The 2014 EHA Meetings: Political Economy and Economic History

The 2014 annual meeting of the Economic History Association will take place in Columbus, Ohio, September 12-14, 2014 with the theme “Political Economy and Economic History.” The theme was chosen by President Philip Hoffman (CalTech).

Politics has a massive impact on economic outcomes. States redistribute wealth, make up for market failures, and enact policies that can devastate an economy or promote long run growth. They also provide the essential public goods of security, the rule of law, and a means of exchange. Without these, life is brutal and trade little more than barter. But what determines the laws and regulations that states adopt and the public goods they furnish? How do states arise in the first place and gain the capacity to tax? What shapes the changes in their policies and their expenditures over time? Can we distinguish the political incentives that encourage good policies rather than tragic ones? Do the answers lie with endowments, the distribution of wealth, or deeply rooted institutions? Or are they to be sought in culture and the guiding hand of history?

The Program Committee is chaired by John Wallis (Maryland), and includes Dan Bogart (UC Irvine), Karen Clay (Carnegie Mellon), and Tracy Dennison (CalTech). The committee welcomes submissions on ALL subjects in economic history, though some preference will be given to papers that specifically fit the theme. Papers should be submitted individually, but authors may suggest to the Committee that three particular papers fit well together in a panel.

Papers should in all cases be works in progress rather than accepted or published work. Submitters should let the program committee know at the time of application if the paper they are proposing has already been submitted for publication. Individuals who presented or co-authored a paper given at the 2013 meeting are not eligible for inclusion in the 2014 program.
Papers and session proposals should be submitted online. The submission system is now active. Paper proposals should include a 3-5 page précis and a 150-word abstract suitable for publication in the *Journal of Economic History*. Papers should be submitted by 31 January, 2014 to ensure consideration. To submit a paper or session proposal go to: [http://eh.net/eha/eha-2014-meeting-proposal-submission/](http://eh.net/eha/eha-2014-meeting-proposal-submission/). Graduate students are encouraged to attend the meeting. The Association offers subsidies for travel, hotel, registration, and meals, including a special graduate student dinner. A poster session welcomes work from dissertations in progress. Applications for the poster session are due no later than May 21, 2014 online: [http://eh.net/eha/2014-poster-submission/](http://eh.net/eha/2014-poster-submission/). The poster submission system will open on March 1, 2014. The dissertation session, convened by Leah Platt Boustan (UCLA) and Mauricio Drellichman (University of British Columbia), will honor six dissertations completed during the 2013-2014 academic year. The submission deadline is June 11, 2014. The Alexander Gerschenkron and Allan Nevins prizes will be awarded to the best dissertations on non-North American and North American topics respectively. Dissertations must be submitted as a single PDF file. Files of less than 5 MB in size may be sent directly to the conveners as an email attachment. To submit a file over 5 MB in size, please supply a download link in an email message. Gerschenkron prize submissions should be emailed to mauricio.drellichman@ubc.ca and Nevins prize submissions should be emailed to lboustan@econ.ucla.edu. All submissions will be acknowledged by return email.

For further information, check [http://eh.net/eha/category/meetings/2014-meeting/](http://eh.net/eha/category/meetings/2014-meeting/), which also includes information on travel options to the Columbus area; or contact Meetings Coordinator Jari Eloranta at: elorantaj@appstate.edu.

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**EHA and Clio Sessions at the 2014 ASSA Meetings in Philadelphia**

**Spatial Allocation of Conflict, Individuals, and Economic Activity**

**January 3, 2014, 12:30 – 2:15 pm, Philadelphia Marriott, Meeting Room 406**

Organizer: John Murray (Rhodes College)  
Chair: Mary Hansen (American)  
Discussants: John Brown (Clark), Allison Shertzer (Pittsburgh), Hugh Rockoff (Rutgers), Chris Vickers (Northwestern)
“Railroads and the Regional Concentration of Industry in Germany 1846 to 1882,” Theresa Gutberlet (RPI)

“Segregation (Forever?): Measuring the Short- and Long-Term Consequences of Segregation,” John Parman (William and Mary) and Trevon Logan (Ohio State)

“Military Conflict and the Economic Rise of Urban Europe,” Mark Dincecco (Michigan) and Massimiliano Onorato (IMT Institute for Advanced Studies)

“Murder and the Black Market: Prohibition’s Impact on Homicide Rates in American Cities,” Brendan Livingston (Rowan)

Enterprising America: Businesses, Banks, and Credit Markets in Historical Perspective

January 3, 2014, 2:30 – 4:30 pm, Philadelphia Marriott, Meeting Room 406
Organizer: John Murray (Rhodes College)
Chair: William Collins (Vanderbilt)
Discussants: Carola Frydman (Boston University), William Collins (Vanderbilt), Matt Jaremski (Colgate)

“Corporate Governance and the Establishment of Manufacturing Enterprises in New England,” Eric Hilt, (Wellesley)

“Economies of Scale in Nineteenth Century American Manufacturing Revisited: A Resolution of the Entrepreneurial Labor Input Problem,” Robert A. Margo (Boston)

“How Does Governance Matter? An Examination of the Long-Term Evolution of Bank Boards in the United States, 1800-1933,” Howard Bodenhorn (Clemson) and Eugene White (Rutgers)

Poverty from a Historical Viewpoint

January 4, 2014, 12:30 – 2:15 pm, Philadelphia Marriott, Meeting Room
Organizer: Martha Bailey (Michigan)
Chair: Robert Margo (Boston)
Discussants: Tom Vogl (Princeton), Robert Margo (Boston), Melissa Thomasson (Miami), Rob Gillezeau (New Democratic Party, Ontario Canada)

“Up from Poverty? The 1832 Cherokee Land Lottery and the Long-run Distribution of Wealth,” Joseph Ferrie (Northwestern) and Hoyt Bleakley (Chicago)

“The Effects of Childhood Means-tested Cash Transfers on Mortality: Evidence from the Mother’s Pension Programs,” Shari Eli (Toronto), Anna Aizer (Brown), Adriana Lleras-Muney (UCLA), and Joseph Ferrie (Northwestern)

“Interactions between Social Insurance Programs: The Impact of Medicare on the Characteristics of Petitioners for Bankruptcy,” Megan Lynn Fasules (American) and Mary Eschelbach Hansen (American)

“Poverty and Progress among Canadian Immigrants, 1911-1931,” Chris Minns (LSE), Kris Inwood (Guelph) and Fraser Summerfield (Guelph)

Technology and Property Rights

January 4, 2014, 2:30 – 4:30 pm, Philadelphia Marriott, Meeting Room 406
Organizer: John Murray (Rhodes College)
Chair: David Mitch (UMD-Baltimore County)
Discussants: Lisa Cook (Michigan State), Carol Shiue (Colorado), Ahmed Rahman (Naval Academy), Susan Wolcott (Binghamton)
“Copyright and the Diffusion of Classical Music,” Petra Moser (Stanford) and Jerry Lao (Stanford)

“The Great Divergence and the Economics of Printing,” Luis Angeles (Glasgow)
“Turning Points in Leadership: Shipping Technology in the Portuguese and Dutch Merchant Empires,” Claudia Rei (Vanderbilt)

“Industrial development and technology adoption in late nineteenth century Japan,” John Tang (Australia National University)

Philipp Ager (Southern Denmark) and Fabrizio Spargoli (Erasmus)

Naval Shipyards, Philadelphia, 1897

EHA Grants, Fellowships, and Prizes

The EHA supports research in economic history through various grant programs administered by the Committee on Research in Economic History (CREH) and the Annual Meetings Program Committee. All applicants for or recipients of an EHA grant or prize must be members of the Association, and all application materials must be submitted electronically (see instructions below). A downloadable membership form is available online at: http://eh.net/eha/membership. You can also use Google Checkout to pay for your membership over the web. After paying your membership dues please complete the Directory Registration Form. You can also join by printing out a membership form at the membership site and sending it in with a check or credit card.

Application forms for all grants and fellowships are available on the EHA website at https://www.eh.net/eha/grants-and-fellowships. Please direct any questions to the chair of the CREH, Professor Mary Hansen, at mhansen@american.edu.

Arthur H. Cole Grants in Aid: The Committee on Research in Economic History awards Arthur H. Cole grants-in-aid to support research in economic history, regardless of time period or geographic area. Awards typically are in amounts up to $5000, although higher amounts may be awarded in exceptional cases. Applicants must be members of the Association.
and must hold the Ph.D. degree. Preference is given to recent Ph.D. recipients.


The following three programs are for those who have not yet received the Ph.D. degree:

**Graduate Dissertation Fellowships:**
Students with approved topics and making progress towards completion are eligible for Dissertation Fellowships. Students at early stages of dissertation development are not eligible for fellowship support. Funds awarded during this application cycle are intended to provide support during the 2014-15 academic year. Applicants must be members of the Association, and dissertation fellowships are not renewable.

There are two types of Awards:

**EHA Graduate Fellowships ($10,000)**
**Sokoloff Fellowship ($15,000)** Thanks to a generous gift from Ken Sokoloff’s estate and other individual contributions, this fellowship honors the major contributions of Kenneth Sokoloff to economic history, and in particular his care and concern for the many students he introduced to economic history.

Please direct any questions about these fellowships to Professor Mary Hansen, chair, Committee on Research in Economic History, mhansen@american.edu. Applicants must be current members of the Association. Please note that where the application asks for a 5 page project description, this is to be double spaced with at least one inch margins on all sides and font size no less than 11 point. Submit a Graduate Fellowship application.


**Exploratory Travel and Data Grants:**
Exploratory Travel and Data Grants are early stage grants for doctoral students writing a dissertation in economic history. They provide funding for specific research purposes (for example, visiting archives or purchase of microfilm or CD-ROMs) and in most instances will not exceed $2,500. They are nonrenewable, but recipients are eligible to apply in a subsequent year for a Graduate Dissertation Fellowship (see above).

Please direct any questions about these grants to Professor Mary Hansen, chair, Committee on Research in Economic History, mhansen@american.edu. Applicants must be current members of the Association. Please note that where the application asks for a 3 page project description, this is to be double spaced with at least one inch margins on all sides and font size no less than 11 point. Submit an EDTA application.


**Annual Meetings Travel and Hotel Subsidies:**
Graduate Students interested in disseminating preliminary results from their thesis work may apply to participate in the poster session at the Annual Meetings. Those accepted receive the following support:

- Travel subsidies up to $500 for domestic flights or train fare, up to $800 for international flights.
- Complimentary hotel rooms (double occupancy, shared with another graduate student) for up to 3 nights.
- 60 percent discount on the registration fee
- 80 percent discount on the Saturday Presidential Banquet
- Free dinner with other graduate students Friday night.
Poster submission will begin on March 1, 2014. Applicants will need to provide a 250 word abstract, a current CV, and request a letter of support from their dissertation advisor. Poster sessions are intended for those in the process of pursuing their Ph.D. degree. Those interested in presenting a poster should apply on the EHA website. An online system for submitting an application to present a poster will open in March each year. Applicants must be current members of the Association.


Graduate students who have presented a poster are eligible for the dissertation session in a subsequent year, but may present a poster session only once during their graduate career. If a student applies both for the dissertation poster sessions, and the student is accepted to be part of the dissertation session, a prior invitation to present a poster that year will be withdrawn. Participating in the poster session does not preclude submitting a paper and having it accepted for the regular program the following year.

Graduate students interested in attending the annual meeting but not participating in the poster session are eligible, depending on funding availability, for up to three nights’ complimentary hotel room (double occupancy, shared with another graduate student). Send requests to the email addresses listed above. Applicants must be members of the Association. Deadline: July 5, 2014. Awards announced by July 26, 2014. Questions about the poster session should be directed to Professor John Wallis, chair of the program committee (wallis@econ.umd.edu).

Ph.D. recipients selected for the dissertation session will receive a travel subsidy. See procedures for applying for the Nevins or Gerschenkron prizes.

Conditions of Support:
All recipients of EHA fellowship and grant support must file a short (one or two page) report on how they spent their money and how it facilitated their research. This report should be filed by August 31 of the year subsequent to receipt of the funds and can be sent as an email attachment to the chair of the Committee on Research in Economic History (mhansen@american.edu).

Prizes
The EHA recognizes excellence in research, publication, and teaching of economic history by awarding several annual and biennial prizes at the President's Awards Banquet during the annual meetings. Each fall the Announcements page on the EHA web site and the EHA newsletter include Calls for Nominations and submission information.

Dissertation Awards: The Nevins and Gerschenkron prize are awarded annually for the best dissertations on North-American and non-North American topics completed during the previous year. Six finalists, three for each award, will be chosen to present dissertation summaries at the annual meeting of the Economic History Association in Columbus, OH in September 2014. Finalists will receive $500 to defray travel expenses ($800 if travelling internationally). Award recipients receive a cash prize of $1,200.

Eligibility: Those who received their Ph.D. between May 16, 2013 and May 15, 2014 are eligible and invited to submit their dissertation. You must be a member of the Economic History Association to submit and the dissertation must be in English. Planned attendance at the meeting is required for submitting an application, and presentation of a summary is required for a prize. To be considered for either of these prizes, completed dissertations must be submitted in hard copy on or before May 15, 2014. Decisions will be
announced by July 23, 2014. Dissertations will not be returned unless return postage is prepaid.

Scholars submitting a dissertation may not in the same year submit a proposal to the general program that is part of or derived from the dissertation. On an exception basis the Association will allow a two year window following thesis completion for submission.

**Allan Nevins Prize** for the Best Dissertation in U.S. or Canadian Economic History completed during the previous year is awarded annually by the Economic History Association. The award is made on behalf of Columbia University Press.

Please send submitted dissertations to:

**Professor Leah Platt Boustan**
Dept. of Economics
UCLA
8283 Bunche Hall
Los Angeles, CA 90095-1477
Email: lboustan@econ.ucla.edu

**Alexander Gerschenkron Prize** for the Best Dissertation in the economic history of an area outside of the United States or Canada published during the preceding year. The Alexander Gerschenkron Prize in Economic History is awarded annually by the EHA.

Please send submitted dissertations to:

**Professor Mauricio Drelichman**
Vancouver School of Economics
997 – 1873 East Mall
Vancouver, BC
Canada V6T 1Z1
Email: Mauricio.Drelichman@ubc.ca

Jonathan Hughes Prize was an outstanding scholar and a committed and influential teacher of economic history. The prize includes a $1,200 cash award. The winner is selected by the EHA Committee on Education and Teaching.

The Committee on Education of the Economic History Association invites nominations for the annual Jonathan Hughes Prize for Excellence in Teaching Economic History. Letters of nomination should state what qualities of excellence the candidate's teaching of economic history has embodied. The strength of the nominating letter will be the primary basis for selecting the pool of finalists for the prize. After arriving at a short list of finalists, the committee will gather further supporting information. Anyone is eligible to write a letter of nomination.

**DEADLINE:** April 1, 2014.

Letters of nomination should be sent to:

**Professor Chris Hanes**
Department of Economics
Binghamton University
Box 6000
Binghamton, NY 13902-6000
Email: chanes@binghamton.edu

Other members of the committee are:

**Professor Eric Hilt**
Department of Economics
Wellesley College
106 Central St.
Wellesley, MA 02481
Email: ehilt@wellesley.edu

**Professor Ran Abramitzky**
Department of Economics
Stanford University
Stanford, CA 64305-6072
Email: ranabr@stanford.edu
Publication Awards

Alice Hanson Jones Biennial Prize is awarded every other year for an Outstanding Book on North American (including Caribbean) Economic History. The Alice Hanson Jones Prize will be presented in September of 2014. This $1,200 prize is awarded biennially and alternates with the Gyorgi Ranki Prize for a book on European economic history.

Eligibility and Nominations: Only books published in English during 2012 or 2013 are eligible for the 2014 prize. The author need not be a member of the Association. Authors, publishers, or anyone else may nominate books. Authors or publishers should send a copy of the book, plus curriculum vitae of the author(s), with current information on addresses and telephone numbers, to each member of the committee.

DEADLINE: March 1, 2014.

Selection Committee:
Professor Peter Coclanis  
Department of History  
405 Hilgard Ave.  
University of North Carolina  
Chapel Hill, NC 27599-3195  
Email: coclanis@unc.edu

Professor Maggie Levenstein  
Institute of Social Research  
3260 Institute for Social Research  
426 Thompson Street  
Ann Arbor, MI 48106-1248  
Email: maggiel@isr.umich.edu

Professor Werner Troesken  
Department of Economics  
University of Pittsburgh  
Pittsburgh, PA 15260  
Email: troesken@pitt.edu

Professor Frank Lewis  
Department of Economics  
Queen’s University  
Kingston, Ontario  
Canada K7L 3N6  
Email: lewisf@econ.queensu.ca

Professor John Murray  
Department of Economics  
Rhodes College  
225 Buckman Hall  
2000 N. Parkway  
Memphis, TN 38112-1690  
Email: murrayj@rhodes.edu

Gyorgi Ranki Biennial Prize is awarded every other year for an Outstanding Book on the Economic History of Europe. This $1,200 prize is awarded biennially and alternates with the Alice Hanson Jones Prize for a book in North American (including Caribbean) economic history. The Ranki Prize will be awarded in September 2015 for a book published in 2013 or 2014.

The Ranki Prize was established by the Economic History Association in 1989 to honor the late Gyorgi Ranki, a distinguished Hungarian economic historian who taught in both Hungary and the United States.

To be eligible, a book must be published in English and must, in whole or in substantial part, treat aspects of European economic history in any period from classical antiquity to the present. For purposes of this prize, Europe is understood to include European Russia as well as the British Isles. Books that compare European experience to that of other parts of the world, or that use historical information to examine present or anticipate future issues and trends, are also eligible as long as they pay significant attention to European economic history.
Nominations for the prize may be made by authors, publishers, or anyone else. Authors of nominated books need not be members of the Economic History Association. Date of publication rather than date of copyright determines eligibility. Translations of books published previously in a language other than English are eligible in the year of publication in English.

Whoever nominates a book should send a copy of the book and the curriculum vitae of the author(s) to each of the five members of the Ranki Prize committee.

**DEADLINE:** spring 2015.

**Selection committee:**
- **Professor Bruce Carruthers**
  Department of Sociology
  Northwestern University
  Evanston, IL 60208-1330
  Email: b-carruthers@northwestern.edu

**Other members of the committee:**
- **Professor Petra Moser**
  Department of Economics

**Arthur H. Cole Prize** is awarded annually by the Editorial Board of the *JEH* for the best article in the previous year's volume of the Journal.

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**The EHA in Washington D.C.**

The Economic History Association met in the nation’s capital from September 20-22, 2013. It was the first trip there since 1989 under the leadership of President Paul David. The meetings were held in Washington D.C. on two occasions prior to that, in 1983 and 1962.

A record 285 economic historians, 40 of whom were graduate students, met at the Arlington Hilton just across the river from the District of Columbia. The theme of the 2013 meeting,
chosen by President Robert Allen, was “Global Perspectives.”

Financial support for the meetings was provided by the Departments of Economics at Oxford University and Nuffield College, George Mason University, The Mercatus Center, The College of Arts and Sciences and the Department of Economics of American University, and the University of Maryland.

The Program Committee consisted of Stephen Broadberry (LSE), Chris Meissner (UC-Davis), Peter Coclanis (UNC-Chapel Hill), and Carol Shiue (Colorado). Local arrangements were made by John Wallis (Maryland), David Mitch (UMBC), Mary Hansen (American), Noel Johnson, Mark Koyama, John Nye (all George Mason), Peter Meyer (BLS), and Claire Morgan (Mercatus Center). The arrangements committee put together tours of Mount Vernon and Alexandria, the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, and the National Museum of American History. In addition, the standard workshop on job search tips for graduate students and the Friday evening graduate student dinner, hosted by Mary Hansen and Noel Johnson, were on the agenda.

The meetings consisted of eleven sessions featuring 48 papers, as well as the usual array of business meetings, topical breakfasts and lunches, and the presidential address and awards banquet. An additional 20 graduate students prepared posters for presentations. The presidential address, “American Exceptionalism as a Problem in Global History,” was delivered on Saturday afternoon by Robert Allen (Oxford).

On Friday afternoon Robert Allen and Peter Meyer hosted a plenary session on how Wikipedia works, how it is edited, and what role the EHA might have in the editing process for topics of interest to economic historians. Lessons were given in editing on Wikipedia, and some in the audience were actually editing Wikipedia articles during the session.

As usual, Saturday afternoon was given over to business meetings and the dissertation session, featuring the outstanding dissertations written during the previous year.

Dan Bogart (UC-Irvine) convened the Gerschenkron Prize competition for the best dissertation on a non-Canadian or American topic. The finalists were Theresa Gutterle (RPI) who wrote “Mechanization, Transportation and the Location of Industry in Germany, 1846-1907,” under the supervision of Price Fishback (Arizona), and Ling Fan Li (Institute of Historical Research), who wrote “Bullion, Bills, and Arbitrage: Exchange markets in fourteenth to seventeenth century Europe.” His advisors were Oliver Volckart and Patrick Wallis (both LSE). The prize was awarded to Eric Monnet (Bank of France). His dissertation, written under the direction of Pierre-Cyrille Hautcoeur at the Paris School of Economics, was titled “Monetary policy and credit policy in France during the Golden Age (1945-1973).

Ian Keay (Queen’s) chaired the Nevins Prize session, which honors the outstanding dissertations written on a Canadian or American topic. The first dissertation was presented by Katherine Eriksson (Cal Poly San Luis Obispo), who wrote “Essays on Education and Immigration throughout the 20th Century,” while at UCLA, under the direction of Leah Platt Boustan. The next presentation was “From Memory to Mastery: Accounting for Control in America, 1750-1880,” by Caitlin Rosenthal (UC-Berkeley). She completed her dissertation at Harvard, working with Sven Beckert and Claudia Goldin. The winner was Joshua Hausman (Michigan) who completed his work, “New Deal Policies and Recovery from the Great Depression,” at Berkeley. His advisor was Barry Eichengreen.
The Friday evening reception was held at the Mercatus Center, a short walk from the hotel, and Bob Allen, with financial support from Oxford University and Nuffield College and the Economic History Society hosted the President’s Party in the Masters Ballroom on Saturday night.

The EHA will next convene in Columbus, OH September 12-14, 2014.

Awards Presented at the 2013 EHA Meetings

The Economic History Association recognizes outstanding achievements among its membership each year. The following awards were presented at the 2013 conference in Washington D.C.

The Allan Nevins Prize for best dissertation in US or Canadian economic history was awarded to Joshua Hausman, for his dissertation "New Deal Policies and Recovery from the Great Depression", completed at the University of California at Berkeley. His advisors were Barry Eichengreen, J. Bradford DeLong, Christina Romer, Maurice Obstfeld, and Noam Yuchtman.

The Alexander Gerschenkron Prize for the outstanding dissertation in non-U.S. or Canadian history was presented to Eric Monnet, for his dissertation "French Monetary Policy and Credit Control, 1945-1975”, completed at the Paris School of Economics and EHESS. He was supervised by Pierre-Cyrille Hautcoeur.

The Jonathan Hughes Prize for excellence in teaching economic history was awarded to Stephen Haber (Stanford).


The Kenneth Sokoloff Dissertation Award was presented this year to two individuals. One award went to Amanda Gregg (Yale), who is writing on pre-revolution Russian industry. The second recipient is Anthony Wray (Northwestern), who is working on the long term impact of childhood illness on occupation.

Dissertation Fellowships Three dissertation fellowships were awarded this year: Cihan Artunc (Yale) for work on the role of legal and economic institutions in the early modern Ottoman empire; Richard Baker (Boston) for his dissertation on cotton production and schooling in the south; and Robin Winkler (Oxford), who is studying household consumption in interwar Germany.

Exploratory Travel and Data Acquisition Grants Exploratory grants for preliminary work on dissertations were awarded to Alex Hollingsworth (Arizona), Esther Sahle (LSE), Tim Larsen (Colorado), Anne Ruderman (Yale), Elizabeth Perlman (Boston), Megan Fasules (American), Mike Mathies (Arizona), Aaron Honsowetz (George Mason), Claire Brennecke (Yale), Glenda Oskar (UC Berkeley), Mary Elizabeth Cox (Oxford), and Matthew Parker (St. Louis).

The Arthur H. Cole Prize is awarded each year to the author(s) of the outstanding article published in the Journal of Economic History from September of the previous year through June of the award year. The 2013 award went to Dan Bogart (UC-Irvine) and Latika Chaudhary (Scripps College), for their article "Engines of Growth: The Productivity Advance of Indian Railways, 1874-1912," which was published in the June 2013 issue of the JEH and Marlous van Waijenburg (Northwestern) and

Cole Research Grants were awarded to Leticia Arroyo Abad (Middlebury) for a project examining colonial institutions and inequality in Peru, Matt Jaremski (Colgate) for the construction of a census of banks between 1860 and 1914, and Nicolas Ziebarth (Iowa) for work on collecting establishment-level data for the Great Depression.

The Rise and Fall of Economic History at MIT
By Peter Temin

This paper tells the story of economic history at MIT during the twentieth century, even though roughly half the century precedes the formation of the MIT Economics Department. Economic history was central in the development of economics at the start of the century, but it lost its primary position rapidly after the Second World War, disappearing entirely a decade after the end of the twentieth century. I taught economic history to MIT graduate students in economics for 45 years during this long decline, and my account consequently contains an autobiographical bias.

The story begins with Davis Rich Dewey, older brother of John Dewey and Professor of
Economics at MIT until 1940. He was one of several people who shaped the profession of economics, and the economics library at MIT is named after him. Best known for his writings on United States economic history, his professional career spanned fifty years during the formative period of the modern economics profession.

Dewey was influential in the internal affairs of two major professional organizations, the American Economic Association and the American Statistical Association. He participated in the founding meeting of the American Economic Association while still a graduate student, and he became its president in 1909. When the association's journal, The American Economic Review, was started in 1911, he served as its first editor, a post he held until 1940. The medal on MIT’s Dewey Library homepage was awarded to him on the occasion of his retirement as editor of American Economic Review in 1940.

Paul Samuelson arrived at MIT at the time of Dewey’s retirement in 1940. Receiving his PhD from Harvard in that year, he was snatched up by MIT when Harvard failed to make him a faculty appointment (Keller and Keller, 2001, pp. 81-82). From this event came both the birth of the MIT economics department, and a revolution of economics itself. Samuelson’s thesis, published as The Foundations of Economic Analysis (Samuelson, 1947), championed the use of mathematics in economics. He was hardly the first economist to use math, but he showed how math could be systematically employed to reformulate familiar and unfamiliar economic arguments. He was like Adam Smith, organizing various strands of existing economics into a new coherent synthesis.

The economics department started its graduate program after the war. The education was constructed like a three-legged stool, resting on required courses in economic theory, econometrics, and economic history. But while the legs of a stable stool are equal, these required courses were not. Economic theory and measurement were in their ascendancy, and economic history needed to find a way to coexist with the new theories and econometrics to survive.

Dewey was succeeded initially by Karl Deutsch, who was at MIT, albeit not in the economics department. Deutsch taught economic history during the late 1940s and was followed by Walt Rostow in 1950, who was Professor of Economic History at MIT until 1961. I took Rostow’s class when I began my graduate work at MIT in 1959. He had just written The Stages of Economic Growth: a non-Communist Manifesto (Rostow, 1960) and was lecturing from it. My most vivid memory from his class was his frequent invocation of the maxim: “It’s different in the South.” A more widely repeated comment was made by Paul Samuelson to Walt Rostow over lunch one day. After Rostow made a claim that Samuelson disliked, Samuelson said, “Walt, you may be an economist among historians, but you are historian when you are among economists.”
The relationship between economics and economic history had changed dramatically from Dewey, who was a leader of both, to Rostow, who was marginal to economists. Economics in this interval became a mathematical social science under the leadership of Paul Samuelson. MIT was at the forefront of this process, and it became the leading proponent of mathematical growth theory under the leadership of Robert Solow in the 1960s. Solow’s seminal work was published while Rostow was at MIT, but Rostow by then was moving into politics.

One effect of the change in the focus of economics was to change the main mode of reasoning from inductive to deductive. This meant that papers in economics changed from being primarily narrative like Dewey’s papers and started with a model like Samuelson’s papers. The new economics papers progressed from a model to data and then hypothesis tests. Economic historians responded to this change in economics by embracing the new tools of economic theory and measurement in what became known as the New Economic History.

This movement was led by the two recipients of the 1993 Nobel Prize in Economics, Douglass North and Robert Fogel. North was editor of The Journal of Economic History with William Parker in the 1960s with the conscious aim of attracting papers using formal economics in their analysis. He gained most fame by stimulating the growth of the New Institutional Economics through his many publications. Fogel burst into this scene with his publications first on the social savings of American railroads and then, with Stanley Engerman, his publications on American slavery. These contributions were showcased first at annual meetings of what would come to be called cliometricians held in in the 1960s at Purdue University in the dead of winter.

The Economics Department at MIT participated in this re-orientation of economic history by hiring me to replace Walt Rostow in 1967. Economic history at MIT then expanded in the 1970s as two economists already at MIT turned to economic history late in their careers and taught economic history during the years before they retired. They were Charles Kindleberger and Evsey Domar.

Kindleberger had been involved with the war effort like Rostow and other members of the early department. He wrote prolifically about his experiences and turned to teaching and writing in economic history toward the end of his career. He wrote two books in the 1970s that have become classics. He championed an international view of the Great Depression and introduced the idea of an international hegemon, that is, a country that can lead the world economy to prosperity. Both ideas have had wide currency. The second was a more popular survey entitled, Manias, Crashes and Panics. The two books appeared in 1973 and 1978 initially; the first had a second edition in 1986, and the second had many revisions, the latest in 1996 (Kindleberger, 1973, 1978).
Domar was less prolific, but he left economic historians with the “Domar model”: a trilemma that said you could not simultaneously have free land, free labor, and an aristocracy (Domar, 1970). The idea of a trilemma has been used widely, and it has migrated into international economics to reveal that you can only have two of fixed exchange rates, free capital movements, and an independent monetary policy (Obstfeld and Taylor, 2004). The trilemma was illustrated tragically in 1931 when Weimar Germany abandoned free capital movements, Britain abandoned fixed exchange rates, and monetary policy in the United States was dedicated to preserving the exchange rate. The resulting deflationary pressure sent the world into the Great Depression (Temin, 1989).

The years of the late 1970s and early 1980s when students had a choice of three economic-history classes represented the high point of economic history at MIT. Kindleberger taught European economic history; Domar taught Russian economic history; and I taught American economic history. The most famous MIT graduate in economic history was Christina Romer, who in her 1985 dissertation analyzed the comparative severity of postwar and pre-First World War recessions. She wrote many papers about the Great Depression and was the chair of the President’s Council of Economic Advisers during the first year of Obama’s presidency.

The abundance of economic history in MIT’s graduate curriculum ended when Kindleberger and Domar retired in the 1980s. I was the Pitt Professor at Cambridge in 1985-86, and I remember taking a long walk with Rudi Dornbusch at a conference in Puerto Rico soon after I returned, during which he persuaded me to teach world economic history. It seemed like a major challenge after teaching American economic history for twenty years, although it proved to be a great stimulus to my teaching and research.

I became head of the economics department in 1990. We had made appointments during the 1980s to replace Samuelson—many times—and the other retirees from the postwar cohort that built our department, but we had gotten out of the habit of hiring fresh PhDs. It was a problem of asymmetric information. We were happy to hire older scholars, but we seemed to need more information about younger ones. I launched a campaign to get us to hire freshly minted scholars, and found that it took some years before we relearned how to accomplish this task well. We made some bad choices in the first few years, and then had the opportunity to make a big score in 1993. There were many excellent students on the market that year, and we had the budget to hire several of them.

I decided to push our budget and hire a total of six new assistant professors, including Daron Acemoglu from the LSE and Dora Costa from Chicago. Acemoglu was very bright, but we were not sure what field he would fit into, while Costa was sharply focused on economic history. Hiring six junior faculty members in one year scared Philip Khoury, the dean of the School of Humanities and Social Sciences, and Jim Poterba and I had to calm him down over lunch one day in the spring of 1993.
The new junior faculty members were a good group, but Acemoglu and Costa were the only ones of the new PhDs who remained in the department, earned tenure and took their place as senior members of the department. Acemoglu continued to work and publish in many fields of economics, and he rapidly emerged as a department leader with his broad interests and abilities. Costa proved to be an excellent scholar who published in leading economics journals as well as those in economic history and demography, but she remained at the edge of the department as an economic historian despite her prize-winning book on the evolution of retirement in America (Costa, 1998).

It is probably not fair to either Acemoglu or Costa to use them as examples of trends, but it is instructive to see their development as instructive in chronicling the fate of economic history at MIT. I frame the argument using two slim volumes in the Oxford University Press series of Very Short Introductions, one on economics and one on economic history (Dasgupta, 2007; Allen, 2011). Both books start by contrasting rich and poor nations, saying that explaining this difference is the topic of their brief books. Dasgupta starts by contrasting conditions of two ten-year-old girls, one in America and one in Ethiopia and goes on to contrast rich and poor nations. Allen starts with the great divergence of incomes started by the Industrial Revolution and goes on to contrast rich and poor nations. Dasgupta explores differences in trust in the extremes of incomes, while Allen emphasizes the historical paths by which countries arrived to their present positions. They however both end on the same note, as shown by their final sentences. For economics: “There is, alas, no magic potion for bringing about economic progress in either world (Dasgupta, 2007, p. 160).” For economic history: “The best policy to effect economic development, therefore, remains very much in dispute (Allen, 2011, p. 147).”

The two books are quite compatible. Neither claims to have a good answer for the question posed at the beginning. But only one of them is considered central to economics. Proponents of the New Economic History were using more and more econometrics in their work, but they were no match for theorists.

Costa and I taught American and European economic history together for almost twenty years. She also taught econometrics, and I also taught macro, but we only taught undergraduates and were consumers rather than producers to these fields. Costa regularly published many papers and books in both economics and related journals. We did not have many graduate students in economic history, but several students rewrote and published their term papers (Berck, 1978; Mishkin, 1978; Frankel, 1982; Johnson and Temin, 1993; Head, 1994; Slaughter, 2001; Cole, 2005; Gallego, 2010; Hornbeck, 2010).

The economic history paper was central to one of the legs of the three-legged stool supporting the economics department. The paper requirement began many years earlier when most field courses had term papers. It was by the turn of the century only a remnant of this pedagogical approach to graduate studies. The economic-history paper in the first year joined with the econometrics paper in the second year to help guide graduate students through the abrupt change from courses to thesis writing in the third year. We lack a test of the usefulness of these requirements as we have neither random assignment nor a good measure of output for such a test. I remain convinced of the usefulness of having students write papers throughout their education despite the absence of a rigorous test.

The two surviving papers shared several characteristics. Students had to select a question to answer or a hypothesis to test, drawing on their course work or their general knowledge.
They had to answer their question or test their hypothesis with using evidence from empirical data. And they had to write this up in the form of an article for an economics journal. They were, in short, two variants of an assignment in applied economics. In fact they were hard to distinguish at the margin and sometimes overlapped.

The two papers also differed in important respects. The history paper drew from economic history—defined loosely to follow the economics convention of a quarter-century or more past—for its questions and hypotheses. The aim was for the students to analyze events in a different institutional setting or with unfamiliar relative prices. Given the scarcity of historical data for many interesting historical questions, particularly those about foreign countries, many different quantitative techniques were used. The econometrics paper by contrast was focused on the econometric methodology being used and less on the context in which it was used. And of course the history paper came in the first year of graduate work, while the econometrics paper is a feature of the second year.

Then, in rapid succession, Costa moved to California, and I retired. The MIT economics department abandoned the graduate requirement of a course in economic history late in the first decade of the twenty-first century. The department made efforts to replace Costa and me, but the bar was set very high, and no appointment was made. The three-legged stool collapsed. Theory and econometrics joined to eliminate economic history, and the economic-history paper vanished.

The aim of history is to inform decisions in the present. The New Economic History, which adapted economic history to the MIT economics model, is poised to fulfill this role at MIT if given an opportunity. The economics department started out in this direction by hiring me and then Costa, but we are gone without replacement. Anne McCants of MIT’s history department continues to teach an undergraduate course in economic history that is cross-listed in economics. Undergraduates can get a taste of economic history, but the faculty and graduate students are on their own.

References


Notes on the EHA teaching breakfast, Sept. 21, 2013
By David Mitch

This year’s EHA teaching breakfast was called to order at 7 a.m. in a meeting room of the Arlington Hilton. Seven people were initially in attendance, which reached as many as 12 by the time the session adjourned. Sam Williamson (UIC) and Joanna Short (Augustana College) discussed their work in using the *Measuring Worth* relative worth calculators and data sets, and in particular how this resource could be used as a teaching tool. Williamson began by discussing the origins of the Measuring Worth project and his related work with Lawrence Officer. He discussed the issue of making historical data consistent with current data and the role of back projections in this. He then gave examples of how tools in *Measuring Worth* could be used to make comparisons for teaching purposes between various time periods. He used the Civil War era and the Kennedy/Johnson Administration versus the Reagan Administration as an example of using various measures to look at changes in economic well-being.

He proceeded to show how *Measuring Worth* could be used to address various financial decisions. He gave the illustration of long term growth in portfolio wealth with various components, such as stocks versus gold. Carol Heim (UMass-Amherst) raised the question of whether trends in housing and real estate wealth should be included in this analysis. Williamson said it was a point he had looked into, but that his efforts at contacting the proprietors of the Case/Shiller housing index had not yet yielded results. The discussion then proceeded to various measures of relative value. After that, consideration was given to the exchange rate calculator, which is available for converting between dollars and pounds sterling over long periods of time.

Joanna Short took over the discussion and went over various problems she assigned based on the *Measuring Worth* tools for her Macroeconomics 101 courses. One example concerned comparisons between the two box office hits, “Snow White,” which was released in 1937, and
“Avatar,” which made its debut in 2009. She asked her students to determine which film was the bigger box office success in the U.S. after adjusting for inflation. She went through three ways of converting nominal to real earnings according to the base year employed. Another example compared the earnings of Babe Ruth in 1932 and Alex Rodriguez in 2012. A final example concerned calculating real GDP trends during the 1990-91 recession. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics website at http://www.bls.gov was given as a further source of information and data.

Heim wondered whether the annual estimates in MeasuringWorth were based on the fiscal year or the calendar year. Since they are based on the calendar year, Williamson suggested using a weighted-average in order to make these figures compatible with fiscal year data.

Joyce Burnette (Wabash College) asked what quantitative exercises students should be assigned and to what extent they should do calculations on their own so they understand where the numbers come from. Elyce Rotella (Michigan) mentioned that students understand compounding using rules-of-thumb, such as the rule of 72. In addition, students gain a “bit of a swagger” by finding, compiling, and graphing data on their own.

Williamson then turned to the issue of alternative ways of comparing the cost of a Model T Ford in 1908 and 1925. This spawned a discussion of which deflator is the best one to use in a variety of situations.

Hugh Rockoff (Rutgers) raised the issue of alternative ways of measuring trends in wealth and well-being by looking at what the wealthiest people at various points in time could buy compared with what share of the nation’s income or wealth they owned. And the related issue of deflating their income or wealth by the CPI or some other price index measure versus share of GDP. He suggested this could be useful for addressing issues of whether the consumption basket in the CPI is relevant for the very wealthy.

Consideration turned to hours of work. Williamson said that there are not reliable measures of average hours worked on an annual basis, so he does not use this measure in the calculators. Questions were raised about what data and information is or is not put into MeasuringWorth.

Williamson then turned to looking at variance and alternative measures of UK GDP growth, taking things back to 1200 A.D. Mention was made of the lack of reliability in data published by the UK Office of National Statistics.

Marty Olney (UC-Berkeley) asked Williamson how the approach in MeasuringWorth differed from others that were available, including those from commercial websites. Williamson mentioned that some commercial websites seemed to be using MeasuringWorth without referencing the site. Rockoff raised the issue of whether MeasuringWorth should be given the EHA seal of approval.

Williamson was not sure the site needed any help in boosting its popularity. He said that he is unconcerned with the site’s popularity, since MeasuringWorth got 93,000 hits over the previous month. He said the relative values and U.S. results page were most commonly used. He pointed out that the “Essays” tabs provide further information on how the measures are constructed.

Olney suggested that a box should be put up on the site explaining why it is the best available resource for what it tries to do. Williamson replied that he did not think that users were shopping around for the best website to use for this. He believed that a lot of the hits were from people directed from Google.
Michael Haines (Colgate) asked how many contact requests MeasuringWorth got per week that actually required a personal response. Williamson’s rough estimate was about 20 per week. He said that many of the users seemed to be lawyers, historians, and genealogists. Haines suggested that users could be prompted to respond to a questionnaire asking whether they had looked at alternative sites for their queries.

The issue of fund raising for the site was broached. Williamson indicated that he got donations and strongly preferred to base funding on voluntary donations rather than rely on advertising on the site to raise money. Banner ads cannot be controlled, hence the site might attract gold investment ads and other products he does not endorse. Williamson said that he did have to hire a programmer to keep the site operational and that ongoing maintenance was required. He estimated that he put in on average 10 to 15 hours per week on the site.

Minutes of the Business Meeting
EHA annual conference
September 21, 2013

The meeting was called to order by President Bob Allen (Oxford) at 1:00 p.m. President Allen opened the meeting by asking for a moment of silence in memory of three former EHA Presidents: Bob Fogel (EHA President 1977-78), David Landes (1976-77), and Cynthia Taft Morris (1993-94), who passed away this past year.

The results of the EHA elections were announced. The president elect is Bob Margo (Boston), who will take office at the conclusion of the 2014 meetings. Jane Humphries (Oxford) was named Vice President, and Leah Platt Boustan (UCLA) was elected to the Board of Trustees.

Price Fishback (Arizona) then gave the Executive Director’s report. He noted that the budget is in the black, but a cash flow issue dealing with the timing of payments received from Cambridge University Press resulted in a deficit for the current fiscal year. Next year will show a counter-balancing large surplus.

Fishback also announced changes to eh.net. The revised directory is up and running, though there are still some revisions to the software that are being implemented, which will make the site more functional. The syllabus page is also renovated, and economic history syllabi are solicited for inclusion in the database. Finally, the eh.net encyclopedia will be undergoing an update with the hope that the articles will be linked to related Wikipedia articles.

The EHA signed a new contract with Cambridge University Press. The new contract will allow members the option of receiving the JEH as an electronic only format, or for $10 a hard copy will be delivered. In addition, EHA members will receive a 20% discount on the purchase of all books published by Cambridge.

The membership renewal policy is also being updated. Failure to renew in a timely manner will result in the cessation of journal delivery after one issue.

Jari Eloranta (Appalachian State), Meetings Coordinator, reported that the 283 registered participants set a record for the EHA annual meeting. Next year the EHA will meet in Columbus, OH and in 2015 Nashville, TN.

Jean-Laurent Rosenthal (CalTech) delivered the report of the JEH Editorial Board. He reported that the transition to the new on line submission and refereeing system occurred without a hitch. He also announced that Ann Carlos (Colorado)
will replace him as European editor. Finally, the *JEH* will be instituting a data deposit site for published papers.

President Allen announced that the Board of Trustees had voted to endorse Boston as the U.S. entry to host the World Congress of Economic History in 2018, with La Crosse, WI as a backup site. The Board also discussed the policy prohibiting anyone presenting papers at the conference in consecutive years. An advisory questionnaire will be sent to the members to gauge their feelings on the issue.

Reports from representatives of affiliated associations were received. Ann Carlos reported on behalf of the Cliometric Society, Peter Coclanis (UNC) for the AHA, Price Fishback and Alan Olmstead (UC-Davis) for the NBER, Price Fishback for the ACLS, Simone Wegge (CUNY-Staten Island) for SSHA, Lee Alston (Colorado) for ISNIE and IEHA, Jeremy Attack (Vanderbilt) for the BHC, Marty Olney (UC-Berkeley) for ASSA, John Moore (Walsh College) for EBHS, and Gavin Wright (Stanford) for OHA.

Steve Broadberry (LSE) thanked the local arrangements committee, Bob Allen thanked the Program Committee, with special thanks to Peter Meyer (BLS) for the plenary session. He then passed the gavel to Phil Hoffman (CalTech), who began his reign as the 60th President of the EHA by adjourning the meeting at 1:45 P.M.
Economic History Association  
Financial Report 2012-13

*all amounts rounded to nearest dollar*

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<th>REVENUE/EXPENSES</th>
<th>2012-13</th>
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<td>Meetings</td>
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<td>Cambridge U. Press</td>
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<td>Interest &amp; Dividends</td>
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<td>Contributions to prize funds</td>
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<td>Other Revenue (submission fees, list rentals)</td>
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**ORDINARY REVENUES**

- including realized gains: 361,105
- including realized and unrealized gains: 49,290

**EXTRAORDINARY REVENUE**

- Sokoloff estate

**TOTAL ORDINARY + EXTRAORDINARY REV**: 361,105

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<td><strong>Total Securities and Cash</strong></td>
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**Detail on Vanguard Holdings**

- 500 Index Trust: 219,748
- Total Stock Market Index: 115,658
- International Growth: 324,654
- TIPS (inflation protected): 363,636
- Treasury Money Market: 311,925

**EHA Committees 2013-14**

**Nominating**

- Chair: Robert Allen (Past President) *(ex officio)*
- Jeremy Atack (Past Chair) *(ex officio)*
- Jane Humphries (Vice President) *(ex officio)*
- Oscar Gelderblom (2014)
- Carolyn Moehling (2014)
- Shawn Kantor (2014)
- Price Fishback (non-voting) *(ex officio)*

**Membership**

- Chair: Alan Dye (2014)
- Jessica Bean (2015)
- Leandro Prados de la Escosura (2016)
- Price Fishback *(ex officio)*
- Bob Margo (President elect) *(ex officio)*

**BALANCE ON ORDINARY ITEMS**: (7103)

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<td>(85,614)</td>
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Research in Economic History
Chair: Mary Hansen (2014)
William Collins (2014)
Ann Carlos (2015)
Jason Long (2015)
Kristen Wandschneider (2016)
Steve Naftziger (2016)
Price Fishback (ex officio)

Investment
Chair: Joseph Mason (2014)
Joseph Davis (2016)
Price Fishback (ex officio)

Budget and Audit
Chair: Joe Ferrie (2015)
Mark Geiger (2017)
Jane Humphries (Vice President) (ex officio)
Bob Margo (President elect) (ex officio)

Ranki Prize
Chair: Bruce Carruthers (2014)
Petra Moser (2015)
Joyce Burnette (2016)
Jane Humphries (2017)
Joe Manning (2018)

Jones Prize
Chair: Peter Coclanis (2014)
Maggie Levenstein (2015)
Werner Troesken (2016)
Frank Lewis (2017)
John Murray (2018)

Education in Economic History
Chair: Chris Hanes (2014)
Eric Hilt (2015)
Ran Abramitzky (2016)
Price Fishback (ex officio)

Research Archives and Data Bases
Chair: Marianne Wanamaker (2014)
Sheri Eli (2015)
Nathan Nunn (2016)
Price Fishback (ex officio)

The Journal of Economic History
Chair: Jeremy Atack (2014)
Carolyn Moehling (2014)
Kevin O’Rourke (2015)
Tim Guinnane (2016)
Paul Rohde (advisor)
Jean-Laurent Rosenthal (advisor)
Price Fishback (ex officio)

EHA Administration
Chair: Michael Bernstein (2014)
Angela Redish (2015)
Lee Craig (2016)
Jean-Laurent Rosenthal (Board Representative)

EHA Program Committee
Chair: John Wallis (2014)
Dan Bogart (2014)
Tracy Dennison (2014)
Karen Clay (2014)
Jari Eloranta (ex officio)

Dissertation:
America: Leah Platt Boustan (2014)
Elsewhere: Mauricio Drelichman (2014)

Local Arrangements
Chair: Rick Steckel (2014)
Trevon Logan (2014)
Larry Neal (2014)
Philip Brown (2014)
Jessica Bean (2014)
David Wishart (2014)
Richard Yntema (2014)
Suchit Arora (2014)
Jari Eloranta (ex officio)

EH.NET Executive
Susan Wolcott (2014)
Mike Haupert (2015)
Peter Meyer (2016)
Price Fishback (ex officio)
Jari Eloranta (ex officio)
Joe Ferrie (Board Representative)
Call for Committee Members
Committees play an important role in the workings of the EHA. If you are interested in being considered for membership on a committee, please contact Price Fishback, Executive Director, at fishback@email.arizona.edu, or any other officer or member of the Board of Trustees.

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IEHA Representative: Warren Whatley (Michigan)

Meetings Coordinator: Jari Eloranta (Appalachian State)

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NBER: Alan Olmstead (2015)


Cliometrics Society: Ann Carlos (2014)

Business History Conference: Margaret Levenstein (2014)

Social Science History Association: Anne McCants (2014)


Past Presidents of the EHA:
Obituaries of Robert Fogel, David Landes, and Cynthia Taft Morris

2013 saw the passing of three titans of economic history, all former presidents of the EHA. In lieu of the usual biography of a former EHA president, I present the obituaries of these three former presidents.

Robert Fogel (1926-2013) died on June 11, 2013 at the age of 86. In 1993 he shared the Nobel Prize in Economics with Douglass North for having renewed research in economic history. Fogel was
cited for his work on the role of the railways in the economic development of the United States, the importance of slavery as an institution and its economic role in the US, and his studies in historical demography.

He was born in New York City in 1926 to Russian immigrant parents. Their reverence for learning encouraged his academic pursuits. He earned degrees at Cornell (BA 1948), Columbia (MA 1960), and Johns Hopkins (PhD 1963). His interest in economic history was precipitated during his undergraduate days at Cornell by the widespread pessimism about the future of the economy during the second half of the 1940s. As he pursued his post-graduate studies he became aware of how little was actually known about the large processes of economic growth, and he began to focus on more discrete issues, such as the nature and magnitude of the contribution of particular technologies to growth. In order to answer such questions he set out to master the most advanced analytical and statistical methods that were then taught in economics departments. It was only later that he would discover that the training program he had worked out for himself was unorthodox for an economic historian.

While at Columbia he studied with George Stigler (who he would later join on the faculty at Chicago, and succeed as the Walgreen Chair in 1981) and Carter Goodrich, who encouraged him to pursue his doctoral work with Simon Kuznets at Johns Hopkins. He left Johns Hopkins with a research strategy that would keep him going for decades. He was determined to measure the impact of key scientific and technological innovations on the course of economic growth. His ground breaking work was due in part to the plunging cost of data processing, made possible by rapid advances in computer software, which made it feasible to work with ever-larger data sets. By linking together the data on individuals and households from a wide range of archival sources, he customized data sets for a wide variety of economic issues that have served him for the rest of his life. The sources include the manuscript schedules of decennial censuses, probate records, military and pension records, genealogies, tax rolls, death certificates, and public health records.

Besides his previously mentioned degrees, Fogel held honorary degrees from nine universities around the world, including Cambridge, Harvard, and the University of London. He was a Gilman Fellow, a Ford Faculty Research Fellow, a Fulbright Scholar, and the recipient of an Exxon Educational Foundation Grant. His career was studded with awards, beginning with Phi Beta Kappa in 1963, and including the Schumpeter Prize, the Bancroft Prize in American History, and the Indispensable Person of the Year for Health Research, awarded by the Alliance for Aging Research in 2006. And of course, the 1993 Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences.

He was elected a Fellow in the Econometric Society, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, the National Academy of Sciences, the Royal Historical Society, the Cliometric Society, and the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He was President of the Economic History Association in 1977, the Social Science History Association in 1980, and the American Economic Association in 1998. Fogel began his academic career as an instructor at Johns Hopkins. From there he moved to the University of Rochester, the University of Chicago, and Harvard, before returning to Chicago in 1981. He was the Pitt Professor of American History and Institutions at Cambridge in 1975.

He served on the editorial boards of Explorations in Economic History, Social Science History, Southern Studies, Economics and Human Biology, and Cliometrica. He served as Director of the Program on the
Development of the American Economy at the NBER, and Director of the Center for Population Economics at the University of Chicago.

He was one of the presenters at the inaugural meeting of the Cliometric Society, then known as the “Purdue University Conference on the Application of Economic Theory and Quantitative Methods to the Study of Problems of Economic History” in 1960, and subsequently presented his work at Clio conferences in 1963, 1964, 1968, 1972, 1977, 1985, 1989, and the World Congress in 1997. He was an invited speaker at more than 250 universities around the world. He published his first book, *The Union Pacific Railroad: A Case in Premature Enterprise*, in 1960, his most recent last year, and 20 more, plus more than 100 academic articles, in between.

Robert Fogel was preceded in death by his wife, inspiration, and research partner, Enid, and is survived by two children.

David S. Landes (1924-2013) died in Haverford, PA on August 17, 2013 at the age of 89. He was born at home in Brooklyn on April 29, 1924. Landes attended City College of New York, earning his undergraduate degree in 1942. He added an MA in history the following year from Harvard before being drafted into the army, where he served in the signal corps until 1946. After the war he returned to Harvard and completed his PhD in history in 1953, studying under Donald McKay.

His first position was at Columbia University, where he remained until 1958. After a year as a visiting Fellow at the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences in 1957-58, he remained in California, joining the faculty at UC – Berkeley. He joined the Harvard History Department in 1964, adding appointments to the departments of Political Science and Economics along the way before retiring as the Coolidge Professor of History and Professor emeritus of Economics in 1996.

In 1987 he was named a Senior Fellow of the Harvard Society of Fellows. He was awarded several honorary degrees from European universities, including Universite de Lille, Eidgenossische Technische Hochschule, and the Ecole des Hautes Etudes Commerciales in Paris. He served as President of the EHA in 1976-77, Chairman of American Professors for Peace in the Middle East during the 1970s, and Associate Editor of the *JEH* from 1954-60, among his many offices and duties to the profession.

Landes was a prolific author with more than 50 articles and half a dozen books to his name. His interest in timepieces (he was a collector) led to the writing of what has been called his most innovative book, *Revolution in Time: Clocks and the Making of the Modern World* in 1983.

A Tribute to David Landes

By Peter Temin

David Landes was a great narrative economic historian. Although fully aware of the New Economic History and a lively participant in many of its debates, he is known primarily as the author of masterful narratives written throughout the latter half of the twentieth century.

Many of Landes’ books can be grouped into three topic areas that express the focus of his many detailed stories and descriptions. The first topic is the growth of technology, given a primary place in economic history by the importance of the Industrial Revolution and in economics by the pioneering work of Robert
Solow. The second, related topic is the role of entrepreneurs in economic history. Technology does not arise solely from broad economic forces; it is created and nourished by adventurous and ambitious men we call entrepreneurs. And the third topic follows Landes’ interest in people into the role of culture in economic affairs, for entrepreneurs operate in societies, not in isolation.

I describe two books in each area here to summarize the enduring contributions of David Landes. The lead book in the first area is *The Unbound Prometheus*, a detailed account of the technology developed in Europe during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. This book describes how the world economy was freed from the Malthusian constraint of static resources. Cipolla (1962) identified this transition as one of the two major events of economic history, and Galor (2011) made it the center of his unified growth theory. Landes supplied the evidence behind these broad generalizations in a riveting narrative of discoveries.

He added a detailed case study to this general narrative in *Revolution in Time*, the history of innovation in the clock and watch industries. Time, ever elastic in Malthusian times, has become uniform in modern life, and the accurate measurement of time changed our perceptions as much as the new goods produced by other technologies.

Individuals appear prominently in these books, but they are overshadowed by the innovations they made. Landes turned his focus to the people in *Dynasties*, which placed entrepreneurs in families to see how long families could support the businesses started by these exceptional men. (They were exclusively men in the time frame of Landes’ work.) He found it was quite unusual for business acumen to be transmitted within families. He generalized these observations in a book edited by him, Joel Mokyr and William Baumol on the role of entrepreneurs in history that described comparable innovators in many times and places.

This concern with individuals and families leads naturally into the analysis of societies and cultures. But while we can see this progression in Landes’ work in retrospect, it is clear he had this underlying concern all along. His first book, *Bankers and Pashas*, was about the conflict of cultures between industrialized Europe and less “developed” Egypt in the late nineteenth century. This interest continued while Landes explored the other topics described here and came into the foreground again in his magisterial summary of technological, national and cultural change in *The Wealth and Poverty of Nations* (1998).

This marvelous book contains many insights, but one stands out starkly in the world today. Landes argued that no society that excluded women from economic activity could prosper. These societies were ignoring half of their human capital, fighting as it were with one hand tied behind them. Even more important in Landes’ account was the attitude in the dominant men engendered by gender discrimination. Men feel powerful in their domination of women, and they are interested in preserving the status quo and reveling in their superiority. They consequently are less likely to become entrepreneurs who change economies and societies. Landes described this syndrome in the Middle East, and it may extend also to several states in the United States where women’s rights are being sharply restricted, placing women in a subservient class with African Americans.

The books by David Landes describe here are delightful and informative at the same time. They will remain relevant to current concerns as long as technological and cultural changes are in the forefront of our minds and work.
Bibliography

Cynthia Taft Morris (1928-2013) passed away on July 16, 2013 at the age of 85. She was born in Cincinnati, OH on April 28, 1928, the granddaughter of US President and Supreme Court Chief Justice William Howard Taft, and the daughter of former Cincinnati Mayor Charles P. Taft II. Among her numerous accomplishments, she was the founder of the Washington Area Economic History Seminar and served as the 40th president of the Economic History Association from 1993-94.

She was Distinguished Economist in Residence at American University since retiring as the Charles N. Clark Professor of Economics at Smith College in 1998. She had previously held positions at the American University of Beirut, the Agency for International Development, the Economic Commission of Europe in Geneva, and the Mutual Security Agency in Paris.

She earned a BA in International Relations from Vassar College (1949), an MSc in Labor Economics from the London School of Economics (1951), and a PhD in Economics from Yale University (1959), where she studied with pioneer labor economist Lloyd Reynolds. She was a devotee of travel, research, and world culture. She spoke fluent French and German, and could read Spanish, Italian and Dutch. At one time or another she lived in Germany, Austria, France, Lebanon, Switzerland, and the Netherlands.

Morris and coauthor Irma Adelman broke ground with quantitative analysis of the determinants of economic development, publishing two books on their research. They then applied their technique to the economic history of the world for a third book. In all three books, they were pioneers in including social, political, and institutional factors in their economic analyses.

Though she made few public presentations of her research, Morris did present at the Cliometric Society meetings for the first time in 1978, and made subsequent appearances at the annual conference, most recently at the 2000 World Congress in Montreal.

Among her awards were four NSF grants, membership in the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, membership in Phi Beta Kappa,
and the award she was the most proud of: being named the Honored Professor at Smith College in 1996.

While she was a gifted and highly regarded scholar with four books and 30 scholarly articles on her resume, Morris was most passionate about her teaching. She was demanding, but cared deeply for any student who gave an honest effort.

Fifty Years Ago in the JEH: 1963

Editors Douglass North (Washington) and William Parker (Yale) completed their third year at the helm of the JEH in 1963. Volume 23 of the Journal came in at 597 pages and featured 16 articles, 89 book reviews, three review articles, three panel discussions, and six discussions by 26 different authors, 17 of whom published for the first time. Nine of those first time authors would never publish in the JEH again. The most notable of them was Karl Polanyi (Columbia). Chi-ming Hou (Colgate) published his only two articles in the JEH in 1963. In September he debuted with “Economic Dualism: The Case of China, 1840-1937,” and in December he contributed to a discussion panel with “Economic History of Modern China, 1840-1949.”

A number of prominent authors made their first of multiple appearances in volume 23, including Mark Blaug (Yale), Nathan Rosenberg (Purdue), Mancur Olson (Princeton), Harry Scheiber (Dartmouth), and Peter Temin (Harvard). Scheiber would publish nine more articles in the JEH before making his final appearance in 1984. To date, Temin has published 17 times in the JEH. He was one of six former or future EHA presidents to publish that year. Others included future presidents Robert Gallman (1975-76), David Landes (1976-77), and Alan Bogue (1981-82). In addition, past presidents Carter Goodrich (1954-56) and Frederic Lane (1957-58) appeared. Lane made his fifth of ten appearances spanning three decades from 1944 to 1975. Goodrich published his seventh of nine eventual articles that year.

Mancur Olson’s “Rapid Economic Growth as a Destabilizing Force” was the most cited article published in the JEH in 1963. It has been cited 55 times, most recently last year. Nate Rosenberg’s “Technological Change in the Machine Tool Industry, 1840-1910,” is not far behind. It has been cited 43 times to date.

In the March issue, Ralph Hidy (Harvard) published a request for copies of past EHA conference programs. At the time, Hidy was the association’s Secretary, and was seeking to compile a complete collection of conference programs. In the September issue, a call was put out for back issues of the Journal. The EHA was so interested in obtaining issues of the past three volumes that they were offering $1 apiece for them.

In the June issue president George Rogers Taylor (Amherst) announced the judges for the second round of the Edwin F. Gay Prize. Rondo Cameron (Wisconsin), Carter Goodrich (Columbia), and Raymond Goldsmith (Yale) were appointed as judges, though Richard Easterlin (Penn) ultimately replaced Goldsmith. Three months later the EHA announced the first winner of the prize, Clarence Danhof (Tulane). He was awarded the 1962 Gay Prize for his manuscript dealing with American Agrarian Development to 1860. The lengthy delay in announcing the prize winner was a foreboding sign of problems to come. The prize, despite its
generous cash gift and guarantee of publication, was plagued with problems during its brief history. Danhof’s manuscript was not published until 1969, by Harvard University Press, as *Changes in Agriculture: The Northern United States, 1820-1870*.

The prize had been announced at the 1961 EHA conference by George Rogers Taylor, Chairman of the Council on Research in Economic History (CREH). The CREH had voted to fund a prize in honor of Edwin Gay, first president of the association, to be offered every other year for the best manuscript submitted in the general field of economic history. The committee planned to give preference to manuscripts combining breadth and insight with careful and accurate scholarship. Rather than mere description, the award would go to work that was concerned with major changes or continuities in economic institutions. To be designated The Edwin F. Gay Prize in Economic History; the prize would include a generous $1500 cash prize (worth approximately $11,000 today) as well as assurance that the winning manuscript would be published. The original idea for commemorating the award included bestowing a silver or bronze medal on the winning author. This idea was eventually scrapped in favor of the cash prize. The plan was to make the award biennial, with the first winner to be announced the following year. However, the CREH left it to the EHA at large to determine the timing of the announcement, the deadline for submissions, and the selection of the winning manuscript. The CREH would be responsible only for the funding. Additional requirements of the prize were that it must be awarded to a US or Canadian citizen and that the manuscript be between 125 and 500 pages in length and never have been previously published.

Shortly after the inaugural winner was announced, Taylor, by then the EHA President, wrote to the Gay Prize committee advising them that it would be ok to reject a “pretty good” manuscript if it was not in reasonable shape for publication. This was the first hint that publication of the winning manuscript was not going to be an easy task, and would ultimately play a part in the demise of the prize altogether. Later that fall the EHA Board of Trustees passed a resolution that the prize would only be awarded to a manuscript published within the first 12 months of the award notification, and that public announcement of the award would be withheld until final acceptance of the manuscript for publication.

The winner of the 1964 prize, whose aforementioned committee had been formed in 1963, was Richard Tilly (Münster). He was awarded the prize for "Financial institutions and industrialization in the Rhineland, 1815-1870." Honorable mention went to Stephan Thernstrom (Harvard) for "Poverty and progress: social mobility in a nineteenth century city." Tilly’s manuscript was eventually published by the University of Wisconsin Press in 1966, violating the recently passed resolution about public announcement of the award winner being delayed until publication was arranged.

Further changes were made to the award in 1965, when the prize committee determined that it should be based on an author’s entire body of work, not just the submitted manuscript. Despite this change in focus, or perhaps because of it, no prize was awarded for the 1966 competition, for which only five manuscripts were received.

The cancellation of the prize did not go over without incident. One of the authors of the five rejected manuscripts contacted Theodore Marburg (Marquette), EHA secretary, and requested that he enter an anonymous motion to the EHA Board to reconvene, or elect a new, prize committee, and instruct it to judge the relative merits of the submitted manuscripts. He promised that if the judges then certified that
each of the entries lacked “intrinsic scholarly qualities or breadth and scope of inquiry and insight,” he would drop the issue and be satisfied with the original decision. The Board did not hear the request, and the turmoil the cancellation of the prize created was another factor that led to its demise three years later.

The final Gay Prize was awarded to William V. Whitney in 1968. Only seven submissions were received, and Whitney’s manuscript was never published. Thus, in the short history of the prize, only two manuscripts were ever published. Tilly’s book came out two years after the award was announced, and as noted earlier, it was six years after the announcement of the award before Danhof’s book was published, ironically, a year after the prize was disbanded.

The end of the Gay Prize came in September of 1968, shortly after announcing Whitney as the final prize recipient. The CREH voted not to fund the prize in the future. Discussion centered on the unsatisfactory publishing record of the previous two winners. The Danhof book had still not been published, and the publication of the Tilly manuscript did not in any way acknowledge the receipt of the Gay Prize or the role the EHA had in promoting the publication of the book. The University of Wisconsin Press, publisher of the Tilly manuscript, said it was not their policy to mention that a book had won a prize. Arthur Cole (Harvard) moved to eliminate the prize altogether, and Herman Krooss (NYU) agreed, noting the terrible experience the association had with the prize, and arguing that the association would get more mileage out of using the funds to support grants for research projects. At the EHA Board meeting the following fall Krooss reported that the CREH had voted to defund the Gay Prize. Revocation of the funding led to the EHA abandoning the project as well, and the Prize died an inglorious death, falling into obscurity.

The CREH has not ended its funding of research. It still disseminates grants through the EHA. The committee awards three grants: Graduate Dissertation Fellowships (including the Sokoloff Fellowship), Exploratory Travel and Data Grants, and Cole Grants for new faculty. It also ranks applicants for the Sokoloff Dissertation Fellowships, which are then chosen by a separate committee on which the CREH chair sits. In addition, the association has recognized outstanding books since 1989 with the Ranki and Jones prizes. It has never fully resurrected the Gay Prize mechanism however, and does not wade into the morass of publishing manuscripts that it has endowed with awards. The financial benefits of most of the modern awards are not as large in real terms as the Gay Prize, but the total amount awarded is much larger, and is spread out over a wider variety of projects. In 2013 the CREH awarded nearly $100,000 to twenty individuals, most of them graduate students or faculty early in their careers. The Jones and Ranki prizes are each $1200.
Conference Announcements

Cliometric Society Annual Conference

The annual Cliometrics Conference in 2014 will be held on the weekend of Friday, May 16 through Saturday, May 17 at Clemson University, Clemson, South Carolina and hosted by Clemson University and the National Science Foundation.

The conference is designed to provide extensive discussion of new and innovative research in economic history. Typically, twelve papers are selected for presentation and discussion. These are sent out to all conference participants in advance. Each paper is a single session, in which authors have five minutes to make an opening statement and the rest of the hour session is devoted to discussion among all conference participants. All participants are required to have read all papers and to attend the entire conference. At least one author must be a member of the Cliometric Society. For membership information contact Michael Haupert at haupert.mich@uwlax.edu.

Proposals and requests to attend the conference will be accepted beginning Monday 18 November 2013. The deadline to submit a paper proposal or a request to attend the conference is Friday 17 January 2014. Those wishing to present a paper should provide an abstract and a 3-5 page summary of the proposed paper. We strongly encourage interdisciplinary proposals and participants. In choosing papers and participants, the host committee will assign priority to those who have not attended recently or who have never attended. Graduate students wishing to attend or submit a paper proposal must obtain a letter of recommendation from their dissertation advisor. Those whose papers are selected for presentation will be notified by Monday 17 February 2014 and are expected to provide a completed draft of the paper in the proper format for the conference volume no later than Wednesday 26 March 2014.

We STRONGLY PREFER that applicants submit their materials via the web at the following site:  http://eh.net/2014-cliometrics-conference-proposal-submission/

Proposals (including addresses, phone numbers and email addresses) may also be e-mailed to clio2014@hawaii.edu or sent via snail mail to Cliometrics Conference Administrator, University of Hawaii Economic Research Organization, 2424 Maile Way, Rm 540, Honolulu, HI, 96822 USA.

Clio Sessions at the 2014 WEAI meetings

The Cliometric Society will sponsor sessions at the Western Economic Association International annual conference in Denver, CO June 27 – July 1, 2014. Anyone interested in presenting or discussing a paper, or chairing a session, should contact Mike Haupert at haupert.mich@uwlax.edu.

39th Annual Economic and Business History Society Conference
Manchester, UK, May 29-31, 2014

The Economic and Business History Society (EBHS) is now accepting proposals for our 39th annual conference, to be held at the Chancellors Hotel and Conference Centre in Manchester. Proposals for presentations on any aspect of economic or business history are welcome. We also welcome proposals for whole panels, typically of three presentations. Proposals should include an abstract of no more than 500 words, a brief curriculum vita, postal and email addresses, and telephone and fax numbers. We welcome submissions from graduate students and non-academic affiliates.

The EBHS conference offers participants the opportunity for intellectual interchange with an
international, interdisciplinary, and collegial group of scholars. (Typically about half the participants are from economics departments and half are from history or economic history departments). The conference will feature a distinguished keynote speaker.

The Society prides itself on its openness to new members. Toward this end, EBHS offers reduced conference fees for graduate students and early career researchers (four years or less since doctorate earned).

Proposals may be submitted through the EBHS website at www.ebhsoc.org. The deadline for submission of proposals is February 15, 2014.

Game Theory and the Humanities Workshop April 22-25, 2014

Game theory has only sporadically been applied to the humanities, broadly conceived. Disciplines in the humanities represent a world we do not normally associate with mathematical calculations of strategic interaction and rational choice. Nonetheless, a key aspect of our humanity is our ability to think rationally about alternative choices, selecting the one that best satisfies our goals. Game theory provides a calculus for this selection when we face other players, often with conflicting goals, in strategic situations.

Applications of game theory have been made to philosophy, religion and the Bible, theology, law, history, and literature (including short stories, plays, epic poems, and novels). In each of these fields, game theory models offer important, and sometimes startling, new strategic insights.

We propose a workshop that will bring together game theorists, and humanists in different fields, in order to explore how a strategic perspective, rooted in game theory, may inform the humanities as well as be informed by them. The main objective of this workshop is to show how game theory can be applied to different fields within the humanities in order to better explain, or predict, the behavior of people in different strategic situations of conflict and cooperation that are studied within the humanities.

Those interested in participating in the workshop should indicate their specific interests in the comments section of the registration page, which should be submitted by February 15, 2014. The decision of the organizers about acceptance to the workshop will be made by March 1, 2014. For more information and for registration visit the website at http://www.lorentzcenter.nl/lc/web/2014/636/info.php3?wsid=636&venue=Snellius

The Armory, on the Ohio State campus