

**Candidate for Vice-President, European Society for Environmental History**  
**A/Prof Andrea Gaynor, The University of Western Australia**

The world was a different place when I stood in front of the colleagues gathered in Tallinn in 2019 as a candidate for ESEH Vice-President. I was grateful that you placed your trust in me then, and I remain willing to serve the Society as Vice-President again from 2021-2023.

In asking for your vote in 2019, my platform was to maintain existing initiatives, to support early-career researchers, to promote the society's leadership in low-carbon and accessible scholarly networking and information exchange, and to develop a mechanism for ESEH to intervene on major environmental issues in which we have relevant collective expertise.

I can say that ESEH has certainly moved into a low-carbon and accessible mode of operation! While that process was led by a virus, together with the President, other Vice-President, Board and Committees, I have worked to support the continuation and diversification of our activities in virtual space. I am keen to address the challenge going forward, as communities seek to leave pandemic conditions behind, to maintain the carbon and accessibility benefits of online engagement, while facilitating face-to-face contact where it is feasible within pandemic conditions and our remaining carbon budget.

During my tenure as Vice-President I have supported existing activities by engaging in decision-making around the society's operations, which has been an often complex task in a tumultuous time. I have also coordinated the ESEH Notepad entries published in *Environment and History*, which have ranged from the needs of early career environmental historians and the challenge of socially-engaged environmental history to diversity and inclusion within ESEH.

Perhaps the work I have undertaken as Vice-President of which I am most proud is supporting the NextGATE team to develop and run a series of monthly writing workshops for early career environmental historians. The current series will conclude in June 2021; if re-elected as Vice-President I would seek, if the NextGATE team is keen, to run further series of writing workshops, as well as pursuing other actions in collaboration with NextGATE according to current priorities, for example creating sub-networks of researchers based on common interests, and planning and implementing a webinar series on career development.

As Vice-President 2021-2023 I would also seek to build on the experience I have gained in my initial term to further the goals of the Society, especially through low-carbon and accessible online means. In addition to supporting the aims of the NextGATE scholars, I would like to continue to develop the capacity for ESEH to intervene with our expertise to support policy-makers and the wider public in efforts to address the serious and proliferating environmental issues we face. I would also seek especially to support the teaching subcommittee to develop resources that can be accessed by all environmental history teachers. A significant part of our impact is achieved through our teaching and at a time when many academic scholars are under increasing workload pressure, such resources can help to maintain or even increase quality while sharing at least some of the workload burden.