

EH.Net 2001 Year End Summary and Quarterly Report

The purpose of this report is to summarize the major accomplishments of EH.Net from January 1 to December 31, 2001.

Current Staff

Connie Malone	Administrator. Connie, who had been working part-time at 25 hours per week, was on maternity leave from August 2 – September 16. She is now back at a reduced schedule of 15 hours per week.
John Davison	Systems Operator/Webmaster. John continues to serve both roles for us, working approximately 15-20 hours per week during the academic year following his full-time employment with us during the summer months..
Lee-za Ballman	Assistant Administrator/Graduate Assistant (stipend supported by EHA). Lee-za started working for EH.Net at the beginning of the fall term, when she was available to handle some of the administrative duties during Connie's leave. As EH.Net's graduate assistant for the academic year, she will assist with multiple content areas throughout the web site, including the "How Much Is That?" feature and Ask the Professor.
Melissa Schanding	List Manager. Melissa has assumed the responsibilities of managing subscription requests, monitoring "bad" mail, etc on a part-time (3-5 hours per week) basis.
Rachel Hillman	Ask the Professor Screener. Rachel is continuing in this role from her home in Minnesota.
Lorraine Kneppert	French Translator. Lorraine is a visiting student from France, and is working part-time with EH.Net during the fall semester correcting and providing translations for the French version of the XIII Congress web pages.
Chad Stewart	Assistant Webmaster. Chad will work with us on an as-needed basis putting up entries for the Encyclopedia.
Carl Williamson	Web Design Consultant. Carl was with us on a part-time basis throughout the summer, working on the redesign of our home page, the main page for each feature, and the redesign of The Cliometric Society pages.

General

Over the course of the summer, our home page and the main page for each of the principle features were redesigned and reprogrammed. On the home page, the Encyclopedia was added to the menu bar, the title graphic was re-worked, and a background was added to the page. The title graphic on the main page for each feature was also redesigned, with the links to the other features collapsed into a javascript popup menu under "services."

Additional work on the EH.Net systems included:

- maintenance of system software (upgrades, patches, etc...)
- addition of web based email, TODO and telnet-like features
- writing system software to work with the mailing lists
- repartitioning of the hard drives to maximize disk space
- installation of several new software packages

EH.Net Components and Projects

Abstracts (<http://www.eh.net/abstracts/>) Like several of the features throughout the EH.Net website, Abstracts underwent a general clean-up in 2001. The main Abstracts page was redesigned twice, and the archive was edited to provide for consistency in the subject prefixes and the presentation of the authors' names. Activity this year has been modest, with a total of 83 new abstracts being posted to the list and archived, bringing our total to 414. Of these 83, 41 abstracts were proposal submissions for the annual meetings of the Economic History Association and The Cliometrics Society. A new, improved search engine was installed, and the presentation of the sorting function was improved and is the process of continued refinement. Fifteen abstracts were posted during the fourth quarter.

It was noted in the first quarter report that there has been some discussion about expanding the service to include abstracts in business history and changing the name accordingly to Abstracts in Economic and Business History. Discussion is still needed on how to increase the activity of this service and encourage more submissions. Abstracts were submitted and posted from the *Journal of Economic History*, and offers have been extended to the editors of *Explorations in Economic History* and *Economic History Review* to do likewise.

Ask the Professor (<http://www.eh.net/atp/>) In response to input from those who have served as the Professor on Duty for this service, EH.Net has actively worked to distribute the work necessary to respond to the 130+ questions which were passed on to the Professor this year. Initially an ATP team was created, within which volunteers had agreed to answer questions in specified areas of expertise. Upon implementation, however, it turned out that the vast majority of questions that were received were outside of these areas, leaving the responsibility for answering queries still primarily on a single person. During the second quarter we implemented a new closed list, ATPANEL, the subscribers to which worked collectively to answer the questions that were posted to the list. Again, this system did not work out as anticipated as the questions posted to the list were typically too general or too obscure.

During the fourth quarter, the form for submitting questions to the Professor was revised to require the submitter to go into greater detail about the resources that had already been checked. This has cut down substantially on the number of questions being received, and now typically only 2-3 are forwarded by the ATP Screener each week. Graduate Assistant Lee-za Ballman and Sam Williamson work collaboratively to respond to these.

Like the Abstracts page, the ATP page was redesigned this year and a page for Frequently Asked Questions was added. The ATP archive was reviewed, and a large number of the questions and answers were deleted (such as those to which the Professor replied that s/he had no information

on the topic), thus making the archive more manageable. There are currently 797 questions and answers in the archive.

Book Reviews (<http://www.eh.net/bookreviews/>) 108 new book reviews have been posted and archived in the Book Review Library this year, 26 in the fourth quarter, bringing that total at the end of the year to 426. At the beginning of the year the twelfth and final Project 2000 essay was published, and Project 2001 was launched. Eight of the books selected for inclusion in Project 2001 have were reviewed, including:

- Woodrow Wilson Borah, *New Spain's Century of Depression*. Reviewed by Richard Salvucci, Department of Economics, Trinity University.
- Ester Boserup, *Conditions of Agricultural Growth: The Economics of Agrarian Change under Population Pressure*. Reviewed by Giovanni Federico, Department of Modern History, University of Pisa.
- Phyllis Deane and W. A. Cole, *British Economic Growth, 1688-1959: Trends and Structure*. Reviewed by Knick Harley, Department of Economics, University of Western Ontario.
- Robert William Fogel and Stanley L. Engerman, *Time on the Cross: The Economics of American Negro Slavery*. Reviewed by Thomas Weiss, Department of Economics, University of Kansas.
- Simon Kuznets, *Modern Economic Growth: Rate, Structure and Spread*. Reviewed by Richard A. Easterlin, Department of Economics, University of Southern California.
- North, Douglass C. and Robert Paul Thomas, *The Rise of the Western World: A New Economic History*. Reviewed by Philip R. P. Coelho, Department of Economics, Ball State University
- Jan de Vries, *The Economy of Europe in an Age of Crisis, 1600-1750*. Reviewed by George Grantham, Department of Economics, McGill University.
- Peter Temin, *The Jacksonian Economy*. Richard Sylla, Department of Economics, Stern School of Business, New York University.

The presentation of the Book Review sorts was cleaned up. A total of 76 previously published economic history reviews were sent to H-Net with our preferred citation for publication on their web site.

Calendar (<http://www.eh.net/calendar/>) As in previous years, the Calendar has continued to be an oft-used feature of the EH.Net website. Each academic term the organizers of workshops in economic history were solicited for their schedules, which were added to the Calendar. Other types of listings include conferences, paper/proposal submission deadlines, seminar series, fellowship application deadlines, and book and dissertaion prize deadlines.

Course Syllabi (<http://www.eh.net/coursesyllabi/>) The Course Syllabi feature received some long-overdue attention this year. Updated versions of existing syllabi and/or new syllabi were requested from each of our contributing professors, and calls for new syllabi were published on EH.Teach and EH.Res. In response to this, over two dozen updated or new syllabi were added to the feature, and six outdated syllabi were deleted upon the request of the contributor, resulting in a collection total of 113 syllabi representing 74 contributing professors. Coding of the syllabi

was also completed this quarter, with content codes and their description added to the web page along with the date and level of each syllabus. Finally, the listing of each contributor was expanded to include the professors' first names and affiliations.

Directory (<http://www.eh.net/directory/>) The Directory currently contains 2194 listings for economic and business historians internationally, representing members of the Economic History Association, The Cliometric Society, the Business History Conference, the History of Economics Society and the European Historical Economics Society. A notation for when a member is deceased was added, and a small change was made to the search function which eliminated the need to use the correct case and also solved a problem with finding people whose names included apostrophes.

EH Resources (<http://www.eh.net/ehresources/>) The "How Much is That?" series continues to be very popular as indicated both by the Web Server Statistics and by the volume of mail we receive pertaining to it. Lee-za Ballman has assumed the responsibility for responding to the questions and comments that come in. On the web page, the Purchasing Power questions were updated to include 2001 data, and two new series, "The Relative Cost of Unskilled Labor in the United States, 1774 – Present" and "The Annual Real and Nominal GDP for the United States, 1869 – Present" were added. Additional series are currently under development.

Encyclopedia Project (<http://www.eh.net/encyclopedia/>) During the third quarter of 2001 the EH.Net Encyclopedia of Economic and Business History, the name of which was slightly modified from its original form (the Online Encyclopedia of Economic History), was officially launched. A design for the main page and for each entry was developed. The main page hosts a brief description of the feature, including a link to a list of entry titles and authors, and a link to a page listing the Advisory Board members and Consulting Editors. It also contains a complete list of entries indexed alphabetically. A list of authors and the 41 entries received to date may be viewed at <http://www.eh.net/encyclopedia/authors.php>.

A general template for the presentation of each entry was also created, and because of the time it takes to put each entry into this format, an assistant web master, Chad Stewart, was hired to help with this project. An outstanding search engine for the Encyclopedia was also developed. It ranks each entry based on how often the search term is used and provides sample sentences. When an entry is selected and viewed from the search page, the term is highlighted everywhere it appears throughout the entry.

Graduate Programs in Economic History (<http://www.eh.net/grad/>) Twenty-one colleges and universities that offer graduate degrees in the field of Economic History are currently included in this feature, including: University of Arizona; University of British Columbia; California Institute of Technology; University of California, Berkeley; University of California, Davis; University of California, Los Angeles; University of Edinburgh; University of Glasgow; Harvard University; University of Kansas; London School of Economics; McGill University; University of Munich; Northwestern University; The Ohio State University; University of Oxford; Queens University; Rutgers University; Stanford University; Vanderbilt University; and Yale University.

Lists (<http://www.eh.net/lists/>) EH.Net continues to maintain eight active discussion lists: EH.Eastbloc; EH.News; EH.Res; EH.Teach; HES; H-Business; OZNZ.Society; and QUANHIST.Recurrent. Additionally, internal lists are maintained for the Economic History Association; The Cliometric Society Board of Trustees; and EH.Net's Executive Committee and Board of Trustees.

One minor change was made to the lists service this year: subscribers to H-Business and EH.News (not EH.Res) now receive Book Reviews and Abstracts. Posting of the EH.News Digest has been temporarily suspended

Subscriber counts for these lists as of 12/1/01 are as follows:

LIST NAME	NUMBER OF SUBSCRIBERS
EH.Eastbloc (Economic History of the Eastern Bloc Countries)	197
EH.News (Economic History News)	1671
EH.Res (Economic History Research)	937
EH.Teach (Issues in Teaching Economic History)	290
H-Business (Teaching and Research in Business History)	976
HES (History of Economics and Economic Thought)	808
OZNZ.Society (Economic History of Australia and New Zealand)	89
QUANHIST.Recurrent (Comparative Analysis of Recurrent Phenomena)	143

Subscribers to several of the above lists also receive additional services as part of their subscriptions:

- EH.Net-Review (Book Reviews): 1939 recipients (subscribers to EH.News and H-Business)
- Abstracts: 1671 recipients (subscribers to EH.News)
- Abstracts in the History of Economic Thought: 808 recipients (subscribers to HES)

Early in the year the web-based moderating system was overhauled, resolving a number of problems being experienced by the editors at that time. At the time of this report, John Davison is implementing a complete redesign of the system, adding additional features such as filters, multiple mailboxes, automatic formatting, spell checking, a search engine and an advanced text editor. Once the new system is in place, we will encourage all Editors who are not currently using the system to consider using it to moderate their lists.

Services to Other Organizations In addition to making corrections and additions to the organizational websites that are maintained by EH.Net, some of the major services that have been extended to our sponsoring organizations include:

- Assisting with the broadcast of the All-Ohio Economic History Seminar.

- A secure online registration form was created for the Economic History Association after considerable effort went into renewing our SSL license through VeriSign. This service (the creation of secure online forms) is available to all EH.Net Sponsoring Organizations.
- A complete redesign of The Cliometrics Society pages. Also continued postings of Clio's Featured Economic Historian.
- Substantive changes were made to the XIII Congress web site as the Congress organizers announced the additional sessions accepted from the second and final call. This resulted in the addition of 50 new titles to the list of accepted sessions and 50 individual session pages in each of the three Congress languages. A large number of pre-conferences and individual sessions' calls for papers were also published on the web page as well as announced on EH.News, and lists of participants were added to each individual session page. A new French translator was also hired from September through December, and she completed making corrections to the French pages and provided translations for each session description.

EH.Net Web Server Statistics, January 1 – December 31, 2001

General Summary	1st Q	2nd Q	3rd Q	4th Q
Successful requests:	1,853,026	760,565	2,331,905	1,222,022
Average successful requests per day:	20,589	8,357	25,346	13,282
Successful requests for pages:	296,817	703,312	303,662	350,219
Average successful requests for pages per day:	3,297	7,728	3,300	3,806
Distinct files requested:	17,681	40,590	63,557	48,154
Distinct hosts served:	82,165	89,932	89,018	127,503

Directory Report October 1 – December 31, 2001

(This report lists the directories from which files were requested. The figures for each directory include all of its subdirectories.)

Requests	% bytes	Directory
251289	15.10%	/lists/
82647	11.36%	bookreviews/
48334	9.88%	/coursesyllabi/
161068	9.24%	/ehresources/
28629	9.03%	/encyclopedia/
56914	7.59%	/Clio/
40883	5.05%	/abstracts/
74660	4.96%	/HE/
69980	4.78%	[root directory]
27824	3.67%	/bhc/
59750	3.44%	/XIIICongress/
4003	2.24%	/202Class/
139242	2.10%	/graphics/
28157	1.69%	/EHA/

4158	1.63%	/websites/
20170	1.05%	/~HisEcSoc/
11778	0.95%	/~bhc/
8462	0.80%	/cgi-bin/
9902	0.53%	/hmit/
8275	0.43%	/IEHA/
10043	0.41%	/directory/
5105	0.38%	/~listman/
8124	0.35%	/atp/
4188	0.31%	/huuc/
4098	0.27%	/grad/
2879	0.22%	/FORUMS/
2702	0.15%	/EHES/
3423	0.15%	/eh.net/
3051	0.13%	/ieha/
2440	0.12%	/project2000/
2592	0.11%	/eshsi/
1071	0.11%	/calendar/
1602	0.08%	/webmail/
130	0.06%	/Publications/
1011	0.06%	/socs/
110	0.03%	/EA/
617	0.03%	/physics/
1101	0.03%	/Help/
1795	0.03%	/~csdata/
137	0.02%	/ssh/
327	0.02%	/SSHA/
631	0.02%	/webevent/

Monthly Report

<u>Month</u>	<u>Requests</u>	<u>Pages</u>
January	547,937	85,872
February	630,321	120,136
March	674,768	90,809
April	232,767	219,402
May	300,334	277,133
June	227,464	206,777
July	632,865	94,700
August	689,377	104,159
September	1,009,663	104,803
October	521,320	114,256
November	330,462	118,265
December	370,240	117,698