

The New, Virtual Classroom Gayle Gullett

I said I'd never do it. But I taught my first online class this semester, fall 2011. Arizona State University, where I teach, offers a completely online history major and I joined a team that taught our methods class for majors. If you felt (at best) a wave of concern sweep through you when you read "online history major," I confess feeling the same when I first heard this news.

I perceived online classes as the dubious high tech products of a virtual correspondence school; students gained easier access but learned less. I didn't see a simple solution. Online students were attempting to learn in a lonely, alienating environment that stunted their abilities to become active learners, engaged in teaching themselves and others in the class. Succinctly, I saw online learning as antithetical to feminist pedagogy. I doubted if a feminist historian could create an online class in which students learned to speak in their own voice.¹

“
While virtual class
rooms don't offer the
same kind of learning
as face-to-face class
rooms, they can pro
vide an education that
is equally valuable.
”

Yet I became part of a team that taught an online class. I was encouraged by colleagues who persuaded me that while virtual classrooms don't offer the same kind of learning as face-to-face classrooms, they can provide an education that is equally valuable. Students can read as much and usually write more than in the face-to-face class. Most exciting for me, virtual classes can become "communities of learning."

As bell hooks observes, such communities are necessary if we want students to become engaged learners. My colleagues, especially Andrew Barnes, helped build such communities through several steps. He persuaded students to create their own websites, their personal home page, where they could talk about themselves and learn about each other. Students also participated in the "Hallway," a virtual place to carry on the conversations that we take for granted in the face-to-face university but are so crucial for learning. Students met each other in the "Hallway," asked each other questions about the assignments, often vented, and formed support groups. One group of students created such a group in a previous class and has moved together, successfully, through several more classes. We expect they will be among the first to acquire their online history degree.

I'm therefore encouraged by the possibilities of online teaching and have signed up to do more. I have more to share with you about my experiences and I'll write about them in the next column. Email me (Gayle.Gullett@asu.edu) about your experiences; I'm sure you have much to teach me about this new kind of teaching.

¹ I owe a great debt to my thinking about feminist pedagogy and online teaching to Nancy Chick and Holly Hassel, "Don't Hate Me Because I'm Virtual: Feminist Pedagogy in the Online Classroom," *Feminist Teacher* 19, no. 3 (2009): 195-215; and Ivy Schweitzer, "Women's Studies Online: Cyberfeminism or Cyberhype?" *Women's Studies Quarterly* 29, no. 3/4 (Fall-Winter 2001): 187-217.

Welcome New (and Returning) Members!

Welcome to members who joined or renewed between June 3, 2011, and October 1, 2011!

Sara Alpern
Cheryl Beredo
Maylei Blackwell
Nawana Britenriker
Julie Gallagher
Marcia Gallo
Kristen Hillaire Glasgow

Kathryn Hearst
Rona L. Holub
Tatiana Irwin
Lynn Lombardo
Lara Ann McLaughlin
Nora Morton
Yxta Maya Murray

Thomas W. O'Donnell
Natalie Panther
Priscilla Pope-Levison
Patricia Riley
Claire Rydell
Brianna Theobald
Warren C. Wood

Executive Director's Column Amy Essington

Our 44th annual conference will be held May 3-5, 2012, at the Doubletree Hotel by Hilton at the Berkeley Marina in Berkeley, California. The keynote speaker will be Vicki Ruiz (University of California, Irvine). Her keynote is titled "Las Dos Luisas: Latina Feminist Thought, 1900-1930." There will be a special session to honor the work and activism of Eileen Boris (University of California, Santa Barbara).

Hotel information and pre-registration costs are available on the WAWH website. The conference program and the pre-registration material will be posted by early February 2012. Pre-registration should open about mid-December. Program participants will be required to pre-register for the conference and ensure they are current members by January 19, 2012. Anyone not complying with this requirement will be removed from the program before it is published online. The pre-registration deadline for non-program participant attendees will be March 29, 2012. The deadline to request a refund for 2012 WAWH conference pre-registration fees will be April 5, 2012. After that date, refunds will not be issued in full or part for any reason.

At the WAWH conference, we will recognize all WAWH members with books published in 2011. If you have a book you would like us to recognize, please email your name and the title to me at amyessington@wawh.org by March 29.

In August, at the American Historical Association's Pacific Coast Branch annual meeting in Seattle, about forty people attended the WAWH luncheon. Barbara Molony (Santa Clara University) introduced Rebecca Jo Plant (University of California, San Diego), the luncheon's keynote speaker. Rebecca spoke about "Mom: The Transformation of Motherhood in Modern American, 1920-1965," which is the subject her of recently published book. The 2012 annual meeting will be in San Diego August 9-11, 2012. The WAWH luncheon will be on the Saturday. The proposal deadline for the PCB annual meeting is January 6, 2012. Information about the AHA-PCB is available on their website, pcb.cgu.edu.

The applications for the 2012 WAWH awards are prizes are now posted on the WAWH website. Each award has an application with directions for submission. The deadline for all awards is January 15, 2012. The exception is the Graduate Student Conference Paper Prize, which is due March 22, 2012.

With interests rates so low, WAWH would like to grow its award accounts to ensure the future of our awards. If you are able to contribute, please complete the donation form, which is available on the WAWH website, or add a donation when it is time to return your membership. Any amount will help the organization continue to recognize and support the scholarship of its members.

Member News

Julia Clancy-Smith's book *Mediterraneans: North Africa and Europe in an Age of Migration, c. 1800-1900* (University of California Press, 2011) won the 2011 French Colonial Historical Society Book Award. She also co-edited a special issue of the *Journal of Persianate Studies*, devoted to "Fathers and Daughters in Islam," volume 4, no. 1 (2011). Additionally, Julia published the following three articles in edited volumes: "Where Elites Meet: Households, Harem Visits and Sea-Bathing in Pre-Colonial Tunisia," in *Harem Histories: Lived Spaces and Imagined Places*, ed. Marilyn Booth (Durham: Duke University, 2010); "Ruptures? Expatriates, Law, and Institutions in Colonial-Husaynid Tunisia, 1870-1914," in *Changes in Colonial and Post-Colonial Governance of Islam: Continuities and Ruptures*, ed. Veit Bader, Annelies Moors, and Marcel Maussen (Amsterdam: University of Amsterdam, 2011); "Muslim Princes and Catholic Missionaries in a Pre-colonial State: Tunisia, c. 1840-1881," in *In God's Empire: French Missionaries and the Modern World*, ed. J. P. Daughton and Owen White (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2011). Julia was awarded a yearlong research residency fellowship from the Woodrow Wilson Center in Washington, D.C.

Mary Ann Irwin, with co-authors Richard B. Rice, William A. Bullough, and Richard J. Orsi, published *The Elusive Eden: A New History of California* (4th ed.) with McGraw-Hill, in September 2011. She also, with co-authors and -editors Robert W. Cherny and Ann Marie Wilson, published *Women and Politics: California from the Gold Rush to the Great Depression* (University of Nebraska Press) in May 2011. Additionally, the National Coalition of Independent Scholars has awarded its Eisenstein-DeLacy Prize for the best published article by an NCIS member to Mary Ann for her article, "Sex, War and Community Service: The Battle for San Francisco's Jewish Community Center," published in *Frontiers, A Journal of Women Studies* 32, no. 1 (May 2011).

Bonnie M. Miller's new book, *From Liberation to Conquest: The Visual and Popular Cultures of the Spanish-American War of 1898*, will be coming out with the University of Massachusetts Press in October 2011.

Barbara Molony's latest book, *Modern East Asia: An Integrated History*, co-authored with Jonathan Lipman and Michael Robinson, came out this summer.

Patricia A. Schechter's *Exploring the Colonial Imaginary: Four Transnational Lives* will come out with Palgrave Macmillan in January 2012 as part of their Transnational History series. It features biographical essays on Amanda Berry Smith, missionary to Liberia; Gertrude Stein, avant garde author; Josefina Silva de Cintrón, feminist publisher; and Maida Springer, transnational labor activist.

Jennifer Thigpen was awarded the Western History Association's Jensen-Miller award for her article, "You Have Been Very Thoughtful Today': The Significance of Gratitude and Reciprocity in Missionary-Hawaiian Gift Exchange." The article appeared with the *Pacific Historical Review* in November 2010.

Share your accomplishments! Include your professional news in the next newsletter.

Send submissions for Member News to Brittany Ferry at networker@wawh.org.

Your information will be included in the next *Networker*.

A reminder email is sent to the organizational email list before the submission due date.

Due dates are February 1, June 1, and October 1 each year.

Writing and Presenting a Conference Paper

Jean P. Smith

Though we all know that presenting at conferences is important for networking, receiving feedback, and CV building, it is an intimidating prospect if you haven't done it before. Having spent a slightly manic summer presenting at five conferences and hearing papers that ranged from captivating to inaudible, here is what I have learned.

First off, remember that your presentation will usually be twenty minutes. This is short! For me, twenty minutes is only about ten double-spaced pages. It is good to start with a hook, an anecdote or quote, that draws the audience in. Then take a sentence or two to situate the paper in your broader research project and in the wider scholarship. But be sure to focus mostly on your own research and not theory or historiography. It will be easier for the audience to follow if you outline out loud what you will do in the paper early on. Resist the temptation to provide too much detail. The audience can ask you to expand during questions. Remember that you don't need to provide all your evidence, you can summarize it. Take the time to practice your presentation. This will give you a better sense of how long it is and whether you need to cut the paper in order to keep to time. And you should keep to time. If you are worried about this, write your paper so that there are paragraphs or sections that you can drop if needed.

Try to speak slowly and clearly both when practicing and when presenting. Speak so slowly that it almost sounds unnatural to you and it will be much easier for others to follow. Don't read the paper if at all possible.

Talk through it instead, remembering to make eye contact and pause as you go along. PowerPoint is best used for images and too much text can distract the audience from what you are saying. If you do use PowerPoint, remember to practice and time yourself actually clicking through the presentation as that can add time.

When it comes to questions, I have found it helps to write them down as they are asked. This is especially true of a multi-part question or if the chair takes several questions at once. Be confident when answering questions; remember that you are a specialist on this topic. I have found that most responses I get are constructive and helpful and have included ideas about sources, secondary literature, and, in two cases now, leads for oral history interviews. Finally, remember this is part of the process of developing scholarship, rather than a presentation of a finished product. It is better to start getting your work out there even if it isn't perfect.

And when your paper is over, take advantage of the rare chance to spend time with others who share your specific interests.

“
It is better to start getting your work out there even if it isn't perfect.... Take advantage of the rare chance to spend time with others who share your specific interests.
”

Mark Your Calendars!

WAWH 2012 Conference
Doubletree Hotel & Meeting Center
Berkeley, CA
May 3-5, 2012

Follow us on Facebook for information:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Western-Association-of-Women-Historians-44th-Annual-Meeting-May-3-5-2012/190956604309031?sk=wall>

Websites for U.S. Women's Historians: Consumerism

Carole Srole

We all know that websites on certain themes, like consumerism, include useful primary sources on women. For U.S. historians, Duke's Ad*Access has been one of those gems of magazine and outdoor advertisements from 1918 to 1985. The collection includes over 2,000 beauty and hygiene ads, 500 on soap and 600 on cosmetics. For the years before, Duke has over 2,800 advertisements in "Emergence of Advertising in America, 1850-1920." Now, the collection has also added AdView: a digital archive of over 9000 television commercials collected by the D'Arcy Masius Benton & Bowles advertising agency from the 1950s to 1980s. Ads range from detergents and cereals to women selling gasoline products. Have fun or, better yet, let your students play: <http://library.duke.edu/digitalcollections/advertising/>

Dear WAWH Authors

The Western Association of Women Historians has arranged with The Scholar's Choice to manage the combined book exhibit for our annual meeting taking place May 3-5 in Berkeley, California. It may be possible for your recently published books to be displayed. Please refer to the guidelines below.

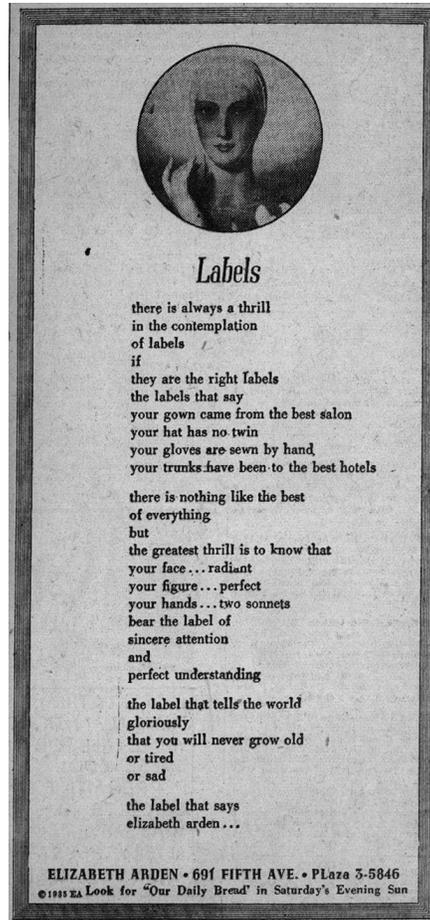
Any members interested in having their book displayed at the upcoming WAWH meeting should contact their publisher as soon as possible. The Scholar's Choice displays on behalf of the publishers and all requests must come from them, not the individual authors. If they don't already have it, the press may request the appropriate paperwork by emailing Mary Lynn Howe atmlh@scholar-choice.com.

Thank You, Donor!

Thank you to the following member for her donation between June 3, 2011, and October 1, 2011.

Nawana Britenriker

The WAWH is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization. Your donations are tax-deductible. Donations of any size are welcome. Donations can be directed to a specific fund or award. Thank you for your continuing support.



Editorial Fellowships at Portland State University

The *Pacific Historical Review* offers two year-long graduate editorial fellowships that run from September 16, 2012, through September 15, 2013. The fellowships are open to all students enrolled in the Portland State University graduate history program. Both fellowships provide a stipend, a graduate tuition waiver, and support for travel to a major professional conference as a representative of the *Pacific Historical Review*.

A complete application includes:

- A curriculum vitae
- A letter describing the applicant's academic background, career objectives, intellectual interests, and intended fields of graduate study, as well as the ways that these academic plans and previous experiences relate to the position of editorial assistant. These letters should also identify any editorial experience an applicant has had.
- Three (3) letters of recommendation, preferably from individuals who can speak to the applicant's academic preparation and capacity for this fellowship. These may come either in sealed envelopes included with the application packet or be sent directly to the *PHR* offices via post or email.

For questions about the fellowship application, please contact the editors by email (phr@pdx.edu), phone (503) 725-4953 or (503) 725-8230, mail (*Pacific Historical Review*, 487 Cramer Hall, Portland State University, P.O. Box 751, Portland, OR 97207-0751), or by visiting our office (487 Cramer Hall). Complete applications must be sent directly to the *PHR* office (not via the history department) and postmarked no later than February 15, 2012. Interviews will take place by early March, and fellowship recipients for 2012-2013 will be announced in April 2012.

Call for Papers:

"American History & Culture," 2012 SW/TX PCA/ACA Conference Southwest/Texas Popular Culture and American Culture Associations

The 33rd SW/TX PCA/ACA conference will take place in February 8-11, 2012 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel & Conference Center in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Panels are now forming for all of the SW/TX PCA/ACA conference's 80+ individual subject areas, including the "American History and Culture" area. The conference theme is celebrating "Foods & Culture(s) in a Global Context."

The submission deadline for the SW/TX PCA/ACA is December 1, 2011. Submit proposals for either individual presentations or full panels through the SW/TX PCA/ACA database at <http://conference2012.swtxpca.org>. (Full panel submissions need to include 3 or 4 papers.) Include a 250-word abstract with a two-part working title (as well as a CV and contact information) for each potential presenter. Please email queries to "American History and Culture" Area Chair Laura Mohsene at Lmohsene@hotmail.com. Mention the conference or the "American History and Culture" area in the email's subject line. All proposals for the "American History and Culture" area must have a historical focus and should emphasize culture.

Professors, independent scholars, teachers, and professionals are encouraged to participate. Graduate students are particularly welcome at the conference, which offers awards for the best graduate papers. Please consult the area list on the SW/TX PCA/ACA website to determine whether the "American History and Culture" area is the appropriate area to receive your proposal.

WAWH Executive Board 2011-2012

President

Gayle Gullett
Arizona State University
History Dept.
P.O. Box 872501
Tempe, AZ 85287-2501
gayle.gullett@asu.edu

President-Elect

Jessica Weiss
Calif State Univ., East Bay
25800 Carlos Bee Blvd.
Hayward, CA 94542-3014
jessica.weiss@csueastbay.edu

Executive Director

Amy Essington
3242 Petaluma Avenue
Long Beach, CA 90808-4249
amyessington@wawh.org

Secretary

Cynthia Scott
Claremont Graduate Univ.
PO Box 17122
Encino, CA 91416-7122
cynthiascott@earthlink.net

Treasurer

Pamela Stewart
Arizona State University
School of Letters and Sciences
441 N. Central Ave., 360N
Phoenix, AZ 85004-0696
pamela.stewart@asu.edu

Networker Editor

Brittany Ferry
P.O. Box 634
Cosmopolis, WA 98537
networker@wawh.org

Past President

Carole Srole
Calif. State Univ., Los Angeles
History Department
5151 State University Drive
Los Angeles, CA 90032-8223
srole1@aol.com

Graduate Student Reps.

Jennifer Robin Terry
University of California, Berkeley
jenterry@berkeley.edu

M. Nichole Sater
Univ. of California, Santa Barbara
Department of History
Santa Barbara, CA 93106-9410
mnsater@umail.ucsb.edu

2012 Program Chair

Patricia Schechter
Portland State University
P.O. Box 751
Portland, OR 97207-0751
schechp@pdx.edu

2012 Local Arrangements Chair

Sherry Katz
San Francisco State University
1600 Holloway Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94132
sjkatz@comcast.net

Graduate Student Conference Paper Prize Chair

Sanjam Ahluwalia
Northern Arizona University
Department of History
P.O.Box 6023
Flagstaff, AZ 86011
sanjam.ahluwalia@nau.edu

Founders' Dissertation Fellowship Chair

Lydia Otero
Dept of Mexican American Studies
University of Arizona
Chavez Bldg #208
Tucson, AZ 85721
lotero@u.arizona.edu

Judith Lee Ridge Prize Chair

Terri Snyder
California State Univ., Fullerton
American Studies, P.O. Box 6868,
Fullerton, CA 92834-6868
snyder@fullerton.edu

Barbara "Penny" Kanner Award Chair

Jane Slaughter
Dept of History, MSC 06 3760 1
University of New Mexico
Albuquerque, NM 87131-0001
mjane@unm.edu

Frances Richardson Keller-Sierra Prize Chair

Amy Harris
Brigham Young University
Dept. of History, 2130 JFSB
Provo, UT 84602 801-422-6408
amy.harris@byu.edu

Gita Chaudhuri Prize Chair

Laura Woodworth-Ney
Asso. VP for Academic Affairs
Professor of History
Idaho State University
921 South 8th Avenue, Stop 8063
Pocatello, Idaho 83209-8063
woodlaur@isu.edu

WAWH Membership Form

Membership runs conference to conference. Thank you for keeping your membership current. For those receiving paper newsletters, the date on the mailing label of your *Networker* is the year your membership expires.

Become a member of WAWH today or renew your membership

This is a 1) _____ new 2) _____ renewal 3) _____ gift membership

Name: _____

Mailing Address (including city, state, zip): _____

This is a HOME or WORK address (circle one) For renewals: is this an updated address? YES or NO

Phone (home): _____ (Work): _____

Email address: _____

Current Institution and/or Affiliation: _____

Current Department and/or Position: _____

Research and/or Teaching Fields (up to 3): _____

(Please circle YES or NO)

Publish my name and mailing information in the next directory: YES or NO

Publish my home information: YES or NO

Send me my regular *Networker* as an email instead of a print copy : YES or NO

I would like to receive emails from the organiaational email list: YES or NO

Membership Level (Select One)	Fees (U.S. funds)
Annual salary over \$90,000	\$50
\$60,000 - \$89,999	\$40
\$30,000 - \$59,999	\$30
Under \$29,999	\$20
Graduate Student/Independent Scholar	\$10
Lifetime Membership	\$500

My membership level is (please select one) full-time, part-time, retired, master's student, , PhD student, ABD student, independent scholar, other.

I would like to donate _____ to _____.

You may pay either by check or by credit card. WAWH prefers checks. Make checks payable to WAWH.

Circle one: Visa or MasterCard Credit Card Number: _____

Expiration Date: _____ Billing Zip/Postal Code: _____ Three-Digit Security Code: _____

Card Holder Signature: _____

Membership runs conference to conference. All donation are tax-deductible.

Please send form and payment to:

WAWH, 3242 Petaluma Avenue, Long Beach, CA 90808-4249, amyessington@wawh.org.

MEMBER NEWS

Name: _____

Affiliation: _____

Notice of publication or other member news: _____

Use additional sheet if necessary. Please send to Brittany Ferry, P.O. Box 634, Cosmopolis, WA 98537, or email it to networker@wawh.org.

Your information will be included in the next *Networker*.

The Networker

Western Association of Women Historians

3242 Petaluma Avenue

Long Beach, CA 90808-4249 USA