

ICHRPI/CIHAE: Summary Annual Report of the Director of Publications, 2017

A. The Journal

2016 was a good year for the journal and 2017, with the launch of our new look journal, promised to be even better. Sales and subscriptions of *Parliaments, Estates and Representation* continue strongly with Volume 36 (April/November, 2016) distributed, in complete subscription, to 178 members and 101 libraries and institutions. Membership subscriptions have again declined slightly, although online sales overall continue well. Library subscriptions have also fallen only slightly and continue moving anyway from print and online to just online. The main area of growth is again in online sales/packages agreements (being steady 2014 to 2015 (2172) but increasing by 6% to 2301 in 2016) which university libraries prefer. Total 2016 sales in print, including members, were 232 (down from 242) with 'online only' 2344, a slight rise from last year, with overall sales (excluding members) up 5%.

Full-text downloads have increased again. Growth was only 2% 2015 to 2016, from 6329 to 6472. However, by the end of June 2017 we reached 3915 and a figure of 7-8,000 seems likely for 2017, boosted by the additional demand created by 3 issues per volume and special issues. As with 2015, in 2016 the UK and Ireland were the top countries for downloads (with 1939) with a strong showing from Australia, USA and European countries across a wide geography. One interesting growth area is India with over 40 downloads in 2016. The top institution by downloads was the University of New South Wales, Australia, followed by Oxford. In 2016 five articles were downloaded 100 or more times, the most popular, with 399, being Rosamaria Alibrandi's 'Early nineteenth century debates for the abolition of slavery in the British Empire', (vol. 35:1, 2015) followed with 357 by Cristiana Senigaglia's 'Max Weber and the parliamentary bureaucracy of his time' (vol. 31:1, 2011). The top cited article, with 25, is I.A.A. Thompson's 'Crown and Cortes in Castile, 1590-1665' (vol.2:1, 1982), followed with 19 by M.Hart's "'The devil or the Dutch": Holland's impact on the financial revolution in England, 1643-1694', (vol.11:1, 1991).

Marketing initiatives by Taylor and Francis continue to focus on social media. These include publicising our journal through Twitter feed (12,500) and Facebook (9,000). The publisher's journal homepage provides the download service and links to our own website and Facebook pages – see <http://www.ichrpi.com/index.html> Other sales strategies will continue as before such as Table of Contents 'alerts' (now 150) and the publisher's electronic History newsletter (E-Bulletin), which reaches over 3,000 subscribers. Other targeted campaigns include Most Read History; Best of the Archive; Discover PER; Discover European History and Discover British History and Regional Spotlight History. The publisher remains optimistic about future prospects.

80th anniversary

To mark our 80th anniversary we moved in 2017 (volume 37) to 3 issues of the journal per calendar year/volume and introduced a new jacket and internal typography. In addition a special, free online selection of articles *80 years of Parliamentary Scholarship and the ICHRPI* will be published the week of the Orleans conference. John Young, our Editor, has made a selection of articles from the journal, to which an introductory essay by our President Joseba Agirreazkuenaga has been added. This will be publicised in our/ the publisher's social media. The selection will be free for 6 months.

Online access for members

Successful negotiations have been taken place with Taylor and Francis to achieve 'free' online access for all members. This will be available relatively soon after we can confirm details of an accurate membership list and will include the backlist and hard copies. In spite of this, the publisher has also agreed to freeze the current price per volume (£21.00 per year) for 2018 and 2019 and to absorb the UK VAT element of online publishing. The Direction must consider if we either issue T&F with a

complete membership list with names/email addresses or work via our new website using a secure web page. It may be possible to begin this with the third issue of volume 37.

B. Studies presented to ICHRPI/CIHAE

No volumes appeared in the series in 2016. However, at least four are in the pipeline:

Vol. XCV: *Political representation: communities, ideas and institutions in Europe (c. 1200 - c. 1650)*, edited by Mario Damen, Jelle Haemers and Alastair Mann, Brill, 2018

Vol. XCVII: Palma conference proceedings. [Waiting bibliographical details, delayed to 2018].

Vol. XCVIII: Bertrand Augé, *Les Etats de Basse-Navarre de 1665 a 1789*. [delayed into 2018]

XCIX: Bertrand Augé (ed.), *Regards nouveaux sur les institution représentatives de l'ancien régime, la Cour, la diplomatie, la guerre et la littérature: Essais en hommage à John Rogister*, Edition A.Pedone, Paris, 2017 [due out in October]

Proposal under consideration - Cristiana Senigaglia book on Max Weber. New proposals welcome

C. Website

Our new website, with the domain name www.ichrpi.info, has been commissioned by our Secretary General Mario di Napoli. It will offer us the same information as the existing publisher's website but with additional opportunities for direct control, to table news and provide access to archived published material. We need to decide what general information will be retained on the publisher's website.

D. Commission social media

Facebook address: <https://www.facebook.com/ICHRPI>; Administrator Coleman Dennehy

Blog address: <https://ichrpi.wordpress.com/>; Administrator: Coleman Dennehy

Twitter handle: @ichrpi; Administrator: Bertrand Augé

Thanks again must go to Coleman Dennehy (UCD), for continuing to administer our Facebook page. As it stands we have 206 'likes', increased from 175 in 2016 (an 18% rise). The most numerous cohorts are from the Spain (38), UK (28), Italy (28), Ireland (18), USA (11), Sweden and Romania (10 each), and Brazil and Germany (7). Our 'fans' come from 35 countries (up from 27) via 18 languages. Oddly we have no 'fans' in Australia or New Zealand. By city, Dublin, London, Craiova, Valencia, Messina, Rome, and Barcelona are where most fans are based. We recently got our first fans from Chile! The page offers information on commission activity but is also a platform for conference and publication information. Members are encouraged once more to increase the number of 'likes', to add images and photographs of conferences and gatherings, and provide details of research and publications of interest. Coleman, as usual, is happy to be a conduit for any materials and to offer advice on content. He does greatly appreciate material suggested or forwarded to him – even material which is only tangential to our work reflects well generally on the Commission.

Despite a positive start the blog has foundered but it can easily be revived. If anyone is willing to be interviewed/ or write a piece, or have one of their students/colleagues do so, please contact Coleman.

Bertrand Augé (ESC Pau) administers our Twitter account with content reflecting our activities, conferences and interests. In the last year 27 tweets were seen by 7500 people and although there are only 21 regular followers the spike in activity at Parma and when the call for papers was announced in May, representing 1700 and 3700 (May-July) shows how interest can be generated. Like Facebook and the blog. we have barely touched the surface of what might be achieved.

Alastair Mann, Director of Publications (22/8/17)