

Dear EBHA Member,

The current pandemic emergency has, of course, affected the events that our organization had planned over the next months. The Council has therefore held an emergency meeting in order to ensure continuity for the time being, until a (much needed) comeback to normality will allow EBHA to return to its usual life as a scientific association.

2nd World Congress of Business History (WCBH)

The WCBH, jointly organized by the EBHA and the Business History Society of Japan, was **planned to** take place in Nagoya, Japan, in September.

Following extensive consultation with different stakeholders, the BHSJ and EBHA have decided to **postpone** the 2nd World Congress of Business History until **2021**. The rearranged Congress will take place in late August or early September 2021 (the exact dates are to be confirmed) at the same location as planned for this year - Nanzan University in Nagoya, Japan.

Please note that **ALL papers and panels accepted for the WCBH 2020 remain confirmed** and maintain their status for the WCBH 2021 (unless authors or panel organizers wish to withdraw). The organizers will accept changes in titles, reflecting the progress of research undertaken in the meantime. All authors and panel organizers will receive a separate email with specific instructions. In order to open the conference for new colleagues that were not able to join the WCBH in 2020, but could possibly join in 2021, the organizers will issue a second call for panels/papers for the congress, keeping the same topic "Business History in a Changing World".

Further information will be posted on the Congress website (<http://bhs.ssoj.info/WCBH2020/index.html>). Please direct your questions and inquiries to the Congress contact email: ProgramCommittee@worldbhc.org.

EBHA Summer School 2020

The current pandemic has also forced the EBHA to cancel the 10th edition of the Summer School planned in Barcelona in July, 2020. This unfortunate situation, however, does not diminish the gratitude EBHA owes to the local organizers and supporting institutions, and in particular to Paloma Fernández and Veronica Binda for their outstanding job and the effort they put in the organization of the initiative. In order to keep the momentum, the Council has agreed to organize the Summer School remotely: guest speakers will convene lectures and participate in seminars and discussions, and PhD student will present their work - all using online media. Veronica Binda kindly agreed to take care of this temporary "transition" of the Summer School to an online format. The Council is also exploring the possibility of re-starting the Summer School in its usual format already in the summer of 2021, in a location to be communicated.

Other EBHA activities in 2020

In order to keep our organization working as a lively scientific community, the Council has decided to propose to the membership some initiatives which will take place during the summer, of course **on-line**. A sub-committee headed by the EBHA President has been created inside the

council to plan those initiatives. A new communication will be sent out soon to the membership about the planned activities.

Future EBHA Conferences

The decision to postpone the World Congress to 2021 will affect the planned schedule of our future conferences. The organizers of the next Conference have kindly agreed to postpone that event. Therefore, after Nagoya in 2021, the 25th EBHA Conference will take place in Madrid in 2022.

Dear EBHA Member, let me express my personal, deep regret for this unfortunate situation. Above all, I will miss very much the opportunity that our Congress provides for meeting new colleagues, for the exchange of ideas, and for wider intellectual enrichment. I will equally miss the opportunity of simply enjoying your company at the official (but also non-official) events. However, I want to reassure each of you that the Council and the Officers will do everything in their capacity to keep our Association flourishing, even in these difficult times.

The EBHA President, representing the Council

Andrea Colli

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrea Colli". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a prominent initial 'A'.