

Editors' Notes

EDITORS' REPORT, OCTOBER 2002

In accordance with what has been standard practice, the *JEH* editorship went through another rotation as of the summer of 2002. Jan De Vries completed his four-year term as editor for the non-North American section, turning over the reins to C. Knick Harley at the University of Western Ontario. The handy cross-bay shuttle system between Berkeley and the North American office at Stanford has thus been replaced by a long-distance, cross-country axis, thus far without noticeable loss of efficiency.

The smooth administration of the JOURNAL is largely attributable to the work of the assistant editors, Scott Wilson at Stanford and Andrew Ross at Western. Coordinating the whole operation and keeping it afloat is Susan Isaac in her Florida State office, who now assumes the appropriate title of Production Editor.

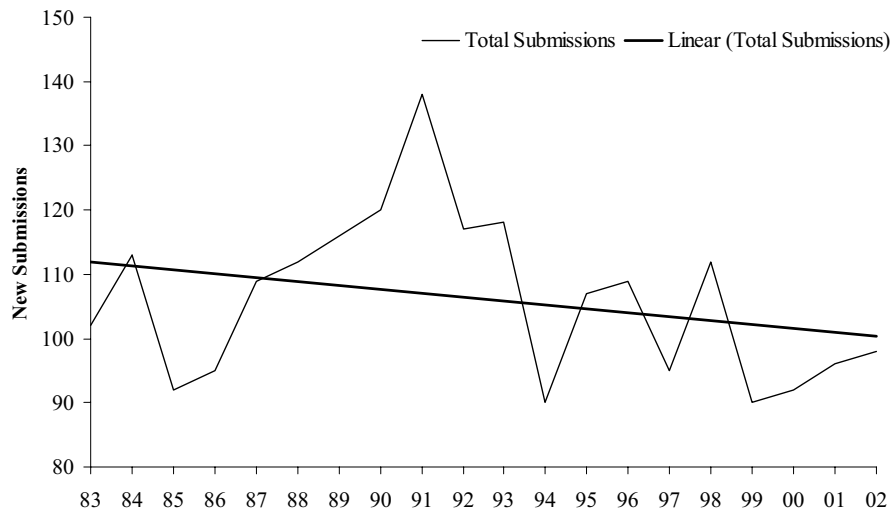


FIGURE 1
TREND IN NEW SUBMISSIONS, 1982/83–2001/02

Source: The yearly totals were taken from the published Editors' Notes.

The accompanying Figure and Tables give no indication of drastic changes in JOURNAL activity, the modest trends of recent years continuing through the 2001/02 editorial year. Figure 1 shows that new submissions have been on a mildly downward trend over the past twenty years, but since they have now increased for the third consecutive year, we can at least feel that overall volume is now moving in the right direction.

Tables 1 and 2 suggest, however, that this growth has not been evenly balanced between the two offices. Including resubmissions, the North American office handled 52 total submissions last year, while the office for all other regions received 81. The largest topical growth area was International trade and finance, replacing the previous year's boomlet in Money and Macro. Some of these fluctuations may reflect difficulties in classification, since interest in private finance and capital markets continued strong. Table 3 shows that the modest rise in pre-1800 submissions (over which outgoing editor De Vries expressed satisfaction last year) has been maintained. The extension of historical research to the late twentieth century, however—called for by North American editor Wright in his presidential address—does not yet seem to have occurred.

TABLE 1
REGULAR ARTICLE SUBMISSIONS BY WORLD AREA, BROKEN DOWN BY TOPIC,
JULY 1999–JUNE 2002 (totals)

Topic	July 1999–June 2000		July 2000–June 2001		July 2001–June 2002	
	North America	All Other Regions	North America	All Other Regions	North America	All Other Regions
Agriculture	5	7	3	13	1	5
Demography	5	0	5	2	4	0
Growth	0	2	0	6	1	9
Industry	5	0	4	5	4	4
Technology	0	1	1	1	0	1
Labor	5	11	5	5	3	3
Money and macro	5	6	3	10	2	3
Public finance	3	3	0	0	1	5
History of thought	0	0	0	0	1	1
International trade, finance	3	4	2	7	5	15
Urban and regional	1	1	1	4	1	4
Political economy	11	6	8	0	4	7
Private finance, capital markets	4	5	6	5	7	5
Other	0	0	0	0	2	0
Total	46	46	38	58	36	62

Note: The numbers include new submissions only. The totals equal the number of new submissions received because a paper is classified in only one topic category. In the latest year, the North American office had 52 total submissions, 36 new and 16 resubmitted. The office for all other regions had 81 total submissions, 62 new and 19 resubmitted.

TABLE 2
REGULAR ARTICLE SUBMISSIONS BY REGION, 1 JULY–30 JUNE

Region	Submissions			
	1998–1999	1999–2000	2000–2001	2001–2002
Australia	2	0	1	0
United States and Canada	44	45	38	41
Non-Spanish speaking Caribbean	0	0	0	0
Great Britain	11	15	16	15
Western Europe	24	25	21	21
Asia	6	6	13	12
Latin America	5	2	3	4
Eastern Europe/Russia	4	2	6	6
Africa	1	1	1	2
Middle East	2	0	2	5
Not applicable or unknown	3	0	7	2

Note: The numbers include new submissions only. Totals exceed new submissions because a paper can be classified as pertaining to more than one region.

Table 4 suggests that the JOURNAL continues to operate both efficiently and selectively. For submissions that have been decided, the rejection rate increased from 45 percent to 52 percent, while the acceptance rate was virtually constant at just under 22 percent. The revise-and-resubmit rate fell from 33 percent to 24 percent. We also note that the median time to decision returned close to its target level of 90 days, reversing the previous year's slight upward tick.

TABLE 3
REGULAR ARTICLE SUBMISSIONS BY PERIOD, 1 JULY–30 JUNE 1999–2000, 2000–2001,
AND 2001–2002

Period	Submissions		
	1999–2000	2000–2001	2001–2002
Twentieth century	45	57	50
Nineteenth century	44	53	50
Seventeenth and eighteenth centuries	20	22	21
Pre-seventeenth century	8	15	14
Not applicable or unknown	0	0	0

Note: The numbers include new submissions only. Totals exceed submissions because a paper can be classified as pertaining to more than one period.

TABLE 4
ACCEPTANCE AND TURNAROUND

	North American Office		International Office		Total	
	2000/01	2001/02	2000/01	2001/02	2000/01	2001/02
	Accepted	16	11	11	18	27
Revise and resubmit	13	13	29	20	42	33
Rejected or withdrawn	27	28	30	43	57	71
Total	56	52	70	81	126	133

Year	Decision Lags (in days)			
	minimum	maximum	mean	median
1999/2000	1	219	89	91
2000/2001	8	273	108	103
2001/2002	1	339	86	85
2001/2002 excluding resubmissions	1	233	91	91

Note: The numbers in the first three rows include new submissions and resubmissions.

Much of the credit for this performance goes to the referees, particularly the hard-working members of the editorial board. We continue to be impressed by the dedicated care and thought that go into the majority of referee reports, with no reward other than the satisfactions and stimulation of participating in academic dialogue and trying to maintain intellectual standards in our interdisciplinary field. We extend special thanks to the outgoing members of the board: Timothy Guinnane, Mary MacKinnon, and David Wheelock. Our referees for the last year were:

Anthony Adamthwaite, *University of California, Berkeley*
 Brian A'Hearn, *Franklin and Marshall College*
 Mark Aldrich, *Smith College*
 Robert Allen, *Nuffield College, Oxford*

George Alter, *Indiana University*
 Morris Altman, *University of Saskatchewan*
 Jeremy Atack, *Vanderbilt University*
 Kaushik Basu, *Cornell University*
 Fred Bateman, *University of Georgia*

- Richard Beason, *University of Alberta*
 Kathleen Biddick, *University of Notre Dame*
 Howard Bodenhorn, *Lafayette College*
 Richard Bonney, *University of Leicester*
 Michael Bordo, *Rutgers University*
 George Boyer, *Cornell University*
 Richard Britnell, *University of Durham*
 Stephen Broadberry, *University of Warwick*
 Jonathan Brown, *University of Texas at Austin*
 Liam Brunt, *Nuffield College, Oxford*
 J. F. S. Burchardt, *University of Reading*
 Erik Buyst, *University of Leuven*
 Colleen Callahan, *American University*
 Bruce Campbell, *Queen's University, Belfast*
 Cameron Campbell, *University of California, Los Angeles*
 Forrest Capie, *City University Business School*
 Ann Carlos, *University of Colorado*
 David Carlton, *Vanderbilt University*
 Gregory Clark, *University of California, Davis*
 John Coatsworth, *Harvard University*
 Peter Coclanis, *University of North Carolina*
 Philip Coelho, *Ball State University*
 William Collins, *Vanderbilt University*
 Jon Conrad, *Cornell University*
 Dora Costa, *Massachusetts Institute of Technology*
 Lee Craig, *North Carolina State University*
 Kevin Davis, *Stanford University*
 Lance Davis, *California Institute of Technology*
 Angel de la Fuente, *Institute for Economic Analysis, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona*
 Livio Di Matteo, *Lakehead University*
 Michael Dintenfuss, *University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee*
 J. W. Drukker, *University of Groningen*
 Ruth Dupré, *École des Hautes Études Commerciales*
 Christopher Dyer, *University of Leicester*
 Michael Edelstein, *Queen's College, City University of New York*
 Barry Eichengreen, *University of California, Berkeley*
 Bernard Elbaum, *University of California, Santa Cruz*
 Edhem Eldem, *Boğaziçi University*
 Pieter Emmer, *Leiden University*
 Stefano Fenoaltea, *Università di Brescia, Italy*
 Joseph Ferrie, *Northwestern University*
 Alexander Field, *Santa Clara University*
 Price Fishback, *University of Arizona*
 Marc Flandreau, *Institut d'Études Politiques de Paris*
 Rob Fleck, *Montana State University*
 Roderick Floud, *London Guildhall University*
 Caroline Fohlin, *California Institute of Technology*
 James Foreman-Peck, *Her Majesty's Treasury, UK*
 Jennifer Frankl, *Williams College*
 Rainer Fremdling, *University of Groningen*
 Vincent Gabrielsen, *University of Copenhagen*
 Peter Garnsey, *Jesus College, Cambridge*
 Peter Gatrell, *University of Manchester*
 George Grantham, *McGill University*
 David Greasley, *Edinburgh University*
 Shan Greenstein, *Northwestern University*
 Paul Gregory, *University of Houston*
 Avner Greif, *Stanford University*
 Richard Grossman, *Wesleyan University*
 Timothy Guinnane, *Yale University*
 Gerald Gunderson, *Trinity College, Hartford, CT*
 Stephen Haber, *Stanford University*
 Michael Haines, *Colgate University*
 Linda Hall, *University of New Mexico, Albuquerque*
 Christopher Hanes, *University of Mississippi*
 Leslie Hannah, *City University Business School*
 Joan Hannon, *St. Mary's College of California*

- Timothy Hatton, *University of Essex*
Carol Heim, *University of Massachusetts, Amherst*
Douglas Helms, *U.S. Department of Agriculture*
John Hobson, *University of Sydney*
Philip Hoffman, *California Institute of Technology*
Susan Howson, *University of Toronto*
Jane Humphries, *All Souls College, Oxford University*
Douglas Irwin, *Dartmouth College*
Jonathan Israel, *Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton*
Sanford Jacoby, *University of California, Los Angeles*
Harold James, *Princeton University*
John James, *University of Virginia*
Sheila Johansson, *Stanford University*
Ron Johnson, *Economic Education and Research Consortium, Ukraine*
Candace Jones, *Boston College*
Brooks Kaiser, *Gettysburg College*
Sukkoo Kim, *Washington University*
John Komlos, *University of Munich*
Sandra Kuntz Ficker, *Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana-México*
Sumner LaCroix, *University of Hawaii*
Pedro Lains, *Instituto de Ciências Sociais da Universidade de Lisboa*
Naomi Lamoreaux, *University of California, Los Angeles*
John Lampe, *University of Maryland*
Ron Lee, *University of California, Berkeley*
Margaret Levenstein, *University of Michigan*
Frank Lewis, *Queen's University*
Thomas Lindblad, *University of Leiden*
Peter Lindert, *University of California, Davis*
Katherine Lynch, *Carnegie Mellon University*
Carl-Henrik Lyttkens, *Göteborg University*
Mary MacKinnon, *McGill University*
Thomas Maloney, *University of Utah*
Roberta Manning, *Boston College*
Mavis Mate, *University of Oregon*
Rudi Matthee, *University of Delaware*
Anne McCants, *Massachusetts Institute of Technology*
Michael McCormick, *Harvard University*
Alfred McCoy, *University of Wisconsin, Madison*
Robert McGuire, *University of Akron*
Marvin McInnis, *Queen's University, Canada*
Christopher Meissner, *University of Cambridge*
Rebecca Menes, *George Mason University*
Mark Metzler, *Oakland University*
Roger Middleton, *University of Bristol*
Ryoshin Minami, *Hitotsubashi University*
Kris Mitchener, *Santa Clara University*
Carolyn Moehling, *Yale University*
Joel Mokyr, *Northwestern University*
Chiaki Moriguchi, *Northwestern University*
R. J. Morris, *Edinburgh University*
Christian Morrisson, *University of Paris*
David Mowery, *University of California, Berkeley*
John Munro, *University of Toronto*
Larry Neal, *University of Illinois*
Pamela Nickless, *University of North Carolina*
Cormac Ó Gráda, *University College Dublin*
Tetsuji Okazaki, *University of Tokyo*
Alan Olmstead, *University of California, Davis*
Martha Olney, *University of California, Berkeley*
Kevin O'Rourke, *Trinity College, Dublin*
Mark Overton, *University of Exeter*
Les Oxley, *University of Canterbury*
Jordi Palafox-Gamir, *University of Valencia*
Şevket Pamuk, *Boğaziçi University*
Svetozar Pejovich, *Texas A&M University*
Peter Perdue, *Massachusetts Institute of Technology*
Karl Gunnar Persson, *University of Copenhagen*
Michael Pokorny, *University of North London*

- Mark Potter, *University of Wyoming, Laramie*
- Leandro Prados de La Escosura, *Universidad Carlos III de Madrid*
- Louis Putterman, *Brown University*
- Thomas Rawski, *University of Pittsburgh*
- Angela Redish, *University of British Columbia*
- Joseph D. Reid, *George Mason University*
- James Riley, *Indiana University, Bloomington*
- Albrecht Ritschl, *University of Zurich*
- James Robinson, *University of Southern California*
- Hugh Rockoff, *Rutgers University*
- Christina Romer, *University of California, Berkeley*
- Joshua Rosenbloom, *University of Kansas*
- Jean-Laurent Rosenthal, *University of California, Los Angeles*
- James Rush, *Arizona State University*
- Richard Salvucci, *Trinity University*
- Lennart Samuelson, *Stockholm School of Economics*
- Peter Scholliers, *Free University of Brussels*
- Carole Shamma, *University of Southern California*
- Curtis Simon, *Clemson University*
- Richard Steckel, *Ohio State University*
- Michael Storper, *University of California, Los Angeles*
- William Summerhill, *University of California, Los Angeles*
- Bill Sundstrom, *Santa Clara University*
- Nathan Sussman, *Hebrew University*
- Richard Sylla, *New York University*
- Rick Szostak, *University of Alberta*
- Alan M. Taylor, *University of California, Davis*
- Peter Temin, *Massachusetts Institute of Technology*
- Antonio Tena Junguito, *Universidad Carlos III de Madrid*
- Mark Thomas, *University of Virginia*
- Ross Thomson, *University of Vermont*
- Jim Tomlinson, *Brunel University*
- Gianni Toniolo, *Università di Roma 'Tor Vergata', Italy*
- John Treble, *University of Wales, Bangor*
- Gail Triner, *Rutgers University*
- Werner Troesken, *University of Pittsburgh*
- Michael Turner, *University of Hull*
- Bart van Ark, *University of Groningen*
- Hal Varian, *University of California, Berkeley*
- Simon Ville, *University of Wollongong*
- Hans-Joachim Voth, *Universitat Pompeu Fabra*
- John Wallis, *University of Maryland*
- Peter Wardley, *University of the West of England*
- Barry Weingast, *Stanford University*
- David Weir, *University of Michigan, Ann Arbor*
- David Wheelock, *Federal Reserve Bank, St. Louis*
- Eugene White, *Rutgers University*
- Jeffrey Williamson, *Harvard University*
- Susan Wolcott, *University of Mississippi*
- R. Bin Wong, *University of California, Irvine*
- Peter Xenos, *East-West Center, Hawaii*
- Yishay Yafeh, *Université de Montréal*
- Kozo Yamamura, *University of Washington, Seattle*
- Xiushi Yang, *Old Dominion University*
- Alwyn Young, *University of Chicago*
- Vera Zamagni, *University of Bologna*
- Zhao Zhongwei, *Australian National University*

A COMMUNICATION FROM ALFRED D. CHANDLER JR.

I am writing this note in response to a review of John McDonald's *A Ghost's Memoir: The Making of Alfred P. Sloan's My Years with General Motors* by Anthony Patrick O'Brien [this JOURNAL 62, no. 3 (2002): 910–11]. The review began with asking a question: "Who wrote *Alfred P. Sloan's My Years with General Motors*?: Alfred Sloan, John McDonald, Alfred Chandler, a group of more than 20 persons, known and unknown." The reviewer then discusses the role of John McDonald and also the role of Catherine Stevens. Then the reviewer writes:

Here is McDonald on Chandler's contribution: "Alfred Chandler's densely packed reports on the paper trail at General Motors, written by request in the first person, began to come in during March, 1957." Note the rather ambiguous quote "written by request in the first person." Does this mean that Chandler's reports took the form of: "I, Alfred Chandler, found the following interesting tidbit in the minutes of the executive committee . . ." or "I, Alfred Sloan, decided in April 1953 to . . ."? Rumors have circulated for years that the bulk of *My Years with General Motors* was, in fact, written by Chandler. McDonald's book leaves Chandler's true role unclear.

I believe the acknowledgments in my book *Strategy and Structure* and Sloan's *My Years with General Motors* pretty well define my role. I begin my acknowledgments in *Strategy and Structure* by saying, "First of all, I want to thank John McDonald and Catherine Stevens, with whom I started to learn about the workings about big business and to think about the historical development of corporate strategy and structure." After thanking assistance given in the writing [of] the chapters in *Strategy and Structure* on Du Pont, Jersey Standard, and Sears Roebuck, I write, "The General Motors story ultimately came to be based on information and materials which had been in the public domain before the summer of 1956. Yet I am confident that should information not yet in the public domain become available, It would not substantially alter the history presented here." *Strategy and Structure* was published in 1962.

In the preface of Sloan's book he begins by noting the contributions of John McDonald and next those of Catherine Stevens, "who from the beginning were critical in organizing and managing the project of such multitude and complexity." Then follows: "To Alfred D. Chandler, Associate Professor of History, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, I am indebted for his assistance as our consulting historian and research associate. One of our major studies of the evolution of General Motors was most creatively carried out by him, and he has given his good mind to reviewing successive drafts of the manuscript." The major work referred to were the historical chapters 1 through 8, Part I, written at my request in the first person.

Once the rich archives, particularly the minutes of the executive committee and the board of directors, and the wide supporting information that accompany these minutes were placed in chronological order, I began to compile chapters or parts of chapters. The I, John, and Mr. Sloan would have lunch at the top of the Rockefeller Center, return to Sloan's Office and spend the afternoon in his office going over the text under review. These sessions were spent discussing, and arguing, about the reasons for decisions made, actions taken and the like. This process was a historian's dream—writing a draft based on excellent records and then to have it reviewed by the chief actor. The final draft was certainly shaped by the input of John and Mr. Sloan during these afternoon sessions.

Sloan's references to reviewing successive drafts of the manuscript were those that General Motors staff had changed and modified the originals. Here I was fortunate to work

with a sensible GM lawyer so that we could assure Sloan and John that reality had not been violated. Nevertheless, to reach that goal did require the reviewing of several drafts. Sloan's book was published in 1964.

In the fly leaf of that book, Sloan penned "To my good friend, Alfred D. Chandler, with thanks for your great help in making this possible. Alfred P. Sloan, New York, December 31, 1963."

I think these acknowledgments and Sloan's handwritten statement should clarify my role in the writing of *My Years with General Motors*.

ALFRED D. CHANDLER JR., *Harvard Business School*