

The Organization of American Historians

2011 Awards Ceremony and Presidential Address

Saturday, March 19, 2011



Houston, Texas

2011 OAH Business Meeting, Awards Ceremony, and Presidential Address

Saturday, March 19, 2011
Hilton Americas-Houston
Houston, Texas

Schedule of Events

3:30PM **2011 OAH Business Meeting**

4:15PM **Presentation of OAH Awards**

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4:45PM **Presidential Address** 25

6:00PM **Presidential Reception**

The final conference reception will honor outgoing OAH President David A. Hollinger. The reception will be held in Americas Ballroom D.

The 2011 OAH Presidential Reception is sponsored by Basic Books, a member of the Perseus Group; the University of California, Berkeley; Oxford University Press; and Princeton University Press.

Agenda

2011 OAH Business Meeting

- I. **Call to Order**
- II. **Report of OAH President**, David A. Hollinger
- III. **Report of the Interim Treasurer**, Jay S. Goodgold
- IV. **Report of OAH Executive Director**, Katherine M. Finley
- V. **Report of the OAH Nominating Board**,
Rosemary Kolks Ennis, chair
- VI. **Report of the Executive Editor, *Journal of American History***,
Edward T. Linenthal
- VII. **New Business**
- VIII. **Adjournment**

Minutes, 2010 OAH Business Meeting

Saturday, April 10, 2010
Washington, D.C.

OAH President Elaine Tyler May called the meeting to order and welcomed OAH members and others in attendance. The minutes of the 2009 OAH Business meeting in Seattle were unanimously approved.

I. Report of the OAH President, Elaine Tyler May

May introduced OAH's interim executive director, Katha Kissman, and new OAH Executive Director, Katherine M. Finley.

II. Report of the OAH Treasurer, Robert Griffith

Griffith noted that during fiscal year 2009, OAH experienced the full force of the recession and the OAH endowment declined precipitously. As a result, there was a dramatic decrease in OAH's net assets. There was some good news in 2009: the FY 2009 budget showed a surplus; the audit report from Crowe Horwath LLP revealed no financial irregularities; and improved policies and procedures were put in place and the financial operations were reorganized.

Some concerns loom for FY 2010 and beyond include:

The OAH does not have the ability to sustain its prizes and awards; attendance at the 2011 conference may be down; and long-term concerns include the decline in membership because of the changing demographics of members and the lack of funding for faculty travel. (A full copy of the treasurer's 2009 report is available on the OAH Web site: <http://www.oah.org/about/papers/reports/treasurer09.pdf>)

III. Report of the OAH Executive Director, Katherine M. Finley

Finley thanked Katha Kissman and the board for their work this past year. Among the major achievements for this past year are:

- revisions to the OAH Web site;
- a new contract with Oxford University Press to handle the production, distribution and marketing of both the *Journal of American History* and the *OAH Magazine of History*;
- expansion of the collaborative with the National Park Service;
- a successful 2010 annual meeting (2,150 had registered for the meeting as of Saturday, April 10)

- expansion of the OAH Distinguished Lectureship Program. The program now has more than ninety active lecturers;
- renewal of the OAH's external agency agreement with Indiana University;
- endorsement of the spirit and commitment to equitable employment and professional practice of part-time and adjunct faculty as articulated in the Coalition of Academic Workforce's Issue Brief (OAH Executive Board meeting, April 7, 2010); and
- support for the Public History Committee's guidelines for the tenure of public historians at academic institutions (OAH Executive Board meeting April 7, 2010).

In reporting on the membership, Finley noted that as of March 31, 2010 the OAH lost members and subscribers, compared to the previous year: 8,212 individual members (compared to 8,750); 1,600 institutional subscribers to the *Journal of American History* (1,795); and 4,548 subscribers to the *OAH Magazine of History* (5,320).

Finley promised to continue working to increase membership and the visibility of the organization and the profession. She thanked the OAH Executive Board, committees, and staff for their work with the organization and encouraged continued member involvement from and input in the OAH.

IV. Report of the OAH Nominating Board, Katherine M. Finley (on behalf of the OAH Nominating Board)

The OAH Nominating Board met at the conference but did not have a complete slate for the 2011 OAH election. When finalized, the slate will be announced to the membership in an e-mail as well as on the OAH Web site. The results of the 2010 OAH Election are as follows: **OAH President:** David A. Hollinger, University of California, Berkeley; **OAH President-Elect:** Alice Kessler-Harris, Columbia University; and **OAH Vice President:** Albert M. Camarillo, Stanford University. **OAH Executive Board:** Jon Butler, Yale University; Gary Reichard, California State University Long Beach; and Jane Kamensky, Brandeis University. **OAH Nominating Board:** Thomas Sugrue, University of Pennsylvania; Peggy Renner, Glendale Community College; and Lynn Dumenil, Occidental College.

V. Report of the Executive Editor, *Journal of American History*, Edward T. Linenthal

Linenthal thanked Katha Kissman for her work at the OAH and thanked the publications staff. Achievements included: relocation of all OAH publications staff in one location; signing the Oxford University agreement; and continued success of the podcasts.

The complete editor's report may be found in the September, 2010 *Journal of American History*.

VI. Old Business

No old business

VII. New Business

No new business

VIII. Adjournment

OAH President Elaine Tyler May adjourned the meeting at 3:52 p.m.

2011 OAH Awards and Prizes

The Organization of American Historians sponsors annual awards and prizes given in recognition of scholarly and professional achievements in the field of American history. Please join us in congratulating the following 2011 OAH award and prize winners.

Roy Rosenzweig Distinguished Service Award

for an individual or individuals whose contributions have significantly enriched our understanding and appreciation of American history

Award committee: Theda Perdue, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chair; William Cronon, University of Wisconsin-Madison; Pete Daniel, Independent Scholar; and James Grossman, American Historical Association (The Newberry Library during period of committee service).

This year, the Executive Board of the Organization of American Historians bestowed its Roy Rosenzweig Distinguished Service Award on **Robert Griffith** of American University. (The OAH Executive Board was able to present this award to Bob in January, 2011 prior to his passing.)

Robert Griffith was recognized above all for his exemplary service as Treasurer of the Organization of American Historians for three years from early in 2008 to the end of 2010. Coming into office at a moment of severe financial stress for the OAH, Bob helped to steer the organization into clear waters. His perceptive and knowledgeable analyses of difficult data, his capacity to mediate seemingly irreconcilable alternatives, and his scholarly and personal integrity, drew the respect of everyone with whom he came into contact. Bob's quick sense of humor, his judicious persona, and his warmth evoked thoughtful discussion and enabled difficult compromise. As both treasurer and board member, Bob Griffith was a wise and trusted adviser and a true friend. But there is more.

An OAH member since his graduate school days, Bob served the organization in a myriad of ways. While he was still an assistant professor, he joined its membership committee. Subsequently, he was appointed to the Frederick Jackson Turner Award Committee, and to the Committee on Historians and the First Amendment. From 1987 to 1990, he served on the editorial board of the *Journal of American History*. And, in 2002, he participated in the search committee for the office of treasurer. Little did he know at that point that he would soon hold that office along with a seat on the OAH Executive Board.

Bob's service to history extends beyond the confines of the OAH. A talented administrator, he served as chair of the



Robert Griffith
(1940-2011)

history departments first at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst and then at American University where he was also provost. For six years, he was Dean of the College of Arts and Humanities at the University of Maryland. But the measure of his devotion to the profession lies in the astonishing service he has performed for history departments and historians all over the country. He has evaluated dozens of departments, appraised articles submitted to a vast array of scholarly publications, and published nearly a hundred book reviews.

A consummate historian of the late twentieth century, Bob wrote his first book on the early 1950s. *The Politics of Fear* won the Frederick Jackson Turner Award for the best first book in American history. Bob followed this achievement with a series of incisive essays published in the major historical journals on aspects of twentieth century politics. These won recognition in the form of fellowships from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Guggenheim Foundation. His coedited volume of essays on *Major Problems in American History* has remained in print for twenty years.

Wise in an astonishingly wide range of contexts, Bob Griffith was an ideal OAH leader, ready to give his talents and his unflinching judgments to one difficult challenge after another. The OAH Executive Board conferred this award on Bob with deep respect and affection. ■

Friend of History Award

The OAH Friend of History Award recognizes an individual, who is not a professional historian, or an institution or organization for outstanding support for the pursuit of historical research, for the public presentation of history, or for the work of the OAH. This year the OAH Executive Board recognizes an individual, Jay S. Goodgold.



Goodgold

The Organization of American Historians is proud to name Jay S. Goodgold as the winner of the 2011 Friend of History Award. Although not an academic historian, Jay has a deep passion for history, and he is a generous and hard-working supporter of the OAH. He has served for many years as co-chair of the OAH Leadership Advisory Council with Bill Chafe and Ira Berlin and as an *ex-officio* member of the Executive Board and Finance Committee. Recently Jay agreed to serve as Interim OAH Treasurer. Jay has put in countless hours helping the OAH plan events, strategies, and meetings to expand our community of members and supporters. Many times he has traveled around the country to help raise support for the OAH. As one example, he recently flew to New York from his home in Chicago to meet with leaders of the History Channel, the History Book Club, and the Gilder-Lehrman Institute. Wherever he goes, his enthusiasm for our enterprise generates interest and support for the OAH.

Jay Goodgold received his B.A. in humanities from Johns Hopkins University and his M.B.A. in finance from New York University. He has served in the world of finance in many capacities over many years. He is currently an independent investor serving as the Lead Independent Trustee for the Marsico Investment Funds located in Denver. In addition to his work for the OAH, Jay is also on the National Advisory Council for the Sheridan Libraries of the Johns Hopkins University and the Dean's Advisory Council for the Indiana University Kelly School of Business. An active citizen in his community, he has served as the president of Anshe Emet Synagogue, where he also served as its treasurer and remains a member of the board. He is also on the board of his children's school. Jay and his wife, Karen, have three children. A devoted father, Jay often works from home in order to be involved in the lives and activities of his children. He is an all-around great person who wins respect in every context of his life. But what matters most are all the great things he does for historians! It is a privilege to honor Jay S. Goodgold as the 2011 OAH Friend of History. ■

Frederick Jackson Turner Award

for an author's first book dealing with some significant phase of American history

Award committee: Elaine Tyler May, University of Minnesota, Chair; Thomas G. Andrews, University of Colorado Denver; and Leslie Brown, Williams College.

Danielle L. McGuire, Wayne State University. *At the Dark End of the Street: Black Women, Rape, and Resistance—a New History of the Civil Rights Movement from Rosa Parks to the Rise of Black Power* (Alfred A. Knopf) takes a history that has been central to African American women and makes it central to the history of the modern civil rights movement. Carefully documented and powerfully written, the book argues that in the “tradition of testimony and protest,” African American women’s resistance to the ever-present threat and reality of white on black sexual violence “galvanized local, national, and even international outrage and sparked larger campaigns for racial justice and human dignity.” In making this case, McGuire crosses over from academic to popular audiences, while appealing to both. *At the Dark End of the Street* grounds the civil rights movement in the link between the personal and the political, an understanding that African American women shared long before second-wave feminists reached the same conclusion.



McGuire

Honorable Mention

Mark Brilliant, University of California, Berkeley. *The Color of America Has Changed: How Racial Diversity Shaped Civil Rights Reform in California, 1941-1978* (Oxford University Press) skillfully takes on popular memories and scholarly conventions that reduce the sprawling story of civil rights movements in the United States to black-white binaries and a “classic” outburst

of largely successful activism between the mid-1950s and mid-1960s. Grounded in extensive archival research, Brilliant shows how Asian American, Mexican American, African American, and Jewish American organizations struggled to forge effective coalitions with white racial liberals and each other in their efforts to undo a host of racially discriminatory laws and practices in the Golden State. In a context of extremely scarce resources, each group largely pursued its own priorities—a dynamic that Ronald Reagan and other conservatives adroitly exploited in their attempts to keep California minorities from uniting in common cause.

Robert Perkinson, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. *Texas Tough: The Rise of America's Prison Empire* (Metropolitan Books) offers a sweeping interpretation of the history of the American penal system by focusing on Texas, the state with the most severe and punitive corrections establishment in the nation. Tracing this history from the nineteenth century to the present, Perkinson's exhaustive research and powerful prose offer an interpretation of incarceration in Texas that connects it to post-Reconstruction efforts in the South to replicate slavery through a system of imprisoning African Americans and using them for convict labor. Perkinson argues that a similar backlash against the gains of the Civil Rights movement yielded a punitive race-based system of incarceration that again targeted black people and used prisoners to provide cheap labor. This book offers a bold analysis of how and why the United States today has more prisons and prisoners than any other country in the world.

Christina Snyder, Indiana University. *Slavery in Indian Country: The Changing Face of Captivity in Early America* (Harvard University Press) offers a masterful interpretation of shifting systems of slavery in southeastern North America from the late pre-contact era through the Seminole Wars. Seamlessly bringing together a range of archaeological, anthropological, and historical sources, Snyder convincingly demonstrates the deep roots and ongoing significance of Indian slavery to southern history. Indigenous societies, Snyder argues, had long conceived of and treated war captives as outsiders who lacked any place in kin-based systems of social organization and identity. During the late 1700s and early 1800s, though, the institution of slavery in the South's Indian Country shifted decisively toward a system based more fully upon "race," with largely disastrous consequences for many people of Indian, African, and mixed descent. ■

Merle Curti Award

for the best book published in American social or American intellectual history

Award committee: Penny Von Eschen, University of Michigan, Chair; Margo Anderson, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee; Mary Kupiec Cayton, Miami University; Kevin M. Kruse, Princeton University; and Bruce Kuklick, University of Pennsylvania.

Jefferson Cowie, Cornell University. *Stayin' Alive: The 1970s and the Last Days of the Working Class* (The New Press) moves nimbly between popular culture, campaign and electoral politics, and social science debates to offer a compelling and devastating account of what happened to the American working class in the 1970s. Cowie tracks major shifts in political and popular public discourse as class structure changed and a new and polarizing language for talking about it emerged. Analyzing the declining influence of organized labor from multiple vantage points, Cowie moves between the lived reality of working-class Americans and perceptions of that experience emanating from Washington, Wall Street, and Hollywood. *Stayin' Alive* succeeds as an innovative contribution to both social and intellectual history. Drawing on a stunning range of material from popular culture, Cowie takes the reader inside the personal stories of working people, as well as much of the decade's music, television and film, to allow us to understand the dilemmas of the working class in this pivotal decade. Transcending polarizing historiographical debates about class, gender, and race, Cowie offers a sustained meditation on the tragic irony of historically excluded groups gaining belated access to disappearing jobs. In chronicling the ways in which the "working class"—once understood to be a single entity and a singularly important one—disintegrated, and how the collapse of the New Deal order allowed economic elites nearly uncontested control of civic life, Cowie's book provides a critical prologue to the politics of public life from the Reagan era onward.



Cowie

Stephanie McCurry, University of Pennsylvania. *Confederate Reckoning: Power and Politics in the Civil War South* (Harvard University Press) elegantly reframes historical debates about the Confederacy and the Civil War, dramatically altering our understanding of this short-lived nation with a long and vexing historical afterlife. Asking how the Confederacy functioned as a fledgling state, McCurry boldly identifies the Confederate project: an allegedly "democratic" nation-state of white men founded on the explicit ideology of exploitation and enslavement of the majority of the population, namely, slaves and women. With an engaging narrative and accessible prose, McCurry moves between the "high" and "low" to develop a riveting internal political history of the Confederacy. McCurry brings a new dimension to the long-standing concern of historians to expand our sense of political agency. Employing the international frameworks of subaltern and



McCurry

agrarian studies in her analysis of the political behavior of the rural poor, McCurry brings into focus hitherto invisible or unexamined actions of poor women and slaves. Exploring how the Confederacy functioned in war, and focusing on the actions of male and female slaves and white women, McCurry shows how the Confederacy collapsed because of the internal contradictions of its founding project as well as the external pressures brought to bear by the Union army. The Confederacy's failure to allow for the political influence and impact of subaltern groups created a model of the nation-state that was inherently unsustainable. ■

Ray Allen Billington Prize

for the best book in American frontier history, defined broadly so as to include the pioneer periods of all geographical areas and comparisons between American frontiers and others

Prize committee: Kathleen DuVal, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chair; David Rich Lewis, Utah State University; and Pablo Mitchell, Oberlin College.



Pubols

Louise Pubols, Oakland Museum of California. *The Father of All: The de la Guerra Family, Power, and Patriarchy in Mexican California* (University of California Press/The Huntington Library) studies the de la Guerra family of Santa Barbara from the late eighteenth century to the 1840s and opens to readers the world of Mexican California. Pubols shoves aside any lingering notions of Mexican California as a backward place, waiting for Anglo-Americans to bring it into modernity. Instead, we see the workings of the colonial economy and the political rivalries and alliances that sustained the Mexican community. Most importantly, Pubols reveals the ways in which patriarchy functioned, adapted, and persisted, and how individual women and men lived within it. Pubols makes this rich story possible by the breadth and depth of her research and the care she takes in writing a narrative that carefully guides the reader through this world. Of the ninety-nine books submitted to the Billington Prize Committee, Pubols's stood out for its innovation, clarity, and significance to the field of frontier history, as well as to early American history, Latin American history, and women's and gender history. ■

Avery O. Craven Award

for the most original book on the coming of the Civil War, the Civil War years, or the era of Reconstruction, with the exception of works of purely military history

Award committee: Tera W. Hunter, Princeton University, Chair; Anthony E. Kaye, Pennsylvania State University, University Park; and Hannah Rosen, University of Michigan.



McCurry

Stephanie McCurry, University of Pennsylvania. *Confederate Reckoning: Power and Politics in the Civil War South* (Harvard

University Press) is a stunning achievement. McCurry's approach is at once breathtakingly novel and simple, to take all players in the Confederacy at their word, to train on what they did and said in the process of building an antidemocratic, proslavery nation. She reveals the elementary structural problems of a slave regime at war: who was included in the Confederate founders' vision of their new nation, who was excluded, and on what grounds. She offers new insight into how poor white women constituted political identities as "soldiers' wives," effectively placed their claims to welfare on the state's agenda, and fought against enlistment and taxes. While other historians have focused on slave contributions to the Union side of the war, McCurry explores how slaves forced Confederate masters to compete for their loyalty and labor. Confederate hubris underestimated the political force of disfranchised white women as well as slaves' ambitions for freedom, which contributed to its own undoing. McCurry goes beyond Southern history. Her suggestion that the Confederacy was "far more statist and modern than their counterpart in the Union" will require scholars to take seriously "the notion of a dual origin of the modern state." McCurry's *Confederate Reckoning* is an eloquent, vivid, revelatory history that will change scholarly understandings of the Civil War as well as its meaning for Americans today.

Honorable Mention

Ronald E. Butchart, University of Georgia. *Schooling the Freed People: Teaching, Learning, and the Struggle for Black Freedom, 1861-1876* (University of North Carolina Press) is a myth-busting book, challenging the image of the white New England schoolmarm as the dominating force in the education of African Americans in the Civil War and Reconstruction eras. Drawing on data from the Freedmen Teachers Project, the book provides empirical evidence that will overturn decades of scholarship based on false premises about who educated ex-slaves and where they came from. African Americans from the North participated in educating ex-slaves at a rate of twelve to fifteen times that of white counterparts. New England as a region was not the major source of teachers. Few white teachers from the North were antebellum abolitionists, and reforming freed people morally and spiritually was more important to them than reconstructing society. On the whole, men and women taught in equal numbers. Most were southerners by the end of Reconstruction, and were not affluent but poor and declining middling sorts; indeed, many sought teaching positions for economic reasons. Put simply, no one can write about Southern education in this period the same way again.

Kate Masur, Northwestern University. *An Example for All the Land: Emancipation and the Struggle over Equality in Washington, D.C.* (University of North Carolina Press). Masur's thorough treatment of Reconstruction in Washington, D.C. explores questions central to the history of emancipation, of race,

and of difference within liberal political systems: What exactly would “equality before the law” entail? And to what realms of public life would the legal guarantee of equality extend? Detailing the experiences of ex-slaves, longtime black residents, women’s suffrage activists, white laborers, white elites, and members of Congress, Masur shows how local contests influenced national political developments. When the city’s black community pursued an expansive vision of equality, struggling not only to prohibit *de jure* discrimination but also to eliminate the remnants of slavery in other realms of public life, such as employment, education, and public accommodation, they helped shape Republican policies. Indeed, Masur’s account of how the capital served as a laboratory for experiments in “equality” offers new insights on the trajectory of Reconstruction. The city would also lead the way in the disfranchisement of black citizens, when the demise of democratically elected local government presaged developments throughout the nation. ■

James A. Rawley Prize

for the best book dealing with the history of race relations in the United States

Prize committee: Nelson Lichtenstein, University of California, Santa Barbara, Chair; José M. Alamillo, California State University Channel Islands; and Karin A. Shapiro, Duke University.



HoSang

Daniel Martinez HoSang, University of Oregon, *Racial Propositions: Ballot Initiatives and the Making of Postwar California* (University of California Press). For much of the post-World War II era, California has enjoyed a reputation as a multicultural, racially tolerant, progressive polity. Yet voters in America’s most populous state have repeatedly endorsed ballot propositions that over the decades have rejected fair employment laws, repudiated open housing legislation, banned public services for many immigrants, repealed affirmative action, and curbed bilingual education. In a book of high theoretical sophistication and probing research, Daniel HoSang explains that neither the persistence of overt white racism nor the eruption of a working-class “backlash” accounts for this phenomenon. Instead, these high-profile ballot initiatives create public “spectacles” where conservative political interests shape public consciousness, making their claims through a rhetoric of colorblindness and in populist rather than partisan terms, all the while naturalizing white racial identity through a liberal discourse of rights, opportunity, tolerance, and fairness. This remarkable narrative analysis opens a new door to our understanding of racial politics in a multicultural society where the achievements of the civil rights movement are taken for granted. ■

Willi Paul Adams Award

awarded every two years for the best book on American history published in a foreign language

Award committee: Anne L. Foster, Indiana State University, Chair; Manfred Berg, Universität Heidelberg; Kristin Hoganson, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; Nelson Ouellet, Université de Moncton; and Jörg Nagler, Friedrich-Schiller-University, Jena.

Paul Schor, Université Paris Diderot, *Counting and Classifying: A History of American Censuses* (Éditions de l'École des hautes études en sciences sociales). Schor provides a provocative study of the intersection of the politics of census-making and the politics of race in the United States. He employs a sophisticated analysis of theories and practice of counting and demonstrates that the varieties of ways in which race was imagined in the United States both shaped and was shaped by the need to classify and count. A particular strength of this study is its attention to the long arc of contested change in race and census-making, tracing changes in how race mattered in the United States during the era of legal slavery, through its contested end, and into and past the period of broadly applied Jim Crow, which set different ethnic groups in conflict and tension. He concludes with some attention to the newly complicated racial imaginings which inform more recent censuses. A key contribution of this study is its attention to the many layers of context, including local, regional, and national. The committee enthusiastically selected *Counting and Classifying* for its insightful and accessible contribution to U.S. social history, the history of race and ethnicity in the United States, and the history of census-making and social statistics. ■



Schor

Ellis W. Hawley Prize

for the best book-length historical study of the political economy, politics, or institutions of the United States, in its domestic or international affairs, from the Civil War to the present

Prize committee: Bryant Simon, Temple University, Chair; Martin Summers, Boston College; and Jennifer Klein, Yale University.

Nick Cullather, Indiana University. *The Hungry World: America's Cold War Battle Against Poverty in Asia* (Harvard University Press) vividly recounts a neglected battleground of the Cold War. Food, Cullather persuasively shows, occupied a central place in American policy makers' efforts to contain Communism. Shuttling back and forth between Vietnam and China, the Philippines and India, Mexico and Afghanistan, this book looks at the efforts of demographers, agronomists, and State Department operatives to win the hearts and minds of peasants through the introduction of new and presumably more efficient crops, agricultural techniques, and water control. Blending political and intellectual history with agricultural history, diplomatic history, geography, and



Cullather

the history of science, as well as constantly probing the links between domestic concerns and foreign imperatives, Cullather has provided stunning empirical depth to an emerging new template for studying globalization. Rather than operating in a unilinear, top-down manner, globalization is depicted, quite rightly, as a fast-moving and unpredictable set of circuits where ideas, money, and people flowed back and forth across national boundaries without ever fully erasing borders, traditions, or the past. With its breadth, imagination, broad research agenda, and sharp analytic edge, *The Hungry World* honors and expands on the legacy of Ellis Hawley and his work on the political economy of twentieth-century America.

Honorable Mention

Samuel Zipp, Brown University, *Manhattan Projects: The Rise and Fall of Urban Renewal in Cold War New York* (Oxford University Press). This compelling book shows how modernist thinking and architecture and the resistance that they met remade postwar New York. Highlighting the agency of state actors, planners, and neighborhood activists, Zipp shows how urban renewal at once built a glittering Manhattan cityscape and also helped to unleash the forces of the “urban crisis” that still plagues the nation’s largest city. ■

Liberty Legacy Foundation Award

for the best book on any aspect of the struggle for civil rights in the United States, from the nation’s founding to the present

Award committee: Scott Kurashige, University of Michigan, Chair; Leslie M. Alexander, Ohio State University; and Keith A. Mayes, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities.



Williams

Chad L. Williams, Hamilton College. *Torchbearers of Democracy: African American Soldiers in the World War I Era* (University of North Carolina Press) draws overdue attention to a pivotal moment in the struggle for civil rights through an epic history of black veterans and the double consciousness that framed their call to duty. A multifaceted study of war and memory, it scrutinizes the hope and disillusionment provoked by black efforts to close ranks with American nationalism during the Great War and its aftermath. While racism persisted within both military and civilian life, the black soldier became a powerful symbol of racial progress and white panic, serving as a catalyst for social and cultural change. Williams deftly layers policy history and discourse analysis over gut-wrenching stories of terror and valor from the frontlines in both wartime France and Jim Crow America. Answering calls to extend the temporal, geographical, and analytical scope of civil rights history, he offers a transnational and intersectional study of how constructions of manhood, violence, and empire shaped notions of race and citizenship at the dawn of the American century. Beyond recovering the humanity of its multiplicitous

subjects, *Torchbearers of Democracy* sets a new standard for the integration of African American, political, and military history. ■

Lawrence W. Levine Award

for the best book in American cultural history

Award committee: David Steigerwald, Ohio State University, Chair; Brooke L. Blower, Boston University; Jonathan M. Bryant, Georgia Southern University; William S. Pretzer, National Museum of African American History and Culture; and Shirley Teresa Wajda, Connecticut Humanities Council.

Heather Murray, University of Ottawa. *Not in this Family:*

Gays and the Meaning of Kinship in Postwar North America (University of Pennsylvania Press) is a surprisingly original study that charts the sometimes heart-wrenching, sometimes transformative relationships between parents and gay children across the second half of the twentieth century. Murray draws on a range of revealing sources to offer a sympathetic portrayal of both parents and children, each struggling to reconcile their hopes and frustrations with their yearning for acceptance and understanding. Murray shows how the threat of severe disapproval, if not utter banishment, in the 1950s and 1960s gave way to a period of revelation and negotiation in the late 1960s and 1970s, which led to new “coming out” rituals and understandings of the causes of homosexuality. This book is not simply a history of gays and their families but a window into cultural shifts that brought new notions of family and selfhood. Attentive to different perspectives and hesitant to judge, Murray captures her subjects’ humanity with an exquisite sensitivity and gives us an intimate history of pain, confusion, and, every so often, renewal and strengthened ties. More than just an innovative piece of historical scholarship, *Not in this Family* is a model of humanistic reflection, well in keeping with the generous spirit of Lawrence Levine. ■

Darlene Clark Hine Award

for the best book in African American women’s and gender history

Award committee: Elizabeth Hayes Turner, University of North Texas, Chair; Jennifer L. Morgan, New York University; and LeeAnn Whites, University of Missouri.

Bettye Collier-Thomas, Temple University, *Jesus, Jobs, and Justice: African American Women and Religion* (Alfred A. Knopf). From Sojourner Truth, antebellum evangelist, to Barbara Harris, first woman bishop in the worldwide Anglican communion, Bettye Collier-Thomas has created a history of African American women and religion that crosses denominational, class, and organizational lines. As Christine Stansell stated in her review in the *New Republic*, “Some books need to be written, and this is one of them.” Collier-Thomas is persuasive in her account of the importance of faith to African



Collier-Thomas

American slaves, freedwomen, club women, reformers, civil rights activists, and black power advocates. Faith sustained them in slavery, and it emboldened them to call forth the principles under which a so-called Christian nation should live. Observing that black women were “among the most oppressed of the oppressed,” Collier-Thomas recounts that churchwomen often spoke out against sexism by their male cohorts. Combining liberation theology with feminist idealism, black clergywomen and laywomen used womanist theology to frame the struggles they encountered within their denominations and civil rights organizations. Calling out the reality of second-class citizenship but ending with a message of hope, this book is deeply researched, compellingly written, and magisterial in scope.

Honorable Mention

Cheryl D. Hicks, University of North Carolina at Charlotte. *Talk With You Like a Woman: African American Women, Justice, and Reform in New York, 1890-1935* (University of North Carolina Press) examines the lives of black women, many of whom were migrants, as they entered the vortex of New York’s working-class culture just at the point of massive immigration from the South and from Europe. The difficulties of surviving in this urban context can be seen in the many case studies of African American women who landed in penal institutions and struggled not only to adapt but also to be heard. By illuminating the lives of New York’s black working-class women, Hicks is able to compare their perspectives with middle-class reformers of both races who founded settlement houses and sought to protect women from immorality with programs of racial advancement, accommodation, and domestic labor. In this era of Progressive idealism, Hicks creatively dramatizes the cacophony of viewpoints surrounding African American working women who ultimately determined, through their families and not from middle-class activists, their own politics of respectability.

Danielle L. McGuire, Wayne State University. *At the Dark End of the Street: Black Women, Rape, and Resistance—a New History of the Civil Rights Movement from Rosa Parks to the Rise of Black Power* (Alfred A. Knopf) is an examination of sexual violence as an additional form of oppression to African Americans and a chilling and cruel reality for too many black girls and women in the segregated South. Aroused by the barbarity of rape, physical abuse by police, and indifference by white leaders, African American women rallied through their communities and organizations to bring about just redress for victims. National and international observers saw the violence—and lack of convictions—as an extension of white supremacy and condemned it as one of the worst aspects of the southern legal system. As pressure mounted from foreign and national sources, African American women’s groups and civil rights leaders found justice in 1956 for black women who resisted arrest in Montgomery and by 1975 for Joan Little who was

acquitted of killing a white jailor in self-defense. Engagingly written and extensively researched, this book argues persuasively that understanding the civil rights movement must include African American women activists and their supporters who sought legal remedies in defense of black womanhood. ■

Lerner-Scott Prize

for the best doctoral dissertation in U.S. women's history

Prize committee: Natalia Molina, University of California, San Diego, Chair; Susan S. Rugh, Brigham Young University; and Jacqueline S. Wilkie, Luther College.

Sarah Haley, Princeton University (Spring 2011)/University of California, Los Angeles (Fall 2011). "Engendering Captivity: Black Women and Convict Labor in Georgia, 1865-1938." (Yale University dissertation, with advisors Hazel V. Carby, Glenda E. Gilmore, and Joanne Meyerowitz.) Haley uses Georgia's convict labor system as a means by which to better understand the racial construction of gendered subjects. Theoretically sophisticated, the dissertation takes on intersectionality, a central tenant in women's history, seriously examining how categories of gender, race, and class intersected in ways that marked black women as outside the normative category of womanhood during the Jim Crow era. Haley paints a clear picture of the profound "unfreedom" black women faced in the Jim Crow era. She contrasts these representations and experiences with those of white women, demonstrating the development of a gender ideology under Jim Crow. She then examines the activism of clubwomen and cultural sites, such as black women's blues music, to show how black women were key figures in the fight for freedom struggles. Haley successfully demonstrates how the black female subject occupied a position wholly at odds with normative femininity. Further, Haley opens up new lines of inquiry by studying the ways in which the experiences of imprisonment and gendered racial terror determined how gender ideology developed and shaped the Jim Crow South. ■



Haley

Louis Pelzer Memorial Award

for the best essay about any period or topic in American history by a graduate student

Award committee: Edward T. Linenthal, Executive Editor, Journal of American History, Chair, ex officio; John M. Belohlavek, University of South Florida; Margaret S. Creighton, Bates College; Jennifer Guglielmo, Smith College; and John T. Schlotterbeck, DePauw University.

Christine M. DeLucia, Yale University, "The Memory Frontier: Uncommon Pursuits of Past and Place in the Northeast after King Philip's War (1675-78)." This essay revisits the colonial



DeLucia

crisis of King Philip's War, a watershed conflict in early America that destroyed New England frontier settlements, decimated diverse Native communities, and dispersed many from ancestral homelands. It examines cultural landscapes of violence and memory, tracking how Eastern Algonquians and Euro-Americans have remembered, marked, and mapped the grounds of war or struggled to forget. While Yankee recountings of King Philip's War have routinely erased enduring Native peoples from New England by making the war the "Indians' last stand," followed by indigenous retreat from local landscapes, tribal communities have mobilized this same iconic conflict to make visible alternative, anti-colonial geographies of persistence and recovery. Highlighting indigenous sites of counter-memory that challenge state-driven narratives about the colonial past, it contends that creation and preservation of place-sense can be conservative tools of marginalization, but also means of resistance, regeneration, even surprising cross-cultural reconciliation.

Moving away from broad analytic categories of Indian and English/American identity and past-sense, the essay takes up the "minor" communities of towns, reservations, and families that are so crucial to subtle, local senses of belonging and collective purpose. Three sites bring to light these under-recognized "memoryscapes": Rhode Island and the Narragansett Country; the "eastward" theater of war near the Piscataqua River, New Hampshire/Maine border, and Wabanaki homelands; and the island community of St. David's in Bermuda, said to be descended from enslaved Native prisoners of war, and a node in an extensive, transnational Algonquian diaspora and Red Atlantic World. The essay draws on archival evidence and print culture but also oral tradition, performance, material culture, archaeology, and the physical environment itself, demonstrating that vernacular transmission of historical consciousness has long been a thoroughly multi-dimensional endeavor for Natives and settlers alike. Ultimately it pursues an epistemological investigation: How do we know what we know about the violent colonial past of the Northeast? By identifying some of the region's most influential memory-keepers, the sources from which they derive their knowledge, and the spaces where they perform their work, it clarifies the reasons for which indigenous communities and their neighbors have maintained, severed, or re-shaped relationships with a troubling past and its grounds. ■

Binkley-Stephenson Award

for the best scholarly article published in the Journal of American History during the preceding calendar year

Award committee: Randal L. Hall, Rice University, Chair; Raymond Arsenault, University of South Florida, St. Petersburg; and Claire Strom, Rollins College.

Bernhard Rieger, University College London. “From People’s Car to New Beetle: The Transatlantic Journeys of the Volkswagen Beetle” (June 2010) makes a fresh, original contribution to historians’ understanding of western Europe’s place in post-WWII American culture. U.S. openness to European imports provided a space not only for economic growth but also for European cultural visibility within the United States. The Volkswagen Beetle, managing to shed its Nazi origins, was given a particularly warm welcome, in part because its modest market share did not threaten the U.S. auto industry. West Germans took national pride in its success, while the United States saw sales as solidifying a Cold War alliance. The Beetle’s popularity in the United States rested on its appeal as a second car for suburbanites and a fun vehicle for young people, particularly as countercultural movements gained momentum. The vehicle’s sales declined in the 1970s, leading to the end of production. Ironically, sophisticated marketing and nostalgia brought back a new version in the 1990s that was greeted as a quintessentially American product despite its being produced by a European company in a plant in Mexico. Rieger presents this complicated story with clarity; he articulates a crisp thesis and sustains it well. This mix of cultural, economic, and political history adds important depth to our knowledge of a crucial transatlantic relationship. ■



Rieger

David Thelen Award

awarded every two years for the best article in American history published in a foreign language

Award committee: Edward T. Linenthal, Executive Editor, Journal of American History, Chair; Kate Delaney, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Udo Hebel, Universität Regensburg; Hans Krabbendam, Roosevelt Study Center; and Larisa M. Troitskaia, Center for North American Studies, Institute of World History, Russian Academy of Sciences.

Tity de Vries, University of Groningen. *Opmaat tot Watergate: het eerste CIA-schandaal* (“The 1967 CIA Scandal—Catalyst in a Transforming Relationship Between State and People. published by Boom Uitgevers Den Haag in *Tijdschrift voor Mediageschiedenis*) analyzes the 1967 disclosure of secret CIA funding of national American organizations as a watershed scandal that contributed greatly to the increasingly cynical relationship between the U.S. administration and the American people. The emergence of “watchdog journalism” played a crucial role in publicizing this scandal, which played an important role in the radicalization and polarization of American public culture. The nonprofit beneficiaries of the secret funds were accused of being pawns of the government in the charged Cold War politics of the time. Studies of the CIA’s efforts to undermine liberal organizations consider this scandal a prelude to the later CHAOS and COINTELPRO



de Vries

operations. This scandal allows historians to focus on the agents and complex process of transformation which resulted in a fundamentally changed relationship between the administration and the American people, a process confirmed by the 1974 impeachment procedure against President Nixon. ■

Huggins-Quarles Award

for graduate students of color at the dissertation research stage of their Ph.D. program

Award committee: Adrienne Petty, The City College of New York, CUNY, Chair; Michael D. Innis-Jiménez, University of Alabama; Jessica Millward, University of California, Irvine; Amrita Chakrabarti Myers, Indiana University; and Lydia R. Otero, University of Arizona.



Williams

Shannen Dee Williams, Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey, “Subversive Habits: Black Nuns and the Struggle to Desegregate Catholic America after World War I.” The role of Protestant denominations has long dominated historians’ understanding of the African American struggle for freedom and justice. Shannen Williams’s innovative research enlarges and enhances historians’ knowledge of the fight for democracy and equality by exploring black Catholic women’s political culture and activism. Focusing on local contests and struggles throughout the United States, Williams establishes that black sisters not only fought for equality and recognition within the church, but they also took stances that influenced the broader civil rights and black power movements. Williams shows that whether they were fighting against lynching, building and maintaining segregated Catholic schools in the Jim Crow South or desegregating all-white schools in the North, black nuns were leaders in the freedom struggle. Inherently transnational, her study explores the nuns’ wide-ranging challenge to ecclesiastical authorities from the United States to the Vatican. “Subversive Habits” promises to refashion the story of the African American freedom struggle and move the fields of American, religious, and African American women’s history into exciting new directions, recovering for the first time the “lost prophets of American Catholicism and democracy.” ■

Tachau Teacher of the Year Award

for contributions made by precollegiate teachers to improve history education

Award committee: Frederick W. Jordan, Woodberry Forest School, Chair; Michael Flamm, Ohio Wesleyan University; and Andrea Sachs, St. Paul Academy and Summit School.

The Tachau Award Committee chose not to issue an award this year. ■

Erik Barnouw Award

for outstanding reporting or programming on network or cable television, or in documentary film, concerned with American history, the study of American history, and/or the promotion of history

Award committee: Gerald E. Shenk, California State University, Monterey Bay, Chair; Elspeth H. Brown, University of Toronto; and Vivian Bruce Conger, Ithaca College.

Judith Ehrlich and Rick Goldsmith, Kovno Communications, *The Most Dangerous Man in America: Daniel Ellsberg and the Pentagon Papers*. This documentary offers a riveting account of how a young Department of Defense analyst during the Vietnam War came to view that conflict as a tragic mistake, his decision to leak the Pentagon's own history of the war, and the dramatic consequences for himself, the nation's leaders, and the nation itself. That analyst, Daniel Ellsberg, is himself the narrator, but this does not mean that the film egregiously promotes a single political perspective. With the trajectory of Ellsberg's life as context, familiar figures and familiar justifications for the war take on new meanings. The film creates a powerful counterpoint between Ellsberg's growing personal relationships with members of the peace movement and his professional relations with leaders of the war effort, including Robert McNamara and even President Johnson himself. In the end, it is Henry Kissinger, appropriately, who provides the title of this film, as he rails against Ellsberg and sets in motion the whole series of events that would become Watergate and Nixon's downfall. The powerful effect of this film is similar to another documentary, *The Fog of War*, about former Defense Secretary Robert McNamara, and it has all the drama of a feature movie like *All the President's Men*. ■



Ehrlich and Goldsmith

OAH-JAAS Short-Term Residencies

The OAH and the Japanese Association of American Studies, with the generous support of the Japan-United States Friendship Commission, select two U.S. historians to spend two weeks at Japanese universities giving lectures, seminars, advising students and researchers interested in the American past, and joining in the collegiality of the host institution. It is part of an exchange program that also brings Japanese graduate students to the OAH Annual Meeting.

Residencies committee: Andrea Geiger, Simon Fraser University, Chair (OAH); Satoshi Nakano, Hitotsubashi University, Chair (JAAS); Juri Abe, Rikkyo University; Christopher Jespersen, North Georgia College and State University; Kohei Kawashima, Musashi University; Kim E. Nielsen, University of Wisconsin-Green Bay; Sayuri Guthrie Shimizu, Michigan State University; and Thomas J. Sugrue, University of Pennsylvania.

Deborah Dash Moore, University of Michigan, *The University of Kitakyushu, American Jewish history.*



Moore



Choy

Catherine Ceniza Choy, University of California, Berkeley, Hitotsubashi University, history of race and gender.

Four Japanese students studying in the U.S. were selected to receive funding to attend this year's OAH Annual Meeting. They are: **Daisuke Kawahara**, University of Rochester; **Tasuku Todayama**, The George Washington University; **Nobuyuki Nakamura**, University of Southern California; and **Yuki Oda**, Columbia University. ■

OAH/Immigration and Ethnic History Society John Higham Travel Grants

for graduate students to be used toward costs of attending the OAH/IEHS Annual Meeting

Grants committee: Elliott Barkan, California State University, San Bernardino (emeritus), Chair; Lon Kurashige, University of Southern California; and Dominic A. Pacyga, Columbia College Chicago.



Cowan

Mimi Cowan, Boston College. Ms. Cowan's area of scholarly research involves German and Irish immigrants versus nativists in nineteenth-century Chicago. She has published articles on Irish nationalists as well as book reviews and ten papers on the Irish and Chicago. Her work also examines inter-ethnic and inter-generational tensions and nativism as an expression of explicit discrimination. In her thirties, Cowan has been making an ambitious effort to catch up in her studies, her research, and her knowledge about the dynamics of the national meetings.



Moore

Joseph S. Moore, University of North Carolina at Greensboro, for his work, "Irish Radicals, Southern Conservatives: Slavery, Religious Liberty and the Presbyterian Fringe in the Atlantic World, 1637-1877." Mr. Moore's principal focus is on migration from Ulster to America in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries as well as African American slavery in the antebellum South. Thus, together with his interest in the evolution of the movement on behalf of political moderation, Moore is exploring the intersection of race and immigration in the South. Engaging in dialogues with senior historians, Moore has also organized a panel for the 2011 OAH Annual Meeting on studies of political moderation. For this session he recruited political scientists and an intellectual historian. He has also published several articles and presented ten papers at various meetings.



Sturkey

William Sturkey, Ohio State University. Mr. Sturkey's primary concerns concentrate on African American youth, their participation in the Freedom Schools of the summer of 1964, and the broader Civil Rights Movement of the mid-1960s. He is presenting a paper on the Civil Rights Movement at a session at the 2011 OAH Annual Meeting, examining in particular those schools' student newspapers put together by the students. He has also written book reviews, encyclopedia entries, and a recently published journal article on the summer of 1964. ■

2011 OAH Presidential Address

Alice Kessler-Harris, Columbia University,
and OAH President-Elect, Presiding



DAVID A. HOLLINGER

Preston Hotchkis Professor American History
University of California, Berkeley

“Just who belongs together with whom, and for what purposes and on what authority?” This is the sentence with which David A. Hollinger, Preston Hotchkis Professor of American History at the University of California, Berkeley, begins his provocative collection of essays, *Cosmopolitanism and Solidarity*. Open up almost any of David’s half dozen major books, or glance at the first paragraph of one of his countless essays, and you will be immediately hooked. For David has consistently turned his attention to asking about the historical meanings behind the issues in which we are all enmeshed, not only as historians, but as teachers and citizens as well. David Hollinger’s presidency, now, of the Organization of American Historians, reminds us all of one of the important roles of historians in our society— that of the public intellectual.

The trajectory of David’s career suggests a deep and abiding commitment to exploring the history of the ideas that frame and guide our lives. Beginning with his early work on the philosopher of science, Morris Cohen, David moved into larger questions about the role of science in culture. His early essays and his work on Robert Oppenheimer sought to understand the role of scientific thought in shaping standards for inquiry that fostered skeptical thought and laid the groundwork for liberal democracy. From there it was a short step to examining the role of religion and the divisive, as well as the unifying,

values of faith. These, in turn led him to explore the place of Jews and Judaism in harnessing the power of scientific thought to the purposes of American society. But questions about a particular faith proved secondary to David's abiding concern to discover how religion in general, and some religions in particular, encircled their adherents with a sense of solidarity. How, he has asked most recently, has solidarity been constructed? How have Americans imagined themselves part of a collective enterprise?

David has confronted these questions in books like *In the American Province: Studies in the History and Historiography of Ideas* (1985); *Postethnic America: Beyond Multiculturalism* (1995), and *Science, Jews and Secular Culture* (1996). But much of his recent work appears in publications like *The London Review of Books*, *Callaloo*, and *Daedalus*, where they leap the academic walls to reach the larger marketplace of ideas. David's gift for constructing eloquent and evocative sentences, for wielding just the right phrase at the right moment, has made many of these pieces the focus of debate. Historians have learned to think beyond skin color and natal origins to "communities of faith" and "communities of descent." We have been encouraged to ponder more deeply the demographic sources and consequences of a rigid "ethno-racial pentagon" of classification use by the American government. And the verdant branches of American intellectual history that David has done so much to develop enable us to comprehend what David calls the "one hate rule." In a recent essay in *Daedalus* David challenged his readers to reconcile what he called "a discursive Grand Canyon" between those who deployed words like post-racial and those who demanded evidence of their immediate relevance.

David Hollinger's probing questions have served the historical profession and the OAH brilliantly. We honor David for his scholarly work and for the clear thinking and dispassionate temperament that have skillfully led us through this past year. ■

2011 OAH Presidential Reception

After the presidential address, please join us in honoring outgoing OAH President David A. Hollinger with a reception held next door in Americas Ballroom D.

The 2011 OAH Presidential Reception is sponsored by Basic Books, a member of the Perseus Group; the University of California, Berkeley; Oxford University Press; and Princeton University Press.

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