

CURRICULUM VITAE

ANNE E.C. MCCANTS

E51-287, MIT
77 Mass. Ave., Cambridge, MA 012139
amccants@mit.edu
617 258-6669
June 2025

EDUCATION

INSTITUTION	DEGREE	DATE	FIELD
UC Berkeley	Ph.D.	1991	History
UCLA	M.A.	1985	Economics
Mount Holyoke College	A.B.	1984	Economics/European Studies

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

2021 -	Ann F. Friedlaender Professor of Economic History
2012 -	Director, Concourse Program: First Year Learning Community, MIT
2006-12	Department Head, History, MIT
2006-21	Professor of History, MIT
1998-06	Associate Professor of History with Tenure, MIT
1995-98	Associate Professor of History without Tenure, MIT
1991-95	Assistant Professor of History, MIT
1993, 2002	Faculty Instructor, Graduate Consortium in Women's Studies at Radcliffe
1990	Acting Instructor, Dept. of History, UC Berkeley
1988	Graduate Student Instructor, Dept. of History, UC Berkeley
1986-88	Research Assistant, Family Reconstitution Project, UC Berkeley
1987	Graduate Student Instructor, Dept. of Economics, UC Berkeley

PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP POSITIONS

2024-	Research Chair, School of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences, MIT
2024-(30)	Phi Beta Kappa Society Senator, New England Region
2023-(26)	Past-President, Social Science History Association
2022-23	President, Social Science History Association
2022-(25)	Past-President, International Economic History Association
2022-(27)	Board of Trustees, National Bureau of Economic Research
2022-	Editor, <i>Journal of Interdisciplinary History</i>
2021-22	Vice President, Social Science History Association

2018-22	President, International Economic History Association
2018	Host, World Economic History Congress at MIT (1500 attendees)
2015-18	Vice-President, International Economic History Association
2014-15	Vice-President, Economic History Association (North America)
2019-21	Co-Editor, <i>Journal of Interdisciplinary History</i> (published by MIT Press)
2012-21	Editor, <i>Social Science History</i> (Journal of the Social Science History Association, published by Cambridge University Press)

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS, AND HONORS

2024	MIT-MISTI Norway Grant: “Danish and French Theater, 1700-1900”
2024	Alumni Class Funds: “Civil Discourse and Debates in Concourse.”
2023	Founders’ Prize recipient for Best Article in the Journal of Social Science History.
2023	<i>Doctricem Honoris causa</i> , Economics and Management, Lund University.
2023	Arthur Vining Davis Foundation, “Civil Discourse in the Classroom and Beyond,” (with Alex Byrne, Brad Skow, and Linda Rabieh.)
2022	Lund University, Department of Economic History, Visiting Research Fellow.
2021	MIT-MISTI France Grant: “Paris Facing the Climatic Crises of the Little Ice Age: 15th-19th c.”
2020	Jonathan Hughes Prize for Excellence in Teaching Economic History, Economic History Assn.
2020	Project member, “The Legacy of a Settler Colony: Quantitative Panel Studies of the Political Economy of the Cape Colony.”
2020	Project member, "Overvloed en onbehagen. Ongelijkheid in de Nederlandse materiële cultuur. Amsterdam, 1581-1780 (The embarrassment of riches? Inequality and the Dutch material culture) -- Research Foundation Flanders, FWO.
2020	RAPIDx Grant from MITx for “Disease, Climate Shocks, and Wellbeing.”
2019	Ecole des Hautes études en Sciences Sociales (EHESS), Paris: Visiting Fellow
2019	MIT-MISTI Italy Grant: “Waves of Globalization Between Tradition and Innovation.”
2014	Arthur C. Smith Award for exemplary service to MIT undergraduate life and learning
2013	T.W. Smith Foundation, for “Humanistic Foundations and their Connection to the Sciences” in the Concourse Freshman Learning Community – renewed annually through 2020.
2013	CAST (MIT), for “Object-ive Narratives: Portraits of Science through Material Culture and Photography” in the Concourse Freshman Learning Community.
2010	SHASS Fund for Teaching and Learning for World History Course
2009	Elizabeth Topham Kennan Award for Outstanding Educational Achievement, Mount Holyoke College.
2008	SHASS Fund for Teaching and Learning for Ancient and Medieval Studies
2008	Class of 1960 Fund for Innovation in Education, for establishment of a Program in Ancient and Medieval Studies at MIT
2007	Arthur C. Smith Award for exemplary service to MIT undergraduate life and learning
2006	Classes of ‘51 and ‘55 Fund for Excellence in Teaching, awarded for “Engineering the Medieval Achievement”
2004	Margaret MacVicar Faculty Fellow –for exemplary and sustained contributions to undergraduate education at MIT
2000-2	William and Betsy Leitch Assoc. Professor of History in Residence
1999	Levitan Prize in the Humanities, MIT
1999	Mary Lyon Achievement Award, Mount Holyoke College Alumnae Assoc.
1997	Classes of ‘51 and ‘55 Fund for Excellence in Teaching, awarded for “History at the Bench: Reading and Writing about Modern Europe”
1996	Harold E. Edgerton Faculty Achievement Award, MIT
1995-8	Class of 1957 Career Development Professorship

- 1993 MIT Provost's Fund Research Award
- 1991 Finalist, Gerschenkron Prize for best dissertation on a non-American subject, awarded by Economic History Association
- 1990 Mabelle McLeod Lewis Dissertation Writing Fellowship
- 1989 Regents Fellowship, University of California
- 1987 Hans Rosenberg Fellowship for European History
- 1987 Ph.D. Oral Examination -- Distinction
- 1983 Phi Beta Kappa -- Junior Year election
- 1982 Harry S Truman Scholar, (California)

PUBLICATIONS

Books:

Civic Charity in a Golden Age: Orphan Care in Early Modern Amsterdam. Urbana, IL: University of Illinois Press, 1997.

Railroads in Historical Context: Construction, Costs, and Consequences, Volumes I – III. Edited with Eduardo Beira, Jose M. Lopes Cordeiro, and Paulo Lourenco. Porto, Portugal: EDP, 2011, 2012 and 2013.

Articles in Refereed Journals:

“The cost of the consumer revolution: fashion, prices and inequality in Amsterdam (1630-1805),” with Bas Splet. Forthcoming in 2025 at *Economic History Review*.

“Wealth and Marriage at the Cape: Consanguineous Unions as a Strategy,” with Jeanne Cilliers, Erik Green, and Auke Rijpma, *The History of the Family*, published online April, 2025:
<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/1081602X.2025.2478381>

“The Pursuit of Well-Being: Metrics and Evidence,” forthcoming in *Social Science History*.

“Consumer Goods or Store of Value? Textile Evidence and Standard of Living in 18th Century Amsterdam,” with Ellan Spero, *Journal of Interdisciplinary History*, 55:1, 2024: 31-55.

“Polygamy, the Commodification of Women, and Underdevelopment,” with Dan Seligson, *Social Science History* 46:1, 2022, 1-34. (Founders’ Prize recipient for best article in *Social Science History*, 2023)

“Coevolving Institutions and the Paradox of Informal Constraints,” with Dan Seligson, *Journal of Institutional Economics* 17:3, 2021: 359-378.

“Economic History and the Historians,” *Journal of Interdisciplinary History* 50:4, 2020: 547-566.

“History and the Social Sciences: Past Imperfect; Future Promising” (Editor’s Introduction to the 40th Anniversary Issue), *Social Science History* 40:4, 2016: 525-35.

“Measuring Prosperity and Preserving Freedom: An Economics Education from Michael Polanyi,” *Tradition and Discovery* 42:3, 2016: 25-34.

<http://polanyisociety.org/TAD%20WEB%20ARCHIVE/TAD42-3/TAD42-3-final-full-pdf.pdf>

"The liberal studies curriculum as the basis for an engineering education," *Engineering Studies: Journal of the International Network for Engineering Studies*, (Special Issue: Liberal Studies in Engineering) 7:2-3, 2015: 145-46.

"*Nature and Power: A Global History of the Environment: the View from Economic History*," in *Special Issue: Global Environmental History, Social Science History* 37:3, 2013: 407-22.

"Public Welfare and Economic Growth," in Special Issue: Exploring the Roots of Development in *Economic History of Developing Regions* 27, Supplement 1, 2012: S86-S91.

"Historical Demography and the Crisis of the Seventeenth Century," *Journal of Interdisciplinary History* 40:2, 2009:195-214. (With discussion comments on pages 295-96.)

"Poor Consumers as Global Consumers: the Diffusion of Tea and Coffee Drinking in the Eighteenth Century," *The Economic History Review* 61:S1, 2008:172-200.

"Exotic Goods, Popular Consumption, and the Standard of Living: Thinking About Globalization in the Early Modern World," *Journal of World History* 18:4, 2007: 433-62.

"Goods at Pawn: The Overlapping Worlds of Material Possessions and Family Finance in Early Modern Amsterdam," *Social Science History* 31:2, 2007: 213-238.

"Inequality Among the Poor of Eighteenth Century Amsterdam," *Explorations in Economic History* 44:1, 2007: 1-21.

"After-Death Inventories as a Source for the Study of Material Culture, Economic Well-Being, and Household Formation Among the Poor of 18th c. Amsterdam," *Historical Methods* 39:1, 2006: 10-23.

"The Not-So-Merry Widows of Amsterdam, 1740-1782." *Journal of Family History* 24:4, 1999: 441-467.

"Individual Life Chances Within the Rural Norwegian-American Family, 1850-1910," coauthored with Jon Gjerde. *Journal of Interdisciplinary History* 30:3, 1999: 377-406.

"Nederlands Republikeinisme en de Politiek van Liefdadigheid," *Tijdschrift voor Sociale-Geschiedenis* 22:4, 1996: 443-455.

"Fertility, marriage, and culture: demographic processes among Norwegian immigrants to the rural Middle West," coauthored with Jon Gjerde, *Journal of Economic History* 55:4, 1995: 860-888.

"Meeting needs and suppressing desire: consumer choice models and historical data," *Journal of Interdisciplinary History* 26, Autumn, 1995: 191-207.

"Monotonous but not meager: the diet of burgher orphans in Early Modern Amsterdam," *Research in Economic History*, 1993: 69-116.

"Consumer behavior in an early modern Dutch orphanage: a wealth of choice," *Journal of European Economic History* 22:1, 1993: 121-142.

"Summaries of recent dissertations," *Journal of Economic History* 52, 1992: 447-449.

"Internal migration in Friesland: 1750-1805," *Journal of Interdisciplinary History* 22: 4, 1992: 387-409.

Book Chapters:

"Institutions in Economic History and the New Economic Sociology: Bridging the Gap," in Marco van Leeuwen, Ed., *Edgar Algar Research Handbook of Historical Sociology*, forthcoming.

"Economic History at MIT," in Robert Cord, ed., *The Palgrave Companion to MIT Economics*. " Palgrave Macmillan. 2025.

"Towards an Historically Informed Understanding of Institutions and Economies," in Seth Bernard and Sarah Murray, Eds., *Models and Morality: Assessing Modern Approaches to the Greco-Roman Economy*, Palgrave, 2024: 459-472.

"Money, Prices, and Accounting for Taste: Theater Economics as Revealed in the *Comédie-Française* Registers Project," in Jeffrey Ravel and Sylvanie Guyot, editors, *Databases, Revenues, & Repertory: The French Stage Online, 1680-1793 (Données, recettes et répertoire. La scène en ligne (XVIIe-XVIIIe siècles)*, MIT Press, 2020: <https://cfrp.mitpress.mit.edu/>

"Global History and the History of Consumption: Congruence and Divergence," in *Global History and New Polycentric Approaches: Europe, Asia and the Americas in a World Network System* edited by Manuel Perez-Garcia and Lucio Sousa, Palgrave MacMillan: Singapore, 2018: 241-54. Available open access here: <https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007%2F978-981-10-4053-5>

"Encomium Oomphis: Regressions, Measure and Meaning in Historical Demography," with Fabian Drixler in Koen Matthijs, Saskia Hin, Jan Kok & Hideko Matsuo, editors, *The Future of Historical Demography: Upside Down and Inside Out*, Acco: Leuven, 2016: 117-21.

"Textile Meanings in a Global Capital: Fabric and Fashion in 18th c. Amsterdam," in Miki Sugiura, ed. *Linking Cloth-Clothing Globally*, Ochanomizu Publishing, 2016.

"Historical Demography," in the *Oxford Handbook of Early Modern European History*, edited by Hamish Scott, Oxford University Press, 2015: 119-44.

"Becoming Consumers: Asiatic Goods in Migrant and Native-born Middling Households in 18th Century Amsterdam," in Maxine Berg, ed., *Goods from the East: Trading Eurasia 1600-1830*, Palgrave Macmillan: 2015: 197-215.

"Opening up an isolated region: the population dynamics of the Tras-os-Montes after the construction of the Tua Railroad," in *Railroads in Historical Context: Construction, Costs, and Consequences, Volume III*, edited by McCants, Beira, Cordeiro, and Lourenco. Porto, Portugal: EDP, 2013: 227-238.

"Porcelain for the Poor: The Material Culture of Tea and Coffee Consumption in Eighteenth Century Amsterdam," in Paula Findlan, ed. *Early Modern Things: Objects and their Histories, 1500-1800*. London: Routledge, 2013: 316-341.

“Narratives from an Isolated Region: Population and Commodity Dynamics of a Rural Hinterland,” in *Railroads in Historical Context: Construction, Costs, and Consequences, Volume II*, edited by McCants, Beira, Cordeiro, and Lourenco. Porto, Portugal: EDP, 2012: 3-12.

“Financing public goods and social overhead capital: some historical lessons,” in *Railroads in Historical Context: Construction, Costs, and Consequences, Volume I*, edited by McCants, Beira, Cordeiro, and Lourenco. Porto, Portugal: EDP, 2011: 357-70.

“Modest Households and Globally Traded Textiles: Evidence from Amsterdam Household Inventories,” in Laura Cruz and Joel Mokyr, eds. *The Birth of Modern Europe: Culture and Economy, 1400-1800, Essays in Honor of Jan De Vries*. Leiden: Brill, 2010: 109-132.

“Christian Charity and the Politics of Orphan Care in the Dutch Republic.” In Richard McKenzie, ed. *Home Away From Home: The Forgotten History of Orphanages*. New York: Encounter Books, 2009: 43-62.

“A Home Fit for Children: The Material Possessions of Amsterdam Orphans,” in *Domestic and Institutional Interiors in Early Modern Europe*. London: Ashgate, 2009: 221-234.

“The Transmission of Assets and Family Networks: Managing the Property and Care of Orphans in Eighteenth Century Amsterdam.” In David Green and Alastair Owens, eds., *Family Welfare: Gender, Property and Inheritance since the Seventeenth Century*. Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 2004: 143-162.

“Petty Debts and Family Networks: The Credit Markets of Widows and Wives in Eighteenth-Century Amsterdam.” In Beverly Lemire et al., eds., *Women and Credit: Researching the Past, Refiguring the Future*. Oxford: Berg Publishers, 2001: 33-50.

Review Essays:

“A Peculiar History of the Social Sciences.” Review of *A History of the Social Sciences in 101 Books*, Eds. Cyril Lemieux, Laurent Berger, Marielle Macé, Gildas Salmon, and Cécile Vidal. Trans. Adrian Morfee. *Journal of Interdisciplinary History*, 55:2, 2024: 269–277.

“Making Money.” Review of Rory Naismith, *Making Money in the Early Middle Ages*. *Journal of Interdisciplinary History*, 54:4, 2024: 497–505.

“A Moral Measure of Capitalism?” Contribution to a special issue on Jan Luiten van Zanden and Maarten Prak’s *Pioneers of Capitalism: The Netherlands, 1000-1800*, *Tijdschrift voor Sociale en Economische Geschiedenis*, 21:2, 2024: 139–148.

“Review Essay: Who Is He Calling WEIRD?” Joseph Henrich, *The WEIRDest People in the World*. *Journal of Interdisciplinary History* 51:4, 2021: 251-261.

“Featured Review.” J. C. Sharman, *Empires of the Weak: The Real Story of European Expansion and the Creation of the New World Order*. *Journal of Economic History* 80:4, 2020:1229-1232.

“Material Culture and Global History.” Review of Anne Gerritsen and Giorgio Riello (eds.), *Writing Material Culture History*, Beverly Lemire, *Global Trade and the Transformation of Cultures*, and Susan Whitfield, *Silk, Slaves, and Stupas*. *Journal of World History* 31:2, 2020: 456-463.

“Special Forum on Deirdre McCloskey’s *Bourgeois Virtues* Project.” Guest editor and author. *Historical Methods* 44:4, 2011:163-164 and 221-23.

“Special Section: Debating Gender, Work and Wages: a Roundtable Discussion of Joyce Burnett’s *Gender, Work and Wages in Industrial Revolution Britain*.” Session editor and author of introduction, *Social Science History* 33:4, 2009.

“Maps Matter: a new spatial view of the 13th century manorial economy.” A review of Bruce M.S. Campbell and Ken Bartley. *England on the Eve of the Black Death: an Atlas of the Lay Lordship, Land and Wealth, 1300-49*. *Historical Methods* 40:4, 2007:181-83.

"Urban Identification in Early Modern Europe," *Journal of Urban History* 33:2, 2007: 306-309.

“Summaries of Dissertations: Gerschenkron Prize Panel Discussion,” *Journal of Economic History* 66:2, 2006: 499-502.

Other Publications:

Introduction to Special Issue in Honor of Harriet Ritvo: “History and Other Unbounded Disciplines,” with Anya Zilberstein, *Journal of Interdisciplinary History*, LIV:3 (Winter, 2024), 297–304.

“Historical Perspectives on Climate Change,” *The Human Factor: Solving the political, cultural, economic dimensions of global issues*, MIT School of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences, Spring 2020: <https://shass.mit.edu/news/news-2020-climate-spotlight-humanistic-perspectives-mit>

“Economic Performance Through Time: A Dynamical Theory,” second author with Daniel Seligson. *APS Forum on Physics and Society*. July, 2019:

<https://www.aps.org/units/fps/newsletters/201907/economic.cfm>

and longer version at: <https://arxiv.org/pdf/1905.02956.pdf>

“Q&A: Anne McCants on “Waves of Globalization,” the 2018 World Economic History Congress at MIT.” Summer, 2018, <http://news.mit.edu/2018/historian-anne-mccants-waves-globalization-world-economic-history-congress-mit-0730>

“How history can help us solve global economic issues.” *The Human Factor: Solving the political, cultural, economic dimensions of global issues*, MIT School of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences, Spring 2016:

<https://shass.mit.edu/news/news-human-factor-series-historian-anne-mccants-innovation-and-economic-opportunity>

“Alkmaar Auction” in *The Oxford Companion to Cheese*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2016.

“Spice Trade” in *The Encyclopedia of Consumer Culture*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage, 2011.

“Sugar Trade” in *The Encyclopedia of Consumer Culture*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage, 2011.

“Pilgrim Donations & the Economics of Shrines,” in *The Encyclopedia of Medieval Pilgrimage*. Leiden: Brill Publishers, November, 2009.

“Orphans and Foundlings” and “Poverty,” in *Europe, 1450-1789: Encyclopedia of the Early Modern World*. Vols. 4 and 5. New York: Charles Scribner’s Sons, 2004.

Works in Progress:

“On the misconception of gender roles: Khoe women and home production,” with Calumet Links.

“Intergenerational transmission of human capital: Evidence from books in the Cape Colony probate Inventories,” with Leone Walters and Johan Fourie.

Book reviews:

Review of Wenkai He, *Public Interest and State Legitimation: Early Modern England, Japan, and China*. Forthcoming with *Journal of Interdisciplinary History*.

Review of Gregory Hanlon, *Death Control in the West, 1500–1800: Sex Ratios at Baptism in Italy, France and England*, in *The English Historical Review*, 139:600, 2024: 1288–1290. <https://doi.org/10.1093/ehr/ceae200>

Review of Maarten Prak and Jan Luiten van Zanden, *Pioneers of Capitalism: The Netherlands, 1000-1800*, July 17, 2023 eh.net: https://eh.net/book_reviews/pioneers-of-capitalism-the-netherlands-1000-1800/

Review of Katherine French, *Household Goods and Good Households in Late Medieval London*, January 1, 2023 eh.net: https://eh.net/book_reviews/household-goods-and-good-households-in-late-medieval-london-consumption-and-domesticity-after-the-plague/

Review of Esther Chung-Kim, *Economics of Faith: Reforming Poor Relief in Early Modern Europe*, in *Journal of Interdisciplinary History*, 53: 4, 2023: 642-644.

Review of David E. Nye, *American Technological Sublime, Transportes, Servicios y Telecomunicaciones*, 2022: <https://revistas.uva.es/index.php/tst/article/view/6791>

Review of Peter Lindert, *Making Social Spending Work*, in *Journal of Interdisciplinary History* 53:2, 2022: 341–343.

Review of Benjamin Breen, *The Age of Intoxication: Origins of the Global Drug Trade*, in *The Renaissance Quarterly* 75:1, 2022.

Review of Merlijn Hurx, *Architecture as Profession: The Origins of Architectural Practice in the Low Countries in the Fifteenth Century*, in *BMGN - Low Countries Historical Review*, 136(2). DOI: <http://doi.org/10.18352/bmgn-lchr.10884/>

Review of Sheilagh Ogilvie, *The European Guilds: An Economic Analysis*, in *Journal of Economic History* 80:1, 2020: 294-96.

Review of Claire Lemerancier and Claire Zalc, (translated by Arthur Goldhammer), *Quantitative Methods in the Humanities: An Introduction*, in *Journal of Interdisciplinary History* 51:1, 2020: 137-39.

Review of Erika Rappaport, *A Thirst for Empire: How Tea Shaped the Modern World*, in *Histoire sociale/Social History* 51:104, 2018: 439-41.

Review of Laurence Fontaine, *The Moral Economy: Poverty, Credit, and Trust in Early Modern Europe*, in *The American Historical Review* 120:3, 2015: 1103-04.

Review of Oscar Gelderblom, *Cities of Commerce: The Institutional Foundations of International Trade in the Low Countries, 1250-1650*, in *Business History Review* 89:2, 2015: 360-62.

Review of Jessica Dijkman, *Shaping Medieval Markets: The Organisation of Commodity Markets in Holland, c. 1200 - c. 1450*. EH.Net, posted August, 20, 2013: http://eh.net/book_reviews/shaping-medieval-markets-organisation-commodity-markets-holland-c-1200-c-1450

Review of Francesco Boldizzoni, *The Poverty of Clio*, in *Social History* 38:1, 2013: 89-91.

Review of Lotte van de Pol, *The Burgher and the Whore*, in *Journal of Modern History* 84:4, 2012: 998-1000.

Review of Timur Kuran, *The Long Divergence: How Islamic Law Held Back the Middle East*, in *Historical Methods* 44:4, 2011:177-180.

Review of Bas van Bavel, *Manors and Markets: Economy and Society in the Low Countries, 500-1600*. EH.Net, posted June 20, 2011: http://eh.net/book_reviews/manors-and-markets-economy-and-society-low-countries-500-1600

Review of Barbara A. Hanawalt, *The Wealth of Wives: Women, Law, and Economy in Late Medieval London*, in *Journal of Economic History* 70: 3, 2010: 775-777.

Review of Steven A. Epstein, *An Economic and Social History of Later Medieval Europe, 1000-1500* in *The Medieval Review*, April 2010.
<https://scholarworks.iu.edu/dspace/bitstream/handle/2022/6942/10.05.02.html>

Review of Oscar Gelderblom, ed. *The Political Economy of the Dutch Republic*, forthcoming in *Itinerario*, 4 pps.

Review of Lisa Jardine, *Going Dutch: How England Plundered Holland's Glory*, for eh.net online reviews, July 7, 2009. <http://eh.net/pipermail/eh.net-review/2009-July/000658.html>

Review of Derek Phillips, *Well-Being in Amsterdam's Golden Age*, in *American Historical Review* 114: 3, 2009: 848-49.
/

Review of Anne Goldgar. *Tulipmania: Money, Honor, and Knowledge in the Dutch Golden Age*, in *Social History* 34:3, 2009:366-67.

Review of Maarten Prak, Catharina Lis, Jan Lucassen, and Hugo Soly, eds. *Craft Guilds in the Early Modern Low Countries: Work, Power, and Representation*, in *Social History* 33:2, 2008.

Review of Herman Roodenburg, *The Eloquence of the Body: perspectives on Gesture in the Dutch Republic*, in *Journal of Social History* 41: 3, 2008.

Review of Maarten Prak, *The Dutch Republic in the Seventeenth Century*, in *Journal of Economic History* 67: 2, 2007.

Review of Govind Sreenivasan, *The Peasants of Ottobeuren, 1487-1726: A Rural Society in Early Modern Europe*, in *Journal of Economic History* 65: 3, 2005.

Review of Sheilagh Ogilvie, *A Bitter Living: Women, Markets, and Social Capital in Early Modern Germany*, in *Journal of Economic History* 65: 2, 2005.

Review of Emmanuel Le Roy Ladurie, *The Peasants of Languedoc*, for the Economic History Net Project 2001. <http://eh.net/bookreviews/library/mccants.shtml>

Review of Patrick O'Brien, ed., *Urban Achievement in Early Modern Europe: Golden Ages in Antwerp, Amsterdam and London*, in *Journal of Economic History* 63: 1, March 2003.

Review of Rudolf Dekker, *Childhood, Memory and Autobiography In Holland: From The Golden Age To Romanticism*, in *American Historical Review* 107: 5, 2002.

Review of Richard Lachmann, *Capitalists in Spite of Themselves: Elite Conflict and Economic Transitions in Early Modern Europe*, in *Enterprise and Society* 2: 4, 2001.

Review of Pamela Sharpe, ed., *Women's Work: The English Experience, 1650-1914*, in *Victorian Studies* 43: 1, 2000.

Review of Peter Musgrave, *The Early Modern European Economy*, in *Sixteenth Century Journal* 30: 3, 2000.

Review of Charles H. Parker, *The Reformation of Community: Social Welfare and Calvinist Charity in Holland, 1572-1620*, in *Social History* 25: 2, 2000.

Review of Craig Muldrew, *The Economy of Obligation: The Culture of Credit and Social Relations in Early Modern England* on EH.Net. August, 1999. <http://www.h-net.org/reviews/showrev.php?id=3305>

Review of C. Trompetter, *Agriculture, Proto-Industry and Mennonite Entrepreneurship: A History of the Textile Industries in Twente, 1600-1815*, in *American Historical Review* 104: 1, 1999.

Review of Benjamin Roberts, *Through the Keyhole: Dutch Child-rearing Practices in the 17th and 18th Century, Three Urban Elite Families*, in *Journal of Interdisciplinary History* 30: 2, 1999.

Review of Jan de Vries and Ad van der Woude, *The First Modern Economy: Success, Failure, and Perseverance of the Dutch Economy, 1500-1815*, in *Journal of Interdisciplinary History* 29: 2, 1998.

Review of Marjolein 't Hart, Joost Jonker and Jan Luiten van Zanden, eds., *A Financial History of the Netherlands*, in *Journal of Economic History* 59: 1, 1999.

Review of Benjamin Orlove, ed. *The Allure of the Foreign: Imported Goods in Postcolonial Latin America*, Electronic publication on the Economic History in February, 1998.

Review of Thomas Max Safely, *Charity and Economy in the Orphanages of Early Modern Augsburg*, in *Journal of Economic History* 58: 1, 1998.

Review of Barbara Krug-Richter, *Zwischen Fasten und Festmahl: Hospitalverpflegung in Munster 1540 bis 1650*, in *Food & Foodways*, 1997.

Review of Karel Davids and Jan Lucassen, eds., *A Miracle Mirrored: The Dutch Republic in European Perspective*, in *Journal of Interdisciplinary History* 27: 4, 1997.

Review of Steven Harrell, ed., *Chinese Historical Micro-demography*, in *Journal of Interdisciplinary History* 27: 2, 1996.

Review of Herman van der Wee, *The Low Countries in the Early Modern World*, in *Journal of Interdisciplinary History* 26: 3, 1996.

KEYNOTE ADDRESSES

- Mar 2025 “Strategies for Pursing ‘good/useful’ Interdisciplinary History,” *Quo vadis* interdisciplinarity? Humanities Conference” at the University of Tallin, Estonia.
- Nov 2023 “In Pursuit of Well-Being: Metrics and Evidence.” Presidential Address at the 49th Annual Conference of the Social Science History Association, Washington DC.
- Nov 2022 “What Makes for Good Social Science History?” LEAP Lecture: Laboratory for the study of the Economics of the African Past, University of Stellenbosch, South Africa.
Recorded: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_mQQDxt-qmU
- June 2022 “History and the Natural World: a Growth Theory that (among other things) can Explain Finland.” Keynote Address: Baltic Connections Conference, Jyväskylä, Finland.
- May 2021 “What Role for the ‘Virtues’ in an Economic History of Wellbeing?” Keynote Address: Business and Economic History Conference (Online).
- Dec 2019 “Beauty, Dignity, and Durability: Celebrating Humane Values in an Economic History of Well-Being.” Invited keynote lecture for 70th anniversary of the Department of Economic History, Lund University, Sweden.
- Apr 2017 “History and Social Science in an Age of Uncertainty.” Keynote Address: Southwestern Social Science Association, Austin, TX.

SEMINARS and COLLOQUIA

- May 2025 “Development in the Baltic States: an Empirical Test,” with Dan Seligson & Martin Anderson, Baltic Connections Conference, Helsinki, Finland.
- Sept 2024 “Development: Evidence and Theory,” with Dan Seligson, Harvard Economic History Workshop.
- Sept 2024 “The Two Koreas: Evidence and Theory of Development,” with Dan Seligson, WINIR Conference, Pittsburgh, PA.
- June 2024 “The ‘Consumer Revolution’ and Inequality in Early Modern Amsterdam,” with Bas Splet, Baltic Connections Conference, Jyväskylä, Finland.

June 2024	"Old Clothes & the Standard of Living," University of Gothenburg, Sweden.
April 2024	"What Role is there for 'the Social' in Economic History?" History of Political Economy Conference, Duke University.
April 2024	"Institutions in Economic History and the New Economic Sociology: Bridging the Gap," Wisconsin Historical Analysis Table, Dept. of Sociology, University of Wisconsin.
Nov 2023	"Teaching Across Social Science History," Presidential Panel at the annual meeting of the Social Science History Assoc, Washington D.C.
Nov 2023	"A Comparative History of Indigenous Gender Roles: The Case of the Khoesan and the Great Plains Indians," with Calumet Links, at the annual meeting of the Social Science History Assoc, Washington D.C.
Nov 2023	"Probate Inventories and Sample Selection Bias: Evidence from the Eighteenth-Century Cape Colony," with Johan Fourie and Leone Walters, at the annual meeting of the Social Science History Assoc, Washington D.C.
Oct 2023	"Institutions as Capital: Towards a growth theory suitable for economic history," Utrecht University, Netherlands.
Oct 2023	"Notes on a Comparative History of Household Finance: Before and After the Industrial Revolution," University of Antwerp, Belgium.
Oct 2023	"A Uniquely Comprehensive View of Eighteenth-Century Amsterdam," Vrije Universiteit Brussels, Social History of Capitalism Seminars, with Bas Spliet.
June 2023	"Capitalism and Morality," a contribution to the <i>Pioneers of Capitalism</i> Workshop, University of Antwerp, Belgium.
June 2023	"What Makes for Good Social Science History" invited keynote: Summer School in Social Science History, Jyväskylä, Finland.
June 2023	"Towards an Historically Informed Growth Theory of an Economy with Institutions," Baltic Connections Conference, Helsinki, Finland.
May 2023	"Consumer Goods or Store of Value? Textile Ownership by the Poor in 18th Century Amsterdam," with Ellan Spero, Economic and Business History Society, Porto, Portugal.
Mar 2023	"Towards an Historically Informed Understanding of Institutions and Economies." Invited Lecture in History at the University of Toronto.
Dec 2022	"Multiplicities of Value: Approaching Textile Reuse and Longevity in 18th c. Amsterdam," with Ellan Spero, Workshop "Im/material Values," Pisa, Italy.
Nov 2022	"The Future of Social Science History," Social Science History Assoc., Chicago.
Nov 2022	"Measuring Worth: What can we learn from the cost of the Columbus expedition," Social Science History Assoc., Chicago.
July 2022	"Nature and Development," with Dan Seligson, World Economic History Cng., Paris.
July 2022	"Textiles as a 'store of value' for the Poor in 18th century Amsterdam," World Economic History Congress, Paris.
June 2022	"Where is the Family in Economic History?" invited keynote: Gender and Economy Summer School, Jyväskylä, Finland.
May 2022	"Urban Resilience? The Price of Subsistence in Paris during the Little Ice Age, 1570-1740," Economic and Business History Society, Salt Lake City.
Mar 2022	"The distributional effects of homogamy and consanguinity at the Cape," with Jeanne Cilliers, Erik Green and Auke Rijpma, Development Workshop, Lund University.
Jan 2022	"Intergenerational transmission of human capital: Evidence from books in the Cape Colony probate inventories." With J. Fourie and L. Walters. Cape of Good Hope Research Workshop II, Stellenbosch, SA (remote).
Jan 2022	"The distributional effects of homogamy and consanguinity at the Cape." With J. Cilliers, E. Green and A. Rijpma. Cape of Good Hope Research Workshop II, Stellenbosch, SA.
Jan 2022	"What do we Learn from the History of the Distribution of the Wealth of Nations?" Lund University, Department of Economic History Colloquium Series, Lund, Sweden.
Nov 2021	"Teaching with <i>Social Science History</i> ." Social Science History Assoc. Philadelphia, PA.

Oct 2021	"Nature, Culture and Development." Economic History Association, Tucson, AZ.
Aug 2021	"The Cape Colony Project and Research in Economic History." Cape of Good Hope Research Workshop I, Lund, Sweden (remote).
July 2021	"The Wealth of Nations: Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow." National Research University Higher School of Economics, Moscow, Russia (remote).
Apr 2021	"What a Deep Roots Theory of Long-term Economic Development has to say about the Baltics." Baltic Connections Conference, Helsinki, Finland.
Mar 2021	"Institutional Budgets and Living Standards in Early Modern Amsterdam." European Social Science History Conference, Leiden, Netherlands.
Mar 2021	Panelist for OECD book launch, <i>How Was Life? Vol. II</i> . Paris, France
Feb 2021	"Nature, Culture and Development." DONDENA Center for Research on Social Dynamics and Public Policies, Bocconi University, Milan, Italy.
Jan 2020	"Reflections on the Enterprise of Interdisciplinary History: The <i>JIH</i> Turns 50." Annual meeting of the American Historical Association, New York.
Nov 2019	"Persistence of Fortune." Social Science History Association, Chicago.
Nov 2019	"At the Intersection of Ethics and Economics: A New Measure of Wellbeing." Workshop on Measuring well-being in the past: metrics, drivers and implications for development, University of Utrecht, Netherlands.
Nov 2019	"Competition and Innovation in Gothic Cathedral Construction." Université Paris-Dauphine: Current research in Socio Economics.
Nov 2019	"Polygamy, the Commodification of Women, and the Erosion of Trust." Paris School of Economics.
Oct 2019	"La cathédrale: Réflexions sur un chantier en tant que système économique et technologique. (The Cathedral: Reflections on the building site as an economic and technological system.) Ecole normale supérieure: Séminaire – Technique et science du Moyen Âge à la Renaissance, Paris.
Oct 2019	"Institutions and Performance: A Dynamical Theory of Economic History." Lisbon School of Economics and Management.
Oct 2019	"Economics, History, and Technology: A Tripod for the Future," University of Minho, Braga, Portugal.
Sep 2019	"Institutions as Systems in Economic History." WINIR Conference, Lund, Sweden.
Apr 2019	"Polygamy and the Commodification of Women as a Brake on Economic Development." Yale University, CHESS workshop.
Mar 2019	"Institutions Are Not the Rules of the Game." Baltic Connections, Helsinki, Finland.
Nov 2018	"Social Entropy and Economic History." Oxford University Seminar in Economic and Social History, Oxford, UK.
Nov 2018	"Polygamy, the Commoditization of Women, and Disorder." Social Science History Association, Phoenix, AZ.
Oct 2018	"Social Entropy and Economic Development." Northwestern University Economic History Seminar, Evanston, IL.
Oct 2018	"Economic History and the Historians." Invited keynote lecture for the All-Chicago Economic History Bi-annual Dinner, Chicago, IL.
Oct 2018	"Competition and Innovation in Gothic Cathedral Construction." Society for the History of Technology, St. Louis, MO.
Sep 2018	"The Origins of Disorder: Why do Nations Fail to Thrive." Economic History Association, Montreal, Canada.
Sep 2018	"Women and Early Financial Markets: a Roundtable Discussion." Wealth and Debt Accumulation in Early Financial Markets: A Marcus Wallenberg Symposium, Stockholm, Sweden.
Aug 2018	"Social Entropy and Economic History." World Economic History Congress, Cambridge, MA.

May 2018	"The Origins of Disorder: Why do Nations Fail to Thrive?" Economic and Business History Society, Jyväskylä, Finland.
Apr 2018	"Polygamy, Social Institutions and Long Run Economic Growth." European Social Science History Conference, Belfast, UK.
Jan 2018	"Economic History and the Historians." Invited panelist for The Future of Economic History at the Allied Social Science Association meeting, Philadelphia, PA.
Nov 2017	"What might a moral economics look like? Lessons from Adam Smith and Michael Polanyi." MIT Workshop on Trade, Employment, and Public Policy: Polanyi Then and Now, Cambridge, MA.
Mar 2017	"A Godly Enterprise: Church Finance and Social Spending in the High Middle Ages." Business History Conference, Denver.
Nov 2017	"Roundtable on <i>Bourgeois Equality: How Ideas, Not Capital or Institutions, Enriched the World</i> , by Deirdre McCloskey. Social Science History Association, Chicago.
Nov 2016	"Roundtable on <i>1493: Uncovering the New World Columbus Created</i> , by Charles Mann. Social Science History Association, Chicago.
June 2016	"New Uses for Old Railways: Project Summary." Conference on New Uses for Old Railways at the National Railway Museum, York, England.
Apr 2016	"Building wealth? The material culture of building craftsmen in early modern Amsterdam and Antwerp (16th-18th centuries)" with Heidi Deneweth. European Social Science History Conference, Valencia, Spain.
Apr 2016	"Global History and the History of Consumption: Congruence and Divergence." Appalachian Spring Conference in World History and Economics, Boone, NC.
Mar 2016	"Gothic Investments: Social Overhead Capital in the High Middle Ages." Harvard Economic History Workshop, Cambridge, MA.
Dec 2015	"Making Global Consumers: The Social Reach of 18 th Century Trading Companies." Keynote speaker at VI Jornadas Uruguayas de Historia Económica, Montevideo, Uruguay.
Nov 2015	Roundtable coordinator for " <i>Social Science History</i> and the Future of Academic Publishing." Social Science History Association, Baltimore, MD.
Oct 2015	"Transport Technology and Economic Change on the 'Frontier' of Trás-os-Montes, Portugal." Society for the History of Technology. Albuquerque, NM.
Aug 2015	"Asiatic Goods in Migrant and Native-born Middling Households in 18th Century Amsterdam." World Economic History Congress. Kyoto, Japan.
July 2015	"Textile Meanings in a Global Capital: Fabric and Fashion in 18th c. Amsterdam." Linking Cloth-Clothing Globally Symposium. Tokyo, Japan.
July 2015	"Gothic Economies: Building Cathedrals in the High Middle Ages." Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences Colloquium. SUTD, Singapore.
Mar 2015	"Introduction to Interdisciplinary Research Methods and Innovation Studies." MIT Portugal Program, EDAM session. Lisbon, Portugal.
Jan 2015	Roundtable participant for "Teaching Engineering from the perspectives of the Humanities and Social Sciences" session of the NSF sponsored project, <i>Liberal Studies in Engineering - Broadening the Path to the Profession</i> , Washington, D.C.
Nov 2014	"Roundtable on <i>Capital in the Twentieth First Century</i> , by Thomas Piketty. Social Science History Association, Toronto, Canada.
July 2014	"Narratives from an Isolated Region: Population and Commodity Dynamics of a Rural Hinterland." Second World Congress of Environmental History, Guimaraes, Portugal.
June 2014	"Wealth and Social Capital: The Consumption of Asiatic Goods in Immigrant and Native Households in 18th Century Amsterdam." Wageningen University, Netherlands.
May 2014	Keynote Speaker, "Asian Goods and Eighteenth-Century Scandinavia," Stockholm, Sweden.

Apr 2014 "Formalizing Informality: interdisciplinary research as supported by the SSHA," European Social Science History Conference, Vienna, Austria.

Jan 2014 "Technology in Economic and Social Context" for Innovation Workshop of the MIT Portugal Program, Lisbon.

Nov 2013 "Becoming Consumers: Asiatic Goods in Migrant and Native-born Middling Households in 18th Century Amsterdam." Brown University, Seminar in Renaissance and Early Modern Studies, Providence, RI.

Nov 2013 "Roundtable on *Why the West Rules—For Now* (Ian Morris)." Social Science History Association, Chicago, IL.

Oct 2013 "Exploring a Technological Landscape: the Tua Railroad in Historical Context." For the MIT Portugal Program annual Rector's Meeting.

Oct 2013 "Opening up an 'isolated' region: the population dynamics of the Tras-os-Montes after the construction of the Tua Railroad." 3rd Foz Tua International Conference, Alto Douro, Portugal.

Jan 2013 "Becoming Consumers: Eastern Goods in Migrant and Native-born Middling Households in 18th Century Amsterdam," Warwick University Europe's Global Centuries Project Conference on 'Goods from the East,' Venice, Italy.

Oct 2012 "Global Wardrobes: Clothing Assemblies Reconstructed from the 18th c Amsterdam Lower 'Burgerij,'" Canadian Eighteenth Century Studies Conference, Edmonton, Canada.

Oct 2012 "Narratives from an Isolated Region: Population and Commodity Dynamics of a Rural Hinterland," 2nd Foz Tua International Conference, Alto Douro, Portugal.

Apr 2013 "Roundtable on Open Access Publishing in the Social Sciences," European Social Science History Conference, Glasgow, Scotland.

Mar 2012 "Medieval Flemish Textile Workers," Colloquium respondent. Economic History Workshop, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA.

Feb 2012 "Contested Stones: Monumental Architecture and the Representation of Power in the High Middle Ages." Conference on Resources: Endowment or Curse, Better or Worse? University, New Haven, CT.

Dec 2011 "Economic and Artistic Competition in the Amsterdam Art Market, c. 1630-1690." Workshop presentation on the ECARTICO database, Amsterdam.

Nov 2011 "Cloth, Cloister, Cathedral: The Economics of Cathedral Building." Economic History Seminar, Rutgers University, NJ.

Nov 2011 "Roundtable on *Education and the Creation of Capital in the Early American Republic*." Social Science History Association, Boston, MA.

Nov 2011 "Roundtable on *Before and Beyond Divergence: The Politics of Economic Change in China and Europe*." Social Science History Association, Boston, MA.

Sep 2011 "Building Cathedrals: Investment in Social Overhead Capital?" Economic History Association, Boston, MA.

Sep 2011 "Poverty and Microfinance: What can History Teach us?" The History of Microfinance Exploratory Workshop, NIAS, Wassenaar, The Netherlands.

Sep 2011 "Cloth, Cloister, Cathedral: a Medieval Puzzle." Invited lecture in the Department of Art, Art History & Visual Studies, Duke University.

Oct 2011 "Financing Public Investments: some Historical Lessons." Railroads in Historical Context conference, Foz Tua, Portugal.

Nov 2010 "*Nature and Power*: Connections between economic and environmental history." Social Science History Association, Chicago.

Nov 2010 "Nancy Folbre's *Greed, Lust and Gender: A History of Economic Ideas*." Social Science History Association, Chicago, IL.

Nov 2010 "Patronage, Charity and Renaissance Education." History of Education conference, Cambridge, MA.

Sep 2010 "Goods and People." Symposium to honor the work of Jan de Vries, Evanston, IL.

June 2010 "The Dutch in a Globalizing World." Columbia University Queen Wilhelmina chair workshop on Dutch History, NY, NY.

May 2010 "Financing Cathedral Construction: The Political Economy of One Type of Social Overhead Capital." All-UC Group in Economic History, Berkeley, CA.

Apr 2010 "Reflections on Paolo Malanima's *Pre-Modern European Economy*: the role of consumer welfare." European Social Science History Conference, Gent, Belgium.

Nov 2009 "Spatial History: Prospects and Issues." Social Science History Conference, Long Beach.

Aug 2009 "Gothic Economies: small gifts, high finance and investing in eternity." World Economic History Congress, Utrecht, Netherlands.

Mar 2009 "Wearing the World: Globally Traded Textiles during the 'Industrious Revolution.'" Economic History Workshop, Western Ontario University, London, Canada.

Nov 2009 "Wearing the World: Globally Traded Textiles during the 'Industrious Revolution.'" Portuguese Economic History Association, Guimaraes, Portugal.

Oct 2008 "Poor Consumers in a Global Marketplace: Consuming Tea, Coffee, and Sugar in the 18th c." Institut National Recherche de la Agronomique, Paris, France.

Oct 2008 Convener: Economic Demography of Ancient Rome. Social Science History Conference, Miami, FL.

Oct 2008 Roundtable on, "Gender, Work and Wages in the Industrial Revolution." Social Science History Conference, Miami, FL.

Mar 2008 "Luxury and Misery: the Mysterious Double-Life of Textile Production and Consumption." Economic History Seminar at SUNY Binghamton, NY.

Nov 2007 "Middlemen, Middlewomen and Markets." Discussant for Social Science History Association, Chicago, IL.

Dec 2006 "Gothic Economies: Small Gifts, High Finance, and the Politics of Investing in Eternity." Columbia University Seminar in Economic History, NY.

Mar 2006 "Public Goods vs. Private Spending: Monumental Architecture in Medieval Europe." European Social Science History Conference, Amsterdam, Netherlands.

Nov 2005 "Public Goods versus Private Spending: Surplus Production, Capital Accumulation, and Monumental Architecture in Medieval Europe and the Mediterranean." Medieval Global Economies conference, Western Ontario University, London, Canada.

Nov 2005 "Material Possession of Amsterdam Orphans during the Period of the Consumer Revolution." Social Science History Conference, Portland, OR.

Oct 2005 "Exotic Goods, Popular Consumption, and the Standard of Living: Thinking about Globalization in the Early Modern World." Economic History Workshop, Yale University, New Haven, CT.

Mar 2005 "Global Consumers in Unexpected Places: Working Class Consumption of Tea and Coffee in 18th century Amsterdam." Economic History Workshop, University of Utrecht, Netherlands.

Nov 2004 "A Home Fit for Children: The Material Possessions of Amsterdam Orphans." Invited lecture at the Victoria & Albert Museum as part of their program on Domestic and Institutional Interiors in Early Modern Europe, London, UK.

Apr 2004 "Wealth Inequality in 18th Century Amsterdam: A case study of the poor to middling citizenry." All-UC Conference in Economic History: The New History of Economic Inequality, UCLA, Los Angeles, CA.

Sep 2003 "Wealth Inequality in 18th Century Amsterdam." Economic History Association. Nashville, TN.

July 2002 "Goods at Pawn: the Overlapping Worlds of Material Possessions and Family Finance in Early Modern Amsterdam." World Economic History Congress, Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Feb 2002 "Clothing on Credit." European Social Science History Conference, The Hague, Netherlands.

Apr 2001 "Global Trade brought Home: Consumption of Tea, Coffee and Porcelain in Middling and Poor Households in 18th Century Amsterdam." All-UC Economic History Conference, Berkeley, CA.

May 2001 National Bureau of Economic Research, Development of the American Economy, Conference Discussant, Cambridge, MA.

Apr 2000 "The Transmission of Assets and Family Networks: Managing the Property of Orphans in 18th Century Amsterdam." European Social Science History Conference, Amsterdam.

June 1999 "Migration and the Opportunity to Marry Among Norwegian-American Children, 1850-1910." Netherlands Interdisciplinary Demographic Institute conference on "Leavers and Stayers in the Household." The Hague.

Nov 1998 "The Acquisition of Status: Cultural Consumption among Amsterdams *Kleine Burgerij*." Invited lecture at N.W. Posthumus Instituut conference on "Culture and Consumption in the Eighteenth Century," Rotterdam.

Sep 1998 "Let Them Drink Tea: The Consumption of Colonial Groceries Among the Amsterdam *Kleine Burgerij*." Economic History Association, Durham, NC.

Aug 1998 "The Credit Markets of Widows and Wives in 18th Century Amsterdam." World Economic History Congress, Madrid, Spain.

Mar 1998 "Organized Paternalism, Risk-Sharing, and the Deserving Poor in Republican Holland." European Social Science History Conference, Amsterdam.

Apr 1997 "The Politics of Inequality: Widows and Orphans in Early Modern Europe." Invited lecture by Women's Studies Program, Rhode Island College, Providence, RI.

Feb 1997 "From Petty Debts to State Finance: the Credit Markets of the Working Poor in Eighteenth Century Amsterdam." Harvard Economic History Workshop.

Nov 1996 "The Not-so-Merry Widows of Amsterdam, 1740-1782." Indiana University Economic History Workshop, Bloomington, IN.

Oct 1996 "Men, Women and Debt: Gender and Access to Credit in Eighteenth Century Amsterdam." Social Science History Association.

May 1996 "Petty Possessions: Consumption and Debt in Amsterdam." European Social Science History Conference, Noordwijkerhout, Netherlands.

Apr 1996 The John Lax Memorial Alumnae Lecture, Department of History, Mount Holyoke College, South Hadley, MA.

Feb 1996 Panel co-chair, "Boundaries of Domesticity in Early Modern Europe." College Art Association, Boston, MA.

Dec 1995 "Nederlands Republikeinisme en de Politiek van Liefdadigheid." Invitation of the N.W. Posthumus Instituut, Rotterdam, Netherlands.

Nov 1995 "The Debts and Possessions of Amsterdammers: Evidence from the Mid-Eighteenth Century." Social Science History Association, Chicago, IL.

Mar 1995 "Dutch Republicanism and the Politics of Charity." Stanford University, History Department Lecture Series, Stanford, CA.

Dec 1993 "Civic Duty and Personal Gain: The Management of the Amsterdam Municipal Orphanage." Sixteenth Century Studies Conference, Grand Rapids, MI.

Nov 1993 "Childhood Mortality in the Amsterdam Orphanage: Some Eighteenth Century Evidence." Social Science History Association.

Mar 1993 "Fertility, Household Structure and the Life Course: Demographic Processes among Immigrants to the Rural Middle West." Harvard Economic History Workshop.

Nov 1992 "Employment Opportunities for Orphan Boys in Early Modern Amsterdam." Social Science History Association, Chicago, IL.

Sep 1992 "Meeting Needs and Suppressing Desire: Civic Morality and Institutional Consumption in the Dutch Republic." Economic History Association, Boston, MA.

Sep 1991 "Rise of the Charitable Institution in the Early Modern Dutch Economy." Economic History Association, Boulder, CO.

MIT PRESENTATIONS

Apr 2025	"Having Difficult Conversations with Students," Graduate Resident Advisor Training Session with Linda Rabieh.
Jan 2025	"On Development," an IAP workshop with Dan Seligson.
Nov 2023	"Has Feminism Made Progress?" Civil Discourse in the Classroom and Beyond series.
Apr 2023	"An Historical Investigation of Textile Sustainability," guest lecture, Dept. Materials Science and Engineering, Climate Scholars Seminar.
Oct 2022	"GDP and the Measurement of Well-being," guest lecture, Dept. History, Economic Classics.
Sept 2022	"Global Inequality in an Historical Perspective," Burchard Scholars Lecture.
May 2021	"Teaching Sensitive Subjects Outside the Traditional Classroom: a History of Disease and Other Shocks." MITx Significant Interest Group Symposium.
Mar 2021	"Polygamy, the Commodification of Women, and Underdevelopment." MIT Undergraduate Economics Association.
Oct 2020	"Demography and Bio-power." With John Brown, for History of Now: Plagues and Pandemics.
June 2020	"Disease, Climate Shocks, and Wellbeing: A Long History of Social Response to Crisis." MIT Alumni Club of Southern California.
April 2020	"The Long Partnership between Society and Disease." History of Now Seminar.
Dec 2019	"Celestial Navigation." First Year Exploration seminar.
Apr 2019	"Polygamy, the Commodification of Women and Long-Run Economic Development." History Department Colloquium.
Sep 2018	"History May be 'Past' but it is Not Settled, or Why Does Poverty Persist?" Tour de SHASS Lightening Talks.
Mar 2018	Cambridge Roundtable on Science, Art, and Religion. Respondent to Steven Pinker on <i>Enlightenment Now</i> .
Mar 2017	"Growth, Inequality, and Well-Being: Lessons from Economic History for Uncertain Times." Burchard Scholars Lecture.
Mar 2017	"Engaging History with the Beaver Press." MacVicar Day Symposium on Pushing Boundaries: A Legacy of Learning Through Exploration and Discovery.
Sep 2016	Discussant for Comédie-Française Registers Project Workshop devoted to quantitative analysis of theater attendance, climate, and econometric data.
Jan 2016	"Economic inequality, growth, and the standard of living: lessons from economic history for uncertain times." Tau Beta Pi, Da Vinci Lecture.
Feb 2015	"Calories, Nutrition, and Social Meaning: Making Sense of Food in the Archives." WGS Symposium, <i>Consuming Food, Producing Culture</i> .
Dec 2013	"A Home Fit for Saints: The Gothic Cathedral as Reliquary." Ancient and Medieval Studies Speaker Series.
Mar 2013	"Teaching History in the Digital Age." MacVicar Day Symposium on "Reimagining the MIT Classroom: Experiments With Digital Learning."
Apr 2012	"Why Economic History is Relevant to Your Life Too." Save TFP Faculty Talent Program, Campus Preview Weekend.

Sep 2011	“Great Expeditions: Commerce and Communication in the Late Medieval World.” MIT World History Workshop.
May 2011	“Why Graduate School is Hard - and what you can do about it.” Presented at The Warehouse, Graduate Living Group.
June 2010	“Cloth, Cloister, Cathedral: A Medieval Puzzle.” The Phi Beta Kappa Lecture, MIT PBK initiation ceremony.
Oct 2007	“Hands-on History.” Redefining the MIT Classroom: Award-Winning Experiments in Curricular Change.
June 2003	“How much did it cost to discover America.” Teaching World History Symposium.
Jan 2003	“Declining Fertility in Post-Industrial Societies.” Panelist for MIT/MISTI forum.
Mar 1991	“Columbus and the 2 Million Maravedis.” Lecture for MIT Odyssey Series, with the John’s Hopkins University Center for the Academic Advancement of Youth
Oct 1996	"The Methodology of the Economic Historian," Ford Methodology Colloquium, Massachusetts Institute of Technology.
Oct 1994	"Consumption, leisure and the gendered division of labor." Presented to the MIT Burchard Scholars' program.

MEDIA PRESENTATIONS

May 2025	“War and Economy: Past, Present, Future,” University of Helsinki.
Sep 2020	National Public Radio: <i>Planet Money</i> . “After the Plague.”
Oct 2020	MITx Short Course -- Disease, Climate Shocks, and Wellbeing: A Long History of Social Response to Crisis.

PUBLIC SERVICE

2025	External Reviewer, <i>Erasmus Mundus</i> Joint Master Program: <i>Techniques, Patrimoine, Territoires de l’Industrie: Histoire, Valorisation, Didactique</i> . Université Paris, Panthéon-Sorbonne and European Union.
2023	External Review Committee Member, Vrije Universiteit Brussels, Social Histories of Capitalism Program.
2021	External Review Committee Member, Washington University Department of History.
2021	Selection Commission Member, University of Antwerp: Senior Research Professor in Urban History.
2020	Research Quality Evaluation Project, Lund University. Assessment panel for the School of Economics and Management.
2020	International Advisory Board, “General Letters Ontology Based Accessibility Infrastructure (GLOBALISE).” -- 3.7 million euro Investment Grant, Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research, NWO.
2018	Chair, Research Review Assessment Committee for Utrecht University (Netherlands), Research Institute of History and Art History.

2018-	Member of the Board of Directors for The Leadership Connection (Sponsor of the Cambridge Roundtable on Science, Art, and Religion).
2017-20	Member of the External Achievement Awards Committee of the Mount Holyoke College Alumnae Association.
2015	Public Lecture, Boston Museum of Fine Arts: "Town Dwellers and Market Sellers: Economy and Society in the Dutch Golden Age" in conjunction with <i>Class Distinctions: Dutch Painting in the Age of Rembrandt and Vermeer</i> exhibition.
2013-15	Foz Tua Oral History Project, connecting secondary school students with elderly community members in the Tras-os-Montes region of northern Portugal.
2012	Elementary School program on pre-industrial textile production, geared for Colonial History Unit.
2012	Consultant for PBS programming: <i>Finding Your Roots</i> .

FIELDS OF RESEARCH INTEREST

Standard of Living and global development
Global trade networks and European consumerism
Women's work and the study of gender equity
History of nutrition and social welfare
Migration and labor market participation
Historical demography

COURSES TAUGHT

Undergraduate Courses:

The Medieval Economy in Comparative Perspective
Economic Classics
Compass Course – content contributor
Making Books: The Renaissance and Today
The World Since 1400
Seminar in Historical Methods
Writing the History of Modern Europe
History of the Western World, 1400-1815
The Emergence of Europe, 500-1300
Seminar in the History of Western Thought, 500-1300
The Renaissance and Reformation
The Economic History of Work and the Family
Family Time -- Market Time: Seminar in Gender, Work and Leisure
Art and Society in the Dutch Golden Age
Peasants, Paupers and Poor Relief: Charity in Early Modern Europe
Labor, Class and Community in Industrializing Europe
The News is Current – Are You? – Concourse fall seminar
Thinking Across the Disciplines – Concourse spring seminar

A Brief History of Cosmology -- Freshmen advising seminar
Medieval Foodways – Freshmen advising seminar.

Graduate Courses:

The Dutch in the World, 1600-1950: from small republic to global empire (and back!)
Technology and the Global Economy, 1000-2000
Engineering Systems Research Methods – MIT Portugal Program
Theories and Methods of History -- HASTS graduate seminar
Methods for Research in the Social Sciences – HASTS graduate seminar
Boundaries of Domesticity in Early Modern Europe – graduate seminar in the Women's Studies Consortium
Transformations of Families – graduate seminar in the Women's Studies Consortium

PhD STUDENTS SUPERVISED

Committee Member: Fabian Drixler, *Infanticide and Fertility in Eastern Japan: Discourse and Demography, 1660-1880* (Harvard, History, 2008).

Supervisor: Ellan Spero, *Institutes for Innovation: The Emergence of Academic-Industrial Cooperation and Narratives of Progress in the Early 20th Century* (MIT, History, Anthropology, and STS, 2014).

Promotie reader: Danielle Teeuwen, *Generating Generosity: Financing Poor Relief through Charitable Collections in Dutch Towns, c. 1600-1800* (Utrecht University, Netherlands, 2014).

Committee Member: Ricardo Greenfield, *On the Development of Internal Legitimacy in Intentional Innovation Networks* (MIT Portugal Program -- Engineering Design and Advanced Manufacturing Sub-group, 2016).

Committee Member: Marion Menzin, *The Sugar Revolution in New England, Barbados, Massachusetts Bay, and the Atlantic Sugar Economy, 1600-1700* (Harvard, History, 2019).

Promotie reader: Josje Schnitzeler, *Financial care for the vulnerable: Rise and decline of Holland orphan chamber*. (Utrecht University, Netherlands, 2022).

Committee Member: Bas Spliet, *The Demand of the Invisible Hand: The Consumer Revolution and Social Inequality in the (Pre)Modern Metropolis* (University of Antwerp, History, 2025).

Committee Member: Lauren Coetzee, in initial stages at University of Luxembourg

POST-DOCTORAL FELLOWS SUPERVISED

Ellan Spero: MIT-SUTD Postdoctoral Fellow, Singapore University of Technology and Design (September 2014 – 2016)

Xi Lin: MIT-SUTD Postdoctoral Fellow, Singapore University of Technology and Design (September 2016 – 2018)

Hugo Silveria Pereira, Postdoctoral Fellow visiting from the Department of Social Sciences, Faculty of Science and Technology, New University of Lisbon (January – August 2017)

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

American Historical Association

Chair, Program Committee for the 2014 meeting, 2013-14
Member, Program Committee for the 2013 meeting, 2011-12.

Economic History Association:

Representative to the Board, National Bureau of Economic Research, 2022-(27)
Member, Nominating Committee, 2020-21
Chair, Inclusion, Diversity and Equity Committee, 2020-21
Vice President, 2014-15
Member, Nominating Committee, 2013 and 2014
Representative to the International Economic History Association, 2001-05 and 2013-15
Chair, 2018 World Congress American Bid committee, 2012-14
Chair, Local Arrangements Committee, Boston, 2011
Chair, Research Grants and Fellowship Committee, 2008-09
Member, Dissertation Grant Committee, 2007-09
Co-chair, Program Committee for Annual Meeting, 2007
Trustee, Executive Board, 2007-10
Convener, Dissertation Session of Annual Meeting, 2005
Editorial Board Member, *Journal of Economic History*, 2001-05
Chair, Board of Trustees, EH Net, 2000-01
Trustee, EH.Net, 1998-2000
Member, Program committee for Annual Meeting, 1997 and 2000
Member, EH Net Oversight committee, 1997-98.

Economic and Business History Society

Member, Executive Board, 2020-
Member, Strategy Working Group, 2020-22.

European Social Science History Conference

Network co-chair, Economics, 2006-12
Inaugural Participant, Noordwijkerhout, Netherlands, 1996

Fonds de la Recherche Scientifique – FNRS

Project reviewer, 2020-

GLOBALIZE Project of the Huygens Institute for the History of the Netherlands

Member, Advisory Board, 2020-

Graduate Consortium in Women's Studies

Chair, Finance Committee, 2005-08
Chair, Board of Trustees, 2004-05
Co-Chair, Board of Trustees, 2003-04
MIT representative to the Board of Trustees, 2002-03
Faculty instructor, 1993 and 2002

International Economic History Association

Past-President, 2022-(25)
Acting Vice-President, 2022-23
President, 2018-22
Vice-President, 2015-18
Chair, 2018 Congress Host City Organizing Committee, 2014-18
American delegate, 2001-05 and 2013-15

International Institute for Social History, Amsterdam

Visiting Fellow, 2000

Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research (ICPSR)

Member, Undergraduate Research Paper Prize Committee, 2007 and 2008

Journal of Interdisciplinary History, Editorial Board, 2017-2018

Co-Editor, 2019-21.
Editor, 2022-

Low Countries Journal of Social and Economic History

Member of International Committee of Recommendation.

MeasuringWorth (online historical currency converter and price index)

Member, Board of Directors and Advisory Committee, 2018-22
Chair, Board of Directors, 2023-24

MIT Portugal Program

Faculty, Interdisciplinary Research Methods in Technology, Innovation and Policy Studies, Summer Program, 2015 and 2016
Faculty mentor for visiting student, 2015
Faculty, Engineering Systems Research Methods Course, 2007-12 and 2014
Project Organizer, Technology in Economic and Social Context, 2013-ongoing
Co-organizer, 3rd FozTua Conference on Railroads in Historical Context, Portugal, 2013
Co-organizer, 2nd FozTua Conference on Railroads in Historical Context, Portugal, 2012
Co-organizer, 1st FozTua Conference on Railroads in Historical Context, Portugal, 2011
Faculty, Engineering Systems Research Methods Course, 2007-12.

National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER)

Member, Board of Directors, 2022-(2027).

National Endowment for the Humanities

Project reviewer, 1995.

Netherlands Institute for Advanced Study (NIAS)

Project Reviewer, 2014.

Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research (NWO),
Project Reviewer for the Council for the Humanities, 2011-12
Project Reviewer for Vidi grant within the NWO Talent Programme, 2020.

N.W. Posthumus Institute
Member, Visitation Committee, 2015.

Phi Beta Kappa Society
Senator, New England Region, 2024-(30)
MIT Delegate to the 47th Triennial Council, 2024
MIT Delegate to the 44th Triennial Council, 2015
MIT Delegate to the 42nd Triennial Council, 2009
MIT Delegate to the 40th Triennial Council, 2003.

Polanyi Society
Co-organizer (with Eduardo Beira) of the Workshop on Trade, Employment, and Public Policy: Polanyi Then and Now, 2017.

Polish National Science Foundation
Project reviewer, 2024

Research Foundation – Flanders (FWO)
Project reviewer, 2015 and 2019-21.

Social Science History Association
Past President, 2023-(26)
Chair, By-Laws Review Committee, 2025
President, 2022-23
Vice President, 2021-22
Member, Editorial Board of *Social Science History*, 2023-(28)
Editor, *Social Science History*, 2012-19, Co-Editor to 2021
Ex officio Member, Executive Committee, 2012 to present
Chair, *SSH* Founders Best Article Prize Committee, 2016-18
Member, Tilly Prize Committee, 2012
Chair, Alan Sharlin Book Prize Committee, 2010 and 2011
Member, Executive Committee, 2006-09
Network co-chair, Economics, 2006-10
Chair, President's Book Award Committee, 2005
Member, President's Book Award Committee, 2003-04.

Social Science Research Council
Member, Committee on Research Transparency and Reliability in the Social Sciences, 2015.

Harry S Truman Scholarship Foundation
Senior Scholar, National Truman Scholars Leadership Week, 1994 and 1995
Panelist for the New England region Truman Scholarship Selection Panel, 1994-95
MIT Faculty Representative, 1992 to present.

University of California, All-UC Group in Economic History
Participant, 1988-91, 2001 and 2004.

University of Jyväskylä, Graduate Student Summer School Program in Social Science Historical Methods, Lead teacher, annually 2022 - 2025.

University of Helsinki, External reviewer for doctoral admissions, Social Sciences, 2024.

Utrecht University, Quality Assessment of Research Review
Chair, Research Institute for History and Art History (OGK), 2018.

Vrije Universiteit Brussel: Interdisciplinary Research Programme
Project reviewer, 2020 and 2023.

Washington University, Department of History External Review Committee, 2021.

Editorial Reviewer:

Agricultural History, American Journal of Education, Bloomsbury Press, BMGN – Low Countries Historical Review, Business History Review, Cambridge University Press, Columbia University Press, Economic History Review, Engineering Studies, Essays in Economic and Business History, European Review of Economic History, Explorations in Economic History, Feminist Economics, Financial History Review, Food and History, History of the Family, Historical Methods, History of Political Economy, The History Teacher, Journal of Economic History, Journal of Economic Surveys, Journal of Global History, Journal of Interdisciplinary History, Journal of Modern History, Journal of Social History, Journal of World History, The Low Countries History Review, The Low Countries Journal of Social and Economic History, MIT Press, Nederlandsch Economisch-Historisch Archief, Palgrave Press, Princeton University Press, Quarterly Journal of Economics, Renaissance Quarterly, Rowman & Littlefield Press, Routledge Press, Scandinavian Economic History Review, Social History, Social History Academic Journal, Social Science History, Studies in Comparative International Development, Textile History, Tijdschrift voor Sociale en Economische Geschiedenis.

MIT ACTIVITIES AND COMMITTEES

2025	Co-Chair, Sr. Ass. Dean for Student Conduct and Community Standards Search Co.
2024-	Research Chair, School of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences, MIT
2024-	Chair, Humanities Cultivation Fund, SHASS Deans' Grants, and Levitan Prize
2024-	Chair, SHASS Faculty Fellows Program, Implementation and Review Committee
2024	Member, Vice-Chancellor Search Committee
2024	Convener, Undergraduate Officers (standing in for Interim Vice Chancellor)
2023-25	Member, Institute Council on Belonging, Achievement, and Composition
2022	Member, Director for Institute Advising Center Search
2022-23	Member, Faculty Board of Advisors for MITx Digital Learning Lab
2021-22	Member, Ad Hoc Committee on Leveraging Best Practices from Remote Teaching for On-Campus Education
2021-24	Member, Community Giving at MIT Committee
2021	Member, Refinement and Implementation Committee 1, Undergraduate Program
2021	Member, Refinement and Implementation Committee 5, Undergraduate Experience: Advising, Mentoring, and Development

2020	Member, Student Journey Group, MIT Task Force 2021 and Beyond
2020	Member, Academic Continuity Working Group for COVID-19 response.
2020	Member, Academic Policies and Regulations (APART) for COVID-19 response.
2020-22	Review Board, Case Studies series in Social and Ethical Responsibilities of Computing
2020	Member, Council on the Uncertain Human Future
2020-	Faculty Advisor, The Octet Collaborative
2020-21	Member, Committee on Campus Planning
2019	Chair, Killian Award selection committee
2018-21	Member, Corporation Joint Advisory Committee
2018	Faculty Mentor, First Year Experience Design course
2018	Member, Killian Award selection committee
2018-23	Member, Eloranta Summer Fellowship selection committee
2017	Member, Compton and Stewart Prizes selection committee
2016-17	Chair, Subcommittee on the HASS Requirement
2016	Chair, Search Committee for Head of House, Next House
2015-16	Member, Faculty Policy Committee, Subcommittee on Modular Subjects
2015-17	Faculty expert, INSPIRE Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences Competition (First round evaluator and final round judge)
2014-16	Chair, Committee on the Undergraduate Program
2014-18	Co-Director, Ancient and Medieval Studies Program
2014	Presenter, Task Force on Future of MIT Education, DUE Visiting Committee
2013-15	Member, Chancellor's Task Force on Student Housing Cultures
2013-14	Member, Task Force on the Future of MIT Education: Steering Committee and Sub-group on Education and Facilities
2013-14	Member, Committee on the Undergraduate Program
2013-16	Member, Housing Strategy Group
2012-18	Head of House, Burton Conner Undergraduate Residence
2012-14	Mentor, GWAMIT (Graduate Women @ MIT)
2012	Member, MITx Chancellor's Working Group
2011-12	Member, Working Group on the Future of Campus Teaching and Learning Spaces
2010-22	Coordinator, Palitz Fellowship for Summer Study in The Hague
2010-11	SHASS Dean's Task Force on Plagiarism
2009	Member, Special Task Force on Student Support Services
2009	Member, Institute Task Force on the Budget, sub-committee for Student Life
2008-12	Co-Chair, MIT Council on Family and Work
2008-	Member, MIT Committee on Distinguished and Foreign Scholarships
2006-09	Member, MIT Committee on Student Life (Chair – 2006-08)
2007-	Historian, Xi Chapter, Phi Beta Kappa
2007-08	Member, MIT Search Committee for Dean of Student Life
2007	Member, Compton Prize selection committee
2007-08	Member, MIT committee to plan the Sesquicentennial celebration
2007-09	Faculty House Fellow, Random Hall
2006-13	Member, Dean for Undergraduate Education Faculty Advisory Committee
2005-12	Steering Committee for the Doctoral Program in History, Anthropology and STS
2005-06	Director of Graduate Studies, Doctoral Program in History, Anthropology, and STS
2005-06	MIT Classroom Assessment and Advisory Group
2005	Margaret MacVicar Faculty Fellow Selection Committee
2004-12	Faculty House Fellow, Next House
2003-04	Faculty House Fellow, East Campus
2003-08	MIT Council on Family and Work
2003-06	Chair, MIT Child Care Advisory Committee

2001-04	Member, Faculty Policy Committee
2001-02	Steering Committee on the Status of Senior Women Faculty, School of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences
2000-02	Faculty Advisor, Alpha Epsilon Phi Sorority
2000, 03	Chair, Modern Europe Faculty Search
2001-03	President, Board of Trustees of the Technology Children's Center
2000-01	Vice President, Board of Trustees of the Technology Children's Center
1999-02	Chair, Founders Group for Simmons Hall
1999-04	Women's Studies Steering Committee, Chair of Curriculum Committee
1999-07	President, Xi Chapter, Phi Beta Kappa
1999-01	Member, Provost's Committee on Child Care Policy
1998-99	Member, MIT Residence System Redesign Steering Committee
1998-01	Member, MIT Faculty Committee on Undergraduate Admissions and Financial Aid
1997-12	Freshmen Seminar Faculty Advisor
1997-99	Faculty Facilitator, MIT LeaderShape Program
1997	Member, Client Team for New Graduate Housing
1997-99	Member, IAP Policy Committee
1997-19	Minor/major Advisor for Ancient and Medieval Studies
1996-99	Member, CUP Subcommittee on Freshman Advising
1996-97	Member, CUP Faculty Working Group on Residence/Orientation
1995-96	Member, MIT Faculty Committee on the Undergraduate Program
1993-95	Freshmen Seminar Faculty Advisor
1993-03	Board of Trustees, Technology Children's Center
1992-02	Faculty Resident Housemaster, Green Hall -- graduate women's dorm