

The Independent Scholar Quarterly

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An international organization dedicated to advancing independent scholarship by providing access to research facilities, grants, and professional support since 1989

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Contact The Independent Scholar Quarterly at tis@ncis.org.

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NCIS members Ninie Syarikin and Elizabeth Covart at the NCIS Booth at the 2014 AHA meeting

NCIS at the American Historical Association 2014 meeting

NCIS's Presence at the 2014 AHA by Elizabeth Covart

The American Historical Association kicked off its 128th annual meeting on Thursday January 2, 2014 in Washington D.C. This year's theme, "Disagreement, Debate, Discussion," proved well-suited for historians who attended the meeting to discuss new innovations in the historian's craft via social media and digital technologies and for those who wanted to discuss and debate lingering issues about the tenure-track job market, graduate education, writing for the public, and open-access publishing. These topics of conversation made for an interesting four-day conference.

This year's conference marked the fourth time I have attended the AHA annual meeting. My past experiences have led me to develop a strategy for how to choose among the plethora of panels on the

2014 AHA

program. Rather than look for panels that speak to my subfield (early American history), I try to find panels that speak to larger topics about working as a historian. This year the program offered many panels about writing history for a larger, non-academic audience. I attended three of those panels: “Historians, Journalists and the Challenges of Getting it Right: The Art and Craft of the Obituary,” “Writing for the Public,” and “Writing History Outside of the Academy.” Each panel promoted the idea that academic historians have a duty to write for the non-academic public.

On Friday, January 3, Ninie Syarikin and I represented NCIS at the AHA affiliated societies table. Positioned near the entrance to the hotel’s three eateries at lunch time, many people stopped by and inquired about the organization. We collected business cards and signed up as many passersby as we could for The Independent Scholars Quarterly newsletter.

For more information about the 128th annual meeting of the American Historical Association and summaries of various panels, see the AHA blog (blog.historians.org), John Fea’s blog Way of Improvement Leads Home (philipvickersfithian.com), and my personal blog, Uncommonplace Book (uncommonplacebook.com).



Harvard historian Joyce Chaplain and Elizabeth Covart promoting NCIS at the 2014 AHA meeting

Promoting NCIS at the 2014 AHA by Susan Breitzer

This year, unlike in years past, the National Coalition of Independent Scholars was unable to host an affiliated society reception at the 2014 Annual Meeting of the American Historical Association, the largest learned society devoted to the study of history in the United States. Nonetheless, NCIS maintained a visible presence at the AHA with an affiliated society table, whose purpose was to advertise our organization at the meeting. Table reservations were made through Sharon Tune, the AHA’s Director of Meetings and Administration, and material at the table included a standing poster to promote NCIS, NCIS brochures to hand out, and a sign-up sheet for people interested in joining.

Locally-based NCIS members Elizabeth Covart and Ninie Syarikin volunteered to staff the table. During their three-hour shift, Covart and Syarkin signed up 32 people, and reported the table presence to be a success. Joyce Chaplain, a historian at Harvard, whom Syarkin had interviewed the previous year, at one point stopped by and posed for photographs with Syarkin and Covart. In addition, visitor Gerit Quealey wrote about NCIS in an article for the *Huffington Post*, providing additional publicity for NCIS.

NCIS at the AHA

In summation, the NCIS affiliated society table appeared to be a worthwhile effort to raise NCIS's visibility and to attract potential new members. It is hoped that in the coming year, NCIS will be able to further build on Covart and Syarkin's efforts.

Independent Scholarship at the Association for Jewish Studies

by Susan Breitzer

This December, for the second year in a row, I attended the annual conference of the Association for Jewish Studies, which this year was held in Boston. Although I was not presenting, I found it a very valuable professional and educational experience, attending a variety of sessions, including a growing number in my areas of professional interest. It also was a good opportunity to network, meeting with established colleagues and making new acquaintances in my field.



Old State House, Boston, MA. Image by Daniel Schwen. Used under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 2.5 Generic license.

The Association for Jewish Studies has been in existence since 1969, and is a learned society devoted to scholarship and pedagogy in Jewish studies, broadly defined. Its main activity, the annual conference, is organized around several divisions that cover all recognized areas of Jewish studies including history, literature, religious thought, and linguistics, as well as interdisciplinary studies. Starting with next year's conference, the organization is adding a Pedagogy Division and an experimental Wild Card Division, whose topic will vary from year to year and cover areas of scholarship that do not neatly fit into the organization's established divisions. Beyond the conference, the AJS offers job listings, grants, awards, and other services to its members.

The AJS, whose membership has grown and diversified over the years, is visibly inclusive of Independent Scholars, many who have appeared on the recent programs, reflecting the presence of Jewish studies scholars who are employed in settings other than academia (starting, but not limited to congregational rabbis!). And in recent years, the AJS has become increasingly responsive to the needs of independent scholars and adjunct faculty in the field, including offering travel grants presenters at the AJS conference that prioritize these groups, as well as graduate students. So for Independent Scholars in Jewish studies (including awardees of the Dobrecht Grant for the study of Judaic Yoga), the Association for Jewish Studies is a great organization to consider joining. Conversely, as NCIS seeks to recruit new members, this effort can and should include reaching out to ISs in the AJS.

You can find out more about the AJS at <http://www.ajsnet.org/index.htm>. The 46th conference of the AJs will take place in Baltimore, MD, December 14 - 16, 2014.

Letter from the Communications Officer

Dear Colleagues,

As Communications Officer I have had the pleasure of getting to know many of you and becoming acquainted with the fascinating research and writing you produce. The goal of promoting independent scholarship within a panorama of popular news, social media, and academic publishing is no small task. That is why the Executive Committee is actively pursuing ways to make the independent scholar more visible.

The NCIS website receives an average of 75,000 hits a month from around the world. To build on this exposure, the upcoming redesigned website will feature a new showcase section where we will highlight and promote books (in and out of print), media appearances, performance videos, exhibitions, and other scholarly media produced by you, NCIS members. This page will link to your member web page and to external websites such as your personal website, amazon, and YouTube. I look forward to sharing more information with you about the progress of this work in the coming months.

In order to expand the NCIS membership network and its influence, the Executive Committee is launching a recruitment campaign. We are strengthening our presence at conferences and creating the materials that will help individual members promote NCIS. Our new brochures, posters, and general business cards debuted at the American Historical Association's Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C. in January 2014, with the help of volunteers Liz Covart and Ninie Syarikin. (Samples are included at the end of this issue.) To request brochures and cards for your next conference or scholarly event, contact me at info@ncis.org. And if you would like to plan a casual gathering for NCIS members in your local area, please contact benefits@ncis.org.

Finally, thanks to the excellent proposal and groundwork of Gary Shapiro, we will be compiling a list of all scholars and researchers who identify themselves as independent scholars in conference programs and scholarly publications. Despite the fact that NCIS has been a leader in representing independent scholars for the past 25 years, many independent scholars are still unaware of the organization's existence. The Executive Committee wants to make sure that we change that. Next time you attend a conference or read the list of contributors in a journal, look out for any independent scholars listed among the participants. If contact information is not given in a conference program, ask the session or panel moderator for those details. Or better yet, introduce yourself to fellow independents and tell them a little about our organization in person. Send their information along to us and we will contact them on behalf of the NCIS Executive Committee with an invitation to join our membership.

We thank you for your continued efforts on behalf of NCIS. If you are interested in getting involved in any of the abovementioned areas, or have an idea for how we can improve NCIS, please do not hesitate to contact me or the other members of the Executive Committee.

With best wishes, Klara Seddon, Communications Officer (info@ncis.org)

On Scholars and Scholarship

by Bob Grumman

I'm a longtime member of the National Coalition of Independent Scholars. Hence, David Sonenschein, the NCIS Membership Chairman, recently asked me for an up-to-date CV. To get out of hunting up my most recent one and updating it, I sent him to the Wikipedia entry on me, remarking that it emphasized my career in poetry but that there was a fair amount pertaining to my career as a (very independent) scholar. After a trip to Wikipedia, he wrote back to assure me I was well-qualified to continue my membership but suggested I put together a CV concerned only with my scholarly career. That appealed to me, for it would, for one thing, allow me to babble a bit about what I think a scholar is. So here are a few random thoughts.

For me, there are two kinds of scholars—no, make that there is a continuum of scholars reaching from the wholly academic to the wholly non-academic. The ones at or near the wholly academic end tend to deny the existence of those at or near the other end. I consider a scholar to be anyone, regardless of academic qualifications, who seriously works toward an understanding of documents through the use of logic and without recourse to the supernatural on what is explicitly in those documents. By “seriously,” I mean in sufficient earnest to have written at least one article of 5000 or more words on his understanding of some aspect of his subject. Whether the article is right or even coherent should be disregarded—because being a scholar is one thing, being a good one something else. I'm all for validity and coherence, and using them to rate a given scholar's work, but not to decide whether or not he is a scholar. In short, my definition of “scholar” is about as inclusive as can be. But I elitistly feel that only a few can be good scholars.

Thinking about the kinds of scholars further, I came up with what I think is an improved short taxonomy consisting of three categories: thinkers, commentators and academics. Every scholar will almost certainly be partly each of these, but how much of each will vary. To the degree a scholar is an academic, s/he will gather facts from a study of first sources, citing their origin, and organizing them. To the degree a scholar is a commentator, s/he will act as a sort of journalist, reacting to academic results with thoughts about it and its ramifications and interactions with other academic results related to it. To the degree a scholar is a thinker (and I feel very few are), he will come up with large, risk-taking conclusions about the results of the other scholarship. To the degree a scholar is a thinker, those scholars more academic than anything else will consider him unrigorous, faultily intuitive, unscholarly; to the degree a scholar is academic, those scholars more thinkers than he will tend to find his work unimaginative, pedantic and minor. But the work of those scholars, mainly academic work, will form the basis of all the best understanding of whatever it is the work has to do with, and the thinking of those scholars mainly thinkers will be what completes the task begun by the academics—with the commentators providing helpful clarifications and new points of view.

As for me, I consider myself a scholar in two different fields: literary studies (poetics & literary history) and theoretical psychology. I'm most well-rounded in what I consider the field of poetics, which for me consists of practical criticism of poetry with its academic reliance on poems, and their taxonomic classification, and scholarly commentary thereon, coupled with the higher “insights” gained almost

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entirely from scholarly thinking about poetic creativity and the aesthetic aims of poetry. As a theoretical psychologist, I am almost entirely a thinker, unless introspection and contemplation of others are considered research.

New Member

Kofi Adu-Brempong is a broadly trained human geographer with research and teaching interests in Urban/Economic Geography and Human-Environment Interactions Geography; he holds a PhD in Geography (2012) from the University of Florida; an MA in Geography (2007) from the University of Toledo, Ohio, and a BA (Honors) in Economics and Geography (1999) from KNUST, Ghana. Kofi served as a Graduate Teaching Assistant at both the University of Florida (2005-2012) and the University of Toledo (2003-2005). Earlier, he taught Economics at Konongo-Odumasi Secondary School (1999-2000) and Geography at Toase Secondary School (2001-2003), both located in Ghana. Kofi is currently engaged in independent scholarship/research and freelance tutoring in Ghana, his country of birth.

Member News

Tisa M. Anders will serve as a panel member, "Roundtable: Successes and Challenges of Working within the Intersection of Latino Studies and Agricultural History," for the Agricultural History Society Annual Meeting, Provo, Utah, June 19-22, 2014. She also recently revamped her website, <http://www.writingtheworld.com/>, and launched her blog which provides inspiration and hope from history (www.writingtheworld.com/blog).

Ann Axtmann recently published *Indians and Wannabes. Native American Powwow Dancing in the Northeast and Beyond* (Gainesville: University Press of Florida, 2013). For more information please refer to the Florida Bookshelf: <http://bit.ly/1qIPM3P>.

Sherry Bryant will present her paper, "Soldier of Love: Images of Michael Jackson as Hero of the Free World," at the Society for the Interdisciplinary Study of Social Imagery

Submit to TISQ

TISQ welcomes scholarly articles from members on any topic not to exceed 5000 words. Articles should be submitted as a Word doc or compatible file and should be formatted in Chicago (in-text author-date) style. Permissions for quotations, photos, etc., are the responsibility of the author. Articles should not have been previously published; authors retain all rights to their work. Send article proposals and complete articles to the TISQ Editor at tis@ncis.org for consideration.

For book review suggestions, or to become a reviewer, contact Book Review editor David Sonenschein at dsncis@gmail.com. Please include information on your area of expertise for reviewing books. Member authors are encouraged to contact David about their new and upcoming publications for the purposes of review. TISQ also welcomes member news, including recent publications, presentations, honors, and other information.

Deadlines for inclusion are February 1, May 1, August 1, and November 1 of each year.

Member News

meeting in March, where she will also chair a session on “Intensity.”

Carla Lesh will be presenting “The Automobile Comes to New Mexico,” at the Southwest Popular and American Culture Association in February 2014. At two conferences in April she will present “What to Take on the Tour,” at the Roger Smith Conference on Food and then “The Personality of the Motor,” at National Popular and American Culture Annual Conference.

Announcements

Call for Applications: The 2014 First Book Institute, June 8-14, 2014. Hosted by the Center for American Literary Studies (CALS) at Pennsylvania State University. Co-Directors: Sean X. Goudie, Director of the Center for American Literary Studies and Winner of the MLA Prize for a First Book and Priscilla Wald, Professor of English and Women’s Studies, Duke University and Editor of American Literature. The stakes of successful publishing by early career professors are more urgent than ever given the current state of higher education promotion and publishing. Responding to a glaring need in the field, the First Book Institute features workshops and presentations led by institute faculty aimed at assisting participants in transforming their book projects into ones that promise to make the most significant impact possible on the field and thus land them a publishing contract with a top university press. Eight successful applicants will be awarded \$1500 stipends to defray the costs of travel and lodging. Applications to the First Book Institute are invited from scholars working in any area or time period of American literary studies who hold a PhD and are in the process of writing their first book (whether a revised and expanded dissertation or other project). Applicants should not have negotiated a formal agreement of any kind with a press to publish their manuscript. Electronic applications, due by February 17, 2014, should include the following: an application letter describing the project and anticipated timeline for completion; a C. V., a project abstract, including chapter summaries, and an introduction or sample chapter. Please send all application materials in a single PDF file (and any queries) to cals@psu.edu. For more information about the First Book Institute, including video testimony about the inaugural First Book Institute held in June 2013 from the participants and co-directors, please see: <http://cals.la.psu.edu/first-book-institute>.

Call for Applications: The San Gemini Preservation Studies Program, now in its 15th year, is dedicated to the preservation of cultural heritage and offers students the opportunity to study and travel in Italy. The deadline for applications is March 15, 2014. The programs offered include Building Restoration (June 2-27), Ceramics Restoration (June 2-27), Book Bindings Restoration (June 2-27), Paper Restoration (July 14-August 8), Traditional Painting Materials & Techniques (July 14-August 8), Preservation Theory and Practice in Italy (July 14-August 8). Field Projects include the restoration of the façade of the Church of San Carlo, surveying the San Giovanni Battista Church complex, and an archaeological survey of the public baths in Carsulae. To find out more about our program and review the syllabi, please visit <http://www.sangeministudies.org/>. Our courses are open to students from various disciplines, both undergraduate and graduate. All lessons are taught in English.

Announcements

Call for Authors: ABC-Clio is publishing a three-volume *Encyclopedia of American Myth, Legend, and Folklore* in 2015. The editors seek contributors from fields of literature, history, anthropology, sociology, folklore, and allied subjects to write entries ranging from 750-2500 words on a wide range of topics. The purpose of the encyclopedia is to introduce students and general readers to the key myths and legends in North American culture, and to provide extensive, easily accessible coverage of the multifaceted American folklore tradition. ABC-Clio intends to offer an up-to-date, attractive resource based on current scholarship in the field, including useful illustrations, selections from primary texts, informative sidebars, and references for further reading and research. Entries will provide coverage of diverse traditions within the genre of folklore and mythology, including Native American traditions, and include treatment of newer traditions such as urban legends and UFO stories. Contributors will receive publication credit in the encyclopedia and may choose from several options for compensation. The editors will send information about compensation upon request. Deadline for submission is March 14, 2014. Writers should contact the editors to request a list of available entries. Send name, title, institutional affiliation (if applicable), mailing address, email address and a current CV to: Jeffrey Webb at jwebb@huntington.edu.

Call for Authors: *Encyclopedia of World Poverty* 2nd Edition. SAGE's *Encyclopedia of World Poverty* 2nd Edition is now under development (1st Edition: Library Journal Best Reference, Booklist Editor's Choice). This completely updated five-volume reference will provide extensive and current information on the changing world of poverty, as well as insight into the contemporary debates. Over 850 signed articles will explore poverty in various regions of the world, and examine the difficulties associated with the definition and measurement of poverty, along with its causes and effects. Pedagogical elements include a new Reader's Guide, updated Chronology of World Poverty, updated Resource Guide, updated Glossary, and new index. The list of available articles is already prepared, and as a next step we will e-mail you the Article List from which you can select topics that best fit your expertise and interests. Additionally, Submission Guidelines will be provided that detail article specifications. This comprehensive project will be published by SAGE Reference in 2015 and will be marketed to academic and public libraries as a print and digital product available to students via the library's electronic services. The General Editor, who will be reviewing each submission to the project, is Dr. Mehmet Odekon, Skidmore College (General Editor of the 1st Edition). We are currently making assignments with a deadline of April 2, 2014. If you are interested in contributing to this cutting-edge reference, it is a unique opportunity to contribute to the contemporary literature, redefining sociological issues in today's terms. Moreover, it can be a notable publication addition to your CV/resume and broaden your publishing credits. SAGE Publications offers an honorarium ranging from SAGE book credits for smaller articles up to a free set of the printed product for contributions totaling 10,000 words or more. Your name and affiliation will also appear in the byline of your entry(ies) in the final publication. Please e-mail a CV to at poverty@golsonmedia.com.

Call for Papers: The Essay has constituted an important prose form from the sixteenth century until the present and constitutes an intriguing field for interdisciplinary study. Applied to such a heterogeneous range of writings as maxims, aphorisms and proverbs, letters, treatises in philosophy and the sciences, as well as criticism and journalism of different kinds, it has eluded clear definition.

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Not surprisingly, literary and cultural studies have been reluctant to tackle what appears to be a random array of prose texts straddling the boundaries between literature, philosophy and scientific writing, criticism and journalism. The aim of this volume, which includes papers delivered at two international conferences held at the University of Salzburg in 2012 and 2014, is to explore this rich field from the 16th century until the present, focusing especially on how shifts and transformations of the essay as well as the uses to which it has been put in particular periods correlate with currents in culture and aesthetics, with emerging sciences and academic disciplines, as well as with socio-political developments. To this end we invite papers dealing with:

- terminological and conceptual aspects across cultures in and outside Europe (mutual influences, developments, uses of the essay for political, academic, etc. purposes)
- theories of the essay
- major examples from Anglophone cultures, though not limited to them
- case studies (mainly dealing with major practitioners)
- interdisciplinary perspectives and transformations of the essay, especially in the respective historical and cultural contexts
- genre-shifts (generic frontiers and overlappings; the essay in other media)
- publishing strategies, forms of publication in the course of history

We particularly invite articles dealing with the early modern period, and / or covering the development of the essay in individual periods and covering more than one author. If you are interested in contributing to this volume, please send a proposal with an abstract and brief biographical information stating your relevant research by March 1 2014 to: Professor Sabine Coelsch-Foisner, University of Salzburg, Department of English and American Studies, sabine.coelsch-foisner@sbg.ac.at and Dr. Markus Oppolzer, markus.oppolzer@sbg.ac.at. The finished articles should be ready by the end of July 2014.

Call for Papers: The editors of JMMLA seek essays about the literature, film, music, and art of places that don't really matter, places whose adjacency to the capitals of the world confirms their lack of sway. Especially welcome are essays that explore the consequences that come from the way literary and artistic value gets determined, the way consumers of culture continue to count on a handful of institutions to vet the art of the elsewhere. "Elsewhere" is a term that is hospitable to more established ways of thinking about the relationship between center and margin—from Raymond Williams's "country/city" designation to the various porous binaries of postcolonial theory and ecocriticism—but that also accounts for the unevenness of the opposition. "Elsewhere" presupposes a somewhere in the same way that "99%er" confirms the one percent while also highlighting the inequality built into the opposition. How does this uneven distribution of cultural capital affect inequality beyond the realms of art and culture? Will elsewheres continue to submit to a system that understands its art as a mere dispatch from the periphery? Though somewheres continue to applaud and validate the art of the elsewhere, will elsewheres continue to accept this noblesse oblige? Will the axes of sway change in the twenty-first century? Indeed, can New York ever be irrelevant, or is such an idea too fantastic, the stuff of zombie novels and post-apocalyptic action movies? One goal of this special issue is to explore these big questions while also appreciating the art of the elsewhere on its own terms, as that which teaches us how to relish the experience of being out of the

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spotlight—a lesson that Americans may need to learn as we enter a century in which the U.S. may well lose its status as the world's one superpower. Essays should be around words and should follow the most recent MLA Style Manual for internal citation and Works Cited. Please direct your queries and submit your essays electronically to jason.arthur@rockhurst.edu. Deadline for queries: March 15, 2014; deadline for essays: September 15, 2014.

Call for Papers: The Legacy of World War I, November 14-15, 2014. The History and Political Science Department at Chestnut Hill College will host an interdisciplinary conference on "The Legacy of World War I," November 14-15, 2014. Keynote speakers will be Jay Winter (Yale University) and Laura Lee Downs (European University Institute, Florence, Italy). Proposals for papers or panels are invited on any issue related to "The Legacy of World War I." The Great War was a cataclysmic event with consequences for the world up to our own day. Papers may relate to the immediate or long-term ramifications of the war: political, diplomatic, military, social, economic, technological, intellectual, cultural, etc. Proposals should be about 250-300 words and be accompanied by a CV. Papers will be allowed 20-25 minutes for presentation. We also seek individuals who are interested in serving as a Chair of a session. Presenters of papers and chairs of sessions are required to register for the conference. Deadline for proposals is April 1, 2014. Send proposals to William Walker at wwalker@chc.edu or mail them to him at Chestnut Hill College, 9601 Germantown Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19118. To be placed on a mailing list for conference registration, send your name, mailing address, and email address to William Walker at wwalker@chc.edu.

Call for Papers: *Zeteo* is looking for holistic articles and essays: pieces in which personal or political sources of the scholar's interest in her or his subject are made explicit and allowed to play a role in the larger discussion. We also continue to be interested in articles and essays that span more than one intellectual field (e.g. science and poetry, gender and urban studies, philosophy and politics). Examples of "holistic" *Zeteo* pieces include: Edward Mooney on Thoreau, Lama Khouri on being the enemy, Catherine Vigier on Lana Del Rey, Charles Hughes on Lewis Hine and photo-elicitation, Sue Ellen Christian and Ann Miles on The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks, Adrian Wittenberg on personal identity and disease, and William Eaton on "The King's Therapy." For more information, see the News for Potential Contributors on the website: zeteojournal.com.



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NATIONAL COALITION OF INDEPENDENT SCHOLARS

P.O. Box 120182
San Antonio, TX 78212
Phone: (210) 880-5493
info@ncis.org

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Membership Benefits

- **Direct grants**
- **Grant administration**
- **NCIS-sponsored conferences**
- **Mentoring, review, and translation services**
- **Databases of grants for independent scholars**
- **Recognition on Academia.edu**
- **Open-access resources**
- **Interest groups**
- **Research library listings**
- **Membership directory listing**
- **NCIS.org e-mail addresses**
- **Introductory letters**
- **NCIS member logo**
- **Personal member webpage**
- **NCIS business cards**
- **Discussion groups on FaceBook, Twitter, LinkedIn, H-Scholar**
- **NCIS Listserv**
- **Discounted subscriptions to *The Chronicle of Higher Education***
- ***The Independent Scholar Quarterly***



A SCHOLARLY ROOM OF OUR OWN

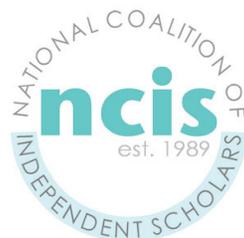
The National Coalition of Independent Scholars

was conceived in 1986 during a wild bout of rampant intellectualism at a conference sponsored by the San Diego Independent Scholars. Nineteen eighty-nine saw the birth of the organization; within a few years **NCIS** had grown into a U.S.-based 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation devoted to supporting the work of independents and making their scholarship available to the public.*

NCIS represents independent scholars from all disciplines; its members include unaffiliated scholars, adjunct and part-time faculty, graduate students, researchers, artists, and curators. The perks of membership are many, but the great unspoken benefit of joining **NCIS** is having an affiliation, a learned identity, a scholarly room of our own.

* History drawn from Margaret DeLacy, "A History of NCIS," Council of Chairs Newsletter, Issue 46, August 1995.

www.ncis.org



OFFICERS

Mona Berman | *President*
president@ncis.org

Janet Wasserman | *Secretary*
secretary@ncis.org

David Sonenschein | *Treasurer*
treasurer@ncis.org

Klara Seddon | *Communications Officer*
info@ncis.org

EDITORS

The Independent Scholar Quarterly
tis@ncis.org

Book Reviews
reviews@ncis.org

General Inquiries
info@ncis.org

NATIONAL COALITION OF
INDEPENDENT SCHOLARS



P.O. Box 120182
San Antonio, TX 78212
Phone: (210) 880-5493

www.ncis.org



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ADVOCACY

NCIS is now an influential professional association for independent scholars in the United States. **NCIS** works to improve access to research libraries; encourages foundations and institutes to open competitions to independent scholars and to include them on review committees; serves as fiscal sponsor for grants; provides information about grants, fellowships, and publishing; connects independent scholars with one another; facilitates the creation of local organizations of independent scholars; and assists existing local groups. The organization also sponsors H-Scholar, an H-Net on-line forum for scholarly discussion. Although based in the United States, **NCIS'** members and mission extend internationally.

THE INDEPENDENT SCHOLAR QUARTERLY

In **NCIS'** journal, launched in 1987 as The Independent Scholar, members' books may be reviewed, their scholarship published, their accomplishments shared and celebrated. TISQ alerts members to calls for papers, conferences, awards, grants, and fellowships. The Board of Directors communicates with members through TISQ, and as an open-access publication, The Quarterly is **NCIS'** voice in the larger, on-going conversation of all scholars.

MEMBERSHIP

NCIS members need not have advanced degrees; the Coalition welcomes scholars pursuing knowledge in or across any fields whose research is not supported by an institution. The primary qualifications for membership are scholarly purpose and work of scholarly merit, demonstrated by publications, presentations at professional conferences, etc. Please contact our membership committee if you have any questions.

The Many Benefits of Membership:

- **Direct Grants to members**
- **Grant administration for members**
- **Introductory letters**
- **Mentoring, Review, and Translation Services (Free or Discounted)**
- **Searchable database of grants for independent scholars**
- **Discussion groups on FaceBook, Twitter, LinkedIn, and H-Scholar**
- **Recognition on Academia.edu**
- **NCIS.org e-mail addresses**
- **Links to open access resources**
- **Interest groups**
- **Libraries resources list**
- **NCIS-sponsored conferences**
- **Listing in the NCIS directory**
- **Member webpages**
- **Use of member logo**
- **NCIS business cards**
- **Discounted subscriptions to The Chronicle of Higher Education**

Coming soon:

- **A members-only list-serve**

AFFILIATES

NCIS, itself an affiliate of the American Historical Association, enthusiastically invites local, national, and international organizations of independent scholars to become affiliates. Affiliates support **NCIS'** mission but manage their organizations independently. They pay dues based on the number of their members, are listed on **NCIS'** website and in **NCIS** publications, and their activities are announced in The Independent Scholar Quarterly. In addition, affiliate members may submit articles to and have their books reviewed in TISQ. Affiliates are eligible for funding for the group's local and regional meetings and conferences and may attend **NCIS'** conference for a reduced fee.

- **Center for Independent Study (New Haven, CT)**
- **Institute for Historical Study (Berkeley, CA)**
- **Minnesota Independent Scholars Forum (Minneapolis, MN)**
- **Northwest Independent Scholars Association (Portland, OR)**
- **Princeton Research Forum (Princeton, NJ)**
- **San Diego Independent Scholars (San Diego, CA)**

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