
AHEA Newsletter: June 2025

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June 2025 Newsletter

President's Corner

Dear Colleagues,

What a joy it was to be together for this year's AHEA conference!

The quality of the presentations was simply outstanding, but what made the event truly special was the good cheer and spirit of openness that you all brought with you. The conversations that spilled out of the panels and into the corridors and coffee breaks and wine bars—those are the moments we'll all remember.

As I said in my closing remarks, the conference doesn't end here. In many ways, this is just the beginning. I encourage you to revisit your notes, reach out to those whose work sparked your interest, and consider future collaborations. Look each other up on LinkedIn, find fellow members in our member database (log in as a member through our website to access it), and follow up!

This conference could not have happened without the support of many generous and hard-working individuals. We are deeply grateful to our gracious hosts—the local university administration and the MTA Pécsi Akadémiai Bizottság Székház—for opening their doors to us so warmly.

Our heartfelt thanks go to our sponsors, including Fulbright Hungary, Helena History Press, PTE BTK and MTA PAB, whose support made many aspects of the conference possible. Special thanks to the musicians Jennyfer Schultz and Sándor Balatoni, for an unforgettable concert at the Pecs Cathedral!

To our board: thank you for your year-round dedication. Every member serves as an unpaid volunteer, giving countless hours behind the scenes to ensure that AHEA thrives. I especially want to recognize Kálmán Magyar, our Treasurer, whose decades-long service has been nothing short of heroic. His kindness and steady hand were instrumental to the success of this (and many past) conferences. We will miss you Kálmán!

We're also grateful to the Program Committee for carefully reviewing the abstracts; to our Chairs for helping us run the conference; to Katalin Vörös and Klára Papp for managing our complicated finances; and to Nóra Deák, who made sure everything ran like clockwork.

Special thanks go to our local dream team in Pécs—Mónika Fodor, Zsolt Máté and Tímea Németh—for their exceptional work and hospitality. And let's not forget our wonderful student volunteers, who were everywhere they needed to be, and the fantastic staff at our venue, who made us feel at home.

As if that weren't enough, a large group of AHEA members just returned from a spectacular three-day post-conference excursion through the southwest of Hungary, with visits to medieval castles, wine tastings, and plenty of unforgettable moments. Expertly organized by Zsolt Máté, this trip brought us even closer together. Thank you, Zsolt, for crafting such a rich and joyful experience. Programs like this are more than just add-ons—they're the heart of what we do, helping us form the friendships that make AHEA such a meaningful professional home.

Looking ahead: **Mark your calendars for AHEA 2026**, which will take place at **Cleveland State University in Cleveland, Ohio, from April 16–18, 2026!** Keep an eye on our newsletters and be on the lookout for the call for papers this fall—we'd love to see you there.

Finally, it has been a true privilege to serve as president of AHEA for the past two years. With this message, I happily pass the baton to our incoming president, Zsuzsanna Varga. I know she will lead the organization with thoughtfulness and vision.

Wishing you all a relaxing, wonderful summer—and see you in Cleveland!

Warm wishes,
Helga Lenart-Cheng



Group picture of the conference participants on the steps of the MTA
MTA Pécsi Akadémiai Bizottság Székház. Photo credit: Viktória Kersák.

2025 Scholarship Winners

In this final newsletter before our summer break, we're delighted to announce the winners of our prestigious [Várdy](#) and [Helena History Press](#) scholarship awards. Congratulations to all the winners and thank you to our review committee and sponsors!

Steven Béla Várdy & Ágnes Huszár Várdy Legacy Scholarship (\$2500): **Péter Hevő**

Helena History Press Scholarship Award (\$2500): **Éva Mathey**

Research Presentation Awards (\$500): **Alexa Stier** and **Rita Szuly**

Best Student Presentation Award: **Alex Stier**

2025-2027 Executive Board Announced

As announced at the annual business meeting during the Pécs conference this month, the Executive Board election results are in. The AHEA officers for the 2025-2027 service term will be:

President: Zsuzsanna Varga

Vice President: Andrew Behrendt

Immediate Past President: Helga Lénárt-Cheng

Secretary: Nóra Deák

Treasurer: Katalin Vörös

Members At Large: Sarah Lucas, Éva Petrás, Mari Réthelyi

Membership Development Chair: Katalin Kádár-Lynn

Members Ex Officio: Klára Papp, Anna Fenyvesi, Judith Némethy

AHEA thanks the outgoing Board members for their service!

**Mark Your Calendars for April 2026:
AHEA returns to Cleveland!**



We are very happy to announce that our 2026 flagship conference will be held at **Cleveland State University** (Ohio, USA) on April 16-18, 2026. The call for papers will be announced this fall.

The Newsletter is Going on Summer Break!

Our newsletter will be taking a summer pause in July and August. We'll resume in September with new Spotlights, conference info, President's Corners, and other exciting updates. Until then, *jó nyaralást!*



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