

Presidential Panel

Ancient History in North America, Past, Present and Future: AAH@50

In 2024, the Association of Ancient Historians will celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of our constitution. That occasion offers us an opportunity to look back and consider the history of our Association and its foundation and development within the context of a broad swathe of developments: intellectual, disciplinary, educational, institutional, cultural and political. It lets us pause to consider who the current membership is and to consider how it differs from that in 1974. We might also look forward and consider how our Association will develop, as well as reflect upon the changing nature of our field and the institutions within which we work.

A Presidential Panel at the 2019 meeting will start our thinking about these themes. Abstracts are welcome on any of the following topics:

Institutionalization. Why an association for ancient historians? How have the aims of the AAH changed over the last (nearly) fifty years? In what ways has the AAH responded to the changing needs of its members? How has the field of ancient history developed in North America since 1974? To what extent does the AAH reflect the breadth and depth of ancient historians in its membership?

Teaching. What has been the role of teaching in the AAH? What impact has the AAH had on the teaching of ancient history in North America? What might the AAH offer to support the teaching responsibilities of its members?

Research trends and Publications. What story do the papers given at our annual meetings tell about our field and the interests of our members? How has the PAAH series tracked trends in ancient history and its subfields?

Inclusivity. What has been the history of inclusivity of all kinds within the AAH? What has been the perception of inclusivity in the AAH? What might the AAH do to promote inclusivity in its membership and in the field more widely?

Abstracts should be approximately 300 words and submitted in the same way as other paper proposals. In order to encourage discussion among attendees, papers (10-20 pages) will be circulated before the Meeting.

A range of perspectives is desirable, from long-time members of the Association to those who have recently joined the field. Single, co-, or multi-authored submissions are welcome.

Abstract deadline: November 15, 2018

Acceptance notification: early January 2019

Circulation of papers: early April 2019