



The FEDERALIST

Society for History in the Federal Government Newsletter

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SHFG
www.shfg.org

INTERNSHIPS IN FEDERAL HISTORY

The Federalist Seeks Early-Career Professionals!

The Federalist needs graduate students and early-career professionals to participate in a feature on internships and early-stage career opportunities in the federal government. If you are a current or recent federal history student who served in an internship, fellowship, pathways, or similar appointment, and you'd like a short description of yourself and your work featured in an upcoming issue of *The Federalist*, please email the editor at shfgfederalist@gmail.com.

If you currently work with interns or other early-career individuals in your office, please tell them about this opportunity to raise awareness about themselves and the work they do across the federal history community. "Internships in Federal History" hopes to regularly feature early-career professionals and the work they perform for the SHFG audience. Questions and expressions of interest: shfgfederalist@gmail.com.



Promoting Fair Pay in Public History Employment

By Nick Sacco

The American Historical Association (AHA) shared troubling news about academic history employment this past November. In a comprehensive study of job advertisements posted on the AHA's job board since 1973, the organization concluded that the disparity between the high supply of history PhD graduates in 2016 (slightly less than 1,200) and the low number of job ads (501 total) has never been so stark. The AHA is no longer the only place where academic job openings are posted, which partly explains this disparity. But the data nevertheless confirms that job prospects for history PhDs remain troublesome ten years after the Great Recession led to massive cuts in higher education throughout the country.

A common refrain among historians in recent years argues that the history PhD must be reformed so that graduates develop skills to work in a nonacademic setting. In other words, training graduates for work in public history at museums, libraries, archives, National Parks, and government. While this goal is laudable, it would be unwise to assume that public history will be a savior for this academic jobs crisis. First, a history degree that is focused on classroom teaching can be distinctly different from a degree in public history, which focuses on developing a professional portfolio beyond the classroom. Equally important, advocates of the academic-to-public history track should pause to consider the parallel jobs problem in the public history



A National Park Service historian leads a military staff ride tour.

field. Much like the academic history world, emerging public historians must contend with unpaid internships, low pay for entry-level jobs, an ambiguous career track, and limited job opportunities.

See "Promoting Fair Pay" cont'd on page 2

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The **FEDERALIST**

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Current and back issues are available to members at <http://shfg.wildapricot.org/Federalist>. Content listings for all issues are posted at <http://shfg.wildapricot.org/page-18090>.

Opinions expressed in articles are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the positions of *The Federalist*, the SHFG, or the agencies or organizations where the authors are employed.

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“Promoting Fair Pay” from page 1

Shortly after the November AHA report, I took a cursory glance at a few public history job boards to assess the various openings that new public history graduates might pursue. What I found was concerning. One of the openings came from a historic site run by the federal government that was looking for a full-time, unpaid historical interpreter (the successful candidate could bring their own RV if they wished, something most new graduates probably don't have). A public university seeking a full-time archivist and library consultant with at least a master's degree listed its pay at \$20,520. That salary is just a hair above the maximum gross income allowed for a single person applying for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (Food Stamps). A historical park in Texas seeking a Program and Volunteer Coordinator offered to pay a yearly salary of \$25,750, but the successful candidate was expected to supervise a twenty-two person staff and a large volunteer program in addition to coordinating educational programming. And another historic site looking for an archivist with at least a master's degree in “museum studies, history, or related field” and a laundry list of qualifications in graphic design, Photoshop, PastPerfect software, museum curation, and interpretation offered to pay \$13.15 an hour to the selected candidate. Emerging graduates looking at these same boards would have also observed a number of unpaid internships and many job listings without any salary information. In the case of the latter situation, candidates tediously apply for these jobs with the hope that they will get a face-to-face interview and a reassurance that their pay will be fair.

As historian Elizabeth Catte argues, “It is not possible to value history while contributing to the worsening material conditions of historians.” (<https://elizabethcatte.com/2017/11/29/wage-theft/>) While the economic struggles of the past ten years have strained budgets at public history sites, paying employees' low wages that prevent them from paying bills, finding a stable home, and putting food on the table will only drive talented individuals away from public history towards other occupations that pay better. Low pay will also prevent the field from achieving diversity and inclusion within its ranks as talented people from disadvantaged

backgrounds lack the financial stability to take on unpaid internships and jobs starting at \$20,000 annually.

The National Council on Public History recently announced that they will no longer post unpaid internships on their jobs board. This development represents a welcome reform in the posting of online job ads that all history organizations should embrace for their own jobs boards. And, to be sure, there are good jobs in the field and a demand for public history employment. More work must be done by employers, however, to ensure that resources within their budgets are fairly allocated to enable public historians working on the ground level to support themselves. Job listings that are transparent about financial matters, offer paid internships, provide good pay for entry-level jobs, and opportunities for career growth and advancement are all measures public history employers should take to ensure they hire, retain, and fairly compensate qualified employees.

Nick Sacco is a Park Guide with the National Park Service at Ulysses S. Grant National Historic Site in St. Louis, Missouri. He holds a master's degree in history with a concentration in public history from IUPUI. Nick has been working in the public history field for seven years. In addition to his work with the National Park Service, he has previously worked for the National Council on Public History, the Indiana State House, the Missouri History Museum Library & Research Center, and as a grades 6-12 teaching assistant. He has also written numerous journal articles, essays, and digital blog posts about public history and nineteenth century U.S. history.

GET INVOLVED!

SHFG is seeking enthusiastic members to serve on committees and to help with events.

For more information, please visit our website and fill out a questionnaire!

<http://shfg.wildapricot.org/Volunteer>

Editor's Note

I am pleased to announce that my efforts to improve *The Federalist's* online presence have come to fruition. *The Federalist* has a new landing page at <http://shfg.wildapricot.org/Federalist>. It is home to PDFs of the latest newsletter issues, which can be read on desktop computers and mobile devices. Additionally, the website now features a complete collection of *Federalists*, the second series from the first issue of spring 2004 through 2018, available to SHFG members online. The webpage also offers a table of contents for every issue, to help users explore the collection more quickly. Thanks are owed to **Benjamin Guterman**, for putting most of the PDFs of these issues up on the web, and for providing the missing issues that filled in the gaps in the collection. Access to this full set of past *Federalists* is just one more benefit of SHFG membership, and I am extremely grateful to the SHFG members, contributors, and editors who helped sustain this quarterly publication over the last 14 years. The content they created is a powerful and informative legacy that I hope you will go online to see.

In this issue of *The Federalist*, I am excited to reintroduce a long-dormant feature—Internships in Federal History. It is my hope to more regularly host content highlighting the work of early-career professionals in federal history, and I am grateful to SHFG's own intern **Rachel Lanier Taylor** for providing a fascinating look at her experiences interning for the Historic

American Buildings Survey. Welcome and thanks Rachel!

Historian **Nick Sacco** offers a provocative analysis of public history employment and the promotion of fair pay in this issue. **Elisabeth Roehrlich**, Director of the IAEA History Research Project, highlights lessons from running an oral history project. Recently retired Historian of the U.S. Department of State, and my former office director, **Stephen P. Randolph** is the subject of the History Professional feature in this issue of *The Federalist*.

Also featured in this issue is a timely reflection on the history of SHFG's Trask Award by archivist **Chas Downs**. **A.J. Daverede** describes the records of the U.S. Navy's Naval Sea Systems Command and Project Sea Hawk in his Newly Declassified Records column. I offer a review of Tropy, an important new online project from the Roy Rosenzweig Center for History and New Media at George Mason University. An important update on the Twitter archive from the Library of Congress, a call for applicants for a dissertation award from the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library, and statements on harassment from the National Archives and SHFG, as well as other publication and news announcements, are also included in this issue of *The Federalist*.

Comments and suggestions are welcome at shfgfederalist@gmail.com or on Twitter [@faithtomfaith](https://twitter.com/faithtomfaith).

2018 SHFG Annual Meeting: Federal History in Times of Transition

The Society for History in the Federal Government announces its annual meeting to be held March 23-25, 2018, at the Robert C. Byrd Center for Congressional History and Education in Shepherdstown, WV.

Registration for the Annual Meeting is \$45 for students, \$85 for members, and \$125 for non-members. There is an optional \$10 lunch.

For more information, please email shfgmeeting@gmail.com

FRIDAY, MARCH 23

Federal Jobs Workshop-Byrd Center (1:00-4:00 p.m.)

Graduate Student & First Time Attendee Networking Hour-Byrd Center (4:00-p.m.-5:00 p.m.)

Awards Ceremony & Trask Lecture-Byrd Center (4:30-6:00 p.m.)

Opening Reception-Bavarian Inn (6:30-8:30 p.m.)



SATURDAY, MARCH 24, BYRD CENTER

Light Breakfast (8:00-8:45 a.m.)

Panels I (9:00-10:30 a.m.)

Panels II (10:45 a.m.-12:15 p.m.)

Lunch Break (12:15 p.m.-1:45 p.m.)

Panels III (2:00 p.m.-3:30 p.m.)

Business Meeting (4:00-p.m.-5:30 p.m.)

Sunday, March 25, Byrd Center Tours TBD

National Archives Does Not Tolerate Harassment

The following statement was posted at the National Archives AOTUS Blog on February 6, 2018, by David S. Ferriero:

An article recently appeared in the media about allegations of serious sexual harassment by former Archivist of the United States Allen Weinstein. Weinstein served as the 9th Archivist of the United States from 2005 to 2008.

Shortly after becoming the 10th Archivist of the United States in 2009, I learned of the allegations against Weinstein, and I was deeply disturbed by them. Everyone deserves to work in an environment that is courteous, respectful, and free from harassing behaviors. That my predecessor could have used this office to mistreat members of the National Archives family leaves me angry, and shaped much of the agency's ensuing approach to harassment.

Here is a short summary of what happened: In January 2008, National Archives officials received a complaint of misconduct against Weinstein from an employee and promptly reported the allegation to the White House Office of Presidential Personnel (because Weinstein was a presidential appointee), the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, the Office of Government Ethics, the Department of Justice, and our Office of Inspector General. The OIG and the FBI then conducted an investigation. Weinstein resigned in December 2008, citing health concerns. He passed away in 2015.

National Archives officials first received access to many of the investigative files last summer, when they were released by the National Archives OIG and the Department of Justice in response to a first-person Privacy Act/Freedom of Information Act lawsuit. These files indicate that Weinstein harassed several other women in addition to the employee who made the complaint. The matter ended with Weinstein's resignation, and no criminal charges were filed. At the time, this issue was considered a sensitive law enforcement matter, and very few National Archives officials were informed of the investigation or its findings.

I have asked the OIG and the FBI to issue a public version of their reports, so the information can be available to everyone.



"The Future" statue at the National Archives building, Washington, DC.

In 2010, I issued the National Archives' first anti-harassment policy. In 2013, with the guidance of the agency's Equal Employment Opportunity Director we updated and strengthened it—see NARA 396, Anti-Harassment Policy. That year we made annual anti-harassment training mandatory for all managers and supervisors. We made training available for all employees in 2014, and we recently made that training mandatory for all employees, contractors, and volunteers. We also created an Ad-Hoc Committee on Harassment to address allegations of harassment, sexual or otherwise. Since its inception in August 2013, all cases of alleged harassment have been brought before the Committee and addressed.

Freedom from harassment is an essential component of creating and sustaining an inclusive, empowering workplace culture that lets all employees contribute to the agency's mission. We will not tolerate harassment of any kind.

Dear SHFG Members,

The SHFG Executive Council is saddened and angered to learn from a recent article that lifetime SHFG member, supporter, advocate, and retired archives employee, Maryellen Trautman, faced not only assault in the workplace from a high-level official, but a system that did not support or protect her or others. The Executive Council of the Society stands ready to support all who have had their lives and careers impacted by harassment and assault and to promote inclusive, non-threatening work environments.

Sincerely,

The Executive Council of the Society for History in the Federal Government

Talking History: Ten Lessons for Running an Oral History Project

By Elisabeth Roehrlich

Diplomatic historians have a love-hate relationship with oral history. Most agree that interviews with former politicians and officials provide important insights, especially when historical records are not (or not yet) available.

But the memories of individuals have limits. Some historians argue that oral history helps access marginalized histories that are not part of the official record, while others warn about over-emphasizing the historical relevance of anecdotes.

In 2015, I launched an oral history project of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). My motivation was twofold: first, I wanted to learn more about the history of this international organization, the archives of which are still to a great extent closed (despite some noticeable efforts to increase transparency). Second, I wanted to help preserve the institutional memory of this important institution. The Carnegie Corporation of New York and the Austrian Central Bank generously funded the project, during which I conducted interviews with former officials, inspectors, and diplomats. My colleague Klaudija Sabo, a historian and filmmaker in charge of filming the interviews, became the project's creative mind. To date, nineteen interviews can be watched online. (<http://iaea-history.univie.ac.at/oral-history-videos/>)

Conducting oral history interviews increased my understanding and knowledge of the IAEA's history tremendously, and I am glad that I undertook the adventure. There is broad disciplinary variety in oral history, ranging from critical oral history conferences to lifetime interviews. Some interviews are published later, others are used as background research for dissertations. Therefore, the lessons I learned over the course of my project may not be true for all projects, but hopefully they can be helpful for those who consider conducting oral history interviews.

1. Ask for advice. Colleagues who have managed similar projects will have much experience to share. Likewise, insiders whose professional career is linked to your research topic will be helpful in establishing contacts to potential interviewees. There is also much background material and guidance online, for example on the Oral History Association's website. (<http://www.oralhistory.org/>) There is even a special list on H-Net, called H-Oralhist. (<https://networks.h-net.org/h-oralhist>) If you want in-depth training, the Chemical Heritage Foundation is one of several institutions offering courses in conducting oral history interviews. (<https://www.chemheritage.org/OHTraining>)

2. Prepare a project summary. Before reaching out to potential interviewees, consider writing a short description of your project that describes its aims, mentions funders, and provides a short bio or a link to your CV. This gives potential future interviewees



Still from author's interview with former IAEA Director General Mohamed ElBaradei.

the chance to learn more about you as a scholar and help them in making their decision on whether or not to give an interview.

3. Know your technology. Whether you record only audio or decide to videotape the interviews, there are advantages and disadvantages to both approaches. Video recordings document non-verbal communication (gestures, mimics), while audio-only recordings allow a more relaxed interview. No matter which technology you use: make sure you know it well. There are countless technical problems that can occur and if your interview is not recorded successfully, it is not an oral history interview.

4. Be in control of the interview. Interviewing eminent people can be intimidating, but I found that those who agree to give an interview enjoy talking about their career and sharing their recollections. A rehearsal interview or starting your project with someone you know might help to reduce nervousness. Try to be in control of the interview.

5. Don't steal your own thunder. In many cases, you will have a brief preparatory meeting or phone conversation with the interviewee to discuss time, date, and scope of the interview. However, try to avoid too detailed conversations before the actual interview, and limit pre-interview chatter to topics other than the scope of your interview. An exciting story will sound less exciting (and come across less naturally) if you have to ask the interviewee to repeat something she or he said before.

6. Choose the location wisely. Your setting should be quiet (to avoid background noise on the recording) and comfortable (to allow for a relaxed interview atmosphere). This can be at an office or at the interviewee's home. Mute your phones (and ask your interviewee to do likewise)—and don't forget about the land line. If you are recording at the university, inform your colleagues in advance or place signs at the office door to avoid disturbances.

7. Don't try to impress. Be informed and know your subject, but you don't have to demonstrate your interview partner how well prepared you are. Often, you will feel the urge of saying

something to show that you know what she or he is talking about—but keep in mind that you want them to do the talking.

8. Stand the silence. That is one of the first things I learned. When the interviewee stops talking, don't shoot a follow-up question right away. Sometimes, it is just a break and they will continue talking after a few seconds—often, that's when the best stories come. In general, ask open questions and avoid asking multiple questions.

9. Use incentives. Consider using pictures or historical documents to initiate the conversation or to direct the interview to another topic. Do not keep them as a trick up your sleeve—advise your interviewees beforehand that you might bring historical documents or archival materials. Some interviewees will bring documents or papers from their private collections to the interview.

10. Make sure you are allowed to use the recorded material afterwards. No matter the purpose of your interview—a book project, a web publication, or an academic dissertation—inform the interviewees about that purpose. Ask them to agree in writing and consider drafting a model consent letter or release form.

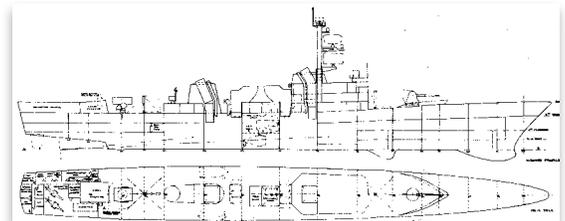
Even if you do not run an oral history project yourself, oral history offers a helpful resource for historical research. There are many great projects out there. Former IAEA official Thomas Shea organized a video oral history project for the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, which focuses on the foundations of international safeguards. (<http://cgs.pnnl.gov/fois/default.stm>) The project's website offers videos and transcripts, covering the history of nuclear safeguards from the first agreements to the Additional Protocol. The United Nations has run an oral history series on various aspects of the world organization's history, in cooperation with Yale University. Audiovisual materials, transcripts, and background information are available at the website of the Dag Hammarskjold Library. (<http://dag.un.org/handle/11176/89603>) In the digital age, you can access many fascinating oral history projects from your own desk.

Elisabeth Roehrlich is the Director of the IAEA History Research Project, a tenure-track faculty member at the University of Vienna's Department of History, and a Wilson Center Global Fellow. This article was originally posted at the Wilson Center's History and Public Policy Program blog Sources and Methods on June 12, 2017, (<https://www.wilsoncenter.org/blog-post/talking-history-ten-lessons-for-running-oral-history-project>) and is reprinted here with permission.

Newly Declassified Records

This issue's featured declassified series is a ten-box subseries from a much larger record series from the U.S. Navy's Naval Sea (now Ship) Systems Command, Record Group 344. Titled "Item S-72, Accession No. 64A4416; Technical Reports, 1912-1966" and with the NARA Finding Aid Entry Number of UD 1056AV, this sequence of boxes contains 1960s-era projects being managed by the still extant Bureau of Ships before the Navy transformed its old Bureau system into a series of System Commands. The records are arranged by BUSHIPS contractor. While there are several projects documented in this series, the most significant (and voluminous) project represented is Project Sea Hawk, the design competition for a new Navy anti-submarine escort destroyer.

The record series provides design studies by two of the major Navy design contractors of the era, Bethlehem Steel Shipbuilding and Gibbs and Cox. Navy leadership saw Sea Hawk as a fast antisubmarine escort that could act as a modern replacement for the World War II-era *Fletcher*-, *Sumner*-, and *Gearing*-class destroyers, with a completely new hull form, sophisticated electronics, and innovative propulsion system. Unfortunately, the Sea Hawk project became just another technological tombstone as it provided little additional capability except for speed over designs already in production, and the project had died by 1966. As a result of the failure of Sea Hawk, the Navy had to wait almost a full decade for its new destroyer—the revolutionary *Spruance* class. Like most previous series described in this column, documents have been withdrawn from these records. For the withdrawn documents, standard National Declassification Center withdrawn item notices have been inserted, each bearing enough information for the researcher to make a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) or Mandatory Declassification Review (MDR) request. To discover more record series declassified by the NDC, please visit the NDC Blog at <http://blogs.archives.gov/ndc/> for complete lists of declassified record series made available as soon as declassification processing is complete. Visitors to the blog also have an opportunity to set processing priorities on a number of record series awaiting indexing.



Inboard profile and plan view of the Bethlehem Steel Shipbuilding Division design for the Sea Hawk escort destroyer, 28 February 1964 submission.

– A. J. Daverede, NARA, NDC

Internships in Federal History

By Rachel Lanier Taylor

The Powerhouse and Laundry Building was constructed between 1906 and 1908 as part of the Contagious Disease Hospital Complex at the Ellis Island U.S. Immigration Station and, last summer, it served as my structure of study. Interning as a Summer Historian with the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS), I improved my knowledge of architectural history, experienced working as part of an interdisciplinary team, and learned the ins-and-outs of writing a HABS report for inclusion in the Library of Congress. As a Doctoral Candidate in History at the University of Washington, I generally work on my own and rely primarily on written archival resources. I write on the history of energy, so I incorporate work from other disciplines—engineering, in particular. My internship with HABS, however, allowed me to see how fruitful and engaging working as part of an interdisciplinary team can be. I worked in conversation with architects to solve the many mysteries of the Powerhouse and Laundry Building. Without their knowledge and willingness to answer my myriad questions, many of these mysteries would have remained unsolved. I searched for answers to the building’s architectural anomalies in records at the National Archives. Why, for example, did the foundation beneath the Powerhouse and Laundry Building differ from other buildings in the same complex? Records of the hospital’s architect revealed the unique foundation was meant to both support heavy equipment and prevent vibrations from traveling to the second floor, which housed workers’ quarters. Later oral histories of workers living in the building revealed the design, unfortunately, did not fulfill this aim. In turn, the building and the architects’ documentation of it provided clues to gaps in written historical records. It is unclear when an engine room was converted into a mortuary and autopsy theater from archival accounts. However, the presence of a Bakelite switch plate—unique to the mortuary room—helps narrow down when the conversion may have taken place. My experience documenting this Georgian Revival style building and its various mechanical fixtures—an early-twentieth-century boiler, a mattress sanitizer, and refrigerated mortuary bins—allowed me to gain familiarity with work as a historian outside of academia and highlighted the importance of seeing the built environment as an archival and historical source worthy of preservation. Working for HABS was a rich and rewarding educational experience, and I am grateful to have shared it with the Ellis Island team.



Top: Rachel Lanier Taylor taking field notes on the boiler at the Powerhouse and Laundry Building of the Contagious Disease Hospital Complex at the Ellis Island U.S. Immigration Station.

Below: Taylor taking field notes on the mortuary bins at the Powerhouse and Laundry Building.



Nominating Committee Seeks Nominations

The Nominating Committee is seeking nominations for SHFG members interested in serving on the Nominating Committee for the coming term(s). There are currently two 2-year term Nominating Committee positions and one 1-year term Nominating Committee position open. Nominations may be sent to either Terrance Rucker at terrancerucker@yahoo.com or Kristin Mattice at kristin.mattice@gmail.com.

The History Professional *An Interview with Stephen P. Randolph*

Dr. Stephen P. Randolph responded to these interview questions shortly before retiring as The Historian of the Department of State, a position he held from 2012 until 2017. He previously served the Department of State's Office of the Historian as General Editor of the Foreign Relations of the United States series in 2011, and served as a faculty member, department chair, and Associate Dean consecutively at the Industrial College of the Armed Forces, National Defense University, from 1997 until 2011. Dr. Randolph graduated from the United States Air Force Academy in 1974, and served twenty-seven years on active duty in the Air Force, retiring as a colonel in 2001. He earned a master's degree in the History of Science from the Johns Hopkins University in 1975, and a Doctorate in History from the George Washington University in 2005.



Stephen P. Randolph

Interview by Thomas Faith

When you accepted the position of Historian of the Department of State six years ago, what did you hope you would be able to accomplish?

My objectives were both personal and institutional. From a personal perspective, I had been on the faculty at the National Defense University for nearly fifteen years in a number of leadership positions. I wanted a new set of experiences and opportunities, and to continue growing.

During the hiring process, I had two opportunities to meet with the members of the Office *en masse*, and in those conversations I gained a fairly clear idea of what needed to be done. We needed to develop a program to move our *Foreign Relations* publishing rate back toward the 30-year timeline directed by law. We needed to rebuild the institutional relationships that are integral to our work—within the Department, with our Historical Advisory Committee (HAC), with the community of government history programs, across the interagency policy community, and with our stakeholders in the academic community. We needed to focus on internal team building and collaboration, and begin our preparation for next-generation challenges in documentation, declassification, and publication of our work.

The 2009 OIG Review of the Office of the Historian characterized employee morale as exceedingly low before your arrival. How did you work to improve things?

I had two great advantages going in. First, over the previous three years, Acting Historians Ambassador John Campbell and Ambassador Ed Brynn had led the office masterfully, and had begun the recovery from the low point in 2009. Second, the members of the Office are intrinsically collegial, professional people and just needed to have the right environment to work in, and a sense of progress and stability.

I was hired as the General Editor of the *Foreign Relations* series, and held that position for the first six months of my time here. I started my tenure in the Office with conversations with each of the members, beginning to build relationships, understand the Office better, and get a sense of the issues of concern to the members. Over the period before my arrival, the *Foreign Relations* series was basically governed by the division chiefs,

and they had done a fine job under unusual circumstances to keep the program moving ahead. I relied on their support and advice, and they never let me down.

We needed to rebuild the management systems necessary to produce the *Foreign Relations* series, and that began with a basic review of ongoing work. With the Assistant to the General Editor, Dr. Kristin Ahlberg, we built an Excel spreadsheet that captured and tracked all that information, and enabled us to get a grip on the program. We provided the information to the HAC, and used it internally to build a series of management systems to track and project the different components of our production process. At any given time we are working on about 75 volumes in the *Foreign Relations* series, working their way through the production process, so it has been critical to establish a sound set of management data and expectations.

Just as I was about to succeed Ambassador Brynn as The Historian, in late March 2012, we had what appeared to be a catastrophe, but turned out to be a major stroke of good fortune for the Office. At the time we were working in office space in Columbia Plaza, and the office above ours had a printer fire that triggered the sprinklers. The fire did no damage to speak of, but the sprinklers flooded over half of our office and rendered that space completely unworkable. We needed to find alternative work space for about 70% of the office, and ended up setting up detachments in five different buildings. Renée Goings, at the time a member of the Editing and Declassification Division, volunteered to take the lead for organizing our detached operations, and worked tirelessly to bring it all together. Through that time, as the situation evolved, we ensured that our members had the equipment and working environment they needed, we maintained effective supervision of the far-flung members of our office, and we kept our members up-to-date on developments with recurrent emails on the situation and the plans being developed.

It seems odd to say about a fire and flood situation, but it all worked out to the lasting advantage of the Office. Our quarters in Columbia Plaza were crowded and visibly aging; the evacuation and recovery gave us an opportunity to paint the space and reduce the clutter, leaving us with a much better work environment during the last year and a half there. During the whole sequence,

we worked closely with the Department's Real Property Maintenance (RPM) professionals, building close relationships that have been important to the Office ever since. And I think it was an important moment for the Office as we faced a very complicated situation and managed it effectively. Even the nature of the flooding worked out for the best: the water cascaded into the area of the Office where we worked on classified material, so our work was all locked up in safes when the flood occurred. If the flood had hit the other side of the Office, it would have been a real disaster for us.

How did you maintain a productive working relationship with the Office of the Historian's independent advisory board, the HAC?

That was very easy, given the members and the goals of the Advisory Committee. I always assumed that the HAC and our office had exactly the same objective: to build and sustain a productive program for publishing the *Foreign Relations of the United States* series. I wanted them to have all the information that was available to me, so that they could form clear judgments of our work. The Chairman of the HAC, Dr. Richard Immerman, and I talked frequently so we could exchange views and I could keep him updated on the state of the Office; and over time we developed preparatory material for our quarterly meetings capturing every aspect of the work of the office. Over time the relationship broadened and we conducted two professional development field trips, visits to the Gettysburg and Antietam battlefields, which I had studied during my time at NDU.

Our goal was always to enable the HAC to execute its statutory responsibilities, and to go beyond oversight of our program to become advocates for us, and conduits to the broader academic community. That came about very quickly, and has been immensely important for our program.

How can the Office of the Historian continue to engage academic and public audiences about the *Foreign Relations of the United States (FRUS)* series in the 21st Century?

Our digital development program is our major line of action toward that requirement, and I have been an avid proponent of that work since I got to the Office of the Historian. We have undertaken a multi-year program to publish both our new *Foreign Relations* volumes, and the back catalog extending back to 1861, on our website (<https://history.state.gov>), along with eleven different data sets on the history of the State Department and U.S. diplomacy. We have executed the back catalog program through a series of quarterly releases, about 16-20 volumes per quarter, timed for the arrival of our quarterly HAC meetings. This past release took us into the 19th century, and we expect to finish publishing the complete *Foreign Relations* corpus by the end of 2018. Beyond that, we have a five-year plan for publishing diplomatic documents back to the origin of the Republic. The *Foreign Relations* digital archive now includes over 270,000 documents, all in a single unified searchable data base. And last

year we had 7.5 million individual visits to our website, a number that continues to grow year after year.

Beyond this enormous content and reach, we have paid constant attention to the technical development of our website. Just last week we incorporated a chronological search capability into our search engine, and it basically revolutionized our use of the online archive.

The brief description of our program above does not do justice to the complexity of the effort: from conceptualizing the overall structure and objectives of the digital program, to working through the administrative requirements, to establishing a production process that routinely processes thousands of documents every quarter. It is really a testament to so many members of the Office who have combined the vision, the perseverance, and the administrative and technical skills to enable these extraordinary achievements.

In your career experience, what are the main challenges of government transparency?

During my tenure, the greatest challenge has been declassification, with the agencies responsible for conducting declassification reviews just overwhelmed with the volume of material to be reviewed. That mismatch between capacity and requirements is continuing to grow. There are technical developments in progress that are imperatively important in addressing this situation, but there are serious obstacles to fielding these capabilities across the agencies involved—culture, priorities, processes, and money.

We are getting into the era of emails in our work now on the Reagan Administration, and I think the challenges for transparency will grow tremendously due to email, which poses one problem after another, all through the records management process: capture, retention, declassification, and search.

How did you promote cooperation among the *FRUS* series' key interagency stakeholders?

One of the special aspects of the work of the Office of the Historian is that we operate daily within a community of communities in producing our work. The *Foreign Relations* series is established in law as a government-wide program under the leadership of the State Department. We depend on agencies across the government for access to the documentation, and for declassification of the documents.

There is inherent tension built into the system as we seek to open as much of the record as we can to the American people, and as we seek the right balance between transparency and security with our declassification partners. I would cite three approaches as critical. First, I have found it essential to meet with our counterparts in other agencies on as regular a basis as our schedules permit, in order to build individual trust across agency boundaries. Second, we always prepare carefully for those meetings, especially with respect to ongoing declassification status, so we can engage in a fact-based discussion. Third, both during

my tenure and with my predecessors, we found it very important to build administrative bridges between our programs. The best example is our agreement with the CIA, which provides for a joint historian working both for the CIA and for the State Department. It is an ingenious and creative measure that has been extremely important in our work.

You oversaw the declassification and publication of two of the most anticipated *FRUS* volumes in recent history—Congo, 1960-1968, and Iran, 1951-1954. What considerations should federal history professionals make when dealing with controversial subject matters?

In these cases, there were both foreign policy-based and intelligence sensitivities that had to be accounted for in declassification and publishing the volumes. The first lesson is to be patient. Both of these volumes took decades to research, compile, declassify, and publish. The second lesson is to be persistent. We, our Advisory Committee, and our leaders in the Bureau of Public Affairs were all tireless in seeking opportunities to publish the volumes. The third lesson from my time here is that when we do publish these sensitive volumes, the reaction overseas is one of matter-of-fact acceptance and gratitude that we have brought this historical information into the light.

What are the biggest lessons you learned in providing useful historical policy support to decision makers?

Policy support is among the special aspects of a government history program, as we place our expertise as historians directly into the service of the Department. We consider this among our major missions in the Office, and when necessary we mobilize anyone in the Office, regardless of their ongoing assignment, to support our response. It's an area in which the State Department's approach to organizing its history program pays off very well: all of the Department's historical expertise is concentrated here in the Office of the Historian, so we have incredible depth and breadth of background here, enabling us to respond quickly and capably to any historical question that might arise. It is a good change of pace for our *Foreign Relations* compilers, to use a different set of skills and to play directly in the policy process.

We have learned, or more accurately re-learned, some lessons in executing this mission. First, the policy makers in the Department are inherently receptive to historical background; the hard part is to connect our expertise with the policy makers. Our structural approach has been to organize our policy support historians in alignment with the regional bureaus, and they work hard to build and sustain relationships with the relevant policy makers, against the handicaps of frequent rotations and full schedules. Our intent is to know the work of the bureaus well enough to anticipate their requirements for historical background.

Second, we have found the policy community to be

appreciative of our skills, and completely accepting of the importance of historical professionalism and integrity in our work.

Third, this is an area where we need to be alert and adaptive to meet the needs of the policy community as they arise. Over this past year, for example, we have had much more demand for institutional history than ever before, especially with respect to historical efforts at strategic planning, budgeting, and organization. That remains an ongoing area of emphasis, in which we are providing a full range of support: the narrative history, analysis, and access to key primary documentation as appropriate.

Overall, this has been a major line of action for the Office, and a real success story. While there is always more to be done, we have provided a constant stream of timely, relevant background for the policy makers, and fully met our responsibilities as government historians.

The Office of the Historian moved to a new physical location under your direction. What advice would you offer to other offices contemplating the same challenge?

My office organized a working group of five historians to work with the GSA and the Real Property Maintenance (RPM) office in the State Department, who were responsible for reconstructing the building on Navy Hill that had been allocated for our use. That working group was in constant communication with everyone involved in the design and construction, making sure the new office space would meet our requirements. That close communication was invaluable on all fronts—first in ensuring that we had thought through our requirements carefully, and then in working with GSA, RPM, and the contractors to ensure that our requirements were embedded in the planning. It also had the effect of creating an atmosphere of trust and easy communication between our office and those preparing our new home. It was a massive undertaking, transforming a building built in the early 1900s as the nurses' quarters for the Washington Naval Hospital into a modern workspace.

Our move into our new quarters was one of the brightest memories of my tenure. The working group had done a meticulous job planning out the logistics of the move, getting about 50 people relocated into our new space and moving securely about 140 safes of classified material. Everyone pitched in, and we executed this massive effort without any loss of productivity in our primary mission. It was something to see.

It took about two years of constant planning and coordination to prepare for the move, but it has proven to be worth all that and more. Our facility here on Navy Hill has transformed our work environment and multiplied our productivity. It is a beautiful, efficient, and historic space, perfect for our work.

What do you believe you will miss most after you leave your current position?

That one's very easy. I will miss the people with whom I have been privileged to work.

Tropy and Historical Research in the Digital Age

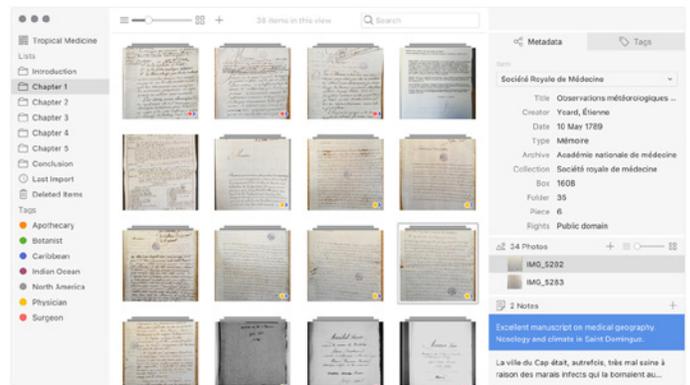
By Thomas Faith

Tropy is a computer application that endeavors to solve a universal problem experienced by all humanities researchers in the digital age: How to organize and make productive use of large numbers of digitally reproduced images collected during research. Created and developed by a team of digital scholars at the Roy Rosenzweig Center for History and New Media at George Mason University, and funded by a grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, Tropy version 1 was released October 21, 2017. Currently still being improved by its developers, Tropy may profoundly impact the way historians work with documents in the next few years.

Once downloaded, Tropy is immediately ready to work with your documents, no setup or sign-ups required. It will guide you through the process of naming your first project, and populating it with document images. You simply select the scans or photographs you would like to work with and drag them over to the application window.

Once your digital documents are in your project, Tropy allows you to apply metadata to them. Tropy has default fields for document type, author, date, and location information, as well as fields for citation information (archive, collection, box, folder, and reproduction rights) and fields displaying when the project information was originally entered and last updated. Tropy has customizable metadata templates that allows you to include different information fields, if you need them, and exclude ones you may not need, depending on the types of documents you use. There seems to be no end to its versatility.

The metadata applied to your documents allows you to search and organize them more rapidly than ever possible before. A single click organizes the entire project by date or document author. Another layer of organization is created by adding subject tags to individual documents which are listed in a menu in the project window as they are added. Selecting a subject tag will highlight those documents tagged with that subject. You can also create and organize “lists” of documents within your project that may not be related to each other by tags or metadata (if you need to collect some documents for use in a specific chapter or other piece of writing, for example), an additional layer of



Tropy interface from <https://tropy.org/>.

organization Tropy makes possible. You can apply notes to individual documents in your project as well, and perform word searches of the notes you entered across every document in your project file with Tropy’s search function.

The information you enter while working on your project is not trapped in Tropy, its developers have designed an export function that may serve as a bridge to publishing the documents in your project digitally (if that is a goal of your research). Tropy will be of most use to researchers who use the same collection of digital images repeatedly over time, who are looking for more efficient ways of organizing and searching them. Its developers are still making improvements, and they moderate an active online forum where users can ask questions and share suggestions (<https://forums.tropy.org/>), but Tropy is already far superior to the organizational schemes currently employed by researchers who scan or photograph the documents they work with.

Whether Tropy will one day be ubiquitous among historians of the digital age is impossible to predict, but the ability to apply searchable metadata to digital images will likely be a tool that most historians will depend on in the not-too-distant future. Every historian with files full of document images on their computer should download and try Tropy to get them organized today—the application is free and available at <https://tropy.org/>.

Donate to SHFG

Please donate to SHFG’s current efforts to organize and promote new events and workshops. These events will provide opportunities for professional development: to meet colleagues, exchange ideas, and learn more about the federal community. We urge you to contribute to our General Fund. You can donate the amount of your choice, either by check or online payment (at <http://shfg.wildapricot.org/Donate>)

Your donations also support all activities of the Society, including publication of *The Federalist* newsletter, *Federal History* journal, and stories and news for our website; our annual conference, the Richard G. Hewlett Lecture; and programming such as occasional tours, workshops, and social events that help students and historians develop in their careers.

From the Archives

The Roger R. Trask Award, 2009–2018

By Chas Downs

On Saturday, March 24, 2018, Stephen Randolph, former head of the Department of State's Office of the Historian, will give the 10th Annual Roger A. Trask Award Lecture at the SHFG's annual meeting held in Shepherdstown, WV. As the Society's most recent honor, the Trask Award dates back only ten years, to just after the Society had celebrated its 30th anniversary. At that time, a number of Society members decided that it was appropriate to honor in a special way one of the SHFG's founders and most enthusiastic members: Roger R. Trask. He had recently died on April 18, 2008, at his home in Florida. (For more on Trask's legacy, see "In Memoriam", *The Federalist*, 2nd Series, Number 17, Spring 2008, p. 9.) But how should the Society honor such a distinguished member?

A group of Trask's friends and colleagues, Phil Cantelon, Vicki Harden, Lawrence Kaplan, Amos Loveday, Mike McReynolds, George Mazuzan, Jesse Stiller, and Sam Walker, came up with a proposal:

We propose a new prize in the name of Society president Roger Trask. The Roger Trask Award would sponsor an original lecture to be delivered at the Society's annual meeting. The address should be on a subject that adds to our understanding of the Society and its mission. The awardee, to be chosen by the Society, would receive a price of \$200. The text of the address would subsequently be published in the Society's new e-journal reflecting Roger's role as initiator and editor of the society's Occasional Papers series.

The group also noted that it would provide an initial \$1000 for the prize and would encourage others to supplement that by publicizing it in Society publications. They hoped that the Trask Award would be adopted in time to commemorate the 30th anniversary of the Society's founding in 2009.

According to the minutes of the SHFG Council meeting held in November 2008, all agreed that this was a worthy prize and that it could be the named lecture at the annual meeting with a \$200 honorarium. There was discussion about how to advertise the prize, how the monies would be awarded, and how the monies would be dispensed. The Council created a prize committee consisting of the SHFG vice president and two members who would iron-out details in the coming months, and decided that the lecture would be printed in the *Federal History* journal.

Once this was accomplished, the Executive Council put together a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the Trask Award. It was an agreement between the SHFG and the "proposing group", Trask's colleagues who had suggested the award, describing the



Above: Roger A. Launius receiving the first Trask award from SHFG President Lee Ann Potter and Vice President Mike Reis.

Left: Roger R. Trask.

award, its purpose, and its source of funding. The parties to the MOU specified the composition of a nominating committee, the manner of selection of the nominee, and the presentation of the Trask Lecture or panel at the SHFG annual conference, a transcript of which would be published in the SHFG journal, *Federal History*. The winner would receive a formal certificate and a \$200 honorarium. The initial award would be funded by a \$1000 contribution by the proposing group. The SHFG was to establish a separate account for the award, which the SHFG would sustain by accepting additional gifts and utilizing conference fees. The MOU was signed December 10, 2008, by Lee Ann Potter, SHFG President, and Philip Cantelon, on behalf of the proposing group.

The Federalist, 2nd Series, Number 20, Winter 2008–2009, p. 12, noted that the Trask Award was announced at the annual holiday reception December 10, 2008. Page 1 of next *Federalist* (2nd Series, Number 21, Spring 2009) featured a photo of Roger P. Launius receiving the inaugural Trask Award from SHFG President Lee Ann Potter and Vice President Mike Reis at the SHFG meeting on March 9, 2009. Launius' keynote Trask lecture, "Federal History and National Identity: Reflections from the Trenches", set a high standard for future Trask Award winners, but that mark was been consistently met by subsequent Trask awardees. They are:

- 2nd Trask Award (2010): Richard Baker
- 3rd Trask Award (2011): Philip Cantelon
- 4th Trask Award (2012): Raymond Smock
- 5th Trask Award (2013): Pete Daniel
- 6th Trask Award (2014): Charlene Bickford
- 7th Trask Award (2015): Victoria Harden
- 8th Trask Award (2016): Don Richie
- 9th Trask Award (2017): Sam Walker
- 10th Trask Award (2018): Stephen Randolph

To learn more about the SHFG Archives, or if you have additional information or documentation on this or other SHFG matters, contact Chas Downs at chasdowns@verizon.net.

Gerald R. Ford Scholar Award (Dissertation Award) in Honor of Robert M. Teeter

The Gerald R. Ford Scholar Award in Honor of Robert M. Teeter is an annual award of \$5,000 given to a doctoral student to support dissertation research in any field related to any aspect of the United States political process and public policy during the last half of the 20th century. Of special interest is the role and analysis of public opinion in that process. The recipient determines use of the award money including, but not limited to, travel, reproduction fees, administrative costs, and other research and writing expenses.

Eligibility Requirements

Applicants must have achieved candidacy and completed all requirements for the Ph.D. program (coursework and examinations) except for the dissertation by the application deadline. The award must support research to be conducted after the award is announced and will not be granted retroactively for research already completed.

Applications and Deadlines

Applicants must demonstrate their professional potential by submitting each of the following:

- An abstract describing the dissertation, no longer than 150 words;
- A 5 page proposal that describes the topic and outline of the dissertation, including the design of the research project

and research resources to be employed. The proposal should also describe the ways in which Ford Library resources can advance the research on the topic and address how the dissertation will relate to current scholarship on the subject. A bibliography of up to two additional pages should also be included. The proposal and accompanying bibliography should use 12-point font and be double-spaced (page count does not include footnotes or bibliography);

- Three letters of recommendation from individuals who can attest to the applicant's qualifications for the award (one of these letters must be from their academic director that includes a statement approving the dissertation topic);
- Unofficial transcripts from all graduate schools attended (the Selection Committee reserves the right to request official transcripts); and
- A curriculum vitae.

The application deadline is **March 31, 2018**. Applications and letters of recommendation can be submitted by mail, e-mail, or fax. Applications submitted by mail must be postmarked by the deadline.

For additional information, please see <http://www.fordlibrarymuseum.gov/library/fsa.asp>.

Update on the Twitter Archive at the Library of Congress

The following update was posted at the Library of Congress Blog on December 26, 2017:

In 2010, the Library of Congress announced an exciting and groundbreaking acquisition—a gift from Twitter of the entire archive of public tweet text beginning with the first tweets of 2006 through 2010, and continuing with all public tweet text going forward. The Library took this step for the same reason it collects other materials—to acquire and preserve a record of knowledge and creativity for Congress and the American people. The initiative was bold and celebrated among research communities.

In the years since, the social media landscape has changed significantly, with new platforms, an explosion in use, terms of service and functionality shifting frequently and lessons learned about privacy and other concerns.

The Library now has a secure collection of tweet text, documenting the first 12 years (2006-2017) of this dynamic communications channel—its emergence, its applications and its evolution.

Today, we announce a change in collections practice for Twitter. Effective Jan. 1, 2018, the Library will acquire tweets on a selective basis—similar to our collections of web sites.

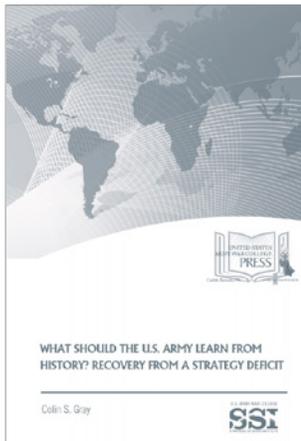
The Library regularly reviews its collections practices to account for environmental shifts, diversity of collections and topics, cost effectiveness, use of collections and other factors. This change results from such a review.

More information is available in the attached white paper. (https://blogs.loc.gov/loc/files/2017/12/2017dec_twitter_white-paper.pdf)

Some important details:

- The Library will continue to preserve and secure its collection of tweet text.
- The Twitter collection will remain embargoed until access issues can be resolved in a cost-effective and sustainable manner.
- The Library will work with Twitter to acquire tweets on a selective basis.

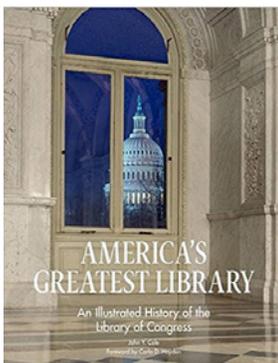
Recent Publications



What Should the U.S. Army Learn From History?: Recovery From a Strategic Deficit: Does history repeat itself? This monograph clearly answers “no,” firmly. However, it does not argue that an absence of repetition in the sense of analogy means that history can have no utility for the soldier today. This monograph argues for a “historical parallelism,” in place of shaky or false analogy. The past, even the distant and ancient past, provides evidence of the potency of lasting virtues of good conduct. This monograph concludes by offering four recommendations:

- Behave prudently.
- Remember the concept of the great stream of time.
- Do not forget that war nearly always is a gamble.
- War should only be waged with strategic sense.

Available through GPO at <https://bookstore.gpo.gov/products/what-should-us-army-learn-history-recovery-strategic-deficit>.



A new book from Library of Congress Historian John Y. Cole, *America's Greatest Library: An Illustrated History of the Library of Congress*, tells the story of the nation's oldest federal cultural institution and how it came to be the world's largest library.

Librarian of Congress Carla D. Hayden calls the Library “a place where you can touch history and imagine your future,” and the story

of its creation and evolution comes alive in this rich chronology. The book is the first authoritative history of the Library published in nearly 20 years.

America's Greatest Library, which is published by D Giles Limited in association with the Library of Congress, highlights the personalities and events that created and sustained the institution over its 217-year history, starting at a time when Washington had no other libraries or cultural institutions. Packed with fascinating stories, compelling images and little-known nuggets of information, the narrative traces the growth of the collections with the development of the nation's capital through a combination of concise milestones, brief essays and vivid photographs and illustrations.

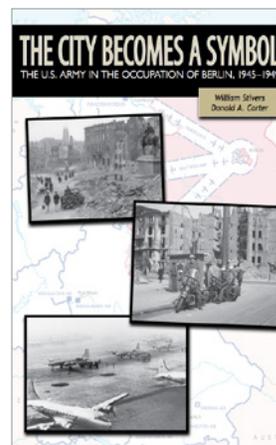
For more than 50 years, beginning in 1966 when Cole joined the Library's staff as an administrative intern, librarian and historian, he has sought to increase public understanding of the key role of the Library of Congress in American government, scholarship and culture. He was the founding director of the Library's Center for the Book from 1977 to 2016, when he was named to a new position as the Library's first official historian.

America's Greatest Library, a 256-page softcover book with 250 illustrations, is available for \$19.95 in the Library of Congress Shop, 10 First St. S.E., Washington, D.C., 20540-4985. Credit card orders are taken at (888) 682-3557 or loc.gov/shop/. Hardcover and e-book versions are available through book retailers. The publication of *America's Greatest Library* was made possible by a generous gift from Julie Chrystyn Opperman.



A Century at Langley: The Storied Legacy and Soaring Future of NASA Langley Research Center. Something happened 100 years ago that changed forever the way we fly. And then the way we explore space. And then how we study our home planet. That something was the establishment of what is now NASA Langley Research Center in

Hampton, Virginia, is commemorating its 100th anniversary in 2017 and examines Langley's past, present and future over the next year. Available through GPO at <https://bookstore.gpo.gov/products/century-langley-storied-legacy-and-soaring-future-nasa-langley-research-center>.

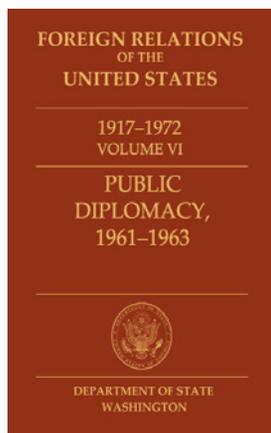


The City Becomes a Symbol: The U.S. Army in the Occupation of Berlin, 1945-1948, by William Stivers and Donald A. Carter, is the latest publication in the Center of Military History's *The U.S. Army in the Cold War* series. The volume begins in July 1945 during the opening days of the occupation of Berlin by the Allied powers. The four powers, the United States, Great Britain, France, and the Soviet Union, negotiated on all aspects of the city from troop placements and headquarters locations to food distribution and

which Berliners could serve in governing the city. During the initial years of the occupation differences emerged over policies and goals that lead to the Soviets cutting off road and rail access to the city. With no other options, U.S. and British forces had to supply their sectors of the city by air. In addition to meeting the basic needs of the residents in their sectors, the Western allies worked to win the loyalties of the citizens and political leaders to resist the spread of Soviet communism. These first four years of occupation set the stage for a decades-long face-off with the Soviets in Germany.

Sale to the Public

Many CMH titles are available to the general public from the Government Publishing Office (GPO). To check GPO prices and availability, go to GPO's Online Bookstore at <http://bookstore.gpo.gov>, or call (202) 512-1800 or toll-free 1-866-512-1800.



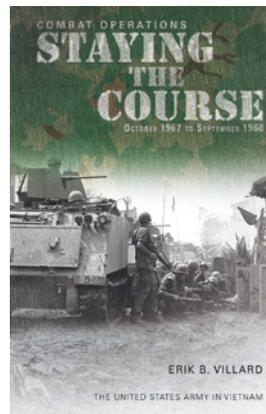
The Department of State released *Foreign Relations of the United States, 1917-1972, Volume VI, Public Diplomacy, 1961-1963*.

This volume documents the public diplomacy efforts of the John F. Kennedy administration. A major emphasis of the volume is the role the United States Information Agency (USIA), led by Edward R. Murrow during this period, played in presenting U.S. foreign policy objectives to the world during a time of social change within the United

States. The volume illustrates how USIA and the Department of State pursued public diplomacy against the backdrop of crises, including the Bay of Pigs invasion, the construction of the Berlin Wall, Laos, Vietnam, and the Cuban Missile Crisis. Additional documentation chronicles the Kennedy administration's attempts to develop a national cultural policy, the importance of overseas polling, and the Department of State's educational exchange activities.

This volume was compiled and edited by Kristin L. Ahlberg and Charles V. Hawley. The volume and this press release are available exclusively on the Office of the Historian website at <https://history.state.gov/historicaldocuments/frus1917-72PubDipv06>. For further information, contact history@state.gov.

Combat Operations: Staying the Course, October 1967 to September 1968, describes the twelve-month period when the Viet Cong and their North Vietnamese allies embarked on a new and more aggressive strategy that shook the foundations of South Vietnam and forced the United States to reevaluate its military calculations in Southeast Asia. Hanoi's general offensive—general uprising brought the war to South Vietnam's cities for the

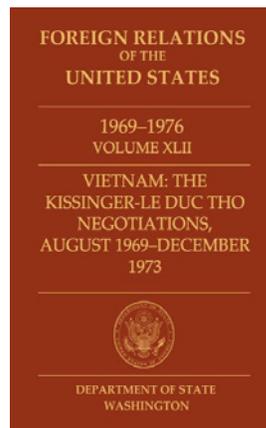


first time and disrupted the allied pacification program that was just beginning to take hold in some rural areas formerly controlled by the Communists. For the enemy, however, those achievements came at a staggering cost in manpower and material; more importantly, the Tet offensive failed to cripple the South Vietnamese government or convince the United States to abandon its ally. As the dust settled from the Viet Cong attacks, President Lyndon B.

Johnson ordered his military commanders to press ahead with their current strategy unchanged apart from some short-term tactical adjustments and a modest increase in the U.S. troop deployment. His decision to stay the course seemed to bear fruit as the allies repaired their losses and then forged new gains throughout the summer and autumn of 1968. Even so, the allied situation at the end of this period appeared to be only marginally better than it had been in late 1967; the peace talks in Paris had stalled, and American public opinion had turned decisively against the war.

Sale to the Public

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The Department of State released *Foreign Relations of the United States, 1969-1976, Volume XLII, Vietnam: The Kissinger-Le Duc Tho Negotiations, August 1969-December 1973*.

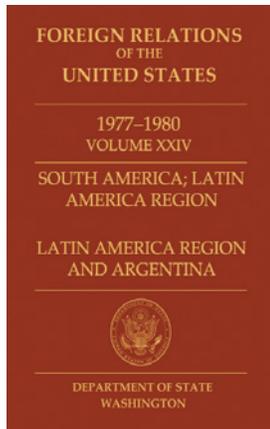
This volume is part of a *Foreign Relations* subseries that documents the foreign policy decisions of the administration of President Richard M. Nixon. It includes a complete set of the memoranda of conversation between President's Assistant for National Security Affairs Henry A.

Kissinger and North Vietnamese Politburo Member and Special Adviser to the North Vietnamese Delegation Le Duc Tho during the negotiations that led to the Paris Peace Accords on January 27, 1973. It further includes negotiating sessions between Kissinger and Tho conducted in the aftermath of the Agreement, in February, May, June, and December 1973, in an attempt to achieve a stable cease-fire.

Presented chronologically, the documents in this volume—memoranda of conversation recording the meetings—show, among other things: 1) the evolution of the U.S. and North

Vietnamese positions in the negotiations, 2) how the parties reached agreement on the Accords, also called the agreement or the settlement, and 3) how the Accords failed to lead to a stable cease-fire or to a political settlement of the conflict.

This compilation was compiled and edited by John M. Carland. The volume and this press release are available exclusively on the Office of the Historian website at <https://history.state.gov/historicaldocuments/frus1969-76v42>. For further information, contact history@state.gov.



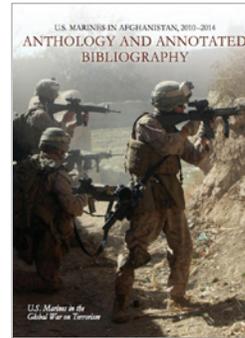
The Department of State released *Foreign Relations of the United States, 1981-1988, Volume XLI, Global Issues II*.

This volume is part of a subseries of volumes of the *Foreign Relations* series that documents the foreign policy decision making of the administration of President Ronald Reagan. This volume addresses the administration's foreign policy toward a myriad of non-military issues, many of which have grown in relevancy since the 1980s.

Diplomatic issues presented in this volume include: the foreign policy community and its response to the AIDS epidemic, the debate about international population and the emergence of the Mexico City policy, disaster relief in underdeveloped countries, changes in human rights policy brought about by Reagan policymakers, the decision not to sign the Law of the Sea Treaty, the global effort to protect the ozone layer, and international efforts to curb whaling practices.

This volume was compiled and edited by Dr. Alexander Poster. The volume and this press release are available on the

Office of the Historian website at <http://history.state.gov/historicaldocuments/frus1981-88v41>. Copies of the volume will be available for purchase from the U.S. Government Publishing Office online at <http://bookstore.gpo.gov> (GPO S/N 044-000-02693-7; ISBN 978-0-16-094161-0), or by calling toll-free 1-866-512-1800 (D.C. area 202-512-1800). For further information, contact history@state.gov.



U.S. Marines in Afghanistan, 2010-2014: Anthology and Annotated Bibliography:

This volume presents a collection of 21 articles, interviews, and speeches describing many aspects of the U.S. Marine Corps' participation in Operation Enduring Freedom from 2010 to 2014. This work is intended to serve as a general overview and provisional reference to inform both

Marines and the general public until the U.S. Marine Corps History Division completes monographs covering major Marine Corps operations during the campaign. The accompanying annotated bibliography provides a detailed look at selected sources that currently exist and should be sufficient until new scholarship and archival materials become available.

This anthology is organized into six parts: one section for each year and a final section devoted to a broader overview of Marine participation in the Afghanistan conflict. This work is not meant to be an authoritative history but rather a selected record of Marine contributions to the Afghan war effort as captured by the media and other sources. Available through GPO at <https://bookstore.gpo.gov/products/us-marines-afghanistan-2010-2014-anthology-and-annotated-bibliography>.

Making History

American Battle Monuments Commission

Deputy Secretary Robert J. Dalessandro swore in retired Maj. Gen. William M. Matz, Jr., as the new secretary of the American Battle Monuments Commission on January 9, 2018. Appointed by President Donald J. Trump on January 8, 2018, Secretary Matz is a decorated, Vietnam combat infantry veteran. Secretary Matz earned his B.A. in Political Science at Gettysburg College, an M.A. in International Relations from the



University of San Diego, and is a graduate of the U.S. Army War College. Matz has been active in veterans' and military affairs since leaving the Army and is a member of the Eisenhower Institute National Advisory Council. He is also on the Board of Directors of the American Armed Forces Mutual Aid Association.

To commemorate and remember America's role in World War I, ABMC sites will host a variety of centennial ceremonies in 2018. The commemorations kick off Memorial Day weekend and continue throughout the year, ending with the 100th anniversary of the Armistice. The ceremonies will mark the 100th anniversary of key events, such as the first World War I U.S. Offensive, the Battle of Belleau Wood, the Meuse-Argonne Offensive, and more. See the full schedule of events at <https://www.abmc.gov/news-events/news/world-war-i-centennial-ceremonies-abmc-sites>.

New lesson plans based on primary source documents have also been released on ABMCEducation.org. Targeted for middle and high school teachers, these multi-disciplinary lessons have been

created by teachers. Search these free lesson plans and start using these resources in your classroom.

Atomic Heritage Foundation

The Atomic Heritage Foundation (AHF) is pleased to launch a new online interpretive program on Oak Ridge with 16 audio/visual vignettes. This beta program is part of AHF's Ranger in Your Pocket series on the Manhattan Project and features vignettes with eyewitness accounts and expert commentary. AHF welcomes feedback on the beta program as we will plan to expand the program over the next year. This initial Oak Ridge program highlights the historic X-10 Graphite Reactor, a prototype plutonium production reactor and the first nuclear reactor designed for continuous operation. See it at <https://www.atomicheritage.org/tours/Oak%20Ridge>.

Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency

U.S. and Russian delegates completed the latest Plenum of the United States – Russia Joint Commission on POW/MIAs (USRJC) on November 9, 2017, in Moscow, Russia. The USRJC was established in 1992 as an agreement between President George H.W. Bush and Russian President Boris Yeltsin to determine the fates of Americans from World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War and the Cold War, who are believed to be missing on the territory of the former Soviet Union, or about whom the Russians may have information. The second goal of the Commission was to determine the fates of Russian servicemen who are still missing from various conflicts, including the Soviet Union in Afghanistan, from 1979-1989.

During the three-day session, which was the 21st iteration of the gathering, participants discussed continued U.S.-Russia cooperation as both sides work to account for their respective nation's service members missing from past conflicts. Participants also conducted a wreath-laying ceremony at a Russian national cemetery. The U.S. side declared that they will continue work to help the Russian side determine what happened to its missing citizens from past conflicts.

Department of the Interior Museum

In January the Interior Museum installed nine, color photographs by artist Darby Hayes in the Interior Museum gallery. *Finding Inspiration in America's Wildlife and Public Lands* pairs Hayes' digital photography with his personal observations and insights into his photographic process. The photographs also represent many public lands and species falling under the Department of the Interior's stewardship as well as recent donations into the Office of the Secretary Art Collection.

George C. Marshall Foundation

A new exhibition, "Hope for Those Who Need It," communicates the widespread destruction of post-World War II Europe, the hotly contested Congressional debates over Marshall Plan funding, the immediate relief that initial aid provided, and the enduring

legacy of the Marshall Plan today. A prominent feature of the exhibition is the complete set of the original lithographs of the twenty-five finalists of the 1950 "Intra-European Cooperation for A Better Standard of Living" (Marshall Plan) poster contest.

History Associates

History Associates Details Investment Company Regulation History in New Online Exhibit: The Securities and Exchange Commission Historical Society recently launched a new online gallery on the history of investment company regulation. *Investment Company Regulation: The Intricacies of an "Enlightened Partnership"* is the 16th permanent gallery on the Virtual Museum and Archive, hosted on www.sechistorical.org. The new gallery, extensively researched and curated by Dr. Kenneth Durr of History Associates, launched in December, 2017.

The new online gallery spans the evolution of regulation from 1924 to modern-day and includes dozens of rare manuscripts, papers, letters, hearing transcripts, photos, oral histories, panel discussion webcasts, and other original source materials.

For more information about History Associates, call (301) 279-9697 or visit www.historyassociates.com.

Holocaust Memorial Museum

Go behind the scenes and tune in to the Museum's new weekly Facebook Live series for exclusive talks with staff, collection highlights, exhibition tours, and more. See it at <https://www.facebook.com/holocaustmuseum/>.

International Committee of the Red Cross

Five historical volumes of the *History of the International Committee of the Red Cross* covering the period 1863-1975 are available online in PDF format. They provide an overview of the ICRC operational and legal activities and therefore provide an ideal springboard for more in-depth research in the ICRC archives. Read them at <http://blogs.icrc.org/cross-files/history-of-the-icrc-in-5-volumes/>.

Joint History Office

The Joint History Office announced the publication of nine Inter-Allied Conferences from World War II as eBooks and web-ready PDFs. These conferences contain the key collective deliberations and most important decisions of

the newly formed Joint Chiefs of Staff, the British Chiefs of Staff, President Franklin D. Roosevelt, Prime Minister Winston S. Churchill, and Premier Joseph Stalin. The eBooks are available at no charge from a number of online booksellers, and the PDFs are available on several academic databases for \$0.99 per conference.



List of World War II Inter-Allied Conferences

1. Arcadia Conference (Washington, DC), December 24, 1941-January 14, 1942
2. Post-Arcadia Conference (Washington, DC), January 23-May 19, 1942
3. Casablanca Conference (Morocco), January 14-24, 1943
4. Trident Conference (Washington, DC), May 12-25, 1943
5. Quadrant Conference (Quebec City, Canada), August 14-24, 1943
6. Sextant Conference (Cairo, Egypt), Eureka Conference (Tehran, Iran), and the Second Cairo Conference (Egypt), November 22-December 7, 1943
7. Octagon Conference (Quebec City, Canada), September 12-16, 1944
8. Argonaut Conference (Malta and Yalta, Soviet Union), January 30-February 11, 1945
9. Terminal Conference (Potsdam, Germany), July 17-August 2, 1945

Links to Free eBooks

- US Government Online Bookstore: <https://bookstore.gpo.gov/catalog/wwii-inter-allied-conference-series>
- Google Play: <https://play.google.com/store/search?q=joint%20history%20office&c=books>
- Barnes and Noble: [https://www.barnesandnoble.com/s/%22Joint%20History%20Office%20\(U.S.\)%22](https://www.barnesandnoble.com/s/%22Joint%20History%20Office%20(U.S.)%22)
- OverDrive: <https://www.overdrive.com/creators/1470494/office-of-the-chairman-of-the-joint-chiefs-of-staff-u-s>

National Coalition for History

Recently, nearly all of the National Park System Advisory Board, the citizen panel that advises on National Park Service issues, resigned in frustration after repeated requests to Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke to hold meetings were ignored. The board normally convenes twice a year, but has not met since the beginning of the Trump administration. The National Coalition for History (NCH) strongly objects to Secretary Zinke's refusal to engage with the panel and has sent a letter to the Secretary urging the reconstitution of the advisory board and the resumption of regular meetings.

On January 15, seven members of the twelve-member board sent Zinke a resignation letter written by board chair and former Alaska governor Tony Knowles. An eighth member joined them two days later, and two others had terms that had already expired (although they did still sign on to Knowles' resignation letter), leaving only two board members remaining.

The National Park System Advisory Board is made up of scholars and experts in the humanities and the natural, social, and physical sciences who advise the Director of the National Park Service and the Secretary of the Interior on issues related to the National Park system. Their purview includes a number of history-related programs. Most notably, board approval is required for the designation of National Historic Landmarks. With no board members in place, it is unclear how Landmark nominations could move forward without their review.

The expert advice of citizen boards like this one is crucial to the functioning of federal agencies, and the preservation of historic places and national parks is necessary to ensure nuanced and evidence-based understandings of our past. NCH calls on Secretary Zinke to ensure that the new board members demonstrate broad expertise in relevant science and humanities fields, and a demonstrated commitment to the mission of the National Park Service.

National Declassification Center

The NDC has released a listing of 112 entries that have completed declassification processing between June 1 and September 29, 2017, and are now available for researcher request. This release consists of records from both military and civilian agencies.

Highlights include:

- Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, Naval History and Heritage Command, Political/Military Division, Primary Program Records, 1946-1980,
- Department of State, Research Project Files Relating to the Camp David Peace Process [Files Relating to the Arab/Israeli Peace Treaty: Research Project Number 1276],
- Department of State, Records Relating to the Southeast Asia Treaty Organization (SEATO),
- Department of State, Central Foreign Policy Files: P-Reel Printouts, 1977-78,
- Records of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, Subject Files Concerning Policy,
- Army Staff, Korean Message Files, and
- Army Staff, Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2 (Intelligence), Army Attaché (A/A) Country Files

Requests to access the newly released records or to order copies should be directed to Archives 2 Reference at 301-837-3510 or archives2reference@nara.gov. Please note that some series may contain other restrictions such as privacy or law enforcement and may require screening or a FOIA request prior to access. When making a request, please cite the HMS Entry and Series Title.

National Endowment for the Humanities

The National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) announced a new grant program designed to create and sustain humanities infrastructure. Cultural institutions are eligible to receive up to \$750,000 grants. NEH's new Infrastructure and Capacity-Building Challenge Grants program seeks to strengthen the institutional base of the humanities in the United States through matching grants to libraries, museums, archives, colleges and universities, historic sites, scholarly associations, and other cultural institutions for efforts that build institutional capacity or infrastructure for long-term sustainability. These challenge grants, which require a match of nonfederal funds, may be used toward capital expenditures such as construction and renovation projects, purchase of equipment and software, sharing of humanities collections between institutions, documentation of lost or imperiled cultural heritage, sustaining digital scholarly infrastructure, and preservation and conservation of humanities collections.

National Library of Medicine

The National Library of Medicine began a new web archiving effort in September 2016 to



identify and collect web content on the topic of HIV/AIDS. Special HIV/AIDS funds supported the work of a historian, Christine Wenc, and History Associates archivist Erin Mashni to select web content to crawl, describe the selected items, and review the collected content for quality assurance. On World AIDS Day 2017, NLM shared this collection with the public, making available an initial set of websites and social media archived to document HIV/AIDS in the early 21st century. More content will be added over time. NLM's web archive collections are available at <https://archive-it.org/organizations/350>.

National Museum of Forest Service History

The National Museum of Forest Service History invites you to honor those who make a difference. The National Museum of Forest Service History recognizes conservation and historical preservation efforts through the following award programs: Historical Restoration Award, Conservation Legacy Award, Curator's Award, and Gary G. Brown Founder's Award. Learn more at <https://www.forestservicemuseum.org/awards/>.

National Museum of the American Indian

American Indians make up less than one percent of the United States population. Yet images and names of Indians are all around us. Why is that? And how did certain events in our shared history—the life of Pocahontas, Thanksgiving, the Trail of Tears, the Battle of Little Bighorn—become so central to our story of ourselves as a nation? The major new exhibition *Americans* asks us to look at the surprising ways Indians have shaped the history, culture, and national identity of the United States. See *Americans* at the museum in Washington, DC or get a head start by exploring the exhibition online at <https://nmai.si.edu/americans/>.

National Postal Museum

A new exhibition, *In Her Words: Women's Duty and Service in World War I*, explores the typical wartime experiences of four women who served in and alongside the American military. In letters shared with family and friends, these women recorded their work, daily lives, and hopes. Their words were shaped by their own personalities and relationships, as well as by social expectations and policies like military censorship of mail written by Americans serving overseas. The online exhibition highlights a single document from each of these four women; more correspondence, wartime ephemera, medals, and uniforms are on exhibit at the National Postal Museum from February 2, 2018 – May 8, 2018. This exhibition was developed jointly by the Smithsonian's

National Postal Museum and the Women In Military Service For America Memorial Foundation.

National Security Archive

On the approach of the 3rd anniversary of “17-D”—the iconic date of December 17, 2014, when President Barack Obama and President Raul Castro made public a historic breakthrough in U.S.-Cuba relations—the National Security Archive announced the publication of a major collection of declassified records on the history of talks between the two nations. The collection, *Cuba and the U.S.: The Declassified History of Negotiations to Normalize Relations, 1959-2016*, provides the historical foundation for the 18 months of back-channel diplomacy between Obama and Castro's special emissaries, and the December 2014 agreement to resume full diplomatic ties. Made up of over 1,700 declassified reports, memoranda of conversations, options papers, cables, intelligence assessments and secret communications between Washington and Havana, the new collection charts the initial breakdown of relations during the Eisenhower era, and subsequent bilateral attempts to re-build channels of communications, including secret talks to improve or normalize relations during subsequent administrations. See it at <https://proquest.libguides.com/dnsa/castro1959>.

Public Interest Declassification Board

On December 18, 2017, the Public Interest Declassification Board released the following statement: Last Friday marked the completion of the rolling review and release of the final records still publicly withheld from the John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Collection. The Public Interest Declassification Board (PIDB) acknowledges the importance of the completion of the rolling release of these records, but we must note with disappointment failure of the responsible agencies to meet the legal requirements set by the President John F. Kennedy Assassination Records Collection Act of 1992. The PIDB recognizes and respects that it is likely some of the JFK records were properly subject to being withheld or redacted to protect legitimate national security information which should remain classified. However, with the 25 years of advance notice afforded by the 1992 Act, it is difficult now to understand why the October 26 deadline passed largely unmet. Certainly, there will be no excuse for a failure by any agency to meet the extended deadline of April 26, 2018, set by the President. The American public deserves no less. We look forward to the completion of the re-review process that the President has directed and will continue monitoring the release of these records of high historical significance.



The FEDERALIST

Society for History in the Federal Government Newsletter

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Federalist Calendar

Mar. 23–24, 2018. Society for History in Federal Government. Annual Meeting. “Federal History in Times of Transition.” Robert C. Byrd Center for Congressional History and Education. Shepherdstown, WV

Apr. 5–8, 2018. Society for Military History. 85th Annual Meeting. Louisville, KY. Visit <http://www.smh-hq.org/2018/2018annualmeeting.html>

Apr. 12–14, 2018. Organization of American Historians. Annual Meeting. Sacramento, CA. Visit <http://www.oah.org/meetings-events/2018/>

Apr. 14–18, 2018. American Society for Environmental History. Annual Conference. Riverside, CA. Visit <http://aseh.net/conference-workshops/2018-conference-riverside-ca>

Apr. 18–21, 2018. National Council on Public History. Annual Meeting. “Power Lines.” Las Vegas, NV. Visit <http://ncph.org/conference/2018-annual-meeting/>

May 4–5, 2018. Dumbarton Oaks. Garden and Landscape Studies Symposium. “Military Landscapes.” Washington, DC. Visit <https://www.doaks.org/research/garden-landscape/scholarly-activities/military-landscapes>

June 21–23, 2018. The Association for Documentary Editing. Annual Meeting, Olympia, WA. Visit http://www.documentaryediting.org/wordpress/?page_id=3277

June 21–23, 2018. Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations (SHAFR). Annual Meeting. Philadelphia, PA. Visit <https://shafrr.org/conferences/annual/2018-annual-meeting>

July 19–22, 2018. Society for Historians of the Early American Republic (SHEAR). 40th Annual Meeting. Cleveland, OH

Aug. 12–18, 2018. Society of American Archivists (SAA). Joint Annual Meeting. Washington, DC

Oct. 10–13, 2018. Oral History Association. Annual Meeting. “Oral History in Our Challenging Times.” Montreal, Quebec. Visit <http://www.oralhistory.org/annual-meeting/>

Oct. 18–20, 2018. Ohio Valley History Conference. 34th Annual Conference. Martin, TN. Visit <http://www.utm.edu/departments/history/ovhc.php>

Nov. 1–2, 2018. 10th Blount Postal History Symposium. “World War I and its Immediate Aftermath.” Smithsonian National Postal Museum, Washington, DC. Visit <http://postalmuseum.si.edu/research/symposiums-and-lectures/>

Nov. 1–4, 2018. Historical Society of Washington, D.C. 45th Annual D.C. History Conference. Washington, DC. Visit <http://www.dchistory.org/programs/annual-conference/>

Jan. 3–6, 2019. American Historical Association. 133rd Annual Meeting. “Loyalties.” Chicago, IL