

EH.Net Annual Report, 2005-06

In order to be consistent with the reporting practices of the Economic History Association, the time period covered in this activity report coincides with the EHA's fiscal year, running August 1 through July 31. Quarters are 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 activities of EH.Net from August 1, 2005 to July 31, 2006.

Staff

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

Executive Committee

- Ross B. Emmett (Michigan State University), Chair
- Michael Haines (Colgate)
- Alan Dye (Barnard)

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

The terms of sponsorship for the History of Economics Society will be changing in the fall of 2006 based on a decision by the organization's executive committee to create a new website to hosted by a commercial web service provider. EH.Net will continue to provide electronic list services to HES, including maintaining an archive of list postings, and will provide a prominent link to their new web site from our main page. Their funding will drop from \$500 per year to \$350.

General

Over the past year or so, Thomas Whaples (System Administrator) has continued to revamp portions of the EH.Net web site to utilize our new page style. In addition to developing some new calculators for "How Much Is That?" he also developed, tested and implemented a new submission system for conference papers, and he has been trying to streamline and unify portions of the site's back-end configuration (attending to matters such as redirects of old pages, server

configuration files, URL canonicalization). This is particularly salient because, as Thomas nears completion of his university studies, we will begin to make the transition to a new systems administrator. Finally, Thomas has worked to make the site more friendly for search engines (such as Google), using the "Google Sitemaps" feature to ensure that EH.Net pages are properly indexed.

The server has been running fairly well. It has been online for more than fourteen months continuously. At some point in the intermediate future, however, the server should be taken down so that we can install some major operating system upgrades.

EH.Net Components and Projects

Abstracts (<http://www.eh.net/abstracts/>) During the past four quarters, 48 abstracts were posted to AEH, Abstracts in Economic History, and archived on the web site. This represents a small increase of three abstracts over the previous reporting year. These abstracts originated from four sources: proposals submitted to the Economic History Association for its annual meeting; proposals submitted to the Cliometric Society for its annual meeting; online submissions from our electronic form located at <http://eh.net/abstracts/submissionform.php>; and abstracts provided to us by the Centre for Economic Policy Research.

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 having 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. Just under 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 1,168,304 requests for 1,163,398 pages during this reporting period. Our Book Reviews Library now includes 1098 reviews, of which 133 were added during the last four quarters. 146 book reviews were added during the August 2004-July 2005 period. Lists of forthcoming reviews in economic history, business history and the history of economics are updated monthly.

A new component of EH.Net's Book Reviews, "Economic History Classics," was launched in January. Modeled along the lines of our earlier Project 2000 and Project 2001 series, reviewers of "Economic History Classics" have been asked to "reintroduce" each of the books to the profession, "explaining its significance at the time of publication and why it has endured as a classic." Each review summarizes the book's key findings, methods and arguments, as it puts it into the larger context and discusses any weaknesses. Three classic reviews were published during the last two quarters of the reporting period:

- Paul Einzig's *The History of Foreign Exchange* (1962, 1970), reviewed by Lawrence H. Officer, Department of Economics, University of Illinois at Chicago.
<http://eh.net/bookreviews/library/officer.shtml>
- Stanley Lebergott's *Manpower in Economic Growth* (1964), reviewed by Robert A. Margo, Department of Economics, Boston University.
<http://eh.net/bookreviews/library/margo.shtml>
- Thomas C. Smith's *Agrarian Origins of Modern Japan* (1959), reviewed by Osamu Saito, Institute of Economic Research, Hitotsubashi University.
<http://eh.net/bookreviews/library/margo.shtml>

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): David Mason (Georgia Perimeter College)
- Associate Book Review Editors (Europe):
 - Andrew Godley (University of Reading)
 - Timothy Guinnane (Yale University)
 - 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/>) At the end of 2005, EH.Net discontinued the use of the WebEvent software for managing our calendar. While EH.Net staff was pleased with the functionality of WebEvent, we were no longer able to add events past January 31, 2005 without purchasing a new service contract from WebEvent at a substantial cost. Thomas Whaples researched alternative software, and software from Sunbird is now being utilized. Events from August 2000 through January 2005 remain archived on the server and are accessible from the new calendar page. Listings on the EH.Net calendar continue to 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 117 syllabi from 76 contributors. A review of the existing syllabi indicates that several of those listed are now ten years old or older, so in the fall of 2006 all of the existing contributors for whom we have current e-mail addresses will be contacted and asked to submit updated syllabi. A request for new syllabi will also be published on EH.Teach and EH.News. 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/>) The purpose of the Databases feature on EH.Net is to provide an on-line location for researchers in economic history to make their data series available to other professionals and interested scholars. Several data series have been given to EH.Net and are available as downloadable files:

- Biweekly Data on the Confederate Grayback Note Price of a Gold Dollar in Richmond and Houston
- Developing Country Export Statistics: 1840, 1860, 1880 and 1900
- Early Forward Exchange Markets: Vienna, 1876-1914 (new)
- Global Financial Data, 1880-1913
- Greenback Series
- Historical Labor Statistics Project Series
- U.S. Agricultural Workforce, 1800-1900
- U.S. Customs House Data, 1854-59
- U.S. National Bank Notes, 1864-1935 (new)
- U.S. Population Series
- U.S. Public Debt Issues, 1775-1976 (new)
- Unskilled wage index, U.S.
- Weekly Data on Confederate Cotton Bond Prices in London and Junk Bond Prices in Amsterdam

An additional 33 databases may be accessed through our Database Directory.

Directory (<http://www.eh.net/directory/>) The Directory currently contains 2363 listings for economic and business historians internationally, a decrease of 144 from the 2005 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 Affiliated Organizations). The membership database from the EHA was cross-checked against the EH.Net Directory during this reporting period and changes/additions/deletions were made as appropriate. The membership database for the BHC is currently being cross-checked in this same manner.

Economic History in the Popular Press (<http://www.eh.net/press/>) Economic History in the Popular Press is one of EH.Net's newest features. It highlights the work of economic and business historians whose work is highlighted or referenced in newspaper or magazine articles, or other venues such as national Public Radio. References and relevant links should be sent to either Robert Whaples (whaples@wfu.edu) or Connie Malone (admin@eh.net).

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 141 published reference articles (the equivalent of about 1700 printed pages), an increase of 15 since our last report. During the last four quarters Encyclopedia pages received 2,642,093 requests for 358,653 pages. The list of forthcoming Encyclopedia articles has been regularly updated, and a final list of the top twenty most requested articles for 2005 is available. They are:

1. Alcohol Prohibition by Jeffrey A Miron
2. Child Labor during the British Industrial Revolution by Carolyn Tuttle
3. Slavery in the United States by Jenny B Wahl
4. Economics of the Civil War by Roger L Ransom
5. Immigration to the United States by Raymond L Cohn
6. US Economy in the 1920s by Gene Smiley
7. The Economy of Ancient Greece by Darel Engen
8. Women Workers in the British Industrial Revolution by Joyce Burnette
9. Japan, Industrialization and Economic Growth by Carl Mosk
10. Economics of the American Revolutionary War by Ben Baack
11. Money in the American Colonies by Ron Michener
12. The Cotton Gin by William H Phillips
13. The 1929 Stock Market Crash by Harold Bierman
14. The Dust Bowl by Geoff Cunfer
15. The Economic History of Major League Baseball by Michael J Hauptert
16. Economic History of Hawai'i by Sumner La Croix
17. American Industrialization by David R Meyer
18. A History of the Standard of Living in the United States by Richard H Steckel
19. Labor Unions in the United States by Gerald Friedman
20. The Economic History of Malaysia by John H Drabble

Seventy-eight economic and business historians are now included on the list of Consulting Editors for the Encyclopedia.

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. It has been a year and a half since requests for updates were sent to the contacts for each program, so a similar request will be sent again in September, 2006.

“How Much Is That?” (<http://www.eh.net/hmit>) “How Much Is That?” continues to be one of our most frequently accessed features, receiving 2,173,691 requests for 2,126,097 pages during this period. Throughout this reporting period Sam Williamson continued to work with Louis Johnston and Lawrence Officer on these series, and most of the calculators have been updated to include data through either 2004 or 2005. David Flynn has also worked to construct a complete series of closing values for the Dow Jones Industrials Average, which will be added to the HMIT page within the next few weeks. A cooperative arrangement between EH.NET’s “How Much Is That?” feature and Sam Williamson and Lawrence Officer’s www.measuringworth.com is under consideration. The goal is to improve the speed with which the HMIT data are updated and develop additional capacities.

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 7/31/06	NUMBER OF SUBSCRIBERS 7/31/05	CHANGE
AEH (Abstracts in Economic History)	1376	1,307	+69
EH.Net-Review	1488	1528	-40
EH.News (Economic History News)	1433	1435	-2
EH.Res (Economic History Research)	910	880	+30
EH.Teach (Issues in Teaching Economic History)	448	402	+46
EHB (Economics and Human Biology)	239	216	+23
HES (History of Economics and Economic Thought)	852	789	+63
OZNZ.Society (Economic History of Australia and New Zealand)	165	138	+27

The Quanhist.Recurrent and EH.Eastbloc lists were discontinued in March/April 2006 and added to the list of Discontinued Lists. An archive of past postings remains on the EH.Net server.

Below are the numbers of postings on each of the EH.NET-run lists (lists run by other organizations but hosted by EH.NET are excluded). The EH.Teach list launched a new feature: EH.T: Recommendations for Reading (and Re-Reading), with three contributions during the year.

LIST NAME	NUMBER OF POSTINGS 8/1/05 to 7/31/06	NUMBER OF POSTINGS 8/1/04 to 7/31/05	CHANGE
AEH (Abstracts in Economic History)	48	47	+1
EH.Net-Review	137	146	-9
EH.News (Economic History News)	133	104	+31
EH.Res (Economic History Research)	43	32	+11
EH.Teach (Issues in Teaching Economic History)	13	12	+1

EH.Net Web Server Statistics, August 1, 2005 – July 31, 2006

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

General Summary **(Increase Since Last Reporting Period)**

Successful requests:	38,723,555 (+15,292,233)
Average successful requests per day:	106,092 (+34,349)
Successful requests for pages:	11,117,962 (+4,737,648)
Average successful requests for pages per day:	30,460 (+10,925)
Distinct files requested:	570,881 (+217,631)
Distinct hosts served:	1,339,772 (+319,996)

<u>Monthly Report</u>	<u>2004-2005</u>	<u>2005-2006</u>
August	283,737 requests for 86,516 pages	1,844,184 requests for 576,096 pages
September	1,808,489 requests for 471,113 pages	2,531,149 requests for 739,757 pages
October	1,958,688 requests for 559,403 pages	3,159,134 requests for 779,935 pages
November	2,569,765 requests for 640,546 pages	3,321,436 requests for 776,490 pages
December	1,219,689 requests for 281,244 pages	2,922,123 requests for 790,449 pages
January	2,653,553 requests for 470,827 pages	3,387,053 requests for 1,017,926 pages
February	2,708,910 requests for 639,486 pages	3,744,615 requests for 965,058 pages
March	2,990,670 requests for 762,757 pages	4,676,943 requests for 1,399,558 pages
April	2,587,241 requests for 667,824 pages	4,237,845 requests for 1,145,958 pages
May	2,261,106 requests for 623,880 pages	3,879,911 requests for 1,062,009 pages
June	1,824,636 requests for 558,341 pages	2,608,414 requests for 880,612 pages
July	(no data)	2,410,748 requests for 984,114 pages

Directory Report

(This report lists the directories with at least 5,000 requests for pages. The figures for each directory include all of its subdirectories. It is sorted by pages.)

<u>Requests</u>	<u>Pages</u>	<u>GBytes</u>	<u>Directory</u>
2,816,140	2,815,218	18.13	/lists/
2,173,691	2,126,097	17.81	/hmit/
1,951,097	1,803,813	14.96	/pipermail/
1,168,304	1,163,398	22.31	/bookreviews/
438,973	393,205	11.61	/cal/
2,642,093	358,653	65.59	/encyclopedia/
353,899	268,010	22.93	/coursesyllabi/
4,190,116	265,903	19.26	[root directory]
1,548,284	248,003	101.92	/HE/
414,426	226,441	5.81	/Clio/
690,682	208,727	53.72	/XIIICongress/
193,047	173,547	20.54	/EHA/
168,712	168,712	0.94	/cgi-bin/
166,149	160,233	4.82	/abstracts/
206,149	113,486	14.35	/databases/
97,393	85,916	0.53	/bibliographies/

Requests	Pages	GBytes	Directory
73,246	55,464	0.40	/ieha/
50,911	49,691	0.31	/atp/
50,101	46,634	0.63	/~HisEcSoc/
55,616	41,401	0.49	/directory/
535,506	41,013	2.50	/drupal/
15,110,527	30,751	43.26	/graphics/
28,356	28,354	0.25	/grad/
24,097	23,506	0.56	/websites/
32,419	14,473	0.86	/eshsi/
12,004	12,002	0.10	/project2000/
14,932	11,630	0.13	/IEHA/
11,430	11,429	0.10	/forums/
10,259	10,230	0.06	/press/
14,497	9,589	0.40	/EHES/
12,894	7,677	0.22	/www.eh.net/

Domain Report

The Domain Report lists the countries of the computers that requested files. Excluding hits from .com (commercial), .net (networks), .org (non-profit organizations) and unresolved numerical addresses, the top 32 countries by requests for pages are:

Requests	Pages	GBytes	Country
1632,760	270,277	14.04	.edu (USA Higher Education)
750,796	146,064	7.86	.uk (United Kingdom)
472,044	68,081	4.16	.ca (Canada)
550,340	50,262	3.68	.us (United States)
350,621	43,432	2.54	.au (Australia)
156,745	38,164	1.49	.nl (Netherlands)
141,692	31,188	1.45	.de (Germany)
165,023	26,686	4.40	.fr (France)
90,080	23,799	1.91	.br (Brazil)
137,354	21,169	2.06	.nz (New Zealand)
125,649	20,574	3.15	.it (Italy)
86,676	17,383	1.28	.jp (Japan)
91,021	14,038	0.66	.gov (USA Government)
30,933	13,768	0.44	.ro (Romania)
57,739	13,144	1.80	.ar (Argentina)
87,862	12,688	0.65	.mil (USA Military)
57,432	11,983	0.72	.ru (Russia)
77,000	11,485	2.13	.mx (Mexico)
25,384	10,030	0.24	.ae (United Arab Emirates)
71,834	9,988	1.26	.be (Belgium)
46,873	9,947	0.42	.cz (Czech Republic)
60,179	9,809	0.52	.se (Sweden)
58,503	9,568	0.80	.pl (Poland)

Requests	Pages	GBytes	Country
81,419	8,872	0.82	.my (Malaysia)
47,610	8,637	0.56	.ch (Switzerland)
42,425	7,561	1.54	.es (Spain)
64,391	7,518	0.48	.sg (Singapore)
48,747	6,935	0.55	.tr (Turkey)
40,441	6,334	0.34	.fi (Finland)
56,638	6,188	0.46	.in (India)
27,088	6,144	0.35	.hu (Hungary)
36,269	5,979	0.30	.no (Norway)
36,325	5,307	0.98	.gr (Greece)
47,410	5,263	0.33	.ph (Philippines)
30,836	5,085	0.27	.il (Israel)

161 domains are not listed.