

## HISTORY OF EDUCATION SOCIETY OUTSTANDING BOOK AWARD FOR 1997

The History of Education Society is pleased to announce that the 1997 Outstanding Book Award has been conferred upon Lawrence Levine for *THE OPENING OF THE AMERICAN MIND: CANONS, CULTURE, AND HISTORY*, published in 1996 by Beacon Press.

Among numerous excellent contenders, *THE OPENING OF THE AMERICAN MIND* particularly impressed the Book Award Committee for its ability to speak to a variety of audiences, from students to historians to policymakers, in well-crafted and compelling prose. Starting with contemporary debates over the university curriculum and the literary canon, Lawrence Levine uses his wide knowledge of educational history to delineate how both the curriculum and the canon came into being and changed over time. In doing so, he demonstrates that both were historically constructed and contingent, and argues that a knowledge of the past should encourage us to welcome rather than fear curricular and canonical debates. By reminding readers that the study of literature "was really not a fixture of American universities until little more than one hundred years ago" (p. 78), that "college curricula do not exist apart from the culture in which they develop" (p. 67), and that "prolonged and acrimonious struggle and debate" (p. 43) have long characterized discussions of curriculum and canon, Levine brings a refreshing historical perspective to bear on current issues. A book of engaging and engaged scholarship, *THE OPENING OF THE AMERICAN MIND* stands out because of its broad scope, scholarly depth, dynamic writing, and ability to open conversations about the history and future of American education.

Jeffrey Mirel, President  
History of Education Society

Outstanding Book Award Committee:

Anne M. Boylan, Chair	Robert Cohen	Daniel Perlstein
University of Delaware	University of Georgia	Vassar College

## **THE HISTORY OF EDUCATION SOCIETY AWARD FOR 1998**

The History of Education Society awards a prize of \$500 every two years for the best article in the history of education, broadly defined to include work on schools, higher education, families, and a wide-range of cultural and educational institutions. The next award will be presented at the fall 1998 meeting of the Society. Articles published in 1996 and 1997 in refereed journals only (no book chapters, please) are eligible; self-nominations are welcome. The deadline for entries is 1 April 1998. Entrants should send six copies of the article to:

Dr. Eileen Tamura  
Curr. Res. & Devel. Grp.  
University of Hawaii  
1776 University Avenue  
Honolulu, HI 96822



## **History of Education Society Jubilee Essay Prize**

The essay competition was established in 1992 to mark twenty-five years of the Society. Its aim is to encourage researchers who have not yet published significant research or who are still working on their theses. The prize to be awarded is fifty pounds and publication in the *Journal* or *Bulletin* if the editors consider the work of sufficient merit. The award will be offered every two years.

The essay should be on the subject of History of Education, which is broadly defined as including work on policy-making, schools, teachers, families and educational institutions. It should be a work of original scholarship; research undertaken as part of a thesis is also eligible. Submissions should be not more than 6000 words long, excluding footnotes, in English, and should be typed using double-spacing. The author's name should appear separately on a cover sheet, giving details including address and degrees (if any). A full set of competition rules can be obtained from the address below.

Three copies should be sent by 31 March 1998 to:  
Dr. Caroline Bowden, History of Education Society, 5 Merthyr Terrace, London SW13 9DL.