

Editors' Notes

We are pleased to present our second volume of *Essays* as co-editors.

We are delighted to report that *Essays* entered the Australian Business Dean's Council journal rankings for the first time in 2019 ranked as a 'B'.

In the last year *Essays* received 24 new submissions, with a further nine papers pending a decision from the prior year, and decisions were reached on 30 of these papers. 10 papers were accepted, yielding an acceptance rate of 33 percent, slightly higher than *Essays*' long-run average. The mean time between submission and initial decision was 70 days (median 49 days), a reduction from the previous year's 85 days (median 84 days). We will continue to work to reduce turnaround times further, although we have already noticed the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic on the willingness of scholars to accept review requests and the time taken to review.

Another consequence of the Covid-19 pandemic has been the decision by the editorial team, supported by the Society's Board of Trustees, to end publication of the print issue of *Essays*. The 2019 print issue was therefore the final print issue. We arrived at this decision due to the uncertainties arising from the pandemic in the knowledge that *Essays* is essentially an online journal and that journal users generally increasingly favor electronic access over print issues.

Nicky Tynan has moved from the role of Associate Editor to Book Reviews Editor and Jari Eloranta has completed his term as an Associate Editor. We are pleased to welcome two new Associate Editors to the editorial team: Vincent Geloso and Amanda Gregg. We are grateful for the support of all our Associate Editors, Editorial Board members, and the reviewers who review submissions on a double-blind basis. We are also grateful to Billy Frank for his excellent work as webmaster for ebhsoc.org.

In line with our usual practice of acknowledging reviewers on a biennial basis we list below those scholars who have refereed for *Essays* in the last 24 months (some of whom reviewed more than once). We thank them all for their valuable service.

Editors' Report

Michael Anson, Bank of England
Gerben Bakker, London School of Economics
Hoyt Bleakley, University of Michigan
Lovisa Broström, Göteborgs University
Ann Carlos, University of Colorado-Boulder
Youssef Cassis, European University Institute
Catherine Casson, University of Manchester
Ryan Compton, University of Manitoba
James Sanders Day, University of Montevallo
Kuhelika De, Grand Valley State University
Paolo di Martino, Birmingham Business School and Università di Torino
John A. Dove, Troy University
Kevin Dowd, University of Durham
Dick Edwards, Cardiff University
Roy Edwards, University of Southampton
Jari Eloranta, University of Helsinki
Price Fishback, University of Arizona
Juan Flores, University of Geneva
Wayne Franits, Syracuse University
Amy Froide, University of Maryland, Baltimore County
Gabriel Geisler Mesevage, King's College London
Sakis Gekas, York University
Vincent Geloso, Queen's University College
Bishnupriya Gupta, University of Warwick
Sheryllyne Haggerty, University of Nottingham
Bradley A. Hansen, University of Mary Washington
David Higgins, University of Newcastle
Eric Hilt, Wellesley College
Douglas Irwin, Dartmouth College
Naomi Lamoreaux, Yale University
Mitch Larson, University of Central Lancashire
Craig McMahon, Villanova University
Tony Moore, ICMA Centre, University of Reading
Anne Murphy, University of Hertfordshire

Editors' Report

Herbert Obinger, University of Bremen
Rowena Olegario, Saïd Business School, University of Oxford
Zoi Pittaki, Brunel University London
Eline Poelmans, KU Leuven
Niklas Potrafke, Ifo Institute, Munich
Maarten Prak, University of Utrecht
William Quinn, Queen's University Belfast
Agustina Rayes, Universidad Nacional de San Martin
Gary Richardson, University of California, Irvine
Tirthankar Roy, London School of Economics
Jared Rubin, Chapman University
Maria del Mar Rubio-Varas, Universidad Pública de Navarra
Janette Rutterford, Open University
Judy Stephenson, University College London
Jason Taylor, Central Michigan University
Kevin Tennent, University of York
Maki Umemura, Cardiff University
Grietjie Verhoef, University of Johannesburg
Richard White, University of Alabama Huntsville
Terrence Witkowski, California State University Long Beach
Robert E. Wright, American Institute for Economic Research

Mark Billings

Daniel C. Giedeman

Joint Editors, *Essays in Economic & Business History*, August 2020

Erratum

Page 112 in the printed version of volume 37 (2019) appeared blank. The table which should have appeared on that page can be found in the online version of the relevant paper: "The Long-Run Effect of Geographically-Staggered Legalizations: Was there a First-Adopter Advantage for States that Legalized Beer More Quickly in 1933?" by Eline Poelmans, Samuel Raisanen, and Jason E. Taylor.

President's Report

Report on the 2019 Economic and Business History Society Conference

The 44th annual EBHS conference was held from June 5th through 8th, 2019 in Detroit, Michigan. 95 delegates from 14 countries contributed 80 presentations over the course of three days, matching the record for the total presented at a conference of the Society in the United States. The overall quality of the scholarship from established academics, early career scholars and graduate students at the conference was impressive. Several papers focused on the manufacturing history of Detroit, and in specific regards to the automotive industry.

Meredith Paker won the 2019 Lynne Doti Award for best paper by a graduate student for her paper "Industrial, Regional and Gender Divides in British Unemployment between the Wars." Judge Glock's "The Novice Administrative State: The Function of Regulatory Commissions in the Progressive Era" won the Fred Bateman Award for best overall conference paper.

The conference included a half-day field trip to the Henry Ford, one of the truly outstanding museums in all of the United States. Among the highlights were Thomas Edison's Menlo Park laboratories, original Model T automobiles, and behind the walls special tours. Before the conference, some of the attendees visited the Motown Museum. During the conference several people indulged in Detroit's one of a kind Coney Island restaurants. After the conference formally ended, another sizable contingent went to Comerica Park to see a baseball game. Each of these events were occasions to enjoy a unique Detroit experience!

The conference keynote was presented by Mr. John Naglick, Deputy Finance Director of the City of Detroit, who was personally involved in the City's recent bankruptcy episode. The Detroit bankruptcy remains the largest municipal bankruptcy in American

President's Report

history. John provided a very comprehensive description of the factors leading to the bankruptcy, the successful coalition of various stakeholders to craft a “Grand Bargain”, and the City’s prospects now that it has emerged from bankruptcy. You can read a version of the presentation elsewhere in this volume.

We greatly appreciate the financial support that was provided by Walsh (conference sponsor) and Sequoia Financial Services (reception sponsor) in order to defray the costs of the conference. Grand Valley State University generously supported the costs of the 2019 print edition of *Essays in Economic & Business History*. This combination of support from both academic and private-sector sources speak positively to the quality and relevance of both our field and our organization.

The 2019 conference built upon the legacy of previous EBHS conferences in featuring impressive scholarship, supportive and high-quality feedback to papers, and a general spirit of collegiality and shared enthusiasm for the field of economic and business history. We look forward to renewing this tradition in Porto in 2021.

John Moore, 2018-2019 EBHS President

Jeremy Land, 2019 EBHS Program Chair



46th Annual Conference
Porto, Portugal - May 19-22, 2021
Call for Papers

The 46th Economic and Business History Society (EBHS) Annual Conference will be held in Porto, Portugal, and we will have CITCEM, University of Porto and the Spanish Network of Medieval and Modern Fiscal History - Arca Communis as our partners.

We invite contributions which embrace the range and temporal scope of economic and business history and its connections to other modes of historical investigation. Individual proposals for presentations on any aspect of economic, business, or financial history, are welcome, as are proposals for whole panels. We also encourage submissions from graduate students and non-academic affiliates.

Porto is a city full of history and culture, great gastronomy, and its eponymous connection to port wine and the Douro Valley. Echoes of the city's past can be seen in the Porto Cathedral and the 14th century Fernandine Medieval Wall. Porto is also home to two-time Champions League winners FC

Call for Papers, Porto 2021

Porto, the Serralves Museum of Modern Art and House and the Lello Bookshop.

Our opening keynote will be made by Professor Pablo Martín-Aceña of the University of Alcalá de Henares in Spain, and our Friday night banquet keynote will be provided by Professor Jaime Reis, of the Institute of Social Sciences at the University of Lisbon in Portugal.

The Conference will be headquartered at the [Sheraton Porto Hotel & Spa](#), Porto, Portugal, located in central Porto and easily accessible via car or the Metro do Porto. The nearest airport to Porto is Francisco Sá Carneiro International Airport, offering connections across Europe, and along with Humberto Delgado International Airport in Lisbon providing a range of flights to North America.

Proposals should include an abstract of no more than 500 words and contact details. The deadline for submission of proposals is **January 17, 2021**. The Program Chair will send a notification of acceptance of abstracts by **February 14, 2021**. Online registration will be available soon after at www.ebhsoc.org. All papers and panels accepted for the cancelled 2020 EBHS Annual Conference in Atlanta are automatically accepted for this conference, and the Program Chair will contact individual presenters about arrangements or updates to their papers. However, new proposals are also welcome.

Proposals may be submitted through the EBHS website or by email to the Program Chair (Chris Corker, chris.corker@york.ac.uk) and/or EBHS 2021 President (Rodrigo Dominguez, rdominguez80@gmail.com), who will also be happy to answer any further questions about the meeting or organization.