

Editors' Report for 2018

Even-numbered years mark a time of transition in the editorial offices of the JOURNAL. Dan Bogart has begun his first year as the Eurasian editor. He has succeeded Ann Carlos, whose term as Eurasian editor ended in June 2018. We are grateful for Ann's exemplary service. Bill Collins is in the third year of his four-year term as non-Eurasian editor. Eric Hilt continues his work as book review editor for the Americas. Carol Shiue stepped down as the book review editor for the rest-of-the-world. Aldo Musacchio succeeds her. The JOURNAL is fortunate in having Lily Welch continue as the JOURNAL's Editorial Assistant and Sally Sztrecska as its Production Editor.

We have greatly benefited from the expert guidance and advice of our Board of Editors and the more than 200 referees who contributed their time and expertise to maintaining and enhancing the JOURNAL's quality. Editorial Board members typically serve four-year terms. Those graduating from the Board this year are Juliette Levy, Anne Murphy, Jonathan Rose, and Patrick Wallis. Sadly, two board members passed away this year, Frank Lewis and John Murray. We miss them as colleagues and scholars and are grateful for their many contributions to the JOURNAL. New board members are Lisa Cook, Kerstin Enflo, Leigh Gardner, Mark Koyama, Steven Nafziger, and Noam Yuchtman. Numerous scholars contributed book reviews. The editorial staff is grateful to all who have worked on behalf of the JOURNAL over this past year.

The number of new submissions to the JOURNAL in recent years is shown in Table 1. Over the last several years, the average number of submissions per year is 160, which is close to last year's number of 155. That said, the past year's new submissions are somewhat lower than in the previous three years.¹ The publication ratio displayed in Table 1 is the number of refereed papers and notes published in the current year divided by the number of new manuscripts submitted in the previous year. In 2017–2018, the publication ratio was 0.18 (29/162), which is in line with the recent past.² The JOURNAL published 31 articles in total in 2017–2018, including the presidential address and one "reviews and reflections" essay.

Table 2 reports the response-time statistics for the corresponding sample. To place the numbers into context, our goal is to have a decision back to the author within 90 days. This past year's performance has been somewhat faster than previous years for new submissions, with a median response time of 64 on new submissions. Note that this pertains to submissions received from July 2017 to June 2018, some of which may not have received decisions at the time of this report's writing. The median response time for all submissions has fallen to 47 days. Unfortunately, a small number of papers have taken much longer. We apologize to authors of manuscripts that experienced substantial delays. We continuously work to reduce the time for this small number of manuscripts, taking into consideration that we are, of course, concerned about the quality of the response, not only its speed.

The distributions of submissions are documented in subsequent tables. We show the data for eras in Table 3 and for topics in Table 4. As mentioned earlier, prior to

¹ Last year's report discussed an undercounting issue that was discovered when implementing a new method of gathering data from the ScholarOne system. This year's report features the new and more accurate counts in Table 1, whereas last year's table included both the old and new data for comparison.

² It appears that last year's report counted all published articles for 2016–2017, including the presidential address and reviews and reflections. The 2016–2017 entry in this year's report includes only refereed papers and notes.

TABLE 1
SUBMISSION AND PUBLICATION RATES

	Published September to June issues	New Submissions, "New" Method	Publication Ratio Pt/St-1
2011–2012	32	152	0.21
2012–2013	31	143	0.20
2013–2014	32	158	0.22
2014–2015	32	177	0.20
2015–2016	31	170	0.18
2016–2017	29	162	0.17
2017–2018	29	155	0.18

The "published" count includes refereed articles and notes. It does not include the presidential address, which is published in June, nor does it include "reviews and reflections" articles. In 2017–2018, the JOURNAL published one "reviews and reflections" article.

TABLE 2
RESPONSE TIME STATISTICS

Year	Decision Time (in days)		Mean	Median
	Minimum	Maximum		
All submissions				
2011/2012	1	232	77	79
2012/2013	2	237	80	78
2013/2014	4	243	76	75
2015/2015	1	235	78	78
2015/2016	1	277	60	50
2016/2017	1	306	61	60
2017/2018	1	227	51	47
New submissions				
2011/2012	1	232	84	85
2012/2013	2	237	86	85
2013/2014	4	243	80	79
2014/2015	1	235	80	78
2015/2016	1	277	74	74
2016/2017	1	306	73	75
2017/2018	1	227	64	64

2016–2017, distribution statistics may be affected by a slight undercount of submitted articles. Also, the automated part of the paper submission system stopped collecting information on regions for a period of time during 2015 and 2016, but that feature has recommenced. This, however, means that we do not have consistent comparisons over all years in the table. What is currently available is shown in Table 5.

Coverage remains broad. Table 3 shows that the distribution of submissions over eras has been fairly steady in recent years, with the nineteenth and twentieth centuries accounting for the bulk of submissions. Table 4 shows that submissions in political economy, labor, and growth continue to be particularly strong, with political economy

TABLE 3
DISTRIBUTION OF SUBMISSIONS BY ERA, MULTIPLE SELECTIONS
PER SUBMISSION POSSIBLE

Eras	2012– 2013	2013– 2014	2014– 2015	2015– 2016	2016– 2017	2017– 2018
Pre-seventeenth century	27	22	28	24	15	17
Seventeenth and eighteenth centuries	40	39	43	24	27	29
Nineteenth century	93	84	92	56	74	72
Twentieth century	109	87	104	78	83	77
Twenty-first century	15	16	12	15	16	10
Not applicable	2	2	2	3	4	8
Total	286	250	281	200	219	213
	Percent					
Pre-seventeenth century	9.4	8.8	9.7	12.0	6.8	8.0
Seventeenth and eighteenth centuries	14.0	15.6	15.3	12.0	12.3	13.6
Nineteenth century	32.5	33.6	32.7	28.0	33.8	33.8
Twentieth century	38.1	34.8	37.0	29.0	37.9	36.2
Twenty-first century	5.2	6.4	4.3	7.5	7.3	4.7
Not applicable	0.7	0.8	0.7	1.5	1.8	3.8

and labor rising and growth declining in their shares. The top-three topic areas together account for less than half of all submissions, reflecting broadly dispersed interests within the field.

Book reviews are an important component of the JOURNAL, and we sincerely thank the many reviewers. We also remind our membership to have their press send a copy of any new books to the relevant book review editor. In recent years, the JOURNAL has also sought occasional “reviews and reflections” synthetic articles, extended book reviews, and roundtable book reviews when appropriate. In March 2018, the JOURNAL published “Big Data in Economic History,” by Myron P. Gutmann, Emily Klancher Merchant, and Evan Roberts.

Readers will recall that at the 2013 meetings, the EHA board of trustees approved a policy to make publication conditional on archiving the data sufficient to replicate the results in the accepted articles. The new rules read:

“It is the policy of the *Journal of Economic History* to publish papers only if the data used in the analysis are clearly and precisely documented and are readily available to any researcher for purposes of replication. Authors of accepted papers must archive, prior to publication, the data, programs, and other details of the computations sufficient to permit replication. These will be archived at ICPSR and a stable URL link to these data will published with each article. The Editors should be notified at the time of submission if the data used in a paper are proprietary or if, for some other reason, the requirements above cannot be met.

TABLE 4
DISTRIBUTION OF SUBMISSIONS BY TOPIC, MULTIPLE SELECTIONS
PER SUBMISSION POSSIBLE

Topics	2012– 2013	2013– 2014	2014– 2015	2015– 2016	2016– 2017	2017– 2018
Agriculture	18	24	19	8	10	11
Demography	18	25	24	25	22	17
Growth	40	26	39	36	28	24
History of thought	5	3	4	7	3	5
Industry	19	20	19	8	7	13
International trade, finance	30	31	20	15	20	14
Labor	25	22	23	24	31	31
Money and macro	21	17	23	16	11	17
Other	11	22	18	10	12	10
Political economy	42	36	35	31	41	36
Private finance, capital markets	23	19	19	12	12	9
Public finance	14	17	17	12	9	18
Technology	10	9	13	11	11	0
Urban and regional	14	10	10	13	13	16
Total	290	281	283	228	230	221
	Percent					
Agriculture	6.2	8.5	6.7	3.5	4.3	5.0
Demography	6.2	8.9	8.2	11	9.6	7.7
Growth	13.8	9.3	13.8	15.8	12.2	10.9
History of thought	1.7	1.1	1.3	3.0	1.3	2.3
Industry	6.6	7.1	6.7	3.5	3.0	5.9
International trade, finance	10.3	11.0	10.0	6.6	8.7	6.3
Labor	8.6	7.8	8.0	10.5	13.5	14.0
Money and macro	7.2	6.0	8.0	7.0	4.8	7.7
Other	3.8	7.8	6.2	4.4	5.2	4.5
Political economy	14.5	12.8	12	13.6	17.8	16.3
Private finance, capital markets	7.9	6.8	6.5	5.2	5.2	4.1
Public finance	4.8	6.0	5.8	5.2	3.9	8.1
Technology	3.4	3.2	4.1	4.8	4.8	0.0
Urban and regional	4.8	3.6	3.5	5.7	5.7	7.2

As soon as possible after acceptance, authors are expected to deposit their data, programs, and sufficient details to permit replication with ICPSR. Questions regarding any aspect of this policy should be forwarded to the Journal Editor.”

The authors of all new submissions from January 1, 2016 onward that were accepted for publication have been required to post data and replication files to maintain and advance the JOURNAL’s efforts to ensure transparency and scholarly integrity. A branded page can be found with open ICPSR and depositors can submit files into openICPSR per the instructions available at <http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/files/openICPSR/JEH-deposit-instructions.pdf>. The editorial office and ICPSR continue to work to enhance the interface.

TABLE 5
DISTRIBUTION OF GEOGRAPHICAL AREA

Regions	2012– 2013	2013– 2014	2014– 2015*	2015– 2016**	2016– 2017	2017– 2018
Africa	8	8	3	2	13	5
Asia	38	19	4	6	28	34
Australia, New Zealand	8	3	3	0	5	1
Eastern Europe/Russia	12	15	2	3	13	7
Great Britain	27	36	10	2	29	18
Latin America	15	19	4	1	6	7
Middle East	12	7	2	3	9	7
Non-Spanish speaking Caribbean	0	4	0	1	1	3
United States and Canada	65	65	16	10	48	43
Western Europe	65	56	14	6	49	53
Not applicable	9	3	0	3	2	6
Total	259	235	58	37	203	184
	Percent					
Africa	3.1	3.4	5.2	5.4	6.4	2.7
Asia	14.7	8.1	6.9	16.0	13.8	18.5
Australia and New Zealand	3.1	1.3	5.2	0	2.5	0.5
Eastern Europe/Russia	4.6	6.4	3.4	8.1	6.4	3.8
Great Britain	10.4	15.3	17.2	5.4	14.3	9.8
Latin America	5.8	8.1	6.9	2.7	3.0	3.8
Middle East	4.6	3.0	3.4	8.1	4.4	3.8
Non-Spanish speaking Caribbean	0	1.7	0	2.7	0.5	1.6
United States and Canada	25.1	27.7	27.6	27.0	23.6	23.4
Western Europe	25.1	23.8	24.1	16.2	24.1	28.8
Not applicable	3.5	1.3	0	8.1	1.0	3.3

*2014–2015 Region data are from July 1, 2014–October 14, 2015.

**2015–2016 Region data are from March 18, 2016–June 30, 2016.

Referees for 2017 were:

Brian A'Hearn	Gareth Austin	Sascha Becker
Olivier Accominotti	Liang Bai	Silvi Berger
Philipp Ager	Ying Bai	Daniel Bernhofen
Guido Alfani	Martha Bailey	Asaf Bernstein
Marcella Alsan	Richard Baker	Hoyt Bleakley
Francisca Antman	Gerben Bakker	Howard Bodenhorn
Leticia Arroyo Abad	Victoria Bateman	Dan Bogart
Vellore Arthi	Joerg Baten	Karol Borowiecki
Cihan Artunç	Brian Beach	Leah Boustan
Jeremy Atack	Jessica Bean	Fabio Braggion

Stephen Broadberry	Andrew Goodman-Bacon	Christopher Kingston
John Brown	Markus Grabka	Carl Kitchens
J. Lawrence Broz	Regina Grafe	Jan Tore Klovland
Gillian Brunet	David Greasley	Edward Kosack
Charles Calomiris	Amanda Gregg	Mark Koyama
Leonard Carlson	Ben Groom	Sumner La Croix
Celeste Carruthers	Pauline Grosjean	Alvaro La Parra-Perez
Eric Chaney	Daniel Gross	Jeremy Land
Latika Chaudhary	Bishnupriya Gupta	Tim Larsen
Qiang Chen	Federico Gutierrez	Tomas Larsson
David Chilosi	Stephen Haber	Frank Lewis
Gregory Clark	Michael Haines	Dan Li
Karen Clay	Christopher Hanes	Gary Libecap
Charles Clotfelter	Walker Hanlon	Peter Lindert
Dora Costa	Leslie Hannah	Amy Liu
Nicholas Crafts	Zeynep Hansen	Cong Liu
Lee Craig	C. Knick Harley	Trevon Logan
Neil Cummins	Kyle Harper	Sara Lowes
Tomas Cvrcek	Timothy Hatton	Thomas Maloney
John Dalton	Joshua Hausman	Joseph Manning
Aditya Dasgupta	Pierre-Cyrille Hautcoeur	Brian Marein
Pim de Zwart	Carlos Eduardo Hernandez	Robert Margo
Claude Diebolt	Brad Hershbein	Brian Marien
Mark Dincecco	Matthew Hill	Ben Marx
Christian Dippel	Eric Hilt	Catherine Massey
Nicolas Duquette	Katie Hinde	Noel Maurer
Shari Eli	Philip Hoffman	Stephan Maurer
Benjamin Elman	Sok Chul Hong	Anne E. C. McCants
David Eltis	Richard Hornbeck	Terra McKinnish
Herb Emery	Michael Huberman	Eoin McLaughlin
Stanley Engerman	Elise Huillery	Grant Miller
Katherine Eriksson	Daniel Hungerman	Melinda Miller
José-Antonio Espín-Sánchez	Kris Inwood	Chris Minns
Rui Esteves	Ian Irvine	David Mitch
James Feigenbaum	Douglas Irwin	Jørgen Modalsli
James Fenske	Murat Iyigun	Carolyn Moehling
Alan Fernihough	David Jacks	Jon Moen
Daniel Fetter	Taylor Jaworski	Alexander Moradi
Price Fishback	Saumitra Jha	Petra Moser
Marc Flandreau	Joost Jonker	Anne Murphy
Nathan Foley-Fisher	Tobias Jopp	Tomas Murphy
Vicky Fouka	Gisella Kagy	Aldo Musacchio
Johan Fourie	Shawn Kantor	Steven Nafziger
Ewout Frankema	Ian Keay	Suresh Naidu
Dustin Frye	Morgan Kelly	Larry Neal
Alfredo García-Hiernaux	Hugh Kennedy	John Neufeld
Leigh Gardner	Alexander Keyssar	Tom Nicholas
Rafael Gonzalez-Val	Zorina Khan	Paul Niekamp

Greg Niemesh
Sergey Nigai
Pilar Nogues-Marco
Tomas Nonnenmacher
Nathan Nunn
John Nye
Kevin O'Rourke
Moses Ochonu
Claudia Olivetti
Alan L. Olmstead
Christopher Paik
Sevket Pamuk
Eugene Park
Se Mi Park
John Parman
Saumik Paul
Krishna Pendakur
Santiago Perez
Salvatore Piccolo
Florian Ploeckl
Stephen Quinn
Nicholas Radburn
Sarah Reber
Angela Redish
Claudia Rei
Paul Rhode
Joshua Rosenbloom
Jean-Laurent Rosenthal
Joan Ramon Rosés
Peter Rousseau
Jared Rubin
Anne Ruderman
Bruce Rusk
Martin Saavedra
Mohamed Saleh
Laura Salisbury
Kristina Sargent
Ethan Schmick
Kai D. Schmid
Max-Stephan Schulze
Andrew Seltzer
Edson Severnini
Allison Shertzer
Katharine Shester
Adrian Shin
Carol Shiue
Pierre Sicsic
Petra Sijpesteijn
James Siodla
Aloysius Siow
Andrew Smyth
Tuan-Hwee Sng
Kenneth A. Snowden
Peter Solar
Steven Sprick Schuster
Mara Squicciarini
William A. Sundstrom
Nathan Sussman
John Tang
Melissa Thomasson
Werner Troesken
John Turner
Martin Uebele
Andrey Ukhov
Marlous van Waijenburg
Jessica Vechbanyongratana
Martina Viarengo
Jordi Vidal-Robert
Nico Voigtlaender
John Wallis
Patrick Wallis
Marianne Wanamaker
Kirsten Wandschneider
Zachary Ward
Warren Weber
Simone Wegge
Marc Weidenmier
Alex Whalley
Eugene White
Glenn Withers
Anthony Wray
Laura Wreschnig
Guo Xu
Melanie Meng Xue
Noam Yuchtman
Shuang Zhang
Nicolas Ziebarth
Ariell Zimran