

It's Better To Be Misquoted Than Ignored

Report on the Filmmakers, Journalists, and Environmental Historians Workshop in Victoria, British Columbia

By James G. Lewis, *Forest History Society*

"We are telling the crucial stories of our age. Politicians, academic administrators, journalists – are you listening?" ASEH President Douglas Weiner, *ASEH News*, Fall 2003

The conference in Victoria, British Columbia in early April included a two-part workshop on environmental history and the media, assembled partly in response to Doug Weiner's question. The first part, on environmental history documentary films and historians, brought together three filmmakers and two environmental historians who have appeared in films to discuss their experiences. The two historians, Stephen Pyne of Arizona State University and Michael Cohen of the University of Nevada-Reno, also participated in the second panel with two journalists to discuss how historians can better avail themselves to reporters covering environmental issues.

The filmmakers each showed several minutes of their films and discussed various aspects of filmmaking. Steve Dunsky, director of the forthcoming history of the USDA Forest Service documentary "The Greatest Good," noted that when interviewing historians, filmmakers are looking for interesting characters – interview subjects who come across well on film – because they are the main characters of a documentary film. He used his clips to demonstrate what makes a good interview. Kelly Duane, director of the recently released "Monumental: David Brower's Fight to Protect Wild America," said she focused her film on certain historical figures because it "felt like the best way to make the film feel alive." Thompson Smith, a historian by training and also co-director of "The Place of the Falling Waters," spoke about the differences in presenting complex subjects in film and in print.

Films cannot cover topics in the minute detail a book can, and have to balance many elements in order to remain interesting to the viewer. Dr. Pyne talked about the frustrations he felt as a historian who has appeared in film and also as an advisor to filmmakers. Dr. Cohen discussed the idea of history as a consumer activity in both film and print, and talked about the importance of style and storytelling to succeeding as an interview subject. Since interviews are not scripted because of the filmmaker's need for spontaneity, or the appearance of spontaneity, on film, that often means that whoever gives the best "performance," regardless of expertise on the topic, makes it into a film.

The second half of the workshop offered an insider's look at how print and televised news operations work. Mark Neuzil, a former journalist and currently a journalism professor at the University of

The American Society for Environmental History (ASEH) and the National Council on Public History (NCPH) met together for the first time at the Empress Hotel and Victoria Conference Centre, March 31 - April 4, 2004. This conference, centered on the theme "Cultural Places and Natural Spaces: Memory, History, and Landscape," featured more than 500 presenters from around the world and a record attendance of more than 700 people.

St. Thomas (MN), and Stephen Hume, a longtime environmental journalist for the *Vancouver Sun*, each discussed the daily operations of a newspaper and the job of a journalist. Dr. Neuzil provided tips on how historians can work with journalists: Take a few minutes to collect your thoughts and call the reporter back, but don't wait, because deadlines are firm. As with film interviews, give brief statements, he advised. He and Mr. Hume concurred that the news industry has radically changed across the board in the last twenty years with the advent of the twenty-four-hour news cycle.

The demand for more stories is greater than ever, yet deadlines remain very tight. Furthermore, what gets in print or on the air is usually not up to the reporters, but rather editors or producers. That can lead to the appearance of being misquoted or of a quote taken out of context. Mr. Hume also urged historians to exercise caution and discretion when giving an interview, and assume that everything is "on the record" to avoid any confusion. Dr. Pyne noted that of the two hazards one encounters with the press, it is worse to be ignored than to be misquoted. He also shared some enlightening anecdotes from his experience being interviewed by print and television journalists. Dr. Cohen opted not to present, but rather pose questions to his fellow panelists. One question led to an examination of the impact of the community's interests on what news is covered, and perhaps how it is covered.

Given the growing interest from historians in better understanding the media and the increasing demand for their time from journalists and filmmakers, the workshop organizers, Marcus Hall of the Carnegie Council on Ethics and International Affairs and James G. Lewis of the Forest History Society, are considering holding a similar workshop at next year's meeting. They are also looking into the idea of extended film viewing at future ASEH conferences, or possibly organizing a film festival, as well as publishing the proceedings from the workshop. For more information, contact James Lewis at <jglewis@duke.edu>.

From the President's Desk

Crisp, fresh air and sunny skies were just some of the many special arrangements for the 2004 Joint ASEH-NCPH conference in Victoria, B.C. conjured by Lorne Hammond, Local Arrangements Chair. From start to finish, the conference organizers, notably the excellent Program Committee headed by Nancy Langston and Jon Hunner, Lorne's colleagues and students on the Local Arrangements Committee, our own Lisa Mighetto, as well as David Vanderstel and Dana Ward of the NCPH, ensured that the Victoria meeting would be over the top.

Although the final statistics are not yet in, at last count there were close to 700 paying attendees, which once again shows that carefully planned joint endeavors can result in exciting synergy. For those of our members who were unable to attend, one highlight was the opening night Plenary Session on "Public History and the Environment," organized by Marty Melosi and Phil Scarpino. No one who was there will forget Susan Flader's recounting her own epic battle to save a major Missouri state park from being flooded by a utility (see the text of the Distinguished Service Award). The ASEH Awards Lunch speaker, 89 years young land rights activist Dr. Frank Calder of the Nisga'a people in B.C., surprised, delighted and challenged the audience with his passion, spunk, and humor.

We were also appreciative that Dr. Steve Gillon, formerly of the Yale University Department of History and currently director of programming for the History Channel, was able to fill in as joint Banquet speaker for Dr. Libby O'Connell, who was unable to attend. Although many of us (yours truly included) remain unconvinced that

complex stories are incompatible with the TV documentary medium, the fact that we and Steve Gillon were able to exchange perspectives must be viewed as an encouraging first step in breaking down the walls between scholarship and popular culture.

With a setting as dramatic as Victoria and Vancouver Island, it was no surprise that the field trips were spectacular. I went on the birding trip, where there were two telescopes available, the better to see the skylarks, bald eagles, harlequin ducks, guillemots, loons, Eurasian and American widgeons, turnstones, nesting great blue herons, and more. The Butchart Gardens, celebrating their 100th Anniversary, were awash in color as well. Other memorable events included a reception at the Royal British Columbia Museum and a great fundraiser at the historic Swans Pub, which included a beer tasting (with bräumeister present!) and a private tour of a penthouse atop the pub with a breathtaking view of the city and an equally breathtaking art collection. I am delighted to report as well that it, and the Silent Auction, were wonderful fund raising successes. Again, thanks from all of us to those who toiled so hard to put this together.

The remainder of this column must now shift to a more somber note. On February 28 the field of environmental history sustained a tragic loss with the unexpected and vastly premature death of Alexei Enverovich Karimov. Born September 8, 1966, Karimov had barely graduated from the Moscow State University Department of Geography, specializing in land use and reclamation, when the Soviet Union dissolved, leaving him a citizen of the Russian Federation. From 1991 to his death Karimov worked in the Department of the History of Earth Sciences of the Russian Academy of Sciences' Institute for the History of Science and Technology, developing a scholarly opus that charted the history of land mapping and land assessment in Central Russia from the seventeenth century to the present. He was preparing to defend his *doktorat* (Habilitation), take a teaching professorship at Moscow State University, and continue his internationally known work on digitizing the body of maps and cadasters of the tsarist period when death prematurely came on Russia's risky roads. He was the recipient of awards and international recognition, including a visiting fellowship from the British Academy, the Russian Federation State Stipend for Talented Young Sciences, awarded by the Russian Academy of Sciences, and a fellowship of the Russian Federation Foundation for Basic Research.

Karimov was an exemplary scientific citizen, serving as the Eurasian (post-Soviet region) representative for the European Society for Environmental History, member of the Russian Geographical Society, head of his institute's Council of Young Scholars, member of the American Society for Environmental History (he presented at two meetings of the ASEH), and the core group of U.S. and Soviet (ex-Soviet) historians of science organized around the MIT-sponsored series of conferences "Science and Technology with a Human Face." Those of us who knew and worked with Alexei will never forget his unflinching kindness and optimism, all the more remarkable given the almost indescribably challenging working conditions of contemporary Russia. He will be enormously missed on both sides of the Atlantic.

Douglas Weiner

ASEH President

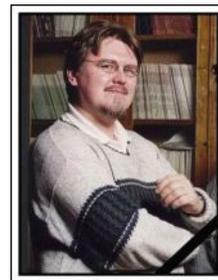


Photo from Russian Academy of Sciences

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The American Society for Environmental History seeks understanding of the human experience of the environment from the perspectives of history, liberal arts, and sciences. The Society encourages cross-disciplinary dialogue on every aspect of the present and past relationship of humankind to the natural environment. ASEH maintains a website at <www.aseh.net>. Contact <K.J.W.Oosthoek@newcastle.ac.uk> to discuss including material on the web page.

Items for the next newsletter should be sent by July 23, 2004 to: Lisa Mighetto, Editor, 119 Pine St., Suite 301, Seattle, WA 98101. E-mail to <mighetto@hrassoc.com>.

Other correspondence should be directed to: American Society for Environmental History, 701 Vickers Ave., Durham, NC 27701-3147.

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ASEH Awards Presented at Victoria Conference

ASEH awarded the following prizes in early April at the conference in Victoria.

Distinguished Service Award: Susan Flader

Distinguished Scholar Award: Donald Worster

George Perkins Marsh Prize for Best Book: Michael Bess, *The Light-Green Society: Ecology and Technological Modernity in France, 1960-2000*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2003.

Alice Hamilton Prize for Best Article Outside *Environmental History*: Jason W. Moore, "The Modern World-System as Environmental History? Ecology and the Rise of Capitalism," *Theory and Society* 32: 307-377, 2003.

Leopold-Hidy Prize for Best Article in *Environmental History*: Edmund Russell, "Evolutionary History: Prospectus for a New Field" 8 (April 2003): 204-228.

Rachel Carson Prize for Best Dissertation: Thomas G. Andrews, "The Road to Ludlow: Work, Environment, and Industrialization, 1870-1915," University of Wisconsin-Madison, 2003.

In addition to his award plaque and check, Thomas Andrews received a three-volume set of *The Encyclopedia of World Environmental History*, donated by Berkshire Publishing Group.

Comments on Distinguished Service Award

In these days of short time horizons and of the rampant pursuit of self-interest, narrowly defined, it is not only worthwhile but crucial that we honor those who have set exemplary standards of service. The Distinguished Service Award, one of the two highest honors conferred by ASEH, is given to members who have made singular contributions to our organization and is, like the Distinguished Scholar Award, given only rarely; the sole two previous awardees are John Opie and J. Donald Hughes. Among the many who have given selflessly of themselves to ASEH, Susan Flader stands out for her leadership from the very beginning. A member of the Executive Committee at the dawn of the society, from 1979 to 1982 and again from 1993 to 1999, Susan Flader has also availed the Journal Review Committee (1988-1991), the George Perkins Marsh Book Prize Committee (1991-1992), the Program Committee (1992-1993), and the Nominating Committee (2000-2001) of her considerable experience and her perfect-pitch judgment.

Elected vice president of the society for the period 1993 to 1995, Susan Flader, upon her ascension to the presidency in 1995, inherited the complicated challenge from outgoing president Martin Melosi of consummating an agreement with the Forest History Society to co-publish a new journal, which would be named *Environmental History*. Above all, success in this venture depended on the ability to find common ground. Susan's sense of fairness, her legendary acumen, and her extensive years of service to the Forest History Society – on its Board of Directors, Long-Range Planning Committee, Program Committee, and Executive Committee – all of which enabled her to have an insider's knowledge of the FHS as well as to be able to inspire a degree of comfort among the FHS Board, made her the ideal negotiator with Harold "Pete" Steen. And we can see the fruits of these efforts today!

After finally being emancipated from formal ASEH service (for the time being), Susan Flader, together with past president Carolyn Merchant, generously co-endowed the Ellen Swallow Richards Travel Grant, and occupies the additional important role as a richly respected elder statesperson and repository of vast institutional memory. That is the part of the story that ASEH members are likely to know, but that is only the tip of the iceberg of Susan Flader's broader career of scholar and citizen.

A listing of the organizations on which she has served as an officer or volunteer would take up a good portion of this banquet, but let me just mention a few that, I believe, illustrate how Susan Flader has integrated her role as both historian and citizen (and activist). Long a member of the National Audubon Society, she has

served on its Board of Directors (1974-1980), as she has on that of the American Forestry Association. Flader has served as a consultant for the Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission and for the Menominee Indian Historical Foundation. Another beneficiary of her talents was the Publications Committee of the Sierra Club, and she is or has been a member of the editorial boards of the *Journal of Forest History*, *Journal of Environmental Ethics*, *Environmental History Review*, *Sierra Club Books*, and the University of Missouri Press.

However, the three organizations or instances of public involvement that I would guess are closest to Susan Flader's heart are the Missouri Parks Association, which she founded and led twice, the Delphi Study of the Upper Great Lakes Regional Commission's "Symposium on Environmental Change in the Great Lakes Forest," and the Aldo Leopold Foundation. Those who are familiar with her own account of her efforts to enhance the visibility, funding and appreciation of Missouri's state park system, culminating in her triumphal, miraculous efforts to prevent the construction of a hydroelectric facility by Ameren (formerly Union Electric Power of St. Louis), that would have flooded Taum Sauk Mountain State Park, cannot but be struck by the nearly limitless store of intelligence, commitment, impeccable judgment, and sheer energy that Susan brought to those struggles, indeed to every one of her endeavors.

Later published as an anthology edited by Susan Flader, the Delphi Study, an outgrowth of a symposium on the Great Lakes Forest, demonstrated her capacity productively to mobilize her own intellectual power and that of other formidable scholars to use historical and ecological understandings in the ultimate service of providing a basis for land-use decisions in the present and future. Although historians are far too infrequently called upon to offer their services appropriately to society, Susan Flader was ready and able when the call came, a model hopefully to be revived and expanded if and when the opportunities for democratic public discourse once again improve.

I would like to end this encomium to Susan by noting her crucial role in promoting and deepening public and scholarly awareness of the extraordinary life of Aldo Leopold. *Thinking Like a Mountain* was a formative book for me in so many ways. Most of all, the work, through the genre of a biographical treatment, represents a guidebook of how public issues, and science, should be approached in an open society. It is about the necessity of maintaining a flexible and open understanding of the world, about the dangers of locking oneself into a static framework of thinking. In Flader's words, "we are concerned, therefore, not with the unfolding of one individual's understanding of a static situation but with the evolution of an ecological attitude toward a dynamic situation, by an individual and by the public, not separately but as they interacted. This study is not intended to be a case history in either applied ecology or public policy, though it may provide some insights in both areas. Rather, it is intended as a study in the evolution of a way of thinking, at both personal and public levels. It seeks to probe what it means to think ecologically and to deal with an ecological issue in the public arena."

With immense appreciation for all the gifts that Susan Flader has bestowed on us, it is my deep honor to ask her to accept the ASEH Distinguished Service Award.

Douglas Weiner, ASEH President

Comments on Distinguished Scholar Award

Among the highest honors that ASEH can bestow upon a member is the Distinguished Scholar Award. Meant to recognize extraordinary scholarly achievement, it is awarded infrequently. Only two individuals, Alfred E. Crosby and Samuel P. Hays, have received the award in previous years.

A citation index is an imperfect instrument for the measurement of scholarly influence and impact. Nevertheless, it can be instructive, and so last week I downloaded Donald E. Worster's citation statistics from the ISI site. Out of curiosity, I then performed some statistical analysis – actually simple addition – and discovered that Worster's works had been referenced 1,405 times, a figure now doubtless out of date. *Nature's Economy* alone has been reviewed or cited 373 times, with *Rivers of Empire* and *The Dust Bowl* not far behind.

Seriously, there are compelling reasons why Don Worster's books, essays, and journal articles have been so powerfully resonant. They are no less than paradigm setters in the field of environmental history and American history generally. His first book, *Nature's Economy*, was one of the books that most influenced my own dissertation. This foundational work, brimming with exuberance, erudition, and

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ASEH President Doug Weiner presented the Distinguished Service Award to Susan Flader and the Distinguished Scholar Award to Donald Worster at the conference in Victoria.

Photo by Lisa Mighetto

from **Awards** page 3

sustained insight, revealed that ecology, like science generally, bore the dual and conflicting birthmarks of the Enlightenment; reason in the service of liberation, and reason in the service of domination. Both "Arcadian" and "imperial" science were socially constructed, leading Worster to conclude that "the scientist, no more than the rest of us, cannot evade the responsibility of making a choice between those two stances." Needless to say, the work remains an indispensable guide for all who seek to learn the intellectual genealogy of ecological science in its historical and social contexts.

It is probably a fair statement that no self-described practitioner of environmental history is unfamiliar with *Dust Bowl*. Here again, Worster opened up a field-defining debate, asking whether profit-driven commercial farming – soil mining – so transformed attitudes toward the land that it undermined its own long-term viability in the process. No one can read *Dust Bowl* without confronting the relationship between political economy and dispossession. Continuing the theme of the alliance between an expansionist state and an expansionist corporate political economy in another pathbreaking book, *Rivers of Empire*, Worster explored another pervasive feature of our agricultural history: the expanding subsidization of corporate agriculture in the arid West by the federal government by means of large-scale irrigation projects and the creative interpretation of the law.

Worster has also developed these themes and others in numerous essays and articles, some of which have been anthologized in collections of his essays. The essays in *An Unsettled Country*, *The Wealth of Nature*, and *Under Western Skies* are marked as much by lyricism and grace of exposition as they are by their nuanced and trenchant development of arguments. My favorites are the essays about Alaska and the Lakota Sioux in *Under Western Skies*, but I suspect that everyone will have their own, for each one is a gem.

Most recently Don Worster has woven a magisterial story of the internal tensions and contradictions – slavery, racism, science, religion, expansion, and natural limits – that marked the emergence of modern America. He has done this through the vehicle of a biography of John Wesley Powell. In a way, *A River Running West* marks a new level in Worster's historical thinking, for when he writes that the contest of science with religious fundamentalism "for supremacy in the American mind is mirrored in Powell as nowhere else," he calls upon the reader to appreciate that the contradictions and dialectics of society inhabit our own very selves.

Worster has written of Powell that, "Like a tenured senior professor, he now assumed a high degree of freedom from institutional responsibility to gather his life's work into its final form. No one challenged that assumption; he was given considerable license by his superiors to come and go as he pleased." I hope that this is not autobiographical, because, Don, your colleagues in environmental history look forward to many more decades of seminal contributions from you. I know that I speak for all of us, and particularly the wonderfully trained graduate students and postgraduate fellows that you have helped to mold, when I say that it gives me the utmost delight to award Donald E. Worster the ASEH Distinguished Scholar Award.

Douglas Weiner, ASEH President

Comments on George Perkins Marsh Prize for Best Book

Michael Bess has crafted a history of the late twentieth century that offers a model for the twenty-first century and for the practice of environmental history. Bess boldly begins by asking the right, if most difficult, question: what have all the ideas and efforts of environmentalists and public environmental policy actually meant for the land? And by successfully undertaking broad-based analysis of France, his answers provide an important counterpoint to what North Americans often think to be normative environmental experience.

Eschewing simple and easy declensionist narrative, Bess gives us insight into the complex realities of environmental politics in the emerging post-industrial age. Neither radically green on the left, nor capitalistically rapacious on the right, France since the 1960s steered a more moderate course. French environmental thought, policy, and action were not only distinctive but achieved in their context a degree of internal and ecological consistency while, as Bess's well-chosen examples make plain, often blending humane and environmental concerns.

As the last part of *The Light-Green Society* turns into an essay on Nature and Culture in a post-modern age, Bess makes France a paradigm for recognition and acceptance of ambiguity, hybridity, duality, and compromise in human awareness. With apt turns of phrase he gently pushes the field of environmental history in directions it needs to go, exploring the coexistence of the familiar and the other, and the preconditions for respectful symbiosis of societies and ecosystems. A pleasure to read, this well-balanced work of contemporary history expands perspectives for environmental historians of all periods and places.

The George Perkins Marsh Prize Committee for 2003: Richard C. Hoffmann, Chair; Michael F. Logan; Ann Vileisis

Comments on Alice Hamilton Prize for Best Article Outside *Environmental History*

Taking as his starting point Immanuel Wallerstein's *The Modern World-System: Capitalist Agriculture and the Origins of the European World Economy in the Sixteenth Century* and cognizant of the current academic interest in global studies, Jason W. Moore expands on Wallerstein's insights to argue cogently for synthesizing theory and history in studying socio-ecological change. Moore is extremely effective in developing his theoretical arguments in tandem with case studies that provide vivid detail of what he refers to as two great 'commodity frontiers' – sugar plantations and silver mining. In addition, he is able to link early modern history into current concerns about the fate of the planet in a resonant way. Moore's conceptualization is ambitious and ties environmental history into world history in a creative and innovative way. The research is extensive, the variety of sources immense and the author advances a new direction in theoretical issues around environmental history while demonstrating adroitly the nexus between the environment and society, culture and economics.

The Alice Hamilton Prize Committee for 2003: Jane Carruthers, Chair; Christine Rosen; Mark Stoll



Environmental History editor Adam Rome presented the Leopold-Hidy prize to Edmund Russell, on behalf of ASEH and the Forest History Society. Photo by Steve Anderson

Comments on Leopold-Hidy Prize for Best Article in *Environmental History*

The Leopold-Hidy Award for the best article in *Environmental History* is judged by the journal's distinguished editorial board. Edmund Russell's winning article is a powerful call for scholars to pay more attention to evolution as a historical force. Editorial board members praised Russell's article as brilliant and well written. "I disagree with a lot of Russell's essay, but that's not the point," one wrote. "He raises the tough yet essential questions with which environmental historians should be grappling." Another member of the editorial board described Russell's article as "potentially revolutionary." As a third board member wrote, "Ed Russell's essay on making environmental history more fully and explicitly 'evolutionary history' offers a much needed course correction to the field. Rather than subordinating the field to social history or cultural studies, as many would have us do, he lays out a provocative alternative that would strengthen our ties to the natural sciences. In a number of telling examples, he shows how an evolutionary perspective would not only reframe some of our familiar discussions but also would offer profound new insights for all historians. This is what intellectual creativity is about!" Congratulations, Ed!

Adam Rome, editor, *Environmental History*

Comments on Rachel Carson Prize for Best Dissertation

In a strong field of dissertations, one stood out as not only particularly well-written and well-argued, but also as the best example of what the committee agreed was most crucial: a creative, engaging work that is explicitly pushing the field in new directions: Thomas Andrews, Assistant Professor at Cal State Northridge, "The Road to Ludlow: Work, Environment, and Industrialization, 1870-1915" (completed in 2003 under William Cronon at University of Wisconsin). In this history of the 1914 Ludlow massacre in Colorado, Andrews links environmental, technological, economic, energy, labor, and political history. He makes a strong case that understanding the labor history of the coal mines requires an understanding of the nature of the mines and of the way laborers were able to organize their relationships to that nature. The environmental story is successfully integrated with the labor history, not as background, and not as determining factor, but as crucial component in a larger narrative.

Andrews demonstrates that understanding the way the mines worked, the way the miners organized their lives near the mines and their work within them, the ways the owners thought of both the land and the coal, and the patterns of consumption and production of coal as fuel are all crucial to understanding the how this particular constellation of workers and owners came to brutal conflict in 1914. The stories he tells are of environmental history and labor history both, and he makes a compelling case that we can't understand either on its own.

The Rachel Carson Prize Committee for 2003: Byron Pearson, Chair; Ellen Stroud; Marsha Weisiger

ASEH Award Submissions for 2004: This year's prize committees will evaluate submissions (published books and articles and completed dissertations) that appear between November 1, 2003 and October 31, 2004. Please send three copies of each submission by November 5, 2004 to: Lisa Mighetto, 119 Pine Street, Suite 301, Seattle, WA 98101. No need to send copies of articles published in *Environmental History*. If you have questions, contact Lisa at <mighetto@hrassoc.com>

Photos of ASEH Conference in Victoria



The weather was glorious in Victoria. Here ASEH bird watchers look across the Strait of Georgia toward the Olympic Mountains.

Photo by Carolyn Merchant



The meeting in Victoria included a birding field trip.

Photo by Carolyn Merchant



Fundraiser at Swans Pub.

Photo by Lisa Mighetto

Mark Your Calendars
ASEH Annual Conference
in St. Paul, Minnesota
March 29 - April 3, 2006

ASEH's Next Conference to be Held in Houston

Our next conference will meet in bustling Houston, the energy capital of the world, at the historic Warwick Hotel, March 16-20, 2005. The Warwick Hotel is located in the city's Museum District within a few blocks of some sixteen museums. A new light rail line connects the hotel to downtown Houston. The hotel overlooks Hermann Park, the Houston Zoo, and Rice University. For more information on the Warwick, check out its website <www.warwickhotelhouston.com>.

The theme of the conference is "Energy Space Time." All inquiries related to the program should be directed to Joseph Taylor, chair of the 2005 Program Committee, at <taylorj@sfu.ca>. The deadline for submission of panel and paper proposals is July 1, 2004. There will be a subsequent call for poster session proposals.

Preliminary information on events and costs for hotel and registration is provided below. Registration information and conference programs will be mailed to all ASEH members near the end of this year. Additional details on the conference will appear in the fall issue of *ASEH News*. Also, check ASEH's website <www.aseh.net> throughout the summer and fall for updates on the conference. Inquiries related to local arrangements should be directed to Kathleen A. Brosnan, local arrangements chair, at <kbrosnan@uh.edu>.

The Warwick Hotel

Toll free reservation numbers: (866)460-1532 or (800)983-6523

Be sure to mention that your reservation is for the ASEH to receive the conference rate of \$119 (single or double) plus tax. A block of 20 rooms (single or double) has been reserved for graduate students at the rate of \$59.50 plus tax. Graduate students must verify their status with i.d. when they check into the hotel.

Conference Registration

Pre-Registration:

ASEH Member:	\$85
ASEH Student Member:	\$40
Non-members:	\$95

On-Site Registration:

ASEH Member:	\$100
ASEH Student Member:	\$50
Non-members:	\$115

Single-day registration: \$40 (pre-registration) or \$50 (onsite)

Transportation

The City of Houston is served by two airports, George H.W. Bush International Airport and Hobby Airport. Houston is a hub for Continental, Southwest, and Delta Airlines. There are shuttles between both airports and the Warwick Hotel.



Photo courtesy of Warwick Hotel

Houston Conference Call for Papers

American Society for Environmental History
Annual Meeting Announcement and Call for Papers

Energy Space Time

Houston, Texas

March 16-20, 2005

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION: JULY 1, 2004

The program committee for the American Society for Environmental History invites panel and paper proposals for its March 2005 meeting in Houston, Texas. Proposals may address any area of environmental history, but in keeping with the conference themes, the committee specifically solicits submissions examining the implications of energy across space and through time. Houston is home to major energy corporations and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and it may well epitomize the convergence of energy and space in current culture. Yet scholars who work on other times and places should not concede these themes to the twentieth century. Quests to harness nature's energy, or to claim its spaces, are unique to no period. Consumers of petroleum, nuclear, solar, and thermal energy have much to learn from the eras of sail and steam, and troubadours were singing the praises of Argonauts millennia before the phrases "astronaut," "kosmonavt," and "taikonaut" entered our lexicon.

The committee supports approaches ranging from the transnational to the personal, from policy to politics, and we encourage proposals by anthropologists, ecologists, economists, geographers, and sociologists. Panels that integrate disparate geographic areas or disciplinary approaches will be particularly favored. By seeking interdisciplinary conversations about energy, we hope to cast new light on this subject. However, the committee *strongly* recommends proposals for complete panels. Individual papers are welcome, but they are more difficult to accommodate. To maximize the number of papers yet maintain opportunities for creative exchanges among panelists and the audience, the committee also requests that panel proposals be limited either to three papers and a discussant or four papers and no comment. Participants can only present one formal paper, but they may also engage in roundtable, chairing, or commenting duties.

To submit a proposal go to <<http://www.h-net.org/~environ/ASEH/conferences.html>>, download the ASEH registration form from the website, follow the instructions at the top of the form, save the proposal in rtf format, and send it as an email attachment to <aseh2005@sfu.ca>.

Should you have questions, please contact any member of the program committee:

Joseph Taylor, Chair, Simon Fraser University (<taylorj@sfu.ca>)

Ted Catton, Historical Research Associates (<tcatton@hrassoc.com>)

Ann Greene, University of Pennsylvania (<angreene@sas.upenn.edu>)

Michael Lewis, Salisbury University (<mllewis@salisbury.edu>)

Kathleen Brosnan, Ex-officio member, University of Houston (<kbrosnan@uh.edu>)

Announcements

Member News

On December 11, 2003, at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C., John Reiger delivered an address before the Boone and Crockett Club entitled "An Inspiration to Us All: The Boone and Crockett Club's Place in the History of American Conservation." The Club was celebrating its 116th anniversary, and many leaders of other national conservation organizations were present, including representatives of the National Wildlife Federation and the Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership.

Timothy Silver received the 2003 Ragan Old North State Award from the North Carolina Literary and Historical Association for *Mount Mitchell and the Black Mountains: An Environmental History of the Highest Peaks in Eastern America* (University of North Carolina Press, 2003). Named for Sam Ragan, newspaper editor and Poet Laureate of North Carolina, the award recognizes the year's best work of nonfiction by a North Carolina writer. Silver is professor of history at Appalachian State University.

Sylvia Washington's monograph, *Packing Them In: An Archeology of Environmental Racism in Chicago, 1865-1954*, was published by Rowman and Littlefield/Lexington Books.

Call for Papers

European Society for Environmental History
Third International Conference
"History and Sustainability"
February 16-19, 2005
Florence, Italy

Deadline for Submissions: May, 20th, 2004

The European Society for Environmental History and the Università di Firenze, Dipartimento di Scienze e Tecnologie Ambientali Forestali, are pleased to invite proposals for panels, papers and posters for the Third International ESEH Conference.

The theme of the conference is "History and Sustainability." The Conference Committee especially encourages proposals related to the theme of the conference, but contributions that examine any aspect of human – environment – interaction over time are welcome. Scholars from all fields and disciplines are invited. We encourage contributions by graduate students and independent scholars.

Submitting a Proposal

In order to make ESEH 2005 conference planning easier, please, submit your proposal via the website form at: <<http://www.eseh2005.unifi.it>>. In due course, the site will also provide additional information about the conference.

Panels

A panel consists of three papers of 20 minutes each, with 30 minutes of discussion time (panel duration: 90 minutes). Panel submitters can, but do not need to propose a chairperson. There are no commentators; discussion is with the audience.

Papers

Individual paper submissions will be considered by the committee, but presenters should be aware that the committee cannot guarantee thematically consistent panels for such papers.

Posters

We especially encourage the submission of posters, which will be introduced by authors in a 3 minute statement in the poster plenary session.

Submission and Deadline

Scholars are invited to submit proposals of no more than 600 words per paper in any of the above categories in English by May, 20th, 2004. If you

cannot access the web-form on the conference site, send an e-mail to the ESEH secretary (e-mail: <K.J.W.Oosthoek@newcastle.ac.uk>).

Please be aware that submissions reaching us after the deadline cannot be processed to guarantee a speedy evaluation and leave time for presenters to apply for travel grants.

Program Committee

An international committee will be responsible for selecting the papers. It consists of Joan Martínez Alier (University of Barcelona, Spain), Richard Hoffmann (York University, Canada), Leos Jelecek (Charles University Prague, Czechia) and Elisabeth Johann (IUFRO, Austria)

Conference Committee Chair: Mauro Agnoletti, Italy

ESEH president: Verena Winiwarter, Austria

Call for Manuscripts

Historical Geography Seeking Manuscripts

Historical Geography, an annual journal of research, commentary, and reviews, solicits manuscripts for upcoming issues. Each issue contains two sets of articles. One set includes invited articles related to a special theme. The upcoming theme will be "GIS and Historical Geography," guest edited by Anne Knowles. In addition, each issue contains Research Articles on any topic related to historical geography. We are particularly interested in receiving for this section. All articles are subject to full peer review before acceptance. *Historical Geography* welcomes manuscripts from graduate students, emerging scholars, and those with a bit more experience.

You may send articles to either of the co-editors: Dydia DeLyster or Craig Colten, Department of Geography and Anthropology, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA 70803. Inquires may be directed to: <dydia@lsu.edu> or <ccolten@lsu.edu>.

We request that authors submit three hard copies of their manuscript and that they employ an endnote citation style. Instructions for authors, plus recent tables of contents and subscription information, can be found at: <<http://www.ga.lsu.edu/histgeog.html>>.

Society for the Social History of Medicine

2004 Roy Porter Student Essay Prize Competition

The Society for the Social History of Medicine (SSHM) invites submissions to its 2004 Roy Porter Student Essay Prize Competition. This prize will be awarded to the best original, unpublished essay in the social history of medicine submitted to the competition as judged by the SSHM's assessment panel. It is named in honour of the late Professor Roy Porter, a great teacher and a generous scholar.

The competition is open to undergraduate and post-graduate students in full or part-time education. The winner will be awarded £500.00, and his or her entry may also be published in the journal, *Social History of Medicine*.

Further details and entry forms can be downloaded from the SSHM's website at <<http://www.sshm.org>>.

Alternatively, please contact

David Cantor
Division of Cancer Prevention
National Cancer Institute
Executive Plaza North, Suite 2025
6130 Executive Boulevard
Bethesda MD 20892-7309 U.S.A.
Email: <competition@sshm.org>

The deadline for entries is December 31, 2004.

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American Society for Environmental History

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