Newsletter editor Alison Clark Efford interviewed Suzanne Sinke about her work editing the organization’s journal, the *Journal of American Ethnic History*. Sinke, associate professor of history at Florida State University, has edited the *JAEH* since 2017. She has published widely on gender and marriage, along with work on letters as sources. In addition to authoring numerous articles, she has co-edited three volumes on immigration history since the publication of her first book, *Dutch Immigrant Women in the United States, 1880–1920* (Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 2002).

After a preliminary discussion at the Organization of American Historians meeting in April 2019, Efford emailed Sinke questions. The interview was lightly edited.

**ACE**: How do you conceive of the *JAEH*’s role in the profession? What goals do you have for it?

**SS**: We serve as the main outlet for historical research on the combined fields of immigration, race, and ethnicity for North America. Maintaining coverage of those topics while pioneering and integrating newer directions in the profession remain key for me. I am planning a series that incorporates interdisciplinary theoretical developments of interest to historians of the field. In addition, one of my goals is to bring in the next generation of scholars who come out of a variety of ethnic studies programs along with standard history departments, and to feature work that speaks to current concerns.

**ACE**: The *JAEH* covers immigration and ethnicity in the United States, Canada, and colonial North America. How do you balance coverage of different time periods and groups?

**SS**: I work to recruit with balance in mind. That entails looking through conference programs (or attending sessions) to identify people working on topics I think we would want to have in the journal, targeting scholars working on different chronological eras, geographic locations, or groups. The manuscripts go out for peer review, obviously, but if I can increase the number in the pool, I have a better chance of achieving some balance. I know I cannot just rely on what arrives in my inbox. I have also sought out people to create special issues, which may cover a geographic area we do not usually handle or a theme that spans different periods. The book review section helps create balance in the journal too, though that is in the hands of the book review editor. In terms of chronology, getting submissions on the colonial era up through the early republic remains a struggle, so I hope to target a special issue along those lines.

**ACE**: When do you include articles about indigenous Americans or African Americans whose ancestors were forced to move to North America?

(JOURNAL continued on page 6)
From the IEHS President

On the cusp of a new decade, the IEHS leadership and community continue to evolve in our efforts to improve understanding of the changing population of the United States. Through our shared efforts to refine research strategies and conceptual approaches, we aim to simultaneously acknowledge greater complexities while attaining more penetrating levels of analytical insights. At a time of heightened nativism and conflicts over immigration policy, the intellectual work of IEHS remains of potent relevance to the students, colleagues, policy-makers, and general readership that we seek to educate.

Some recent programs to foster community and support our members in their work include our newly implemented book discussion program, with the first two monographs featured being Katherine Benton-Cohen’s *Inventing the Immigration Problem: The Dillingham Commission and Its Legacy* (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 2018) at the 2019 OAH in Philadelphia and Simeon Man’s *Soldiering through Empire: Race and the Making of the Decolonizing Pacific* (Oakland: University of California Press, 2018) at the WHA in Las Vegas; and the launch of travel awards to support junior scholars and adjunct faculty to attend the OAH. More information is available about the latter at [https://iehs.org/travel-grants/](https://iehs.org/travel-grants/) with a deadline of December 15.

We are also exploring ways to expand IEHS programming through digital and internet projects. Newly appointed Digital Projects Officer, Heather Lee, is chairing a committee to explore priorities and possible projects alongside the newly launched “Teach Immigration History” website ([https://immigrationhistory.org/](https://immigrationhistory.org/)) featuring a timeline and lesson plans targeting high school teachers and general users. We are eager to know and to support IEHS members in their efforts to promote the study and teaching of immigration history through such media. To this end, I ask for more information about your experiences and goals through the survey included below.

Survey goal: The board of IEHS is exploring ways that the digital humanities might enhance teaching and research in immigration history. The board has formed a committee on digital humanities to study and make recommendations. Please fill out the survey to help the committee understand how you use digital humanities in the classroom and work, as well as how the IEHS might be able to support these endeavors.

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfHacrFDROQjihGqgscLUXq67fizNMIZUYWYNiRaDerVWwg/viewform?usp=sf_link](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfHacrFDROQjihGqgscLUXq67fizNMIZUYWYNiRaDerVWwg/viewform?usp=sf_link)

My thanks in advance for your input and best wishes for the start of 2020!

Madeline Y. Hsu

Reminder from the Programming Committee

The IEHS Programming Committee is eager to expand the presence of our society at the annual meetings of the OAH and AHA and the many other organizations in which our members participate.

For the OAH, our committee:

- considers full panel proposals from IEHS members and chooses two sessions that are guaranteed acceptance,
- endorses a large number of additional sessions after they are approved by the OAH,
- organizes Chat Room Seminars where one IEHS member leads an informal discussion of a timely topic,
- and can organize Lightning Round sessions at which a group of graduate students give five-minute presentations on their work, with some funding available from the OAH.

For the AHA, our committee can co-sponsor an unlimited number of sessions, with acceptance of any of these sessions contingent on approval by the AHA.

We especially want to build on our connections with the AHA Pacific Coast Branch, the WHA, SHAFR, SSHA, and any other organizations in which IEHS members are involved. We encourage you to contact the Programming Committee if you are planning to propose a session to any of these organizations. We may be able to help.

Kevin Kenny, Maddalena Marinari, and Ellen Wu
IEHS Book Discussions

Nine historians gathered at the Social Science History Association meeting in Chicago to discuss Simeon Man’s Soldiering through Empire: Race and the Making of the Decolonizing Pacific (Oakland: University of California Press, 2018). The event was one several book discussions Torrie Hester has organized for IEHS during 2019. Participants at the SSHA included graduate students, faculty, and Man himself.

Soldiering through Empire describes the participation of Filipinos, South Koreans, and Asian Americans in US military actions around the Pacific in the decades after WWII and explores how militarism interacted with the decolonial aspirations of Asians and Pacific Islanders. Man’s interlacing of the themes of empire and ethnicity generated many questions, with attendees considering the place of empire in immigration historiography and reflecting on how to use the book’s insights in the classroom. Man recommended teaching the history of Asian Americans in the Vietnam War, the subject of one of his chapters. The group also discussed methodological questions surrounding oral history interviews and weaving together a multifaceted argument. It made for a stimulating and enjoyable exchange.

Please contact Torrie Hester (torrie.hester@slu.edu) if you are interested in organizing an IEHS book discussion at an upcoming conference.

In Memoriam: Elliott Robert Barkan
(December 15, 1940–June 19, 2019)
By Ronald H. Bayor

Elliott Robert Barkan, a prolific author, long-serving JAEH book review editor, former president of the IEHS, and professor emeritus of history at the University of California, San Bernardino, died after a long illness on June 19, 2019 in Corona, California. Ellie earned his BA degree at Queen’s College, CUNY in 1962, graduating magna cum laude. He went on to Harvard University for an MA in 1963, and a PhD in 1969 as a Woodrow Wilson Foundation fellow.

Ellie began his teaching career at Pace University in 1964 but soon moved on to his main position at California State University, San Bernardino in 1968 in history and ethnic studies, retiring in 2002. During that time, he traveled widely through the Fulbright Fellowship program, teaching in Norway, England, and India and lecturing around the world. His scholarly interest in immigration and ethnic history was the core of his career, and he authored or edited thirteen books and numerous articles in this field, including Asian and Pacific Island Migration to the United States: A Model of New Global Patterns (1992); And Still They Come: Immigrants in American Society, 1920 to the 1990s (1996); Immigrants in American History: Arrival, Adaptation, and Integration (2013); and most notably, From All Points: America’s Immigrant West, 1870s-1952 (2007), winner of the 2008 IEHS Theodore Saloutos Book Award for a book that presents a major new scholarly interpretation. Ellie was writing a second volume on this topic when he became ill. His relevance as an expert on the American ethnic experience is easily seen too in an article he wrote for Social Science History, titled “Return of the Nativists?” (June 2003).

I was always impressed by the excellent work Ellie did as JAEH book review editor for seventeen years. Editing, collating, and generally dealing with the numerous books
and reviews that flowed constantly across his desk indicated his dedication to the journal and society. Ellie was also deeply involved with the contentious and difficult move from Transaction to the University of Illinois Press. But that was Ellie, contributing, volunteering, sharing his expertise, and proving time and again that he was a consummate scholar. His contributions as chair and commentator at various historical conferences speak as well to his prominence in the field.

His involvement with improving teaching is evident with his participation in the Social Science Research and Instructional Center for California State Universities, his publications on teaching in multicultural environments, enthusiastic commitment to his own students, and his long-time work with the College Board, reading AP US history exams. Eventually, moving into a leadership position, he trained other readers and developed the guidelines for essay questions. He continued this important charge until 2008.

Ellie was also a skilled photographer, and his large collection of photos of urban and ethnic scenes, especially murals in California, will remain an important career legacy. This collection indicates his perseverance in chronicling the American ethnic experience. An exhibition of his photographs appeared at the Robert and Frances Fullerton Museum of Art at California State University, San Bernardino. The exhibit: “Chicano Muralists in Southern California, 1968-1985: The First Generation of a Cultural Revolution – Through the Camera of Elliott Robert Barkan” captured the essence and origins of the painting of ethnic murals and preserved them for the future.

Beyond his scholarly accomplishments, which were many, Ellie’s legacy, for those who knew him, remains the special person that he was. Ellie was filled with passion for his work, his friends, family, and life itself. His motto, inscribed on the bottom of his emails, was “live, love, life.” And he did, whether he was researching, traveling, bicycling, camping, or playing tennis. And as the father of five children, grandfather of nine, and husband to Bryn, family was a significant part of his busy life.

On a personal note, having been friends with Ellie and worked with him for many years, I can attest to his careful and diligent mastery of history, research, and editing. He was a true scholar with a love for educating others. He also had a special charisma as a dynamic person who could enhance any conversation or meeting. His knowledge was extensive, his passion contagious, and his dedication evident.

New Publications Noted


We welcome work on forced migrations and on cases where the US border crossed existing populations. We are a journal dedicated to race and ethnicity broadly, not any single group. That means any work that illuminates one of those categories, makes comparisons, or provides a particularly useful example of methodology or sources that could be the model for others can be important. I also look for work that illustrates current trends in the scholarship—something that a person who teaches race or ethnicity or immigration would want to know about for their pedagogy. Race and indigeneity constitute central categories of our history. Work that connects them with mobility provides especially fruitful, so research on recent immigrants from Africa or on native peoples as part of migration streams and multiethnic populations is particularly welcome.

ACE: Do you think of the JAEH as an international journal in terms of its coverage, submissions, and/or readership?
I have not tracked international contributions systematically, but my impression is that we receive a small but significant minority of submissions from outside North America. Most of those come from Europe, where some recent academic developments encourage publication of articles. Importantly, transnational currents of people and ideas lend themselves to research that goes beyond one national background.

ACE: Are there topics that you’d really like to see more submissions on?
Indigenous mobility—I would love a special issue on that. We could also use more attention to LGBTQ topics. Transnational religion and borderland economies as they relate to immigration and ethnicity also pique my interest. As I mentioned, scholarship on colonial race and ethnicity as well as recent migrations from Africa could be particularly useful.

ACE: There have been a number of special issues of the JAEH recently. Is your work as editor different when it comes to special issues?
My role with special issues can differ substantially. In some cases, there are guest editors who handle almost everything. I simply record the names of the peer reviewers (so I do not ask them again too soon), make sure all the forms are in place, and handle the correspondence with the press. I typically do a quick copy edit for readability. In other cases, I may assist in finding reviewers, do more substantial editing, or handle more of the logistics with authors and the press. I might attend a conference that becomes the basis for a special issue and make suggestions to the guest editors about which pieces might best fit. My role is also to be the source of information on the logistics from length to illustrations to citation format. I consider a guest-edited journal issue a good addition to the CV of a junior scholar who may have just finished a monograph and is on the lookout for a project that will extend that work and help solidify their standing in the field without requiring the same number of contributions and time that an edited collection might.

ACE: What should scholars submitting articles and the IEHS membership more broadly know about the process of peer review?
I see my job in part as nurturing the next generation of scholars. That sometimes means sending out manuscripts for review that have a solid basic argument or premise, but need work. I know that the commentary authors will receive can really improve the quality of the submission, as can another round of editing. We have a great deal of revise and resubmit traffic, and many of the articles that the JAEH has accepted recently came in at least once before. One other point has to do with the time required for getting a publication out. The Trump presidency has spurred a great deal of attention to crimmigration as well as pro-migration activism. In general, I only control a piece of the review process, and waiting for reviewers to respond is unfortunately a common occurrence. The time needed to complete the peer review process and then to press means we have a difficult time connecting very tightly to current events. I also think it is important that we avoid polemics, academic or otherwise.

ACE: Thank you very much for your insights into the JAEH and the work you are doing for the profession.
Announcements from Other Organizations

Grants for Work on US-Austrian History
The Botstiber Institute for Austrian-American Studies (BIAAS) seeks grant proposals for projects aimed at promoting an understanding of the historic relationship between the United States and Austria (including Habsburg Austria) in the fields of history, politics, economics, law, cultural studies, and public history. Grants may include support for research, exhibits, publications, and web/media projects. Salary replacement and/or tuition are not eligible.

Applications for the 2020-2021 BIAAS grant cycle must be submitted online by March 1, 2020. For more information about BIAAS funding opportunities please visit: https://botstiberbiaas.org/funding-opportunities/biaas-fellowships-grants/

2020 Africana Studies Conference:
Migration, Identities, Borders and Globalization
Marquette University, Milwaukee, USA
March 27-28, 2020

Migration has been part of the human experience. Historically, the intersection of immigration with race is self-evident. Voluntary and involuntary migrations have shaped global demographics while creating a persistent culture of racism. In the 21st century, however, the nature of migration and the politics of belonging has become more contentious. Debates over immigration have received renewed interest following attempts to overhaul immigration in the West and anti-immigration rhetoric aimed particularly at immigrants from the global south.

This conference examines critical contemporary issues on migration as to how the flows of people have entangled with politics of identity, nationalism, statehood, and ideologies in the age of globalization.

Possible topics could include but are not limited to:

- Inter-generational Relations
- Reverse Migrations
- Migrants, Human Rights, Social Policies, Social Networks,
- Migrants and Labor Market Participation
- Race, Ethnicity, and Identity
- Migrants and Diaspora Communities
- Migration, Nationalisms, and Praxis
- Gender and Migration
- Migration, the Other, and the Subaltern

- Migration, Religion, and Social Imaginaries
- Migration and Human Trafficking
- Humanitarian Impulse and Migrations
- Anti-immigrant Rhetoric

Submit abstracts of no more than 300 word to: africa-studies@marquette.edu by February 20, 2020. Please include your email address and institutional affiliation in your submission.

For questions, email Dr Chima J. Korieh: chi-ma.korieh@marquette.edu.

Immigration & Migration in the American South:
Manuscript Workshop

In honor of the Journal of Southern History's 60 years at Rice University (1959–2019), the JSH and Rice are sponsoring a Manuscript Workshop on the theme, "Immigration and Migration in the American South."

We invite scholars to participate in a workshop for article-length manuscripts (8,000 to 12,000 words, exclusive of notes) that address some aspect of migration or immigration in the American South. Scholars might explore questions such as who moves to the South and why. How did the arrival of one group displace others? What were the economic, political, cultural, and social consequences of such migration or immigration? This movement of peoples could be voluntary or forced, and the journeys may have taken place within the bounds of the United States or traversed oceans and borders. We welcome submissions from any time period. We hope to foster dialogue, engage in scholarly discussion, and offer critical engagement with the texts the scholars submit. The workshop will consist of a two-day meeting at Rice University (June 18–19, 2020) to discuss participants’ pre-circulated manuscripts with each other as well as editorial staff from the Journal of Southern History. Accepted participants’ travel, food, and lodging will be provided.

Applicants should submit the following materials to jsh-manuscriptworkshop@rice.edu by March 1, 2020:

- Project Abstract (250 words maximum)
- CV (two pages maximum)
- 20–35 pages of the proposed work (accepted participants may submit a revised version four weeks prior to the workshop)

For more information, please see https://thesha.org/jsh-manuscript-workshop-2020
Inside This Issue

Interview with Suzanne Sinke, Editor of the Journal of American Ethnic History
From the IEHS President
IEHS Book Discussions
In Memoriam: Elliott Robert Barkan by Ronald H. Bayor
New Publications
Announcements from Other Organizations

Special thanks to Jolene Kreisler and Lisa Lamson for help their with this issue.

New Publications? Awards? Conferences planned? Research projects? Let us know! Email newsletter@iehs.org or mail details to the newsletter’s return address.

Membership

All rates include membership in the Immigration and Ethnic History Society, the quarterly Journal of American Ethnic History, and the biannual Immigration and Ethnic History Newsletter.

Individuals (1 Year):
Print or online: $45; Both: $55

Students (1 Year):
Print or online: $25; Both: $35

Institutions (1 Year):
Print or online: $257; Both: $310
Non-U.S. postage (Canada/Mexico): + $10
Other non-U.S. locations: + $35

Single Issues of the JAEH:
Individuals: $20; Institutions: $50

Back Issues of the newsletter:
Digital copies available at http://iehs.org/ (no cost to access).

Email change of address to Cheyl Jestis, Subscription Manager, at jestis@illinois.edu (specify JAEH) or update your information directly at https://www.press.uillinois.edu/journals/jaeh.html.