

Foreword to the 7th Volume

Welcome to the seventh 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. Celebrating seven years of publishing the best in graduate and undergraduate scholarship, *Ibid.*'s seventh volume continues the journal's strong tradition of faculty and student collaboration.

Last year, the national office of Phi Alpha Theta named the Eta Nu Chapter a "Best Chapter" for the second year in a row. As advisor, I am proud of our chapter's many activities, including our community outreach efforts involving the Girl Scouts and a local Preschool. I am especially proud that our chapter's signature effort has been to encourage our members to present and publish their research. This year, *Ibid.* also sponsored a "Living History" Essay Contest in local community colleges, inspiring students to embrace the past by studying it. *Ibid.*, indeed, represents our "Best" chapter's best effort to promote the scholarly work of our members.

Thanks to a generous private endowment, *Ibid.* was able to award two prizes for the "Best Papers" appearing in this volume. Named for long-time TWU professor, Valentine J. Belfiglio, these prizes, awarded to Jane Hardman Flynn and Aiesha McFadden, reward innovative scholarship and excellent writing.

In addition to featuring our Belfiglio Prize winners' essays, *Ibid.* is very pleased to publish the top papers from the Northeast Texas Regional Phi Alpha Theta History Conference and the Living History Community College Essay Contest. The journal is also especially pleased to debut new departments detailing trends in historiography and pedagogy, a new "forum" department, and a new section devoted to book reviews.

Finally, I offer my sincere thanks to the journals' editors, Aiesha McFadden, Amanda Roberts, Aubri Thurmond, and Kaitlyn Waynen. Their hard work and dedication to this project is much appreciated. I also appreciate the excellent work of the student and faculty editorial boards.

After seven 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 seventh volume carries on our proud tradition.

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