President’s Column: ASECS & Toleration
William Warner, University of California, Santa Barbara

Can ASECS manage its disagreements in a civil manner? When I attended my first ASECS meeting in Atlanta in 1979, I was surprised to be invited to breakfast by a Richardson scholar from New Zealand. She had just edited *Sir Charles Grandison* and I had just published a book entitled *Reading Clarissa*. Intellectually we were miles apart: she worked in the area of historically grounded feminism and I used French theory (Derrida and Barthes) to read a canonical novel in a different way. Talking about Richardson over breakfast we discovered many shared interests. In flying home, I remember reflecting that although I did not find many of the sessions intellectually compelling, I found the ASECS conference as a whole to be supportive, friendly, and fun.

In the decades since that meeting in Atlanta, ASECS has supported much broader, more ambitious, and theoretically inclusive, scholarship. When a group of ASECS members felt that important new work was being slighted, they imitated the Women’s Caucus by starting a new caucus. For example, John Bender and I won the support of about a dozen scholars to start the Cultural Studies Caucus in 1992. One reason that ASECS became a dynamic learned society is the high level of tolerance that different scholars, with very different interests, have shown for each other’s work and ideas. After all, there were many new pathways to reaching a deeper understanding of the eighteenth century. Of course, tolerance is one of the inventions of the Enlightenment. It has always seemed to me to be the obverse side of freedom of inquiry. In the essay, *What is Enlightenment?*, Kant urges his reader to ‘dare to know’: ”*Sapere aude!* Have the courage to use your own understanding is therefore the motto of the Enlightenment.” Jefferson explicitly links freedom of inquiry to toleration. He writes a correspondent that his new university in Virginia “will be based on the illimitable freedom of the human mind. For here we are not afraid to follow truth wherever it may lead, nor to tolerate any error so long as reason is left free to combat it.” However, I’m not sure that our age is interested in tolerating the ideas of others; we seem more interested in zero-tolerance for one bad thing or another. We also seem to have lost our patience with disagreement.

At the 2021 ASECS conference, the Women’s Caucus sponsored a splendid panel, organized by Emily Casey and Tita Chico, entitled “Decolonizing ASECS.” At one point in the session someone said, in a portentous tone, “decolonizing is not a metaphor!” It seemed we were getting close to what decolonizing 18th century studies would mean. There also seemed to be promisingly differing views on the matter. The
project of decolonizing ASECS bristled with possibility because it just might produce some disagreements from which we could learn. But, alas, we ran out of time. So, it’s on to Baltimore.

New Executive Director Appointed
The ASECS Board is happy to introduce Dr. Mark Boonshoft as the first full-time Executive Director for the American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, effective July 1, 2021. Boonshoft comes to ASECS from a position as Assistant Professor of History at Duquesne University. Prior to his arrival at Duquesne, he was Assistant Professor of History at Norwich University. Boonshoft received his PhD in Early American History from Ohio State University in 2015, and in 2020 his book, Aristocratic Education and the Making of the American Public, was published by University of North Carolina Press. He is also a co-editor of American Revolutions in the Digital Age, which is under contract with Cornell University Press.

During his time at the New York Public Library as a historian for the Early American Manuscript Project from 2015-2017, Boonshoft led a variety of digital and public humanities initiatives which extended from the creation of important, new digital archives to outreach efforts designed to broaden public engagement with collections through blogs, classes and workshops for K-12 educators, exhibitions, and public events. Mark Boonshoft can be reached at asecsexecutivedirector@gmail.com or the usual Business Office address of asecsoffice@gmail.com.

2021 Election Results
The following election results were announced at the Business Meeting on 9 April 2021:

President: Rebecca Messbarger
First Vice President: Meredith Martin
Second Vice President: Lisa Freeman
Member at large, 2021-2024: Ourida Mostefai
Member at large, 2021-2024: Romita Ray

Nominating Committee Invitation
The ASECS Nominating Committee invites members of ASECS to submit nominations (including self-nominations) for the Executive Board positions of Second Vice President and Member-at-Large, for three-year terms beginning on 1 July 2022. There are two openings for Member-at-Large.

Following ASECS’s bylaws and the charge of the committee, the Nominating Committee is seeking candidates from a range of disciplinary fields, academic ranks, and academic institutions. In the interest of fostering a Society that is fully inclusive at all levels of leadership, the Nominating Committee is encouraged to seek diversity, gender balance, and representation of constituencies that are currently underrepresented both within and outside ASECS.

If you have questions about the duties of Executive Board members or wish to make a nomination, contact Nominating Committee chair Clorinda Donato (Clorinda.Donato@csulb.edu). If you submit a name for consideration, it would be helpful to include a link to a bio or C.V., and in the case of self-nominations to include a brief statement as to why you are interested in serving on the Executive Board.

Executive Director’s Report
At the 2021 Business Meeting, Executive Director Lisa Berglund provided the following summary of the major actions taken by the Executive Board and Business Office in 2019-2021:

a. Provided free membership renewals for 2020-2021 to 354 graduate student and contingent/unemployed faculty members;
b. Adopted the Policy on Harassment and added it to the Bylaws;
c. Hired an Ombuds;
d. Organized a fully online Annual Meeting;
e. Launched a series of online roundtables in which the winners of ASECS prizes discuss their work.

f. Revised the policy for submissions to Studies in Eighteenth-Century Culture to include papers presented by ASECS members at any scholarly meeting or event;
g. Arranged to add Vols. 1-19 of SECC to Project MUSE;
h. Conducted a search for a new editor for Eighteenth-Century Studies, which culminated in the appointment of Ramesh Mallipeddi, University of British Columbia, effective July 2021; and
i. Completed a search for a fulltime Executive Director.
Treasurer’s Report
At the 2021 Business Meeting on 9 April 2021, the following report was presented by ASECS Treasurer Joe Bartolomeo:

1) Investments: As of 4/5/21, Fidelity funds at $2,093,873.42—an increase of over $292,000 (over 16%) from the end of 19-20 fiscal year. Last month, the funds were divided into two accounts, with a slightly more growth-oriented strategy for unrestricted funds.

2) Bank Balance: as of 3/31/21, $54,244.57.
3) Contributions 2019-2020: $23,584
   Contributions 2020-2021: $23,847
   Membership Dues 2020-2021: $81,760.
This does not yet include payments received via the conference website.

Vote to Amend Constitution
The vote to amend the Constitution to make the Executive Director a non-voting ex officio member of the ASECS Executive Board passed with 317 voting yea, 6 voting nay, and 27 abstaining. The total of 350 votes exceeds the minimum requirement of 332 votes (20 percent of the membership). The amendment to the Constitution is therefore adopted.

2020-2021 Prize Winners:
Book and Essay Prizes
The 2021 Louis Gottschalk Award has been presented to Futures of Enlightenment Poetry, by Dustin D. Stewart, an assistant professor of English at Columbia University, and published by Oxford University Press. With a firm grasp of theology and exquisite attention to poetic artistry, Stewart examines the two afterlives entertained by Protestant poets of the long eighteenth-century: on the one hand, disembodied life in heaven that begins right after death, and on the other, re-embodied life on a new earth after the final judgment and resurrection of the dead. Poetry from the seventeenth- to the twenty-first century, Stewart generously shows, provides imaginative encounters with both these futures. Stewart’s compelling dialectic reveals the power and importance of poems

and poets whose full appeal and significance have been awaiting the proper framing for our own understanding. In providing that frame, he not only enhances our appreciation for lesser-known eighteenth-century poets but encourages our broader love of poetry in general.

The Gottschalk Prize Committee also recognizes two books for Honorable Mention. In The Woman on the Windowsill: A Tale of Mystery in Several Parts Sylvia Sellers-Garcia, associate professor of History at Boston College, leads readers through the streets of Guatemala City in pursuit of the perpetrator of violent crimes that took place in the summer of 1800. Sellers-Garcia offers a gripping narrative. The Woman on the Windowsill, published by Yale University Press, is both a page turner and a thoughtful consideration of how Spanish colonial history was recorded, by whom, and to what ends.

Why would the well-established academic painter Joshua Reynolds deploy chemically unstable colors with such stubborn audacity? Why risk losing his reputation and jeopardize the transmission of unaltered works to posterity? These questions are answered in Matthew C. Hunter’s Painting with Fire: Sir Joshua Reynolds, Photography, and the Temporally Evolving Chemical Object, published by The University of Chicago Press. Hunter, associate professor of art history at McGill University, sets Reynolds’s bold experiments within the larger history of painters’ interest in alchemy and chemistry. This holistic perspective allows him to redefine both these experimental paintings and early photographic attempts as “temporally evolving chemical objects.”

The winner of this year’s Srinivas Aravamudan Award is the article “Singing Box 331: Re-sounding Eighteenth-Century Mohican Hymns from the Moravian Archives” by Rachael M. Wheeler, associate professor of religious studies at IUPUI, and Sarah Eyerly, associate professor of musicology at Florida State University. The article was published in the William & Mary Quarterly. Rigorously investigated, theoretically alert to the pitfalls of colonial discourse, and beautifully written, it is an inspiring endeavor of interdisciplinary and collaborative research, modeling not only how
scholars of the eighteenth century might think together about an archive, but also how scholars may more effectively think with Native partners and communities, to approach historical materials on the archive’s and its community’s own terms. The authors’ attention to their own methods of engaging the archive—to how particular ways of reading, singing, recording, and listening can alert us to what an archive makes present, and what it does not—offers an important example of the kind of care and reflexive awareness required in scholarly partnerships with Indigenous communities, histories, and archival materials.

The James L. Clifford Award was presented to Spencer J. Weinreich, PhD candidate in history at Princeton University, for “Unaccountable Subjects: Contracting Legal and Medical Authority in the Newgate Smallpox Experiment (1721),” which appeared in History Workshop Journal. An essay that crosses disciplines and speaks to our contemporary moment, “Unaccountable Subjects” focuses on individuals marginalized in the historical record—the seven prison test subjects for Britain’s first trial inoculation against smallpox. Likening inoculation to transportation in the choice of uncertain over certain death, Weinrich argues for the prisoners’ agency, even as they were subjected to state internment and scientific investigation. He considers fusions of public and private authority, the prisoners as rhetorical figures in partisan press, and the relationship of medicine to statecraft, centering our attention on the prisoners’ role in producing experimental knowledge.

The Clifford Prize Committee also recognized two works for Honorable Mention. The first is “Singing Box 331,” by Rachel Wheeler and Sarah Eyerly, which also received the Aravamudan Prize. Honorable Mention also goes to James Mulholland, associate professor of English, North Carolina State University, whose article “Translocal Anglo-India and the Multilingual Reading Public” (PMLA) provides a corrective to contemporary approaches to anglophone literary studies. Arguing for conceptual frameworks that embrace the complexities of Asia’s multilingual culture by focusing on intimate place-based relationships and translocal and regional perspectives of community, Professor Mulholland opens our field to new methodologies and overlooked archival materials.

Innovative Course Design
The winners of the 2020-2021 Innovative Course Design Competition are:

Emily Friedman, associate professor of English at Auburn University, for “Let people tell their stories their own way: Tristram Shandy as Novel, Provocation, Remix.” Friedman’s class on Tristram Shandy and slow reading creates an immersive experience for students by recreating, in miniature, the print history and literary context of Sterne’s novel. Each week of the syllabus marks a year in the life of Tristram Shandy, so students get to practice the strange temporality of the novel’s almost decade-long publication. Assignments that ask students to annotate texts together on Perusall, to keep a commonplace book of observations about their reading, and to produce their own marbled page

UPCOMING DATES FOR 2022 ANNUAL MEETING

15 July: Call for Papers will be published
15 September: Deadline to submit abstracts
1 October: Session chairs finalize panels and request second sessions if desired
8 October: Program Committee approves second sessions
15 October: List of accepted panels published

guarantee that they develop expertise beyond the purely literary.

In “The British Enlightenment: A Traveler's Guide,” Kate Ozment, Cal Poly Pomona, invites students to experience the writings of eighteenth-century Black and Indigenous authors in our present moment. At the beginning of the course, students are handed a visually beautiful syllabus formatted as a travel pamphlet and are invited to write informal posts that make ethical claims about characters and plots in eighteenth-century literature as if students were experiencing the world of the text firsthand. The course provides a theory and approach to introducing presentist, decolonizing reading practices to undergraduate students, and to engaging them in eighteenth-century literary scholarship by way of collective, imaginative acts of storytelling.
The third Innovative Course Design winner is Shirley F. Tung, assistant professor of English, Kansas State University. Her proposal for the course, “The Cult of Celebrity: From the Eighteenth Century to the Present Day,” reimagines the Senior Capstone in a boldly innovative way that invites students to explore how literature and celebrity culture have been intertwined and profoundly shaped by each other since the eighteenth century. Pairing eighteenth-century texts and case studies with contemporary ones, the course requires students to examine the origins and evolution of fame and celebrity culture from theoretical, critical, historical, and literary lenses. The syllabus offers a model that is portable in part or whole to a variety of other courses and contexts.

The Innovative Course Design Competition is supported by the Shirley Bill Fund, an endowment built with contributions to the Society made by members or groups of members in honor of excellent teachers. This year, ASECS is pleased to add David Gies, University of Virginia, and Elizabeth Heckendorn Cook, UC Santa Barbara, to the list of teachers and mentors whose names appear in our Annual Meeting program.

**Graduate Student Prizes**

Kelly Planté, a PhD candidate at Wayne State University, has won the ASECS Graduate Research Essay Prize for her essay “‘Equipped herself in the habit of a man’: Exposing Empire in The Female Spectator.” The Graduate Prizes Committee applauds Planté’s excellent treatment of the difficult triad of gender, sexuality, and empire. The essay’s treatment of the woman warrior trope in Eliza Haywood’s texts and in a Trans-Atlantic context achieves the sort of interdisciplinarity that ASECS aspires to. Taking up Haywood’s construction of authenticity, Planté offers a sensitive and evocative reading of this material to argue that Haywood’s work effectively satirized her culture in the service of her female readership.

The Graduate Student Prizes Committee has chosen two papers to receive the Graduate Student Conference Paper Prize for the best paper presented at the 2021 ASECS Annual Meeting. Cassidy Holahan (University of Pennsylvania) is recognized for her paper “A Digital Schema on the Printing Press: Richardson’s Moral Sentiments as Case Study.” Holahan’s sophisticated and lively exploration of digital approaches to Richardson’s Moral Sentiments emphasizes the potential of digital humanities to do more than offer access to archives, but instead to offer digital remediation beyond access through hyperlinks that create multiple associations among texts.

The co-recipient of the prize is Joshua Wright (Notre Dame University) for “‘Sweet was the sound’: The Acoustic World of Oliver Goldsmith’s The Deserted Village.” Wright’s well-written work on sound is distinguished by a careful close reading that focuses on the poem’s ‘surfeit of aural details’ in relation to time, space, and poetic labor, suggesting that the evocation of sound (and silence) functions both to memorialize the past and to foretell a renewed hope in the future.

**Travel Awards**

Although most ASECS Travel and Research Awards were put on hold for this year, the following have been awarded:

The Women’s Caucus Editing and Translation Prize, to Megan Peiser, professor of English at Oakland University, for “Editing Data for Peer Review and Ingestion: The Novels Reviewed Database, 1790-1820 and 18thConnect”

The Women’s Caucus Emilie du Châtelet Award to Sarabeth Grant, lecturer at Brandeis University, for “Frightful Extravagencies: Passion, Society, and the Self in Eliza Haywood”

The inaugural Women’s Caucus Intersectional Award, made possible by a donation from Texas Christian University, to Ashley Williard, Assistant Professor of French, University of South Carolina, for “Disruptive Minds: Madness in the Early French Atlantic (c. 1660-1800)”

The Historians of Eighteenth-Century Art and Architecture’s Mary D. Sheriff Prize to Amanda Paige-Lovingood, a graduate student at North Carolina State University, for “Modes of Display: Exhibition, Gender, and Turquerie in Eighteenth-Century France”

The A. C. Elias Irish-American Research Travel Fellowship to Joel W. Herman, a Ph.D. student in History at Trinity College Dublin for his dissertation project “Revolutionary Currents: Ideas, Information, and the Imperial Public Spheres in Dublin and New York, 1776-1782” and also an article entitled “New York, Dublin, and the Imperial Public Sphere.”
Other Recognition

The ASECS Graduate Student Caucus has selected Kristina Straub, professor of English and Cultural Studies, Carnegie Mellon University, to receive the 2021 Excellence in Mentorship Award. The committee expressed admiration for Straub’s investment in mentees throughout their careers, her enthusiasm for and dedication to mentees’ projects, and her transformative work in the fields of Theater and Performance Studies and Gender and Sexuality Studies within the ASECS community. Other highlights from her nomination included her willingness to mentor students beyond institutional boundaries and her support of graduate student programming and work at conferences.

The first recipient of the President’s Award for Service to ASECS in Memory of Donald Greene is Byron Wells, professor emeritus, Wake Forest University. Donald Greene was one of the prime movers in the founding of ASECS. A distinguished scholar of Samuel Johnson, Greene was the first keeper of the ASECS mailing list. This award to recognize service was proposed in 2019 years ago by the late Howard Weinbrot.

Byron Wells led ASECS as Executive Director for 20 years, until 2017. As President William Warner said in his remarks at the Award Ceremony, “During those two decades, he oversaw the steady development of the organization, managed to keep most members happy, and kept us financially solvent! What I remember was his light touch, his scrupulous attention to detail, and his firm grasp of who was who and what they wanted for ASECS. If you came to Byron Wells with a proposal of some sort, he tried to make it happen. Thank you Byron, and congratulations!”

Online Discussions of Prize-Winning Scholarship

The Society’s program featuring online discussions of the books and articles that win ASECS’ major prizes will continue with a conversation about the winner of the 2021 Louis Gottschalk Prize, Dustin Stewart’s Futures of Enlightenment Poetry, has generously provided a discount on Futures of Enlightenment Poetry; please see the flyer to order your copy.

Adam Potkay, professor of English at the College of William & Mary and author of the forthcoming Hope: A Literary History (Cambridge UP), will host the discussion; Dustin Stewart will also participate. Members of ASECS and its regional and affiliate societies, as well as members of ISECS-affiliated societies, are welcome to attend. Pre-registration is required; the registration form is at https://zoom.us/meeting/register/j1cld-GsrTspGN1Zk1_vk2s84EAIROSMZ4VH.

Discussions of the articles that won the Clifford and the Aravamudan Prizes will probably be held in December 2021 and February 2022, respectively. Dates will be announced in the fall.

Report from the Editor of Eighteenth-Century Studies

Eighteenth-Century Studies began its fourth year at the University of New Hampshire (UNH) in July, with myself and a search committee already having selected a new Editor, Ramesh Mallipeddi (then of the University of Colorado at Boulder), who is moving himself and the journal to the University of British Columbia (UBC) this summer. Adam Schoene, Managing Editor, will be moving on to a different position, as the arrangement with UBC is for Mallipeddi not to have a postdoc Managing Editor, but rather to have a graduate assistant and generous course release, the latter of which the current Editor has not had. The staffing of our current 20-person Advisory Board and 3-person Editorial Board will remain unchanged for another year. Jennifer Thorn, now a Full Professor of English at Saint Anselm College near UNH, will continue as Reviews Editor, and has done a great job with book reviews, producing 20-25 of them per issue due to her hard work with publishers and authors of reviews.

The latter gives me the opportunity to encourage ASECS members to continue to volunteer for reviewing opportunities – work that should be regarded as service to the profession if not scholarship itself. If you know of exhibits, performances, or new archives/digital resources that merit review, please let Jennifer know even if you don’t want to review them yourself. We are grateful to those who have already been in touch with her in this way. If you have a new book out yourself, please mail (or
have your publisher mail} it to Jennifer Thorn, Reviews Editor, Eighteenth-Century Studies, Saint Anselm College, 100 Saint Anselm Drive #1784, Manchester, NH 03102. Her email address is: jthorn@anselm.edu.

As I indicated in my introduction to the Empires in the Eighteenth Century special issue in Fall 2018 (52.1) and in this newsletter in 2019, I like to periodically update the ASECS membership on the data concerning usage of the journal, which I did not do for 2019 data in 2020 due to the quarantine. The top downloading institutions of the journal in 2020 on Project Muse were Oxford University, Cambridge University, the University of Edinburgh, and the University of York. The most frequently used volume was #53.3 (Spring 2020), largely because Project MUSE went open access that spring, and the second most frequently used was volume 52.1 (Fall 2018), the special issue on empire, which seems to be a hit. The leading article downloaded on MUSE continues to be Anne Lafont’s “How Skin Color Became a Racial Marker” (51.1, Fall 2017, Special Issue on Color) at 1219 clicks, up from her 2018 number of 618. Coming in second at 1112 clicks is Benjamin Bricker’s “After the Golden Age: Caricature, Libel, and the Deverbalization of Satire” (51.3, Spring 2017). Michael Taylor’s article on British conservatism and the Illuminati (47.3, Spring 2014) took third at 911 hits, up from 397 in 2018. This is not to say that other articles, including a 2012 one by our new Editor Mallipeddi, do not continue to draw many downloads. I take this as evidence that the journal has really come back under my tenure as Editor, and it is great news about the impact of the journal of record for our field internationally. This global reach of our American journal is evident by the fact that the top four institutions downloading it are in the U.K.

Data from JSTOR in 2020 tells a similar story, though with a much larger total number of downloads. Nicholas Hudson’s “From ‘Nation to ‘Race’: The Origin of Racial Classification in Eighteenth-Century Thought” (29.3, 1996) led our journal in JSTOR, with Dena Goodman’s “Enlightenment Salons: The Convergence of Female and Philosophic Ambitions” (22.3, Spring 1989) coming a close second. Coming in third in JSTOR downloads is Londa Schiebinger’s “The Anatomy of Difference: Race and Sex in Eighteenth-Century Science” (23.4, 1990). What is striking about this JSTOR information is that four of the top seven articles are by women, and their publication dates go back more than 20 years (and in some cases more than 30), indicating that the pioneering work done by our authors of the 1980s, 1990s, and early 2000s continues to accumulate prestige for Eighteenth-Century Studies.

Though race and gender are predominant in the top downloads on Project Muse and JSTOR, we must continue to think about what will be considered foundational today for our future readers — tastes difficult but not impossible to project. Put another way, the data I have presented here does not so much tell us where we are going as where we have been. Yes, essays in race and gender have been proven to have enduring staying power and we shall publish those that pass peer review, but we must think of emerging issues and how they will be confronting students and scholars twenty or even thirty years from now. We will continue to welcome submissions in all genres of essay from all kinds of scholars, from all over the world, in our quest to find new and enduring titles in our field.

—Sean Moore, University of New Hampshire

Eighteenth-Century Studies Moves to the University of British Columbia, Vancouver

Eighteenth-Century Studies will be moving to the University of British Columbia, Vancouver, under the editorship of Dr. Ramesh Mallipeddi, beginning July 1, 2021. The Society wishes to thank the administrators and faculty at UBC—Dr. Gage Averil, Dean of the Faculty of Arts; Professor Patricia Badir, Head of the Department; and Professor Nicholas Hudson, Department of English—for generous financial and institutional support. Electronic submissions may be sent to <ec.studies@ubc.ca> and hard copies of articles may be mailed to: The Editors, Eighteenth-Century Studies, Department of English Language and Literatures, The University of British Columbia, #397-1873 East Mall (Buchanan Tower), Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z1.

Report from the Editors of Studies in Eighteenth-Century Culture

Exciting things are happening at Studies in Eighteenth-Century Culture, the Society’s annual peer-reviewed volume featuring revised and expanded versions of conference papers, roundtable
remains, and clusters thereof that chart new directions for research in all disciplines that touch on the cultures of the long eighteenth century.

The editorial staff of the journal has recently turned over, as has part of its Advisory Board, all in accordance with the usual schedule of rotation. In 2020, Eve Tavor Bannet and Roxann Wheeler stepped down as Editor and Associate Editor. They have our profound thanks. David Brewer and Crystal Lake are their respective successors. SECC has also welcomed Wendy Bellion, Sarah Benharrech, Danny O’Quinn, and Chloe Wigston Smith to its Advisory Board.

Members of ASECS may be especially interested to learn that SECC has recently expanded its criteria for submission. We are now eager to welcome submissions of revised and expanded versions of papers, roundtable remarks, and clusters thereof presented in any public venue in the previous two years by a member of ASECS or of a learned society affiliated with ASECS or ISECS; this includes papers given online or at virtual events—as well as those that were scheduled but canceled due to the pandemic.

This spring, the ASECS Executive Board has funded the scanning and digitizing of Volumes 1-19 of SECC; the complete run of the journal is now available on Project MUSE.

Volume 50 of SECC has been published on Project MUSE; print copies have been delayed because of COVID-related production bottlenecks, but they are on their way! Volume 50 includes essays about Parisian women painters, theater and revolution in Saint-Domingue, masquerade costumes, gossipy marginalia, Jacobites and Tom Jones, and the pleasures and frustrations of reading The Woman of Colour—alongside clusters of shorter essays that engage with “foreign” music and theater in Britain, disability studies, and “teaching tough texts.” Volume 50 also features writing that commemorates the 50th anniversary of ASECS’s founding and imagines some possible futures for both the Society and eighteenth-century studies more generally. Visit https://muse.jhu.edu/issue/44568 to read this latest issue of SECC.

SECC continues to invite members of ASECS or of a learned society affiliated with ASECS or ISECS to submit work in the fields of history, literary history, the history of visual art, theatre and performance studies, musicology, material culture studies, gender and sexuality studies, and the studies of race, indigeneity, and empire for consideration; essays from under-represented areas of inquiry are particularly welcome! Our deadline for submissions is 15 August 2021, and our complete call for papers is available at https://www.asecs.org/secc.

--David Brewer, Ohio University
--Crystal Lake, Wright State University

Affiliate and Regional Societies
Rivka Swenson, Virginia Commonwealth University
Affiliate and Regional Societies Coordinator

Happy Summer, Colleagues! First, a broad piece of general news that should be of interest to all and Second, conferencing & conferences (and other affiliate and regional matters).

First, News:
*** Exciting news from SECC: David Brewer and Crystal Lake, the editors of Volume 52 of the ASECS peer-reviewed annual journal Studies in Eighteenth-Century Culture, are excited to announce that, effective immediately, the eligibility for publication has been expanded, “in recognition of the drastic changes to conferences and other academic gatherings imposed in the short term by the COVID-19 pandemic and in the long term by climate change”: eligible are revisions of papers presented at any public venue between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2021 (or papers that were scheduled to be presented at meetings that were subsequently canceled) by members of ASECS or of societies affiliated with ASECS or ISECS. August 15 deadline.***

Second, Conferencing & Conferences:
The pandemic has raised or enhanced an array of questions (global and local) in relation to conferencing – ranging from accessibility (of all kinds) to carbon footprints to labor. While it’s too soon to say what the precise future(s) of conferencing will look like, the sustained activity of ASECS affiliates and regional affiliates made clear that conferencing itself is here to stay, in whatever form(s) or frequency. The spring, however virtual, was brightened by representation from many of the affiliate and regional societies at the 51st Meeting of ASECS (moreover, the meeting continues to be a common venue for many societies to held their annual Business Meetings). The spring was also lifted (and deepened) by conferences and/or one-off webinars (seminars, lectures, workshops, and the like) organized by, for instance, Bibliographical Society of America, British Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, and Rousseau Association.
(Society leaders and/or representatives, please watch your inboxes in the near future for some polling questions related to conferencing, and please plan to attend a representatives’ meeting in early fall for mutual debriefing and for sharing insights about conferencing strategies in the post-pandemic!)

What follows: a QUICK LIST of upcoming Webinars + Annual Meetings (VIRTUAL, HYBRID, FACE TO FACE) for the remainder of 2021. The list (which must be read flexibly, as many societies’ plans are still in flux) is organized by date, so you can easily make plans to stay connected even if you’re not attending anything face to face as of yet.

(After this Quick List, please find a lengthier alphabetical list of various ANNOUNCEMENTS - society prize deadlines, publications, CFPs, prize winners, conferences in 2022 and beyond, and the like.)

AN ASIDE: if you’re currently planning a meeting, please scan over the dates below and consider choosing dates that don’t conflict...

QUICK LIST:  Webinars + Annual Meetings (VIRTUAL, HYBRID, FACE TO FACE)

July 14  North American Kant Society Webinar “One Precise Way in Which Schelling or Hegel Improves on Kant” (Naomi Fisher, Anton Kabeshkin, Jake McNulty)

21  Eighteenth-Century Scottish Studies Society “Race and Enlightenment” VIRTUAL

26-30  Society for the History of Authorship, Reading, and Publishing VIRTUAL “Moving Texts: from Discovery to Delivery” (Muenster)

Aug 6-7  Society for Eighteenth-Century Music VIRTUAL (Part I) “Global Intersections”


11  North American Kant Society Webinar “Beauty, Community, and Faith: the Third Critique” (Senive Tilev, Jessica Williams, Larissa Berger, Samantha Matherne)

13-14  Society for Eighteenth-Century Music VIRTUAL (Part II) “Global Intersections”


26  British Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies Webinar “Transgressions in Motherhood and Moral Injury in Defoe’s Moll Flanders” (Fahimeh Q. Berenji) -- “Monstrosity and the Materiality of Maternity in the Atlantic World” (Laura Earls)

Sep 22  North American Kant Society Webinar “Kant on Reasoning Well” (Janem Sethi, Krista Thomason)


14-16  East-Central American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies “Prelude to Material Culture” VIRTUAL

15-17  International Adam Smith Society HYBRID 2021 Conference (Madison, Wisconsin)

20  North American Kant Society Webinar “Formal Principles in Kant’s Political Philosophy” (Sofie Moller, Olga Lenczewska)

Nov 5-7  Northeastern American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies VIRTUAL “Traffic in the Global Eighteenth Century”

5-7  Goethe Society of North America FACE TO FACE “Goethe’s Things” (Chicago)

21  Samuel Johnson Society of the West VIRTUAL The 27th Daniel G. Blum Lecture (Freya Johnston)

Dec 2-4  Defoe Society & Early Caribbean Society FACE TO FACE “Atlantic Routes and Roots” (San Juan, Puerto Rico)

GENERAL ANNOUCEMENTS:
CONFERENCES, PUBLICATIONS, PRIZE WINNERS, UPCOMING AWARDS, & VARIA

American Antiquarian Society (AAS) Conferences – AAS is offering a wide range of webinars throughout 2021 that may be of interest to eighteenth-centuryists. Upcoming Awards – A wide range of short-term research fellowships are available that are of interest to eighteenth-centuryists, and many are open to students. Deadline for all: January 15, 2022. (A call for long-term fellowships has not been published for 2021, but keep your eye on that space.)
**Aphra Behn Society (ABS)**

**Conferences** – Details are TBA (meeting to be held jointly with Burney).

**Publications** – Take a look at the most recent issue of *ABO: Interactive Journal for Women in the Arts, 1640-1830*, (scholarship and pedagogy essays by Mona Narain, Chantel M. Lavoie, Kathryn J. Ready, Mark Zunac, Kate Parker, Bryan M. Kopp, Lindsay Steiner in addition to Notes and Discoveries [a new poem by Anna Laetitia Barbauld], Reviews, and Conversations [pieces on matters of the profession]). There’s also the most recent newsletter.

**Bibliographical Society of America (BSA)**

**Conferences** – Plans for a 2022 annual meeting, such as 2021’s “Bibliography Week,” are TBA. In the meantime, BSA pursues a “distributed conference model”; BSA welcomes proposals for lectures, workshops, and the like (August 15 deadline for events to take place “between October 1, 2021, to January 1, 2022 and beyond.”


**Upcoming Awards** – Apply for a prize or fellowship. October 1 deadline.

**Varia** – Nominate someone for President, and for Council Member (August 15 deadline). Volunteer to serve as a member of the BibSite Editorial Group.

Subscribe to the BSA Newsletter. Donate to the Matching Challenge. Peruse the playlist of BSA webinars from the past two years.

**British Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies (BSECS)**

**Conferences** – The 51st conference is coming up (January 5-7, 2022): “Indifference and Engagement.” Venue (online or in person) is TBA in July, 2021.


**Upcoming Awards** – BSECS awards a variety of fellowships, prizes, and grants with upcoming deadlines of September 1 (note: their Career Development award has a February 22, 2022 deadline).


**Burney Society (BS)**

**Conferences** – Details of the next conference (held jointly with Behn Society) are TBA.

**Publications** – *The Burney Journal* is currently accepting submissions for its next issue.

**Upcoming Awards** – The Society will accept submissions for the Hemlow Prize until January 31, 2022.

**Canadian Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies (CSECS)**

**Conferences** – CSECS will hold its biannual conference, jointly with Midwestern ASECS, in October. See the “Quick List of Virtual Meetings and Events” (above, in this Column).


**Recent Prizes** – Carole Dornier received the 2020 Lumen Essay Prize. *Jacinthe De Montigny* and Willow White received D.W. Smith Fellowships, and Jérémie Leclerc was awarded the Madoff Prize.

**The Defoe Society (DS)**

**Conferences** – Defoe Society will hold its upcoming conference, jointly with Early Caribbean Society, in December. See the “Quick List of Virtual Meetings and Events” (above, in this Column).

**Publications** – Check out the new issue of *Digital Defoe*, with essays by Barbara Benedict, Ala Alryyes, Chris Borsing, Jessica Leeper, Alice Monter, Judith Stuchiner, plus reviews.

**Early Caribbean Society (ECS)**

**Conferences** – ECS will hold its first conference, jointly with Defoe Society, in December. See the “Quick List of Virtual Meetings and Events” (above).
ASECS is pleased and grateful to announce that, thanks to the generosity of the family of the late Donald Mell, the Annual Meeting’s Caucuses and Affiliate Societies Cash Bar, usually held on Friday evenings, will henceforward be an open bar in memory of Don Mell commemorating the spirit of good fellowship that he brought to every ASECS meeting. The annual series of Swift studies panels that Don organized also will continue, with the Mell family gift supporting conference registration for the participants on the panel.

East-Central Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies (ECASECS)

Conferences – ECASECS will hold its annual conference virtually, in October (2021 will not be a full conference but rather a “prelude” to a face to face meeting in 2022: “Material Matters in the Long Eighteenth Century”). See the “Quick List of Virtual Meetings and Events” (above, in this Column).

Publications The current issue of the Society’s newsletter, Eighteenth-Century Intelligencer includes essays by John P. Heins, Greg Clingham, Melvyn New, plus book reviews, tributes, news.

Recent Prizes – Jacob Meyers has won the 2020 Molin Prize for “Arthropods Under the Lens: The Aesthetic Instability of Insect Microscopy in the Caribbean.”

Eighteenth-Century Scottish Studies Society (ECSSS)

Conferences – ECSSS will hold a truncated virtual conference this year, in July. See the “Quick List of Virtual Meetings and Events” (above, in this Column). Future conferences are being planned for Ottawa (October 13-15, 2022) and St. Andrews (summer, 2023).


Recent Prizes – Rachel Scally has received the Daiches-Manning Memorial Fellowship for 2021, for “Slavery, Colonialism, and the Edinburgh Medical School in the Long Eighteenth Century.”

Upcoming Awards – Applications for the Daiches-Manning Memorial Fellowship are due February 22, 2022.

Goethe Society of North America (GSNA)

Conferences – GSNA is planning for a hybrid meeting in November. See the “Quick List of Virtual Meetings and Events” (above, in this Column).


Varia – Read issues of the GSNA newsletter (most recent issue: spring 2021) here.

Historians of Eighteenth-Century Art and Architecture (HECAA)

Publications – HECAA keeps members up to date on relevant CFPs, exhibitions, and the like via Enfilade.


Ibero-American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies (IASECS)


International Adam Smith Society (IASS)

Conferences – IASS is planning for a hybrid meeting in October. See the “Quick List of Virtual Meetings and Events” (above, in this Column).

Den Berg, Mario Rizz, Michele Bee, Joost Hengstmengel.

**Upcoming Awards** – Participation by graduate students in any IASS-sponsored sessions or events may be supported by applying to the [Bursary Fund](#).

**International Herder Society (IHS)**

**Conferences** – IASS is planning for a hybrid meeting in August. See the “Quick List of Virtual Meetings and Events” (above, in this Column).

**Publications** – IHS invites submissions for the next [Herder Yearbook](#).

**Midwestern American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies (MWASECS)**

**Conferences** – MWASECS will hold its upcoming conference, jointly with CSECS, in October. See the “Quick List of Virtual Meetings and Events” (above).

**Mozart Society of America (MSA)**

**Conferences** – MSA will hold its next conference, jointly with Society for Eighteenth-Century Music, in Salzburg, May 26-29, 2022; “Mozart and Salzburg.” [CFP](#) deadline: September 1.

**Upcoming Awards** – Nominate a 2019 or 2020 outstanding book or edition on/of Mozart for the [Majorie Weston Award](#) (July 1 deadline).

**Varia** – Read issues of the MSA newsletter (most recent issue: spring 2021) [here](#).

**North American British Music Studies Association (NABMSA)**

**Conferences** – The NABMSA Symposium will be held virtually in August. See the “Quick List of Virtual Meetings and Events” (above).

**Publications** – NABMSA’s new “[Studies in British Musical Cultures](#)” (SBMC) series features two inaugural monographs – books by [Alison DeSimone](#) and [Joseph Mann](#). Meanwhile, the next [NABMSA](#)...

**Reviews**, which contains reviews of new books in the field, is forthcoming.

**Upcoming Awards** – Submissions for the [Ruth Solie Prize for Outstanding Article on British Music](#) are due by June 1. Also, graduate students doing anything IASS related should consider applying to the [Bursary Fund](#).

**North American Kant Society (NAKS)**

**Conferences** – “Virtual NAKS” – NAKS is sponsoring talks in multiple series, alternating Wednesdays, into 2022. See the “Quick List of Virtual Meetings and Events” (above).

**Recent Prizes** – [Claudi Brink](#) received the 2020 [Markus Herz Prize](#) for “Spontaneity and Teleology in Kant’s Theory of the Understanding.” [Marcus Willaschek](#) received the 2020 [Senior Scholar Book Prize](#) for Kant on the Sources of Metaphysics: The Dialectic of Pure Reason. [Andrew Stephenson](#) received the [Wilfred Sellars Junior Scholar Essay Prize](#) for “Existence, Modality, and Imagination in Kant: Lessons from Barcan.”

**Upcoming Awards** – Submissions for the [Senior Scholar Article Prize](#) are due January 22, 2022.

**Varia** – All scholars who are interested in Kant can learn more about NAKS’s four active regional [study groups](#) (Midwest, Pacific, Eastern, Southern).

**Northeast American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies (NEASECS)**

**Conferences** – NEASECS will hold their 2021 conference online in November. See the “Quick List of Virtual Meetings and Events” (above).

**Rousseau Association (RA)**

**Conferences** – RA is planning their next [Biennial Colloquium](#) (2023) on “The Possible, the Real, and the Ideal” (Paris; dates and details TBA).

**The Samuel Johnson Society of the West (TSJSW)**

**Conferences** – SJSW is sponsoring their annual Blum Lecture in October. See the “Quick List of Virtual Meetings and Events” (above).

**Society for the History of Authorship, Reading and Publishing (SHARP)**

**Conferences** – SHARP will hold its upcoming conference in July. See the “Quick List of Virtual Meetings and Events” (above).

**Publications** – The Society welcomes submissions year-round to *Book History*.

**Recent Prizes** – Mary Catherine Kinniburgh received the Book History Essay Prize for 2020, for “The Postwar American Poet’s Library: An Archival Consideration with Charles Olson and the Maud/Olson Library.” Jeffrey T. Zalar received the DeLong Book History Prize for *Reading and Rebellion in Catholic Germany, 1770-1914*. And Dipanjan Maitra was awarded a SHARP 25th Anniversary Research Fellowship.

**Upcoming Awards** – Apply for a SHARP 25th Anniversary Research Fellowship (December 1 deadline). SHARP has a number of prize opportunities: submissions are due for the Book History Essay Prize August 31; applications for the new Research Development Grants for BIPOC Scholars are due September 1; and bids are due any time (rolling deadline) for early career Lightning Seed Grants.

**Varia** – For the most recent SHARP news (along with book reviews and digital project reviews, bibliographies, and pedagogical materials, see their newsletter. Get your “SHARP at 25” merch [here](#).

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**Society of Early Americanists (SEA)**

**Conferences** – Plans for 2022 are forthcoming.


**Recent Prizes** – Shelby Johnson received the 2020 Essay Prize for “The fate of St. Domingo awaits you”: Robert Wedderburn’s Unfinished Revolution.”

**Upcoming Awards** – The deadline for the 2020-2021 Annual Essay Competition is October 1.

**Varia** – There is a [listserv](#), and, for junior scholars, a [Caucus](#).

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**The South Central Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies (SCSECS)**

**Conferences** – SCSECS will continue to ponder (into October) the possibility of a truncated face-to-face 2021 meeting.

**Southeast Asian Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies (SASECS)**

**Varia** – Check out the website from this new affiliate.

**Southeastern American Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies (SEASECS)**

**Conferences** – SEASECS is planning to meet (February 17-20, 2022) in Ft. Myers, Florida, for “Oceans Rise, Empires Fall: Tidal Shifts in the Eighteenth Century.” CFP deadline: October 31, 2021 (or June 20 for session proposals).

**Publications** – SEASECS seeks submissions for their annual publication, *XVIII New Perspectives on the Eighteenth Century*.

**Recent Prizes** – The 2021 Graduate Student Essay Prize was awarded to Ziona Kocher. Brett Rushforth received the 2020 Percy G. Adams Prize (best 18th-century article) for “The Gaulet Uprising of 1710.” Jane Wessel won the Annibel Jenkins Prize for “My Other Folks’ Heads.”

**Upcoming Awards** – Annibal Jenkins Prize and Percy G. Adams Prize submissions are due by November 30. Submissions for the Martha F. Bowden Teaching Prize are due January 21, 2022.

**Voltaire Foundation (VF)**

**Conferences** – VF’s annual Besterman Lecture, given by Sophia Rosenfeld, will take place in November; venue (in person or virtual) is TBA. In addition, VF will host a monthly interdisciplinary research seminar in the fall (details TBA).

**Publications** – Voltaire’s works, Oxford Studies in the Enlightenment, and [more](#).

**Varia** – Join the dialogue about the Enlightenment at the [Café Lumière blog](#). Meanwhile, VF is completing the final (203rd!) volume of Voltaire’s writing, and will celebrate with the launch of a new Enlightenment scholarship hub, Digital Voltaire, the title of which recalls their related project, Digital Holbach.

**Western Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies (WSECS)**

**Conferences** – The next WSECS meeting will be held in Los Angeles, February 18-19. Theme: “Material/Immaterial.” Proposals due October 1.
**Funding Opportunities for Graduate Students**

Affiliates Coordinator Rivka Swenson has compiled a list of opportunities for funding and recognition (prizes!) available to graduate students from ASECS and its regional and affiliate societies. Most of these societies also have opportunities for students to serve as representatives on their boards. The list is available here: https://www.asecs.org/single-post/asecs-regional-and-affiliate-societies-funding-and-recognition-opportunities-for-graduate-students.

**Free Access to The Literary Encyclopedia**

Members of ASECS are entitled to free access to the volumes of *The Literary Encyclopedia* that cover English, French, German and Italian literature in the period 1680-1820, notably Volume 1.2.1.05: English Writing and Culture from the Glorious Revolution to the French Revolution, 1689-1789, edited by Pat Rogers, Nick Seager, Daniel Cook and Paul Baines.

The Literary Encyclopedia was founded in 1998 by ASECS member Robert Clark with the aim of providing comprehensive, learned and detailed support to tertiary-level teaching and research. Its scope is world literatures and cultures from the classical to the present. For detailed information on this resource, please visit https://www.litencyc.com/. To receive free access to the Literary Encyclopedia, contact the ASECS Business Office at asecsoffice@gmail.com. You will be given a unique alphanumeric password that you can use to create a personal user account valid until the end of your subscription year.

**Report from ACLS 2021 Meeting**

The Annual Meeting of the American Council of Learned Societies took place online on April 22-23. The core purpose of the annual meeting of the ACLS is for delegates appointed by the learned societies that make up the membership to assemble to vote on the proposed budget, to elect new members to the Board of Directors, and to approve the admission of new learned societies. Other administrative sessions occur over two days: for instance, meetings of the Board and of the executive directors of the member societies.

Panels and moderated breakout sessions make up much of the program for delegates. At previous in-person meetings, the annual Haskins Prize Lecture by a distinguished senior scholar about a “Life in Learning” has been the main event, but it was postponed this year until May 20, when it was delivered by the anthropologist Johnnetta Betsch Cole. Similarly absent was the usual luncheon talk by the head of the National Endowment for the Humanities, which has been a major feature of the meeting. (Professor Cole’s lecture is available online at https://www.acls.org/Publications-and-Media/Haskins-Prize-Lectures; this site also has ASECS Member Lynn Hunt’s lecture from 2019.)

Panel discussions this year took place on “Drawing Undergraduate Students to Humanistic Study in the 21st Century” and on “Career Diversity.”

Breakout groups, which have been offered at the annual meeting for a few years now, were on such topics as: “Professional Development,” “Reforming Graduate Education,” “Undergraduate Education,” “Advocacy,” “Hacking a New Society,” and “Leadership and Governance.”

The 2022 annual meeting of the ACLS will take place in Philadelphia, April 28-30, when the traditional in-person assembly presumably will occur.

—John Bender, ASECS Delegate
2020-2021 Travel Fellowships: Reports from the Road

Robert R. Palmer Research Travel Fellowship

The Palmer Grant allowed me to travel for my Master’s Research Thesis on Marie Antoinette’s Stages of Fashion and the impact on society and the fashion industry. I was able to travel in spite of the COVID Pandemic and to complete most of my research. I traveled to London, France, Switzerland, and Italy searching for artifacts that belonged to Marie Antoinette. I visited Versailles and had a private tour of the off-limits areas of the Chateau to gain insight into Marie Antoinette’s Life. I found a small museum in the town of Versailles that had a pair of Marie’s shoes that they allowed me to handle and photograph. I met in Switzerland with a private collector of antique garments that gave me insight into the construction of the garments from the era, as well as viewed a rare collection of books and fashion plates. I visited the Musee de Toiles Jouy and viewed one of the few chemise de la reine dresses that still exist in the world to gain information for my re-creation. I attempted to see the remnants of Marie Antoinette’s dress in Craveggia, Italy, but they refused to allow me access because of the pandemic. The pandemic threw a monkey wrench into my plans and forced me to cancel many. Many museums and libraries were closed but were willing to work with me online if possible. Without this grant, I would not have been able to accomplish half of my research.

—Sydney Lokant, Ohio University

ASECS Prizes and Travel Awards: Deadlines through Nov. 2021

For guidance on applying for awards and prizes, visit https://www.asecs.org/awards-information.

ASECS Race and Empire Caucus Graduate Student Essay Prize: deadline July 2, 2021. The Caucus welcomes essays that are revised versions of papers read at the regional and national conferences of ASECS and its affiliates between July 1, 2020 and June 30, 2021.

Women’s Caucus Catherine Macaulay Graduate Student Prize: deadline 1 September 2021. Papers by graduate students presented at the ASECS 2021 Annual Meeting or at a regional meeting in 2020-2021 that help to “advance understanding of gender dynamics, women’s experience, and/or women’s contributions to eighteenth-century culture, or offer a feminist analysis of any aspect of eighteenth-century culture and/or society” are eligible. The prize committee is looking for papers as they were presented at the conference (i.e., they are not seeking expansions of a conference paper into an article or chapter).

2021-2022 Innovative Course Design Competition: deadline 15 October 2022. To encourage excellence in undergraduate teaching of the eighteenth century, the Society invites proposals for the Innovative Course Design Competition, from members in any of its constituent disciplines. Proposals should be for a new course or for a new unit within an existing course; the course should never have been taught or have been taught very recently for the first time. The Committee will select the top three proposals and the winners will be notified by 15 November. The winners will be asked to develop 20-minute presentations for delivery in the Innovative Course Design seminar at the Annual Meeting and to submit a 10-12 page account of the unit or course, with a syllabus or other supplementary materials, for publication on the ASECS website.

Louis Gottschalk Prize: deadline 15 November 2021. The Louis Gottschalk Prize recognizes an outstanding historical or critical study of the eighteenth century. Scholarly books—including commentaries, critical studies, biographies, collections of essays by a single author, and critical editions written in any modern language are eligible. Books that are primarily translations or multi-authored collections of essays are not.

To be eligible for this year’s competition, a book must have a copyright date between 1 November 2020 and 31 October 2021. Submission must be made by the publisher and SIX (6) copies must be received at the ASECS Business Office by 15 November 2021.
Contributions

ASECS gratefully acknowledges the members and friends who have supported the Society during the past two years. Please note: This list does not include Patron and Sponsor Members; their contributions are recognized in Eighteenth-Century Studies and in the Annual Meeting Program.

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