

Editors' Report for 2019

Dan Bogart is now in his second year editing the Eurasian submissions to the JOURNAL, and Bill Collins is in his fourth and final year editing the non-Eurasian submissions. Eric Hilt continues his work as book review editor for the Americas, and Aldo Musacchio continues his work as book review editor for the other parts of the world. The JOURNAL is fortunate in having Lily Welch continue as the JOURNAL's Editorial Assistant and Sally Sztrecska as its Production Editor.

The JOURNAL has benefited greatly from the expert guidance and advice of our Editorial Board and more than 200 referees who contributed their time and expertise to maintaining and enhancing the JOURNAL's quality. Editorial Board members typically serve four-year terms. Those departing from the Board this year are Guido Alfani, Richard Hornbeck, Morgan Kelly, Noel Maurer, Petra Moser, Aldo Musacchio, Kim Oosterlinck, and Warren Weber. Carola Frydman and Marianne Wanamaker have left the Board to become editors of *Explorations in Economic History*. Kerstin Enflo has left the Board to become an editor of the *European Review of Economic History*. New board members include Leticia Arroyo Abad, Eric Hornung, Carl Kitchens, Jared Rubin, Mohamed Saleh, and Laura Salisbury. We also recognize and appreciate numerous scholars' contributions to the JOURNAL's book reviews. The editorial office is grateful to all who have worked on behalf of the JOURNAL over this past year.

The number of new submissions to the JOURNAL in recent years is shown in Table 1. Over the last several years, the average number of submissions per year is approximately 160, but in the past year there was a noticeable jump in the number of submissions. Time will tell whether this is an aberration or a new level for the inflow of submissions. The publication ratio displayed in Table 1 is the number of refereed papers and notes published in the current year divided by the number of new manuscripts submitted in the previous year. In 2018–2019, the publication ratio was 0.18 (28/155), which is in line with the recent past. The JOURNAL published 30 articles in total in 2018–2019, including Cormac Ó Gráda's presidential address and Kevin O'Rourke's "reviews and reflections" essay.

Table 2 reports the response-time statistics for the corresponding sample. To place the numbers into context, our goal is to have a decision back to the author within 90 days. This past year's performance has been somewhat faster than previous years for new submissions, with a median response time of just under 60 days. Note that this pertains to submissions received from July 2018 to June 2019, some of which may not have received decisions at the time of this report's writing. The median response time for all submissions (included revised manuscripts) is slightly lower. Unfortunately, a small number of papers have taken longer to review. We apologize to authors of manuscripts that experienced substantial delays. We continuously work to reduce the time for this small number of manuscripts, taking into consideration that we are, of course, concerned about the quality of the response, not only its speed.

The distributions of submissions are documented in subsequent tables. We show the data for eras in Table 3 and for topics in Table 4. The automated part of the paper submission system stopped collecting information on regions for a period of time during 2015 and 2016. This means that we do not have consistent comparisons over all years in the table. What is currently available is shown in Table 5.

The JOURNAL's coverage remains broad. Table 3 shows that the distribution of submissions over eras has been fairly steady in recent years, with the nineteenth and twentieth

centuries accounting for the bulk of submissions. Table 4 shows that submissions in political economy, labor, and growth continue to be particularly strong. Nonetheless, the top-three topic areas together account for less than half of all submissions, reflecting broadly dispersed interests within the field. Table 5 shows that submissions on Western Europe and the United States are most common. In the past year, there was a dip in the share of submissions on Asia and a slight rise in the share of submissions on Africa, Eastern Europe/Russia, and Latin America.

Book reviews are an important component of the JOURNAL, and we sincerely thank the many reviewers. We also remind our membership to have their press send a copy of any new books to the relevant book review editor. In recent years, the JOURNAL has also sought occasional “reviews and reflections” synthetic articles, extended book reviews, and roundtable book reviews when appropriate. For instance, in June 2019, the JOURNAL published “Economic History and Contemporary Challenges to Globalization,” a “reviews and reflections” article by Kevin O’Rourke.

Readers will recall that at the 2013 meetings, the EHA board of trustees approved a policy to make publication conditional on archiving the data sufficient to replicate the results in the accepted articles. The authors of all new submissions from 1 January 2016 onward that were accepted for publication have been required to post data and replication files to maintain and advance the JOURNAL’s efforts to ensure transparency and scholarly integrity. A branded page can be found with openICPSR, and depositors can submit files into openICPSR per the instructions available at: <http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/files/openICPSR/JEH-deposit-instructions.pdf>. The editorial office and ICPSR continue to work to enhance the interface.

TABLE 1
SUBMISSION AND PUBLICATION RATES

	Published September to June issues	New Submissions, “New” Method	Publication Ratio Pt/St-1
2011–2012	32	152	0.21
2012–2013	31	143	0.20
2013–2014	32	158	0.22
2014–2015	32	177	0.20
2015–2016	31	170	0.18
2016–2017	29	162	0.17
2017–2018	29	155	0.18
2018–2019	28	195	0.18

The “published” count includes refereed articles and notes. It does not include the presidential address, which is published in June, nor does it include “reviews and reflections” articles. In 2017–2018, the JOURNAL published one “reviews and reflections” article.

TABLE 2
RESPONSE TIME STATISTICS

Year	Decision Time (in days)		Mean	Median
	Minimum	Maximum		
All submissions				
2012/2013	2	237	80	78
2013/2014	4	243	76	75
2015/2015	1	235	78	78
2015/2016	1	277	60	50
2016/2017	1	306	61	60
2017/2018	1	227	51	47
2018/2019	1	175	48	56
New submissions				
2012/2013	2	237	86	85
2013/2014	4	243	80	79
2014/2015	1	235	80	78
2015/2016	1	277	74	74
2016/2017	1	306	73	75
2017/2018	1	227	64	64
2018/2019	1	175	56	59

TABLE 3
DISTRIBUTION OF SUBMISSIONS BY ERA, MULTIPLE SELECTIONS
PER SUBMISSION POSSIBLE

Eras	2013– 2014	2014– 2015	2015– 2016	2016– 2017	2017– 2018	2018– 2019
Pre-seventeenth century	22	28	24	15	17	17
Seventeenth and eighteenth centuries	39	43	24	27	29	37
Nineteenth century	84	92	56	74	72	83
Twentieth century	87	104	78	83	77	100
Twenty-first century	16	12	15	16	10	14
Not applicable	2	2	3	4	8	5
Total	250	281	200	219	213	256
	Percent					
Pre-seventeenth century	8.8	10.0	12.0	6.8	8.0	6.6
Seventeenth and eighteenth centuries	15.6	15.3	12.0	12.3	13.6	14.5
Nineteenth century	33.6	32.7	28.0	33.8	33.8	32.4
Twentieth century	34.8	37.0	39.0	37.9	36.2	39.1
Twenty-first century	6.4	4.3	7.5	7.3	4.7	5.5
Not applicable	0.8	0.7	1.5	1.8	3.8	2.0

Note: This table corrects errors in previous year's report for 2014–2015 pre-seventeenth-century percent entry and for 2015–2016 twentieth-century percent entry.

TABLE 4
DISTRIBUTION OF SUBMISSIONS BY TOPIC, MULTIPLE SELECTIONS
PER SUBMISSION POSSIBLE

Topics	2013– 2014	2014– 2015	2015– 2016	2016– 2017	2017– 2018	2018– 2019
Agriculture	24	19	8	10	11	18
Demography	25	24	25	22	17	17
Growth	26	39	36	28	24	30
History of thought	3	4	7	3	5	10
Industry	20	19	8	7	13	18
International trade, finance	31	20	15	20	14	16
Labor	22	23	24	31	31	28
Money and macro	17	23	16	11	17	13
Other	22	18	10	12	10	17
Political economy	36	35	31	41	36	46
Private finance, capital markets	19	19	12	12	9	17
Public finance	17	17	12	9	18	16
Technology	9	13	11	11	0	7
Urban and regional	10	10	13	13	16	16
Total	281	283	228	230	221	269
	Percent					
Agriculture	8.5	6.7	3.5	4.3	5.0	6.7
Demography	8.9	8.5	11.0	9.6	7.7	6.3
Growth	9.3	13.8	15.8	12.2	10.9	11.2
History of thought	1.1	1.4	3.1	1.3	2.3	3.7
Industry	7.1	6.7	3.5	3.0	5.9	6.7
International trade, finance	11.0	7.1	6.6	8.7	6.3	5.9
Labor	7.8	8.1	10.5	13.5	14.0	10.4
Money and macro	6.0	8.1	7.0	4.8	7.7	4.8
Other	7.8	6.4	4.4	5.2	4.5	6.3
Political economy	12.8	12.4	13.6	17.8	16.3	17.1
Private finance, capital markets	6.8	6.7	5.3	5.2	4.1	6.3
Public finance	6.0	6.0	5.3	3.9	8.1	5.9
Technology	3.2	4.6	4.8	4.8	0.0	2.6
Urban and regional	3.6	3.5	5.7	5.7	7.2	5.9

Note: This table corrects errors in previous years' reports for 2014–2015 and 2015–2016 percent entries.

TABLE 5
DISTRIBUTION OF GEOGRAPHICAL AREA

Regions	2013– 2014	*2014– 2015	*2015– 2016	2016– 2017	2017– 2018	2018– 2019
Africa	8	3	2	13	5	16
Asia	19	4	6	28	34	28
Australia and New Zealand	3	3	0	5	1	2
Eastern Europe/Russia	15	2	3	13	7	15
Great Britain	36	10	2	29	18	26
Latin America	19	4	1	6	7	12
Middle East	7	2	3	9	7	5
Non-Spanish speaking Caribbean	4	0	1	1	3	1
United States and Canada	65	16	10	48	43	58
Western Europe	56	14	6	49	53	70
Not applicable	3	0	3	2	6	3
Total	235	58	37	203	184	236

	Percent					
Africa	3.4	5.2	5.4	6.4	2.7	6.8
Asia	8.1	6.9	16.0	13.8	18.5	11.9
Australia and New Zealand	1.3	5.2	0	2.5	0.5	0.8
Eastern Europe/Russia	6.4	3.4	8.1	6.4	3.8	6.4
Great Britain	15.3	17.2	5.4	14.3	9.8	11.0
Latin America	8.1	6.9	2.7	3.0	3.8	5.1
Middle East	3.0	3.4	8.1	4.4	3.8	2.1
Non-Spanish speaking Caribbean	1.7	0	2.7	0.5	1.6	0.4
United States and Canada	27.7	27.6	27.0	23.6	23.4	24.6
Western Europe	23.8	24.1	16.2	24.1	28.8	29.7
Not applicable	1.3	0	8.1	1.0	3.3	1.3

*2014–2015 Region data are from 1 July 2014–14 October 2015. 2015–2016 Region data are from 18 March 2016–30 June 2016.

Referees for 2018 were:

Brian A'Hearn	Lee J. Alston	Gerben Bakker
Olivier Accominotti	Belinda Archibong	Charlotte Bartels
Scott Adler	Leticia Arroyo Abad	Brian Beach
Toke Aidt	Vellore Arthi	Sascha O. Becker
Guido Alfani	Cihan Artunç	Thor Berger
Bob Allen	Jeremy Atack	Asaf Bernstein
Marcella Alsan	Richard Baker	Vincent Bignon

Matthias Blum	James Feigenbaum	Kris Inwood
Gustavo Bobonis	Alan Fernihough	Douglas Irwin
Leah Boustan	Daniel Fetter	Murat Iyigun
Stephen Broadberry	Price Fishback	David Jacks
John Brown	Martin Fiszbein	Matthew Jaremski
Gillian Brunet	Marc Flandreau	Taylor Jaworski
Liam Brunt	Erin Fletcher	Saumitra Jha
Carsten Burhop	Caroline Fohlin	Ruixue Jia
Joyce Burnette	Nathan Foley-Fisher	Reka Juhasz
Edmund Cannon	Johan Fourie	Brooks Kaiser
Ann Carlos	Ewout Frankema	Shawn Kantor
Celeste Carruthers	Carola Frydman	Daniel Kaufmann
Federica Carugati	Dustin Frye	Ian Keay
Benjamin Chabot	Leigh Gardner	Morgan Kelly
Christophe Chamley	Thomas Gehrig	Lionel Kesztenbaum
Eric Chaney	Oscar Gelderblom	Carl Kitchens
Latika Chaudhary	Michela Giorcelli	Alexander Klein
David Chilosi	Sun Go	John Komlos
Dylan Connor	Regina Grafe	Mark Koyama
Gary Cox	Rowena Gray	Sumner La Croix
Neil Cummins	Farley Grubb	José Miguel Lana-Berasain
Tomas Cvrcek	Timothy Guinnane	Marc Law
John Dalton	Bishnupriya Gupta	Sibylle Lehmann-Hasemeyer
Aditya Dasgupta	Federico Gutierrez	Frank Lewis
Joseph Davis	Michael Haines	Dan Li
Charles de Bartolome	Walker Hanlon	Gary Libecap
Alan de Bromhead	Leslie Hannah	Peter Lindert
Mark Dincecco	Timothy Hatton	Trevon Logan
Jordi Domenech	Joshua Hausman	Paul-Vincent Lombardi
Mauricio Drelichman	Ron Hayduk	Jason Long
Martin Dribe	Thomas Heinrich	Sara Lowes
Nicolas Duquette	Morgan Henderson	Debin Ma
Andrew Dustan	Carlos Eduardo Hernández	Brian Marein
Alan Dye	Alfonso Herranz-Loncán	Robert Margo
Shari Eli	Eric Hilt	Catherine Massey
Kerstin Enflo	Philip Hoffman	Kate Masur
Steven A. Epstein	Richard Hornbeck	Noel Maurer
Katherine Eriksson	Erik Hornung	Christopher Meissner
José-Antonio Espín-Sánchez	Anton Howes	Keith Meyers
Giovanni Federico	Jane Humphries	Melinda Miller

Chris Minns	Claudia Rei	Richard Sutch
Paul Miranti	Paul Rhode	Anand Swamy
Rinchan Mirza	Gary Richardson	Hui Ren Tan
Salvatore Morelli	Albrecht Ritschl	John Tang
Petra Moser	Hugh Rockoff	Peter Temin
Charles Moul	Jonathan Rose	Melissa Thomasson
Tomas Murphy	Joshua Rosenbloom	Werner Troesken
Peter Murrell	Jean-Laurent Rosenthal	John Turner
Aldo Musacchio	Elyce J. Rotella	Stefano Ugolini
Steven Nafziger	Jared Rubin	Marlous van Waijenburg
Larry Neal	Martin Saavedra	Jan Luiten Van Zanden
Tom Nicholas	Mohamed Saleh	Jessica Vechbanyongratana
Greg Niemesh	Laura Salisbury	François Velde
Sergey Nigai	Eric Schneider	Jordi Vidal-Robert
Pilar Nogues-Marco	Max-Stephan Schulze	Tamas Vonyo
Johannes Norling	Andrew Seltzer	Daniel Waldenström
Alessandro Nuvolari	Edson Severnini	Patrick Wallis
Cormac Ó Gráda	Paul Sharp	Marianne Wanamaker
Sheilagh Ogilvie	Allison Shertzer	Kirsten Wandschneider
Kim Oosterlinck	Katharine Shester	Zachary Ward
Nuno Palma	Carol Shiue	Warren Weber
Craig Palsson	Pablo Sierra Silva	Marc Weidenmier
Sevket Pamuk	Peter Siminski	Leonardo Weller
Andrea Papadia	James Siodla	Alex Whalley
John Parman	Carolyn Sissoko	Eugene White
Helen Paul	Peter Solar	Gavin Wright
Santiago Pérez	Rohini Somanathan	Yishay Yafeh
Alexander Persaud	Arthur Spirling	Noam Yuchtman
Maarten Prak	Steven Sprick Schuster	Shuang Zhang
Jonathan Pritchett	Bjarne Strøm	Nicolas Ziebarth
Sarah Reber	David Stuckler	Ariell Zimran
Angela Redish	Nathan Sussman	