



OHIO ACADEMY OF HISTORY NEWSLETTER

FALL 2013

What's Inside:

Message from the President



Like most of you, I wear many professional hats. As befits someone with a faculty position at a public university (Kent State), I'm a teacher of undergraduates in courses that range from the large U.S. survey to specialized offerings for juniors and seniors in both content and methodology. Because Kent has graduate programs, I'm also an instructor of and mentor to M.A. and Ph.D. students. Outside of the classroom, I'm a researcher with a specialization in the history of U.S. foreign relations, particularly during the post-1945 period, busy visiting archives, making sense of mountains of documents, and writing papers, articles, and books. I also regularly perform a myriad of service tasks such as reviewing books and manuscripts, serving on professional committees, editing a book series for the Kent State University Press, and otherwise engaging with scholars beyond my own institution. No doubt many of you perform these sorts of tasks as well.

Some of my work outside the classroom stems from my self-identification as a historian of U.S. foreign relations and has been the result of my association with the Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations (SHAFR), the disciplinary "home" for scholars of U.S. foreign relations. SHAFR is an incredibly large and vibrant organization, and this year's conference, held in Arlington, Virginia, drew more than four hundred attendees. (I began these remarks shortly before heading to Arlington and completed them not long after returning home.) I have been attending SHAFR conferences with some regularity since the mid-1980s, served on several prize committees and the Executive Council over the years, and spent fifteen years working in various capacities on the Society's journal, *Diplomatic History*. Much of what I know about professional service and engagement is due to my involvement in SHAFR, where
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Upcoming Ohio Academy of History Conferences

April 4-5, 2014
at The Ohio State University

March 27-28, 2015
at Ohio Northern University

Message from the President *(Continued from page 1)*

a number of senior colleagues have modeled the sort of professional conduct, devotion to task, and corporate responsibility that I've tried hard to emulate. Just as important as the professional benefits I've gained through my work in SHAFR have been the personal benefits, as many of the people I've met in the organization have become close friends. SHAFR is a big part of my professional identity, just as membership in such organizations as the Society for Historians of the Early American Republic, the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies, or the American Alliance of Museums probably is for many of you.

The Ohio Academy of History, the only statewide organization for historians of all stripes, is also an important part of my professional identity, bringing together as it does historians who share the common experience of working or studying in (or near) Ohio. I know I speak for many of you when I say that my work with the Academy over the years has provided all sorts of opportunities for professional engagement and growth. As is likely true for many of you, I delivered my first professional paper at one of the Academy's annual meetings (in my case, the 1991 meeting at Capital University). Since then, I've chaired and commented on numerous conference sessions, chaired a variety of Academy committees, done a stint as Secretary-Treasurer, and served as Vice President/President-Elect and now President. All of these activities have been professionally and personally enriching, and together they suggest some of the opportunities that the Academy presents for students as well as history professionals.

Perhaps the most visible way to be involved in the Academy is through our annual spring conference (4-5 April 2014 at Ohio State University and 27-28 March 2015 at Ohio Northern University). As we all know, research is a vital part of being a historian at any level, whether it's writing papers in undergraduate classes, completing a thesis or dissertation at the graduate level, or publishing articles and books as professionals. But public presentation and discussion of one's work is important too, for it's in that setting that new ideas can be tested, hypotheses defended, and intellectual turf claimed. Delivering a paper at the Academy's spring conference

can do all of those things—and more—for presenters. This is especially the case for graduate students, as the spring conference provides a friendly and supportive environment as well as an abundance of constructive criticism. But beyond receiving feedback on one's own work, valuable though that is, presenting a paper at the spring conference, I think, also provides a wonderful basic introduction to the entire professional conference experience, from putting together a paper proposal, constructing a coherent panel (one of the initiatives we hope to roll out for the 2014 conference is a feature on our newly redesigned website that will allow panelists to find others working on similar topics), and learning to meet length and time deadlines. The spring conference also provides a wonderful opportunity for scholars from around the state to hear about cutting-edge research, provide informal mentoring through service as session chairs and commenters and spontaneous critique as audience members, and maybe even pick up a few tips on style and public presentation. The spring conference, in sum, is a win-win for presenters and attendees alike.

A second valuable professional opportunity that the Academy presents, at least from my perspective, comes through its various committees. Like all professional organizations, the Academy depends on a dedicated cadre of volunteers who serve in elected leadership positions and on its Executive Council and staff its Standing and Prize Committees. By my count, the officer and committee roster for 2013-14 contains the names of forty-two different individuals donating their time and talents to various aspects of the Academy's work. Some of those individuals are junior scholars or professionals just beginning to become active in the Academy; some are seasoned veterans whose contributions to the Academy are numerous; and some fall somewhere in between. Just like my work on SHAFR committees over the years, my own work on various Academy committees has afforded me the opportunity to learn from some wonderfully generous individuals whose collective sense of responsibility, patience, and dedication were—and are—admirable. I was extremely gratified at the posi-

tive response I received from members when I was putting together committees for the coming year. Those interested in learning more about the Academy's manifold committees should consult the list on our website or contact any current committee chair or officer. Anyone interested in committee service in the future should contact current Vice President Jonathan Winkler.

I know that each of you faces a variety of professional and personal demands that force you to consider carefully each new request for involvement. But as we move toward the new academic year, I'd like to ask each of you to keep the Ohio Academy in mind as you plan your activities and commitments for the coming year—and beyond. Consider putting together a panel for the spring conference. Our Program Committee, chaired by Kelly Selby of Walsh University, is open to a wide variety of session formats. Think about contributing a piece about your research or other professional topic to a future issue of the Newsletter. Editor Molly Wood is anxious to hear from you. Or nominate a colleague for one of the Academy's prizes. (See the list of committee chairs and prize announcements elsewhere in this newsletter.) Although our first inclination as historians might be to self-identify as specialists in this or that field, I believe that our common connections with the state of Ohio are also important, and that the sort of interaction with other historians in the state that the Academy provides is incredibly valuable, both professionally and personally. I am anxious as President to establish contact with historians at all levels who are new to the state and ask each of you to pass the names and contact information of new colleagues on to me so that I can do that. In the meantime, let me reiterate my belief that the Academy has much to offer every historian regardless of station. I encourage each of you to become involved by making connections within the organization and to thereby make a difference.

■ **Mary Ann Heiss**, *President*
Ohio Academy of History

Ohio Academy of History Executive Council Meeting 5 April 2013

Location: 141 Williams Hall, Bowling Green State University

In attendance: Wood, Heiss, K. Selby, S. Selby, Mancuso, Martin, Hedler, Hale, Kern, Dorn, Winkler, Weinger (via phone) – [Martin & Mancuso excused early to return to duties on Conference/Program committees]

Called to order: 12:25 p.m.

Officers' Reports

President's Report (Wood):

- Discussed the highlights of a report pre-circulated via email to Ex. Council members, namely:

The use of email discussion / debate and the collection of Ex. Council votes via email has worked very well over the past year and should be used in the future on matters of lesser to moderate importance; though email discussions were somewhat less efficient than email votes. The prize committees were praised for their work in preparation for the 2013 Spring Conference. Hedler & MacLean are working hard to revise the OAH Handbook. Preparations are going forward for the 2014 Spring Conference. Good contact with Peter Hahn at Ohio State re: 2014 meeting. Part of the 2013 Ft. Meigs grant (which totaled \$5000) was used for the Spring conference to subsidize attendance / participation by grad students and by K-12 teachers. There is hope that some of the Ft. Meigs grant money from 2013 can be rolled over for use at the 2014 conference, although it's not entirely clear what restrictions there may be on that. [at the time of the April 2013 Ex. Council meeting, the balance remaining after expenditures for the 2013 Spring Conference was still TBD.] Communication over the past year has improved and it should remain policy to always CC the Vice President on messages. However, it was agreed that, due to external factors that will hopefully not occur again, the President & VP had too much involvement in the planning and execution of the 2013 conference.

At this point a general comment was made encouraging members to visit the registration desk at the conference to see (and possibly purchase) Zazzle items: magnets and mugs. Winkler and Kern will discuss how to have profit from online Zazzle purchases deposited directly into OAH account.

Vice President's Report (Heiss):

- Discussed the highlights of a report pre-circulated via email to Ex. Council members, namely:

Hahn at OSU has created three-person local arrangements committee to coordinate with OAH & hopefully to broaden communications to encourage increased participation/attendance at 2014 conference. Ohio Northern University has expressed enthusiastic interest in hosting the 2015 conference. Debate/discussion over quality & scale of facilities, local accommodations, restaurants, etc.–Heiss asked to investigate and report before a final deci-

sion on formally selecting ONU as host for 2015. Suggestion was made that if ONU's facilities & amenities were deemed unsatisfactory, perhaps the university would provide money to offset cost of catering or rental of other facilities for dinners, etc. Winkler questioned if the committee had any other viable option as host should ONU fall through / be rejected. Various dates for 2015 conference were discussed with a number of conflicts emerging with April weekends. The weekend of March 27-28 was chosen for the 2015 Spring Conference regardless of host location. Almost all committees are staffed & Heiss has begun a list of potentials & carry-overs for use by Winkler for 2014-2015 committees. Still 2 empty seats on nominating committee, K. Selby recommended Jackie Barton from OHS; must also solicit someone to fill J. Winkler's spot as he moves into Vice President's position. All agree that placing the committees on a rotational basis will be of long-term benefit for the OAH's institutional memory.

Past President Report: None

Secretary-Treasurer's Report (Kern):

- Discussed the highlights of a report pre-circulated via email to Ex. Council members, namely:

Discussed buying a CD to mature in 2015 but tabled decision until costs of 2013 conference were determined. Vote to be taken via email after conference was concluded & budget revised accordingly.

Archivist's Report (MacLean):

- MacLean not in attendance but Ex. Council unanimously accept the pre-circulated archivist's report without debate & wishes her well for a speedy recovery.

Newsletter Editor's Report (Wood):

- Ex. Council unanimously approved via email the editor's pre-circulated report without debate.

Award Committee Report:

- Ex. Council unanimously approved via email the editor's pre-circulated report without debate.

Standing Committee Reports

Conference Committee:

- Outlined the aid from Canada for conference, general enthusiasm for A. Taylor and Friday night's events. Recommendation that local arrangements chair/committee meet early on with relevant Ex. Council member(s) to discuss needs for future conferences. Suggested updating the handbook for the local arrangements chair and henceforth including a packet of standard operating procedures to be given to the next chair outlining conference needs re: catering, hotels, restaurants, badges, photographer, signage, etc. This should help future conference committee chairs & members to know the demands of the planning process. Suggested also that this committee not rely on email.

Program Committee Report:

- 2013 Conference had 20 panels: 2 on War of 1812, 6 in U.S., 6 comparative, 4 teaching, 1 book, 1 public history. Dorn suggested additional public history panels in future – others suggest encouraging proposals in other underrepresented areas. Winkler ask for record of acceptance & rejection rate to help with encouraging submissions and setting possible targets for proposals in certain areas. Wood recommend encouraging proposals for prepackaged/complete panels as opposed to individual papers. Suggest creating a packet of standard procedures, etc. to pass along to incoming committee chairs to help future committees. Also recommended clarity on CFP that no undergrad papers will be considered & that contact info must be included, creating a single email address for submissions, streamlined & centralized submission & review process. Generally, it was agreed that more advanced prep & a more centralized process would help.

Membership Committee Report:

- Wood, as past president, will work to build membership using the suggestions from the brainstorming sessions at the 2012 Fall retreat. Hedler made ex-officio member as way to network with OHS in more official capacity (unanimous). Winkler suggest committee devise a way to track membership levels from year to year as well as to record more specific details (professional affiliation, career status, etc.) to have a clearer picture of membership & to improve communication/recruiting/participation. Dorn suggest soliciting adjuncts & connecting with dept. chairs to make inroads to pool of adjuncts who can potentially participate as members or on Ex. Council.

Nominating Committee (Baranowski):

- Ex. Council unanimously approved the nominating committee's pre-circulated report without debate.

Public History:

- Accomplishment of having a public history panel at the 2013 conference was one of the committee's big goals. The Facebook page was misclassified by Facebook, has been reworked and upon reaching 25 likes, Facebook will begin providing statistics regarding viewings. Two submissions for public history award. Future awards may be divided between organizations with large budgets and those with smaller budgets; (will require future submissions

to include budget info as part of proposal.) Suggested instituting a two-year window for awarding prizes (large-budget award one year, small-budget award the next.)

Professional Development K-12 (formerly Standards Committee):

- Admit struggles with getting K-12 teachers to join/participate in OAH. Wonder if there's a way for the OAH to offer professional development credits for teachers as a way to encourage participation. Discussion of having a table at the OCSS conference in Columbus and of possibly having a conference specifically for K-12 teachers that would allow for panels by high school students. Wood suggested enlisting a high school teacher to serve on the membership committee.

Ad-Hoc Committees

Webpage:

- Website is up and running; doing well except for a few kinks. The suggestion was made to add another person besides Hedler and the Newsletter editor to the committee who could run/update the website when necessary. Winkler suggested a regular schedule for updates. Wood announced there will be dedicated emails through the website for relevant people (webmaster, program committee, etc.)

Proceedings:

- Wood planned to make announcement during general membership meeting / luncheon at the 2013 Spring Conference in an effort to recruit members for a new ad-hoc editorial board. Hale offered to review the backlog of papers approved but not already published in earlier editions & will contact Steffens to get the digitized copies of the papers for publication onto the website. The committee will review the nominations for the editorial board & will recommend appropriate individuals to the president for final acceptance & the creation of a workable committee. The newly created & revised committee will then craft new wording for the Handbook outlining the new procedures for *The Proceedings*.

All reports were approved unanimously unless otherwise noted.

Meeting adjourned: 2:36.



Spring 2013 Prizes and Awards:

2013 Distinguished Historian Award

David Skaggs

Professor Emeritus, Bowling Green State University

2013 Distinguished Service Award

Jonathan Winkler

Wright State University

2013 Public History Award

Julie Carpenter

The Betts House, Cincinnati, OH

2013 Publication Award

Christian Raffensperger

Wittenberg University (*Reimagining Europe: Kievan Rus' in the Medieval World*, Harvard University Press)

2013 Distinguished Teaching Award

Renee Baernstein

Miami University

2013 Dissertation Award

Katherine C. Epstein

The Ohio State University (*Inventing the Military-Industrial Complex: Torpedo Development, Property Rights, and Naval Warfare in the United States and Great Britain before World War I*)

2013 Junior Faculty Research Grant

Jessica Roney

Ohio University

FIRST CALL FOR PAPERS:

Ohio Academy of History 2014 Annual Meeting and Conference at The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH April 4-5, 2014

The Ohio Academy of History seeks papers in all fields of history for the Spring 2014 Annual Meeting and Conference to be held at The Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio. We strongly encourage the submission of full panel sessions, with papers, comment, and chair, addressing any historical topic, area, or time period. Panels on world history or non-western history are especially appreciated. Proposals focusing on historiography, methodology, pedagogy, and public history are also encouraged. Individual papers may be proposed; however they are less likely to be accepted on their own due to the Ohio Academy's desire that panels address a common theme. In addition to traditional format sessions (scholarly papers with chair and commenter), the Ohio Academy welcomes non-traditional formats such as roundtables, discussion panels, or teaching-focused formats. We do not at this time solicit or accept undergraduate papers at the Ohio Academy of History Annual Conference.

Proposals must include:

- a title and 150-word abstract of each paper

- a short biography, resume, or curriculum vita of each participant
- telephone numbers, e-mails, and mailing addresses of each participant

Submit proposals to the chair of the Program Committee by November 1, 2013

Chair:

Kelly Selby, Chair, Walsh University, ksselby@walsh.edu

Program Committee Members:

John Brooke, The Ohio State University, brooke.10@osu.edu

Mary Ann Heiss, Kent State University, mheiss@kent.edu

Kevin Kern, University of Akron, kkern@uakron.edu

Jonathan Loopstra, Capital University, jloopstra@capital.edu

Timothy Connell, Laurel School, Cleveland, tconnell@laurelschool.org

Molly Wood, Wittenberg University, mwood@wittenberg.edu

Lindsay Starkey, Kent State University at Stark, lstarke3@kent.edu

CALL FOR MEMBERS:

Editorial Board *The Ohio Academy Of History Annual Proceedings*

The Executive Council of the Ohio Academy of History has approved the formal "re-start" of our annual peer-reviewed on-line publication of the best papers from each spring conference, known as *The Proceedings*.

We are seeking members of the Ohio Academy of History who would be interested in serving on a newly created editorial board.

If interested, please contact Molly Wood, OAH Past-President and chair of ad hoc committee on *The Proceedings*, at mwood@wittenberg.edu with a brief description of your professional credentials.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS 2013-2014:

Vice-President/President-Elect:

The Ohio Academy of History invites nominations for the office of Vice-President/President-Elect, to be elected at the 2014 meeting of the Ohio Academy of History at The Ohio State University. Please submit nominations by November 1, 2013 by email to: Korcaighe Hale, Nominating Committee Chair, Ohio University-Zanesville, halek@ohio.edu

Executive Council:

The Ohio Academy of History invites nominations for the following office to be elected at the 2014 meeting of the Ohio Academy of History at The Ohio State University: One Executive Council position from a public university. Self-nominations are appropriate. Please submit nominations by November 1, 2013 by email to: Korcaighe Hale, Nominating Committee Chair, Ohio University-Zanesville, halek@ohio.edu

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS-SPRING 2014 NEWSLETTER:

Articles and Reviews

The Ohio Academy of History requests submissions from members for the Spring 2014 Ohio Academy of History Newsletter. We are interested in receiving a variety of submissions, including, but not limited to, articles about members' research, travel to archives or conferences of interest, the historical profession, book or film or museum reviews, teaching and pedagogy, or other topics of interest to Ohio Academy members. Submissions should be no longer than 1000 words and will be subject to editing for content and format.

Please send submissions to General Editor Dr. Molly Wood as a word document attachment at mwood@wittenberg.edu by December 13, 2013.

Member News

The Ohio Academy of History requests news and announcements from members for the Spring 2014 Ohio Academy of History Newsletter. We are interested in hearing about promotions, new appointments, publications, conference presentations, grants received, prizes and awards, retirements, obituaries, etc.

Please send your news, or if you are a department chair, your department's news and announcements to General Editor Dr. Molly Wood as a word document attachment at mwood@wittenberg.edu by December 13, 2013.

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS:

Ohio Academy of History 2014 AWARDS

2014 Distinguished Historian Award

The Ohio Academy of History invites nominations for its annual Distinguished Historian Award. The award honors a historian whose teaching and scholarship, including substantial publications, transcend specialized fields and have an interest to persons beyond the discipline of history. The nominee should have a close affiliation with a college, university, or historical agency of Ohio, if not actually residing in the state. The award recipient will deliver a public address during the opening evening of the annual Spring Conference of the Ohio Academy of History and receive recognition during the business meeting at the Spring Conference. A letter of nomination of worthiness for the award and a copy of the nominee's curriculum vita must reach the committee chair by November 1, 2013.

Chair:

Mary Ann Heiss, Kent State University, mheiss@kent.edu

Committee Members:

Kelly Selby, Walsh University, kselby@walsh.edu

Molly Wood, Wittenberg University, mwood@wittenberg.edu



2013 OAH Distinguished Historian
Professor Emeritus (BGSU) David Curtis Skaggs.

2014 Dissertation Award

The Ohio Academy of History invites submissions for its annual outstanding doctoral dissertation award. The dissertation must have been completed, and the doctorate awarded to the nominee, during the previous academic year (August 2012 to July 2013). Each Ph.D. granting institution in Ohio may nominate one dissertation. There is a \$250 award for the winning dissertation. An electronic copy of the dissertation, along with a nomination letter from the chair of the department or the director of graduate studies, should be sent to each member of the Dissertation Award Committee. The deadline for submissions is November 1, 2013.

Chair:

John Douglass, University of Cincinnati-Blue Ash College, john.douglass@uc.edu

Committee Members:

Martha Santos, University of Akron, santos@uakron.edu

George Vascik, Miami University, Hamilton, vasciks@muohio.edu

2014 Distinguished Service Award

The Ohio Academy of History invites nominations for its annual Distinguished Service Award. The recipient of this award receives an honorary lifetime membership in the Ohio Academy of History. To nominate an individual, either for specific achievement or for long-time distinguished service to the Ohio Academy of History, please submit your recommendation to the committee chairperson. Deadline for nominations is November 1, 2013.

Chair:

John Weaver, Sinclair Community College, john.weaver@sinclair.edu

Committee Members:

John McNay, University of Cincinnati-Blue Ash College mcnayjt@ucmail.uc.edu

Jennifer Nalmpantis, Lakeland Community College [jonalmpantis@lakelandcc.edu](mailto:jnalmpantis@lakelandcc.edu)

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS:

Ohio Academy of History 2014 AWARDS *(continued from page 8)*

2014 Junior Faculty Research Grant

The Ohio Academy of History created a research grant for junior faculty and made the first annual award in 2011. The Academy now invites proposals for the fourth annual Junior Faculty Research Grant. The purpose of the grant is to help defray the costs of travel necessary for a significant scholarly project. The current grant award is \$500. The grant is not restricted to any geographic area, methodological approach, or chronological period. The Ohio Academy of History will announce the award recipient at its Spring Conference, at The Ohio State University.

To be eligible, one must be:

- an untenured faculty member at an Ohio college or university,
- a recipient of a Ph.D. in history within the past six years,
- a member of the Ohio Academy of History. (If eligible, lecturers and other non-tenure-line faculty members may apply.)

To apply, submit:

- (a) a one-page curriculum vita,
 - (b) a one-page budget with justification for how funds will be used,
 - (c) a three-page explanation of the project's objectives, sources and methods, significance, and timetable, as well as its contribution to the larger project,
 - (d) a letter of recommendation in support.
- Applications and supporting materials should be sent in Adobe Portable Desktop Format (PDF) to the chair of the Grant Committee by November 1, 2013.

Chair:

Beth Griech-Poelle, Bowling Green State University, bgriech@bgsu.edu

Committee Members:

Thomas Mach, Cedarville University, macht@cedarville.edu

Catherine Rokicky, Cuyahoga Community College, Western, Catherine.Rokicky@tri-c.edu

Note: The successful applicant is expected to file within eight months a one-page report on how the funds were spent, with the report to be considered for publication in the Academy Newsletter. Acknowledgement of this Academy support should also appear in any published work that results from this research. Successful applicants are encouraged to present on their findings at subsequent Ohio Academy annual conferences.

2014 Publication Award

The Ohio Academy of History invites nominations for its annual Outstanding Publication Award. Scholarly monographs published by members of the Academy between November 1, 2012 and October 31, 2013 are eligible. Books by previous winners may be considered, although no individual may win the award more than twice. Nominees should send one copy of the book directly to each member of the Publication Award Committee and to the Secretary-Treasurer of the Ohio Academy of History, Kevin Kern. The copy sent to the committee chair should also include a brief description of the book. Deadline for submissions is **November 1, 2013**.

Chair:

Stephen Harp, Department of History, University of Akron
Akron, OH 44325-1902, sharp@uakron.edu

Committee Members:

Elizabeth Frierson, Department of History
University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, OH 45521,
elizabeth.frierson@uc.edu

Karen Dunak, Department of History, Muskingum University,
163 Stormont Street, New Concord, OH 43762,
kdunak@muskingum.edu

Secretary-Treasurer:

Kevin Kern, Ohio Academy of History, Department of History,
University of Akron, Akron, OH 44325-1902, kkern@uakron



BGSU Graduate Students at the Friday evening Reception.

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS:

Ohio Academy of History 2014 AWARDS *(continued from page 9)*

2014 Public History Award

The Ohio Academy of History invites nominations for its annual Public History Award. The purpose of this award is to encourage the dissemination of historical scholarship beyond the walls of academe. To be nominated, a public history project, publication, or program must have been accomplished within the previous two years and completed by November 1, 2013. All public history fields are included: exhibits, publications, audio/visual documentaries, oral histories, public programs, symposia, archival projects, and historic preservation education projects.

Nominated projects, publications, or programs must:

- demonstrate original research that adds to a greater understanding of the past,
- demonstrate creativity in organization and presentation,
- demonstrate originality or uniqueness in design and historical interpretation,
- accomplish a goal of educating or communicating with the intended audience,
- follow commonly accepted rules of evidence and logic in providing proof of statements, facts, and conclusions.

Submit nominations to the committee chair by November 1, 2013.

Chair:

Christie Weininger, Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Center, cweininger@rbhayes.org

Committee Members:

Steven Conn, The Ohio State University, conn.23@osu.edu

Kelly Selby, Walsh University, kselby@walsh.edu

Cheri Goldner, Special Collections Division, Akron-Summit County Public Library, cgoldner@akronlibrary.org

2014 Distinguished Teaching Award

The Ohio Academy of History invites nominations for its annual Distinguished Teaching Award. The award—popularly known as Ohio’s “College History Teacher of the Year” award—recognizes faculty in mid- or late career who have demonstrated a sustained commitment to teaching and service in Ohio. The committee is cognizant of the work involved in putting forward nominations for the teaching prize, so each nomination will be kept on file and considered annually by the committee for at least three years, if the nominee does not win the prize in the first or second year. To nominate a faculty member, please send a letter of nomination with supporting evidence (in an electronic format) to the chair of the Teaching Award Committee.

Appropriate supporting evidence should include:

- course syllabi,
- examination questions,
- paper assignments,
- student evaluations,
- peer evaluations,
- any other evidence of a sustained record of impact on students.

The committee accepts nominations from members of the academy as well as from departments. Nominators are welcome, if they wish, to seek the help of nominated faculty in putting together the nominee’s teaching portfolio.

The deadline for submissions is **November 1, 2013**. Please send nomination materials to the Committee Chair:

Chair:

Randolph (Randy) Roth, The Ohio State University, Roth.5@osu.edu

Committee Members:

Amy Bosworth, Muskingum University, bosworth@muskingum.edu

E. Sue Wamsley, Kent State University at Salem, ewamsley@kent.edu

Right: Professor Skaggs engages the audience during his Friday evening lecture.

Far right: OAH Officers Kevin Kern, Mary Ann Heiss, Molly Wood and Jonathan Winkler listen to Professor Skaggs.





Ohio Academy of History Luncheon and Business Meeting 6 April 2013

Welcome and President's Report: Molly Wood

- Many thanks to Bowling Green State University for hosting the OAH, and especially to Scott Martin, chair of the history department and OAH Program Committee Chair, and to Becky Mancuso, history department and OAH Local Arrangements Chair. Thanks also to the Fort Meigs Foundation for a generous contribution to our conference this year.

- Spring 2014 meeting at The Ohio State University, April 4-5, 2014.

- OAH has a new website, still under construction, at www.ohioacademyofhistory.org. We also have a new Facebook page, thanks to our Public History Committee.

- We have one constitutional amendment for membership today: From the Publication Award Committee, requesting option of making two awards in any given year. There was one point of clarification from membership, asking if the committee was required to make an award each year. Reading of the language by Ex Council members resulted in general understanding that the committee is not required to make an award, but shall have the option of making one or two awards in any given year. There was no further discussion.

- Announcement that a "call" for nominations for a new Editorial Board for *The Proceedings* will be going out to membership soon, so please consider submitting a nomination.

Left to right: Public History Committee Chair Christie Weininger presents the 2013 OAH Public History Award to Julie Carpenter, for The Betts House (Cincinnati, OH); John Weaver presents Jonathan Winkler with the 2013 OAH Distinguished Service Award; outgoing OAH president Molly Wood; Teaching Committee Chair Arthur DeMatteo presents the 2013 OAH Distinguished Teaching Award to Renee Baernstein (Miami University); new president Mary Ann Heiss delivers her presidential address.

Report of the Secretary-Treasurer: Kevin Kern

- See Sec-Treas report submitted to Ex Council by Kevin Kern for details.

- General report on financial health of the organization.

- Payment made for new website.

- Zazzle store items available for purchase (magnets, coffee mugs and travel mugs)

Report of the Nominating Committee: Shelly Baranowski

- Nominees for each position acknowledged with biographies and ballots on the lunch tables

- Call for nominations from the floor – none received

- Voting proceeds. Votes collected and counted.

- Results: VP: Jonathan Winkler; Sec-Treas: Kevin Kern; Public History: Christie Weininger; Two-Year or Branch Institution: Hal Friedman; Private College: Amy Bosworth; Constitutional Amendment passes unanimously.

(Continued from page 11)

Award Presentations:

- (Distinguished Historians Award was made on Friday Evening: Scott Martin and Molly Wood presented the Award to David Skaggs)
- Dissertation Award: Jonathan Winkler made the award to Kate Epstein (unable to attend)
- Public History Award: Christie Weininger made the award to Julie Carpenter
- Publication Award: John McNay made the award to Christian Raffensperger (unable to attend)
- Distinguished Service Award: John Weaver made the award to Jonathan Winkler
- Teaching Award: Art DeMatteo made the award to Renee Baernstein
- Junior Faculty Research Award: Beth-Ann Griech-Polelle made the award to Jessica Roney (unable to attend)

2013 Ohio Academy of History Publication Award Winner:

Christian Raffensperger, *Reimagining Europe: Kievan Rus' in the Medieval World* (Harvard UP 2012). This was a good read, stimulating, and well-written so that it flows nicely, with 189 pages of text. The goal of the book is to change the big-picture framework in which the early Rus' are studied (from ca. 900 to 1150). Raffensperger was probably too modest to claim that it offers a new paradigm for the field, so I will say it for him here: the book certainly repositions Rus' dramatically from a world history standpoint (discussed in the Conclusion). The idea is that early Rus' should not be viewed against a Byzantine backdrop, as belonging to some eastern, Slavic, or Byzantine commonwealth that set the Rus' apart from the mainstream of European history in that period. Raffensperger discusses the details of dynastic marriages, trade, religious policies and contacts, and ecclesiastical history to show that the Rus' were more connected to Europe (eastern and western) than to Byzantium. Their choices were their own, as they selected, mixed, and matched elements to suit their own interests. Raffensperger shows that their use of Byzantine elements was no different from the way in which many western polities also used them: selectively and in order to boost their prestige and standing. Thus Obolensky's concept of the Byzantine commonwealth is a distorting framework, for it subsumes the culture under the Byzan-

New Business:

None

Introduction of the New OAH President:

Molly Wood introduced Mary Ann Heiss

Presidential Address:

Mary Ann Heiss, "A Queen, A Carpet, and a Historian of U.S. Foreign Relations"

Announcements/For the Good of the Order

Formal Closing of the 2013 Meeting



OAH 2012 Publication Award winner John Brooke (The Ohio State University) at the featured OAH Book Panel to discuss *Columbia Rising: Civil Life on the Upper Hudson from the Revolution to the Age of Jackson*.

.....
tine rubric and creates barriers between it and the west. The divergence from the west, Raffensperger argues, came only after the thirteenth century and has been projected back onto the early period by modern scholarship. I find the argument overall quite convincing (as many of you may know, I have my own objections to the Commonwealth thesis, e.g., that no Byzantine source can really be found that acknowledges the existence of such a thing and that the behavior of the Byzantine state was not influenced by such a conception of how the world was divided). This book is bound to create extensive debate (in fact, I have heard that it is already the subject of a round-table discussion). I have the sense that there will be no going back from it. A common reaction might be, "Why didn't I think of this?" The evidence was already there. Well, that's easy to say in retrospect.

—By Anthony Kaldellis, The Ohio State University

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(Spring 2014 Annual Meeting)

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OAH July 2013 Financial Report

Account Balance

(as of June 30, 2013)

Checking:

\$14,623.37*

CD (Jr. Fac. Res. Fund):

\$10,506.40

Endowment:

\$9,901.50

*Some debits from spring conference

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