

History of Education Society 2026 Annual Meeting

Portland, Oregon

November 5-8, 2026

The 2026 Program Committee for the History of Education Society invites proposals for its annual conference, which will be held in Portland, Oregon. The 2026 meeting will be held in tandem with the annual meeting of the American Educational Studies Association (AESAs), and the 2026 conference theme is **Rooted: Strengthening the Foundations with Historical Inquiry**. Thematically complete sessions, individual papers, panel discussions, and workshop session submissions are welcome. Complete sessions organized around a coherent theme are especially encouraged. Papers and sessions do not have to be directly related to the conference theme; all proposals related to the history of education are encouraged.

This year's conference theme—**Rooted: Strengthening the Foundations with Historical Inquiry**—recognizes the challenges of historical inquiry in the broader field of educational studies, and at times, their consequences: How can historians negotiate the complexity of the past with the demands of the present? The field of educational history has always struggled to perform two tasks at once: informing today's practitioners and policy-makers as well as grappling with the fundamental messiness of history on its own grounds. With this, we also welcome submissions that speak to the responsibility of historians and the field to facilitate conversations on the consequences of systems of education that disproportionately serve some while relegating others to the margins. The Society specially invites proposals that examine the nature of history itself as part of a broader attempt to explain and understand the field of education. Beyond this year's conference theme, we invite all proposals related to the history of education, and encourage proposals that examine educational history as part of the social foundations of education, broadly conceived. We welcome international representation at our meeting and encourage submissions showcasing perspectives from regions beyond the United States.

Submission Guidelines

To submit a proposal, please go to [the 2026 HES Conference Portal](#). If you don't already have a CMT account, be sure to create one [following these steps](#). The submission site is now accepting proposals, and the **EXTENDED DEADLINE** for submission is March 31, 2026. Decisions on proposal submissions will be available by June 15, 2026.

The History of Education Society requires all presenters at the 2026 conference to be members. Invitations for membership and information about the conference will be sent to authors of accepted proposals.

Please direct questions to HES Vice President and program chair, **Adam Laats**,
Binghamton University (SUNY), alaats@binghamton.edu

Submission Formats

Proposals can take one of four forms: (a) an individual paper, (b) a thematically complete session, (c) a panel discussion, (d) or a workshop. Again, complete sessions are strongly encouraged.

Thematically Complete Session. Proposals should provide a prospectus for a coherent collection of 3-4 papers, including a title for the session, a title and summary of each paper, and a chair and discussant. A complete-session proposal should be single-spaced and between 1,500-2,000 words, excluding references. The proposal should include the topic and an overview of the findings or conclusions, a discussion of how the session relates to other scholarship in the field, and the sources. Please remove personal identifying information from the proposal document before uploading it, but include institutional affiliations and email addresses for all participants elsewhere as instructed.

Individual Paper. Submitting an individual paper involves proposing a standalone piece of research. If accepted, the paper is grouped with others on similar topics into a session where each presenter shares their work within a set time, hears comments from a discussant, and is often followed by a Q & A. An individual-paper proposal should be single-spaced and between 750 and 1,000 words, excluding references. Proposals should spell out the paper's focus and rationale. It should include the topic and an overview of the findings or conclusions, a discussion of how the paper relates to other scholarship in the field, and the sources. Please remove personal identifying information from the proposal document before uploading it, but include institutional affiliations and email addresses for all participants elsewhere as instructed.

Panel Discussion. Proposals should outline a session in which four qualified panelists present a series of thought pieces discussing important issues, research, or books in the field. A panel discussion proposal should be single-spaced and no more than 2,000 words, excluding references. The proposal should include an overview of the discussion topic, the major findings or conclusions, how the findings or conclusions contribute to the field, and a chair. The identities of panel members need not be anonymous. However, please include institutional affiliations and email addresses for all participants elsewhere as instructed.

Workshop. Proposals should explain the session's focus (e.g., research methods or teaching practices), the number of facilitators (no more than three), and how the session will proceed. A workshop proposal should be single-spaced, no more than 1,500 words, excluding references. The proposal should describe the plan of the workshop, the intended

audience, the activities, and the workshop's connections to more significant issues in the field. The identities of facilitators need not be anonymous. However, please include institutional affiliations and email addresses for all participants elsewhere as instructed.

Participants are encouraged to stay at our conference hotel—the Hilton Portland Downtown (details forthcoming)—because of our contract to secure a minimum number of rooms.