HISTORICAL GEOGRAPHY: EDITORIAL UPDATE

This is my (Garth Myers) final issue as a co-editor, as Arn Keeling of Memorial University of Newfoundland steps in alongside Maria Lane of the University of New Mexico as the two co-editors for the 2015 volume. It has been an adventurous decade at Historical Geography, to say the least. I feel that, for much of the time since I came on to the team in 2005 to co-edit with Karen Morin and Dydia DeLeyser, I have been the lesser partner, the silent partner, or at least the stealth partner because of the strong efforts of my fellow co-editors. At the same time, I am proud to have been a part of helping this journal weather the following storms (and, in the first case, literally it was a storm): that of its very existence post-Katrina; its uncertainties with a disappearing publisher/managing editor; its transition to a new role as journal of the Historical Geography Specialty Group of the AAG; its transition to an all-digital format; and its subsequent move to the University of New Mexico. Just writing that sentence reminds me how many challenges the journal has faced, and yet also of the pleasure of working with Karen, Dydia, Maria, and now Arn to publish some very high-quality, groundbreaking work in historical geography, for a full decade.

The journal is in very good hands with Maria and Arn, and with its permanent home at the University of New Mexico. As readers will no doubt be aware by now, we utilize the Open Journals Systems platform hosted by UNM Libraries, publishing all of our content digitally and conducting all production activities online. The OJS platform streamlines everything from peer review and copyediting to subscription management, and we are extremely grateful to the UNM Libraries for providing this resource and the technical support we need to use it. We wish to thank our UNM-based team, including Jon Wheeler for conscientious technical support and Tina Faris (an MS Geography student at UNM) for her outstanding editorial and production assistance.

Historical Geography continues to look forward to hearing from authors, subscribers, and potential guest editors through our OJS site at ejournals.unm.edu/index.php/historicalgeography. Authors should use the online portal for article submission, and we encourage submissions that use diverse digital media forms for both analysis and presentation. Subscribers can begin or renew subscriptions through the subscription portal, in order to enjoy access to HG content in the first twelve months after publication. (All HG content is fully open-access after the first year.) Members of the AAG’s Historical Geography Specialty Group receive subscriptions to HG as a benefit of their HGSG membership. We also offer digital subscriptions to both individuals and libraries. Those who are interested in editing a future special issue on a particular theme should contact Maria Lane (mdlane@unm.edu) and Arn Keeling (akeeling@mun.ca) to discuss topical and scheduling considerations.

I would also like to acknowledge the authors here, whose contributions have made Volume 42 one of the “thickest” issues in HG’s history - despite, of course, the lack of a thick hardcover journal! In fact, the digital format now makes this “thick” issue cost-effective; it would have been far too costly to have this many articles in the old (print) days. This issue offers the second Part of our special theme section on Irish Historical Geographies, edited by Gerry Kears. The theme section blossomed to twelve research articles, in addition to Gerry Kears’ introduction to the section; Parts One and Two, combined, will provide a benchmark for years to come of the best and brightest work in historical geography from and/or about (global) Ireland. This issue is graced with the presence of a lively and provocative essay from Anne Knowles, her 2014 Distinguished
Historical Geographer Lecture from the AAG meeting in Tampa – where Anne was elected as the new President of the HGSG. Volume 42 contains five other research articles, as well as numerous book reviews.

This is also the final issue as Book Review Editor for Soren Larsen of the University of Missouri, as John Bauer of the University of Nebraska-Kearney steps in to that role for Volume 43 next year. I would like to join Maria and Arn in thanking Soren for just short of a decade in charge of the reviews, which remain a vital segment of the journal.

Garth Myers

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