

## MICHAEL DAVID COHEN

James K. Polk Project  
University of Tennessee  
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### CURRENT POSITION

#### University of Tennessee, Knoxville

<b>Research Associate Professor of History</b>	2016–present
Research Assistant Professor	2009–2015
<b>Editor of the Correspondence of James K. Polk</b>	2015–present
Assistant Editor	2009–2015

### EDUCATION

**Harvard University**, Cambridge, MA Ph.D., History, 2008  
Fields: America to 1815, United States since 1815, Comparative Gender History since 1600,  
Ancient Mathematics and its Connections with Philosophy and Culture  
Dissertation: “Reconstructing the Campus: Higher Education and the American Civil War”  
Committee: Nancy F. Cott (advisor), Julie A. Reuben, Susan E. O’Donovan

**Carleton College**, Northfield, MN B.A., *summa cum laude*, History and Mathematics, 2002

### PREVIOUS EDITING AND RESEARCH POSITIONS

**Papers of Elizabeth Cady Stanton & Susan B. Anthony**, Rutgers University, Piscataway, NJ  
Postdoctoral Fellow in Historical Editing 2008–2009

**American Antiquarian Society**, Worcester, MA  
Intern in Graphic Arts Collections summer 2001, summer 2002

**Carleton College**, Northfield, MN  
Research Assistant in History for Prof. Susannah R. Ottaway 2000–2001

**National Agricultural Statistics Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture**, Washington, DC  
Intern in List Frame Section summer 2000

### AUTHORED BOOK

*Reconstructing the Campus: Higher Education and the American Civil War*. A Nation Divided:  
Studies in the Civil War Era. Charlottesville: University of Virginia Press, 2012.

### DOCUMENTARY EDITIONS

Editor, *Correspondence of James K. Polk: Transcriptions, April 1848–June 1849*. Knoxville,  
TN: Newfound Press, forthcoming.

Editor, *Correspondence of James K. Polk*, vol. 13, *August 1847–March 1848*. Knoxville:  
University of Tennessee Press, 2017.

- Coeditor, *Correspondence of James K. Polk*, vol. 12, *January–July 1847*. Edited by Tom Chaffin and Michael David Cohen. Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press, 2013. Published online, Knoxville: Newfound Press, 2015. [http://trace.tennessee.edu/utk\\_polk/3/](http://trace.tennessee.edu/utk_polk/3/).
- Assistant editor, *The Selected Papers of Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony*, vol. 6, *An Awful Hush, 1895 to 1906*. Edited by Ann D. Gordon. New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press, 2013.

#### PEER-REVIEWED ARTICLES

- “School for Suffrage: The American Woman’s Republic.” *The Good Society* 25, no. 2–3 (2016): 209–30.
- “James K. Polk and the Mystery of Amor Patriæ.” *New England Quarterly* 86, no. 2 (June 2013): 266–92.
- “‘What Gender Is Lex?’: Women, Men, and Power Relations in Colleges of the Nineteenth Century.” *Perspectives on the History of Higher Education* 24 (2005): 41–90.
- “Bartlett’s *Familiar Quotations*: ‘A Glancing Bird’s Eye View’ by a ‘Morbid Scholiast.’” *Harvard Library Bulletin*, n.s., 14, no. 2 (Summer 2003): 55–74.

#### OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- Review of *Reparation and Reconciliation: The Rise and Fall of Integrated Higher Education*, by Christi M. Smith. *Register of the Kentucky Historical Society*, forthcoming.
- Review of *University, Court, and Slave: Pro-slavery Thought in Southern Colleges and Courts and the Coming of Civil War*, by Alfred L. Brophy. *Journal of Southern History*, forthcoming.
- Review of *Educational Reconstruction: African American Schools in the Urban South, 1865–1890*, by Hilary Green. *Journal of American Studies*, forthcoming.
- “Polk, James K.” In *America in the World, 1776 to the Present: A Supplement to the Dictionary of American History*, edited by Edward J. Blum, 2:840–42. Farmington Hills, MI: Charles Scribner’s Sons, 2016.
- “The First Desegregation of the University of South Carolina—October 10th, 1873.” The Jubilee Project 2013: Commemorating 150 Years of Emancipation and Educational Access in South Carolina, October 10, 2013. <http://jubileeprojectsc.wordpress.com/2013/10/10/the-first-desegregation-of-the-university-of-south-carolina-october-10th-1873/>.
- “Schools for Soldiers.” In *The New York Times: Disunion: 106 Articles from the New York Times Opinionator: Modern Historians Revisit and Reconsider the Civil War from Lincoln’s Election to the Emancipation Proclamation*, edited by Ted Widmer, 312–15. New York: Black Dog & Leventhal, 2013. First published in *Disunion/Opinionator: Exclusive Online Commentary from the Times*. *New York Times*, July 3, 2012. <http://opinionator.blogs.nytimes.com/2012/07/03/schools-for-soldiers>.
- “Romney’s and Obama’s Competing Visions for Higher Education.” *History News Network*, October 22, 2012. <http://hnn.us/articles/romneys-and-obamas-competing-visions-higher-education>.
- “The War Goes to College.” *Disunion/Opinionator: Exclusive Online Commentary from the Times*. *New York Times*, October 8, 2012. <http://opinionator.blogs.nytimes.com/2012/10/08/the-war-goes-to-college>.
- “Historian as Editor: The Correspondence of James K. Polk.” *The Federalist: Newsletter of the Society for History in the Federal Government*, 2nd ser., no. 31 (Fall 2011): 1, 3–4.

“Belva Lockwood” and “Equal Rights Association.” In *Encyclopedia of Women and American Politics*, edited by Lynne E. Ford, 172–73, 188–89. New York: Facts on File, 2008.  
Review of *Adventures Abroad: North American Women at German-Speaking Universities, 1868–1915*, by Sandra L. Singer. *Paedagogica Historica*, n.s., 41, no. 6 (December 2005): 788–91.

### CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- “The James K. Polk Project: A President’s Letters in Print and Online.” Poster, American Historical Association, Denver, January 5–8, 2017.
- “Absent Authors and Missing Manuscripts: Editing the Letters of James K. Polk.” Manuscript Cultures Minicon, Knoxville, TN, October 29, 2016.
- “One-Term Wonder: The Strong Presidency and Single-Term Pledge of James K. Polk.” Iowa Conference on Presidential Politics, Sioux Center, October 29–31, 2015.
- “School for Suffrage: The American Woman’s Republic, 1911–1915.” History of Education Society, Seattle, November 1–4, 2012.
- “The Civil War Origins of a Federal Role in Education.” Organization of American Historians, Washington, April 7–10, 2010.
- “Missouri, the Civil War, and the Rise of a Comprehensive University.” History of Education Society, Philadelphia, October 22–25, 2009.
- “College Admission and the American Civil War.” History of Education Society, Ottawa, Canada, October 26–29, 2006.
- “‘What Gender Is Lex?’: Women, Men, and Power Relations in Colleges of the Nineteenth Century.” History of Education Society, Kansas City, MO, November 5–7, 2004.
- “Ballots, Beaux, and Arrows: Gender Relations at Carleton College in the Late Nineteenth Century.” Northern Great Plains History Conference, Bismarck, ND, October 27–30, 2004.
- “Bartlett’s *Familiar Quotations*: ‘A Glancing Bird’s Eye View’ by a ‘Morbid Scholiast.’” Society for the History of Authorship, Reading, and Publishing, Claremont, CA, July 9–12, 2003.

### INVITED LECTURES AND MEDIA CONTRIBUTIONS

- Interviewed for and contributed research to podcast documentary about James K. Polk in series *Presidents Are People Too!*, Audible.com, May 2, 2016.
- Lecture on the Civil War’s impact on higher education. Daughters of the American Colonists, Knoxville, TN, Chapter, March 23, 2016.
- “James Knox Polk (1845–1849): Meet America’s Most Important Unknown President.” Annual Presidential Lecture, Northwestern Oklahoma State University, Alva, March 1, 2016. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IysLOYgNYK4>. Followed by presentation to faculty and staff on digital editing and publication, March 2, 2016.
- “Colleges in and after the Civil War.” Twin Cities Civil War Round Table, St. Paul, MN, December 17, 2013.
- Interviewed in radio documentary about Sarah Childress Polk in series *American First Ladies*, Voice of America, Korean Service, June 19, 2013. <http://www.voakorea.com/audio/audio/296895.html>.
- “College Women and Men in the American Civil War.” Wesleyan College, Macon, GA, April 23, 2013.

“The Civil War and the Transformation of American Higher Education.” University of Georgia, Athens, April 22, 2013.

“How Did the Civil War Affect Colleges?” Carleton College, Northfield, MN, February 6, 2013.  
<https://apps.carleton.edu/curricular/history/news-events/speakers/cohen/>.

“Colleges and the Civil War.” Worcester State University, Worcester, MA, November 15, 2012.

### **GRANTS, AWARDS, AND FELLOWSHIPS**

- *Scholarly Editions and Translations Grant*, National Endowment for the Humanities, 2016–2019
- *Publishing Historical Records in Documentary Editions Grants*, National Historical Publications and Records Commission, 2015–2016, 2016–2017, 2017–2018 (as lead grant writer; assisted in writing five earlier grants, 2010–2015)
- *Publication Grants*, Tennessee Historical Commission, 2015–2016, 2016–2017, 2017–2018
- *Scholar of the Week*, University of Tennessee, September 16, 2012, October 31, 2014
- *Linda Eisenmann Prize*, History of Education Society, 2014 (for *Reconstructing the Campus*)
- *Critics Choice Book Award*, American Educational Studies Association, 2014 (for *Reconstructing the Campus*)
- *History Department Publication Grant*, University of Tennessee, 2010
- *Graduate Society Dissertation Completion Fellowship*, Harvard University, 2007–2008
- *Charles Warren Center Summer Research Grants*, Harvard University, 2005, 2006
- *Richard A. Berenson Graduate Fellowship*, Harvard University, 2005–2006
- *CBS Bicentennial Narrators Scholarship*, Harvard University, 2002–2003

### **RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS**

United States History  
Antebellum, Civil War, and Reconstruction Eras  
Political History  
History of Education  
Women’s and Gender History  
Documentary Editing  
Historical Writing and Methods

### **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

#### **University of Tennessee, Knoxville**

- *Graduate Research Assistant Supervisor*, James K. Polk Project, spring 2015, summer 2015, fall 2015, spring 2016, fall 2016
- *Guest Seminar Leader*, The Profession of History, spring 2016
- *Instructor*, History of American Education (independent study), spring 2011

#### **University of Minnesota, Twin Cities**

- *Guest Lecturer*, Disunion: The Civil War and Reconstruction, spring 2013

#### **Harvard University**

- *Teaching Fellow*, American Social History Since 1920, spring 2005, spring 2007
- *Teaching Fellow and Guest Lecturer*, History of American Education, 1636 to 2000, fall 2006

- *Head Teaching Fellow*, The American Civil War: Waging a War in History and Memory, spring 2006
- *Senior Thesis Grader*, History, spring 2005, spring 2006
- *Tutor and Administrative Tutor*, Historical Analysis (sophomore writing), fall 2004, fall 2005
- *Tutor*, Major Themes in American History, spring 2005
- *Senior Thesis Grader and Oral Examiner*, Studies of Women, Gender, and Sexuality, spring 2005

### **Carleton College**

- *Statistics Computer Laboratory Assistant*, 2001–2002
- *Mathematics and Statistics Grader*, 1999–2002
- *Designed Survey Course in U.S. History*, winter 2001
- *Mathematics Skills Center Tutor*, spring 1999

### **ACADEMIC SERVICE**

- *Councilor-at-Large*, Association for Documentary Editing, 2017–present
- *Article Manuscript Reviewer*, *American Nineteenth Century History*, 2015, 2017
- *Book Manuscript Reviewer*, University of Alabama Press, 2016
- *Content Consultant*, *Civil War Causes*, by Michael Capek (Minneapolis: Abdo, 2016)
- *Content Consultant*, *The Emancipation Proclamation*, by Judy Dodge Cummings (Minneapolis: Abdo, 2016)
- *Article Manuscript Reviewer*, *Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography*, 2016
- *Article Manuscript Reviewer*, *History of Education Quarterly*, 2013–2014, 2016
- *Article Manuscript Reviewer*, *New England Quarterly*, 2015
- *Program Committee Member*, History of Education Society, 2010–2015
- *Interview Subject*, East Tennessee History Day, October 26, 2014
- *Conference Session Chair and Discussant*, “Cultures in Conflict and Dialogue,” History of Education Society, Nashville, October 31–November 3, 2013; *Session Chair* at meetings of November 3–6, 2011 (Chicago), November 1–4, 2012 (Seattle)
- *Book Manuscript Reviewer*, Fordham University Press, 2012
- *Historical Manuscript Reviewer*, *Highlights* (children’s magazine), 2012
- *Judge*, East Tennessee History Day, Knoxville, March 1, 2010, March 7, 2011
- *Conference Session Organizer*, “Federal Expansion in the Civil War Era,” Organization of American Historians, Washington, April 7–10, 2010
- *Selection Committee Chair*, Ferguson Prize for best sophomore essay, Harvard University, 2006; *Committee Member*, 2005
- *History Student Departmental Advisor*, Carleton College, 2001–2002

### **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

- *Institute for the Editing of Historical Documents*, National Historical Publications and Records Commission and Wisconsin Historical Society, Madison, WI, July 2008
- *Christensen Discussion Seminar*, Derek Bok Center for Teaching and Learning, Harvard University, 2005–2006
- *Graduate Writing Fellow*, Derek Bok Center for Teaching and Learning, Harvard University, fall 2005

**PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

American Historical Association  
Association for Documentary Editing  
Organization of American Historians

**VISITING POSITIONS**

Center for Studies in Higher Education, Univ. of California, Berkeley Visiting Scholar, July 2004  
Nuffield College, University of Oxford, UK Affiliate, July 2003