



The FCHS NEWSLETTER

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January 2019 Newsletter

Happy Belated New Year!

Hopefully you are well on your way with your Resolutions, and you renewed your annual membership with FCHS! If not, no time like the present.

Don't forget about our upcoming Annual meeting this year in Montreal, the 13th-15th of June. Details including the preliminary program can be found on our webpage at:

https://www.frenchcolonial.org/images/stories/montreal2019/Preliminary_Program_2019.pdf

A reminder to please take a moment if you haven't followed us on Facebook and Twitter to do so. Our followers are up a hundred-fold! Up-to-date information will always be there, as well as on our Society webpage. In addition, please send pedagogy/ research resource suggestions to Katie Edwards via webmaster@frenchcolonial.org.

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1627205484163791/?ref=bookmarks>

Twitter:

@FrenchColonial

We are living in interesting times. My students are looking at the study of history in new and exciting ways. For many of us, we have never felt a greater responsibility to do this job. But no matter what, make sure you take care of yourselves too. Be well.

Robin Mitchell

President's Message, January 2019

I hope 2019 is off to a good start for everyone. As I draft this message on the 25th day of the month, I cannot help but think about events of exactly a century ago. On January 25, 1919, one week after the Paris Peace Conference opened at Versailles, delegates voted to create a League of Nations. This new institution would, its advocates hoped, regulate international relations in a way that would help the world avoid the sort of catastrophic global war that had just ended, in part by managing the claims of former and current empires and their subject peoples. This proved easier said than done, of course, and long before the League was officially established a year later delegates to the peace conference struggled largely unsuccessfully to sort out the problems of imperial rule, to contain the forces emerging from the “Pandora’s box” of empire (as Robert Gerwarth has recently called it in *The Vanquished*). The French colonial empire was central to these events, as it was to the Great War that provoked the formation of the League. The developments of these years reverberated significantly from Vietnam to Martinique, to Cameroon, to Madagascar, to Syria, and of course to France and beyond. As such, the centenary of the formation of the League of Nations is yet another powerful reminder of the continuing importance and relevance of what we do: laboring to understand the workings of empire, from the halls of Versailles to the streets of Algiers, from the minds and offices of colonial administrators to the minds and homes of colonial subjects and their descendants.

There are, of course, also more proximate reminders of the relevance of our subject. In France, the *gilets jaunes* movement continues to disrupt political and cultural life with protests in part animated by frustration with the forces of globalization, some of the roots of which we can trace to the colonial and postcolonial worlds that we study. A few days ago in Mali, a former French colony and the site of an ongoing French military intervention, Al Qaeda forces killed 10 Chadian soldiers working as part of a UN peacekeeping mission. The stated motive for the attack was Chad’s “diplomatic pursuits with Israel,” and of course the lives and afterlives of empires decisively shape contemporary politics in Africa and the Middle East. Without belaboring the point further, I will just say that I am proud to be part of an organization such as the French Colonial Historical Society that is dedicated to creating better understandings of critical problems of both the past and the present.

One of the ways we work to accomplish this better understanding is by holding our annual meeting, and so I now turn to an update on progress toward our June conference in Montréal. We all owe a debt of gratitude to the organizers, led by Patrick Dramé, who have been working tirelessly to arrange the myriad details, and the program committee, which worked through a very large number of proposals to develop a program that is as inclusive as possible. Members can find the preliminary program on our web site (please do let the organizers know right away if any changes are necessary, including if anything changes in your ability to attend the meeting). In addition to the typically fascinating and interesting collection of papers and sessions,

highlights of more general interest include plenary sessions devoted to discussing the winners of the 2018 Mary Alice and Phillip Boucher and the Alf Andrew Heggoy Book Prizes. Please come hear more about these signal contributions to our field, Sue Peabody's *Madeleine's Children* and Christopher Church's *Paradise Destroyed*. Another highlight worth nothing is a panel on "Historiographies de l'empire colonial français : perspectives croisées France - États-Unis / Historiographies of the French Colonial Empire: Cross Perspectives France-United States," a collaboration between the FCHS and Société française d'histoire d'outre-mer (SFHOM). A second session on the same theme will take place at the SFHOM meeting later in the summer, and the presentations from both panels will eventually appear in a joint issue of *French Colonial History* and *Outre-Mers*. Finally, please take note of a session devoted to the work of a pioneer in our field, "Being Black in France: A Tribute to the Research of Pierre H. Boule."

Speaking of our journal, *FCH*, let me repeat my request to all FCHS members to consider submitting their article manuscripts to be considered for publication. Let us all work together to maintain the *FCH* as a premier venue for scholarship in our field (<http://frenchcolonial.org/index.php/journal>).

As for future meetings of the FCHS, you may remember that Ken Orosz has generously offered to add to the monumental services he has already rendered to the Society by hosting the 2020 conference in Buffalo, New York. We will keep you updated as plans develop, but please consider now making plans to join us in Western New York next spring. We are still soliciting offers to host the 2021 meeting, so please do not hesitate to contact me or one of the other officers if you are interested in making a proposal.

The advent of another new year is not only the occasion to reflect on history and its continuing relevance, but also a time to think about that for which we should be thankful. So I will conclude by repeating what I said above, expressing pride in and gratitude for the work, collegiality, and friendship that the Society promotes and that its wonderful members make possible.

Rick Fogarty
University at Albany, SUNY

Colleagues at Work / Book Announcements

We want to promote your latest works. Please send them to me at media@frenchcolonial.org for inclusion in the next newsletter.

Jennifer Sessions and Claire Eldridge co-edited a new special issue of *French History* on French Colonial Histories from Below, with articles by Christopher Church, Jennifer Palmer, Nathan Elliot Marvin, Cari Campbell, Itay Lotem, and Meike de Goede.

Patricia M. E. Lorcin has published the edited volume, *A Cultural History of Western Empires, Vol. 6: In the Modern Age* (London: Bloomsbury, 2018), which also includes the chapter, “War,” by Richard S. Fogarty (pp. 26-59).

Jennifer Sessions authored the chapter on “Resistance” in vol. 5, *The Age of Empire*, of the *Cultural History of Western Empires*, edited by Kirsten McKenzie. This volume also includes contributions by fellow French colonial historians Robert Aldrich and Miranda Spieler.

Announcements

We’re excited to announce that we are working on a redesign of the FCHS website (www.frenchcolonial.org)! We are currently in the planning and development phase, and plan to launch the new site next summer after the annual conference. If you have any suggestions about features that you would like to see, please send them to Katie Edwards at webmaster@frenchcolonial.org.

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Back in 2017 the society’s journal switched over to an online submission system that enables us to more efficiently process and track manuscripts as they go through peer review and move on to copy editing and assignment to a future issue. While the system works well, we have had some problems with incorrect or outdated email addresses as well as incomplete user profiles that do not indicate reviewing interests. The editors ask all members to log in and update their profiles at <http://ojs.msupress.msu.edu/index.php/FCH/login>. Once logged in you should see links under My Account to edit profiles and update passwords. If you are unsure if you have a profile and/or cannot remember your user name and password please contact us at FCH@frenchcolonial.org or directly at oroszkj@buffalostate.edu. Although overdue, Volume 18 will enter production as soon as we receive revisions on a final article. Plans are already underway for volumes 19 and 20, but we still have plenty of room in both, so please send us article submissions as soon as you can. Generally speaking, it takes 9 months from submission before an article appears in print; that timeframe may be shorter or longer depending on the peer review comments and the extent of requested revisions.

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72e Congrès de l'Institut d'histoire de l'Amérique française
 (Université d'Ottawa)
 17 au 19 octobre 2019
 FRONTIÈRE/S/

Appel à communications

En 2009, le 62e Congrès de l'Institut d'histoire de l'Amérique française, intitulé Québec/Amériques, conviait les participants à enjamber les frontières et à les repenser dans leurs pratiques historiennes. Pour la 72e édition qui se tiendra à Ottawa, capitale nationale et ville-frontière par excellence, le comité organisateur invite les chercheur-e-s à s'interroger sur leur rapport aux frontières, non plus en les enjambant mais en les appréhendant dans toute leur complexité. Par définition en effet, le terme frontière est hautement polysémique et, en dépit de l'éclatement des axes et des avenues de recherche qu'il suggère, rapproche et fédère autant qu'il divise et sépare. La frontière, qu'elle soit singulière ou plurielle, matérielle ou mentale, construite ou imagée, est heuristique et métaphorique. Dans le champ des sciences sociales et humaines en particulier, la frontière est donc par essence interdisciplinaire. Conformément à ses dimensions territoriales, politiques, institutionnelles, culturelles ou symboliques, la frontière, dans ses formes connues ou inédites, balise l'espace que nous voulons investir dans le cadre de cette rencontre annuelle.

Comment s'exprime, en différentes époques, la notion de frontière en Amérique française? Comment évolue-t-elle au fil des siècles? Quelles sont ses représentations? Quels types de pouvoir impose-t-elle? C'est autour de ces questions que le comité organisateur appelle les participants à engager une réflexion et à proposer des pistes d'analyse empiriques, théoriques ou épistémologiques qui permettront de mieux problématiser la frontière.

Les propositions de communications pourront s'inspirer, notamment mais non exclusivement, des quelques grandes catégories suivantes :

- Frontières physiques et géographiques (souveraineté et territorialité ; espaces, migrations et cloisons ; perméabilité et étanchéité ; nationalismes transfrontaliers ; métropoles, périphéries et diasporas)
- Frontières sociales et économiques (hiérarchies et statuts ; marginalité et minorités ; frontières financières et normatives ; circulations, échanges et transferts ; villes et quartiers)
- Frontières culturelles et symboliques (identités, normes, genres, sexualité, ethnies, langues et religions)
- Frontières disciplinaires, épistémologiques et historiographiques (interdisciplinarité ; hybridité méthodologique ; limites de la pensée scientifique ; histoire scientifique et histoire publique/populaire ; vérité scientifique et pertinence sociale ; écoles historiques)
- Frontières politiques et idéologiques (ethnicité et construction de l'altérité ; différenciation linguistique ; polarisations idéologiques ; questionnement nationalitaire ; luttes partisans ; clivage droite/gauche ; influences et transferts culturels ; pouvoirs législatifs et judiciaires,

fédéral, provincial et municipal)

- Frontières temporelles et générationnelles (mémoire et changement social, transformation du rapport entre l'« Ancien » et le « Nous », historicité et présentisme historique ; conscience historique et action politique ; commémorations et rapport au temps ; périodicité historique)

Le comité vous invite à soumettre des propositions de communication ou de séance avant le 31 mars 2019. Les propositions hors thème, portant sur l'histoire de l'Amérique française, seront également considérées. Pour soumettre vos propositions, visitez la page web de l'IHAF sous l'onglet "Congrès" et sélectionnez le formulaire pour les communications individuelles. Pour les responsables de séance, sélectionnez plutôt le formulaire pour les propositions de séances. Les étudiants et étudiantes de 2e cycle qui n'ont pas déposé leur mémoire doivent transmettre une lettre de leur directeur ou directrice de recherche attestant du degré d'avancement de leurs travaux à l'adresse ihaf@ihaf.qc.ca

Notez que le comité privilégie les communications portant sur des résultats de recherche et qu'il se réserve le droit de restructurer les séances en fonction de la cohérence générale du congrès.

Pour toute question, contactez :

- Marie-Claude Thifault, Université d'Ottawa, présidente du 72e Congrès de l'IHAF : marieclaudethifault@uottawa.ca
- Arnaud Bessière, Université Laurentienne, co-président du 72e Congrès de l'IHAF : abessiere@laurentienne.ca
- Daniel Poitras, coordonnateur IHAF : ihaf@ihaf.qc.ca

Le site Web du congrès est actuellement en construction

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Franco-American Summer School / École d'été franco-américaine

Applications are now being accepted for the first annual Franco-American Summer School on the History of Early Modern France, which will be held at Princeton University from July 14 to July 21, 2019. The Summer School aims to bring together roughly ten graduate students from North American and French universities working in the area of early modern French history (1500-1800) for an intensive week of reading and discussion, under the direction of David Bell (Princeton), Rafe Blaufarb (Florida State), and Clyde Plumauzille (Sorbonne-CNRS). Students will spend the week discussing both classic and recent works on the period, and examining key notions such as "Enlightenment," "revolution" and "modernity." Students will also have the chance to present their own research. While students from all years of doctoral programs are welcome, we especially encourage applications from first, second and third year students. While students will be expected to apply to their home universities for support, the Summer School will cover all expenses (lodging, food, domestic travel for North American participants, international travel for French participants) that the home universities cannot. Housing will be available at the university. Participants will receive a packet of readings during the spring, and will be expected to have completed these readings by the start of the Summer School. Applicants should be currently enrolled in doctoral programs in early modern French history, and should have fluent reading ability in both French and English. They should submit a one-page

statement of interest and a current c.v. to dabell@princeton.edu. They should also ask their advisor to send a letter of recommendation to the same e-mail address. The deadline for application is February 15, 2019.

La première édition de l'école d'été franco-américaine consacrée à l'Histoire de la France moderne accepte dès à présent les candidatures. Elle se tiendra à l'Université de Princeton du 14 au 21 juillet 2019. Cette école d'été souhaite réunir une dizaine de doctorants et de doctorantes, issus d'universités nord-américaines et françaises et dont les recherches portent sur l'histoire moderne de la France (1500-1800), pour une semaine de lectures et de discussions intensives animée par David Bell (Princeton), Rafe Blaufarb (Florida State) et Clyde Plumauzille (Sorbonne-CNRS). Les doctorants seront amenés à discuter des travaux de référence sur leur période, des ouvrages classiques aux plus récents, ils pourront questionner les principaux concepts de cette littérature à travers des notions telles que « Lumières », « Révolution » ou encore « Modernité », enfin, ils auront l'opportunité de présenter leurs projets de recherche et d'échanger sur ces derniers. Toutes les candidatures de doctorants sont acceptées, mais nous encourageons particulièrement celles des doctorants de 1re, 2e et 3e année.

Il est attendu des doctorants qu'ils fassent les demandes nécessaires auprès de leur université pour obtenir un financement. Ceci dit, l'école d'été couvrira toutes les dépenses restantes que les universités ne pourront pas assurer (logement, nourriture, transport, y compris transport international pour les participants français). L'hébergement sera assuré à l'université de Princeton. Les doctorants sélectionnés recevront un dossier de lectures au cours du printemps qu'ils devront avoir lu d'ici le 14 juillet. Les candidats doivent être inscrits en thèse, en histoire moderne de la France. Ils doivent pouvoir lire couramment le français et l'anglais. Leur dossier de candidature doit comprendre une lettre de motivation d'une page et un curriculum vitae à adresser à dabell@princeton.edu. Ils doivent également solliciter une lettre de recommandation de leurs directeurs et de leurs directrices de thèses à soumettre à la même adresse. La date limite de soumission est le 15 février 2019.

Prizes and Awards

The Mary Alice and Philip Boucher Book Prize

The Alf Andrew Heggoy Book Prize

The French Colonial Historical Society awards two book prizes annually for the best volumes published in the preceding year.

- The Boucher prize is awarded in honor of long time members and active supporters Mary Alice and Philip Boucher, and recognizes the best book dealing with the French colonial experience from the 16th century to 1815.
- The Heggoy prize is awarded in honor of one of the Society's founding members, Alf Andrew Heggoy, and recognizes the best book dealing with the French colonial experience from 1815 to the present.

For both prizes, books from any academic discipline will be considered, providing that they approach the French colonial experience from an historical perspective.

The deadline for this year's submissions is March 1, 2019. Questions about the submission process should be addressed to Dr. Brett Rushforth, Chair of the FCHS Book Prize Committee, at bhrush@uoregon.edu.

Applicants or their publishers should submit four copies of books published in 2018 (date of publication is determined by the copyright page of the book), one to each of the book prize committee members (addresses listed below). Please make sure to indicate clearly that the submission is for the Boucher or the Heggoy.

Dr. Brett Rushforth

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275 McKenzie Hall
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USA

Dr. Julia Gaffield

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Dr. Ellen Amster

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Dr. Charles Keith

Department of History
Michigan State University
211 Old Horticulture Hall
506 E. Circle Drive
East Lansing, MI 48824
USA

This year's awards will be announced at the annual conference of the French Colonial Historical Society in Montreal/Longueuil.

W. J. Eccles Prize, 2019-2020

The W. J. Eccles Prize is awarded annually to the graduate student judged to have presented the best paper at the Society's Annual Meeting. The Prize honors the memory of William John Eccles (1917-1998), a distinguished historian of French Canada and an outstanding supporter of graduate students. The Prize was created by Bill Eccles's FCHS colleagues to continue his work by encouraging those at the beginning of their careers in our field. From 2000 to 2018, the Prize was awarded to the best article published in *French Colonial History* by a graduate student or recent post-graduate scholar.

Application Procedures

Graduate student presenters at the meeting in Montreal should submit an electronic copy of their paper to the editor of *French Colonial History*, Dr. Kenneth Orosz oroszkj@buffalostate.edu immediately following the meeting. Session chairs are urged to encourage graduate student members of their panels to submit their papers.

Invitation to submit papers or articles for publication in FCH

French Colonial History is the official journal of the French Colonial Historical Society. *FCH* publishes peer-reviewed research articles, review essays, forums, and reflections addressing all aspects of the history of French colonization and of the French colonies, reflecting the temporal span, geographical breadth, and diversity of subject matter that characterize the scholarly interests of the Society's members. Submissions are welcome in English or French concerning any geographical area or chronological period of French overseas expansion, including the metropole and the postcolonial.

FCH especially encourages submissions by junior scholars and members of groups underrepresented in History. Graduate students and recent post-graduates (within one year of degree conferral) who publish their work in *French Colonial History* are eligible for the [W. J. Eccles Prize](#).

FCH also welcomes proposals for special issues or forums of several articles around a theme. Potential guest editors should contact the Journal Editor to discuss their proposals. Submission guidelines can be found at <http://www.frenchcolonial.org/index.php/journal>.