

EH.Net 2003 Annual Summary Report

The purpose of this report is to summarize the major accomplishments of EH.Net from January 1 to December 31, 2003.

General

2003 was a year of transition for EH.Net. Sam Williamson retired from his position as Executive Director, and the Economic History Association's Board of Trustees voted to appoint Robert Whaples as the new Director for a term of 5 years as well as to assume principle ownership and operation of the EH.Net website. Thomas Whaples was hired, with funding from Wake Forest University, to take over as Systems Operator from John Davison, who graduated from Miami University in December. Connie Malone agreed to stay on as EH.Net's Administrator for the duration of Robert's term as Director, and the administrative office remains at Miami University though in a new office:

116 A Upham Hall
Miami University
Oxford, Ohio 45056
Tel: 1-513-529-2229

EH.Net's Board of Trustees was dissolved, and the former Executive Committee was replaced by a three-member committee appointed by the EHA:

Joshua Rosenbloom (University of Kansas), chair
John Murray (University of Toledo)
Ross B. Emmett (Michigan State University)

Staff

Connie Malone	Administrator. 12 hours per week.
John Davison	Variable hours. During 2003 John worked approximately 10 hours per week, with minimal hours his last semester, spent primarily assisting in the transition of responsibilities from him to Thomas.
Thomas Whaples	Apprentice Systems Operator/Webmaster. 4 hours per week.
Rachel Hillman	Ask the Professor Screener. Rachel is continuing in this role from her home in Minnesota without charge to EH.Net.

EH.Net Components and Projects

Abstracts (<http://www.eh.net/abstracts/>) The Abstracts service has been working well. Activity this year increased 26% over that of 2002 with 101 abstracts (compared to 80) posted to the list and archived on the server, bringing our total to 595. Of these 101, 33 were generated from

proposals submissions for Fifth World Congress of The Cliometrics Society, and 34 came from submissions to the 2003 annual meetings of Clio and the EHA.

Ask the Professor (<http://www.eh.net/atp/>) The Ask the Professor Service has increasingly focused its efforts on aiding researchers (graduate students, professionals, journalists etc.) rather than high school and college students writing term papers. This means that the "professor" rarely knows the answer, but often forwards the question to someone in the field or to the EH.RES list.

Rachel Hillman reports that 195 questions were submitted to the Ask the Professor service from January through December. Of these, 58 were forwarded to Michelle Bullock, our former graduate assistant, or (beginning in August) to Robert Whaples for response. Seven answers were added to the ATP archive during 2003.

Book Reviews (<http://www.eh.net/bookreviews/>) EH.Net Review continues to be one of EH.Net's most active and popular services, receiving 517,166 request for files in 2003 – an increase of over 116,000 requests from 2002. 150 new book reviews were posted and archived in the Book Review Library, bringing our total collection to 721 reviews and exceeding the number of reviews published in 2002 by seven. This success is due to the work of our Book Review Editors, including Robert Whaples for economic history, Michael Namorato for business history, and a new editor, Ranjit Dighe, who now serves as our Website Review Editor. Our list of Associate Book Review Editors also expanded this year as Jonathan Liebowitz and Pierre-Cyrille Hautcoeur joined Andrew Godley and Peter Wardley as ABREs for Europe, and Metin Cosgel came on board as ABRE for the Middle East. Richard Salvucci and Sumner LaCroix continue to cover the areas of Latin America and Asia-Pacific respectively.

The eleventh Project 2001 review was posted in February: Albert Fishlow on Alexander Gerschenkron, *Economic Backwardness in Historical Perspective: A Book of Essays*. One more Project 2001 review is forthcoming. Additionally, updates to the list of forthcoming reviews in economic history were made monthly, and we anticipate adding lists of forthcoming reviews in business history and the history of economics in February, 2004.

Calendar (<http://www.eh.net/calendar/>) The Calendar continues to be a popular feature of the EH.Net website. The organizers of workshops in economic history were solicited for their schedules for spring and fall 2003 with responses being received from Research Triangle, Indiana, Northwestern, Columbia, Harvard, Universidad Carlos III, U.C. Davis, U.C. Berkeley, WAEH and Hagley. Other listings, including conferences, paper/proposal submission deadlines, seminar series, fellowship application deadlines, and book and dissertation prize deadlines have been made as they become available.

Course Syllabi (<http://www.eh.net/coursesyllabi/>) Course Syllabi received 242,867 requests for pages during 2003. Subsequent to a solicitation placed on EH.News and EH.Teach for new course syllabi, fourteen professors submitted 21 syllabi that have been added to our collection. New or replacement syllabi are always welcome at anytime and are placed on the server as they are made available to us.

Databases (<http://www.eh.net/databases/>) Inspired by discussion at Round Table I, "Worldwide Infrastructure," at the XIII Congress of the IEHA in Buenos Aires, wherein attendees had an opportunity to discuss the importance of organizing a world-wide infrastructure for economic-historical research and the need for a centralized repository for information-rich databases that would be readily accessible to scholars and researchers, some overdue attention was given to the EH.Net Databases feature the first quarter of 2003.

Databases has two components: Data Series Online, which features series that may be downloaded from our server, and the Databases Directory which lists series that are available to other scholars to use, but which we do not house. Two databases from one of our Encyclopedia entries, "Money and Finance in the Confederate States of America," were added to the Data Series Online. These are:

- Weekly data on Confederate cotton bond prices in London and junk bond prices in Amsterdam
- Biweekly data on the Confederate Grayback note price of a gold dollar in Richmond and Houston

Additionally, the data from "An Index of the Wage of Unskilled Labor from 1774 to the Present" from our "How Much Is That?" series was also added.

Our Databases Directory was also updated this year. Those listed as contacts for each of the listed databases was contacted to ascertain whether the information presented was still correct and current, and updates were made to this information as they were received. The submission form for the Databases Directory was revised, and the presentation of the Directory information was updated in order to make it more attractive and easier to understand.

Finally, during the first quarter a letter was sent to the thirty-five participants in Round Table I, inviting them to visit our Databases page and also to contribute to it.

Directory (<http://www.eh.net/directory/>) The Directory currently contains 2455 listings for economic and business historians internationally, an increase of 74 over the 2002 year end total, and represents members of the Economic History Association, The Cliometric Society, the Business History Conference, and some members of the Economic History Society (those who are joint members with others of our Sponsoring Organizations).

Encyclopedia Project (<http://www.eh.net/encyclopedia/>) The EH.Net Encyclopedia of Economic and Business History received 259,569 requests for pages in 2003, over 100,000 more requests than were received in 2002. The Encyclopedia continues to grow with entries on the following subjects added in 2003:

- Monetary Unions
- The Bus Industry in the United States
- The Company Town
- Public Sector Pensions in the United States
- U.S. Agriculture in the Twentieth Century

- US Banking History, Civil War to World War II
- The Economic History of Taiwan
- Health Insurance, US/Insurance, Health, US
- Glorious Revolution/Financial Revolution, England
- Banking -- Western US
- Cotton Picker, Mechanical
- Banking -- Savings & Loan Industry, US/Savings & Loan Industry, US
- Gresham's Law
- Path Dependence/QWERTY, Economics of
- Brewing Industry, US
- Baseball, US/Major League Baseball
- Indonesia
- Malthus, Thomas Robert
- Marshall, William
- Ricardo, David
- Young, Arthur

An updated version of “The US Coal Industry in the Nineteenth Century” was also added, and occasional corrections to entries were made as they were received. There are now a total of 75 entries in the Encyclopedia.

Several people were added to the list of Consulting Editors for the Encyclopedia, including Ronald Michener, Ross Emmett, David Mitch, and Michael Smitka.

Graduate Programs in Economic History (<http://www.eh.net/grad/>) Twenty-four colleges and universities that offer graduate degrees in the field of economic history are currently included in this feature.

“How Much Is That?” (<http://www.eh.net/hmit>) In 2003 there were 894,107 requests for pages from our “How Much Is That?” feature, more than for any other aspect of our website with the exception of our lists. The feature, which is now edited by Sam Williamson, saw the addition of two new series to the existing nine offerings, both authored by Special Projects Editor Lawrence Officer. In January EH.Net introduced "What Was the Interest Rate Then?" which presents two short-term and one long-term series presented for the United States and the United Kingdom, reported from both a contemporary and consistent standpoint. The series are:

- United Kingdom Short-Term Interest Rate, Ordinary Funds (1790-2001) and Surplus Funds (1855-2001) and Long-Term Interest Rate (1729-2001)
- United States Short-Term Interest Rate, Ordinary Funds (1831-2001) and Surplus Funds (1857-2001) and Long-Term Interest Rate (1798-2001)

In June EH.Net introduced “What Was the UK GDP Then?” which presents the nominal and real GDP, GDP deflator, population, and nominal and real GDP per capita for the United Kingdom for select years from 1086 - 1830 and annual thereafter.

Two written works also accompany both series: a short guide that is oriented toward the general reader, and a lengthy monograph for the more serious scholar.

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

There were a few changes in editorship for some lists in 2003. Humberto Baretto took over as Editor of HES from Ross Emmett, and importantly he also assumed the responsibility for managing the History of Economics site on the EH.Net server. Robert Whaples became the Editor for EH.News following Sam Williamson's retirement, with Sam assuming the editorship of "How Much Is That?" Simon Ville took over as Editor for OZNZ.Society from Chris Lloyd, Greg Clark is now Editor of EH.Res, and Lawrence Officer has been designated Special Projects Editor, working closely with Sam on the "How Much Is That?" series.

During the summer, John Davison deleted over 300 "bad" e-mail addresses from our subscriber files.

Subscriber counts for these lists as of 1/31/04 are as follows (12/31/03 data was not available):

LIST NAME	NUMBER OF SUBSCRIBERS 1/31/04	NUMBER OF SUBSCRIBERS 12/31/03	CHANGE
EH.Eastbloc (Economic History of the Eastern Bloc Countries)	242	228	+14
EH.Net-Review	2029	2158	-129
EH.News (Economic History News)	1800	1851	-51
EH.Res (Economic History Research)	1093	1086	+7
EH.Teach (Issues in Teaching Economic History)	368	346	+22
EHB (Economics and Human Biology)	174	113	+61
HES (History of Economics and Economic Thought)	893	869	+24
OZNZ.Society (Economic History of Australia and New Zealand)	131	107	+24
QUANHIST.Recurrent (Comparative Analysis of Recurrent Phenomena)	222	176	+46

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

- Subscribers to EH.Res also receive EH.News
- Abstracts (AEH): 1800 recipients (subscribers to EH.News)
- Abstracts in the History of Economic Thought (AHET): 893 recipients (subscribers to HES)

In the fall subscription reports were sent to all EH.Net list subscribers.

Services to Other Organizations In addition to making corrections and additions to the organizational websites (such as the Economic and Social History Society of Ireland and the European Historical Economics Society) that are maintained by EH.Net, some of the major services that have been extended to our sponsoring organizations include:

- A secure online registration form was created for the Economic History Association for their 2003 Meeting after renewing our SSL license through VeriSign. This service (the creation of secure online forms) is available to all EH.Net Sponsoring Organizations. An online proposal submission forms for the 2004 EHA meetings was also developed.
- Web pages for the Fifth World Congress of Cliometrics were created, including a proposal submission form and a secure online registration form.
- Continued postings of Clio's Featured Economic Historian.
- Updates were made to the EHA page, including updating the Trustees list, the by-laws and the committee assignments page.

EH.Net Web Server Statistics, January 1 – December 31, 2003

To view the Web Server Statistics Report in its entirety, please visit: <http://eh.net/hitcounts/>

General Summary	2003	2002	Change
Successful requests:	5,399,077	4,613,336	+785,741
Average successful requests per day:	14,751	12,639	+2,112
Successful requests for pages:	4,642,457	1,439,956	+3,202,501
Average successful requests for pages per day:	12,684	3,945	+8,739
Distinct files requested:	216,354	166,100	+50,254
Distinct hosts served:	762,579	578,600	+183,979

Monthly Report

January	431,767 requests for 380,165 pages
February	409,615 requests for 357,812 pages
March	446,734 requests for 384,308 pages
April	508,067 requests for 428,267 pages
May	435,985 requests for 349,770 pages
June	333,556 requests for 285,339 pages
July	399,325 requests for 357,520 pages
August	347,269 requests for 296,621 pages
September	528,573 requests for 455,236 pages
October	521,795 requests for 449,956 pages
November	542,451 requests for 458,193 pages
December	481,364 requests for 427,595 pages

Directory Report January 1 – December 31, 2003

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

Requests	Bytes	Directory
1,068,126:	7.39%:	/lists/
894,107:	6.81%:	/hmit/
621,866:	23.82%:	/XIIICongress/
517,166:	9.26%:	/bookreviews/
313,933:	1.06%:	/ehresources/
259,569:	12.15%:	/encyclopedia/
242,867:	8.09%:	/coursesyllabi/
213,304:	13.68%:	/HE/
194,524:	2.36%:	[root directory]
146,720:	0.61%:	/graphics/
137,028:	2.26%:	/Clio/
111,132:	0.83%:	/EHA/
97,381:	2.22%:	/cgi-bin/
91,708:	1.89%:	/abstracts/
84,151:	0.39%:	/bibliographies/
62,085:	3.08%:	/databases/
55,572:	0.37%:	/~HisEcSoc/
43,030:	0.36%:	/grad/
31,616:	0.16%:	/atp/
29,977:	0.29%:	/directory/
18,942:	0.35%:	/EHES/
18,935:	0.26%:	/HisEcSoc/
15,405:	0.11%:	/ieha/
13,895:	0.09%:	/IEHA/
13,737:	0.21%:	/~huuc/
13,168:	0.68%:	/websites/
12,056:	0.05%:	/calendar/
9,776:	0.14%:	/eshsi/
8,882:	0.05%:	/project2000/
8,363:	0.05%:	/FORUMS/
7,828:	0.05%:	/eh.net/
5,973:	0.07%:	/~listman/
5,213:	0.06%:	/mail/
3,944:	0.06%:	/~bhc/
3,224:	0.01%:	/admin/
2,532:	0.03%:	/socs/
1,152:	0.07%:	/EA/
416:	0.01%:	/~john/
312:	0.01%:	/ssh/
70:	0.01%:	/hitcounts/