail, to work efficiently and independently, to show initiative, and to produce accurate and high-quality work in a timely manner. Flexibility, patience, and an ability to handle complex situations diplomatically are basic requirements. Strong verbal and written communication skills are required.

Applicants must have general knowledge of/or ability to learn about the Smithsonian, the American Women's History Initiative, as well as administrative functions such as travel.

The American Women's History Initiative will strengthen the Smithsonian's ability to explore and present American women's contributions to the social, cultural, economic, and political life of our nation. The Program Coordinator will facilitate the growth and capacity to achieve the goals of the overall initiative.

To apply, email a resume and cover letter to Liza Fritzsche at Provost@si.edu.

For more information on the Smithsonian's American Women's History Initiative, please visit: <https://support.si.edu/site/SPageNavigator/womenshistory.html/womenshistory>.

Call for Applicants: 2018-2019 Research Associate Program

Located in a geographic area with one of the largest concentrations of scholars dedicated to feminist scholarship and teaching in the world, the Five College Women's Studies Research Center encourages engaged, critical feminist scholarship from diverse perspectives. To support this work, the Center established its Associates Program more than 25 years ago. Scholars come to the Center from around the world, seeking a supportive environment to carry out their research. Provided with office space and access to extensive consortium resources, Associates gather regularly to discuss their research with each other and local faculty in a variety of settings.

Applicants should complete an online application that includes a project proposal, cv, and contact information for two professional references. Project proposals should include: a statement about the contribution to and significance of the project or dissertation for women, gender, and sexuality studies; a detailed description of the project or dissertation and timeline; and, how a stay in the Five College will advance the project or dissertation.

Applications are due by February 15, 2018.

For further information, visit <https://www.fivecolleges.edu/fcwsrc> or email fcwsrc@fivecolleges.edu.

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COORDINATING COUNCIL FOR WOMEN IN HISTORY MEMBERSHIP FORM

1) ___ new membership 2) ___ membership renewal 3) ___ gift membership

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

This is a (circle one) HOME or WORK address

Telephone: _____ Email address: _____

Do you wish to receive emails from the CCWH membership email list? (circle one) YES or NO

Current position and institutional affiliation, or independent scholar _____

Research and professional fields (up to three): _____

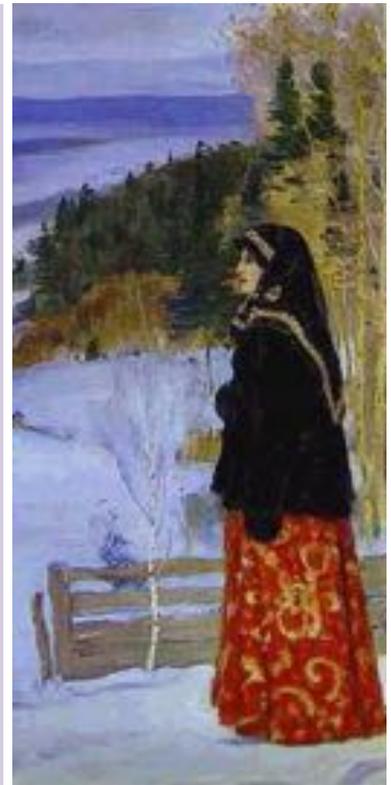
___ I am willing to serve on CCWH committees or the CCWH Board.

Membership in the CCWH runs from 1 January to 31 December each calendar year

Dues	Membership Level	Donation Amount	Donation Designation
\$ ____	\$20 income under \$25,000	\$ ____	CCWH Catherine Profinger Award
\$ ____	\$30 income \$25-50,000	\$ ____	CCWH Carol Gold Associate Professor Best Article Award
\$ ____	\$50 income \$50-75,000 \$140 three years	\$ ____	CCWH Napor Chaudhuri First Article Prize
\$ ____	\$75 income \$75-100,000 \$215 three years	\$ ____	CCWH Ida B. Wells Graduate Student Fellowship
\$ ____	\$90 income over \$100,000 \$250 three years	\$ ____	CCWH Berkshire Conference of Women Historians Graduate Student Fellowship
\$ ____	\$80 institutional membership	\$ ____	Jean Kelly Memorial Prize in Women's History (CCWH Sponsored, AHA administered)
Please make check or money order (in U.S. funds) payable to CCWH. Print and mail to: Dr. Pamela Stewart College of Integrative Sciences and Arts Arizona State University 455 N. 3rd St Suite 380 Phoenix, AZ 85004-1601		\$ ____	Peggy Pascoe Memorial Fund (at the University of Oregon)
		\$ ____	Rachel Fuchs Memorial Award for Service and Mentorship
		\$ ____	Donation where most needed
		\$ ____	TOTAL PAYMENT

Insights: Notes from the CCWH is published four times a year. Our publication dates are Spring (March 1st), Summer (June 1st), Fall (September 1st), and Winter (December 1st).

We invite members of the CCWH to share your professional news with colleagues. Submit announcements about recent awards, appointments, achievements, publications, and other news. If you wish to submit material for inclusion in the newsletter, please send material to the Newsletter Editor no later than two weeks prior to publication (e.g., for the Spring issue, no later than February 15th). Material should be sent to newsletter@theccwh.org. If you have any questions about whether material would be appropriate for the newsletter please email the editor.



“The question isn’t who is going to let me; it’s who is going to stop me.”

-Ayn Rand

INSIGHTS: NOTES FROM THE CCWH

6042 Blue Point Court
Clarksville, MD 21209