

Call for Papers
The 113th Annual Meeting of the Pacific Coast Branch of the American Historical Association
“The Past is Always Present”
August 11-13, 2021
Portland State University, Portland, Oregon

The 2021 Program Committee invites proposals for panels, roundtables, and individual papers on any subject, but particularly those addressing the conference theme: ***The Past is Always Present***. 2020 and 2021 have been historically resonant years, locally, nationally, and globally. As debates regarding truth and authenticity churn at dinner tables, in classrooms, and through the echo chambers of news and social media, historical understanding and analysis is more important than ever to navigate conflicts over immigration, equality, racial justice, democratic institutions, war and peace, climate, and health. The 2021 PCB-AHA conference encourages participants to think about and discuss how historical knowledge and interpretation—of the distant as well as immediate past—advances professional scholarship and shapes public understanding of the world. In the same vein, the program committee encourages participants to explore the trajectory of change and challenge within the historical profession—diversity, broader career paths, obligations and responsibilities of teachers and mentors, and emerging historiographical themes.

The Program Committee encourages proposals that enable conversations across specialist boundaries and engage the audience. We welcome submissions from graduate students, adjunct faculty, non-traditional scholars, and K-12 teachers. Anniversaries may provide inspiration for panels and roundtables: For example, the fall of Tenochtitlan and Martin Luther’s excommunication (1521); the alleged first Thanksgiving with the Pilgrims and Wampanoag (1621); Robert Walpole becoming the first British prime minister and Peter the Great the first emperor of all the Russias (1721); the beginning of the Santa Fe Trail and Missouri’s admission as a state (1821); the German empire, Paris Commune, and Great Chicago Fire (1871); the Tulsa massacre and birth of the Chinese Communist Party (1921); the Iron Curtain speech, Nuremberg Trials, and beginning of the Viet Minh uprising against French occupation (1946); the Pentagon Papers and the founding of Starbucks (1971); and 9/11 (2001).

To make inquiries about the conference, please email PCB-AHA executive director Michael Green at michael.green@pcb-aha.org. Information on submitting proposals, connecting with prospective panelists, and finding out more details about the annual meeting (e.g., the venue, registration, lodging) will be available at www.pcb-aha.org as we get further information.

Panel Proposals must include a contact person; a title and 250-word abstract of the panel or roundtable; a title and brief description (100 words) of each presentation; a one-page C.V. (with each participant’s email address and affiliation); and any AV requests. The Program Committee welcomes individual paper submissions. Please include title, 250 word abstract, one-page C.V., affiliation, and contact information.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING PROPOSALS: JANUARY 15, 2021. Go to www.pcb-aha.org to submit.

Decisions regarding acceptance will be conveyed no later than March 1, 2021. Please note that submission of a proposal constitutes a commitment to attend the conference if the proposal is accepted. Graduate student presenters will receive information about travel subventions upon acceptance.