

THE FORUM ON *European Expansion and Global Interaction*

PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

The second biennial meeting of the Forum on European Expansion and Global Interaction, at the Huntington Library in San Marino in April, was a great success. The program committee chaired by David Hancock put together a stellar program that fulfilled the promise of FEEGI's founding mission with papers on all parts of the world and covering an impressive range of periods. The sessions presented not only a wide variety of topics within the phenomenon of globalization, but also a diversity of approaches and modes. Hancock's committee attracted a great many junior scholars as well as distinguished senior figures, so FEEGI's future seems assured. The business meeting approved the adjustments to the constitution recommended by outgoing president Carla Phillips. Members voted for overlapping four-year terms for members of the executive board. Henceforth the editor will be a board member and the offices of secretary and

treasurer are combined. Officers elected at the Huntington meeting, with terms ending in 2000 are: President: Karen Ordahl Kupperman, New York University; Vice President: Jane Landers, Vanderbilt University; Editor: Greg-Roeber, Penn State University (renewable). Members of the executive board, whose terms end in 2000, are: Michael Adas, Rutgers University, at large; Carla Phillips, University of Minnesota, past president and interim secretary-treasurer; John Thatcher Adams, New York University, graduate student representative. Appointed at large members with terms ending in 2002 are: Stuart B. Schwartz, Yale University, and James H. Williams, Middle Tennessee State University. Another amendment to the constitution created a nominating committee, whose members are: Francis Dutra and Alison Games. In addition, we have two ex officio members: Pieter Emmer, University of Leiden and Norman Fiering, John Carter Brown Library.

Outgoing president Carla Phillips is submitting our petition to the AHA for status as an affiliated organization.

Meanwhile, Jane Landers has arranged for us to co-sponsor with the Council on Latin American History a panel on "African Identity and Resistance in Colonial Spanish America," at this year's AHA meeting in Washington. We very much look forward to the program she will put together for our meeting in 2000, and encourage members to invite colleagues to join the organization and get involved in this burgeoning field. Karen Ordahl Kupperman
Karen.kupperman@nyu.edu

"FEEGI AT FIVE"

In the spring of 1994, the Forum on European Expansion and Global Interaction began, brought into being through the vision of Norman Fiering, Curator of the John Carter Brown Library in Providence, Rhode Island, George Winius, a distinguished scholar of the Portuguese Empire, and Robert Hoover, editor of an ongoing newsletter devoted to the issues that FEEGI sought to address. With generous sponsorship from the JCB, a diverse group of about forty scholars came together in Providence to

discuss the foundation of an intellectual meeting place.

From the outset, FEEGI never intended to be a rival or an alternative focus for the professional loyalties of its members. Instead, the Forum began with the realization that scholars in a wide variety of fields—history, anthropology, literature, art history, discoveries and maritime history, and others—often dealt with similar issues. Despite that commonality of interest, however, they rarely knew one another or had the benefit of what FEEGI sought to provide: "an opportunity for interested scholars to sharpen and broaden concepts, learn about work in progress, and meet new colleagues who are investigating related problems" (from the FEEGI brochure). With the growing interest in World History, and the growing popularity of comparative research, the Forum provides an ideal intellectual venue for a meeting of minds. At the organizational meeting in 1994, we decided that a biennial meeting schedule made the most sense, given the existing commitments of the likely membership. In years in which the Forum did not meet, we would sponsor a panel at the American Historical Association's annual meeting. We have followed that schedule ever since, with biennial meetings in the spring of 1996 in Minneapolis and the spring of 1998 at the Huntington Library in California, and panels at the AHA in the off-years. Throughout, we have consciously tried to bring together presentations that deal with similar topics in

different areas of the world and different periods. To maintain momentum between meetings, we rely on the newsletter and on our continuing association with the John Carter Brown Library and the Institute for the History of European Expansion and the Reactions to It at the University of Leiden in the Netherlands. The Forum's ample Executive Committee also provides continuity and gives the President a cross-section of the membership to consult when the need arises. The membership currently stands at about 100, from a diversity of disciplines and interests. At AHA meetings in the past, we have asked various societies affiliated with the AHA to sponsor out panels. Now that FEEGI is well established, we are eligible to apply for affiliated status on our own; the application is being filed this month (October, 1998). If we become an affiliate, we will be able to sponsor our own panels in the year between our own biennial meetings. We will also have greater visibility in the historical profession, at least, and potentially attract new members. In future, the Forum may pursue affiliations with other professional organizations for the same reasons. The more diverse our membership, the greater value the Forum will have for its members. In short, FEEGI at five is a healthy addition to the family of global interactions that produced the modern world.

Carla Rahn Phillips,
Immediate Past-President of
FEEGI, and Interim
Secretary-Treasurer

Phill002@tc.umn.edu

FEEGI/AHA PANEL, JANUARY, 1999:

Vice President Jane Landers has arranged for FEEGI to co-sponsor with the Conference on Latin American History a panel on "African Identity and Resistance in Colonial Spanish America." The session will take place on Saturday January 9, at the Marriott-Wardman Hotel from 9:30-11:00. (Room number not available at this time; check the program listings in the AHA Program). Panelists are:

Jane Landers, Vanderbilt University, "Black Kingdoms/Black Republics: Maroon Communities and their Transformation in 17th Century Colombia and Mexico"

Lyne Guitar, Vanderbilt University, "'No Man walks alone anymore': Taino and African Cimarrones in 16th Century Hispaniola"

Matthew Restall, Penn State University, "Were there Afro-Yucatecans in the Colonial Period?"

The chair is Edmund Abaka, University of Miami, and the commentator is Colin Palmer, CUNY.

MEETINGS OF INTEREST:

INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR ON THE HISTORY OF THE ATLANTIC WORLD, 1500-1800, HARVARD UNIVERSITY November 7-8, 1998.

"Workshop: The Teaching of Atlantic History"; for registration and information, please contact Pat Denault, Atlantic History Seminar, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA 02138 fax: (617) 496-8869 e-mail: atlantic@fas.harvard.edu

AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR ETHNOHISTORY

RADISSON METRODOME/
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA,
MINNEAPOLIS,
MINNESOTA
12-15 NOVEMBER 1998

For members of FEEGI, the ASE continues to offer sessions on a variety of topics from a wide variety of disciplinary perspectives. Meeting organizers for this year's conference are Jean O'Brien-Kehoe (History) and Brenda Child (American Studies) at the University of Minnesota. Contact at:

obrie002@marron.tc.umn.edu
Or
child001@gold.tc.umn.edu

JOURNEYS THROUGH THE MARKET: TRAVEL, TRAVELLERS AND THE BOOK TRADE

The annual conference on book trade history, organized through the Faculty of Continuing Education at Birkbeck College, will be held this year at the Royal Geographical Society in London. This provides an appropriate setting for the discussion of the production, collection, and use of books on travel. Such material rapidly became a staple in the output of the book trade, crossing the boundaries of text and illustration and forming an area in which fact and fiction mingled together. Leading specialists will explore areas of the trade in travel books since the 16th century and examine publications ranging from accounts of voyages and shipwrecks to the publications of guide books. The papers given at last year's conference, published by St Paul's Bibliographies under the title Medicine, Mortality and the Book Trade, will be available at a special rate. A selection of antiquarian books will also be available. The conference fee covers coffee, tea and a buffet lunch on both days, and anyone interested in book history will be welcome.

Saturday 28 and Sunday 29 November 1998 at the Royal Geographical Society (with the Institute of British Geographers) 1 Kensington Gore, London SW7

Contact: Carol Watts, Faculty of Continuing Education; 26 Russell Square, London, WC1B 5DQ

Tel: (0)171 631-6652 Fax: (0)171-631-6686 E-mail: c.watts@cems.bbk.ac.uk

ANNUAL CONFERENCE ON IROQUOIS RESEARCH; RENSSELAERVILLE, NEW YORK

Participants in this conference meet on the first weekend in October. Serious researchers from anthropology, history, linguistics, and related disciplines present works in progress that draw upon data related to the Iroquoian-speaking peoples of northeastern North America. Much of the conference is devoted to the contact period between Iroquoian speakers and Europeans. Interested persons may have their names added to the mailing list by contacting Dean Snow, 204 Brandywine Drive, State College, PA 16801.

CONFERENCE ON COMPARATIVE IMPERIAL AND POST-COLONIAL HISTORICAL STUDIES; MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY, EAST LANSING, MI FEBRUARY 12-14, 1999.

"This conference seeks to combine traditional historical approaches with more contemporary methods used by scholars from a wide array of disciplines. The conference organizers have chosen the themes of imperial and post-colonial studies because they lend themselves readily to a broad range of perspectives and approaches,

and, significantly, because they are applicable to every region where a human society has developed at some point in time. They encourage discussions of state formation and diplomacy, yet do not preclude issues of race, gender, or class. Conference organizers hope that the conference will expand traditional notions of state expansion and concomitant social change in such a way that it becomes possible to discuss the commonalities between societies as widely divergent as St. Petersburg, Russia and St. Petersburg, Florida." For additional information, contact: Nicholas M. Creary, Department of History 312 Morrill Hall Michigan State University East Lansing, MI 48824-1036

Crearyni@pilot.msu.edu

SOCIETY OF EARLY AMERICANISTS

The Society of Early Americanists will hold its first national conference at the College of Charleston Conference Center in historic Charleston, South Carolina, from March 4-7, 1999. Plenary speakers include: Mary Kelley, Department of History, Dartmouth College; Dell Upton, Department of Architectural History, UC-Berkeley; Ann Smart Martin, Department of Art History, University of Wisconsin-Madison. General inquiries should be directed to the conference Co-Directors: Professor Sharon M. Harris, President, SEA Department of English University of Nebraska

Lincoln, NE 68588-0333 Tel: 402-472-1857

sharris@unlinfo.unl.edu

or
Professor David Shields Vice President, SEA Department of English The Citadel Charleston, SC 29409 Tel: 803-953-5139
shieldsd@citadel.edu

18' INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON THE HISTORY OF CARTOGRAPHY

ATHENS, GREECE, 11-16 JULY 1999.

The main conference theme is the Cartography of the Mediterranean World but the history of cartography in general is also represented on the program. For details, consult the website at:

<http://www.ihrinfo.ac.uk/maps/18th.htm>

NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

With Bob.Hoover's decision to retire as editor of the FEEGI Newsletter, the new officers had hoped to bring out the Fall 1998 issue by late summer, with a second issue appearing sometime in mid-

winter. This still seems like a laudable goal, but one that will depend in part on an astute suggestion offered some time ago by Norman Fiering. In order for various fields and upcoming events related to them to be adequately represented in the Newsletter, the editor will have to rely upon different contacts who will forward news (e.g. in Dutch -German history, or maritime studies, or developments in cultural and/or physical anthropology, or Spanish-Italian-Portuguese area studies) to this desk for compilation and editing. It also seems wise to ask the readership of the Newsletter about their own perceptions of how this publication might be improved and what service it can best render to FEEGI members. If you are willing to serve as a "feeder" or "field observer" for a specific discipline or area, please contact the editor and make your willingness known. If we are to change the schedule of appearance for the newsletter to a March/August timetable, submissions of notices for meetings, of short essays, books reviews, or other items of interest to the membership of FEEGI should arrive at the editor's desk no later than 12 FEBRUARY 1999.

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JOURNAL OF EARLY MODERN

HISTORY:
CONTACTS,
COMPARISONS,
CONTRASTS

"EARLY MODERN" is a convenient description for the age that was marked by a quantum leap in the level of global interaction. Between roughly 1300 and 1800 -between the aftermath of Mongol conquest in the east and the onset of industrialization in the west-European expansion set the framework for new kinds of contacts and collective self-definition. The term early modern also points to a theory of modernization, and may suggest that the rhythms of European history can be replicated in other parts of the world; these implications are best taken not as given, but as issues worth debating in any discussion about periodization and historical development. Certainly one legacy of the era is question is a rich store of materials for the mutual illumination, by comparison and contrast, of separate historical trajectories.

There is thus a case to be made that the 'early modern' period of world history is uniquely well suited to comparative treatment. There is also a case to be made that the comparative method is the best way of bringing disparate phenomena into relation with one another, while respecting their individuality. Bringing these two distinct but complementary propositions together is the special brief of the *JOURNAL OF EARLY*

MODERNHISTORY.
CONTACTS,
COMPARISONS,
CONTRASTS.

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EUROPEAN
EXPANSION AND
GLOBAL
INTERACTION IS A
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TO THE STUDY OF
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