

Spring 2017 Volume 49, Number 1

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The Urban History Association NEWSLETTER



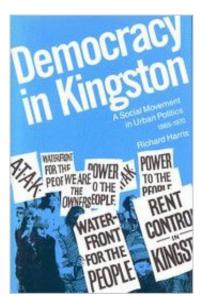
Richard Harris begins term as UHA president

On January 1, 2017, Richard Harris, Professor of Geography at McMaster University, became the 26th President of the Urban History Association. Harris was educated at Cambridge University, where he earned his B.A. in 1974, Ohio State University (M.A., 1976) and at Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario (Ph.D., 1981). At McMaster he teaches courses on urban social and historical geography, on cities in the developing world, and on housing.

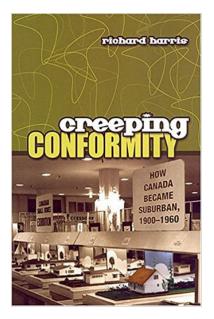
Although Harris obtained all his advanced degrees in Geography, from high school days in Birmingham, England, he always had an interest in history. At Queen's, under the influence of Peter Goheen, and inspired by the first Canadian urban history conference held at Guelph, Ontario, in 1977, his research turned historical. His first book, *Democracy in Kingston. A Social Movement in Urban Politics, 1965-1970* (McGill-Queen's University Press, 1988) looked to a very recent past. His subsequent research has reached back to the late nineteenth century, and has appeared in a wide range of historical, geographical, and social science journals. Since 1988, when he moved from the University of Toronto to McMaster, as a member of the Geography department and Associate of the History department he has supervised graduate students in both disciplines.

Although most of Harris's research has focused on the urban Canadian experience, he has aimed to situate it within a wider North American context and beyond. His second book, *Unplanned Suburbs. Toronto's American Tragedy, 1900-1950* (Johns Hopkins University Press, 1996),

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which won an award from the City of Toronto and the Abbott Lowell Cummings prize of the Vernacular Architecture Forum, argued that Toronto's suburban experience had wide North American parallels. Elements of that argument informed *Creeping Conformity. How Canada Became Suburban, 1900-1960* (University of Toronto Press, 2004), the first historical account of the Canadian suburban experience.



Harris has also worked to situate the North American suburban experience in an international context. His third book, Changing Suburbs. Foundation, Form and Function (E & FN Spon, 2001), a collection co-edited with Peter Larkham, made comparisons across a number of countries. Since 2010, as part of a 7-year Global Suburbanisms project that is funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) of Canada. he has directed research on the theme of suburban land. Coming out of this, two collections address neglected issues from a comparative perspective. The first, What's in a Name? Talking about Urban Peripheries, coedited with Charlotte Vorms, considers the names and meanings of the types of space that anglophones refer to as the suburbs (University of Toronto Press, fall 2017). The second. The Suburban Land Question, co-edited with Ute Lehrer, explores the distinctive character of suburban land from Latin America through North America and Europe to South Asia.

Apart from his writings on the history of suburbs, Harris has written about various aspects of the modern urban housing market. This work includes studies of owner-building, boarding and lodging, the building industry, housing finance, and housing policy, both in Canada and the United States. This work has appeared in geographical journals, such as the Annals of the Association of American Geographers, historical journals such as Urban History, Social Science History, and Enterprise and Society, as well as social science journals such as Urban Studies and Housing Studies. With the support of a Guggenheim Fellowship, some of this research culminated in Building a Market. The Rise of the Home Improvement *Industry, 1914-1960* (University of Chicago Press, 2012), which won the Alice David Hitchcock Award of the Society of Architectural Historians. He has also explored international aspects of housing and housing policy, primarily with respect to the British colonies, notably India, in the late colonial period, but also through the programs that international agencies have promoted since 1945. This work has appeared in journals such as the Journal of *Historical Geography* and Habitat International.

In addition to his historical research, Harris has undertaken studies of the current housing scene in Canada. Since 2014 he has been involved in a long-term, SSHRC-funded project which is studying the growth of neighborhood inequality in Canadian cities. For this he and several students are studying the rental market in Hamilton, Ontario. He is currently writing a history of Canadian urban neighborhoods since 1900.

The contribution of this work has been recognized in

Letter from UHA President Richard Harris

Two years ago, Tim Gilfoyle opened his first letter to members by saying that 2015 had begun with many transitions: a new president, of course, but also a new Executive Director (Tim Neary), a new Membership Secretary (Cindy Lobel), and the prospect of a new web platform. I am delighted to be able to say that all three changes are working out very well, of which more anon.

Change is just as much the theme two years later. We have a new newsletter editor. Hope Shannon, currently a PhD candidate at Loyola University in Chicago, and previously Executive Director of the South End Historical Society in Boston. After many years of service, Patrick Potyondy felt that it was time to step down. The newsletter has been one of the main ways in which members have kept in touch with what is happening in the Association and in the field, and Patrick has done a highly professional job of running it. He deserves all our thanks.

In addition, the UHA's new website has nudged the Board to make other changes that various ways. Primarily for his research in the field of urban history, in 2010 Harris was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada. In 2012 he was elected a fellow of the Royal Canadian Geographical Society and in 2013 he received the Canadian Association of Geographers Award for Scholarly Distinction in Geography.

you will all notice very soon. The first is the appointment of Avigail Oren, currently completing her PhD at Carnegie-Mellon, as our first official webmaster. (Yes, I know, 'master' doesn't sound right, but we haven't come up with a gender-neutral alternative. 'Controller' sounds, well, too controlling.) Avigail has already helped design and mount the questionnaire that many of you filled in. A second appointment, also a first, is that of Ryan Reft as our social media manager. It was at the urging of several junior members that the Board decided to create such a position and Ryan, a recent PhD in urban history from UC-San Diego and currently a historian at the Library of Congress, has agreed to take it on. Ryan, Avigail, and Hope are already working together as what Tim Neary has called our 'Communications Team'. We hope that, in part through the new website, they will change the way members of the Association interact. I am delighted to have such keen and capable young scholars on board.

Other transitions have involved membership of the

Board of Directors. I would like to thank those who are rotating off the board for their contribution to the Association over the past three years: Mauricio Castro, Themis Chronopoulos, Lily Geismer, Paul Gleye, Andrew Highsmith, Michelle Nickerson, and Anton Rosenthal. I would like to welcome, in their place, the following new board members: Julio Capó, Jr., Browdwyn Fischer, Elizabeth Hinton, Elaine Lewinnek, Andrew Needham, Anthony Pratcher II, and Lena Suk. I am very pleased that these include several young scholars who, as noted above, have already made their presence felt. And then of course I am delighted to welcome Heather Ann Thompson as the new president-elect of the UHA, not least because she has just been awarded the Bancroft Prize which, as the report in the New York Times points out. is "one of the most prestigious honors in the field of American history". As if we didn't know. Congratulations!

The online questionnaire to which I also referred previously is intended to give us a clearer picture of who we are and where we might go. Like the discipline of history, indeed like academia as a whole, we have been a rather white, male community, but things are changing. I think all of us welcome intellectual and social diversity, which as it happens is also a preoccupation of my Prime Minister, Justin Trudeau. If we are to foster and express that diversity, the UHA needs to know more about the current composition, concerns, and sources of inspiration of its members. This has practical aspects, and we asked you to comment on the Association and also the biennial conference, its main activity. Thank you to everyone who completed the questionnaire.

Speaking of conferences, and as many of you will know, we had an outstanding meeting at Loyola University in Chicago in October 2016. At 722, attendance was the largest ever. Huge, in fact, requiring lastminute requests to Loyola to increase the number of rooms for the breakout sessions, so that sometimes there were twenty running concurrently. The program chairs, Nathan Connolly and Donna Murch, had toiled mightily to accommodate and schedule everyone, and to excellent effect. Tim Gilfoyle, and the other members of the Local Organizing Committee, had arranged for three receptions: at the Chicago History Museum, Kasbeer Hall at the Philip Corboy Law Center, and the spectacular Pritzker Music

Pavilion downtown, with its awesome view of the skyline. One of the innovations at this conference was to offer travel assistance to graduate students, and an unusually large number registered. There were also a record number -170 and counting - at the Saturday evening banquet, including 44 graduate students, where Tim Gilfoyle gave a fascinating, revisionist account of an urban invention. the sewing machine. Given the numbers, there was every reason to anticipate a serious glitch or two. It is a tribute to those involved that everything went smoothly, setting a high bar for the UHA's next conference.

Which will be held in Columbia. South Carolina in October 2018. The date will be either 18th-21st or 25-27th. This will be the first time that the Association has met in the Southeast, and I anticipate that this will be reflected in the mix of topics. sessions, and field trips. It will also be the first UHA meeting in a smaller city, the sort of place that rarely gets its due. As a resident of Hamilton. Ontario – which, as I am accustomed to explaining to non-Canadians, is 'just down the road from Toronto' – I know that smaller urban centres are commonly overshadowed by their larger neighbours. But they have their own qualities and are an important part of the North American urban experience. I hope to see you there in 2018.

Conference planning is well under way. Co-chaired by Jessica Elfenbein, at the University of South Carolina, and Robin Waites, Executive Director at Historic Columbia. the Local Arrangements Committee is in capable, experienced hands. I would like to thank LaDale Winling (Virginia Tech.) and Elaine Lewinnek (CSU- Fullerton) for volunteering to co-chair the **Conference** Program Committee and for developing an unusually appropriate conference theme, 'Cities at the Crossroads'. Dale, Elaine and I would like to thank the following people for agreeing to serve on that committee: Anna Alexander (CSU-East Bay), Rocio Gomez (Arkansas), Kwame Holmes (UC Boulder), Andrew Kahrl (UVA), Minayo Nasiali (UCLA), Andrew Needham (NYU), Danielle Sanchez (Muhlenburg College), and John Sherrer (Historic Columbia).

Mirroring the innovations that the Association is making in its methods of communication, and echoing the theme of the 2018 OAH conference ('The Forms of History'), the meeting in Columbia will include a discussion of innovative methods of research and presentation. I want to thank everyone involved for their willingness to organize and contribute to what I expect to be a unique experience for the UHA.

Executive Director's Report



On January 1, 2017, Richard Harris, McMaster University, began a two-year term as UHA President and Heather Ann Thompson, University of Michigan, began a two-year term as UHA President-Elect.

At the UHA Board meeting held in Denver at the American Historical Association's Annual Meeting on January 7, 2017, Harris welcomed the seven new Directors to the Board and thanked the seven departing Directors for their service during the past three years (see the President's letter on page 3).

I am happy to report that UHA finances are sound and membership numbers have gone up. As of March 28, 2017, the UHA had 803 active members in good standing. This total is an all-time high for the organization, in part, because each non-member registering for last fall's Eighth Biennial Conference in Chicago received a free, oneyear membership for the 2017 calendar year. This brought in an additional 267 individuals to the UHA membership rolls. We hope that many of these new members will choose to stay with the UHA by renewing their memberships in November and December of 2017. Even without these additional members, as of March 27. there were 536 active UHA members in good standing, which is higher than typical for a non-conference year. In short, UHA membership numbers are healthy.

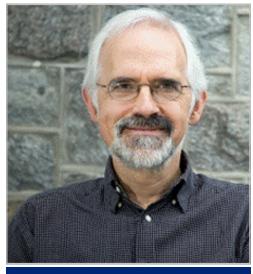
The leadership of the UHA currently is busy planning for the Ninth Biennial Conference to be held in October 2018. on the campus of the University of South Carolina in Columbia. South Carolina. Jessica Elfenbein-Professor of History at the University of South Carolina and former UHA Board Director (2012-2014)-is chairing Local Arrangements for the Ninth Biennial Conference. Professor Elfenbein is working closely with the University of South Carolina, the Historic Columbia foundation, the Columbia Convention and Visitors Bureau, and other local organizations. UHA President Richard Harris and I will travel to Columbia, April 24-25, 2017, to meet with Elfenbein and her partners, tour the city, and visit conference venues.

Finally, I am very pleased to report that the UHA has a new, three-member Communications Team (see page 8). Hope Shannon, a Ph.D. candidate at Loyola University Chicago, is the new editor of the Urban History Newsletter. Hope replaces Patrick Potyondy, who did a wonderful job editing the newsletter between 2013 and 2016. Patrick graduated with his Ph.D. in history from The Ohio State University in the spring of 2016, and now works as a staff member in the Ohio State Legislature. I want to thank Patrick for his hard work and wish him all the best! The second member of the Communications Team is Avigail Oren, a Ph.D. candidate in history at Carnegie Melon University. Avigail is the new webmaster and blog editor. Finally, Ryan Reft, historian of Modern America in the Manuscript Division of the Library of Congress, is the new UHA Social Media Manager and blog editor. I want to thank Hope, Avigail, and Ryan for taking on these important roles. I am confident that they will help the UHA improve communications with our current members as well as reach out to potential new members. Using blogs and other social media outlets. we hope to provide virtual platforms for lively discussions about the field of urban history.

> Timothy B. Neary UHA Executive Director

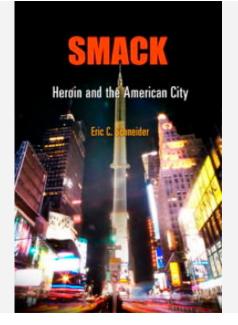
Remembering Eric Schneider by Tom Sugrue

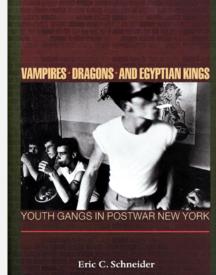
Urban historian Eric Schneider died on March 22, 2017 after a struggle with cancer. He worked for nearly thirty years as a dean and advisor for the University of Pennsylvania's College of Arts and Sciences. He was also an indispensable member of the Urban Studies and History faculties at Penn. Eric was best known for being a mentor to generations of Penn Urban Studies undergraduates or, as he affectionately called them, his "Urbies." He attracted students to the Penn's Urban Studies major through his gateway courses, where he wowed them with his passion for urban issues, his sharp wit, and his capacious knowledge of the field. For years, he also directed the Urban Studies senior seminar, gaining the reputation of a generous but fierce critic, pushing students to excel through his rigorous reviews of their work-in-progress. While working a more than full time job as administrator, advisor, and teacher, Eric found time to publish several major books, including Smack: Heroin and the American City (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2008), which won the



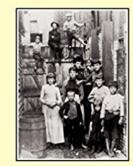
Photograph courtesy University of Pennsylvania

Urban History Association's Kenneth T. Jackson Award for Best Book in North American Urban History. Eric was especially interested in urban youth culture, turf consciousness, and social reform, themes reflected in his books, *Vampires, Dragons, and Egyptian Kings: Youth Gangs in Postwar New York* (Princeton University Press, 1999); and *In the Web of Class: Delinquents and Reformers in Boston, 1810s-1930s* (New York University Press, 1992). Eric earned his Ph.D. in history at Boston University, where he worked with Sam Bass Warner. He was a longtime and active member of the Urban History Association. He served on the UHA Board of Directors, on the local arrangements committee for the 2014 conference in Philadelphia, and as a prize committee member. He is survived by his wife, historian Janet Golden, and two sons, Alex and Ben.





ERICC. SCHNEIDER



IN THE WEB OF CLASS Delinquents and Reformers in Boston, 18105-19305

UHA at the OAH

Friday, April 7, 9 AM—10:30 AM

UHA Solicited Session: "New Histories of Gentrification"

Since sociologist Ruth Glass coined "gentrification" in 1964, the term has denoted racial change, class transformation, and architectural rehabilitation in American cities. Yet as a simple label that describes a complicated process, gentrification has also created both physical and rhetorical spaces of contested meaning, often obscuring as much as it reveals. Is gentrification good for cities or bad? Does it symbolize the renaissance of urban places or new kinds of urban crisis? Sorting out these meanings has long been the province of sociologists, geographers, and urban theorists. Only in the last decade have historians turned an eye to gentrification, accepting its ambiguity but also seeking to understand it as a process with deep roots, diverse actors, and complex consequences. In recent and forthcoming works, urban historians have uncovered a story that cannot be understood through binaries of winners and losers, or insider and outsiders. In doing so, they have given a multifaceted history to the most recent period of urban change. This round table offers an opportunity for historians working on such questions to discuss these new histories of gentrification and the insights they offer on a process that is still very much underway, even as Glass's term is a half-century old. The scholars assembled here take historical studies of gentrification in new directions by focusing on the role of universities, community organizations, historic preservation, artists, and affordable housing, among other aspects. They will discuss different ways of approaching the history of gentrification, the varied histories that result, and the methodological challenges of this field.

Chair

Aaron Shkuda, Princeton University

Panelists

Francesca Ammon, University of Pennsylvania; Davarian Baldwin, Trinity College, Connecticut; Brian Goldstein, University of New Mexico; Suleiman Osman, George Washington University

Saturday, April 8, 9 AM–11AM UHA Board Meeting



Saturday, April 8, 12:30 PM-2 PM ** UHA Luncheon: "Exporting Risk: New Orleans, Commerce, and Flood Water Diversion"

Craig E. Colten, The Carl O. Sauer Professor at Louisiana State University

From its founding, New Orleans has hunkered down behind ever-growing levees built to a blockade to the annual risk of Mississippi River floods. To protect its commercial infrastructure, the city has supported efforts to divert flood waters through natural and human made floodways and impose new risks on rural residents. In the face of rising sea levels and a subsiding shore, the city is supporting current state efforts to restore the coast. This position, once again, is forcing non-urban residents to adapt to changing conditions. The situation in Louisiana offers a glimpse into the larger urban-rural conflicts that will accompany climate change.

More at <u>http://www.oah.org/meetings-events/2017/luncheons/</u>. ** You must register in advance to attend the luncheon. Details can be found at the link above.

UHA welcomes new newsletter editor, webmaster, and social media manager; establishes communications team

The UHA welcomes its new communications team. Hope Shannon took over the position of editor of the UHA newsletter from Patrick Potynody, who stepped down in December after four dedicated years of service. Avigail Oren and Ryan Reft are the inaugural appointees to the new positions of webmaster and social media manager, respectively, which were created in January. Together, the newsletter editor, webmaster, and social media manager comprise the UHA's first-ever communications team.

Meet the team

Avigail Oren, UHA webmaster, is a doctoral candidate in the Department of History at Carnegie Mellon University specializing in 20th century U.S. urban history. Her interests range from ethnic and race relations to Jewish studies to the history of how the public health and social welfare infrastructure of American cities was built over the past 100 years. She is currently putting the final touches on her dissertation, "Adjusting to Change: The Jewish Community Center Movement in Postwar Urban America, 1945-80." Since participating in Carnegie Mellon's 2014-15 A.W. Mellon Sawyer Seminar on transnational history of the ghetto as a pre-doctoral fellow, Avigail has also done research on the transmission of the term "ghetto" into African American discourse in the early twentieth

century. Through this scholarship, she became a founding member of the Venice Ghetto Collaboration, an interdisciplinary working group of humanities scholars that develops projects to examine both the specificity of the Venice Ghetto and the symbolic power of ghettos more generally. Most recently, she helped the Collaboration develop a modular syllabus, "Approaches to Teaching the Ghetto in a Global Context," designed to help instructors create and tailor courses on the broad topic of ghettos. When not buried in books, Avigail can most often be found in front of the television, where she enjoys a wide range of high- and low-brow programming.

Ryan Reft, UHA social media manager, is a historian of Modern American history in the Manuscript Division at the Library of Congress where he oversees 20th century collections related to domestic policy, Congress, law, journalism and culture. He is also lead curator for the Library of Congress' new World War I exhibition, "Echoes of the Great War: American Experiences of World War One". While attending the University of California San Diego, he worked as a lecturer in the school's Urban Studies and Planning program, before earning his PhD in urban history in 2014. Prior to graduate school, he taught history and English in the NYC public high schools for nine years. He co-founded and co-edited the blog *Tropics of Meta* from 2009 until October 2016. He has been writing about California history at KCET in





Los Angeles since 2012. His work has appeared in several journals, including *Souls, California History, Planning Perspectives, Southern California Quarterly*, and the *Journal of Urban History*, as well as in the anthologies *Barack Obama and African American Empowerment: The Rise of Black America's New Leadership* and *Asian American Sporting Cultures*. Ryan's area of focus is post-1945, 20th-century urban history with attention to housing, war and society, urban and suburban politics, the Sunbelt and the New Right. He can be reached on twitter at @ryanreft.

Hope Shannon, UHA newsletter editor, is a doctoral candidate in United States History and Public History at Loyola University Chicago. Before joining Loyola's history program, she worked on archaeological excavations in North America and Europe, received her MA in history from Simmons College, and was the executive director at the South End Historical Society in Boston. She is the author of *Legendary Locals of Boston's South End*, a book that draws on oral history testimony to tell a new story of the neighborhood's history. Hope is a founding member of Loyola University Chicago's Public History Lab, a service initiative that facilitates history graduate student partnerships



with history organizations and communities in the Chicago area, and she is the chair of the American Association for State and Local History's Emerging History Professionals Committee. She has worked on evaluation, exhibition, oral history, and community outreach projects in Boston and Chicago. Hope is interested in urban history, local history, humanities advocacy, and public history. Her dissertation, "Mobilizing the Past: Local History and Community Action in Metropolitan Chicago, 1960-1980," looks at how residents of Chicago neighborhoods and suburbs used local history in struggles over urban and suburban change and redevelopment, as well as the role that local history played more broadly in shaping the postwar metropolis.

News from the Communications Team

BLOG: The UHA has launched a new blog called *The Metropole*. Future issues of the Urban History Newsletter will include a "From *The Metropole*" feature, which will highlight content posted on the UHA blog since the publication of the previous newsletter.

Avigail Oren, webmaster, and Ryan Reft, social media manager, are spearheading the effort to make the new UHA blog *the* place to go for urban history news. You can find the blog here: <u>themetropole.blog</u>. New content will be posted soon. Be sure to check back often for updates.

If you are interested in contributing to *The Metropole,* contact Avigail Oren or Ryan Reft at <u>uhacommunicationsteam@gmail.com</u>.

TWITTER: The UHA has joined the Twitterverse. Follow us at <u>@UrbanHistoryA</u>.

FACEBOOK: The UHA has an active group page on Facebook. Follow it for updates from your urban history peers across the field. <u>Click here</u> to go to the page and to request to join the group.





for UHA 2018!



Photography by Brett Flashnick for Columbia Metropolitan Convention & Visitors Bureau



Urban History Association Biennial Conference

2018: 9th UHA Conference, Columbia, SC 2020: 10th UHA Conference, Detroit, MI 2022 and 2024: Submit a proposal!

Request for Proposals Biennial UHA Meetings 2022 and 2024

The Board of Directors of the Urban History Association (UHA) is soliciting separate Requests for Proposals from interested institutions and parties to stage the Eleventh Biennial UHA Conference in 2022 and the Twelfth Biennial UHA Conference in 2024. Information on past conferences is available at: <u>http://www.urbanhistory.org/past-conferences</u>.

Ideal proposals should include the following information:

- Name of the primary sponsoring institution or institutions with relevant contact addresses, email, and telephone numbers;
- Names of potential secondary sponsors to assist funding the conference;
- Possible location of rooms for concurrent panels (approximately 100 total) on Friday and Saturday (4 different time slots between 8:30 am and 4pm), and Sunday morning;
- Possible location for a book exhibit to accommodate 10-15 publishers;
- Possible open space for informal gathering and networking;
- Potential conference hotels with price ranges;
- Potential space for receptions and a gala dinner to accommodate 150-200 people;
- Any innovative ideas for the conference program.

Please submit proposals via email to:

Timothy Neary, Executive Director, Urban History Association, timothy.neary@salve.edu.

Announcements

FROM THE UHA

* The UHA has a new **Twitter** account. Follow us @UrbanHistoryA.

* Member benefit: UHA members have free online access to the *Journal of Urban History*. Access is available for the current issue of the *JUH*, as well as the full run of past issues. To access the *JUH*, go to <u>urbanhistory.org</u> and click on the "Members Only" section of the website to sign in. If you have never created a password to access the Members Only area of the UHA website, or if you have forgotten your password, please click here: <u>reset</u> <u>password</u>. The email address you have on file acts as your login ID.

* The UHA will be seeking an EXECUTIVE

DIRECTOR for the five-year term beginning January 1, 2020, and ending December 31, 2024. Anyone interested in learning more about the position should contact Timothy Neary, current UHA Executive Director, at timothy.neary@salve.edu

* The UHA has endorsed four statements issued by the American Historical Association. These include the following: "AHA Condemns Executive Order Restricting Entry to the United States" on January 30, 2017 (click here for more); "AHA Statement of Support for National March for Science" in March 2017 (click here for more); "AHA Condemns Second Draft of Executive Travel Ban" in March 2017 (click here for more); and "AHA Protests Detainment of French Historian Henry Rousso" in March 2017 (click here for more).

* The UHA also **endorsed the History Relevance Campaign's Value Statement**. The Value Statement is comprised of seven distinct tenets delineating critical ways the study of history is essential to individuals, communities, and our shared future. The full Value Statement can be found at

https://www.historyrelevance.com/valuestatement. * The **deadline for submissions to the Urban History Association award competitions** is April 15, 2017.

This year the UHA is accepting submissions for the Jackson, Non-North American book, Hirsch, and Katz awards. For details on criteria and submission requirements for each of the four awards, please click here: <u>Award Submissions</u>.

CONGRATULATIONS

* The UHA congratulates **Heather Ann Thompson**, Professor of History at the University of Michigan and the UHA president-elect, on winning the Bancroft Prize for *Blood in the Water: The Attica Prison Uprising of 1971 and Its Legacy*.

* The UHA congratulates member **Walter Greason**, Professor of History at Monmouth University, on his appointment to the position of Dean of the Honors School at Monmouth.

FUNDING

* The State Historical Society of Iowa (SHSI) announces a grant program for the 2017/2018 academic year. SHSI will award up to ten stipends of \$1,000 each to support original research and interpretive writing related to the history of Iowa or Iowa and the Midwest. Preference will be given to applicants proposing to pursue previously neglected topics or new approaches to or interpretations of previously treated topics. **Applications for the 2017/2018 awards must be postmarked by April 15, 2017**. For more information and for the application, visit

https://iowaculture.gov/about-

<u>us/about/grants/research-grant-authors</u> or request guidelines or further information from Marvin Bergman at (319) 335-3931 or <u>marvin-bergman@uiowa.edu</u>.

Have an announcement for the newsletter? Send it to Hope Shannon at hshannon1@luc.edu.

About the Urban History Association

The Urban History Association was founded in Cincinnati in 1988 for the purpose of stimulating interest and forwarding research and study in the history of the city in all periods and geographical areas. It is affiliated with the International Planning History Society.

Today the association includes over 500 members worldwide. While the majority of members are from the United States and Canada, the association also includes members from Austria, Australia, the Dominican Republic, the United Kingdom, France, Israel, the Netherlands, Japan, Germany, Hong Kong, and New Zealand. Our ranks include university faculty, architects, archivists, civil servants, editors, independent scholars, museum professionals, planner, public historians, and secondary school teachers. The association has made a particular effort to reach scholars and professionals whose interests lie outside of North American history. In addition, the association welcomes scholars from any field who are interested in the history of the city in any period and geographical area. Our membership also includes scholars from the fields of American studies, sociology, women's studies, ethnic studies, urban planning, material culture, literature, demography, museum studies, historic preservation, architecture, journalism, ethnic studies, anthropology, and political science.

The Association supports a variety of activities to enhance the visibility of the study of the history of the city. The Association has published the Urban History Newsletter each year in March and October since 1989. The newsletter includes articles of interest about the activities of members of the association, reports on conference attended by member so the association, conference announcements, member milestones and news, reports on research in progress, teaching, and museum exhibits, as well as news on the activities of the association. The association launched its first biennial urban history conference in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania on September 26-28, 2002. Since 1990 the Association has awarded annual prizes for the best book in North American urban history and the best dissertation and best article in urban history from the previous year. Every two years it awards a prize for the best book in non-North American history. Members receive discounted subscriptions to the Journal of Urban History, Planning Perspectives (UK), and Urban History (UK). The Association also maintains a presence on the internet. It has an official website for members, which features back issues of the newsletter, links to H-Urban, links to other urban history web sites, syllabi exchanges, conference announcements, and news.

Current Officers and Directors

President: Richard Harris / McMaster University
President-Elect: Heather Ann Thompson / University of Michigan
Executive Director: Timothy Neary / Salve Regina University
Editor of the Journal of Urban History: David Goldfield / University of North Carolina-Charlotte
Membership Secretary: Cindy R. Lobel / Lehman College, CUNY
Editor of the Urban History Newsletter: Hope Shannon / Loyola University Chicago
Webmaster and UHA Blog Editor: Avigail Oren / Carnegie Mellon University
Social Media Manager and UHA Blog Editor: Ryan Reft / Library of Congress

Directors

Through December 31, 2017: Davarian Baldwin / Trinity College; Martha Biondi / Northwestern University; Nathan Connolly / New York University; Rebecca Madigan / University of Glasgow; Catherine McNeur / Portland State University; Todd Michney / University of Toledo; Donna Murch / Rutgers University

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Matthew Gordon Lasner, UHA bibliographer for exhibitions and media, is associate professor of urban studies and planning, Hunter College, CUNY.

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Maria A. Loftin, Latin America Articles and Books Bibliographer, is a doctoral candidate in the History of Ideas program at the University of Texas at Dallas. Her dissertation focuses on the built environment and consumerism in Mexico City and Monterrey in the post-Revolutionary era.

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The UHA thanks its dedicated bibliographers for their contributions to the UHA newsletter.

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The Urban History Association



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Copy deadlines are March 1 and September 1.

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