

# International Economic History Association

## 2018 Newsletter

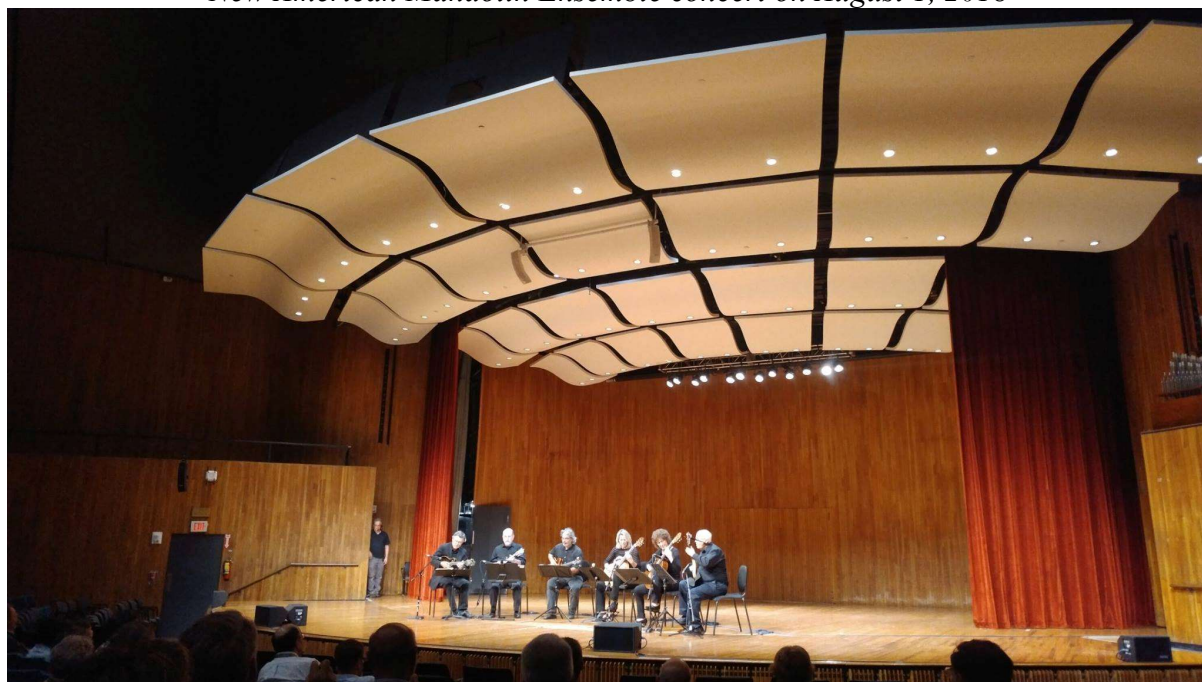
Happy belated New Year, I hope you have had a productive 2018 as we did at the International Economic History Association (IEHA). 2019 has been going on for a while, but I wanted to wait to send out the Call for Papers for the 2021 World Congress again, so apologies about the delay. We are now about eight months past the XVIIIth World Economic History Congress (WEHC), which took place in Boston in 2018. Here I will report on some of the activities at the Congress, and reflect on the next one. Finally, I want to thank past officers of the Association and discuss future goals for the IEHA.

### BOSTON WORLD CONGRESS

#### *Details on the Boston Congress:*

The Boston World Congress took place on July 30-August 3, 2018. The conference was a rousing success. First of all, the conference venues, the MIT campus and the Marriott, were a good fit for the conference, and attendees enjoyed the varied scholarly and other activities that were a part of the meeting.

#### *New American Mandolin Ensemble concert on August 1, 2018*



The overall attendance for the conference was quite robust, 1500 registered participants in total, which include a large number of students (282) and great representation of the global coverage of our respective disciplines. In total, we had 67 different nations represented. The largest group of scholars came from the host country, the United States, with 313 in total, to be followed by the UK with 139. The 2015 host, Japan, came in third with 100 participants, and the 2021 host, France, had 83 scholars in attendance.

*One of the keynote speakers, Thomas Piketty, lecturing on post-war voting patterns on July 31, 2018*



In addition, the Boston World Congress featured several plenaries, and numerous rich academic sessions, as well as poster sessions and dissertation competitions over the duration of the Congress. Here are the winners of the prizes:

### **Dissertation Competition Winners**

#### Ancient, medieval, early modern:

*Markets of Exception: An Economic History of Impunity in Britain and France, 1720-1830*

Trevor Jackson, University of California, Berkeley

#### 19th century:

*British Economic Policy and Ireland, c.1841-53*

Charles P. Read, Cambridge University

#### 20th century:

*Financing the African Colonial State: Fiscal Capacity Building and Forced Labor*

Marlous van Waijenburg, Northwestern University/University of Michigan

### **Poster Competition Winners**

#### Pre-modern:

*The Formation of the Theatre Market: A Socioeconomic Analysis of the Viennese Performing Arts*

Ryohei Oshio, Waseda University

19th century:

*Reshaping Global Trade: The Long Term Effects of Bank Failure*

Chenzi Xu, Harvard University

20th century:

*Determinants of Mexican Migration in the Early 20th Century: Markets, Geography and Institutions*

David Escamilla-Guerrero, London School of Economics

We would like to acknowledge the great contributions of all of the young scholars that participated, but we would especially like to congratulate the winners! Furthermore, in total, we featured 198 paper panels, with a wide range of topics and issues.

*Opening ceremony, featuring IEHA President Anne McCants*



On behalf of the IEHA, I would like to thank the organizers for their hard work and success, especially Professor Anne McCants, our current IEHA President, and Mr. Jeremy Land, the conference manager, and the MIT. The response from the attendees has been uniformly positive. Finally, the conference was also financially successful, with the budget balancing out.

*Paris Congress Preparation:*

As many of you know, the host for the 2021 World Congress is Paris, France. The primary academic host is Campus Condorcet, with Professor Liliane Perez-Hilaire (EHESS) as the



incoming President. The effort has an impressive group behind it, from many local universities as well as organizations like the Economic History Association.

*Campus Condorcet in Paris*



The preparations for 2021 are going well. The local hosts have lined up many accommodation options that will be revealed later this year and next year. Moreover, the new Condorcet campus is a great location for this type of international conference, and there is ample space for all the sessions and events that will take place. The organizers have also lined up plans for plenaries and speakers, which will be revealed next year in detail.

There are many places where you can find information about the Congress, including the conference website: <http://www.wehc2021.org/>. **The deadline for first round of session proposals is June 30, 2019!** You can submit your proposals here: <https://wehc2021.sciencesconf.org/>. Please help us spread the word about this great conference. You can also let your colleagues know that this is an interdisciplinary conference that welcomes economic, business, social, world history proposals, as well as proposals from our neighboring disciplines such as political science, sociology, and economics. Moreover, the 2021 Congress also has a social media presence, see e.g. <http://www.facebook.com/WEHC2021> and Twitter [[@WEHC2021](https://twitter.com/WEHC2021)].



## IEHA MATTERS

### *The IEHA officers*

You can find more information about the organizational structure of the IEHA, its officers, and the member organizations here: <http://www.ieha-wehc.org/organization.html>. The current President is Professor Anne McCants, Vice-President is Professor Liliane Perez-Hilaire, the Treasurer is Professor Marjolein t'Hart, and Secretary-General is yours truly (Jari Eloranta). In Boston, as is customary with our rotation of three-year terms (with two terms maximum), we welcomed several new Executive Council members (you can find a full list here: <http://www.ieha-wehc.org/executive-committee-members.html>). Moreover, the IEHA would like to gratefully acknowledge the service of outgoing EC members: Matthieu Arnoux, Joerg Baten, Kris Inwood, Min Ma, Pablo Martin Acena, Irina Potkina, Knut Sogner, and John Wallis. Your contributions to this organization were invaluable, and we hope to see you in many future IEHA conferences again.

## PERSONAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

As the current Secretary-General, I am grateful to be able to work with such an interesting and international group of scholars in the IEHA. It is extremely encouraging to see so many new faces at the World Congresses, and to see how truly interdisciplinary our fields are. These kinds of academic interactions foster exciting new ideas and findings, and that is the essence of what the IEHA is about, to promote global discussions about past economic and social developments. Moreover, I was particularly pleased to see so many younger scholars in attendance at the World Congress. This reaffirms my belief in the longevity and vitality of our disciplines.

I also wanted to briefly reflect on my personal goals in serving as the SG for the IEHA, now in my second term. First, my goal is, as my past experience with many other organizations attests to, continues to be to promote the study of economic and related disciplines globally. I love being an economic historian, and we need to do more to promote this great discipline, and welcome new students and ideas to the study of the past. To that end, I want to expand the support IEHA provides to scholars coming from less affluent nations as well as to graduate students. Second, I want to make sure IEHA is a transparent organization that national representatives and organizations feel is an asset to them. Your voices are important, especially in how we structure the EC and how we continue to develop the World Congresses in the future. Third, I want to make sure IEHA is an organization that is welcoming and open to all scholars, regardless of your academic affiliation, ethnicity, gender etc.

I hope you will spread the word about the organization, about the 2021 World Congress, submit proposals and encourage your colleagues to follow suit, and keep news about economic (et al.) history coming. You can also follow news and announcements at Economic and Business History News: <https://www.facebook.com/EBHSNews/>. I hope to see many of you in 2021, if not sooner!