



# E-Newsletter

*Fall 2021: Volume 16, Issue 1*

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## A LETTER FROM THE ADE EDUCATION COMMITTEE CHAIR

**Beth Luey, Chair of ADE  
Education Committee**

### **Education Committee's Role and New Ventures**

The Institute for the Editing of Historical Documents (IEHD) has been the focus of the ADE's educational efforts for the past decade. In its new incarnation as an online course managed by a team at the University of Virginia, the IEHD will continue the essential role of introducing editors to the art and science of documentary editing. This change enables the Education Committee to expand its focus and consider the needs of other audiences, including K-12 teachers, archivists, librarians, and genealogists — anyone with documents and texts they wish to share with others.

Knowing that many teachers seek documents for use in the classroom, we have begun to list the numerous organizations

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who contextualize their primary materials for that purpose on the ADE's new ["Recommended Videos"](#) webpage. These include the excellent videos that the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History offers through its "Inside the Vault" program, as well as the lesson plans from the Massachusetts Historical Society and the George Washington Papers. We welcome additions to this page from member projects and institutions, or suggestions of other document-based teaching resources.

We also want to reach archivists, librarians, faculty members, and others who want to produce a very small edition, whether in print or digitally. This would include the historian who wants to include edited documents within a monograph; an archivist or librarian with a small collection of letters or a single diary; or a member of the public who wants to create a version of a diary for their family. Our first presentation for these individuals is a link on the ["Recommended Videos"](#) webpage to a superb series of videos produced by the Seward Project.

In the future, we hope to provide videos or PowerPoint presentations that we've tentatively titled "How We Edited This Document." These would include why a document was selected, how it was transcribed and annotated, and how it was published. We'd like to provide a variety of examples—everything from the complex processes of a large project, to the work involved in posting a single letter found in a small collection in a public library.

Finally, we aim to produce a series of webinars in which an editor and an author who has used the edition discuss the author's book and their shared subject. We initiated such a series of videos at the annual meeting with a delightful discussion between Chris Brick of the Eleanor Roosevelt Papers project, and David Michaelis, author of *Eleanor*. We welcome additional volunteers to advance this effort.

## A PERSPECTIVE ON THE ADE'S 2021 ANNUAL MEETING "RECOVERY & REPRESENTATION"

**Silvia Glick, ADE Director of Publications**

This year's ADE annual meeting, whose theme was "Representation and Recovery," was innovative in both form and substance. The meeting—held virtually due to pandemic-related safety concerns—had two distinct parts: conference sessions during the first week of June that focused on participatory activities, and networking sessions every Tuesday in July that focused on interdisciplinary conversations.

The conference sessions in June included events with an ADE focus: a business meeting, a presidential forum, a roundtable of Sharon Ritenour Stevens Prize winners, and an awards ceremony. June's sessions also included two panels on "re-envisioning," one focused on the Institute for the Editing of Historical Documents (IEHD) and the other on *Scholarly Editing*, the ADE's open-access, peer-reviewed journal committed to the development and advancement of all aspects of textual and documentary editing.

The session on the IEHD was moderated by Bob Karachuk and included panelists Darrell Meadows, Jennifer Stertz, and Cathy Moran Hajo. The panelists highlighted the need to increase the number of participants in the IEHD and to remove existing barriers so that a new, more diverse generation of editors can receive training in the fundamentals of documentary editing. Stertz and Moran Hajo presented their plans for accomplishing those goals.

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The panel on *Scholarly Editing* explored the revitalization of the digital annual journal. Moderated by co-editor in chief Noelle Baker, panelists included co-editor in chief Kathryn Tomasek, managing editor Robert Riter, and technical editor Raffaele Viglianti. According to Tomasek, the journal “seeks to foreground both academic and community work on the recovery of documents created by underrepresented and marginalized groups who have developed their own spaces distant from, and perhaps unfamiliar to, some of the longstanding constituencies of the ADE.” Tomasek introduced conference attendees to the work of Dr. Roopika Risam, noting that the journal seeks to explore the context of knowledge production as theorized by Dr. Risam in *New Digital Worlds: Postcolonial Digital Humanities in Theory, Praxis, and Pedagogy*.

The introduction to Dr. Risam’s work was one connection of many between the events in June and those in July, as Risam delivered the keynote address—titled “Beyond the Blacklist: Reanimating Intersectional Feminist Media Histories”—that opened up July’s sessions. Moderator Jennifer Stertzler introduced Risam, noting that her work challenges us to become “active participants in creating ethical, representative, and deeply

collaborative humanities knowledge infrastructures and outputs.” Risam spoke about the role of the digital edition as a tool of cultural recovery, contextualizing it as a contribution to postcolonial and feminist digital humanities. Risam’s scholarship is grounded in the belief that “digital humanities holds tremendous promise for revolutionizing the digital cultural record of humanity.”

The eight networking sessions held throughout July gave concrete examples of that revolutionary promise. They included panels on the recovery of nineteenth-century Black histories, digital strategy for archival materials related to the education of people with blindness and deafblindness, collaborative strategies for Black books projects, the use of digital humanities pedagogy to recover Asian voices, and the recovery of Indigenous voices in North America. Two sessions provided introductions to digital projects recovering the history of African Americans: Keywords for Black Louisiana; and The Slavery, Law, and Power Project.

Overall, the conference shined a light on the potential of scholarly editing and digital technology to represent those whose history and cultural heritage have been overlooked, devalued, and erased; and to recover their stories, their voices, and their truths. As documentary editors, we are privileged to undertake this work of representation and recovery, which is critical to understanding the past and creating a future that is more equitable and inclusive.

I am grateful to Program Chair Noelle Baker and the entire program committee, as well as to the many people with whom they consulted, for assembling a program comprised of so many diverse voices and perspectives. Much thanks also goes to Dickinson State University and its Theodore Roosevelt Center, which hosted the event and provided critical technical and logistical services.

## QUESTION CORNER

*Which sessions from this year's annual meeting did you most enjoy?*

Share your response in an email to Katie Blizzard ([kal3aw@virginia.edu](mailto:kal3aw@virginia.edu)). We may feature your **Question Corner** comments in a future issue of the newsletter.

# COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

**The 2021 ADE Virtual Conference concluded on 27 July**, the first virtual meeting held by the ADE. Many of the panels are available to view on "Youtube." [Watch now.](#)

**Volume three of The Papers of the Revolutionary Era Pinckney Statesmen, Pinckney Papers: Experienced Statesmen in War, Politics, & Diplomacy (1799-1811)** is now available on Rotunda. [Read now.](#)

**The John Dickinson Writings Project published Volume Two, 1759-1763**, of the Complete Writings and Selected Correspondence of John Dickinson on September 17, 2021. In addition, they were awarded an NEH Scholarly Editions grant to establish the project at the University of Delaware.

**In August The Walt Whitman Archive was able to publish 459 additional Whitman letters**, mostly from his late life period, thanks to a grant from the NHPRC. [Read the letters.](#)

**The NEH awarded a grant of \$450,000 to The Hemingway Letters Project in August** to support the publication of volumes 6, 7, and 8 of the Hemingway Letters.

## DID WE MISS ANYTHING?

If you have an announcement you would like to see in a future ADE e-newsletter or at any time on the ADE's social media channels, email it to Kathryn Gehred ([kig7we@virginia.edu](mailto:kig7we@virginia.edu)).

# EVENTS OF INTEREST

**OCT 19-21, 2021**

**R/ASKHISTORIANS 2021  
DIGITAL CONFERENCE**

**NOV 1-3, 2021**

**DIGITAL LIBRARY  
FEDERATION 2021 FORUM  
(VIRTUAL)**

## NEWSLETTER CREDITS

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