

# **Seventh Biennial Report of the European Society for Environmental History, 2013-2015**

1. General Overview
2. Budget 2013-2015
3. Presidential Report 2013-2015

## **General Overview**

During the Seventh Ordinary General Meeting of the ESEH on 23 August 2013 in Munich a new Board for the period 2013-2015, new regional representatives, and the financial control committee were elected. Details about the election are available on this website in the OGM's minutes: <http://eseh.org/wp-content/uploads/MinutesOGM07.pdf>.

A complete list of all Board members and committees for 2013-2015 is also available on the Society's website respectively at <http://eseh.org/about-eseh/board/pastboards/board-2013-2015/> and <http://eseh.org/about-eseh/committees-and-councils/past-committees-and-councils/committees-councils-2013-2015/>.

European Society for Environmental History e.V.  
Account 2013-2014

Income 2013	Kind of Income	SummIN	Expenses 2013	Beneficiary	SummEX
from 2012	Giro+Savingsbook 2012	6.971,84	Bank Fees	Postbank Dortmund	131,65
Savingsbook interests	netto interests 2013	29,25	Credit Card fees - contract terminated	Posttransact	132,30
Membership Fees	netto incl transfer fees	9.260,81	Website Hosting	Host Europe GmbH	191,88
from ESEH members	donations incl conference	695,00	Oslo meeting travel autumn 2012	BM J. Lajus reimbursed 2013	332,90
Conference Munich 13	silent book auction	2.230,00	Board meeting Munich March 2013	travel cost BM S. Frioux	252,80
			Board meeting Munich March 2013	travel cost BM P. Steyn**	450,10
			Article prize 2013	Ben M. Anderson (Keele Univ.)	1.000,00
	<b>Total Income 2013</b>	<b>12.215,06</b>	ESEH conference RR travel subsidy	4 of 17 regional representatives	200,00
	plusCapital2012	19.186,90	Travel Grants ESEH conference Munich	29 of 52 applying jun presenters	6.765,00
			<b>Total Expenses 2013</b>		<b>9.456,63</b>
31.12.2013 Savingsbook		5199,14			
31.12.2013 Giro		4406,43			
31.12.2013 Paypal		124,70			
31.12.2013 Total		9.730,27			
			Control formula:	Again: savings plus total income 2013	19.186,90
				Again: total expenses 2013	9.456,63
				Balance 2013 €	9.730,27

Income 2014	Kind of Income	SummIN	Expenses 2014	Beneficiary	SummEX
from 2013	Giro+Savings+PayP2013	9.730,27	Bank Fees	Postbank Dortmund	97,63
Membership Fees direct	netto	3.042,00	Website Hosting fees	Host Europe GmbH	194,28
MembersFees via Ppal	net after transfer	2.250,00	Notary fees constitution change	Dr. Palmer	69,62
from ESEH members	Donations	265,00	ESEH flyers printed for WCEH	Univ. Porto Fac. Lett.	300,00
Savingsbook interests	netto interests 2014	14,64	WCEH Summerschool Sea as a Whole	Univ. Porto Fac. Lett.	400,00
			Workshop Why so little green in Cz.	Academy of Sciences Brno	500,00
			Workshop Bellies Bodies Policy	Univ. Tallinn Estonia/ Kajak	500,00
	<b>Total Income 2014</b>	<b>5.571,64</b>	EASSH Meeting in Berlin	Travel D. Jorgensen - partly	217,00
	plusCapital2013	15.301,91	ICE-HO membership basic fee	Intl. Consortium Env. Hist. Organ.	89,00
			<b>Total Expenses 2014</b>		<b>2.367,53</b>
31.12.2014 Savingsbook	5213,77				
31.12.2014 Giro	7.434,90 €				
31.12.2014 Paypal	285,71 €				
31.12.2014 Total	<b>12.934,38</b>				
			Control formula:	Again: savings plus total income 2014	15.212,91
				Again: total expenses 2014	2.278,53
				Balance 2014: €	12.934,38



# PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2013-2015

Presented by Dolly Jørgensen at  
ESEH Ordinary General Meeting,  
Versailles, France, 1 July 2015



# ESEH Activities, 2013-2015

- **Support for younger scholars**

- PhD summer schools
- Travel grants

- **Support for scholarly development**

- Grants for small conferences & workshops
- Arcadia: online explorations in environmental history
- Book series with Berghahn Press
- Biennial ESEH conference

- **Recognition of outstanding scholarship**

- Turku Book Prize in Environmental History
- Best article in environmental history prize
- Best poster prize

- **Communication**

- ESEH website and promotional materials
- Notepad in *Environment & History*
- Member newsletters

- **Administration**



A stylized, dark brown illustration of a plant with several leaves and small, round buds or flowers, positioned on the left side of the slide against a dark brown background.

# **SUPPORT FOR YOUNGER SCHOLARS**



# Summer Schools

- ESEH co-sponsors at least one summer school with an environmental history theme each year
- Summer School Committee: Patrick Kupper (chair), Inês Amorim, Rosalinda Ruiz Scarfuto, Santiago Gorostiza, Ekaterina Kalemeneva



# Summer School 2014

- “The Sea as a whole - Ideological reservoir and environmental concerns”, Porto, Portugal, 4-8 July
- Led by Inês Amorim, RR Portugal/Board member
- 7 senior scholars who presented lectures, participated in roundtables, and provided comments on student papers
- 15 students presented papers
- Excursion to the Maritime Museum of Ílhavo





# Summer School #1 2015

- “Animals in Transdisciplinary Environmental History”, Altmõisa, Estonia, 12-15 May
- Led by Ulrike Plath, RR Baltic Countries/Board member
- 16 students presented pre-circulated papers
- 5 keynote lectures by senior scholars plus a writing workshop and scholar roundtable





# Summer School #2 2015

- “Cities and Mountains. Environmental and Health Risks : A Socio-historical perspective”, Lyon/Yenne/Grenoble, France, 26-29 June
- Led by Stéphane Frioux, RR France/Board member
- 10 students
- Senior lectures and roundtables
- Field trips on risk, industry, and tourism





# Travel grants

- ESEH supports young, unemployed/underemployed, and other low income scholars who need financial assistance to attend the biennial conference
- Selected 28 grant recipients out of 33 applicants
- Grants for €6000 (from €100 to €300 for each)
- Plus travel support for Regional Representatives with financial need
- ESEH Travel Grant Committee: Carry van Lieshout (chair), Christian Rohr, Peter Szabó



A stylized, monochromatic illustration of a plant with several leaves and small, round buds or fruits, rendered in a dark brown color against a lighter brown background.

# SUPPORT FOR SCHOLARLY DEVELOPMENT



# Small Conference/Workshop Grants

- New initiative started by the Board in 2013
- Open call for proposals for any environmental history conference/workshop with less than 100 participants
- One of the organizers must be an ESEH member
- €500 granted to two events each year



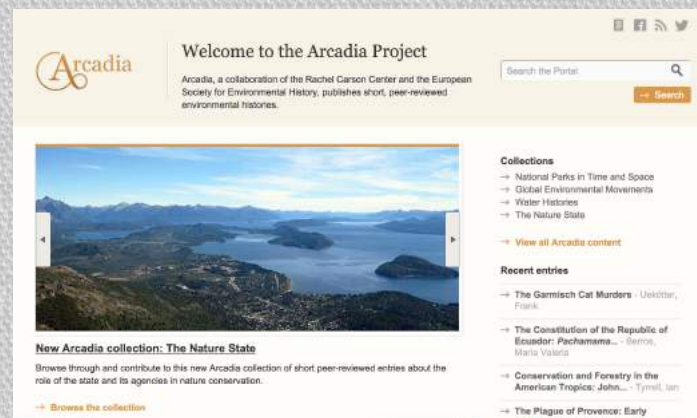
# Small Conference/Workshop Grants

- “Why is There So Little Green in Czech and Slovak History?”, Brno, Czech Republic, April 2014
- “Bellies, Bodies, Policity. Embodied Environments between Catastrophes and Control”, Tallinn/Tartu, Estonia, September 2014
- “Environmental history of Poland and East-Central Europe from the Middle Ages until the 20<sup>th</sup> c.”, Krakow, Poland, September 2015
- “Underground Space: Development, Exploration, Secondary Use,” Vasylivka, Ukraine, September 2015



# Arcadia: online explorations in environmental history

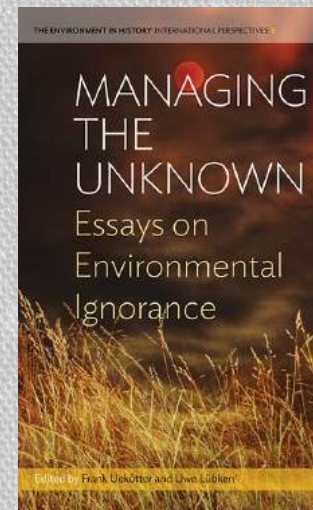
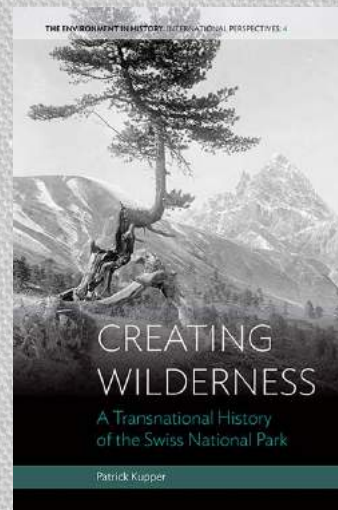
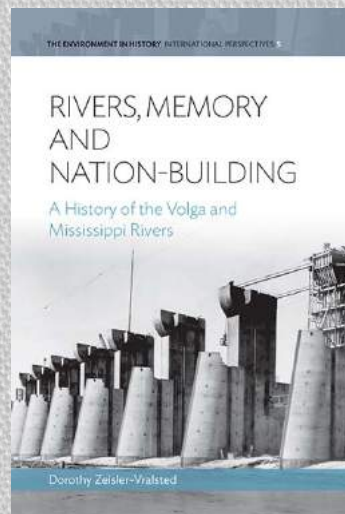
- Joint project with the Rachel Carson Center for Environment & Society (<http://www.environmentandsociety.org/arcadia>)
- Short, peer-reviewed environmental histories
- ESEH gave travel grants to two Arcadia representatives to attend ESEH 2015
- Encourage students attending ESEH-sponsored schools to write articles
- Members of project: Julia Lajus, Finn Arne Jørgensen, Christof Mauch, Timo Myllyntaus, Verena Winiwarter, Wilko Hardenberg





# Book series with Berghahn Press

- Environment in History: International Perspectives
- Cooperation with the Rachel Carson Center for Environment & Society
- Editorial Committee: David Moon, Dolly Jørgensen
- 6 volumes in series so far (5 of which came out 2014-15)





# Biennial conference 2015

- Local Arrangements Chair: Gregory Quenet
- Programme Committee: Ellen Arnold (chair), Bo Poulsen, Federico Paolini, Martin Schmid, Kathleen Pribyl
- Large number of proposals: 168 individual papers, 56 paper panels, 8 roundtables, 3 experimental sessions, 30 posters
- Final scholarship selected by the Committee: 90 sessions + roundtable plenary “From Sarajevo to Versailles, and far beyond: Environmental History and the Centennial of World War I”
- Local Arrangements organized the plenary speaker, 6 field trips, book exhibit, and social activities



# Biennial conference 2017

- Site selection process for 2017 conference
- Site Selection Committee: Marco Armiero (chair), Ulrike Plath, Poul Holm
- Focus was on eastern and southern Europe as venue



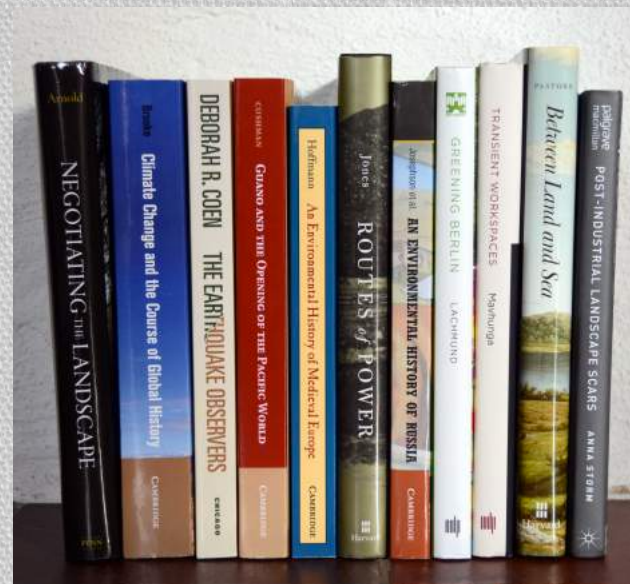
A stylized, dark brown illustration of a plant with several leaves and small, round berries or buds, positioned on the left side of the image. The plant is set against a solid dark brown background that occupies the left half of the overall image.

# RECOGNITION OF OUTSTANDING SCHOLARSHIP



# Turku Book Prize in Environmental History

- The Turku Book Award identifies and encourages innovative and well-written scholarship in the field of environmental history and carries a prize of €3,000
- Co-sponsored by Rachel Carson Center for Environment & Society
- RCC members of Committee: Helmuth Trischler (chair), Robert Emmett, Patrick Kupper
- ESEH members of Committee: Julia Lajus, Finn Arne Jørgensen
- 22 books submitted for 2015





# Best article in environmental history prize

- The prize is intended to identify and encourage innovative and well written research in the field of environmental history of Europe. Articles on any subject in European environmental history and in any European language are eligible for the award.
- €500 plus travel grant to biennial conference
- ESEH Article Prize Committee: Etienne Benson (chair), Stéphane Frioux, Petra van Dam
- 39 articles submitted for 2015



# Best poster prize

- New initiative of the 2013-15 Board
- To encourage and elevate the status of poster presentations at the biennial conference
- First and second prizes to be awarded (€100/€50)
- Poster prize committee: Verena Winiwarter, Ian Rotherham, Giacomo Parrinello



A stylized, monochromatic illustration of a plant with several leaves and small, round fruits or buds, rendered in a dark brown color against a lighter brown background.

# **COMMUNICATION**



# ESEH website and promotional materials

- Secretary serves as webmaster
- Board decided to establish a Communications Committee to establish a new graphic profile and develop communication material
- Communications Committee: Tomasz Samojlik (chair), Wilko Graf von Hardenberg, Merle Massie





## ESEH activities

ESEH is an **active, creative** and **inspirational** academic society.

Our activities include:

- **connecting** scholars interested in the relationship between humans and the environment
- biannual **conferences** of world's scholars
- coordinating internet **discussion** forums such as H-Environment
- publishing ESEH Notepad, a quarterly newsletter to **share news and ideas**
- supporting **events** (workshops, summer schools, conferences) organised in the field of environmental history



find us

eseh.org  
@esehtweets  
fb.com/EurSocEnvHist

studying  
the **interactions**  
between **humans**  
and **environment**  
in the past to  
better tackle  
the future

## Mission of the European Society for Environmental History

The European Society for Environmental History (ESEH) promotes the study of environmental history in all academic disciplines. We encourage anyone who has an interest in the field to join and become involved.

### ESEH aims to:

- encourage the study of European and global environmental history in a comparative perspective
- foster communication among environmental historians
- promote the further institutional development of environmental history at all levels of education
- promote the research and use of environmental history within academic programmes
- strengthen the crucial link between environmental history, policy-making, and the general public

## Join ESEH

The Society aims to stimulate dialogue between humanistic scholarship, environmental science and other disciplines. We welcome members from all disciplines and professions who share our interest in past relationships between human culture and the environment.



## The benefits of membership

- Free electronic access to the journal *Environment and History* for the current year
- Radically reduced rate for the hardcopy subscription of *Environment and History*
  - Subscription to the ESEH Presidential Newsletter
  - Discount registration at ESEH's biennial conference
  - Opportunity to publish entries in the Arcadia Project
- Opportunity for graduate students to participate in ESEH summer schools
- Connection to regional groups of nearby scholars who share research interests
  - Book awards and article prizes
- Reminders of calls for papers, conferences, research and career opportunities



# Notepad in *Environment & History*

- Each quarterly issue of *Environment & History* features an ESEH Notepad
- Notepads prepared under 2013-15 Board feature European conference/workshop write-ups:
  - RUCHE Francophone Network 2013 conference (France)
  - Northern Nations, Northern Natures (Sweden)
  - The Urbanisation of Nature. Environmental Narratives, Technologies and Power in the City, 1500-2000 (Germany)
  - Geographies of Man: Environmental Influence from Antiquity to the Enlightenment (England)
  - Bellies, Bodies, “Policey”: Embodied Environments between Catastrophes and Control (Estonia)
  - Environmental History of Russia: Stages of Development & Promising Research Directions (Russia)
  - Famines During the Little Ice Age (1300-1800) (Germany)
- Environment & History liaison: Dolly Jørgensen



# Member newsletters

- Newsletters sent quarterly to all members by the President
- Exceptional news sent as appropriate by President or Secretary
- Mailing list includes all ESEH members and can only be used for official mails from the Board
- The list will be renewed after the new 2015-17 Board is elected and only members who are current on payment of dues will receive the newsletter.



A stylized, monochromatic illustration of a plant with several large, pointed leaves and a cluster of small, round berries or buds on a thin stem, set against a dark brown background.

# **ADMINISTRATION**



# Membership

- Membership register handled by the Secretary, who also handles all money payments
- 926 people on our ESEH members list; 347 members currently paid their membership for 2015+



# Coordination


- ESEH is a member of the International Consortium for Environmental History Organizations (ICEHO) as a Basic level member
  - ICEHO organizes the World Congress of Environmental History every 5 years; previous WCEH was in 2014 in Portugal
- ESEH participated in two meetings of the European Alliance for Social Sciences & Humanities (EASSH)
  - EASSH has been established as a platform for interaction between fields and associations
  - EASSH advocating SSH in EU research funding strategies



# Leadership

- Constitutional Amendment to change the selection of the members of the Nominations Committee
  - Done by online voting – first time this was tried by ESEH
  - Problems with messages from the online service saying votes were insecure (they were not) and there was no Abstain option which some voters would have liked
  - Change was passed, which allowed the Board to create a Constitutionally valid Nominations Committee
- Nominations Committee: Jan Oosthoek (chair), David Moon, Mikko Saikku
- Requesting a Constitutional Amendment to set up ways to fill positions vacated during a term, which had been overlooked when the Constitution was constructed



A stylized, monochromatic illustration of a plant with several large, pointed leaves and a cluster of small, round buds or flowers on a thin stem, rendered in a dark brown color against a lighter brown background.

THANK YOU FOR  
MAKING ESEH A  
WELCOMING &  
ENGAGED SCHOLARLY  
SOCIETY