



# Annual Report, at the 20<sup>th</sup> annual conference.

## The Battle for Books, Trinity College Dublin, Ireland

2012 is an important anniversary for SHARP – our memorable series of annual conferences now numbers twenty, beginning in the USA in 1993, and since then convening in Scotland, in England, in Canada, in Germany, in France, the Netherlands and Finland. And now, we meet in Ireland. Still, this is only our second Annual Report. The Executive Committee of SHARP is happy to present updates to its members on the activities of our organization.

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### OUR TWITTER HASHTAG : #sharp12

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### LIST OF SHARP's ELECTED OFFICERS:

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS, with retirement dates (Board and Executive Committee members are elected for 8-year terms):

Kevin Absillis, 2019; James Barnes, 2013; Jonathan Bengston, 2013; Robert Cagna, 2015; David Carter, 2013; Evelyn Ellerman 2017; Ellen Gruber Garvey, 2015; Priya Joshi, 2013; Lisa Kuitert, 2017; Fritz Levy, 2013; Alistair McCleery, 2015; Bob Owens, 2015; Shef Rogers, 2019; Sydney Shep, 2017 Gail Shivel, 2015; Alexis Weedon, 2017; George H. Williams, 2019; Paul Wright, 2015.

#### NOMINATING COMMITTEE:

Carole Gerson; Patrick Leary; James Raven

#### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE :

Leslie Howsam, President  
Ian Gadd, Vice-President  
James Wald, Treasurer  
Jyrki Hakapää, Recording Secretary (retiring 2012, replaced pro tem by Corinna Norrick)  
Eleanor Shevlin, Membership Secretary  
Simon Frost, External Affairs Director  
Claire Squires, Director for Publications/Awards  
Lee N. McLaird, Director Electronic Resources  
Bertrum H. MacDonald, Member-at-large

*2013 will be an election year; watch for the call for nominations and then for the on-line voting in advance of the Philadelphia Annual Meeting, where results will be announced.*

### 2012 AGM AGENDA

This report also serves as the agenda for the Annual General Meeting to be held 1-3 pm (over lunch) on Thursday 28 June in the Emmet Theatre, TCD Arts Building Concourse.

Welcome and thanks, Leslie Howsam

Brief remarks on officers' reports

Announcement of SHARP Travel Grants for the Dublin Conference

Announcement of SHARP Prizes.

• *Book History* Essay Prize, Ezra Greenspan and Jonathan Rose)

• George A. and Jean S. DeLong SHARP Book History Book Prize (Claire Squires)

• Special prize for Twitter on #sharp12 – a copy of the winning DeLong Prize book to the best conference tweeters (Ian Gadd)

Invitation to attend next year's conference: at University of Pennsylvania, 18-21 July 2013 – David McKnight.

Members' announcements

Meeting Adjourns at 3.00 pm





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## REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR FOR PUBLICATIONS AND AWARDS

Claire Squires reports that our annual journal, *Book History*, continues to attract and publish quality scholarship. The editors are taking steps to increase the coverage of non-Western topics in articles. *SHARP-News* also flourishes, with a rich quarterly array of reviews, co-ordinated by a team of book review (and-exhibition and e-resource review) editors. The SHARP Bibliography in the newsletter remains an important resource, supplemented by our presence in *Library Thing*. Those most concerned with *SHARP-News* are looking into the possibilities of eventually moving its content to an online platform.

The new SHARP Blog has featured various contributors, most notably the celebration of the 20th anniversary of SHARP-L with reflections by Patrick Leary.

The 2011 SHARP-DeLong Prize for Book History was won by John B. Hench, for *Books as Weapons: Propaganda, Publishing, and the Battle for Global Markets in the Era of World War II* (published by Cornell University Press). John was present at last year's conference to receive his award in person.

This year's book prize committee received almost 50 volumes, winnowed them down to a shortlist of 9, and selected a winner who will be announced at the AGM.

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## EXTERNAL AFFAIRS / LIAISON REPORT

SHARP has a strong team of liaison officers. Simon Frost's portfolio relates to the regional officers (formerly called national liaisons) who do everything from simply supplying flyers and promotional material for local events, to mounting focused conferences with the SHARP stamp of approval. Simon has worked hard this past year to overhaul our team of Regional Liaisons (their names are appended here). Six new officers were recruited and elected. Material from their reports will appear in the various SHARP media over the next year.

Eleanor Shevlin, as part of her task as Membership Secretary, manages our liaisons with affiliated societies in various disciplines and interdisciplinary groupings, many of which host SHARP-sponsored panels which provide opportunities for outreach. She too has recruited several new officers. Some have created Facebook, LinkedIn and other social media pages to connect members of the other organization with their counterparts in SHARP.

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## SHARP REGIONAL OFFICERS

Australia: Nathan Garvey  
 Canada: José Vincent  
 Denmark: Simon Frost  
 France: Susan Pickford  
 Germany: Corinna Norrick  
 Iberian Peninsula: Benito Rial Costas  
 Ireland: Elizabeth Tilley  
 Israel: Barbara Hochman  
 India: (post remains open)  
 Italy: Loretta de Franceschi  
 Japan: Andrew T. Kamei-Dyche and Keiko Hori  
 Netherlands: Arnold Lubbers  
 New Zealand: Nikki Hessel  
 Slovenia: Miha Kovac  
 South Africa: Archie Dick  
 Sweden: Anne Steiner  
 United Kingdom: (post remains open)

## SHARP SOCIETY LIAISONS

American Historical Association:  
 Robb Haberman and Jessica Linker  
 American Literature Association:  
 Ezra Greenspan  
 American Society of 18<sup>th</sup>-century Studies:  
 Eleanor Shevlin  
 American Studies Association:  
 Erin Smith  
 Modern Language Association:  
 Greg Barnhisel  
 Renaissance Society of America  
 (position remains open)  
 South Atlantic Modern Language Association:  
 Melissa Makala