



SMALL NATIONS, BIG HISTORIES

2025 WMQ–EMSI Workshop

June 20 - 21, 2025

The Huntington Library in San Marino, California

Sponsored by the *William and Mary Quarterly* and the USC–Huntington Early Modern Studies Institute



Friday, June 20, 2025

9:00 – 9:30 am
Coffee

9:30 – 10:00 am
Welcome and Introductions
Welcome: Julia Gaffield, *William and Mary Quarterly*
Conveners' Introduction: Elizabeth N. Ellis, Princeton University
and Eliga H. Gould, University of New Hampshire

10:00 – 11:00 am

SESSION 1
Emilie Connolly, Brandeis University
“*Tribute, Tolls, Taxes: The Politics of Internal Revenue in Small Native Nations*”
Comment: Alexander Haskell, University of California, Riverside
Chair: Peter Mancall, Early Modern Studies Institute

11:00 am – 12:00 pm

SESSION 2
Lori Daggar, Ursinus College
“*Lenape Sovereignty and the Treaty of Fort Pitt*”
Comment: Chelsea Stieber, Tulane University
Chair: Julia Gaffield, *William and Mary Quarterly*

12:00 – 1:30 pm
Lunch

1:30 – 2:30 pm

SESSION 3
Ryan Hall, Colgate University
“*Small Nations, 'Indian Rings,' and the Kansas Plunder System, 1829-1859*”
Comment: Jessica Roney, Temple University
Chair: Joshua Piker, Omohundro Institute

2:30 – 3:00 pm
Afternoon coffee

3:00 – 4:00 pm

SESSION 4
“*I Have Avenged America: Jean-Jacques Dessalines and Haiti's Fight for Freedom*”
A conversation with Julia Gaffield, *William and Mary Quarterly*
and Scott Wagner, University of Southern California

Saturday, June 21, 2025

9:00 – 9:30 am
Coffee

9:30 – 10:30 am

SESSION 5
Alexander Haskell, University of California, Riverside
“*Virginia Britannia as a Small Nation*”
Comment: Lori Daggar, Ursinus College
Chair: Julia Gaffield, *William and Mary Quarterly*

10:30 – 11:30 am

SESSION 6
Cristina Soriano, University of Texas at Austin
“*The Making of a New Colony: Legal Innovations, 'Colonos' and Slavery in Spanish Trinidad During the Age of Revolutions*”
Comment: Ryan Hall, Colgate University
Chair: Joshua Piker, Omohundro Institute

11:30 am – 1:00 pm
Lunch

1:00 – 2:00 pm

SESSION 7
Chelsea Stieber, Tulane University
“*Routes of Protest: Free People of Color in the French Revolutionary Diasporic Caribbean*”
Comment: Cristina Soriano, University of Texas at Austin
Chair: Peter Mancall, Early Modern Studies Institute

2:00 – 2:30 pm
Afternoon coffee

2:30 – 3:30 pm

SESSION 8:
Jessica Roney, Temple University
“*The Problem of Small Nations Within: Self Determination as a Crisis of US Democracy*”
Comment: Emilie Connolly, Brandeis University
Chair: Julia Gaffield, *William and Mary Quarterly*

3:30 – 4:30 pm

Final Discussion:
Moderators: Elizabeth N. Ellis, Princeton University, and Eliga Gould,
University of New Hampshire