

Letter from the Editors

During the past year, when confronted with a catastrophic global pandemic and troubling political polarization, we are reminded why we choose to study the past. Not only can we escape into another time and place, but we can learn valuable lessons from those who have come before us. It seems one hears the phrase “unprecedented times” almost constantly today. But, beyond learning from the great successes and failures of those in “precedented” times, narratives of history provide points of reflection about how to move society forward. We don’t always have to judge the actors of the past by modern standards, but we can appreciate the changing nature of culture with respect to the intersection between past and present through the sheer number of people and places and events and cultures we can discover in historical literature. So, if, while you are reading this edition, you escape into another time and place, even just for a moment, and you are able to draw a connection between “precedented” and “unprecedented” times, we have done our jobs.

In this edition, we bring together an exciting array of articles to help transport you and expand your intellectual horizons. They range from early modern English crime and the Turkish coup in 1980, to genocide during the Guatemalan civil war and an attempt to find democracy in *De Concordantia Catholica*.

The editorial board wishes to thank all of the faculty and staff of the History Department for their support of the CHRONOS project this year. We especially wish to thank Professor Albrecht Diem, Director of Undergraduate Studies, for his tireless work formatting and designing this issue.

Have you considered joining the CHRONOS Editorial Board? Some of our work includes selecting and editing historical papers, designing a publication journal, organizing an academic conference, and expanding the CHRONOS website. If you are interested, contact the Board at chronos@maxwell.syr.edu or any individual current board member.

If you have a historical paper that received an A- (90%) or better grade and you want to transform it into an article in an academic journal, consider submitting it for our next issue. E-mail us at chronos@maxwell.syr.edu or submit it online on our website at <http://chronos.syr.edu/submit-an-article/>.

If you have questions, comments, suggestions, send us an e-mail at chronos@maxwell.syr.edu.

We look forward to another exciting year for History at Syracuse University!

Sincerely,

The 2020 CHRONOS Editorial Board:

Christine Karr Adams - Harrison Allen - Kate Bajorek - Sasha Bull - Albrecht Diem - Ben Field - Sophia Perida