Editors’ Notes

EDITORS’ REPORT, SEPTEMBER 2003

The Journal of Economic History completed another successful year in 2002/03, marked (for a change) by an absence of dramatic change. Most contributors and some book publishers have by now adapted to our tripod office system: North American materials go to Wright at Stanford, all other geographic areas go to Harley at Western Ontario, with Susan Isaac handling production editing tasks at Florida State. If your paper or book does not fit neatly into this classification system, you can send it wherever you want, but we reserve the right to reallocate afterwards.

Next year will bring significant changes. Gavin Wright will complete his term as co-editor for North American topics in June, 2004. His successor will be Jeremy Atack of Vanderbilt University. Knick Harley continues as co-editor for all other parts of the world. But the location of Knick’s office will change over the course of the year from Western Ontario to Oxford University. Continuity will be provided by Susan Isaac, who thankfully will stay at Florida State.

The accompanying figure and tables show that the trends of previous years have also been maintained. Figure 1 reports that new submissions have increased for the fourth consecutive year, putting us above the modestly-declining trend line of the past 20 years. From this point forward, we can look ahead to reversing the direction of the trend itself.

As always, there are interesting patterns to be found in the composition of submissions to the journal (Tables 1–3). Tables 1 and 2 suggest that the downward slide on the North American side has been reversed, the share going to that office rising from 37 to 46 percent. The largest topical area at both offices was Political Economy, replacing last year’s enthusiasm for International Trade and Finance. Table 3 shows that distribution of submissions by

![Figure 1: Trend in New Submissions, 1983/84–2002/03](chart.png)

**Figure 1**
TREND IN NEW SUBMISSIONS, 1983/84–2002/03

*Source:* The yearly totals were taken from the published Editors’ Notes.
historical time period is stubbornly persistent. Is this a confirmation of path dependence in our own discipline? Perhaps, but it is difficult to say because of the inexplicable appearance of five papers whose historical coverage was “not applicable or unknown.”

Table 4 suggests that the *Journal* continues to operate both efficiently and selectively. The rejection rate fell from 53 percent to 40 percent, but this apparent drift towards leniency was mainly attributable to an increase in revise-and-resubmits. As we always take care to write and as many of you know from experience, there is no assurance that a resubmission will be accepted the second time around. Overall, only about one-third of new submissions are ultimately published in the *Journal*.

Hardhearted as we may be as editors, we try not to waste your time excessively. We note with reassurance that last year we kept the median time to decision for new submissions at 91 days, statistically equal to our 90-day target.

Much of the credit for this performance goes to the referees, particularly the hard-working members of the editorial board. We continue to be impressed by the dedicated care and thought that go into the majority of referee reports, with no reward other than the satisfactions and stimulation of participating in academic dialogue and trying to maintain intellectual standards in our interdisciplinary field. We extend special thanks to the outgoing members of the board: Margaret Levenstein, Joshua Rosenbloom, Jean-Laurent Rosenthal, and Alan M. Taylor. And we welcome those added during the past year: Zorina Khan, Steven Quinn, Paul Rhode, Nathan Sussman, Werner Troesken, Joachim Voth, and Susan Wolcott.

Knick Harley
Gavin Wright

### Table 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>North America</th>
<th>All Other Regions</th>
<th>North America</th>
<th>All Other Regions</th>
<th>North America</th>
<th>All Other Regions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Demography</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
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<td>Growth</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Industry</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technology</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Labor</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>Money and macro</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public finance</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
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<td>History of thought</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
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<td>International trade, finance</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban and regional</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Political economy</td>
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<td>0</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>15</td>
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<td>Private finance, capital markets</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>5</td>
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<td>Other</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>38 (58)</td>
<td>36 (62)</td>
<td>62 (46)</td>
<td>55 (55)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Note:* The numbers include new submissions only. The totals equal the number of new submissions received because a paper is classified in only one topic category. In the latest year, the North American office had 66 total submissions, 46 new and 20 resubmitted. The International office had 76 total submissions, 55 new and 21 resubmitted.
### TABLE 2
**ARTICLE SUBMISSIONS BY REGION, 1 JULY–30 JUNE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
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<td>41</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Spanish speaking Caribbean</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Great Britain</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western Europe</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asia</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latin America</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eastern Europe/Russia</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Africa</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle East</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not applicable or unknown</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Note:* The numbers include new submissions only. Totals exceed new submissions because a paper can be classified as pertaining to more than one region.

### TABLE 3
**ARTICLE SUBMISSIONS BY PERIOD, 1 JULY–30 JUNE 2000/01, 2001/02, AND 2002/03**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Twentieth century</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nineteenth century</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seventeenth and eighteenth centuries</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pre-seventeenth century</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not applicable or unknown</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Note:* The numbers include new submissions only. Totals exceed submissions because a paper can be classified as pertaining to more than one period.

### TABLE 4
**ACCEPTANCE AND TURNAROUND**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>North American Office</th>
<th>International Office</th>
<th>Total</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2001/02</td>
<td>2002/03</td>
<td>2001/02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accepted</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revise and resubmit</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rejected or withdrawn</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>81</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Decision Lags (in days)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>minimum</th>
<th>maximum</th>
<th>mean</th>
<th>median</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All submissions</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000/2001</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>273</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>103</td>
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<tr>
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<td>2002/2003</td>
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<td>85</td>
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<tr>
<td>2001/2002</td>
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<td>233</td>
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<td>91</td>
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<tr>
<td>2002/2003</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>322</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>91</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Note:* The acceptance figures include new submissions and resubmissions.
Our referees for the last year were:

Brian A’Hearn, Franklin and Marshall College
Pablo Martín Aceña, Universidad de Alcalá
Mark Aldrich, Smith College
Douglas Allen, Simon Fraser University
Robert Allen, University of Oxford
Steven G. Allen, North Carolina State University
Lee Alston, University of Colorado
George Alter, Indiana University
Morris Altman, University of Saskatchewan
Jeremy Atack, Vanderbilt University
Gary B. Gorton, Wharton School
Dudley Baines, London School of Economics
Jean Meyer Barth, Centro de Investigación y Docencia Económicas, Mexico
Stefan Battilossi, Universidad Carlos III de Madrid
Richard Beason, University of Alberta
Greg Besharov, Duke University
Kathleen Biddick, University of Notre Dame
Howard Bodenhorn, Lafayette College
Dan Bogart, University of California, Los Angeles
Peter Boomgaard, Free University of Amsterdam
Michael Bordo, Rutgers University
George Boyer, Cornell University
Colleen Callahan, American University
Ann Carlos, University of Colorado
Gregory Clark, University of California, Davis
Sally Clarke, University of Texas at Austin
John Coatsworth, Harvard University
Peter Coclanis, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
Philip Coelho, Ball State University
William Collins, Vanderbilt University
Jon Conrad, Cornell University
Metin Coggel, University of Connecticut
Antonio Cubel, Universidad de Valencia
Lance Davis, California Institute of Technology
Jan de Vries, University of California, Berkeley
Nicholas H. Dimsdale, University of Oxford
Rafael Dobado, Universidad Complutense de Madrid
Richard Duncan-Jones, Trinity College, Cambridge
Ruth Dupre, Ecole des Hautes Etudes Commerciales
Christopher Dyer, University of Leicester
Joseph E. Inikori, University of Rochester
Michael Edelstein, Queens College, City University of New York
Barry Eichengreen, University of California, Berkeley
Robert Ellickson, Yale University
Robert Elson, Griffith University
Pieter Emmer, Leiden University
Stanley Engerman, University of Rochester
Gerald Feldman, University of California, Berkeley
Stefano Fenoaltea, Università de Roma “Tor Vergata”
Adam Fforde, Adam Fforde and Associates Pty Ltd
Alexander Field, Santa Clara University
Price Fishback, University of Arizona
Robert Fleck, Montana State University
Caroline Fohlin, Johns Hopkins University
Giovanni Frederico, European University Institute
Rainer Fremdling, University of Groningen
Francesco Galassi, University of Warwick
Gustavo Gorni, Università degli studi di Trento
Margrit Grabas, Universität des Saarlandes
George Grantham, McGill University
Shane Greenstein, Kellogg School, Northwestern University
Avner Greif, Stanford University
Richard Grossman, Wesleyan University
Timothy Guinnane, Yale University
Stephen Haber, Stanford University
Michael Haines, Colgate University
Brian Hamnett, University of Essex
Christopher Hanes, State University of New York, Binghamton
Editors’ Notes

Gelina Harlaftis, Ionian University
John Hatcher, Cambridge University
Tim Hatton, University of Essex
Santhi Hejeebu, University of Iowa
Ingrid Henriksen, University of Copenhagen
John Hobson, University of Sydney
Julian Hoppit, University College, London
Christopher Howgego, The Ashmolean Museum
Susan Howson, University of Toronto
Hilary Hoynes, University of California, Davis
Philip Huang, University of California, Los Angeles
Michael Hueberman, University of Montreal
Richard Ippolito, George Mason University School of Law
M. Alex Irigoin, Universidad Carlos III de Madrid
Douglas Irwin, Dartmouth College
Sanford Jacoby, University of California, Los Angeles
Adam Jaffe, Brandeis University
Harold James, Princeton University
John James, University of Virginia
Mark Kanazawa, Carleton College
Eona Karakacili, University of Western Ontario
Zorina Khan, Bowdoin College
John Komlos, University of Munich
Sandra Kuntz Ficker, Autonoma Metropolitana, Mexico
David Laider, University of Western Ontario
Naomi Lamoreaux, University of California, Los Angeles
Richard Langlois, University of Connecticut
Margaret Levenstein, University of Michigan
Colin Lewis, London School of Economics
Frank Lewis, Queen’s University
Lillian Li, Swarthmore College
Gary Libecap, University of Arizona
Thomas Lindblad, Leiden University
Peter Lindert, University of California, Davis
David Loschky, University of Missouri
Mary MacKinnon, McGill University

John Majewski, University of California, Santa Barbara
Tom Maloney, University of Utah
Juan-Manuel Renero, Centro de Investigación y Docencia Económicas
Carlos Marichal, El Colegio de México
Kent Matthews, Cardiff Business School
David Mattingly, University of Leicester
Ann McCants, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Deirdre McCloskey, University of Illinois at Chicago
Michael McCormick, Harvard University
Robert McGuire, University of Akron
Marvin McInnis, Queen’s University
Ian McLean, University of Adelaide
Benjamin R. McRee, Franklin and Marshall College
Christopher Meissner, Cambridge University
David Meredith, University of New South Wales
Rory Miller, University of Liverpool
Terence C. Mills, Loughborough University
Ryoshin Minami, Tokyo Keizai University
Kris Mitchener, Santa Clara University
Jon Moen, University of Mississippi
Donald E. Moggridge, University of Toronto
Joel Mokyr, Northwestern University
Michael Montesano, National University of Singapore
Kenneth Morgan, Brunel University
Chiaki Moriguchi, Northwestern University
David Mowery, University of California, Berkeley
Larry Neal, University of Illinois
David Northrup, Boston College
Anthony Patrick O’Brien, Lehigh University
Patrick K. O’Brien, London School of Economics
Cormac Ó Gráda, University College, Dublin
Martha Olney, University of California, Berkeley
Arij Ouweneel, University of Amsterdam
Les Oxley, University of Canterbury
Șevket Pamuk, Boğaziçi University
Gerardo della Paolera, Universidad Torcuato Di Tella
Prasannan Parthasarathi, Boston College
Ed Perkins, University of Southern California
Michael Pokorny, London Metropolitan University
Kenneth Pomeranz, University of California, Irvine
Lawrence Poos, Catholic University of America
Om Prakash, University of Delhi
Donald Quataert, State University of New York at Binghamton
Stephen Quinn, Texas Christian University
Jack Rakove, Stanford University
Roger Ransom, University of California, Riverside
Angela Redish, University of British Columbia
Paul Rhode, University of North Carolina
Albrecht Ritschl, Humboldt University of Berlin
Patrice Robitaille, Division of International Finance, Federal Reserve System
Hugh Rockoff, Rutgers University
Christina Romer, University of California, Berkeley
Joshua Rosenbloom, University of Kansas
Jean-Laurent Rosenthal, University of California, Los Angeles
Joan Rosés Vendoiro, Universidad Carlos III de Madrid
Winifred Rothenberg, Tufts University
Richard Saller, University of Chicago
Richard Salvucci, Trinity University
Blanca Sanchez Alonso, Universidad San Pablo CEU
Lars Sandberg, Ohio State University
Peter Scholliers, Vrije Universiteit Brussel
Lennart Schön, Lund University
Loren Schweninger, University of North Carolina-Greensboro
Carole Shanemas, University of Southern California
Amy Singer, Tel Aviv University
Daniel Smith, University of Illinois-Chicago
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Kenneth Sokoloff, University of California, Los Angeles
Peter Solar, Free University of Brussels
Solomous Solomou, University of Cambridge
Mark Spaer, University of Hohenheim
Richard Steckel, Ohio State University
Michael Storper, University of California, Los Angeles and London School of Economics
Claire Strom, North Dakota State University
S. Sugiyama, Keio University
William Summerhill, University of California, Los Angeles
Bill Sundstrom, Santa Clara University
Nathan Sussman, Hebrew University
Richard Sylla, New York University
Rick Szostak, University of Alberta
Alan M. Taylor, University of California, Davis
Peter Temin, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Ross Thomson, University of Vermont
James D. Tracy, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities
Werner Troesken, University of Pittsburgh
William Tsutsui, University of Kansas
John Turner, Queen’s University, Belfast
Pierre van der Eng, Australian National University
Hans-Joachim Voth, Universitat Pompeu Fabra
John Wallis, University of Maryland
David Washbrook, St. Antony’s College, Oxford University
Warren Weber, Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis
David Weiman, Barnard College, Columbia University
David Wheelock, Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis
Eugene White, Rutgers University
Susan Wolcott, State University of New York, Binghampton
Willem Zwolue, Leiden University
ANNOUNCING A CONFERENCE
WOMEN'S ECONOMIES IN COLONIAL BRITISH AMERICA

Sponsored by the Program in Early American Economy and Society
Friday, 1 October 2004
At the Library Company of Philadelphia, 1314 Locust St., Philadelphia, PA

The theme of this conference reflects a recent flourishing of scholarship about the role of women in shaping the early North American economy during a time of both unprecedented economic development and significant changes in traditional family, household, and market economies. These changes were evinced everywhere European peoples settled in mainland North America during the early modern era, and recent scholarly work on women’s experiences makes it imperative for us to rethink many long-standing generalizations about such topics as frontier and urban female economies; family strategies for dividing labor and creating economic efficiencies within the household; shaping new economic identities out of varied European, African, West Indian, and Native American cultures; the nature of women’s retailing and entrepreneurship aside from household roles; the varieties of negotiation of race and class in economic contexts; comparative women’s economies from region to region, plantation to farm, or across generations and social origins; and much more.

The papers and comments at this conference include some of the finest of this new work, including that by Ellen Hartigan-O’Connor, Serena Zabin, Carole Shammas, Marla Miller, Mary Beth Sievens, Stephanie Grauman Wolf, Kristi Rutz-Robbins, Kate Fawver, and others.

The papers prepared for this conference will be posted on the PEAES web pages by 1 September 2004. We encourage everyone coming to the conference to read them in advance, and then join us for a lively discussion about the authors’ findings and arguments. This conference is free and open to everyone interested in this topic. For further questions, please contact Cathy Matson, PEAES Director, at cmatson@udel.edu.