

## Continued Adventures in Online Teaching in the State of Arizona

### Gayle Gullett

I promised in my last column to continue my conversation about online teaching. Since then I've taught the same online class—the methods course for online history majors at Arizona State University—again. But the second class varied significantly from the first. This time the instructors teaching this class voted to use student blogs as one of our teaching tools. We advised students to personalize their blogs, writing a paragraph about themselves and adding an image to serve as their iconic avatar. For the blog assignments, we asked students to post their responses to argumentative questions as well as comment on two blogs. Such assignments seem rather ordinary but the results were not ordinary.

When I graded the responses, I was surprised by the quality of their argument. No, more than that, I was impressed by the passion students brought to their blogs. I teach towards the end of this intensive class, the last module before their research paper, and I expected student fatigue. Instead many of them—across lines of student aptitudes and skills—built impressive arguments that they cared about.

I don't know exactly why this happened but, based on this experience and a bit of research that I've done, I've developed a few ideas. I think it matters that this was their blog, their place, where classmates would visit and comment. Additionally, reading the blogs and the comments regarding them, I noted that many of them developed student communities that waged intense conversations with each other over the semester. Rachel Leow, writing in the *Journal of Women's History* about blogs created by women historians, compared today's blogs to eighteenth-century coffee houses.<sup>1</sup> While the student blogs I read were limited to the class and not open to the cyber-universe, I think they functioned like the coffee shop or the dorm room, those places of intense debate for students in the brick and mortar universities. I think students became involved in their blog debates, in other words, because blogs gave them the space to challenge the text, the teacher, their classmates, and themselves.

Perhaps something bigger happened as well. Perhaps the blogs encouraged students to become independent thinkers and students found this exhilarating. Maybe they even began to see links between their increasing intellectual independence and working for social change. Such ideas about the possibilities of pedagogy aren't new. Over forty years ago in 1968 Paulo Freire, a Brazilian Marxist, contended in *The Pedagogy of the Oppressed* that if students learn to think critically in the classroom, they will call for more open societies.<sup>2</sup>

Most of you are probably well acquainted with Freire and his pedagogy and you may find his ideas old, perhaps even trite. But the state of Arizona believes in them and sees them as revolutionary. In this state, Freire's book is banned from certain high school classrooms (namely those where brown-skinned teachers tried to teach brown-skinned students the history of being both Mexican and American). Therefore, in this state, I can declare I find Freire's pedagogy useful and feel dangerous.

“  
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<sup>1</sup> Rachel Leow, "Reflections on Feminism, Blogging, and the Historical Profession," *Journal of Women's History* 22, no. 4 (Winter 2010): 235-243.

<sup>2</sup> For a look at an interesting example of how Freire's ideas can still lead to great innovations in teaching, see Rob Breton, et al., "Online Learning and Intellectual Liberty: A Mixed-Mode Experiment in the Humanities," *College Teaching* 53, no. 3 (Summer 2005): 102-109.

## Welcome New (and Returning) Members!

Welcome to members who joined or renewed between October 2, 2011, and February 14, 2012 !

Sadie A. Adams	Talinn Grigor	Michelle Moravec
Carrie Adkins	Matthew Pratt Guterl	Laura Muñoz
Susan Aguilar	Christina Morales Guzmán	Laura Ping
Tina Randolph Alexander	Hilary Hallett	Carrie Pitzulo
Emma Balbina Amador	Kate Hallgren	Haley Michaels Pollack
Ashley Bacchi	Mercy Harper	Clark A. Pomerleau
Rebecca Bales	Susan K. Harris	Catherine Powell
Rosalyn Baxendall	Sarah E. Heath	Megan Prins
Donica Belisle	Elizabeth Heineman	Ivette Rivera-Giusti
Melissa Estes Blair	Allyson Hobbs	Mona Rocha
Jessica Blake	Katie Holmes	Tess Rond
Elsbeth Brown	Maria Cecilia Holt	Theresa Salazar
Cathleen Cahill	Chia Yin Hsu	Camesha Scruggs
Maria Eugenia Lopez Calleros	Jane Hunter	Melanie Tanielian
Stephanie Camp	Adria L. Imada	Rosalyn Terborg-Penn
Amanda Cannata	Katie Jarvis	Lynn M. Thomas
Kristin Celello	Priya Kandaswamy	Lara Vapnek
Erin D. Chapman	Erin Kaufman	Chelsea Vaughn
Charise Cheney	Tomomi Kinukawa	Linda M. Waggoner
Catherine Ceniza Choy	Jennifer Klein	Kimberly W. Welch
Margaret Coel	Jay Kleinberg	Sophie White
Anne Gilbert Coleman	Zain Lakhani	Barbara Winslow
Elizabeth Covart	Lisa Levenstein	Shiori Yamamoto
Charlotte Cowden	Rebecca Lewis	Claire Yi Yang
Cornelia Hughes Dayton	Hong Liang	
Paula de la Cruz-Fernandez	Rosina Lozano	
Maritza de la Trinidad	Ranelle Lueth	
Hilary Dickerson	Sue Macy	
Sarah K. Douglas	Abigail Markwyn	
Lynn Dumenil	Monica Muñoz Martinez	
Patti Duncan	Susan J. Matt	
Gail Edwards	Vanessa Harkins May	
Maggie Elmore	Sara Mayeux	
Joanna Camacho Escobar	Carey McCormack	
Emily Everhart	Emily McEwan	
Sharla M. Fett	Deborah McNally	
Jennifer L. Foray	Aimee Medeiros	
Adrienne Francisco	Brenda Medina-Hernandez	
Tiffany Gill	Alexandra Michaelides	

## Executive Director's Column

### Amy Essington

It is time to make plans to attend the 44th annual conference. We will gather together 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 talk is "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).

The full program, which includes all sessions and hotel information, is online at <http://www.wawh.org>. A printed program will not be mailed to the membership, but will be distributed to all of the conference attendees. If you would like a printed program and are not able to attend the conference, contact me and I will send you one. The pre-registration material is also available online. The pre-registration deadline must be postmarked by March 29, 2012. Onsite registration will be available, but the rates will be higher, and meals may not be available. I encourage you to pre-purchase meals for the conference. Meals provide a valuable time for attendees to mingle, get to know one another, and network. Only a few extra meals are ordered. Every year I have people who want to add meals once they have come to the conference, but they are not available for purchase.

With the conference registration pe-

riod comes a new membership year. Membership in WAWH runs from conference to conference. It is now time to renew for the 2012-2013 membership year. All current members should have received a membership renewal form in the mail. The date on your mailing label is the year your membership expires. For example, if 2012 appears on your mailing label, your membership expires with the 2012 conference and you need to renew your membership now for the 2012-2013 year. If the date on your mailing label is 2013 or later, you do not need to renew your membership at this time, but you should update your information for the database by returning your Member Information Update Form. The final deadline to renew for the 2012-2013 year needs to be postmarked by May 5, 2012. Memberships not sent by that time will be considered expired.

A 2012 Member Information Update Form specific to you was included in your packet. Please return this form whether or not you register for the conference, whether you need to renew your membership or not, or whether or not you make any changes. This form shows the information that is currently listed in the membership database and what will appear, depending on your print options, in the 2012 Membership Directory. If you need to make any changes, please do so on the right side of the form. If you do not have any changes, check the "No Corrections" box in the upper right and return the form with your payment. All information received by March 29, 2012, will be included in the 2012 Membership Directory.

## Temporary Lecturer Position, Whitworth University

One of the faculty in the History Department at Whitworth University won an NEH grant and will be on leave for the next school year, 2012-2013. The department is allowed to replace him at the lecturer level, and there will be benefits and a small stipend for moving costs. The department would welcome courses on Asia, India, the Middle East, or Africa. If interested, please contact

Corliss K. Slack, Chair  
History Dept.  
Whitworth University  
Spokane, WA 99251  
509-777-4366  
[cslack@whitworth.edu](mailto:cslack@whitworth.edu)

## Thank You, Donors!

Welcome to members who joined or renewed between October 2, 2011, and February 14, 2012 !

Linda Alkana  
Tina Randolph Alexander  
Lois W. Banner  
Susannah F. Baxendale  
Chloe S. Burke  
Judy Branfman  
Stephanie Camp  
Joan T. Casale  
Nupur Chaudhuri  
Linda L. Clark

Sandra Dawson  
Cornelia Hughes Dayton  
Ellen DuBois  
Caryll B. Dzedziak  
Elizabeth Falor  
Nancy Page Fernandez  
Rochelle Gatlin  
Carol Gold  
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Jane Hunter

Margaret Jacobs  
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Barbara Molony  
Lois Nettleship  
Lorena Oropeza  
Jacquelin B. Pels  
Rebecca Plant  
Patricia Schechter  
Jessica Weiss

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.

## Century of Action: Oregon Women Vote, 1912–2012

### Jan Dilg, Project Director

The year 2012 marks the centennial of Oregon women gaining the right to vote. After forty-two years and five unsuccessful ballots, suffragists used the initiative process to place the question of enfranchisement before the men of Oregon one more time. November 5, 1912, finally resulted in a majority of male voters extending the franchise to the state's female citizens.

When a small group of historians and archivists met to consider the upcoming centennial in 2008, we knew that this anniversary offered a unique opportunity to highlight women's history and women's contributions to the state over the past century. The Oregon Women's History Consortium was formed to oversee the Century of Action project with its core mission "to celebrate 100 years of Oregon women's right to vote and advances the understanding of women's citizenship in Oregon's history."

Century of Action has tried to synthesize academic and public history methodologies throughout our programs. Our website

(<http://www.centuryofaction.org>) offers one of the best examples of melding solid academic scholarship and analysis with language and presentation that makes the material accessible to a wide range of ages of students and the general public. Essays written by scholars provide context to Oregon's woman suffrage history and its intersection with the national suffrage movement. These overviews are augmented by university students' work that uses primary sources to outline essential pieces of the 1912 campaign that expands our knowledge of the traditional Oregon suffrage story. All of this new material substantially increases our knowledge of the rich variety of people and organizations that coalesced in the successful 1912 suffrage campaign, and the significant contributions women immediately began to affect in civic life in Oregon.

As a small, new organization, we've relied on collaborations with archives and libraries around the state to create a comprehensive suffrage exhibit, *Votes for Women! The Oregon Story*. With a generous grant from the Oregon Heritage Commission, and with the loan of all artifacts used in the exhibit from archival partners, (*continued on page 5*)

## Century of Action: Oregon Women Vote, 1912–2012

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Century of Action will produce not only a more traditional exhibit at the Multnomah County Central Library gallery in Portland, but a digital exhibit as well. Revising the interpretive text panels used in the physical exhibit, digital versions will be made available for download at no cost to schools, libraries, museums, and organizations around the state. The content of the digital exhibit provides an overview of woman suffrage movement in Oregon through the 19th Amendment to the US Constitution in 1920. WAWH member Kimberly Jensen served as the historical consultant and writer for the Votes for Women! exhibit.

One of our fun and successful projects for the 2012 centennial is “Where in Oregon is the Suffrage Sash?” The project has two objectives: to raise awareness of the centennial and to remind Oregonians that the suffrage campaigns were truly statewide. The sashes worn in many of the suffrage marches are evocative, and remain an element people often comment on when the subject of suffrage is broached. Reproductions “Votes for Women” sashes are being sold or donated to individuals across the state. One student intern is spearheading a sash project on college campuses across the state to encourage voter registration and community involvement. Photographs of people wearing their sashes are sent to us and will soon be uploaded to our website and Facebook page. The idea has been successful, and we have photos not only from many areas of the state already, but at the Liberty Bell in Philadelphia, the Women’s Rights National Historical Park, and outside Elizabeth Cady Stanton’s home, both in Seneca Falls, New York, as well. An unexpected development of the sash project has been official “sashings” of women leaders at public events. We sashed members of our Advisory Board, former Secretary of State Norma Paulus, first African American woman Oregon

Senator Avel Gordly, and former Governor Barbara Roberts at Century of Action events. They in turn have “sashed” their fellow Metro Councilors or recipients of leadership awards at the Center for Women, Politics and Policy’s annual Leadership Luncheon (<http://cwpp.pdx.edu/2011-leadership-luncheon>).

We’ve also created a mock town hall debate on the issue of woman suffrage that we perform around the state. Titled “What’s Suffrage Got to Do with It?” the debate uses arguments—for and against woman suffrage—gleaned from speeches, letters to the editor, and news articles from 1912. Again, this brings authentic historical arguments to public attention in a dramatic and engaging way, but one that is factual. The cast is a mix of Century of Action board members, historians, and members of local communities who we recruit for performances. There are male characters in the debate, and it’s

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been quite successful. With grant money we plan to take the debate on the road to more communities around the state. You can get a sample of what the debate looks like at our very first performance online (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9kTuaFWXPI>).

Century of Action is one model of commemorating women’s rights and the centennial of the 19th Amendment in 2020. Groups such as Vision 20/20 (<http://drexel.edu/vision2020/>) and the Women’s Heritage Trail Committee (link from <http://www.ncwhs.org/>) of the National Collaborative for Women’s History Sites (<http://www.ncwhs.org/>) are already planning for that important landmark in women’s history. In addition to bringing this important woman suffrage history—the women, men, and organizations—into the mainstream of Oregon’s history, we hope to inspire ongoing donations of women’s materials to university and public archives and increased research into all facets of women’s contributions to the state and beyond its borders.



## Member News

On February 2, 2012, at the annual meeting of the Society of Pioneers Auxiliary, Lynn A. Bonfield spoke on her new book, *New England to Gold Rush California, The Journal of Alfred and Chastina W. Rix, 1849-1854*. Her next talk is at the Bay Area Labor History Workshop on Sunday, March 18, at 1:30.

Eileen Boris announces the April publication from Oxford University Press of *Caring for America: Home Health Workers in the Shadow of the Welfare State*, co-authored with Jennifer Klein. Boris and Klein published "Frontline Caregivers: Still Struggling" in *Dissent* (winter 2012) as part of a special section on "Workers in an Age of Austerity." She also is the PI of a ten-person UC working group, "Working at Living: The Social Relations of Precarity," funded for 2012 by the UC Humanities Research Institute Project on the Humanities and Changing Conditions of Work.

In December, for Bill of Rights Day, Fox-LA did a story on Judy Branfman's documentary about her aunt Yetta's precedent-setting free speech case. The news story is both on the film's Facebook page (<http://www.facebook.com/LandOfOrangeGrovesAndJails>) and on YouTube (<http://youtu.be/T1Nc6OqWhlc>).

Also, Judy was invited to be a juror at the first "World Courts of Women on Poverty in the US: Disappeared in America," to be held May 10-13, 2012, at Laney College in Oakland, California—[weap.org/wcw/wcwabout](http://weap.org/wcw/wcwabout). It will bring testimony and witness to poverty as a human rights violation and is being organized by the Women's Economic Agenda Project (WEAP) with Corinne Kumar, founder of the Asian Women's Human Rights Council in Bangalore: <http://weap.org/calendar/21/209-World-Courts-of-Women-on-Poverty-in-the-US.htm>.

Pat Cohen of UC-Santa Barbara has been elected the incoming president of SHEAR (the Society for Historians of the Early American Republic). She will assume full duties this summer. In 2003-2005, Pat served as president of the WAWH.

Amy Essington published a review of *The Most Famous Woman in Baseball: Effa Manley and the Negro Leagues* by Bob Luke in the *Journal of African American History* (Fall 2011). She presented "The Integration of the Pacific Coast League: A Social History of Race on the West Coast" at the Western Historical Association Annual Conference. Amy was also elected a member of the Steering Committee for the Coalition for Women's History.

Jill Fields, editor, recently published *Entering the Picture: Judy Chicago, the Fresno Feminist Art Program and the Collective Visions of Women Artists* (Routledge, September 2011). In 1970, Judy Chicago and fifteen students founded the groundbreaking Feminist Art Program at Fresno State. Drawing upon the consciousness-raising techniques of the women's liberation movement, they created shocking new art forms depicting female experiences. The Women's Caucus for Art sponsored a book signing at the College Art Association Conference Book Exhibit, Los Angeles Convention Center on Thursday, Feb. 23.

Estelle Freedman published an article on the racialization and sexual violence in white U.S. newspapers in the September 2011 issue of *The Journal of the History of Sexuality*. She currently has a Guggenheim Foundation fellowship to complete a book on redefining rape in American history.

## Member News (cont.)

On January 9, 2011, Mary Ann Irwin appeared on The Travel Channel's *Hidden City*, discussing San Francisco's 1851 and 1856 Committees of Vigilance. Her hair was perfect.

Asuncion Lavrin, Arizona State university, Emerita, has been appointed correspondent member of the Academia Mexicana de la Historia.

The Organization of American Historians has appointed Alexandra M. Nickliss, PhD, City College of San Francisco, chair of the Committee on Community Colleges for 2012–2013.

The Rancho Bodega [California] Historical Society has commissioned Jackie Pels, editor/publisher of Hardscratch Press (<http://www.hardscratchpress.com>), to write the official poem for the 200th anniversary of the founding of Port Rumiantsev, now Bodega Bay, a Russian settlement on the Sonoma County coast that predates the building of Fort Ross, some 20 miles to the north. Jackie is particularly enjoying the peaceful time spent on research in various UC Berkeley libraries, despite a colleague's response when queried about a particular book on Russian Alaska. "Who needs facts for poetry?" he asked. "Can't you just start 'There was a young lady from Russia / who met an old sailor named Vasha ...?'" When it occurred to her that that was a bit of a cliché—why did it have to be a young lady?—Jackie composed her own version as fallback for the April celebration:

A resourceful old lady from Russia  
fed a hungry young sailor named Vasha.  
He exclaimed, "I love bulgur!  
It's delightfully Volgar,"  
and whisked her away to his dacha.

Jennifer Stevens, historian of women and the urban and rural West, was recently elected chair of Boise City's Planning and Zoning Commission following her re-appointment to the commission by Boise's mayor.

Elizabeth Watkins has been named Dean of the Graduate Division at the University of California, San Francisco, effective April 1, 2012. Also in April, her new book, *Prescribed: Writing, Filling, Using, and Abusing the Prescription in Modern America* (co-edited with Jeremy Greene) will be published by Johns Hopkins University Press.

Carol Williams, editor, has a forthcoming publication: *Indigenous Women and Work: from Labor to Activism* (due out in October 2012 from University of Illinois Press). Contributors include Faye Heavy-Shield, Marlene Brant Castellano, Joan Sangster, Alice Littlefield, Lynette Russell, Tracey Banivanua Mar, Chris Friday, Susan Roy, Ruth Taylor, Kathy McCloskey, Melissa Rhode, Sherry Farrell-Racette, Heather A. Howard, Margaret D. Jacobs, Colleen O'Neill, Cathleen Cahill, Aroha Harris, Mary Jane McCallum, Brenda J. Child, Cybele Locke, and Beth Piatote.

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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](mailto: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.

## Beyond Plan B: Job Market Perspective

### Jennifer Robin Terry

The talk on the street is that the job market is pretty bleak. There is no denying that the great recession has hit the education sector in a mighty way—hiring freezes and many departments' increased reliance on part-time and temporary employment have certainly decreased the number of job listings nationwide. However, the bad economy may not entirely account for the less-than-hoped-for academic prospects. According to recent articles in the *Chronicle of Higher Education* and the American Historical Association's (AHA) *Perspectives*, it may be that doctoral candidates and their departments have unrealistic expectations for career prospects after graduation. The myth of a "normal" job market does not take into account historic data or the reality that history departments routinely overproduce PhDs.

In the recent article, "What's Been Lost in History" (*Chronicle of Higher Education*, February 12, 2012), historian Thomas Bender asserts that many academics, and most graduate students, seem to believe in the "myth" of a "normal" job market (i.e., an equilibrium of tenure-track faculty positions and newly minted PhDs). This myth, he says, is grounded in the anomalous period of the so called "academic Golden Age" of the mid-1950s to about 1970; a period of unprecedented expansion of higher education and history departments specifically. Yet, never before, nor since, have all history PhDs worked in academia. Throughout the twentieth and into the twenty-first century (save for the Golden Age) only about two-thirds of all history PhDs typically obtained academic positions after graduation (tenured, adjunct, and secondary

teaching). These figures are confirmed by various AHA surveys.

Additionally, the outpacing of conferred doctorates to tenure-track positions is a trend that has been on the rise, though recent numbers have caused greater concern in the academy. In the January 2011 issue of *Perspectives*, Robert Townsend reported that new history doctorates in 2009–2010 numbered 989, while only 569 positions were posted with AHA. The lowest, he noted, since 1984–1985 ("Job Market Sagged Further in 2009–10"). The January 2012 issue of *Perspectives* reported a "modest rebound" in the 2010–2011 academic job market but also noted that "the number of new PhDs conferred and the number of doctoral students advancing toward the degree remain at very elevated levels" ("Small Signs of Improvement in Academic Job Market for Historians"). What is especially worrisome for graduate students is that three years is considered the typical gap between degree conferral and the first academic appointment.

As a result, the AHA has encouraged graduate students in history programs to cast their net wide in the job search. Yet, the onus is not only on graduate students; Townsend encourages PhD programs to prepare graduate students for a greater variety of post-graduate careers. It is important that history departments and graduate advisors are receptive to students who express a desire to explore nonacademic alternatives. These alternatives should not be considered a lesser choice. Thomas Bender urges academics to "get beyond the Plan B mentality."

Many years pass between matriculation and the conferral of a PhD. Political, economic, and personal circumstances change. It makes sense, then, as students near the completion of their degree, that they re-evaluate their interests, goals, and options. Perhaps, after doing so, candidates realize that they really are classroom junkies, and that they are willing and able to wait for that



## Beyond Plan B: Job Market Perspective

Jennifer Robin Terry

dream career. But if not, job seekers should consider the following. First, drop the Plan B mentality. Open your mind to possibilities that may lie outside the tenure-track faculty position. Second, consider all you have gained in graduate school. When you leave a history PhD program, you will be among the best trained researchers in the country. You will have attained analytical, editing, and writing skills that far surpass the average job seeker. You should also realize that, after writing your dissertation, you are an expert in something. Look for opportunities to deploy your skills and knowledge. How do you do that? Utilize your campus's Career and Alumni Centers. Most campuses provide free services to graduating students. Also, check out government employment websites like <http://www.usajobs.gov> and the WAWH internet resource page: <http://www.wawh.org/resources/gradstudent.html>. Check out websites such as <http://lifeafterthephd.com> for stories of people who made the leap from academia to nonacademic careers. If you are still some distance from "going on the market," look for internships or part-time work in museums, archives, local government, publishing houses, or media outlets. These could lead to a job or career after graduate school. And finally, network. Chances are, if you are close to finishing your dissertation, you have already embarked on the conference circuit. When you attend a conference, seek out organization members who employ their historical skills outside of academia: archivists, curators, independent scholars, authors, editors, etc. Explore options through other people's experiences. WAWH's 44th annual conference, May 3-5, 2012, in Berkeley, California, is an excellent venue for such networking.

Above all, realize that it is fine to pursue nonacademic options alongside the traditional academic ones. The world needs historical wisdom outside the classroom, too.

## Barbara "Penny" Kanner Bylaws: Revision

1. The Barbara "Penny" Kanner Award is an annual award given to honor a book, book chapter, article, or electronic media that has been verifiably published or posted in the two years prior to the award year and which illustrates the use of a specific set of primary sources (diaries, letters, interviews etc). A published item can only be submitted once.
2. Applicants to the Kanner Prize must be current members of WAWH when they submit their book. Current WAWH board members are not eligible to apply.
3. The Kanner Award is intended to promote the practice of biblio-methodology. The research guide award should reflect the essential tools of the historian's craft (historical knowledge, bibliographic and research skills) as they have been used to construct a research guide focused on women and/or gender history; the prize is not intended for a standard library catalogue. Substantial published guides of less than book length (e.g. articles or relevant chapters from a book) will be considered. The work submitted for the autobiography award should focus on women's history and/or gender history. Critical or annotated editions of autobiographies should reflect the essential tools of the historian's craft (historical knowledge, bibliographic and research skills). Learned studies of a person(s) autobiographical writings set in historical context will also be considered; the prize is not intended for autobiographical material presented without scholarly analysis. Entries may only be submitted for consideration once.

## Barbara “Penny” Kanner Bylaws: Revision

4. Applicants for the Kanner Award must submit the following to the selection committee:
  - A. An award application form.
  - B. One copy of the entry for each committee member.
  - C. Statement that the applicant is a member of the WAWH.
5. The Award Committee Members shall:
  - A. Be appointed by the President for a three-year term.
  - B. Have terms that are staggered in a three-year cycle. Each year a new committee member will be appointed. In case of an incomplete term of service, an appointment will be made to complete the term of service
6. The Award Committee Chair shall:
  - A. Ideally have at least one year of experience on the particular committee prior to taking over the position of chair.
  - B. Be responsible in overseeing the work of the committee, including receipt and distribution of applications to committee members, timely determination of award recipient(s), and notification of the decision to those applicants selected and not selected as well as the Executive Director.
  - C. Present, or appoint someone to present, the award to the winner at the annual conference.
  - D. Make a summary report to the Executive Board at the annual meeting.
7. The Selection Committee shall use the following criteria in selecting recipients:
  - A. Appropriateness and clarity of bibliographical/textual apparatus.
  - B. Significance of the topic.
  - C. Comprehensiveness and accuracy of research.
  - D. Clarity of prose.
8. The award will be determined by the Kanner Award Committee subject to funding availability and the applicant pool.
9. Each member of the Committee shall review and rate each application for the Kanner Award. From their individual ratings, Committee members shall reach a consensus on the recipient(s) of the Kanner Award.
10. Kanner Award recipient(s) shall be announced at the annual conference.

Approved April 9, 2011, at the Business Meeting  
San Marino, California

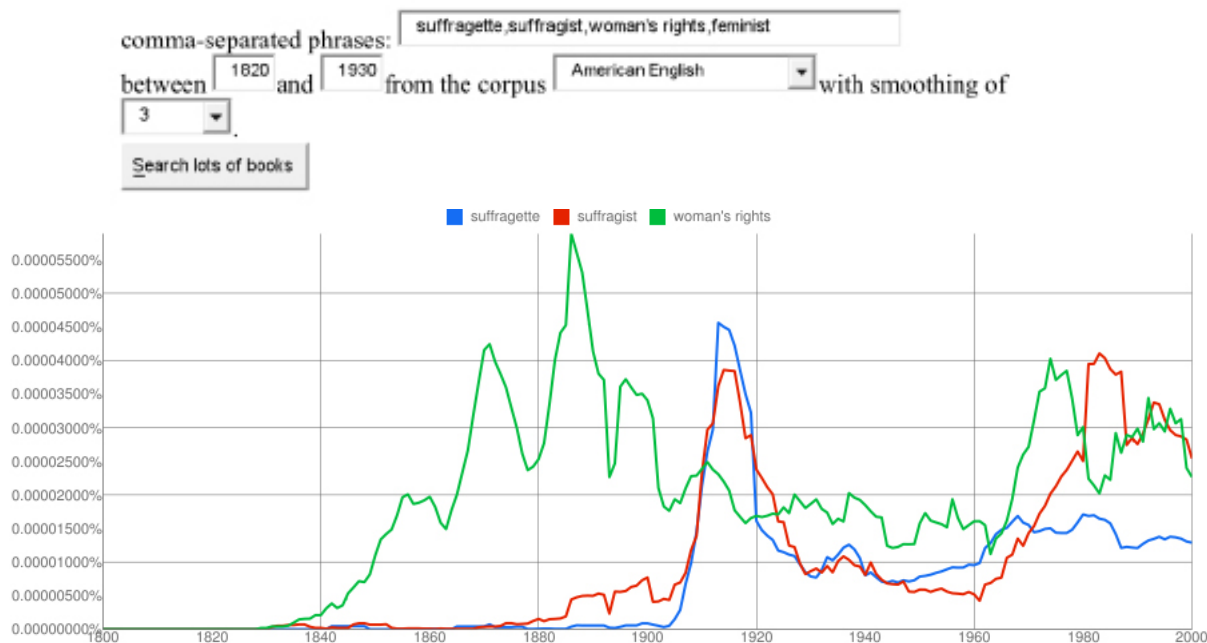
## Websites on Women's History: A Useful Tool

### Carole Srole

Despite the concerns about privacy and power, Google does offer some useful tools for teaching and research. Google Ngram allows a search through all of the books that they have scanned for a word, a phrase, or a list of words in English, French, German, Hebrew, Russian, or Spanish from 1500 to 2008. The answers are color-coded.

Use Ngram for classes or research to show the popularity of a concept or a change in the language during a range of years. I've scattered a number of these throughout lectures.

Here's an example in which the terms "woman's rights" dominated until 1910; when "suffragette" and "suffragist" and "feminist" take off, with "feminist" surpassing the others through 1930.



To create your own Ngram, visit <http://books.google.com/ngrams>. Send your recommendations for websites in women's history or useful for women's historians to [networker@wawh.org](mailto:networker@wawh.org).

## Mark Your Calendars!

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

WAWH 2013 Conference  
 Portland State University  
 Portland, OR  
 May 16-18, 2013

## **Invitation** **Amy Essington**

As the membership coordinator of the Coordinating Council for Women in History (CCWH), I would like to invite you to become a member of the CCWH. Founded in 1969 as the Coordinating Council on Women in the Historical Profession and expanded in 1974 with the formation of the Conference Group on Women's History, CCWH combines the functions of both groups by supporting women historians as well as women's history.

The organization sponsors six awards for its members including the CCWH Catherine Prelinger Award (\$20,000), Joan Kelly Memorial Prize in Women's History (administered by the AHA), the CCWH Nupur Chaudhuri First Article Prize (\$1000), the CCWH/Berkshire Conference of Women Historians Graduate Student Fellowship (\$1000), the CCWH Ida B. Wells Graduate Student Fellowship (\$1000), and sponsors the National History Day Prize in Women's History, Junior Division.

Each year at the annual meeting of the American Historical Association (AHA), the CCWH sponsors AHA and AHA affiliate sessions. Members may submit proposals for either the AHA or affiliate-sponsored programs. Members will also receive four newsletters a year.

In addition to eligibility for awards and prizes and eligibility for submission of co-sponsored proposals to the AHA annual meeting, membership in the CCWH continues to support the work of an organization that has worked in support of women historians and women's history. Please consider a membership to help support the CCWH continue its work into the twenty-first century. Detailed information about the organization is available at [www.theccwh.org](http://www.theccwh.org).

## **Reminders**

### **Pre-Registration**

Please remember that for this year's conference (which is in Berkeley, CA, May 3-5), the pre-registration deadline is March 29.

### **Facebook**

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>

### **Board Positions**

Interested in being more involved in WAWH? Board positions open up every year at the conference and prize committees are always looking for fresh members as well. Please consider volunteering for WAWH Executive Board. If interested, you can contact President Gayle Gullett at [gayle.gullett@asu.edu](mailto:gayle.gullett@asu.edu).

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## 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.

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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](mailto:networker@wawh.org).

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

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# ***The Networker***

Western Association of Women Historians

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