The forty-third annual WSFH conference will be in Chicago, Illinois, from November 5-7, 2015, at the Hyatt Chicago Magnificent Mile. This hotel is located a block off of North Michigan Avenue and two blocks from Lake Michigan, in the exciting heart of the city.

Click [here](#) for the link to the WSFH 2015 Chicago conference website.

To recognize the internal and external economic, cultural, political, and social engagements that characterize a global France, the conference theme is “Exchanges.” Broadly conceived, “Exchanges” involve gendered, religious, geographical, raced, intellectual, and class-based interactions. The concept of exchange also acknowledges the French role in founding Chicago, a city that developed into an American and international crossroads. Our keynote speakers will be Edward Berenson (New York University) and Christelle Taraud (Columbia, New York University, and Vassar & Wesleyan College in Paris).

Please send proposals for panels (preferred) or individual papers as Microsoft Word (ONLY) attachments to Carolyn Eichner, WSFH President and Program Committee Chair ([WSFH-2015Chicago@uwm.edu](mailto:WSFH-2015Chicago@uwm.edu)). Panel proposals should include the following items, integrated into a single Word document: an abstract (one page maximum) for each presenter; a CV including contact information (one page maximum) for each presenter; and the name, affiliation, and e-mail address for the proposed chair and commentator (who should not be the same person).

While we encourage panels that address the theme of “exchanges,” we also welcome sessions focusing on other topics of interest to our scholarly community, from the medieval to the contemporary, both within and beyond the Hexagon. The WSFH encourages interdisciplinary scholarship and the participation of advanced graduate students. We urge individuals to organize complete panels composed of (preferably) three papers, a chair, and a commentator. The Program Committee can help organizers identify chairs and commentators.

The organizers will consider submissions that do not fit the usual conference format or that make innovative use of digital technologies, especially in coordination with H-France. Possible ideas include a workshop panel focusing on a theoretical issue, one session allowing panels an additional 15-minute discussion period, or a Pecha Kucha session. If you are interested in any of these alternatives, or have other creative ideas, please contact us.

The WSFH supports interdisciplinary scholarship and the involvement of advanced graduate students by awarding prizes for outstanding papers presented at the conference in the following areas:

- The best interdisciplinary paper
- The best paper presented by a graduate student on French history post-1800
• The best paper presented by a graduate student on French history and/or connections between France and the wider world pre-1800.

Please remember that all conference participants must be WSFH members in good standing at the time of the conference. RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP at www.wsfh.org.

As in recent years, the WSFH will identify several panels to be recorded and/or webcasted.

The Program Committee is composed of Naomi Andrews, Eliza Ferguson, Jeff Horn, Nina Kushner, Lynn Mollenauer, and Carolyn Eichner (chair).

The Local Arrangements Committee is chaired by Jonathyne Briggs.

See you all in Chicago!