

Foreword

Welcome to the eleventh volume of *Ibid: A Student History Journal*, published by the Eta Nu Chapter of Phi Alpha Theta History Honor Society at Texas Woman's University. As we enter our second decade, *Ibid.* remains committed to building student confidence through conversational mentorship that experientially grows knowledge. For eleven years, *Ibid.* has encouraged students and faculty to work together in the development of student research and writing.

As faculty advisor, I am extremely proud of the student writers and editors who, over the years, have transformed a small, in-house experiment into a professional, nationally award-winning student journal. This year, I should like to recognize the efforts of our student editors, Megan Martin, Alec Head, and Kasie Moffett. Their hard work and dedication to this project is much appreciated. I also appreciate the excellent work of the student and faculty editorial boards.

As in past years, a generous private endowment allows us to award two "Best Paper" prizes. Named for longtime TWU professor Valentine J. Belfiglio, the Belfiglio Prize recognizes the very best in student research and writing. This year's winners are Megan Joblin and Aaron James Whiting. In addition to our Belfiglio Prize winners, the 11th volume also includes special departments focusing on Benjamin Franklin and Gender History.

This year's volume is dedicated to the memory of Dr. Jeff Robb. Dr. Robb was a much beloved professor who taught in the Department of History & Government for many years. He was a strong supporter of *Ibid.* from its inception. With thankfulness for Dr. Robb's time among us as teacher, colleague, and friend, the editors and authors dedicate the 11th volume to his memory.

After eleven years of working with hundreds of students on *Ibid.*, I believe, more than ever, that this project shapes excellent historians and elegant writers. As the fine essays in this volume indicate, our eleventh volume carries on our proud tradition.

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