
AMERICAN
SOCIETY FOR
18TH·CENTURY
STUDIES

ASECS 2022 Annual Meeting Awards Ceremony

Hilton Baltimore Inner Harbor
Key Ballroom 7 & 8
3:15pm ET

ASECS gratefully acknowledges our partners at Gale for sponsoring ASL Interpretation at this and all other general sessions at the 2022 Annual Meeting.



The 2022 Louis Gottschalk Prize

The Louis Gottschalk Prize recognizes an outstanding historical or critical study on the eighteenth century. It carries an award of \$1,000

2022 Louis Gottschalk Prize Winner: José Francisco Robles, *Polemics, Literature, and Knowledge in Eighteenth-Century Mexico: A New World for the Republic of Letters* (Liverpool University Press)

José Francisco Robles introduces readers to the vibrant intellectual and literary culture of eighteenth-century Mexico as configured by communities of readers radiating from the capital city to the provinces. These well-developed networks, Robles shows, faced head-on the challenges posed by expressions of European superiority, arguing in response for polycentricism as opposed to reductive notions of cosmopolitanism and cultural authority. Writers and thinkers employed a variety of compelling strategies to define Mexico as an important node in a polycentric Enlightened world—from the exploration of its rich and vital pre-Colombian past to its engagement with the major ideas emerging from Europe. Bringing a wealth of research as well as deep cultural knowledge to this project, Robles also explicates the ways in which networks of knowledge vie with traditional forms of knowing in eighteenth-century Mexico, examining the various means by which new ideas permeated and transformed scholasticism, often in conversation rather than in heated debate. Robles's vividly presented and meaningfully analyzed literary landscape expands the eighteenth-century Republic of Letters beyond Europe, providing a sweeping introduction to a wide range of texts, authors, and issues from eighteenth-century Mexico and bringing the Hispanic eighteenth century more broadly into dialogue with all of us.

2022 Honorable Mention: James Mulholland, *Before the Raj: Writing Early Anglophone India* (Johns Hopkins University Press)

James Mulholland's engagingly written, thoroughly researched study of Anglo-Indian literature from 1770-1820 provides a fresh look at how the infrastructure of the East India Company and the politics of empire produced a unique hybrid literary culture emerging from translocal regionalism. Focusing on means of production as well as content, Mulholland considers diverse texts to extract and assess the values of this colonial culture from its inception. The study's conceptual richness is evident in the ways it both transforms our reading of eighteenth-century Anglo-Indian culture and introduces methodology that can be usefully applied to other historical moments and bodies of work.

The 2022 Srinivas Aravamudan Prize

The Srinivas Aravamudan Prize goes to the author of an article published in the previous year that pushes the boundaries, geographical and conceptual, of eighteenth-century studies, especially by using a transnational, comparative, or cosmopolitan approach. It carries an award of \$250.

2022 Srinivas Aravamudan Prize Winner: Kerry Sinanan, "Lost Mothers in the Caribbean Plantation and Black Maternal and Infant Mortality," *Caribbean Literature in Transition. Volume 1. 1800-1920*. Eds. Evelyn O'Callaghan and Tim Watson. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2020: 390-406.

Kerry Sinanan's "Lost Mothers in the Caribbean Plantation and Black Maternal and Infant Mortality" is an effective and emotionally moving examination of the role of enslaved mothers and children in the language and aesthetics of the picturesque. Sinanan scrutinizes images of the

Caribbean plantation by white slave owners to teach readers about the complexities of our current social constructs about race. Placing past assumptions about enslaved mothers alongside current attitudes to Black motherhood, this article reminds us of how deeply rooted prejudices are in historical injustice. Shifting fluidly from visual analysis to contemporary relevance, Sinanan makes a persuasive case for the urgency of close reading and for speaking with nuance about print and visual culture. These techniques, she shows, have a role to play in revealing the continuing artistic legacies of slavery.

2022 Honorable Mention: Carrie Shanafelt, “‘A World of Debt’: Quobna Ottobah Cugoano, *The Wealth of Nations*, and the End of Finance,” *Eighteenth-Century Studies* 55.1 (Fall 2021).

Carrie Shanafelt’s “‘A World of Debt’: Quobna Ottobah Cugoano, *The Wealth of Nations*, and the End of Finance” is a forceful and persuasive account of Cugoano’s critique of late eighteenth-century economics and the Bank of England’s reliance on Caribbean slavery in **Thoughts and Sentiments on the Evil of Slavery** (1787). The sharp, erudite analysis demonstrates an enviable command of historical economics and deftly links Cugoano’s historical concerns to eighteenth-century economic theory and present-day discussions of capitalist collapse and debt. Working within a tradition of moral and philosophical debate, Shanafelt demonstrates with enormous talent and command how claims about the free market are premised on separating the abuse of labor from the sentimental commerce of mercantilism.

The 2022 James L. Clifford Prize

The James L. Clifford Prize recognizes an article that presents an outstanding study of some aspect of eighteenth-century culture, interesting to any eighteenth-century specialist, regardless of discipline. It carries an award of \$500.

2022 James L. Clifford Prize Winner: Alan S. Ross, University of Vienna, for “The Animal Body as Medium: Taxidermy and European Expansion, 1775-1865,” *Past & Present* 249 (November 2020).

In a rich and wide-ranging essay, Professor Ross applies insights from iconology, history of science, and art history to a highly original study of taxidermized animals. Demonstrating the deep entanglement of taxidermy with European allegorical traditions and colonial ventures, Ross explores the evolution of taxidermy and the ways it mirrored global interactions and interconnections. He shows how the taxidermic preservation and public display by Europeans of animals from faraway lands served as records of and justifications for imperialist expansion. Drawing on a prodigious quantity of research and using the key example of primates presented first at the London natural history cabinet of Ashton Lever and later at the Natural History Museum of Vienna, Ross provides a delightfully interdisciplinary analysis that draws in and surprises readers. This is a brilliant and engaging article that situates taxidermy as a fascinating starting point into new understandings of eighteenth-century culture more broadly.

2022 Honorable Mention: Elizabeth Ellis, “The Natchez War Revisited: Violence, Multinational Settlements, and Indigenous Diplomacy in the Lower Mississippi Valley,” *William & Mary Quarterly*, 77:3 (July 2020).

After mining an extensive range of source materials drawn from history, archaeology, anthropology and elsewhere Professor Ellis provides an impressively fresh contextualization of the Natchez War. Helping the reader perceive this conflict from Indigenous points of view, Ellis

provides a clear, persuasive, and well-written argument regarding the need to see the Natchez War more broadly and to establish a deeper Indigenous context.

The 2022 Innovative Course Design Competition

To encourage excellence in undergraduate teaching of the eighteenth century, the Society invites proposals for the ASECS Innovative Course Design Competition, from members in any of its constituent disciplines. Proposals should be for a new course or for a new unit within an existing course; the course should never have been taught or have been taught very recently for the first time. Three \$500 prizes are awarded.

2022 Innovative Course Design Winners:

Katherine Bergevin, Ph.D. Candidate in English and Comparative Literature at Columbia University, for “Colonialism and Resistance in the Enlightenment”

Lisa Maruca, Associate Professor of English at Wayne State University, for “Mediating the Global Eighteenth-Century”

Luis Ramos, Clinical Associate Professor in Liberal Studies at New York University, for “The Politics of Enlightenment in Southern Europe and its Atlantic Colonies”

2022 Graduate and Early Career Caucus Mentorship Award

The ASECS Graduate and Early Career Caucus Excellence in Mentorship Award recognizes commitment to students’ short- and long-term goals, effectiveness in helping students to navigate graduate school coursework and requirements, ability to guide and inspire students in the exchange of ideas, research and writing; and success in seeking and securing opportunities for mentees such as conference presentations, publications, fellowships, and/or grant awards.

2022 Graduate and Early Career Caucus Mentorship Award: George Haggerty, Professor Emeritus of English at the University of California, Riverside.

The award committee and nominators had many positive things to say about Dr. Haggerty: Prof Haggerty has gone above and beyond to mentor students, especially those interested in queer studies and disability studies.

Too often, senior scholars of his stature retreat into their own worlds, yet Haggerty has remained generously “present” in their students’ professional and personal lives, going out of his way to be share his time, knowledge, energy, and wisdom.

George is the kind of generous colleague who gives back endlessly, using his significant scholarly standing as a platform to support and extend the work of others.

Teaching is for many of us where scholarship, historical revision, intellectual inspiration, and cross- generational support come together. It is important that a scholar of George’s standing makes that commitment and value visible. Here we see the full circle—a mentor who brings together scholarship and teaching in his own work and in his approach to students, new PhDs developing their professional practice, and more established rising scholars."

2022 Graduate Student Research Essay Prize

To support the pioneering research contributions of the next generation of scholars of eighteenth-century studies, this prize recognizes an outstanding research essay of 15-30 pages that has not been previously published.

2022 Winner: Lesley Thulin, UCLA, “Priscilla Pointon’s ‘Artful Strain’: Disability and the Poetics of the Gimmick”

The 2022 Graduate Student Research Essay Prize has been awarded to Lesley Thulin, University of California, Los Angeles, for “Priscilla Pointon’s ‘Artful Strain’: Disability and the Poetics of the Gimmick.” This essay analyzes the intersection of the eye-rhyme, the enigma, and the gimmick in the verses of the blind poet Priscilla Pointon. By framing her close reading in the context of the eighteenth-century English blind community, Thulin argues convincingly how these poetic devices work to establish Pointon’s poetic authority in a society that privileges sight. This well-documented and lucid research secures Pointon’s place in eighteenth-century English poetry studies and enriches its dialogue with disability studies.

2022 ASECS Travel Awards and Fellowships

The Paula Backscheider Archival Fellowship supports researchers whose projects necessitate work in archives, repositories, and special collections (public and private) in foreign countries and/or in the United States. **2022 Winner: Michele Pflug**, Ph.D. Candidate in history at the University of Oregon, for “‘In Pursuit of her Butterflies’: Gender, Madness, and Science in the English Countryside, 1690-1715.”

The Gwin J. and Ruth Kolb Research Travel Fellowship supports younger eighteenth-century scholars to travel to distant collections in North America and abroad. **2022 Winner: Julia Pohlman**, post-graduate researcher in history at the University of Aberdeen, for “Facing the Other Within - Tolerating Differences in Eighteenth Century British Jewish Urban Spaces.”

The Richard H. Popkin Research Travel Fellowship supports scholars to travel to collections in North America and abroad. **2022 Winner: Mark Lentz**, Associate Professor of History at Utah Valley University, for “Between Words: Interpreters of Colonial Yucatan, 1519-1844.”

ASECS Huntington Library Short-term Fellowship is for postdoctoral scholars or PhD candidates who reside outside the Los Angeles metro area and wish to use The Huntington’s collections to study the period 1660–1815. **2022 Winner: Helena Yoo Roth**, Ph.D. Candidate in history at the CUNY Graduate Center, for “American Timelines: Imperial Communications, Colonial Time-Consciousness, and the Coming of the American Revolution.”

2022 Traveling Jam Pot

The Traveling Jam Pot is replenished annually by the generous contributions of ASECS members and supports participation in the Annual Meeting by ABDs and PhDs within a year of receipt of the doctoral degree.

2022 Awardees:

Laura Golobish
June Oh

Isabella Rosner
Ankita Srivastava

2022 Non-Tenure-Track Faculty Fund

The **Non-Tenure Track Faculty (NTTF) Fund** provides travel assistance to non-tenure track faculty presenting their research at the Annual Meeting

2022 Awardees:

Elizabeth Browne
Pichaya “Mint” Damrongpiwat
Vincent Pham
Joanna Raisbeck
Rebecca Squires

2022 ASECS Women’s Caucus Awards

The 2022 winners of the following ASECS Women’s Caucus Awards will be presented at tomorrow’s Women’s Caucus Luncheon:

- Women’s Caucus Race and Gender Intersectional Award
- Émilie Du Châtelet Award
- Editing and Translation Fellowship
- Catherine Macaulay Graduate Student Prize