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Letter from the Editor

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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

On behalf of the editorial board, I am excited to present the newest issue of the *Penn History Review*. Since 1991, the *Penn History Review* has published some of the finest historical research written by undergraduates at the University of Pennsylvania and schools across the United States. Our Fall 2019 edition includes essays that explore diverse subjects such as ninth-century kings in Britain, Swedish post-war development, American Indian activism, and diplomacy during the Crusades. It was truly a pleasure to review these essays, and I hope that this edition of the *PHR* will prove both intellectually rewarding and enjoyable to read.

In our first piece, *The Relationship between King Alfred the Great and Ceolwulf II of Mercia*, Penn student Brent Weisberg provides a nuanced account of Ceolwulf's relationship with Alfred and the Vikings. His work includes compelling analyses of *The Anglo-Saxon Chronicle*, coins, and several pieces of secondary literature. The next article, *Swedish Welfare and Development in the Post-War Decades*, was written by Alexandru Zanca, also from Penn. The work uses post-war Sweden as a case study to investigate the trends and relationships between welfare, development, and policymaking. The third paper, *Breaking Point: The 1969 American Indian Occupation of Alcatraz Island*, is from Coe College student Thomas Kahle. He utilizes oral histories, newspaper publications, and news footage to examine the inspirations for the 1969 American Indian occupation of Alcatraz. Our final piece, *Holy War by Other Means*, was authored by Yale University student Jake Mezey. He examines the unique instances of diplomacy that took place during the Crusades.

The editorial board would like to thank a number of people without whom this edition of the *PHR* would not have been possible. The Penn History Department continues to generously provide funding and institutional support for our publication. In particular, we are extremely grateful to Dr. Siyen Fei, the Undergraduate Studies Chair of the department, and Dr. Yvonne Fabella, the Associate Director of Undergraduate Studies. They have both offered invaluable advice and encouragement throughout the editing and publishing process. In

addition, we would like to thank the faculty members at Penn and other universities who promoted our publication, as well as all of the students who submitted papers for consideration. Thank you as well to our contributing authors, who worked patiently and diligently to refine their articles for publication.

Finally, I would like to thank our editors for their exceptionally hard work on this issue of the *Penn History Review*. Their dedication and commitment have continued to make the *PHR* a platform for outstanding historical scholarship. It has been a truly enjoyable experience to work with each of them during my time as editor-in-chief. This semester, we are especially fortunate to have added three new editors, Jake Fallek, Ishaan Tugnait, and Eden Vance, who have already made a positive impact on our journal.

Congratulations again to all of the authors and editors who participated in this publication of the *Penn History Review*!

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "H.C. Darby". The signature is written in a light grey or blue ink.

Helen Catherine Darby
Editor-in-Chief