Mid-Career Mentoring
Jessica Weiss

In June 2012, the Chronicle of Higher Education reported on a study which described mid-career faculty as significantly less satisfied with their research and service work than assistant and full professors, identifying the problem of "mid-career malaise." I read the article with interest, both as someone who still perceives herself as mid-career (I have been promoted to full professor, but the alternative, late career, doesn’t yet seem to apply) and as the newly appointed interim director of faculty development at California State University East Bay. I decided that the issues facing mid-career faculty would be my contribution to faculty development and I organized a faculty learning community (FLC) for mid-career faculty. FLCs are term- or year-long peer groups devoted to collaborative learning and reflection, usually on topics related to teaching. Two faculty members applied for a two-quarter FLC that offered a stipend or equipment worth $500. Either mid-career faculty did not want to identify as mid-career faculty who feel stalled or mid-career faculty felt stretched too thin and could not take on another campus obligation!

The FLC, comprised of an associate professor from the social sciences and soon-to-be-tenured assistant professor from the sciences and myself, all women, discussed careers after tenure at CSUEB, where the teaching load is 3-3-3, and the qualifications required for promotion to full professor often appear to be both vaguely defined and growing, and service is a given. We focused on planning, time management, and understanding the unique responsibilities and opportunities of being an associate professor. An early discovery was how easy it was to step up to the new service responsibilities of the associate professor without consciously choosing a path.

Retirements and stagnant hiring and the shift to adjunct faculty made the service needs of our colleges and departments especially compelling. It was also possible to postpone research and writing projects as release time disappeared and responsibilities grew. In response to these conditions, we encouraged one another to draft one-, three-, and five-year plans that highlighted research and writing goals.

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Turning to time management, we used simple pie charts to sketch idealized and feasible schedules of teaching, research, and service tasks. As we sketched and discussed what was actually required of us as faculty and the time and effort we put in, we also began to discuss work-life-family balance. Our takeaways from these early exercises were the need to consciously craft short- and long-term plans annually and the realization that post-tenure work and family demands, because of life stage, were quite different from early-career ones. Most importantly, meeting regularly to discuss these issues provided support and motivation to achieve professional goals. As I assume the presidency, I’ve been thinking about these issues.

When WAWH meets annually to conference, we have, in recent years, focused on early-career issues. Would WAWH mid-career members benefit from a career or mentoring session targeted to them? Let us know, or “vote with your feet” and propose a panel for 2014; we will meet at Cal Poly Pomona.

Executive Director’s Column
Amy Essington

WAWH met for the forty-fourth time the weekend of May 16–18 at Portland State University in Portland, Oregon. A conference with more than 160 attendees, the conference featured keynote speaker Gail Hershatter (University of California, Santa Cruz) and a special session honoring the work of Lois Banner (University of Southern California).

The business meeting minutes are included in the newsletter on page 7. The minutes include decisions made by the board.

It is not too early to mark next year’s conference on your calendar. Our forty-fourth annual conference will be May 1–3, 2014, at the Kellogg West Conference Center on the Cal Poly Pomona campus in Pomona, California. The call for papers will be posted on the WAWH website.


WAWH is an organization of volunteers. Thank you to all who volunteered their time and energy in the support of women historians. The 2013 conference was the end of service for a number of people on the board and on committees. Thank you to Carole Srole, president-elect, president, past president (2007–2013); M. Nichole Sater, graduate student representative (2011–2013); Stephanie Camp, 2013 program committee co-chair; Leslie Paris, 2013 program committee co-chair; Adele Perry, 2013 program committee member; Piya Chatterjee, 2013 program committee member; Ann Little, 2013 program committee member; Susan Wladaver-Morgan, 2013 local arrangements co-chair; Patricia Schechter, 2013 local arrangements co-chair; Kathie Sheldon, Graduate Student Conference Paper Prize chair (2010–2013); Lindsay Wilson, Founders’ Dissertation Fellowship chair (2010–2013); Joanne Goodwin, Judith Lee Ridge Prize chair (2011–2013); Sharon Wood, Barbara “Penny” Kanner Award chair (2010–2013); Hinda Gilli-Elewy, Gita Chaudhuri Prize chair (2010–2013); and Sue Peabody, Keller-Sierra Book Prize chair (2010–2013).

If you are interested in volunteering for any of the WAWH board or committee positions, please contact president Jessica Weiss, jessica.weiss@csueastbay.edu.

At the board meeting, I officially announced that I would not be seeking another term as executive director when my current term ends with the 2014 conference. I have served as a board member since 1999, first for seven years as treasurer and then two four-year terms as executive director, beginning when the position was created in 2006. It is time for me to focus on other aspects of my professional life and for WAWH to have a new voice and perspective in the executive director position. If you are interested in being that person, I am sure Jessica would like to hear from you.

I hope you enjoy the summer. Thank you for your continuing support of WAWH.
Welcome New (and Returning) Members!

Welcome to members who joined between February 16, 2013, and June 10, 2013.

Amy Absher
Lindsey Wallace Batchman
Brittany Chapman
Sabina Donati
Marion Dumont
Sif Goodale
Tiffany Johnstone
John Rhea
Katherine Sadler
Collette Salvatierra
Patricia Lyn Scott
Jennifer Selwyn
Cody Stanley

Thank You, Donors!

Many thanks to those who contributed between February 16, 2013, and June 10, 2013.

Gordon Morris Bakken
Susan Wladaver-Morgan
and the donors at the WAWH conference banquet

Member News


Catherine Ceniza Choy was recently promoted to full professor at the UC Berkeley, where she is chair of the Department of Ethnic Studies. Her book Global Families: A History of Asian International Adoption in America is forthcoming from New York University Press in October 2013.


Amy Harris was promoted to associate professor in May 2013 (History Departmentt, Brigham Young University).
**Member News (cont.)**


**Alison Lingo** and **Stephanie O’Hara** received an NEH scholarly edition and translation grant in 2012 for their forthcoming work: *Louise Bourgeois, Diverse Observations Concerning Sterility, Miscarriages, Fertility, Birthing, and Diseases of Women and Newborn Children* (1626 edition), Centre for Reformation and Renaissance Studies, “The Other Voice in Early Modern Europe,” edited and annotated by Alison Klairmont Lingo and translated and edited by Stephanie O’Hara, University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth. The text includes a monograph about Louise Bourgeois, an essay about the humoral body, and a medical glossary all by Lingo. O’Hara’s translation is the first complete English translation of *Observations Diverses* (1626). In addition, in May 2013, Lingo became a research associate in the Department of History at the University of California, Berkeley.

In April, **Donna Schuele** received the 2013 Lecturer of the Year Award at UC Irvine, where she teaches in the Department of Criminology, Law, and Society. She was nominated by numerous current and former students.

**Elizabeth Watkins** is pleased to announce the publication of a special issue of *Centaurus: An International Journal of the History of Science and Its Cultural Aspects* called “Beyond the Academy: Histories of Gender and Knowledge.” The special issue was co-edited by Watkins, Christine von Oertzen, and Maria Rentetzi, and includes articles by Elaine Leong, Carla Bittel, Kirsten Leng, Sally Gregory Kohlstedt, Christine von Oertzen, and Gianna Pomata. The essays examine overlooked agents and sites of knowledge production beyond the academy and venues of industry- and government-sponsored research. By using gender as a category of analysis, they uncover scientific practices taking place in locations such as the kitchen, the nursery, and the storefront. Because of historical gendered patterns of exclusion and culturally derived sensibilities, the authors in this volume find that significant contributions to science were made in unexpected places and that these were often made by women.

In 2012, **Jessica Weiss**’s article, “Fraud of Femininity: Domesticity, Selflessness, and Individualism in Responses to Betty Friedan,” was published in Kathleen Donohue, ed., *Liberty and Justice for All: Rethinking Politics in Cold War America* and in 2013, this article was excerpted in Kristen Fermaglich and Lisa Fine, eds., *Betty Friedan, The Feminine Mystique*, a Norton Critical Edition.

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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 15, June 15, and October 15 each year.
Meet Andrea Milne, Graduate Student Representative

Andrea is in her fourth year of the Ph.D. program in history at UC Irvine. A modern U.S. historian, Andrea specializes in topics including the politics of patient advocacy, bodies and the medical institutions that attend to—and attempt to control—them, gender, sexuality, and political identity formation. Her current research attempts to construct an integrated history of patient advocacy by placing the AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power (commonly known as ACT UP) in conversation with different activist organizations and "disease constituencies." Andrea has great respect for WAWH and is thrilled to join the executive board.

Please Donate!

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.

H-Net, Public History, and Independent Scholars
Peter Knupfer

It is worth considering the powerful appeal of H-Net’s open access, free networking services to the diverse population of independent scholars, journalists, freelance historians, heritage workers, museum professionals, consultants and practitioners of public history. Many of us have noted the declining proportion of tenured faculty within the larger community of professional historians. That worrisome trend at least has had the upside of highlighting a diversification of the profession, whereby historians can find rewarding full- and part-time work outside of conventional academic institutions.

H-Net has provided important, authoritative outlets for these professionals: over two dozen “state” networks, often sponsored by and affiliated with state historical agencies; H-PUBLIC, sponsored by our friends at the National Council for Public History; H-LOCAL, on state and local history; H-MUSEUM, on museum studies and scholarship; H-ORALHIST, on the theory and practice of oral history, sponsored by the Oral History Association; and H-SCHOLAR, sponsored by the National Coalition for Independent Scholars.

These services have helped professionals in and outside of the academy discuss, test, and generate best practices and reveal new resources and concepts for their respective interests. Our work also assists a sector highly dependent on fluctuating seasonal, contract-based, and project-oriented income.

Please help us keep H-Net’s services free and open to these professionals and educators; make a tax-deductible donation at http://www.h-net.org/donations. We are very grateful to the hundreds of donors who have already participated; your support is essential to our success!

[Ed. note: excerpted from an open online letter.]
National Humanities Center Fellowships 2014–2015

Purpose and Nature of Fellowships
The National Humanities Center offers forty residential fellowships for advanced study in the humanities for the period September 2014 through May 2015. Applicants must have doctorate or equivalent scholarly credentials. Young scholars as well as senior scholars are encouraged to apply, but they must have a record of publication, and new Ph.D.s should be aware that the Center does not normally support the revision of a doctoral dissertation. In addition to scholars from all fields of the humanities, the Center accepts individuals from the natural and social sciences, the arts, the professions, and public life who are engaged in humanistic projects. The Center is also international and gladly accepts applications from scholars outside the United States.

Areas of Special Interest
Most of the Center’s fellowships are unrestricted. Several, however, are designated for particular areas of research. These include a fellowship for a young woman in philosophy and fellowships for environmental studies, English literature, art history, Asian studies, and theology.

Stipends
Fellowships are individually determined, according to the needs of the fellow and the Center’s ability to meet them. The Center seeks to provide at least half-salary and also covers travel expenses to and from North Carolina for fellows and dependents.

Facilities and Services
Located in the Research Triangle Park of North Carolina, near Chapel Hill, Durham, and Raleigh, the Center provides an environment for individual research and the exchange of ideas. Its building includes private studies for fellows, conference rooms, a central commons for dining, lounges, reading areas, a reference library, and a fellows’ workroom. The Center’s noted library service delivers books and research materials to fellows, and support for information technology and editorial assistance are also provided. The Center helps locate housing for fellows in the neighboring communities.

Support
Fellowships are supported by the Center’s own endowment, private foundation grants, contributions from alumni and friends, and the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Deadline and Application Procedures
Applicants submit the Center’s form, supported by a curriculum vita, a 1,000-word project proposal, and three letters of recommendation. A downloadable application form and instructions may be found at the Center’s website: http://nationalhumanitiescenter.org. Applications and letters of recommendation must be postmarked by October 1, 2013.
2013 Executive Board Meeting Minutes
Western Association of Women Historians

The regular annual business meeting of the Western Association of Women Historians was held on Saturday, May 18, 2013, 5:30–6:30 pm, in the University Place Hotel, Portland, Oregon, the president being in the chair and the secretary being present.

The meeting was called to order at 5:34 pm, Gayle Gullett presiding. MOTION to approve agenda. MOTION APPROVED. The minutes of the 2012 business meeting were read and approved.

Report of Executive Board Decisions: The president announced four executive board decisions:
1. Motion approved to require all program participants (chairs, presenters, commentators) to register for the full conference. MOTION to accept. MOTION APPROVED.
2. Motion approved to continue the ad-hoc conference committee for one year. MOTION to accept. MOTION APPROVED.
3. Motion approved to permit one visitor of a program participant to attend a panel presentation. Any additional guests in a participant’s party will be required to pay the guest rate. MOTION to accept. MOTION APPROVED.
4. Motion approved to make a statement about professional responsibilities of program participants on the WAWH website, cover sheets, and acceptance letters. MOTION to accept. AMENDMENT: request for A/V needs to be part of statement, including the following checkboxes: “I will/will not need A/V”; a checklist of available items; notice to Mac users to provide adapters; and a deadline for requesting A/V. MOTION APPROVED.

Executive Board Reports were given by:
President, Gayle Gullett:
Officer nominations: The president suggested finding a more democratic way to select officers, such as a nominating committee for the office of president, to which CVs and/or letters of interest could be sent. The president-elect offered to form a task group to think about details and make proposals next year. Barbara Molony suggested that the task force advise the incoming president on potential nominees, then the incoming president could make selections based on the task force nominations. The suggestion was made to include in the next newsletter a call for nominations and self-nominations to the task force, which would recommend names to the incoming president. This procedure would not require changing the bylaws. The executive director suggested creating a nominations form for the web and newsletter so people can access it.

MOTION to form a task force to take and create nominations, and send recommendations to the incoming president, no later than the September deadline for conference proposals. The task force will create its own timeline and will consult with the incoming president on openings on the executive board. Openings now include the executive director and secretary. Next year, they will include the newsletter editor. In three years, they will include treasurer and graduate student representatives. CALLED THE QUESTION. MOTION APPROVED.

President-Elect, Jessica Weiss:
The president-elect reported that she contributed by email and witnessed the hard work of the committees. Next year’s conference will take place at California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, May 1–3, 2014. She looks forward to working with the incoming president-elect, Rebecca Plant. The selection of a speaker for the WAWH luncheon at the PCB-AHA conference in Denver, August 8–10, 2013, is in process.
2013 Executive Board Meeting Minutes
Western Association of Women Historians

Executive Director, Amy Essington:
The ED reported on three topics:
1. Membership: 464 current, 52% non-renewal rate is higher this year due to the large conference at Berkeley, and the transition to the EventBrite system rather than mailing in renewal forms.
2. Ad-hoc conference committee: The ED is pleased with their work and the lessening of her workload. She wants to continue it.
3. EventBrite: This new system for registration and membership decreased the workloads of the ED and treasurer enormously. However, the ED had to transfer membership information to the membership database.

A discussion took place about membership turnover, outreach and recruitment. The president-elect suggested that WAWH members in regional and local areas meet informally between conferences to discuss membership and conference recruitment, and program proposals in advance of the deadline. It was also suggested that members consider giving guest memberships to adjunct professors.

Secretary, Cynthia Scott:
The Secretary reported that she took minutes and notes of the executive board and business meeting and submitted them for approval; she conducted correspondence including thank you cards/receipts for donations; and she publicized WAWH (at the PCB-AHA conference), its awards and prizes (on H-Net and a list of academic and commercial presses), and the call for papers (on H-Net and a customized list of history departments and professional associations).

The 2013 Portland conference marks the end of her term.

Treasurer, Pamela Stewart:
The 2012 financial report includes figures from 2011 for comparison. The report is not final since it does not include fees associated with the processing of payments via EventBrite. The treasurer noted that A/V and operating costs had increased. Once the outstanding figures are available, she will need to assess the increased costs of payment processing. At the banquet, the treasurer will “pass the hat” for donations to prizes.

Newsletter Editor, Brittany Ferry:
The editor produced three newsletters: July 2012, November 2012, and March 2013. Between 85 and 90 hard copies were mailed. Problems with the server from the previous year were smoothed out. The editor will be stepping down by the 2014 conference.

Graduate Student Representatives, M. Nichole Sater and Amy Harris:
M. Nichole Sater reported her involvement with the 2013 conference panel on networking, and her responsibility for an EB discussion about the use of social media by WAWH. The executive board decided not to do so at this time. The GSR suggested continuing to consider options for website formats.

2013 Local Arrangements Co-Chairs, Susan Wladaver-Morgan and Patricia Schechter:
Susan Wladaver-Morgan reported that local arrangements were hoping to come in under budget. She also announced that the chair of the History Department at Portland State University has agreed to provide a subvention for the cost of A/V during the 2013 Portland conference. To acknowledge this
Contribution, WAWH should acknowledge their sponsorship on the WAWH website, and send a letter of thanks to the chair and his dean.

A discussion took place about the challenges of providing A/V, including how many breakout rooms to outfit, how to best ascertain participants’ A/V needs, how to address compatibility questions, and who should be responsible for coordinating this aspect of the conference. It was decided that this topic should be handled by the ad-hoc conference committee.

Founders’ Dissertation Fellowship Chair, Lindsay Wilson:

The FDF chair reported being happy about the award this year; however, the number of applications has gone down from 15 to 13 to 8 over the past three years. Submissions are also becoming increasingly interdisciplinary, with five from history and three from interdisciplinary studies this year. She requested that members help spread the word about prizes to graduate schools and students.

A discussion followed about the need to increase publicity efforts. The president-elect proposed another ad-hoc committee on publicity, promotion, social media, and organizing, composed of the outgoing prize co-chairs. Several suggestions for publicity emerged: invite departments to link to the WAWH website; send WAWH conference announcements to department chairs and secretaries of graduate programs; share a reception with the Berks at AHA; an officer or member could write a column for AHA’s Perspectives on the WAWH annual conference. Nupur Chaudhuri offered to spearhead publicity efforts.

The meeting adjourned at 6:34 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Cynthia Scott, secretary
May 23, 2013

Want To Be More Involved?

WAWH has several current executive board openings:

- Secretary, two-year term, 2013-2015
- Program committee chair, 2014 (co-chairs welcome)
- Local arrangements committee chair, 2014 (co-chairs welcome)

We are especially welcoming to those with non-U.S. focuses. Please contact Jessica Weiss (jessica.weiss@csueastbay.edu) if you are interested in one of these positions!
Worth a Thousand Words

This year, the WAWH annual conference was held in Portland, Oregon, May 16-18. As usual, it was a wonderful event, filled with scholarship and fellowship. Below are two photos from the Saturday night banquet. Top: The prize committee chairs sign off after announcing the winners. Bottom: Banquet attendees finish the evening by singing the WAWH song, newly updated by Susan Wladaver-Morgan. Photos courtesy of Jennifer Thigpen.
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**2013–2014**

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**2014 Program Chair**  
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**2014 Local Arrangements Chair**  
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