

News and Comments

Editor's Report

I enjoyed seeing many of you at the recent annual meeting of the History of Education Society (HES) in Decatur, Georgia. Bill Reese and his Program Committee produced a rich program.

I am delighted to report that, upon the arrival of a new provost and dean, Slippery Rock University (SRU) reversed the earlier-announced course and acted to retain the *Quarterly*. With SRU's commitment renewed, the HES Board of Directors voted in Decatur to keep the journal's current headquarters and editorial leadership for another three-year contract, beginning July 1, 2000. I am very grateful for Dean C. Jay Hertzog's unflinching support for this journal and his unflagging efforts to secure the endorsement of Dr. Robert Smith, the new Provost. I greatly appreciate the patience of the HES membership as we navigated uncertain waters during the spring, summer, and early fall. Many of you sent kind notes and e-mail messages of support; I was touched by your caring. I know that this fluid and unpredictable situation tried the patience of the HES Board. I apologize to them for ways in which I may have unwittingly added to their stress during this process.

This proved to be another busy year for the journal's editorial operations. We received 68 manuscript submissions in calendar year 1999. Volume 39 contained 11 articles, 1 Presidential Address, 1 "conversation," 1 historiographical essay, 2 essay reviews, and 77 book reviews. H-Net featured a discussion about an article by Andrew Dawson, "The Workshop and the Classroom: Philadelphia Engineering, the Decline of Apprenticeship, and the Rise of Industrial Training, 1878-1900," published in Issue #2 (Summer 1999). The *Chronicle of Higher Education* acknowledged the "conversation" piece by Linda Eisenmann, Jana Nidiffer, and Philo Hutcherson in Issue #3 (Fall 1999). We have received several requests for individual copies of this latter issue.

The *Quarterly* continued its good fortune to claim the rich talents of Robert Levin, Bruce Nelson, Phyllis Kendziorski, and Steve Sarnese for the 1999-2000 academic year. This is a professional and devoted group of people who share a passion for the scholarly mission of this journal. Steve completed his degree course work in December and will be replaced by Gary Cole, another graduate student from the Department of History.

I also continue to work with a committed group of Associate Editors and Editorial Board members. I have revised the role of Associate Editors to offer advice and counsel concerning editorial policy. Barbara Beatty and Linda Eisenmann have been invaluable in this new role during the past year. In addition to his duties as Associate Editor for book reviews, Robert Levin assumes the same responsibilities as Barbara and Linda.

Finally, I want to express my gratitude to those Editorial Board members whose terms ended in December: Scott Baker, Nancy Beadie, Thomas

Fleming, Michael Fultz, James Leloudis, and Harry Smaller. Their good nature and detailed, often nurturing, reviews made my job easy. I am pleased to announce that Ernest Freeberg, Craig Kridel, Michael F. Murphy, Christine A. Ogren, David R. Roediger, and Frank Simon have accepted my invitation to serve three-year terms on the Editorial Board. We are also fortunate to retain the services of Michael Fultz as Associate Editor.

With the Board's endorsement, we began to collect previous copyright agreements from the authors of articles. Bruce Nelson and Phyllis Kendziorski initiated this process in 1998 by creating a database containing every author and article published by this journal. Phyllis began the mailing process in earnest in January 1999 by sending request letters to authors who published articles during the 1990s. She followed this with subsequent decades. We have acquired 78 percent of the 1990s (1990-96), 74 percent of the 1980s, 71 percent of the 1970s, and 25 percent of the 1960s. The latter decade remains low because of only two mailings. Because we now possess copyright agreements, we have been able to quickly and efficiently address requests from authors and course packet publishers. I appreciate your prompt and cooperative responses to our pesky requests to sign and return those copyright agreements.

As you can see from the enclosed financial statement, the journal ran a slight deficit. Total individual memberships and institutional subscriptions have increased to 1392, reversing a five-year decline. This is due to an increase in U.S. individual membership and institutional subscriptions, which are at five-year highs. Non-U.S. individual memberships and institutional subscriptions continue to decline, however. This is mixed news, and I remain cautious about the slight increase in overall memberships and subscriptions. The 1999 total of U.S. and non-U.S. institutions is now up to 862, but still falls well below the 1994 total of 927. Since membership and subscription rates had not been increased in eight years, and with the approval of the Board of Directors, we instituted new rates for the Society in order to generate enough revenue to cover rising costs. They are: U.S. individual—\$40; U.S. student—\$20; non-U.S. individual—\$47; non-U.S. student—\$27; U.S. institutional—\$77; non-U.S. institutional—\$84. This journal remains quite a bargain, providing you with 500-600 pages of the latest scholarship in the field. I urge you to please check with your institution to see if it maintains a library subscription. I hope you will also entice your colleagues to join the History of Education Society.

I wish you a happy and productive year and continue to solicit your ideas, comments, critiques, and complaints.

Respectfully submitted,
Richard J. Altenbaugh
Editor