



# The French Colonial Historical Society Newsletter

SPRING 2021

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## Welcome!

Once again, much has changed since this newsletter last hit your inboxes! Hopefully one of the less abrasive changes has been my takeover of the position of Communications Chair from the inimitable Robin Mitchell. My sincere thanks and gratitude are due to her for all the work she did in establishing the FCHS social media presence.

In this new ab/normal, I've found myself more dependent than ever on technology to keep connected with family and friends, near and far. My goal is to make sure the FCHS social media pages remain a space where you, too, can keep up-to-date and in touch. I'm excited to announce the launch of a new Member of the Month spotlight (details on page 6), and eager to hear your ideas on other ways these pages can serve to bring us all together even as we remain a safe distance apart.

If you haven't already, give us a follow on Twitter, Facebook, and/or Instagram (links below), and send any questions, comments, or suggestions my way at [media@frenchcolonial.org](mailto:media@frenchcolonial.org).

Be well,  
Allison Korinek

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# Letter from the President

Dear Colleagues,

The spring usually marks a time of excitement and activity for FCHS as we prepare for our Annual Meeting. Although we have no meeting to look forward to this year, FCHS has still been busy bringing programming to our members. In an effort to continue supporting your scholarship, we have hosted two virtual workshops on digitized materials in the collections of the Archives nationales d'outre mer. Members can log in to access recordings of these materials on our [website](#). We also organized a panel discussion called "Racism on the Walls of the National Assembly" on the racist imagery of Hervé di Rosa's fresco *L'histoire en peinture de l'Assemblée nationale*. Scholars Mame-Fatou Niang and Julien Suaudeau discussed the [petition](#) they launched for the painting's removal, and the backlash they have experienced because of it. Their explanation of the resistance to race as an analytical, social, and demographic category in France is sophisticated and engaging for experts on the topic, but is also accessible to undergraduates. If you are interested in using it in your classrooms, members can find it on our [website](#); you can use your membership login to access this valuable resource.

FCHS is also piloting a mentoring program through our first workshop for early career scholars, [Getting it Published](#). Over two dozen graduate students and recent Ph.D.s from around the world applied to participate in this workshop, through which they will receive advice on navigating the publication process, and in-depth individual feedback on their own article drafts. We plan to make this an ongoing program.

Finally, I am delighted to congratulate the winner and honorable mentions for our first Article Prize! The large number of excellent submissions in this inaugural year testifies to the vibrancy of our field.

While we will not meet in person this year, I invite you to join me in looking forward to our next annual conference, which will be held in Charleston, South Carolina on May 12-14, 2022. Charleston has a rich history deeply entwined with the Francophone Atlantic diaspora, dating from the settling of Huguenot refugees in the city in the late seventeenth century after the revocation of the Edict of Nantes, and renewed in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries as white slave owners fled Haiti in the wake of the Haitian Revolution, often bringing people of color with them in order to illegally continue their enslavement. Like the French Atlantic world, Charleston is also deeply entwined with the history of enslavement and the African diaspora. We look forward to stimulating scholarship and collegial fellowship in this historical city after such a long hiatus in our conferences!

My best wishes to you all! Please keep in touch on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#). I very much hope to see each and every one of you in person next year.

**Jennifer L. Palmer**

# Prizes and Awards

## 2021 Article Prize

FCHS is pleased to announce the recipient of the inaugural 2021 Article Prize.

### Winner

Lorelle Semley, "Beyond the Dark Side of the Port of the Moon: Rethinking the Role of Bordeaux's Slave Trade Past," *Histoire sociale/Social History* 53, no. 107 (mai/May 2020): 43-68.

In "Beyond the Dark Side of the Port of the Moon: Rethinking the Role of Bordeaux's Slave Trade Past," Lorelle Semley presents a multilayered historical account of the enslaved and free people who came together to imagine a "Black metropolis" in Bordeaux in the 18th century. Drawing on scholarship that privileges theories of "flow and counterflow" over the triangular framing of the transatlantic slave trade, Semley mines an impressive array of sources including archival records, paintings, and the built environment, to piece together the rich tapestry of a vibrant Black community in Bordeaux. Her proposed reading of Black movement, kinship, and community formation through the lens of what she calls "a trans-African life," rethinks the meaning and terms of mobility in the Atlantic world. A theoretically rich and beautifully written study, "Beyond the Dark Side of the Port of the Moon" makes a crucial contribution to scholarship about the transnational intersections and convergences in 18th century France.

### Honorable Mentions

Samuel D. Anderson, "The French Médersa in West Africa: Modernizing Islamic Education and Institutionalizing Colonial Racism, 1890s-1920s," *Islamic Africa* 11 (2020): 42-70.

Scott Berthelette, "New France and the Hudson Bay Watershed: Transatlantic Networks, Backcountry Specialists, and French Imperial Projects in Post-Utrecht North America, 1713-29," *Canadian Historical Review* 101, no. 1 (March 2020): 1-26.

Jennifer Sessions, "Horace Vernet's Tête Arabe: The Artist as Colonial Collector," *Monde(s)* 17 (mai 2020): 155-176.

# Call for Nominations

## **Call for Nominations for Elected Office in the FCHS/SHCF**

(La version française à la suite)

Members are invited to submit nominations, including self-nominations, for upcoming elections for the office of Treasurer. Please submit a brief biography (100-150 words) and statement of interest and qualifications (150-200 words maximum) to Vice President Sarah Zimmerman ([vice-president@frenchcolonial.org](mailto:vice-president@frenchcolonial.org)) by **May 1, 2021**. This information will be shared with FCHS/SHCF membership prior to elections, which will be held by electronic balloting in late May 2021.

The person elected in 2021 will serve as Treasurer for a two-year term, with the possibility for re-election in 2023.

The Treasurer of FCHS/SHCF is responsible for collecting annual dues and making authorized disbursements for expenses. The Treasurer presents a financial report at the annual meeting and files any necessary tax documentation (with the assistance of FCHS/SHCF's accountant) with the relevant state and federal authorities. Due to this responsibility, the Treasurer must be a U.S. citizen.

## **Appel à candidatures pour les postes élus à la FCHS / SHCF**

Nos membres sont invité.e.s à proposer des candidates, y compris des auto-nominations, pour les prochaines élections au poste de trésorier/ère. Veuillez soumettre une brève biographie (100-150 mots) et une déclaration d'intérêt et de qualifications (150-200 mots maximum) à la vice-présidente Sarah Zimmerman ([vice-president@frenchcolonial.org](mailto:vice-president@frenchcolonial.org)) avant le **1er mai 2021**. Cette information sera partagée avec les membres de la FCHS/SHCF avant les élections, qui se tiendront par scrutin électronique à la fin mai 2021.

La personne élue en 2021 exercera les fonctions de trésorier/ère pour un mandat de deux ans, avec possibilité de réélection en 2023.

Le trésorier de la FCHS / SHCF est responsable de la collection des cotisations annuelles et des décaissements autorisés pour les dépenses. Annuellement, le/la trésorier/ière présente un rapport financier à notre réunion et dépose tous les documents fiscaux (avec l'aide du comptable de la FCHS / SHCF) auprès des autorités étatiques et fédérales compétentes. En raison de cette responsabilité, le/la trésorier/ère doit être un.e citoyen.ne américain.e.

# Updates from *French Colonial History*

## **Forthcoming Issue**

Volume 20 of *French Colonial History* is forthcoming. It will include a special section on women in empire, with an introduction by Emmanuelle Saada and articles by Jennifer Boittin, Emily Lord Fransee and Annette Joseph-Gabriel, plus further articles by Pierre Gendreau-Héту, Vincent Houle and Kory Olson.

To receive this exciting issue, renew your membership today!

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## **Call for Submissions**

You are invited to submit articles for publication in *French Colonial History*.

*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 aspect of the history of French colonization and the Francophone world, reflecting the temporal span, geographic breadth, and diversity of subject matter that characterizes the scholarly interests of the Society's members. Submissions are welcome in English or French concerning any geographic area or chronological period, including the metropole and the postcolonial. *FCH* especially encourages submissions by junior scholars and members of groups underrepresented in History.

*FCH* also welcomes proposals for special issues or forums of several articles around a theme. Interested guest editors should contact Journal Editor Caroline Herbelin ([FCH@frenchcolonial.org](mailto:FCH@frenchcolonial.org)) to discuss their proposals. Submission guidelines can be found at <http://www.frenchcolonial.org/index.php/journal>.

# New in Social Media

## **FCHS Member of the Month**

(La version française à la suite)

In order to support our members and promote your work to a broader audience, FCHS is pleased to announce a new Member of the Month spotlight. If you are interested in having your scholarship highlighted on our social media platforms, please fill out the following form:

<https://forms.gle/5s64LFd1HPKwxNtw6>

Questions, comments, or concerns? Send them to [media@frenchcolonial.org](mailto:media@frenchcolonial.org).

## **« Membre du mois »**

La SHCF est ravie d'annoncer le lancement du « Membre du mois » sur les réseaux sociaux. Cette initiative a pour but de promouvoir le travail de nos membres à un public plus large. Si vous désirez participer à cette initiative, veuillez remplir le formulaire suivant:

<https://forms.gle/5s64LFd1HPKwxNtw6>

Avez-vous des questions, commentaires ou suggestions ? Envoyez-les à [media@frenchcolonial.org](mailto:media@frenchcolonial.org).

# Colleagues at Work

FCHS is delighted to celebrate the recent accomplishments of our members! Please join us in congratulating the following members:

## Books

Jean-François Brière and co-author Julie Fette will publish the fourth edition of *Les Français*, a textbook for American students taking courses on contemporary French society and culture, in July 2021.

<https://www.hackettpublishing.com/new-forthcoming/les-francais-fourth-edition>

Linda Carol Jones published *The Shattered Cross: French Catholic Missionaries on the Mississippi River, 1698-1725* with LSU Press.

<https://lsupress.org/books/detail/shattered-cross/>

Michel Thévenin published "*Changer le système de la guerre*": *Le siège en Nouvelle-France, 1755-1760* with the Presses de l'Université Laval.

<https://www.pulaval.com/produit/changer-le-systeme-de-la-guerre-le-siege-en-nouvelle-france-1755-1760>

Michael G. Vann received the 2020-2021 Award for Outstanding Research from Sacramento State University's College of Arts and Letters for *The Great Hanoi Rat Hunt: Empire, Disease, and Modernity in French Colonial Vietnam*.

<https://global.oup.com/ushe/product/the-great-hanoi-rat-hunt-9780190602697>

## Articles

Raberh Achi published "A Counter-History of Laïcité: France and Islam in 1905" in Volume 22, Issue 2 of *Political Theology*.

<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/1462317X.2021.1885831>

Miriam Franchina published "From Slave to Royal Vassal: Jean-François's Negotiation Strategies in the Haitian Revolution" in *Slavery & Abolition*.

<https://www.tandfonline-com.proxy.library.nyu.edu/doi/full/10.1080/0144039X.2021.1903324>

Kory Olson published "Extending France's Empire into the Desert: Régnauld de Lannoy de Bissy's feuille 17: Timbouktou" in Volume 45, Issue 3-4 of *Contemporary French Civilization*.

<https://www.liverpooluniversitypress.co.uk/journals/article/60314/>

Daniel J. Sherman published "Staging Archaeology: Empire as Reality Effect at the 1906-07 fêtes de Carthage" in the *Classical Receptions Journal*.

<https://academic.oup.com/crj/advance-article-abstract/doi/10.1093/crj/claa024/6072653>

# Items of Interest to Members

## **University of South Carolina Press Manuscript Invitation**

Carolina Lowcountry and Atlantic World Publishing Series

This series represents a long-standing publishing partnership between the University of South Carolina Press and the College of Charleston's Program in the Carolina Lowcountry and the Atlantic World (CLAW), from which the series derives its name. Books in the series draw attention to the circulation of people, goods, and ideas throughout the Atlantic World. This work views the land and people who bordered the Atlantic as forming an integrated system, with the vast ocean between them serving as a means of movement and connection—sometimes forced—rather than distance and division. As the series name implies, editors are particularly interested in work that understands and situates the Carolina Lowcountry as a node within this Atlantic World system, but also welcome manuscripts on Atlantic Studies topics more generally.

### Submission Guidelines

To have a project considered for publication in the CLAW series, please submit a book proposal as a Word document attached to an email. It should include the following:

1. A cover letter that briefly describes the work: title, scope, purpose, readership, course adoption potential, comparable publications, preliminary bibliography, projected word count, and projected date of completion. Explain what makes this work an original or otherwise compelling contribution to your field, and why you are the appropriate person to write such a work. Also explain how the work fits into the Press's publishing list, and if it should be considered for a particular series. In addition, indicate if any parts of the work have been previously published.
2. A table of contents, preferably with brief descriptions of each part and/or chapter.
3. A list of images and illustrations, if those are planned. (Note that authors are required to secure permissions for all images and illustrations.)
4. For partial or complete manuscripts, submit two representative chapters; do not submit the complete manuscript.
5. A list of three scholars in your field competent to review your manuscript (do not include current or former colleagues or dissertation committee members). Include email addresses and affiliations and note if any have already read the work.
6. A current CV or résumé.

Submissions will only be accepted via email. Authors wishing to submit proposals to be considered for the CLAW series should send submissions to Ehren Foley, PhD, Acquisitions Editor: [foleyek@email.sc.edu](mailto:foleyek@email.sc.edu).

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# Items of Interest to Members

## **2021 Hines Prize Call for Submissions**

Carolina Lowcountry and Atlantic World (CLAW) Program at the College of Charleston

The Hines Prize is awarded to the best first book-manuscript relating to any aspect of the Carolina Lowcountry and/or the Atlantic World. The prize carries a cash award of \$1,000 and preferential consideration by the University of South Carolina Press for the CLAW Program's book series. If you have a manuscript on a topic pertaining to the Carolina Lowcountry and/or Atlantic World, please send a copy to CLAW Director Sandra Slater ([slaters@cofc.edu](mailto:slaters@cofc.edu)) before **May 15, 2021**. If you have graduate students with potential manuscripts that could contend for the Prize, please make sure that they know of this biennial opportunity.