January 2018

Greetings, readers!

New Jersey might be known as the Crossroads of the Revolution, but the state's history is so much more than that. This issue of *New Jersey Studies: An Interdisciplinary Journal* might just exemplify that more than any to date. Our peer-reviewed articles tackle issues related to the military, race, ethnicity, and religion. One of our "invited talks" marks the 50th anniversary of the New Jersey Historical Commission. One of our "documents and artifacts" dates to the 17th century; the other to the 20th.

This issue of *NJ Studies* also continues our observation of the 100th anniversary of America's participation in World War I. We are pleased to be publishing part two of Dr. Richard J. Connors' new book, *New Jersey and the Great War* ([Dorrance](#), 2017). We are most grateful to Dr. Connors for allowing us to share his insightful and comprehensive work in this way, and hope you will help us ensure the widest possible dissemination by sharing the very timely piece with your colleagues, students, family, and friends. We're also publishing a talk from the Historical Commission's 2017 conference, "New Jersey and the Great War."

As I've said before, one of the many benefits of being a digital publication is that we can play with our format and content. In this issue, we bring you for the first time "Research Notes," inaugurated to allow scholars to share their works in progress and solicit feedback from others in the NJ History community. Thanks to editorial board member Matthew Tomaso for his help with this. We are also publishing, for the first time, a NJ Studies Academic Alliance's Stellhorn Award-winning undergraduate paper. Working with a great partner, Richard Waldron, we hope to make this an annual tradition.

As always, it has been my honor to work with all of our contributors. I thank them for entrusting *NJ Studies* with their work. I owe a debt of gratitude to our [editorial board](#), the members of which made many valuable suggestions for this issue and future ones at our January meeting. Of course, this issue would not have been possible without our blind peer reviewers. I regret that I cannot thank them by name, but they generously shared their time and talents to ensure every article presented to you here represents the highest levels of scholarship. In many cases, our authors made important revisions to their work thanks to suggestions made by the anonymous reviewers.

I am also grateful to our reviews editor, Dr. Jonathan Mercantini, Associate Professor of History and Acting Dean, College of Liberal Arts at Kean University. Sara Cureton, Niquole Primiani, and Shawn Crisafulli of the New Jersey Historical Commission provide invaluable support, as do Ronald Jantz and Jeffrey Triggs at our co-sponsor, Rutgers University Libraries.

Lastly, I would like to personally thank Monmouth University for supporting my participation in the *Journal*, specifically Dr. Richard Veit, Chair of the Department of History and Anthropology; and Dr. Kenneth Womack, Dean of the School of Humanities and Social Sciences. Thanks, too, to Department of History and Anthropology student employee Stephanie DeLaat for her all-important work helping to catch typos!

We are currently accepting submissions on a rolling basis. Please be sure to adhere to the submission guidelines posted on our [webpage](#).

I welcome your questions, comments, and feedback- positive and otherwise! Please feel free to reach out to me at any time to share these.

Happy Reading!

v/r,

Melissa Ziobro
Editor
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