

EH.Net Annual Report, 2004-05

In order to be consistent with the reporting practices of the Economic History Association, EH.Net's parent organization, the time period covered in this and subsequent activities reports will coincide with the EHA's fiscal year, running August 1 through July 31. Quarters will thus be considered as follows:

First quarter: August 1 – October 31

Second quarter: November 1 – January 31

Third quarter: February 1 – April 30

Fourth quarter: May 1 – July 31

This report summarizes the major accomplishments of EH.Net from August 1, 2004 to July 31, 2005.

Staff

- Robert Whaples, Director
- Samuel H. Williamson, Senior Editor
- Connie Malone, Administrator. 12 hours per week.
- Thomas Whaples, System Administrator. 7 hours per week.
- Rachel Hillman, Ask the Professor Assistant

Executive Committee

- John Murray (University of Toledo), Chair
- Ross B. Emmett (Michigan State University)
- Michael Haines (Colgate)

Affiliated Organizations

Affiliated organizations of EH.Net provide financial support toward the operation of our website and electronic discussion lists. They receive web services and inclusion in the EH.Net on-line Directory. The following organizations are currently affiliated with EH.Net:

- The Business History Conference
- The Cliometric Society
- The Economic History Society
- The History of Economics Society

General

As noted in our last activities report (August 2004), a primary concern over the first half of 2004 had been the increasingly undependable nature of the EH.Net server, a Sun Ultra 10 running on a 100 Mbps ethernet connection and hosted by Miami University. That spring, utilizing funds approved and provided by the Economic History Association, EH.Net purchased an IBM eServer 325, with two 64-bit Opteron processors running at about 1.8Ghz each, and 2 gigabytes of RAM. As of August 2005, the new machine, which provides 250 gigabytes of disk space (.25 terabytes), is running the Linux 2.6.10 kernel as part of Fedora Core 2, the Apache HTTP webserver (version 2.0.51) and PHP 4.3.10. The new machine is hosted by Wake Forest University. The old server was shipped to Wake Forest in January 2005.

Accordingly, over the past twelve months our systems operator, Thomas Whaples, has transitioned the operation of the EH.Net website and services from the old Solaris server to the new Linux server. Thomas has also begun transitioning the site to the Drupal content management system and site design, developed an editing tool for the Mailman mailing list system (to edit messages which are awaiting administrative approval), written a new directory update mechanism, and performed general editing, maintenance, setup and updating tasks.

Future plans for the site include transitioning more features to the Drupal content management system, most notably the Book Reviews, Encyclopedia, Ask the Professor, and mailing list archives.

EH.Net Components and Projects

Abstracts (<http://www.eh.net/abstracts/>) During the past four quarters, 45 abstracts were posted to the Abstracts list and archived on the web site. These abstracts originated from three primary sources: proposals submitted to the Economic History Association for its annual meeting; proposals submitted to the Cliometric Society for its annual meeting; and online submissions from our electronic form located at <http://eh.net/abstracts/submissionform.php>. EH.Net has also been granted permission to publish abstracts from twenty-eight Discussion Papers in Economic History from the Centre for Economic Policy Research. These abstracts will be published on AEH throughout September and October, 2005.

Ask the Professor (<http://www.eh.net/atp/>) The Ask the Professor service has become somewhat inactive. The Director has served as the “Ask the Professor” and has referred important questions to EH.NET’s discussion lists or to specific economic historians. He has handled about 18 questions during this period, but no questions or answers have been archived since May 2004.

Book Reviews (<http://www.eh.net/bookreviews/>) EH.Net’s Book Reviews continue as one of our site’s most popular services and features. Over 1,500 people are currently subscribed to EH.Net-Review, the mailing list to which our reviews are first published, and pages from within the Book Reviews directory received 830,824 requests during this reporting period. Our Book Reviews Library now includes 975 reviews, of which 142 were added during the last four quarters. Lists of forthcoming reviews in economic history, business history and the history of economics are continuously updated.

Currently, the list of editors for EH.Net Book Reviews includes the following:

- Senior Book Review Editor: Robert Whaples (Wake Forest)
- Website Review Editor: Ranjit Dighe (SUNY-Oswego)
- Book Review Editor (Business History): Silvano Wueschner (Air University USAF)
- Associate Book Review Editors (Europe):
 - Andrew Godley (University of Reading)
 - Pierre-Cyrille Hautcoeur (l'Université de Paris I Panthéon-Sorbonne)
 - Jonathan Liebowitz (University of Lowell)
 - John Lyons (Miami University)
 - Peter Wardley (School of History, University of the West of England, Bristol)

- Associate Book Review Editor (Latin America): Richard Salvucci (Trinity College)
- Associate Book Review Editor (Asia-Pacific): Sumner La Croix (University of Hawaii)
- Associate Book Review Editor (Middle East): Metin Cosgel (University of Connecticut)
- Associate Book Review Editor (South Asia): Santhi Hejeebu (Cornell College)

Calendar (<http://www.eh.net/calendar/>) The Calendar continues to be a popular feature of the EH.Net website. Listings include conferences, paper/proposal submission deadlines, seminar series, fellowship application deadlines, and book and dissertation prize deadlines.

Course Syllabi (<http://www.eh.net/coursesyllabi/>) EH.Net's Course Syllabi collection currently includes 134 syllabi from 86 contributors. 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/>) Two new databases (U.S. Customs House Data, 1854-59 and Early Forward Exchange Markets: Vienna, 1876-1914) were added to our Data Series Online during this period, bringing the total number of databases housed on our server to eleven. EH.Net also provides information on and access to an additional 32 databases listed in our Database Directory.

Directory (<http://www.eh.net/directory/>) The Directory currently contains 2507 listings for economic and business historians internationally, a decrease of fourteen from the 2004 mid-year 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). The Directory listings are due for significant updating this fall through comparisons to both the EHA and the BHC's membership lists.

Encyclopedia Project (<http://www.eh.net/encyclopedia/>) Under the direction of Editor Robert Whaples, the EH.Net Encyclopedia of Economic and Business History continues to steadily expand with a current total of 126 published reference articles, an increase of 34 since our last report. During the last four quarters Encyclopedia pages received 1,183,474 requests. The list of forthcoming Encyclopedia articles has been regularly updated, and a final list of the top ten most requested articles for 2004 is now available. They are:

1. Alcohol Prohibition, by Jeffrey Miron
2. The Economics of the Civil War, by Roger Ransom
3. Child Labor during the British Industrial Revolution, by Carolyn Tuttle
4. Slavery in the United States, by Jenny Wahl
5. Immigration to the United States, by Raymond Cohn
6. The Smoot-Hawley Tariff, by Anthony O'Brien
7. The Economic History of Tractors in the U.S., by William White
8. Women Workers in the British Industrial Revolution, by Joyce Burnette
9. The Gold Standard, by Lawrence Officer
10. History of the Standard of Living in the United States, by Richard Steckel

Several people were also added to the 72-member list of Consulting Editors for the Encyclopedia. These include: Donald Frey, Wake Forest University; S.M. Ghazanfar, University

of Idaho; Claudia Goldin, Harvard University; Gary Libecap, University of Arizona; Robert Margo, Vanderbilt University Fred Smith, Davidson College; and Bruce Yandle, Clemson.

Graduate Programs in Economic History (<http://www.eh.net/grad/>) Twenty-seven colleges and universities that offer graduate degrees in the field of economic history are currently included in this feature. In March 2005 a letter was written to the contact person for each university for which we have a Graduate Program Summary requesting current information, and their responses were used to update each listing.

“How Much Is That?” (<http://www.eh.net/hmit>) “How Much Is That?” continues to be our most frequently accessed feature, receiving 1,464,057 hits during this period. “What Was its Relative Value in U.K. Pounds?” by Lawrence Officer was made live, and small revisions and updates were made to the web pages and source notes for several of the other series. Sam Williamson continues to work with Louis Johnston and Lawrence Officer on these series, and we anticipate updating most of the calculators to include data through 2004 this fall. Late this summer, David Flynn (University of North Dakota) agreed to join the HMIT team.

Lists (<http://www.eh.net/lists/>) EH.Net continues to maintain and operate ten electronic mailing lists. Subscriber counts for these lists as of 7/31/05 are as follows:

LIST NAME	NUMBER OF SUBSCRIBERS 6/30/04	NUMBER OF SUBSCRIBERS 7/31/05	CHANGE
AEH (Abstracts in Economic History)	N/A	1,307	N/A
EH.Eastbloc (Economic History of the Eastern Bloc Countries)	232	256	+24
EH.Net-Review	1616	1528	-88
EH.News (Economic History News)	1674	1435	-239
EH.Res (Economic History Research)	968	880	-88
EH.Teach (Issues in Teaching Economic History)	364	402	+38
EHB (Economics and Human Biology)	193	216	+23
HES (History of Economics and Economic Thought)	781	789	+8
OZNS.Society (Economic History of Australia and New Zealand)	161	138	-23
QUANHIST.Recurrent (Comparative Analysis of Recurrent Phenomena)	223	235	+12

EH.Net Web Server Statistics, August 8, 2004 – June 30, 2005

To view the Web Server Statistics Report in its entirety, please visit: <http://eh.net/hits/2005/>

General Summary

Successful requests:	23,431,322
Average successful requests per day:	71,743
Successful requests for pages:	6,380,314
Average successful requests for pages per day:	19,535
Distinct files requested:	353,250
Distinct hosts served:	1,019,776

Monthly Report

August	283,737 requests for 86,516 pages
September	1,808,489 requests for 471,113 pages
October	1,958,688 requests for 559,403 pages
November	2,569,765 requests for 640,546 pages
December	1,219,689 requests for 281,244 pages
January	2,653,553 requests for 470,827 pages
February	2,708,910 requests for 639,486 pages
March	2,990,670 requests for 762,757 pages
April	2,587,241 requests for 667,824 pages
May	2,261,106 requests for 623,880 pages
June	1,824,636 requests for 558,341 pages

(August 2004 hits were unusually low due to problems with the old EH.NET server.)

Directory Report

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

<u>Requests</u>	<u>Bytes</u>	<u>Directory</u>
11,009,711	13.31%	/graphics/
2,717,445	3.26%	[root directory]
1,464,057	5.72%	/hmit/
1,375,668	18.82%	/HE/
1,183,474	13.25%	/encyclopedia/
1,062,429	3.44%	/lists/
830,824	7.34%	/bookreviews/
755,249	1.85%	/pipermail/
500,326	14.36%	/XIIICongress/
344,692	0.54%	/shiny/
301,469	0.94%	/misc/
284,756	1.71%	/Clio/
211,858	5.93%	/coursesyllabi/
154,562	0.32%	/cgi-bin/
152,492	0.33%	/themes/
139,155	0.76%	/EHA/

<u>Requests</u>	<u>Bytes</u>	<u>Directory</u>
100,041	1.54%	/abstracts/
99,095	3.70%	/databases/
79,848	0.10%	/drupal/
54,713	0.13%	/bibliographies/
37,955	0.17%	/directory/
37,224	0.22%	/~HisEcSoc/
31,316	0.14%	/deaconecon/
30,755	0.29%	/EHES/
23,864	0.17%	/eshsi/
12,874	0.24%	/websites/
1,156	0.12%	/.search/

Domain Report

The Domain Report lists the countries of the computers that requested files. Excluding hits from .com (commercial), .net (networks) and .org (non-profit organizations), EH.Net was accessed from over 170 countries! Countries with over 10,000 requests for pages are:

<u>Requests</u>	<u>Bytes</u>	<u>Domain</u>
1,509,896	4.48%	.edu (USA Higher Education)
538,901	1.57%	.uk (United Kingdom)
308,828	0.84%	.us (United States)
297,677	0.93%	.ca (Canada)
179,985	0.58%	.au (Australia)
147,407	1.04%	.fr (France)
123,071	0.50%	.nl (Netherlands)
108,057	0.73%	.it (Italy)
89,354	0.33%	.de (Germany)
89,076	0.41%	.jp (Japan)
68,487	0.14%	.gov (USA Government)
66,345	0.17%	.se (Sweden)
53,867	0.15%	.mil (USA Military)
53,652	0.31%	.br (Brazil)
51,367	0.30%	.be (Belgium)
46,178	0.50%	.mx (Mexico)
44,976	0.24%	.ch (Switzerland)
41,119	0.15%	.pl (Poland)
40,699	0.13%	.nz (New Zealand)
39,456	0.17%	.es (Spain)
38,791	0.11%	.ru (Russia)
35,958	0.38%	.ar (Argentina)
34,255	0.13%	.fi (Finland)
32,640	0.10%	.sg (Singapore)
32,111	0.06%	.ph (Philippines)
30,256	0.10%	.gr (Greece)
25,433	0.13%	.tr (Turkey)

<u>Requests</u>	<u>Bytes</u>	<u>Domain</u>
24,525	0.10%	.dk (Denmark)
24,407	0.09%	.no (Norway)
22,952	0.06%	.il (Israel)
21,718	0.07%	.ie (Ireland)
21,020	0.15%	.at (Austria)
18,719	0.07%	.pt (Portugal)
17,054	0.06%	.cz (Czech Republic)
15,297	0.07%	.tw (Taiwan)
14,579	0.06%	.hu (Hungary)
14,084	0.04%	.in (India)
13,937	0.08%	.ro (Romania)
12,856	0.11%	.co (Colombia)