

Molly A. Warsh
History Department, University of Pittsburgh
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230 S. Bouquet Street
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EDUCATION

Ph.D., History, Johns Hopkins University, 2009

M.A., *with highest honor of distinction*, History, Johns Hopkins University, 2004

B.A., *summa cum laude and with distinction in all subjects*, Cornell University, 1999

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

President, *Forum on Early-modern Empires and Global Interactions* (FEEGI), 2026-2028

Vice President, *Forum on Early-modern Empires and Global Interactions* (FEEGI), 2024-2026

Editor, *Journal of Early Modern History*, July 2021-present

Associate Professor, History, University of Pittsburgh, September 2018-present

Associate Director and Head of Educational Outreach, World History Center, University of Pittsburgh, January 2017-June 2023

Assistant Professor, History, University of Pittsburgh, September 2012-August 2018

Director, *Alliance for Learning in World History* (ALWH), World History Center, University of Pittsburgh, July 2017-present

Interim Associate Director, World History Center, University of Pittsburgh, August 2015-January 2017

Visiting Scholar, History, Johns Hopkins University, June 2014-August 2015

NEH Postdoctoral Fellow, Omohundro Institute of Early American History & Culture
Williamsburg, VA, July 2010-July 2012

Assistant Professor, History, Texas A&M University, August 2009-August 2012

RESEARCH AND PUBLICATION

Books

In progress: *Servants of the Seasons: Temporary Mobilities in the Early Modern Atlantic World*

American Baroque: Pearls and the Nature of Empire, 1492-1700. Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture with the University of North Carolina Press, 2018.

Edited Collections

With Philip D. Morgan. *Early North America in Global Perspective*. Routledge, 2013.

Refereed Articles and Book Chapters

“Transformations on Land and Sea: Considering multispecies migration in the Early Modern Iberian Empires” in Juan Pablo Gil-Osle and Joris van Gastel, eds, *Worlds Drawn from the Earth: Art, Extractivism, and Climate Crises in the Iberian Global Empires*, forthcoming with Brepols.

“Immersion across the Atlantic World, 1550-1605” in Renaud Bécot, Romain Grancher, Solène Rivoal and Judith Rainhorn, eds., *La Sueur et la poussière (Sweat and Dust)*, forthcoming with Éditions Anacharsis.

“Seasonal Harvests: Migration, Reproduction, and Religion in the Early Modern Spanish Tuna Fisheries.” *Environmental History*, Vol. 30 (3), July 2025: 466-493.

Winner of the Leopold-Hidy Award for the best article published in Environmental History in the calendar year (2025).

“Ungovernable Things: Baroque Fantasies and Early Modern Realities” in Paula Findlen, ed., *Early Modern Things: Objects and their Histories*. 2nd edition. Routledge, 2021.

“Assessing Worth across the Iberian Empires: Pearls and the Role of Human Capital in the Creation of Value, c. 1500-1700.” Special issue of *Journal for Early Modern Cultural Studies*, Volume 19 (2), Spring 2019: 52-74.

“A Political Ecology in the Early Spanish Caribbean.” *William & Mary Quarterly*, 3d ser., Volume 71 (4), October 2014: 517-548.

Winner of the Alice Hamilton prize for the best article outside Environmental History (2015), the Lester J. Cappon prize for the annual best article in the William and Mary Quarterly (2014), and Honorable Mention, Vanderwood Prize for the best English-language article on Latin American history published outside the Hispanic American Historical Review (2015)

Translated into French by Pauline Tardieu-Collinet as “L’écologie politique de la pêche perlière dans les premiers temps de la colonisation espagnole des Caraïbes” in Romain Grancher and Solène Rivoal, eds., Dernière frontière: Une histoire environnementale du fond de la mer, France: Champ Vallon Editions, 2025.

“Enslaved Pearl Divers in the Sixteenth Century Caribbean.” *Slavery & Abolition*, Volume 31 (3), September 2010: 345-362. Reprinted in Philip D. Morgan, ed. *Maritime Slavery*. London: Routledge, 2012.

Translated in Spanish by Aura Jirau Arroyo) as “Pescadores de Perlas Esclavizados en el Caribe. Siglo XVI” in Boletín de la Academia Nacional de la Historia, Caracas, Venezuela, Spring 2020.

“Western Europe and the Atlantic World.” *Oxford Bibliographies Online*, September 2011.

Exhibitions/Interdisciplinary Collaborations

“Water”. Co-curated (with Katherine Ibbett and Ivonne del Valle), NEH Four Elements exhibition, The John Carter Brown Library, Brown University. Summer 2018.

Contributing author, “Continuum: Aspen Mays and Dionne Lee”, Silver Eye Gallery, Pittsburgh, Sept. 5-Oct. 26, 2019.

Invited Essays and Media Appearances

Featured speaker on the Portuguese Empire in [Episode 4](#) “The Portuguese Empire: Ports and Profits” of Al-Jazeera’s four-part documentary “The Colonizer’s Academy”, Jan. 12 2026

[Interview](#) with *The Times of India* for the “Times Evoke” series with Srijana Mitra Das, Dec. 14 2025

Interview about *American Baroque* with Chuck Mertz for [This is Hell](#) podcast, Sept. 20 2021

“What’s Missing in the Conversation about the Pandemic Gig Economy”, *Washington Post*, March 30, 2021

Interview about *American Baroque* with Liz Covart for [Ben Franklin’s World](#), Oct. 17 2019

Interview with BBC Global for *The Forum: Luxuries and Obsessions*: [“Pearls: Treasure of the Sea”](#), May 16 2019

Interview about *American Baroque* with Daniel Livesay for [New Books Network podcast, Aug. 7 2018](#)

Interview about *American Baroque* with John Fea for [The Author’s Corner on “The Way of Improvement Leads Home”](#), [July 23, 2018](#)

Editorial, [“From pearls to oil: Venezuela’s long history of boom-and-bust.”](#) *The Conversation*, March 6, 2014

“Approaching the Iberian World, Inspired by the Insights of Sir John Elliott” in “BSPHS Forum: Golden Anniversaries: Sir John Elliott’s Imperial Spain and the Revolt of the Catalans after Fifty Years.” *Bulletin for Spanish and Portuguese Historical Studies*, Volume 38 (1), December 2013: 218-222

Contributor, American Historical Association “Member Spotlight” series, June 5, 2013, <http://blog.historians.org/2013/06/aha-member-spotlight-molly-a-warsh/>

Contributor, [“What do we talk about when we talk about Political Arithmetic?”](#) <http://www.common-place.org/>, March 27, 2012

“Pearls and Plunder: The West Country Contact of a Jeweller to Queen Elizabeth.” *Jewellery History Today*, Issue 7, February 2010: 5-6.

Conference Proceedings

“Perles écossaises et mondialisation au XVII^e siècle” in Guy Saupin, ed., *Africains et Européens dans le monde atlantique XV^e-XIX^e siècle*. Rennes: Presses Universitaires de Rennes, 2014: 351-372.

Book Reviews

Review of Mónica Domínguez Torres, *Pearls for the Crown: Art, Nature, and Race in the Age of Spanish Expansion* (University Park: Penn State University Press, 2024). *Hispanic American Historical Review*, 2025, Volume 105 (3), 2025: 567–569.

Review of Sharika D. Crawford, *The Last Turtlemen of the Caribbean: Waterscapes of Labor, Conservation, and Boundary Making* (Chapel Hill: The University of North Carolina Press, 2020), *American Historical Review*, Volume 126 (2), June 2022: 1010-1011.

Contributor, H-Environment roundtable on Thomas M. Wickman, *Snowshoe Country: An Environmental and Cultural History of Winter in the Early American Northeast* (Cambridge and New York: Cambridge University Press, 2018), Volume 10 (10), October 2020.

Review of Jesse Cromwell, *The Smugglers' World: Illicit Trade and Atlantic Communities in Eighteenth-Century Venezuela* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2018), *New West Indian Guide*, Volume 94 (1-2), October 2020: 117-118.

Review of Peter C. Mancall, *Nature and Culture in the Early Modern Atlantic* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2018), *Environmental History*, Volume 24 (3), July 2019: 618-620.

Review of Jorge Cañizares-Esguerra, ed., *Entangled Empires: The Anglo Iberian Atlantic, 1500-1830* (Philadelphia, University of Pennsylvania Press, 2018), *The Journal of Interdisciplinary History*, Volume 50 (1), Summer 2019: 123-125.

Review of Mark G. Hanna, *Pirate Nests and the Rise of the British Empire, 1570-1740* (Chapel Hill: Omohundro Institute with the University of North Carolina Press, 2015), Kevin P. McDonald, *Pirates, Merchants, Settlers, and Slaves: Colonial America and the Indo-Atlantic World* (Oakland: University of California Press, 2015), and Nathan Perl-Rosenthal, *Citizen Sailors: Becoming American in the Age of Revolution* (Cambridge: Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 2015), *Reviews in American History*, December 2016: 524-531.

Review of William D. Phillips, Jr., *Slavery in Medieval and Early Modern Iberia* (Philadelphia, University of Pennsylvania Press, 2014), *The Journal of Interdisciplinary History* Volume 45 (3), Winter 2015: 434-435.

Review of John Tutino, *Making a New World: Founding Capitalism in the Bajío and Spanish North America* (Durham: Duke University Press, 2011), *Labor: Studies in Working-Class Histories of the Americas*, Volume 10 (2), Summer 2013: 140-143.

Review of J.R. McNeill, *Mosquito Empires: Ecology and War in The Greater Caribbean, 1620-1914* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2010), *Journal of World History*, Volume 22 (4) Winter 2011: 840-844.

Review of Elvira Vilches, *New World Gold: Cultural Anxiety and Monetary Disorder in Early Modern Spain* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2010), *Renaissance Quarterly*, Volume 64 (1), Spring 2011: 298-299.

Review of Kris Lane, *Colour of Paradise: The Emerald in the Age of Gunpowder Empires* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2010), *Journal of Interdisciplinary History*, Volume 41 (4), Spring 2011: 623-624.

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

Invited Fellowships

Gladys Kriebel Delmas Foundation Fellowship, The John Carter Brown Library, Brown University (October 2017)

Nationally and Internationally Competitive Grants

Short Term Fellowship, The John Carter Brown Library, January-March 2025

Keck Foundation and Mayers Fellowship (January-April 2024, declined)

Long Term Fellowship, The Huntington Library, Pasadena, CA (Sept 2019-May 2020, declined)

Short Term Fellowship, The Huntington Library, Pasadena, CA (June-July 2017)

NEH Postdoctoral Fellow, Omohundro Institute for Early American History & Culture, Williamsburg, VA (2010-2012)

Research Grant, Society of Antiquaries of Scotland (2008)

Atlantic Seminar Grant, Harvard University (2006-2007)

Fulbright Student Grant (Portugal, 2005-2006)

Jacob K. Javits Fellowship (2003-2007)

Competitive University-Level Grants

Hewlett International Grant, University Center for International Studies, University of Pittsburgh (Summer 2024)

Internal Fellow, Humanities Center, University of Pittsburgh (2023-2024 academic year)

Special Initiative to Promote Scholarly Activities in the Humanities, University of Pittsburgh (2019)

Hewlett International Grant, University Center for International Studies, University of Pittsburgh (Summer 2018)

Faculty Grant for Research on Europe, European Studies Center, University of Pittsburgh (Summer 2018)

John G. Bowman Faculty Grant (Summer 2018)

Hewlett International Grant, University Center for International Studies, University of Pittsburgh (Summer 2015)

Internal Fellow, Humanities Center, University of Pittsburgh (2014-2015 academic year)

Program to Enhance Scholarly and Creative Activities, Texas A&M University (2010-2011)

Dean's Teaching Fellowship, Johns Hopkins University (2009)

Molly A. Warsh, University of Pittsburgh

Frederick Jackson Turner Travel Grant, Johns Hopkins University (2008)

George Owen Fellowship, Johns Hopkins University (2002-2005)

CONFERENCE LEADERSHIP

Convener and Program Chair, 2026 meeting of the Forum on Early-modern Empires and Global Interactions (FEEGI), Rutgers University, April 10-11 2026

Chair, Local Arrangements Committee, Annual Meeting of the American Society for Environmental History (ASEH), Pittsburgh, PA April 2025

Convener (with Ruth Mostern, History Department, University of Pittsburgh), 2023 annual meeting of the World History Association, Pittsburgh PA, June 2023.

Program Committee Co-chair (with Akin Ogundiran, Northwestern University), 2023 Annual Conference of the American Historical Association, Philadelphia, PA, January 2023

Co-organizer (with Carla Pestana, History Department, University of California, Los Angeles), conference on “The Early Modern Global Caribbean”, Huntington Library, Pasadena, CA, Sept. 18-19, 2020 (held virtually due to Covid-19)

Chair, Program Committee, annual meeting of the Omohundro Institute of Early American History & Culture, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, June 13-16, 2019

Co-organizer (with Carla Pestana, History Department, University of California, Los Angeles), “The Early Modern Global Caribbean: A Symposium at the John Carter Brown Library.” Brown University, Sept. 20-22, 2018

Co-organizer (with Olivia Bloechl, Music Department, University of Pittsburgh), conference on “Race and Empire in Global Music History,” University of Pittsburgh, March 30-31, 2018

Co-organizer (with Susanah Shaw Romney, History Department, New York University), Conference Organizer, *Liberty's Daughters and Sons: Celebrating the Legacy of Mary Beth Norton*, Cornell University, September 28-29, 2012

SCHOLARLY PRESENTATIONS

Chair and Organizer, “Global Maritime Knowledge in the Early Modern World”, Annual meeting of the American Historical Association, New Orleans, LA January 7-10, 2027

Panelist, “History for the 21st Century: Teaching U.S. History in Global Context”, Annual meeting of the American Historical Association, New Orleans, LA January 7-10, 2027

“Liminal Ecologies and Their Multispecies Inhabitants in the Early Modern World”, Annual meeting of the Renaissance Society of America, San Francisco, CA February 19 2026

Molly A. Warsh, University of Pittsburgh

Chair, "The Early Modern Atlantic World", *The J.H. Elliott Forum for History: An Inaugural Symposium: "Early Modern History in the Making"*, Oxford University (U.K), June 5-6, 2025

"The Material Realities of Itinerancy in a Caribbean Context", *Early Global Caribbean: Materialities*, Clark Library, University of California, Los Angeles, April 11, 2025

Chair and Discussant, "Pests and Plantations: Forging New Environments in the Era of Scientific Agriculture", Annual Meeting of the American Society of Environmental History, Pittsburgh, PA, April 10 2025

Chair, "Secrecy, Lies, and Misinformation in Primary Sources" Annual Meeting of the American Historical Association, New York City, NY, January 4, 2025

Organizer and panelist, "Multispecies Colonialism: Human-Animal Encounters in the Sixteenth Century Iberian Atlantic World", Annual Meeting of the American Historical Association, January 5, 2025

Chair and co-organizer (with Ann Little, History Department, Colorado State University), "Ecofeminism, Reproductive Labor, and Gender in the Human and non-Human World: Carolyn Merchant's Enduring Legacy", Annual meeting of the American Society for Environmental History, Denver, CO, April 6 2024

Co-organizer (with Ann Little), "Sex, Race, and Carolyn Merchant's Scientific Revolution", Annual Meeting of the American Society for Environmental History, Denver, CO, April 6 2024

Panelist, "Navigating the History Career with Intentionality", Annual meeting of the World History Association, Pittsburgh, PA June 23, 2023

Panelist, "Exploring Early Modern Ocean History", Annual Meeting of the American Society for Environmental History, Boston, MA, March 24, 2023

Slammer, *Humanities Green Speakeasy*, University of Pittsburgh, Feb. 22 2023

Organizer and chair, "Perceiving and Writing Agency in the Early Modern World: Interpretative Challenges", Annual meeting of the American Historical Association, Philadelphia, PA, Jan. 6 2023

"Publishing in Early Modern Journals", Annual meeting of the Sixteenth Century Society & Conference, Minneapolis, MN, Oct 29 2022

"Itinerant Labor and the Making of the Modern World: Personal Histories and Global Patterns", Annual meeting of the World History Association, Bilbao, Spain, June 24 2022

Chair, "Environment and Adaptation in World History", Annual meeting of the World History Association, Bilbao, Spain, June 25 2022

"Harpies" "men who look like Caribs" and tuna: perspectives on human and natural migrations in the early Iberian Atlantic" *Moving Labour* conference, Queen's University Belfast and Ecole Normale Supérieure de Lyon, June 28-29, 2021 (held virtually due to Covid-19)

"Servants of the Seasons: Glimpses of Labor Mobility Across the Early Americas." Annual meeting of the Conference on Latin American History/American Historical Association, New York, NY, Jan. 4, 2020

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Organizer and panelist, “Loyalties and Migrations in World History.” Presidential Session of the annual meeting of the American Historical Association, Chicago IL., Jan 4, 2019

Chair and moderator, “Afro-Latin America—Historical Roots”, conference on “Representations of Afrolatinidad” University of Pittsburgh, April 12, 2019

Chair and commentator, “Indigenous Perspectives on the Natural World: Intersections between Ethnohistory and Environmental History in Early Colonial Mesoamerica.” Annual meeting of the Conference on Latin American History/American Historical Association, Chicago, IL., Jan. 4, 2019

“Commodities as windows onto the nature of people and places.” Conference on “Crossing seas, Rising islands, Connecting people”, Universidade Nova, Lisbon, Portugal, November 16, 2018

Panelist, "The Economy of Adornment: Clothing Cultures and Contact Zones in the First Global Age, c. 1500-1800." World Economic History Conference, Boston, MA, July 31, 2018

Presenter, “Seasons within Seasons: The Ebb and Flow of Itinerant Labor in the Early Modern Atlantic World.” Symposium on “Geographies of Power on Land and Water: Space, People, and Borders,” Philadelphia, PA July 23-25, 2018

Panelist, roundtable on “The Scales of Early America.” Annual Meeting of the Omohundro Institute of Early American History & Culture, Williamsburg Virginia, June 2018

Chair, “The Negotiation of Oceans.” Annual Meeting of the Omohundro Institute of Early American History & Culture, Williamsburg, Virginia, June 2018

Panelist, “Soundscapes of Labor in the Global Early Modern Caribbean.” Conference on “Race and Empire in Global Music History,” University of Pittsburgh, March 31, 2018

Chair, “Coloniality/Modernity and the Times of Music History: A Roundtable with Walter Mignolo.” Conference on “Race and Empire in Global Music History,” University of Pittsburgh, March 31, 2018

Chair, “Material Cultures of Consumption.” Biennial Conference of the Forum for European Expansion and Global Initiative (FEEGI), University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa, Feb. 24, 2018

Chair, “The Animal Kingdom and Aquatic Ecosystems in the Early Modern World.” Annual Meeting of the American Society for Environmental History, Riverside, CA, March 17, 2018

Chair, “Teaching to Millennials: Media and Collaborative Learning.” Annual meeting of the American Historical Association, Washington, D.C., January 2018.

Chair, “Animals in the Early Modern Atlantic World.” Annual meeting of the American Historical Association, Washington, D.C., January 2018

Panelist, “Escaping Leviathan’s hold: mobility as a challenge for empires and nation-states.” Fifth European Congress on World and Global History, Budapest, Hungary, August 31-September 3, 2017

Panelist, “Questioning the limits of Atlantic/Environmental History.” Annual meeting of the World History Association, Boston, MA June 22-24, 2017

Panelist, “The Stuff of Empire: Food, Drinks, Drugs and Luxury Goods.” Annual meeting of the Latin American Studies Association, Lima, Peru, April 29-May 1 2017

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Panelist, "Roundtable: Thinking With Objects: Cultural Encounters and Material Culture." Annual meeting of the Renaissance Society of America, Chicago, IL, March 30-April 1, 2017

Chair, "The Caribbean Beyond Sugar: New Approaches to Sinew Populations and Colonialism in the Early Modern Caribbean." Annual meeting of the American Historical Association, Denver, CO, January 2017

Panelist, "New Research on the Early Spanish Caribbean." Annual Meeting of the American Historical Association, Atlanta, GA, January 2016

Panelist, "Teaching Atlantic History: A Practical Workshop." Omohundro Institute of Early American History/Society of Early Americanists joint conference, Chicago, June 18-21, 2015

"Indigenous language, practice, and ecology in the early Spanish Caribbean." Conference on "Entangled Trajectories: Integrating Native American and European Histories." University of Maryland, College Park and George Washington University, April 9-10, 2015

"Unruly subjects and subjective wealth on the Pearl Coast." Conference on "Illicit Atlantic Worlds," Huntington Library, San Marino, CA, January 23-24, 2015

"From Salem to Sri Lanka: Learning to Follow a Lead." Annual Meeting of the American Historical Association, New York, NY, January 2015

"Networks of Labor and Exploitation: The Early Caribbean and the Global Iberian World." Annual Meeting of the Association of Caribbean Historians, Fort de France, Martinique, May 2014

"Global Pearl Fisheries and Political Geographies of Labor and Exploitation in the Seventeenth Century." Conference on the Future of Atlantic, Transnational, and World History, University of Pittsburgh, May 2014

Panelist, "What is Iberian about the Atlantic? A Roundtable on the Future of a Globalized South Atlantic History." Annual Meeting of the American Historical Association, Washington, D.C., January 2014

"The Extraordinary Ordinarity of Pearls in Early Modern Europe." Sixteenth Century Society and Conference (SCSC), San Juan, Puerto Rico, October 2013

"Promoting Comparative, Atlantic, and Global History." Annual Meeting of the Association for Spanish and Portuguese Historical Studies, Albuquerque, New Mexico, April 2013

"Sustainable Destruction? The Challenge of Managing Venezuelan Pearl Fisheries, 16th-17th Centuries." Annual Meeting of the American Society for Environmental History, Madison, WI, March 2012

Commentator on panel titled "Religious Orders, Indigenous Resistance, and Aristocratic Women in the Early Spanish Caribbean." Southern Historical Association 77th Annual Meeting, Baltimore, MD, October 2011

"Frontiers, Authority, and an Imperial Commodity: Pearls and Policy in Britain and America in the Seventeenth Century." Annual Meeting of the Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture, New Paltz, NY, June 2011

Molly A. Warsh, University of Pittsburgh

“Luxury, Sustenance, Supply: Dependence and Independence along the Venezuelan Pearl Coast, c.1500-c.1650.” Annual Meeting of the Association of Caribbean Historians, San Juan, Puerto Rico, May 2011

Commentator on panel titled “Approaching the Americas: Britain and Spain in the New World.” Annual Meeting of the American Historical Association, Boston, MA, January 2011

“Atlantic Pearls, Global Markets, Scottish Solutions: English Responses to the Evolving Early Modern Pearl Market.” Conference: The Impact of the Atlantic World on the "Old Worlds" in Europe and Africa from the Fifteenth to the Nineteenth Centuries, University of Nantes, France, June 2010

“‘No Life as Infernal or Desperate’: Enslaved Pearl Diving in the Sixteenth- and Seventeenth-Century Caribbean.” Annual Meeting of the American Historical Association, San Diego, CA, January 2010

“Spanish Pearls, English Brokers, Indian Buyers: Examining the Global Trade in Pearls in the Early Seventeenth Century,” 39th Annual Meeting of the Society for Spanish and Portuguese Historical Studies (SSPHS), Fort Worth, TX, April 2008

“Pearls and Power: Global Negotiations and the Early Modern Pearl Trade in the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries,” Rethinking Boundaries: Transforming Methods and Approaches in Atlantic History, New York University, New York, NY, February 2007

“The Smuggler, his Widow, the Jesuits, and their Viceroy: Two Stories of the Early Modern Pearl Trade,” American Historical Association Annual Meeting, Atlanta, GA, January 2007

“The Atlantic Pearl Trade in the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries,” Villa Spellman, Florence, Italy, November 2005

“Mapping ‘The Richest Land on Earth’: A Cartographic Perspective on Sixteenth-Century Spanish Florida,” Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD, March 2003

Invited Lectures and Presentations

Invited participant in “Human/Being, 1400-1800, Conference 2: Human/Animal” at Clark Library, UCLA, February 19 2027

Invited participant, Environmental History Symposium, University of Pennsylvania, Sept. 18 2026

“Reconsidering the Early Modern *Mesta* from the Perspective of Environmental History”, workshop hosted by the JHE Elliott Forum at the Institute for Advanced Study (IAS), Princeton, NJ, Nov. 6, 2026

“‘Breedlings’ and the ‘most sad Fenns’: Perceptions of Untameable Places and People in Samuel Pepys’s England”, 2026 Samuel Pepys Lecture at UCLA, Los Angeles CA, March 2, 2026

“Sepharad: Spanish and Portuguese Jewish History and Early Modern Empires” at Beth El Congregation, Pittsburgh PA, March 31, 2025

“Servants of the Seasons: An Experimental Essay on Temporary Mobilities in the Past and Present” Cambridge University (U.K.) American History Seminar, February 21, 2025

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“Oceanic Itinerants: Transformation and its Limits in the Early Modern Spanish Tuna Fisheries”, History Seminar, Louisiana State University, Jan. 31, 2025

Keynote speaker at "La sueur et la poussière. Une histoire environnementale des mondes du travail" ("Sweat and Dust: an Environmental History of Work and Labour"), conference organized by RUCHE (*Réseau Universitaire de Chercheurs en Histoire Environnementale*), University of Toulouse, France, June 19-21, 2024

Keynote speaker at symposium on “Early Modern Environmental History”, Rutgers University, April 25, 2024

“Servants of the Seasons: Reflections on Mobility and Migration Across the Human-Non Human Divide”, Humanities Center, University of Pittsburgh, Nov. 9 2023

““Harpies”, “Caribs” and “Beasts of the Sea”: Thinking about Itinerancy Across the Species Boundary in the Early Modern Iberian Tuna Fisheries”, Center for the Humanities, University of Miami, Feb. 16, 2023.

Discussant, “Rethinking the Early Modern Literary Caribbean”, Annual meeting of the Shakespeare Association of America, Jacksonville FL, April 8, 2022

““People Who Resemble Caribs”: Making Sense of Itinerant Labor in the Early Modern Atlantic World”, Johns Hopkins University, March 2, 2020

““People Who Resemble Caribs”: Making Sense of Itinerant Labor in the Early Modern Atlantic World”, Dartmouth College, Feb. 17, 2020

“New Approaches to Early Modern Things” (with Cécile Fromont and Surekha Davies), Center for Medieval and Early Modern Studies, Stanford University, Nov. 6, 2019

“Summer soldiers and winter laundresses: labor and seasonality in Atlantic World port towns.” Global Early Modern Studies Colloquium, Cornell University, April 18, 2019

“Empire Beneath the Waves: Pearls and the Violence and Beauty of the Early Americas” Sally A. Miller Humanities Lecture, History Department, University of Akron, April 4 2019

A discussion of *American Baroque: Pearls and the Nature of Empire, 1492-1700* with Professor Richard Pell (Carnegie Mellon University), Pitt-CMU Environmental Humanities Research Seminar series, Sept. 12 2018

“Servants of the Seasons: Itinerant Labor, Migration, and Sovereignty in the Early Modern World”, The McNeil Center for Early American Studies, Nov. 10 2018

“Servants of the Seasons: Environmental Flux and Itinerant Labor in the Early Modern Period”, Medieval and Renaissance Studies speaker series, University of Pittsburgh, Nov. 9, 2017

“Spain in the Global Early Americas.” Invited lecture to the annual forum the U.S. Spain Council, Williamsburg, VA, Sept. 23, 2017

Respondent, symposium on *Afro-Latin America: Black Lives 1600-2000* (Harvard University Press, 2016) by George Reid Andrews. History Department, University of Pittsburgh, Monday, March 27, 2017

Molly A. Warsh, University of Pittsburgh

"From baroque pearls to a baroque body politic: creating and assessing value in the early modern Spanish Caribbean, c. 1500-1700." Department of Romance Languages and Literatures, University of Chicago, November 16, 2016

Respondent, symposium on the work of Gabriel Rosenberg (Duke University): "The Trial of the Scrub Sire, or How to Use Biopolitics in Environmental History." Humanities Center, University of Pittsburgh, November 10, 2016

Panelist, symposium on "Capitalism-Catholicism-Colonialism." University of Michigan, October 7, 2016

Panelist, symposium on "Gems in Transit: Materials, Values and Knowledge in the Early Modern World, 1400-1800." Max Planck Institute for the History of Science/University of Warwick/Victoria & Albert Museum, London, April 11-12, 2016

"Pearls in a Baroque Bureaucracy, c. 1700." Circum-Atlantic Studies Group, Vanderbilt University, April 2015

Panelist, symposium on "Empires, Natural Resource Control and the Environment." Princeton University, February 20, 2015

Respondent, "'Mere' Comparisons: Theory and Methodology from a Global Perspective." Humanities Center, University of Pittsburgh, February 5, 2015

"The Changing Nature of Dominion, c. 1635-1660," Program in Latin American Studies (PLAS) Seminar, Johns Hopkins University, February 3, 2015

"The Changing Nature of Dominion, c. 1635-1660," Humanities Center Colloquium, University of Pittsburgh, Jan. 15, 2015

Panelist, "American Oecologies: A Roundtable on Environmental History." The John Carter Brown Library, Providence, Rhode Island, Feb. 12, 2014

"The Political Ecology of the Early Spanish Caribbean." Atlantic History speaker series, University of California, Los Angeles, January 16, 2014

"The Global Political Economy of Pearls, 1600-1640." History Colloquium, History Department, Cornell University, September 17, 2013

"The Political Ecology of the Early Spanish Caribbean." European Colloquium, History Department, University of Pittsburgh, December 5, 2012

"The Political Ecology of the Early Spanish Caribbean." Renaissance Focal Group, Division of Literatures, Cultures, and Languages, Stanford University, October 22, 2012

"Managing a Marine Empire: Pearl Fisheries and the Political Ecology of the Early Spanish Caribbean." Seminar on Intercoloniality, Oxford University, England, June 5, 2012

"Husbanding Oceans and Empire, 1498-1555." Triangle Early American History Seminar, National Humanities Center, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, November 18, 2011

"Social and Cultural Variations Across the Caribbean, 1500-1800." Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History: summer seminar entitled *Slavery and the Slave Trade in the Caribbean, 1500-1870* directed by Professor Philip D. Morgan at University of the West Indies, Cave Hill Campus, Barbados, July 12, 2011

“A Sustaining Luxury: Pearls’ Purchasing Power in the Caribbean, c. 1500-c.1650.” Center for Medieval & Renaissance Studies, Binghamton University, April 29, 2011

“Pearls in the Margins: Diplomatic Correspondence, Illicit Trade, and Elite Male Anxiety in 16th Italy.” Interdisciplinary symposium entitled *Pearls of Wisdom: Early Modern Transatlantic Trading Cultures*, Glasscock Center for Humanities Research, Texas A&M University, February 17, 2011

“Regulating an Imperial Commodity: Pearls’ Shifting Economic and Symbolic Utility in Seventeenth-Century Britain.” Early Modern Global History Seminar, Georgetown University, October 1, 2010

“Beyond the Middle Passage: Diversity of Experience in the Atlantic Maritime World, 1500-1800.” Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History: summer seminar entitled *Freedom and Slavery in the Atlantic World, 1500-1800* directed by Professor Philip D. Morgan at Johns Hopkins University, July 12, 2010

“How to Write a Successful Senior Thesis,” Cornell University, September 19, 2009

“Boundaries and Borderlands in the Early Modern Atlantic Pearl Trade.” The Seminar, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD, March 2009

“Freedom and Slavery in the Atlantic Maritime World, 1500-1800.” Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History: summer seminar entitled *Freedom and Slavery in the Atlantic World, 1500-1800* directed by Professor Philip D. Morgan at Johns Hopkins University, July 13, 2009

PEDAGOGY-FOCUSED INITIATIVES

As Organizer

Convener, *Teaching the History of Guns in World Historical Context*, professional development workshop for teachers at all levels sponsored by the Alliance for Learning in World History (ALWH), University of Pittsburgh May 30, 2026

Convener, “Truth, Misinformation, and Technology in World History”, professional development workshop for teachers at all levels sponsored by the Alliance for Learning in World History (ALWH), University of Pittsburgh June 1, 2024

Convener, “Teaching Energies in World History”, professional development workshop for teachers at all levels sponsored by the Alliance for Learning in World History (ALWH), held in conjunction with the annual meeting of the World History Association, hosted by the World History Center at the University of Pittsburgh, June 23-24, 2023

Convener, “It’s Not Either/Or!”, roundtable discussion featuring four University of Pittsburgh undergraduates with interdisciplinary majors and minors, April 19, 2023

Convener, “New Approaches to Frontier History”, virtual professional development workshop for teachers at all levels sponsored by the Alliance for Learning in World History (ALWH), University of Pittsburgh, June 11, 2022

Convener, “Teaching Indigenous history as World History”, virtual professional development workshop for teachers at all levels sponsored by the Alliance for Learning in World History (ALWH), University of Pittsburgh June 12, 2021

Molly A. Warsh, University of Pittsburgh

Convener, “Teaching the Global African Diaspora”, virtual professional development workshop for teachers at all levels sponsored by the Alliance for Learning in World History (ALWH), University of Pittsburgh, June 2020

Convener, “Hot Topics in World History”: professional development workshop for world history teachers at all levels sponsored by the Alliance for Learning in World History (ALWH), University of Pittsburgh, June 26, 2019

Convener, “How to Make History Work For You”: symposium on career paths for the History Minor and Major with University Pittsburgh alumni, University of Pittsburgh, March 28, 2019

Convener, Planning Meeting for Alliance for Learning in World History Professional Development workshop, University of Pittsburgh, June 28-29, 2018

As Participant

Panelist, “How Can History for the 21st Century Help You in Your World History Course?”, Annual meeting of the World History Association, Pittsburgh, PA June 24, 2023

Panelist, “History for the 21st Century: New Teaching Materials for Inquiry-Based World History Lessons” Annual meeting of the World History Association, Pittsburgh, PA June 24, 2023

Panelist, “Roundtable: World History in Graduate Education”, Annual meeting of the World History Association, Pittsburgh, PA June 24, 2023

Moderator, “Undergraduate Lightning Round: Research Across the Fields”, Annual meeting of the American Historical Association, Philadelphia, PA, Jan. 7 2023

“World History and the Curriculum: A Conversation”, Annual meeting of the American Historical Association, Philadelphia, PA, Jan. 6 2023

Co-chair (with Trevor Getz) of “History for the 21st Century: A Workshop”, Annual meeting of the World History Association, Bilbao, Spain, June 24, 2022

Chair and panelist. “Teaching World History to Prepare Students for Tomorrow: Building Partnerships across K-16 classrooms.” Annual meeting of the American Historical Association, New York, NY, Jan. 4, 2020

Panelist, Workshop on “Building a World History Curriculum: Challenges and Opportunities”, annual meeting of the National Council for History Education, Washington, D.C., March 14, 2019

Participant, faculty pedagogy workshop, “Speaking in the Disciplines”, Spring 2018, University of Pittsburgh

Consultant, “Humanities in Class: A Guide to Thinking and Learning in the Humanities” National Humanities Center, Durham NC, June 11-13, 2017

Participant, faculty pedagogy workshop, “Writing in the Disciplines”, Fall 2013, University of Pittsburgh

Peer-reviewed Teaching Materials

Open-access two-week teaching module on “Early Modern Atlantic Piracy in Global Perspective”
History for the 21st Century (<https://www.history21.com/>, forthcoming Summer 2024)

Peer-reviewed Articles on Pedagogy

With Michael Lovorn and Patrick Manning. “Entering a New Era in World History Education.” *The History Teacher*, Volume 50 (3), May 2017: 321-329.

COURSES TAUGHT

University of Pittsburgh (2012- present)

Undergraduate

World History

History Honors Seminar

History of the Caribbean to Emancipation

Political Ecologies and the Making of the Modern World

History of the Portuguese Empire

Global History of Piracy

Empires and the Environment: Resource Exploitation and the Making of the Modern World

Directed studies in Atlantic World history

Graduate

Graduate Writing Seminar

Environmental History in World History

Teaching World History

Directed studies in early modern Caribbean history, early modern Atlantic history, and early modern Iberian World history

Texas A&M University (2009-2012)

Undergraduate

History of the Iberian World

History of the Caribbean to Emancipation

History of Commodities and Consumption

Johns Hopkins University (2009)

Undergraduate

New World, New Wants: A History of Our Consuming Passions and Our Passion for Consuming,
from Columbus to the Age of Revolution

GRADUATE STUDENTS SUPERVISED

Doctorates Completed

Jacob E. Pomerantz, “Building the Bridge: Labor and Colonial Governance in Seventeenth-Century Bridgetown, Barbados”, Ph.D. 2021.

Molly A. Warsh, University of Pittsburgh

Matthew Plishka, “Bananas in Jamaica: An Eco-Social Labor History”, co-advised (with Lara Putnam) Ph.D. 2022.

Doctorates In Progress

Julia Worcester, 2026-

Other Thesis Committee Service (University of Pittsburgh Unless Specified)

Completed

- Angel (Ben) Rojas (co-supervised), M.A., 2026
- Vicky Shen (doctoral committee), Ph.D., 2025
- Chelsey Renée Smith (doctoral committee), Ph.D. 2024
- Cordelia Brazile, History (doctoral committee), Ph.D. 2023
- Leonardo Moreno Álvarez, History (doctoral committee), Ph. D 2022
- Morgan Pierce, (supervised) M.A., 2021
- John Tipton, History (co-supervised) M.A., 2020
- Yevan Terrien, History, (doctoral committee), Ph.D. 2020
- Marcy Ladson, History (doctoral committee), Ph.D. 2019
- Alexandra Mountain, History (doctoral committee), Ph.D. 2019
- Jennifer Barker, History (M.A. thesis committee), M.A. 2017
- Rodney Schuyler, History (M.A. thesis committee), M.A. 2017
- Jack Bouchard, History (doctoral committee), Ph.D. 2018
- Bennett Sherry, History (doctoral committee), Ph.D. 2018
- Titas Chakraborty, History (doctoral committee), Ph.D. 2016
- Aura Jirau Arroyo, History (co-supervised) M.A. 2016

SERVICE AND PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY

Organizational Leadership in the Field of World History

Director, [Alliance for Learning in World History](#) (University of Pittsburgh), 2018-present

Advisory board, [H21 project](#) (San Francisco State University), 2019-present

History Gateways Advisory Committee (American Historical Association), 2019-2023

Advisory Board, [World History Project](#) (Gates Ventures), 2018-2024

Advisor, [World History Commons](#) (George Mason University), 2018-2021

Profession

Reviewer, Mellon/ACLS Dissertation Innovation Fellowship competition, 2026

Board Member, J.H. Elliott Forum, 2023-present

University of Pittsburgh Undergraduate Council, 2023-present

Molly A. Warsh, University of Pittsburgh

Manuscript reviewer, Cambridge University Press, 2023

Selection Committee, Jerry Bentley Prize, American Historical Association, 2020-2022, Chair 2022

Selection Committee, Alice Hamilton Prize, American Society for Environmental History, 2020-2022, Chair 2022

Guest speaker, undergraduate seminar on Environmental History with Dr. Teresa Cribelli, University of Alabama, February 2021

Guest speaker, graduate seminar on Environmental History with Dr. Faisal Hussein, Penn State University, March 2021

Guest speaker, graduate seminar on American History with Dr. Robert Parkinson, University of Binghamton, March 2021

Article reviewer, *Journal of World History*, February 2021

Article reviewer, *Journal for the History of Knowledge*, January 2020

Author (with Susanah Shaw Romney), "Capturing the Essence of Mary Beth Norton", official American Historical Association biography of President Mary Beth Norton (2018)

Guest speaker, undergraduate seminar on Early American History with Dr. Linford Fisher, Brown University, April 2019

Article reviewer, *Journal of Early Modern History*, 2018

Article reviewer, *William & Mary Quarterly*, 2014, 2018, 2020, 2022

Manuscript review, University of North Carolina Press, 2025

Manuscript Review, Villa I Tatti, The Harvard University Center for Italian Renaissance Studies, 2024

Manuscript reviewer, Bloomsbury, 2022

Manuscript reviewer, W.W. Norton, 2018

Manuscript reviewer, Hackett Publishing, 2018

Executive Committee, Forum for European Expansion and Global Initiative (FEEGI), 2014-2018 (Secretary, 2016-2018, 2018-2020)

Guest speaker, graduate seminar in Atlantic Slavery with Dr. Anya Zilberstein, Concordia University, February 2018

Manuscript reviewer, Bedford/St. Martin's, 2017

Guest speaker, graduate seminar in European Empires in the World with Dr. James Pickett, University of Pittsburgh, January 11, 2017

Guest speaker, graduate seminar in Early American History with Dr. Susan Juster, University of Michigan, October 6, 2016

Molly A. Warsh, University of Pittsburgh

Humanities Advisor for the NEH-funded project “Exploring the Four Elements: Toward a Digital History of the Early Americas” based at The John Carter Brown Library, Brown University, 2015-2016

Book proposal reviewer, Oxford University Press, 2015, 2016

Book proposal reviewer, Routledge, 2014, 2015, 2016

Manuscript reviewer, Oxford University Press, 2012, 2015

Guest speaker, graduate seminar in Early America with Dr. Sarah Pearsall, Oxford University, November 17, 2014

Guest speaker, undergraduate seminar in Networks and Empires: Economic History of the Atlantic World with Dr. Joseph Adelman, Framingham State University, October 30, 2014

Guest speaker, How to Approach the Job Market (seminar for graduate students), Johns Hopkins University, October 2013 and October 2014

Organizational consultant, 19th Annual Meeting of the Omohundro Institute of Early American History & Culture (OIEAHC), Johns Hopkins University, June 2013

Peer reviewer, Israel Science Foundation, May 2012

Group leader, SSRC-funded collaborative project: “Our Shared Past: Alliance for Curriculum and Professional Development in World History,” 2012-2013

Selection Committee, Prize for Best Paper Presented by a Graduate Student, Forum for European Expansion and Global Initiative (FEEGI), 2012

Peer review panelist, NEH Fellowships selection committee, August 2012

Nominating Committee, Forum for European Expansion and Global Initiative (FEEGI), 2010-2012

Selection Committee, NEH Postdoctoral Fellowship, Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture, 2010-2012

Course Coordinator, The Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History
Freedom and Slavery in the Atlantic World, 1500-1800 with Professor Philip D. Morgan, Johns Hopkins University, 2008-2011

Consultant for exhibition *Encompassing the Globe: Portugal and the World in the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries*, Arthur M. Sackler Gallery, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C., January-June 2007

Department and University

Selection committee, Lillian B. Lawler Fellowship awards, 2026

Invited speaker and guest evaluator (final presentations), course on Happiness and Human Flourishing, University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing, November and December 2023, March 2024, October 2025

Member, affiliated search committee for Center for African Studies Director, December 2023

Molly A. Warsh, University of Pittsburgh

Invited speaker, Phi Eta Sigma Induction Ceremony, University of Pittsburgh, February 27, 2022 and Feb. 26th, 2023

Member, Provisional Diversity Committee (History Department), 2022-present

Member, Planning and Budget Committee (History Department), 2022-present

Member, affiliated search committee for Center of Latin American Studies Director, November 2019

Pitt Momentum and Seeding Grants selection committee, December 2019

Faculty Advisor, Field Studies in London, University of Pittsburgh. May 2018, May 2019

Hewlett Grant Selection Committee, April 2019

RMM Hunt Scholarship selection committee, April 2019

Convener, “Making History Work For You: Career Paths of History Minors and Majors”, symposium for undergraduates held at the University of Pittsburgh, March 28, 2019

Member, Undergraduate Steering Committee, Department of History, 2017-present

Member, Planning and Budget Committee, Department of History, University of Pittsburgh, 2012-2014, 2016-2018, 2021-present

Member, World History Postdoctoral Selection Committee, Spring 2017, Spring 2019

Member, World History Center Awards Committee, 2015-present

Convener, Junior Faculty Writing Group, 2016-2018

Convener, Pitt History Department Colloquium, 2016-2018

Member, Faculty Hiring Committee, Department of History, University of Pittsburgh, Fall 2015, Fall 2016, Fall 2018, Spring 2023, Fall 2023

Panelist, workshop on the craft of undergraduate research proposals. Organized by the Office of Undergraduate Research, University of Pittsburgh, Sept. 26, 2018.

Panelist, workshop on the craft of undergraduate research proposals. Organized by the Office of Undergraduate Research, University of Pittsburgh, January 30, 2017.

Panelist, workshop on the craft of undergraduate research proposals. Organized by the Office of Undergraduate Research, University of Pittsburgh, October 12, 2016.

Member, Graduate Committee, Department of History, University of Pittsburgh, 2012-2014, 2015-2016, 2021-2022

Member, Office of Undergraduate Research nominating committee for the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace (CEIP) Junior Fellows Program, 2014 and 2015

Member, Latin American Social and Public Policy Fellowship Selection Committee, University of Pittsburgh, Spring 2014

Community

Volunteer, Northside Food Pantry, 2018

Judge, National History Day Competition, Baltimore School for the Arts, February 2015

Tutor, afterschool program at DeWees Recreation Center, Baltimore, MD, October 2014-June 2015

Classroom tutor, Weil Elementary School, Pittsburgh, PA, September 2013-May 2014

Tutor, After School Enrichment Center, Hampden Family Center, Baltimore, MD, September 2006-2009. *Recipient of Outstanding Volunteer Award and Governor's Volunteer Service Certificate*

Tutor, *La Escuela Sabatina*/Saturday School, Education Based Latino Outreach (EBLO) Baltimore, MD, September 2002-December 2003

Tutor, after-school program after-school program for bilingual youth, Esperanza Tutoring Program, Ithaca, NY, September 1998-May 1999

Membership in Scholarly Societies

American Historical Association

American Society for Environmental History

Association for Spanish and Portuguese Historical Studies

Association of Caribbean Historians

Forum on Early-modern Expansion and Global Interactions (FEEGI)

World History Association

LANGUAGES

Spanish, fluent; Portuguese, advanced; French, proficient (reading); Modern Greek, basic

REFERENCES

Carla Pestana

Joyce Appleby Endowed Chair of America in the World, History Department

University of California, Los Angeles

cgpestana@history.ucla.edu

Lara Putnam

Professor, History Department

University of Pittsburgh

lep12@pitt.edu

Karin Wulf

Beatrice and Julio Mario Santo Domingo Director and Library, John Carter Brown Library

Professor, History Department

Brown University

karin_wulf@brown.edu