Three Johns Hopkins University Press Journals Win Awards

Three Johns Hopkins University Press journals received awards from the Council of Editors of Learned Journals (CELJ) on December 28. The CELJ announced its annual winners at the Modern Language Association conference in Philadelphia.

Ralph Cohen, founding editor of New Literary History, received the Distinguished Literary Editor Award. The award honors a journal editor who has retired in the past three years. A longtime faculty member at the University of Virginia, Cohen stepped down as editor in 2009 after 40 years of leading the journal, a major international forum for scholarly exchange.

“Ralph Cohen is the father of criticism and theory in our time,” says W.J.T. Mitchell, editor of the journal Critical Inquiry. University of Virginia colleague Rita Felski has taken over as editor of NLH

American Quarterly, the official journal of the American Studies Association, received the award for Best Special Issue for the September 2008 issue on Nation and Migration: Past and Future (Volume 60, Number 3). Editor Curtis Marez says, while the topic may appear more frequently in news headlines in recent years, it is not a new subject of research and interest.

“Migration is not a marginal, episodic, or temporary feature of life in the United States, but rather a central and permanent part of it—and hence a topic of ongoing interest for scholars in and around American studies,” he says.

An honorable mention for Best New Journal went to the Journal of Late Antiquity, edited by Ralph Mathisen from the University of Illinois. The competition included journals founded in 2007 or later. The journal was first published in 2008 and is the first international English-language journal dedicated to the study of Late Antiquity.

“A number of people have worked for several years to make this new journal a reality,” says Mathisen. “The recognition from our peers makes the effort of creating a new venue like JLA worthwhile.”

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