SOCIETY FOR HISTORIANS OF THE EARLY AMERICAN REPUBLIC

Office of the President

June 8, 2021

Dear Colleagues,

I write to request your financial support for an exciting initiative from SHEAR's new Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee: The SHEAR Research Fellowships.

Under the leadership of Kabria Baumgartner and Cassie Good, the D/E/I Committee proposes to foster research on 'the rich complexity and enduring significance of the early American republic,' by offering research grants to scholars examining Latinx, Indigenous, Asian American, Pacific Island, and/or African diasporic history. Fellows will receive \$3,000 at the beginning of the fellowship for research expenses. The following year they will be invited to present their research at the SHEAR annual conference and receive a further \$1,000 to support travel and conference expenses. Scholars who are from underrepresented backgrounds, early in their careers (graduate students or recent post-graduates), and/or contingent faculty are particularly encouraged to apply. This is an exceptionally worthy proposal that will support important scholarship and expand the membership of the society.

But our ability to offer these fellowships is entirely dependent on you, the SHEAR membership. Initial Research Fellowship funding will come from donations. If you believe in this initiative and in the work of D/E/I in SHEAR, I ask that donate to the SHEAR Research Fellowship Fund, either online or by check to the SHEAR business office. No donation is too small, or too large. Our goal is to raise \$20,000. If we receive sufficient donations by July 14, SHEAR D/E/I can issue a call for applications this summer.

I make this request with a renewed sense of optimism, one that I hope you share. We have vaccines against Covid 19 and an exciting <u>virtual conference</u> featuring a record number of panels and workshops set for July 14-17. It's hard not to believe that the worst is behind us. Please demonstrate your faith in the future of SHEAR by supporting the SHEAR Research Fellowships today.

Many thanks, and I look forward to seeing you all virtually in July.

Sincerely,

Amy S. Greenberg

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President, Society for Historians of the Early American Republic