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Dear Colleagues and Friends,

Welcome in the new academic year and let me share some ISHD-related news with you.

A. CONFERENCES

Our **Annual Conference** is approaching! It will take place on **October 10-12, 2024** in **Providence**, Rhode Island, USA, with the leading theme ***History and Its Discontents: Theory and Practice, Stories from the Classroom***. I am deeply grateful to Professor **Karl Benziger** for taking care of the organizational matters, and especially for making the event hybrid, which has become even more practical taking into consideration recent political and military developments in the world that also affect our members and board members. Please contact Karl (Kbenziger@ric.edu) for **on-line access data to the panels** upon payment of the conference fee (which is exactly the same for on-site and on-line participants; for details please see <https://ishd.co/index.php/ishd-conferences/next-conference/>).

The program of the conference is sent alongside this letter.

For on-site participants: lunch on Thursday 10/10 (preconference) is covered from the conference budget as is lunch on Friday 10/11 (pizza). The ISHD dinner on Friday 10/11 will not be paid from the budget but it will be arranged at the Union Station Brewery, located close to the conference venue <https://unionstationpvd.com/providence-union-station-brewery-food-menu>. The entrées are reasonably priced and there is a fairly wide variety of choices. Please let Karl know at Kbenziger@ric.edu if you are planning to attend dinner in order to facilitate the reservation.

As previously announced, the board of **CISH** – International Committee for Historical Sciences – has decided to postpone its conference, scheduled for 2026 in Jerusalem, to 2028. The new format of celebrating CISH centennial in 2026 will be announced in autumn, following the CHIS General Assembly in Tokyo. The board of CISH is asking member organizations about their preferred or suggested forms of commemorating the centennial. If you have any suggestions please share them using ISHD email address ISHDYearbook@gmail.com

The **2025 ISHD conference** will take place in **Wrocław, Poland**, with Prof. Arthur Chapman (University College London) as keynote speaker. Please mark your calendars for **September 10-12, 2025** (Wed-Fri).

We would like to give all Members an opportunity to **choose the leading conference theme from two options**: (1) Inclusive history education, (2) History teacher training, trainers and trainees. Please use this link: <https://www.balotilo.org/c/qc5KaNAAtjPkf8fftuc7/enroll> to submit your preference. The link will be active till October 11, and the results will be announced at the closing session of the conference in Rhode Island (and published on the ISHD website and social media afterwards).

B. THE JOURNAL

The 2023 issue of our **JHEC** journal is available on-line now at the website of our publisher Wochenschau Verlag <https://jhec.wochenschau-verlag.de>. All texts are available and sharable to everyone immediately. Members who want to get their paper copy should contact the publisher directly and will have their copies mailed at a discount rate of 50% of the list price.

The change of the title (to International Journal of History Education and Culture (IJHEC)) required some bureaucratic procedures in order to keep the journal indexed in Scopus. Unfortunately, it takes time, but it looks that we are on a good path and progress is being made. Putting the journal with the new title in the ISSN database is the final step preceding indexing. And this step has been complete in summer, as shown at <https://portal.issn.org/resource/ISSN/2943-8195>. Many thanks to Judith Böhm from Wochenschau Verlag for taking care of these matters.

Call for Contributions for the 2025 issue will be officially announced in the preceding one, but please be ready to submit articles related to ***History and Its Discontents: Theory and Practice, Stories from the Classroom***. Articles on other topics related to history didactics, history education and historical culture are also very welcome, as well as reviews of the books related to our members' areas of interest.

Please contact IJHEC's managing editor, Angelos Palikidis, if you have any questions, doubts, suggestions, at the following e-mail address: ISHDYearbook@gmail.com

We also look for volunteers who would like to contribute to the IJHEC as **peer reviewers**. Please send your research interests and a brief CV to the same address: ISHDYearbook@gmail.com.

C. WEBINAR INITIATIVE

On the initiative of Dr. Elize Van Eeden, Board member of ISHD, in June 2024, a group of six Members of ISHD, situated in different parts of the world, discussed the possibility of establishing a society-driven virtual webinar initiative for academic networking and support. Ideas for this format include organizing early career presentations for PhD and MA graduates

in History Education, mentoring, creative teaching practices, article & book writing opportunities. Hosting dedicated podcast episodes for the young researchers was a practical suggestion offered to be a way for these researchers to gain further publicity about their work. Another idea suggested was to organize people from different countries to create educational media together.

All in this group agreed that the last months of 2024 should be used to plan for this initiative to be operational from 2025, should the ISHD members be keen to approve and support. We would like to hear from our ISHD members if they have the appetite for such an initiative. Kindly respond in this regard to ISHDYearbook@gmail.com.

D. MEMBERSHIP

Do not forget to renew your membership for 2024 if you have not done so yet! Membership dues remain unchanged for 2024 at **30 EURO/year**. Payment details can be found at <https://ishd.co/index.php/membership/join-ishd/>. For Paypal details please e-mail our treasurer, Anke John at anke.john@uni-jena.de or ISHDYearbook@gmail.com

Members register for the conference at preferential rates, but most importantly, your financial support is needed to secure the Society's operation. Board activities are performed on entirely voluntary basis, but we need to pay for publishing the journal, ISHD membership in CISH (International Congress of Historical Sciences), banking fees and website hosting.

As always, **new Members** are most welcome. Researchers and educators holding a PhD and PhD candidates upon their supervisor's recommendation are welcome to apply. They just need to contact any of the Board members (using ISHDYearbook@gmail.com is also fine) and we will be processing their requests ASAP.

E. ON-LINE PRESENCE

For more current news please visit **ISHD Website** ishd.co and **ISHD public group on Facebook** <https://www.facebook.com/groups/938600744546125>. Please use its "share" feature to spread the news about ISHD widely. And as always: please share the news about your history didactics-related publications, presentations, talks, visits etc. with us on FB and in other social media – with the goal of increasing the visibility of the ISHD and of its individual members, too.

Wishing you a fruitful academic year and looking forward to our Rhode Island conference!

Joanna Wojdon
President