



Bulletin

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Association of Caribbean Historians
Association des Historiens de la Caraïbe
Asociación de Historiadores del Caribe
Associatie van Caribische Historici

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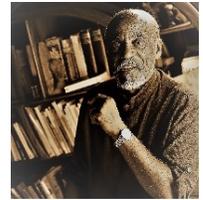
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Message from the President

Jean-Pierre Sainton, professeur d'histoire contemporaine à l'Université des Antilles

Dear Esteemed Members of the ACH,

I can't write this letter without thinking fondly of our late friend Gail Saunders, a prominent and active member of our association for many years, who passed away in June. We salute her memory with respect.



We have just come from our 54th annual conference, which was successfully held in Puerto Rico. Several dozen members had the pleasure of getting together to discuss new themes in Caribbean history. The contributions made at the meeting were greatly appreciated and the stay was thoroughly enjoyed by all the participants. Once again, on behalf of everyone, I would like to thank the Local Organizing Committee for its efficiency and the members of the Executive Committee for their support.

Our Annual General Meeting also re-elected some members of the Executive Committee and appointed other new members who will coordinate the various activities for 2023-2024. I welcome the choices made, which have given us a particularly well-balanced coordinating structure. I have no doubt that the EC's work will be effective and fruitful.

Colombia has been designated as the host country for our next conference, in 2024. More details appear below. I hope that the 55th annual conference will be even more vibrant and well attended than this year's conference.

Respectfully yours,

Jean-Pierre Sainton

2023-2024 Executive Committee

Jean-Pierre Sainton, President

Professor of History
Faculty of Humanities (Guadeloupe)
Faculty of Literature and Social Sciences
(Martinique)
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Call for Executive Committee Nominations

Each year positions become available on the ACH Executive Committee, the governing body charged with administrative oversight of the organization. Terms are for one year, although members can be re-elected for a second year. All candidates for election are chosen by a Nominating Committee selected at the Annual General Meeting. The following individuals have agreed to serve in 2023-24:

Tara Inniss, Chair

University of the West Indies, Cave Hill
Email: tara.inniss@cavehill.uwi.edu

Daniel Livesay

Claremont McKenna College
Email: daniel.Livesay@claremontmckenna.edu

José Solá

Cleveland State University
Email: J.SOLA@csuohio.edu

If you are interested in learning more about serving on the Executive Committee, or would like to nominate someone for the next election, please contact this year's Nominating Committee Chair. Any member of the ACH in good standing may propose names for consideration, or self-nominate to serve on the Executive Committee. According to the ACH Constitution, nominations must reach the Nominating Committee Chair no later than October 31, 2023. Ballots will be distributed in the winter issue of the Bulletin. Details for casting your vote will be provided prior to our next Annual Conference.

Call for the Andrés Ramos Mattei-Neville Hall Article Prize Submissions

The ACH is pleased to invite nominations for the 2024 Andrés Ramos Mattei-Neville Hall Article Prize, a biennial award that recognizes the best article in the field of Caribbean history. The next prize will be awarded in 2024 and will cover work published in 2022 and 2023.

Eligibility Criteria:

- Any history or general work acceptable as an historical work published in a scholarly journal between 2022 and 2023 is eligible.
- Publication may be in English, Spanish, French, or Dutch.
- Work should be marked by felicity of prose style and clarity of expression.

Call for Submissions:

Authors, publishers, editors and others interested in submitting articles for consideration must submit nominations to the chair and other members of the adjudicating committee by January 15, 2024.

It is important that one copy of the article nominated be sent directly by email to each member of the committee:

Kathryn Dungy, Chair

University of New Orleans
E-mail: kdungy@uno.edu

Tyesha Maddox

Fordham University
Email: tmaddox1@fordham.edu

Tessa Murphy

Syracuse University
Email: temurphy@syr.edu

The Andrés Ramos Mattei-Neville Hall Article Prize was named in honor of historians and long-time ACH members Andrés “Tony” Ramos Mattei and Neville Hall. The prize was launched in 1996.

In Memoriam: Gail Saunders (1944-2023) By Bridget Brereton

Gail Saunders, historian, archivist and cultural activist of the Bahamas, died in Nassau on June 30, 2023 at the age of 79.

She was educated at Queen’s College, Nassau, and at Durham University in the UK, where she did her first degree. Later, she obtained the M.Phil. from UWI, Mona, Jamaica, for a thesis on enslavement in the Bahamas, under the supervision of Barry Higman; and then the Ph.D. from the University of Waterloo on Bahamian society after emancipation (the late Michael Craton supervised).

Along with Craton, Gail was the pre-eminent historian of the Bahamas. Together they wrote perhaps the most important study of that country’s history, the two-volume *Islanders in the Stream* (1992, 1998). She published the widely read *Bahamian Society after Emancipation in 1990* (reissued 2003); her last major book was *Race and Class in the Colonial Bahamas, 1880-1960* (2016). Very much a public historian, Gail wrote books on Bahamian history for secondary and tertiary students in her country, and a series of newspaper articles on the same theme in 2005-07. She also published superior guide books such as *The Bahamas: A Family of Islands* (1988, 2000) and *Nassau’s Historic Landmarks* (co-author, 2001).

Gail was an archivist by profession, and one of her great achievements was to establish her country’s Department of Archives on a professional basis. Over decades of hard work, she made it a model of a National Archives of a small country. She trained many people in the field, and organized innumerable exhibitions, talks

and publications as outreach activities of the Department. Her efforts led to the establishment of the Pompey Museum in Nassau, which illustrated the impact of slavery, and the resistance of the enslaved, in the Bahamas—a topic which had hitherto received little attention, whether from historians or the local population.

Both during her service as Director, and after her official retirement, she undertook consultancies in archives development in several Caribbean islands, and was active in CARBICA, the regional archivists' organization. Many people, students, historians and others, can testify to her willingness to engage with and assist anyone who wanted to do research on her country's history.

With her late husband Winston, an attorney, playwright, actor, and cultural activist, Gail was part of a “power couple” who played a huge part in the cultural and artistic life of their country. He died in 2006, but Gail continued to pursue these activities. Her work was instrumental in the establishment of the Antiquities, Monuments and Museums Corporation and The National Gallery, and she served on the boards of both. After her official retirement she was Scholar in Residence at the University of the Bahamas, and was engaged in many initiatives related to culture, the arts, archaeology, and heritage in her country. Her services to her nation were recognized by the award of the OBE and, more recently, the Bahamian Order of Distinction (2019). She was also awarded an honorary degree from The University of the West Indies (Mona, Jamaica).

Gail was a dedicated member of the Association of Caribbean Historians, serving as its Secretary and then as President (2000-02). She was either the main local organizer, or an active supporter, of the four ACH conferences held in Nassau (1986, 1992, 2002, 2015). Gail rarely missed a conference, often presenting papers or chairing a panel; she last attended the conference in Barbados in 2018. In honour of her husband, and along with Virginia Gould, she established the Gould-Saunders Fund to provide assistance for graduate students and, in some cases, junior scholars, from universities and other institutions in the Caribbean and Central America to attend the ACH conference.

As so many people can attest, Gail Saunders possessed a warm, friendly, outgoing personality; she had many friends and was known for her kindness to everyone. You would be hard pressed to get her to speak an unkind word about anyone (I have tried). She combined personal elegance and beauty with a down to earth warmth and sense of humour, often self-deprecating. Her hearty laugh, and her habit of walking faster than anyone else (she had been an athlete in her youth and was a good tennis player), were her trademarks.

Gail was a devoted wife, daughter, sister, and aunt. She will be dearly missed by her family and by her innumerable friends, in the Caribbean and further afield. May she rest in peace.

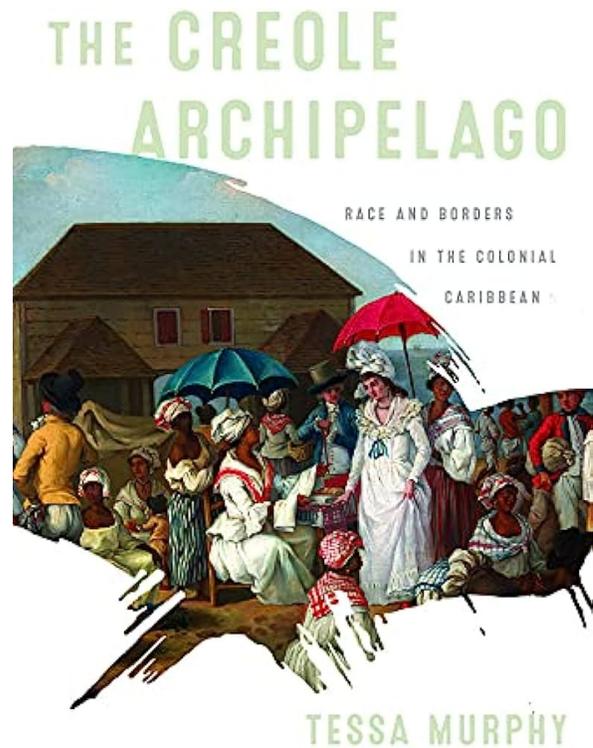
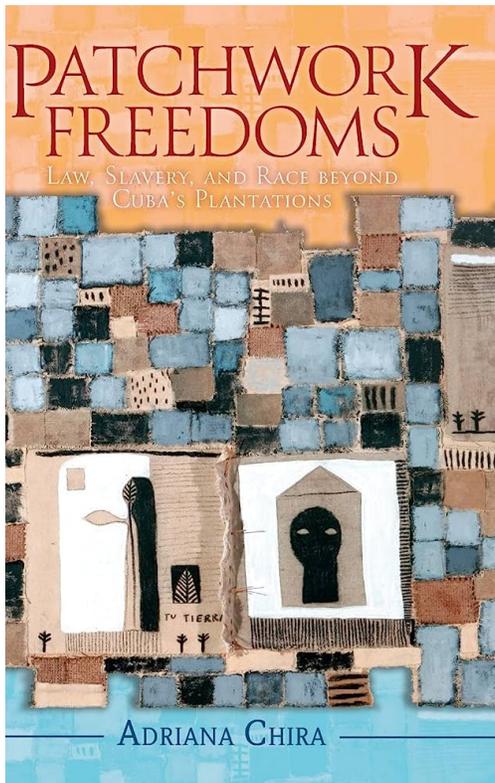
Gould-Saunders Memorial Endowment Awardees

At the 2023 annual conference, the Executive Committee awarded the Gould-Saunders Memorial Endowment Prize to **Christopher Montague** (Northwestern University) and **Arti Ramsaroop** (University of the West Indies - St. Augustine). Montague presented a paper entitled “Self-Government and White Sovereignty: The Black Marxist Critique of Colonialism in Jamaica,” and Ramsaroop's paper was entitled “The Vertical Dimension of African-Caribbean Mutual Aid Societies and Benevolent Associations in Harlem, 1900-1964: African and Caribbean Influences.” Both received a \$500 stipend to offset the costs of attending the conference.

The Gould-Saunders Memorial Endowment Award was established in 2008 by two long-standing ACH members, Virginia Gould and Gail Saunders, in memory of their late husbands, Geoffrey L. Gould, M.D. and Winston Saunders, CMG, respectively. Its purpose is to provide assistance for graduate students and, in some cases, junior scholars, from universities and other institutions in the Caribbean and Central America to attend the ACH conference.

2023 Elsa Goveia Book Prize Winners: Adriana Chira and Tessa Murphy

The Association of Caribbean Historians is pleased to announce that the winners of the 2023 Elsa Goveia Book Prize in recognition of excellence in the field of Caribbean history are: **Adriana Chira** (Emory University), for *Patchwork Freedoms: Law, Slavery, and Race Beyond Cuba's Plantations* (Cambridge University Press, 2022), AND **Tessa Murphy** (Syracuse University), for *The Creole Archipelago: Race and Borders in the Colonial Caribbean* (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2021).



The prize committee, chaired by **Natalie Zacek** (University of Manchester) and made up of **Linda Rupert** (University of North Carolina-Greensboro) and **Vikram Tamboli** (University of California-Los Angeles) was in unanimous agreement about this award, which was announced at the ACH Annual Conference in Puerto Rico this June. The prize is named for renowned Caribbean historian Elsa Goveia (1925-80).

The following citations were read during our Annual General Meeting (AGM) on June 15:

In *Patchwork Freedoms: Law, Slavery, and Race beyond Cuba's Plantations* (Cambridge University Press, 2022), Adriana Chira probes an extensive but little-known archive of legal documents to analyze how Afro-descendent rural cultivators negotiated liberty and landholding rights in nineteenth-century Santiago de Cuba. Her meticulous research demonstrates how protracted struggles against local legal institutions blurred the lines between enslavement and freedom. Chira argues that it was these gradual, lengthy, community-based processes, coupled with the flexibility of customary law, rather than innovations from above, that allowed these landholders to carve out spaces of greater autonomy. *Patchwork Freedoms* is an important counterpoint to scholarship that emphasize freedoms gained through Atlantic and circum-Caribbean mobility or formal processes of abolition and emancipation. It is essential reading for scholars of Atlantic world slavery, legal regimes, and agrarian societies.

Tessa Murphy's *The Creole Archipelago: Race and Borders in the Colonial Caribbean* (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2021) reconceptualizes the history of the Eastern Caribbean by centering the role of the

region's indigenous peoples, the Kalinago, in developing inter-island and trans-imperial connections. It offers a history of colonialism that places the Caribbean seascape at the center of the analysis; traces conflict and cooperation across racial, ethnic and geographic divides; and demonstrates the Kalinago's vital, ongoing role well past initial contact with European settlers. Drawing upon an impressive number and variety of archival resources, Murphy's work is a major intervention in the history of the seventeenth- and eighteenth-century Caribbean that moves beyond the focus on individual islands, imperial spheres, and the plantation complex that has dominated much of the historiography of the Lesser Antilles. It will be of great interest to scholars of indigenous, maritime, and trans-imperial history.

Previously awarded every three years, the ACH book prize has been awarded every two years since 1995 and recognizes excellence in the field of Caribbean history. If you would like more information on the award, please contact the ACH Secretary-Treasurer at: achsecretary@gmail.com.

The next award will be made at the 56th Annual Conference in 2025. The call for submissions will be issued after the 55th Annual Conference in 2024 and will be open to books published in 2023 and 2024.

Preliminary Information for the 55th Annual ACH Conference Santa Marta, Colombia, May 26-30, 2024

CALL FOR PAPERS: "Migration and Space in Caribbean History"

The ACH Executive Committee is pleased to announce that its 55th Annual Conference will be held at the **University of Magdalena in Santa Marta, Colombia**, from **May 26 to May 30, 2024**.

For the 55th Annual Conference, the overall theme will be "Migration and Space." We invite paper, poster, and panel proposals on any aspects of the above theme in Caribbean history as well as papers on the following topics:

- Mainlands and islands
- Caribbean geographies
- Circulation and movement
- Transnational policies
- Refugee migration
- Migration and (de)colonization
- Migration and the politics of race
- Migration as reparation

While papers on these themes are encouraged, applicants are welcome to submit proposals on other subjects.

For those proposing panels, please note that we seek linguistic and geographic diversity and representation. Applicants may also wish to consider that the ACH promotes diversity among panelists regarding institutional affiliation and academic experience. Preference is given to applicants who did not present at the previous conference in 2023.

Proposals must include:

1. The appropriate form for either a [paper/poster](#) or [panel](#) proposal;
2. A 250-word abstract for each proposed presenter (abstracts must indicate what new information or approach the work provides as well as the archival or oral sources consulted. **Abstracts must be**

submitted in 3 languages: English, French and Spanish. Proposals submitted in fewer than 3 languages will not be considered for the conference.

3. A brief CV (no more than 3 pages)
4. A brief Bio (no more than 300 words)

Graduate students at an advanced stage in their research are welcome to submit proposals and must include a letter of support from their academic advisors attesting to the strength and progress of their research. Please see Application Instructions here: <https://associationofcaribbeanhistorians.org/application-instructions/>

All documents should be combined into ONE (1) Microsoft Word document (please do not submit as a PDF). The deadline for proposal submission is **October 8, 2023** using the appropriate online form. Any questions can be communicated to Claire Palmiste, Conference Coordinator at achconference@gmail.com.

Application Instructions

There are THREE WAYS to participate in the 2024 ACH Conference:

A) PAPER: You can apply to present an individual paper. These applications are reviewed by the Executive Committee by theme and composed into panels. This requires:

1. The appropriate form for either a [paper/ poster](#) proposal;
2. A 250-word abstract (abstracts must indicate what new information or approach the work provides as well as the archival or oral sources consulted. Abstracts must be submitted in the 3 languages: English, French and Spanish. Proposals that are submitted in less than 3 languages will not be considered for the conference)
3. A brief CV (no more than 3 pages)
4. A brief bio (no more than 300 words)

B) PANEL: You can also apply as part of a panel of 3 or 4 papers. This requires:

1. A [panel proposal](#) form.
2. A 250-word abstract for each proposed presenter (abstracts must indicate what new information or approach the work provides as well as the archival or oral sources consulted. Abstracts must be submitted in the 3 languages: English, French and Spanish. Proposals that are submitted in less than 3 languages will not be considered for the conference)
3. A brief CV (no more than 3 pages)
4. A brief bio (no more than 300 words)

Please note that while panel organizers may propose a chair, final assignment of chairs is the prerogative of the Executive Committee. Proposed chairs should be experts in the panel field.

C) POSTER: You can also apply to participate in our poster session. This is intended as a fast-paced, fun session for newer scholars or for those embarking on a new project. This requires:

1. A [poster proposal form](#); this is the same as the paper proposal form—just check that you are applying to offer a poster.
2. An abstract of no more than 250 words (abstracts must be submitted in the 3 languages: English, French and Spanish. Proposals that are submitted in less than 3 languages will not be considered for the conference.)
3. A brief CV (no more than 3 pages)
4. A brief bio (no more than 300 words)

Please see Application Instructions here: <https://associationofcaribbeanhistorians.org/application-instructions/>

Please do not submit abstracts in PDF. The deadline for proposal submission is **October 8, 2023**.

A few more important notes:

- To ensure that graduate student applicants are at an advanced stage of their research, they are required to provide a letter of support from their academic advisors.
- All participants must be current members of the ACH by the time they present.
- ACH presentations include both a pre-circulated paper and a brief presentation at the conference. Papers can be written in English, French, or Spanish, and must be no longer than 25 typed, double-spaced pages using 12-point font. This includes notes and references.
- Presentations are intended to introduce the highlights of this written work, and so are strictly limited to 10 minutes.
- Poster presentations include both a shorter pre-circulated paper summarizing research to date (no more than 10 typed, double-spaced pages using 12-point font, including notes and references). Presentations at the conference will be limited to no more than 5 minutes and 10 PowerPoint slides.
- Papers for both panels and for poster presentations will be made available online at the ACH website in advance of the conference and can be accessed only by those who pre-register and pay their registration.
- To allow time to format and post material, presenters should email papers (as a Microsoft Word file) **NO LATER THAN March 18, 2024** to: Claire Palmiste, ACH Conference Coordinator, at achconference@gmail.com

If, after your proposal has been accepted, you find you are unable to attend, please inform the ACH Conference Coordinator as soon as possible in order to allow us to adjust the program.

The deadline for proposals is October 8, 2023. We look forward to your submissions.

Minutes from the Annual General Meeting, Puerto Rico, 2023

PREPARED BY: Randy Browne, Secretary-Treasurer

PRESENT: Laura Rosanne Adderley, Javier Alemán Iglesias, Jennifer Anderson, Aura Jirau Arroyo, Anne'el Bain, Dalea Bean, Kristen Block, Randy Browne, Josué Caamaño-Dones, John Coughlin, Nicholas Crawford, Audra Diptee, Mary Draper, Jorge Giovanetti, Rebecca Goetz, Terencia Joseph, Gad Heuman, Wim Klooster, Raymond Laureano-Ortiz, Joy Lewis, Daniel Littlefield, Daniel Livesay, Tyesha Maddox, Debbie McCollin, Michelle McDonald, Roderick McDonald, Christopher Montague, Kathleen Monteith, Tessa Murphy, Celia Naylor, Carla Pestana, Arti Ramsaroop, José Solá, José Orlando Sued, Anne Ulentin.

ACH Vice President **Carla Pestana** called the meeting to order at 11:38am.

Confirmation of the 2022 AGM Minutes: The June 2022 minutes were distributed electronically in advance of the AGM and attendees were asked to bring corrections and changes. No revisions were offered.

Rebecca Goetz moved their confirmation, seconded by **Gad Heuman**. No members objected or abstained and the minutes were confirmed unanimously.

Moment of Silence: A moment of silence was observed for ACH members **Mary Noel Menezes** and **Gwendolyn Midlo Hall**, who passed away since the 2022 AGM.

Gould-Saunders Memorial Endowment Award Presentation: The Gould-Saunders Memorial Endowment Award was presented by **Dalea Bean** to **Christopher Montague** (Northwestern University) and **Arti Ramsaroop** (University of the West Indies - St. Augustine). Montague and Ramsaroop were both in attendance to receive their awards.

Report of the Elsa Goveia Prize Committee (2021-22 publications): **Randy Browne** presented the Elsa Goveia Book Prize on behalf of the Prize Committee, whose members were not in attendance. The

committee, chaired by **Natalie Zacek** and made up of **Linda Rupert** and **Vikram Tamboli** awarded this year's prizes to **Adriana Chira** (Emory University) for *Patchwork Freedoms: Law, Slavery, and Race Beyond Cuba's Plantations* (Cambridge University Press, 2022), AND **Tessa Murphy** (Syracuse University), for *The Creole Archipelago: Race and Borders in the Colonial Caribbean* (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2021). The citations (see p. 5) were read and Murphy, who was in attendance, received her award in person.

Nominations to the Ramos Mattei-Hall Article Prize Committee: **Kristen Block** nominated **Kathryn Dundy**, who was not in attendance; **Tyesha Maddox** and **Anne Ulentin** self-nominated.

Report of the Executive Committee and Secretariat, 2022-23: The 2022-23 Executive Committee (EC) included: **Jean-Pierre Sinton** (President), **Carla Pestana** (Vice-President), **Randy Browne** (Secretary–Treasurer), **Dalea Bean** (Conference Coordinator), **Kristen Block**, **Heather Chateau**, **Terencia Joseph**, and **Shani Roper**. The EC formally met twice this year—on Nov. 5, 2022, to plan the 2023 conference and on June 13, 2023 to prepare for this year's Annual General Meeting. Members of the EC also met a number of times online in ad hoc meetings to discuss preparations for the 2023 conference and other matters.

The main item of the November 2022 agenda was the 54th Annual Conference academic program. The Conference Coordinator indicated that 3 panel proposals, 1 poster proposal, and 37 papers were submitted. The EC accepted 2 panels, 1 poster, and 34 papers. The final conference slate was 31 papers on 9 panels, including one local panel. One paper was withdrawn from the conference program. The EC has also worked to address the ACH's banking and tax status, including meetings with the two previous Secretary-Treasurers and consultations with a Certified Public Accountant (more details below).

ACH Membership and Dues Information

Over the past year, the ACH has welcomed many new members, and welcomed back several returning members. These include (as of June 15, 2023):

- **4 new Life Members:** **Mary Draper** (Midwestern State University), **Teresita Levy** (Lehman College, CUNY), **Joy Lewis** (Morgan State University), **Natasha Lightfoot** (Columbia University)
- **0 Benefactors**
- **0 Donors**
- **2 Institutional Members:** **Paleo West**, **University of the West Indies Press**
- **44 New Members or Member Renewals:** names and institutions of these members appeared, or will appear, in the January and July 2023 issues of the *ACH Bulletin*
- **23 New Student Members or Member Renewals:** names and institutions of these members appeared, or will appear, in the January and July 2023 issues of the *ACH Bulletin*

Activities of the Secretariat

General

The ACH published two issues of its newsletter, the *Bulletin* (July 2022 and January 2023), which included the 2023 conference program. Announcements about the conference were also advertised on H-Net listservs as well as several Latin American/Caribbean Studies programs. We also used social media such as Facebook and Twitter platforms to circulate information about the conference. We continued online registration and paper distribution systems. This fostered enhanced coordination between the Secretariat and Conference Coordinators and allowed for the effective management of conference paper collection, reformatting, and posting to the web, as well as communications with the LOC. Conference registration revenue was disbursed to the LOC in June 2023 (one payment ahead of the conference and the second and final payment will be made after the conference, in July). For the 2023 conference, all membership and registration payments were accepted online via PayPal (i.e., no checks or cash were received via mail or in person during the conference), which simplified accounting and provided greater security. The Secretariat also hired a new website manager after the previous one resigned in early 2023.

Finances

Interest rates remain low for checking, money market, and certificate of deposit accounts. One portion of ACH funds (\$55,504.48 US, as of May 31, 2023) is deposited in a Business Growth Savings/Money Market Account at an interest rate averaging .75-1.5%; the balance is in an interest-bearing Commercial Checking account earning 0.5% (\$55,342.54 US, as of May 31, 2023—note that this balance does not reflect the transfer of conference registration revenue to the Puerto Rico LOC or other transactions in June 2023).

Legal Incorporation and Banking Jurisdiction

The EC having assigned two of its members—**Terencia Joseph** and **Carla Pestana**—to explore the state of ACH banking practices, they presented their findings at the AGM. Currently, banking is set up in the U.S., as has been the case for over a decade, but the terms under which monies are currently held are not sustainable. Funds are held in a Pennsylvania-based bank under the name of previous Secretary-Treasurer **Michelle McDonald**, which has required that Michelle remain involved to release information and funds under the direction of the current Secretary-Treasurer. That situation is in the process of being rectified by moving the funds to a national U.S. bank that has all the required features but the management of which can be shifted easily when the administration of it changes. That process, as well as tax-deductible status in the US, will hopefully be completed by the end of this year. The EC has hired a Certified Public Accountant to complete the application for federal (i.e., Internal Revenue Service) non-profit status and communicate with the Internal Revenue Service on behalf of the ACH. The Secretary-Treasurer initiated the opening of new bank accounts with Bank of America and will finalize the application and transfer of funds from existing ACH accounts once the IRS process is finalized.

In addition, Terencia and Carla researched the prospects for moving funds to a Caribbean-based bank in the longer term. Working with past Secretary-Treasurers and Presidents, they learned that the only possibly viable prospects for such a change are in the Dutch and French Caribbean. Some years ago, the organization was exploring a Canadian bank operating out of (Dutch) St. Maarten as a possible option and obtained a business license as a first step before the pandemic interrupted that process. Banking in St. Maarten is conducted officially in English although Dutch language assistance is also available. To set up or alter an account requires that three members visit the island, an on-going expense to the organization. The other option, the French Caribbean, has been explored only minimally to date. In that case, ACH could deposit funds in a European bank that conducts business in the French Caribbean (and only in the French language); the bank there will hold funds in both Euros and US dollars as needed. The details of setting up and changing the account are not yet known. Research conducted by past officers concluded that the British Caribbean, with its Caribbean-based banks, are not viable given added fees and limits on the services provided. The presenters discussed a list of needs that would make any bank viable, took questions about the options, and asked for volunteers to assist with further research as needed.

2023 ACH Annual Conference—Puerto Rico

We are grateful to members of the Local Organizing Committee (LOC) in San Juan and Carolina, Puerto Rico, for hosting our 2023 conference. The EC commends the LOC on an excellent job, especially as it was our first in-person conference since 2019.

We would like to thank LOC members **María del Carmen Baerga**, **Marcos Vélez**, **Jorge Nieves**, and especially LOC Chair **Javier Alemán Iglesias** for their hard work in ensuring the success of the conference.

We would also like to thank all of the local sponsors of the ACH Conference, including the **Biblioteca y Centro de Investigación Social Jesús T. Piñero**, the **Instituto de Cultura Puertorriquena**, the **Oficina de Conservación Histórica**, the **Instituto de Estudios del Caribe**, the **Archivo de Ciencias Sociales y el Caribe Academia Puertorriquena de la Historia**, the **Universidad Ana G. Méndez**, the **Universidad de Puerto Rico (Río Piedras)**, **Caribbean Studies**, and **AIG Insurance**.

We must also thank the volunteers, chairs, and panelists for their participation in the conference and assistance with conference preparations.

Evaluation of the 2023 Conference

This was the first in-person ACH conference in four years, and members were very pleased that we were able to meet. **Carla Pestana** observed that while the prospects for using Zoom for interpretation are good, it did not work very well this year in part because many members did not have adequate headphones. Still, remote/Zoom interpretation has the potential to curtail the very high costs of in-person interpretation services.

Kathleen Monteith agreed with Carla and suggested that the ACH compare the costs of remote versus in-person interpretation. Kathleen also said that the quality of papers presented was high and commended the EC and LOC for their work in organizing the conference program. Kathleen also observed that in future the EC more clearly explain the preferred lodging options (this year, the student residences were listed first on the ACH website, which may have inadvertently suggested they were the preferred option)—and recommended the LOC work to find lodging as close to the conference venue as possible. **Michelle McDonald** referenced figures

from her tenure as Secretary-Treasurer which showed that interpretation costs routinely accounted for 30-35 percent of the conference budget (it was always the single largest expense). **Jorge Giovanetti** suggested that interpretation costs should be assessed year-by-year, and that the LOC consider whether the internet capacity of the conference venue is suitable for remote/Zoom interpretation. **Gad Heuman** seconded Kathleen's point regarding the desirability of lodging close to the conference venue and asked whether a more central, walkable venue such as the Archivo General would have been preferable, especially as it would have made socializing and evening gatherings among attendees easier. **Javier Alemán** explained the LOC's decision-making process and challenges with regard to lodging and conference venues, noting the very high costs of hotels in and near Old San Juan. **Dalea Bean** thanked conference participants for their patience and cooperation with the shifting transportation schedule. **Celia Naylor** thanked the LOC and EC for their work to secure transportation and the donors who provided free meals. She also suggested that the ACH work to encourage more participation from non-scholars, local students, and others. **Carla Pestana** thanked Dalea and **Randy Browne** for the significant work they put into organizing this year's conference.

2024 Conference Update

Carla Pestana presented a proposal on behalf of **Jean-Pierre Sainton** and **Jean Moomou** to host the 2024 Conference in Cayenne, French Guyana, from either May 5 to May 12 or June 16 to June 23, 2024. Carla summarized the proposal, shared with the Executive Committee, to host the conference at the University of Guyana, and noted that the Executive Committee did not have information on affordable lodging options (i.e., university residence halls) and that the challenges of air travel to/from French Guyana seemed especially difficult. Several members, including **Rebecca Goetz**, **Kathleen Monteith**, and **Tessa Murphy**, discussed the difficult, expensive nature of travel to French Guyana, including limited airlines serving Cayenne and visa requirements, and the impact that such challenges may have on participation in the conference. **Gad Heuman** and **Roderick McDonald** voiced concerns about the nature of the proposal (i.e., that it was less detailed than the ACH has come to expect) and the absence of ACH President **Jean-Pierre Sainton** at the conference, and urged the EC to solicit complete, formal proposals from alternate host countries. **Michelle McDonald** agreed and suggested that while UWI campuses are traditional "backup" options, the EC should consider Guadeloupe, to support language equity and because 2024 will mark the 55th anniversary of the ACH conference (first held in Guadeloupe in 1969). **Carla Pestana** confirmed with attendees that the consensus was to request a more complete proposal, including more details about travel logistics and lodging options, from the proposed French Guyana LOC, and that the EC should simultaneously consider alternative options for the 2024 conference.

Report of the Nominating Committee

Michelle McDonald (Chair) delivered the report. The following candidates were elected or re-elected for the EC after the ACH's online election (open to all currently active members):

Jean-Pierre Sainton (Université des Antilles), President
Carla Pestana (UCLA), Vice-President
Randy Browne (Xavier University), Secretary-Treasurer
Claire Palmiste (University of French Guiana), Conference Coordinator
Rose Mary Allen (University of Curaçao Dr. Moises da Costa Gomez), Member
Javier Alemán Iglesias (Biblioteca y Centro de Investigación Social Jesús T. Piñero), Member
Terencia Joseph (University of the Southern Caribbean), Member

Nominations to the 2023-24 Nominating Committee

Michelle McDonald nominated **Tara Inniss**; **Kathleen Monteith** nominated **Daniel Livesay**; **José Solá** self-nominated.

Proposed Social Outreach Committee

The EC requested volunteers who might be interested in exploring the possibility of creating a Social Outreach Committee, to be chaired by **Heather Cateau**. **Jenny Anderson**, **Anne Ulentin**, and **Debbie McCollin** volunteered.

Any Other Business

No other business was discussed.

Carla Pestana adjourned the meeting at 12:50pm.

ACH Financial Report, 2022-23

ACH Commercial Checking (all amounts appear in U.S. Dollars):

Beginning balance (as of June 30, 2022): \$35,424.88

INCOME

A. 2023-2023 Membership Dues Income (NOTE: PayPal fees vary for U.S. versus non-U.S. transactions)

Gross Dues Revenue (online via PayPal through June 13, 2023): \$5,950

Life Members	(4x \$500, less \$17.94 PayPal fee per transaction = \$1,928.24)
Institutional Members	(1x \$100, less \$5.48 PayPal fee per transaction = \$94.52) (1x \$100, less \$3.98 PayPal fee per transaction = \$96.02)
Tenured Members	(26x \$75, less \$3.11 PayPal fee per transaction = \$1,869.14) (5x \$75, less \$4.23 PayPal fee per transaction = \$353.85)
Full Members	(4x \$50, less \$2.99 PayPal fee per transaction = \$188.04) (13x \$50, less \$2.24 PayPal fee per transaction = \$620.88)
Student/Teacher/Retiree Members	(15x \$25, less \$1.36 PayPal fee per transaction = \$354.60) (8x \$25, less \$1.74 PayPal fee per transaction = \$186.08)
Benefactor	(\$0)
Donations	(\$0)

Net Membership Revenue: \$5,691.37

B. 2023 Conference Registration Income

Gross Registration Revenue (online via PayPal through June 15, 2023): \$10,710

Full Registration	(40x \$185, less \$6.95 PayPal fee per transaction = \$7,122.00) (11x \$185, less \$9.72 PayPal fee per transaction = \$1,928.08)
Student Registration	(2x \$95, less \$3.81 PayPal fee per transaction = \$182.38) (2x \$95, less \$5.23 PayPal fee per transaction = \$179.54)
Caribbean Student Registration	(1x \$65, less \$2.76 PayPal fee per transaction = \$62.24) (2x \$65, less \$3.73 PayPal fee per transaction = \$122.54)
Guest Registration	(6x \$100, less \$3.98 PayPal fee per transaction = \$576.12) (1x \$100, less \$5.45 PayPal fee per transaction = \$94.52)

Net 2023 Conference Registration Revenue: \$10,267.42

C. 2022 Conference Registration Income (July 15, 2022 transfer from PayPal account = \$7,000
(July 18, 2022 transfer from PayPal account = \$2,000)

D. Transfer from Gould Saunders Fund for 2023 Awardees (June 1, 2023 transfer = \$1,000)

TOTAL BEGINNING BALANCE + 2022-23 INCOME = \$61,383.67

ACH Money Market Account (Gould-Saunders Fund)

Beginning balance (as of June 30, 2022): \$55,386.16

A. Interest earned 2022-23: \$26.94

B. Donation (transferred from Checking Account): \$96.02

C. Transfer to Checking Account for Gould Saunders Awardees (2x \$500): \$1,000

TOTAL BEGINNING BALANCE + 2021-22 INCOME/ EXPENSES = \$54,509.12

EXPENSES (all expenses paid from checking account unless otherwise noted)

A. Website/Communication-Related Fees: \$937.75

Translation Services: \$119.64

- \$119.64 to Get Blend on Sept. 11, 2022 (PayPal)

Constant Contact (email listserv): \$583.20

- \$48.60 on Jul. 15, 2022
- \$48.60 on Aug. 29, 2022
- \$48.60 on Sept. 28, 2022
- \$48.60 on Oct. 28, 2022
- \$48.60 on Nov. 28, 2022
- \$48.60 on Dec. 28, 2022
- \$48.60 on Jan. 30, 2023
- \$48.60 on Feb. 28, 2023
- \$48.60 on Mar. 28, 2023
- \$48.60 on Apr. 28, 2023
- \$48.60 on May 30, 2023
- \$48.60 on June 28, 2023

GoDaddy (website): \$234.91

- \$234.91 on Nov. 20, 2022

Note: The ACH's new website manager has not yet billed the ACH for 2023 expenses.

B. Conference Expenses: \$9,620.90

- \$1,183 wire transfer to Jamaica LOC on July 15, 2022 for 2022 conference
- \$40 wire service charge on July 15, 2022 for transfer to Jamaica LOC
- \$8,092.90 wire transfer to Puerto Rico LOC on June 1, 2023
- \$30 wire service charge on June 1, 2023 for transfer to Puerto Rico LOC
- \$150 for Executive Committee lunch meeting on June 15, 2023 (PayPal)
- \$125 Elsa Goveia Prize award to co-winner Adriana Chira on June 21, 2023 (PayPal)

Note: Conference expenses paid in July 2023 (including remaining conference revenue transferred to Puerto Rico LOC and disbursement of Gould-Saunders prize monies) will appear on the 2023-2024 financial report.

C. Internal Transfers: \$96.02

- \$96.02 Donation transferred to Gould-Saunders Account

D. Other Expenses: \$99

- \$99 Ohio Business License on June 3, 2023 (PayPal)

E. Refunds: \$146.02

- \$25 to Adrienne Rooney on Nov. 1, 2022 (PayPal)
- \$25 to Marissa Paul on Nov. 28, 2022 (PayPal)
- \$96.02 to Pablo Ramirez on June 20, 2023 (PayPal)

TOTAL EXPENSES for 2022-23: \$10,899.69

ACCOUNTS SUMMARY:

BEGINNING CHECKING ACCOUNT BALANCE + 2022-23 INCOME:	\$61,383.67
2022-23 EXPENSES:	\$10,899.69
FINAL CHECKING ACCOUNT BALANCE (as of June 30, 2023):	\$48,171.04
FINAL MONEY MARKET ACCOUNT BALANCE (as of June 30, 2023):	\$54,509.12
TOTAL OF ACH BANK ACCOUNTS (as of June 30, 2023):	\$102,680.16
ACH PayPal BALANCE (as of June 30, 2023):	\$3,584.00*

**Balance includes registration and membership revenue collected after the 2023 conference*

Welcome to Our New and Renewed Members

The following people have joined—or rejoined—the ACH since January 31, 2023.
Affiliations are listed for all members who provided them upon request.
(*Don't see your name? You were in the January issue if you joined before January 31, 2022.*)

LIFE MEMBERS

Mary Draper, Midwestern State University

Joy Lewis, Morgan State University

Teresita Levy, Lehman College, CUNY

MEMBERS and MEMBER RENEWALS

Franco Barchiesi

Dalea Bean, UWI-Mona

Josué Caamaño-Dones, Universidad de Puerto Rico

Adriana Chira, Emory University

Nicholas Crawford, Sam Houston State University

Antonio Gatzambide Geigel, Universidad de Puerto Rico

Jorge Giovannetti-Torres, Universidad de Puerto Rico

Philippe Girard, McNeese State University

Isar Godreau, University of Puerto Rico at Cayey

Arleen Gonzalez

Aura Jirau

Melissa Johnson, Southwestern University

Terencia Joseph, University of the Southern Caribbean

Wim Klooster, Clark University

Raymond Laureano

Maël Lavenaire, London School of Economics and Political Science

Kathleen Lewis

Daniel Livesay, Claremont McKenna College

Andrew Maginn, Sewanee: University of the South

Debbie McCollin, UWI-St. Augustine

Tiffany Momon

Kathleen Monteith, UWI-Mona

Celia Naylor, Barnard College

Miguel Rodrigues, Faculdade de Ciências Sociais e Humanas (NOVA FCSH)

Reinaldo Roman, University of Georgia

Jean-Pierre Sainton, Université des Antilles

Nancy Santiago

Aldo Lauria Santiago, Rutgers University

Kersuze Simeon-Jones, University of South Florida

Anne Ulentin, University of the Bahamas

Marcos Velez

Wanda Williams, U.S. National Archives and Records Administration

STUDENT MEMBERS AND MEMBER RENEWALS

Martha Arguello, University of California-Irvine

Anne'el Bain, UWI-St. Augustine

Marie Keulen, Radboud University

“Knowledge is Capital”

Camilla de Koning, University of Manchester

Chris Montague, Northwestern University

Daniel Ortiz

Arti Ramsaroop, UWI-St. Augustine

Charlotte Richard

Hector Rivera

BENEFACTORS

None

DONORS

None

INSTITUTIONAL MEMBERS

Paleo West

University of the West Indies Press

Become a Member

Join the hundreds of scholars who have already joined the Association of Caribbean Historians. Our membership year runs from **June 1 to May 31**.

Benefits include:

- Electronic subscription to the semi-annual ACH newsletter, the *Bulletin*.
- Early notification of conference calls for papers and registration.
- Eligibility for ACH awards and prizes.
- Notification of other events and programs beneficial to members.
- Inclusion in the premier academic institution of pan-Caribbean Studies.

More importantly, you will be part of a unique multi-lingual organization that offers an unparalleled opportunity for scholarly exchange.

Join online using any major credit card (Visa, Mastercard, American Express, or Discover):

<http://www.associationofcaribbeanhistorians.org/membership.htm>

There are six (6) membership categories:

Non-tenured Faculty, Caribbean-based lecturers (\$50 a year): for faculty, public history, or governmental positions.

Tenured professors and other established researchers (\$75 a year): for tenured faculty, public history, or governmental positions.

Teachers (primary/secondary), Students, and Retirees (\$25 a year): a special rate for primary/secondary teachers; graduate and undergraduate students and retirees.

Institutional Members (\$100 a year): for colleges, universities, libraries, museums, and other cultural and educational organizations.

Benefactor (\$150 a year): a higher category of giving to support the organization's activities.

Life Membership (\$500): the best membership bargain—equivalent to 10 years of regular annual membership, but valid for life.

Follow the ACH on Facebook

You can now find us on Facebook! Get the latest information on Call for Papers; announcements; events; new publications; historical debates and news using our new social media platform on Facebook. Like us on Facebook and join the ACH community online today! <https://www.facebook.com/AssociationofCaribbeanHistorians/>



Association of Caribbean Historians

<http://www.associationofcaribbeanhistorians.org>

President: Jean-Pierre Sainton, Université des Antilles

Vice-President: Carla Pestana, UCLA

Secretary-Treasurer: Randy Browne, Xavier University

Conference Coordinator: Claire Palmiste, University of French Guyana

