

INTRODUCTION

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As executive editor, I am thrilled to present readers with the ninth edition of the *MADISON HISTORICAL REVIEW*. This year, we have initiated a number of important changes to aid in the advancement of a journal we hope will continue to grow and attract the unique, quality research endeavors of our graduate colleagues at other institutions.

First published in 2003 by graduate students at James Madison University, the *MADISON HISTORICAL REVIEW* is proud to continue producing a peer-reviewed journal that encourages scholarly exchange between graduate history students around the country, aids in the refinement of research, and contributes to the historian's overall development. In the last nine years, we have been privileged to feature papers from all over the country, including Villanova University, York University, University of North Carolina at Wilmington, University of Toledo, University of Montana, University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee, Kansas State University, and University of Colorado at Boulder. This year we have received an unprecedented number of submissions from an even broader base, and we thank all of the program directors for encouraging their students to submit papers for publication. The staff hopes to continue to expand its call for papers to other institutions, but would like to acknowledge the support of our existing network in helping to make our journal possible.

The *MADISON HISTORICAL REVIEW* is also indebted to the talented students who spent hundreds of hours on research and execution, and subsequently decided to submit their final work for publication. I am grateful to this year's editorial staff for providing valuable critiques and perspectives, aiding in the difficult process of reviewing these fine works. Selecting only a few submissions of many is a daunting task, and I could not have done so without your help. Special thanks also goes to Dr. L. Stephen Chappell and Dr. Steven Reich for their guidance and vision, and to Dr. Andrew Witmer for his assistance in developing this year's new standardized publication format. Thanks are also due to Dr. Gabrielle Lanier for her dedication to maintaining the *Madison Historical Review* website – as an online journal, our website serves as our public face, and her efforts are critical to our success. Ultimately, this issue of the *Review* could not have been realized without the generous contributions of time, energy, and enthusiasm on the part of James Madison's faculty and students.