

FOREWORD

In the fall of 1992, supported by colleagues and enthusiastic students, Professor Frank Luttmer proposed a journal that would publish student papers and documents related to the field of history written, transcribed, and/or translated by students from any department of Hanover College. An editorial board of students was selected to determine which papers and documents would be chosen for the journal and also to edit them for uniformity of style in preparing the journal for publication. Professor Luttmer provided support to the editors in the early stages of preparing the journal, while Professor Daniel Murphy helped oversee the final copyediting for the printer.

The inaugural issue of *The Hanover Historical Review* appeared in Spring 1993 and enjoyed great success. The *HHR* flourished for the rest of the decade but was published only sporadically after Professor Luttmer's illness and untimely death. At the outset of the 2016–17 academic year, the Hanover College History Department decided to resume publication of the *Hanover Historical Review*, provided that we could find sufficient support for this project. Twelve of our students immediately volunteered to serve on the *HHR*'s editorial board. Working with this group of eager and diligent students, and now with their successors in 2024–2025, has turned out to be a great joy for me as their faculty mentor. Most of them have moved on to graduate or professional schools upon graduation from Hanover College.

Throughout the 2024–2025 academic year, the eleven members of the *HHR* Editorial Board met every other week on Tuesday or Thursday evenings at 7:30 p.m. to discuss the 2025 *HHR* Call for Papers, submission guidelines, review the submissions anonymously, and, finally, edit the articles for publication in their present form. During these meetings, the *HHR* Editorial Board also conducted training sessions for new members and reviews for current members in areas such as grammar, formatting, academic citations, proofreading, and reviewing submissions. Here the senior editors took the lead in organizing and conducting the meetings. Board members also took it upon themselves to set up a booth in the lobby of Classic Hall during the fall semester to advertise the *HHR* Call for Papers. Additionally, members of the Board visited every history class on campus during the fall 2024 semester to share with other students their experiences with getting published and serving on the Board of the *HHR*. These outstanding students did all of this voluntarily and without receiving any college course credit. The result of their diligent efforts and their high standards may be found within the covers of this latest volume of the *HHR*.

The 2025 *HHR* contains essays on historical themes written and submitted by Hanover College students in partial fulfillment of their courses throughout the 2024 calendar year. Three of these were written by first-year students, while one essay and the outstanding senior thesis were authored by upperclassmen. The depth and breadth of their scholarship attests to the seriousness with which these young historians undertook their research and historical writing. This year we also are introducing a new feature, namely, biographies of outstanding alumni written by students in Professor Sarah Vosmeier's course.

All submissions were required to conform to *The Chicago Manual of Style*, 17th Edition. Only Professor Raley knew the identity of the authors until both the original submissions and their

revised versions (based upon the initial reviews) had been reviewed and approved by the *HHR* Board of Editors. This double-blind anonymity the Board regarded as especially important at a small liberal arts college such as Hanover College, where everyone knows everyone else; beyond this, however, a few of the Board members wished to submit their own essays for consideration, and to ensure impartiality here Professor Raley distributed these essays, minus their authors' names, to other members of the Board for anonymous peer review.

Seven specific criteria guide the Editorial Board's review of submissions:

1. Does the essay's introduction effectively set up and present a clear, original thesis?
2. Is the thesis supported with an ample supply of primary and secondary sources, critically interpreted for the reader?
3. Has the author brought forward a fresh interpretation of the evidence that advances current scholarship?
4. Is the thesis restated clearly in the conclusion to the essay? Does the author also add further implications of his/her/their findings?
5. Are the footnotes and works cited page(s) formatted correctly in Chicago Style?
6. Is the writing style clear, fluid, and logical? Does the essay employ strong transition sentences along with connecting phrases and clauses?
7. What specific revisions or additions does the author need to make to improve the article pending its acceptance for publication?

Following the review process, the authors of the submissions were provided with summaries of the Board members' comments. The review process, the Board decided, would yield one of three ratings: (1) accept for publication as is (or with only minor editing required); (2) revise and resubmit (typically requiring more research and substantive revisions and/or additions as well as reediting the prose and reference notes/works cited pages); or (3) reject for publication. Some authors, of course, chose not to revise and resubmit their work. Those who did revise and resubmit their essays were expected to pay close attention to the comments and suggestions for substantive revisions as well as for the editing of the text and formatting of the notes that had been provided by the Board members in their reviews. In a few cases, the junior and senior editors of the Board assisted student authors of promising essays with additional revisions prior to publication. In the final editing process, the Board of Editors met during the winter and spring terms on Tuesday/Thursday evenings for about two and one-half hours each evening, carefully reading aloud and editing each essay for clarity and uniformity. The final copy of the journal is being published both digitally and in hard copy and will henceforth be available on the Hanover College History Department website at: <https://history.hanover.edu/hhrintro.php>.

This will be my final year as faculty supervisor for the *HHR* since I have now officially retired from Hanover College. Henceforth, Professor Sarah Vosmeier will be serving as the *HHR* faculty advisor. As I prepare to leave Hanover, I want to stress just how much I have once again thoroughly enjoyed working with these fine students. I hope that you will share my enthusiasm as

you read the articles published within this year's *HHR*, whether you are reading the digital version or instead are reading from a hard printed copy.

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HHR Faculty Advisor and Managing Editor, June 2025