Perspectives Outreach Project: International Association of Student History Journals

After forty-one years of *Perspectives*, our current board of editors connected with other student history journals in hopes of sharing ideas and experiences and, eventually, starting an online association to allow editors from various universities to discuss history, editing, cover design, budgets, and other aspects of publishing student journals. We began by reaching out to journals we knew existed thanks to the research of last year's editorial team. Utilizing social media and contacting these universities by telephone, we have located over twenty-six similar student publications across the United States. We established the International Association of Student History Journals. While the association is in its infancy, we continue to reach out to more journals and are growing steadily in membership.

Our surveys have provided us with valuable information about the editing and publishing process taking place at universities nationwide. Our findings have shown that over 50 percent of the schools we connected with publish a journal both in print and online. Unlike *Perspectives*, which is the product of History 497, most history departments do not offer a course in editing and publishing; 80 percent of the journals are an extracurricular activity. The editorial teams of these journals are overwhelmingly composed of undergraduate students (70 percent), while undergraduate student authors make-up 60 percent of those submitting their work for publication. Resembling our own criteria, the majority of universities do not allow outside submissions. Budgets varied for journals across the country. Most journals received a finance support from the university ranging anywhere from a few hundred to several thousand dollars. Others were either funded by Phi Alpha Theta or through fundraisers and advertising.

Similar to *Perspectives*, some journals have extensive experience while others are just entering the arena of historical publishing. Still, others are reformatting their approach to meet the

twenty-first century demands of digital content. Through each of these editorial boards we have found innovative ideas and approaches that have helped to influence, validate, and further our commitment to student editing and publishing. Please connect to the Student Journal Association through *Perspectives* website: www.calstatela.edu/centers /perspectives

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