

# JOHN R. THELIN

June 2020

## Education

A.B., Brown University (European History) cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa (1969)  
M.A., University of California, Berkeley (American History) (1972)  
Ph.D., University of California, Berkeley (History of Education) (Regents Fellow) (1973)

## Professional Positions

1996-2020: University of Kentucky (Lexington, Kentucky)

University Research Professor (Selected April 2001)  
Professor, Educational Policy Studies & Evaluation Dept.  
Professor (Secondary Appointment), Martin School of Public Policy (2010)  
University Alumni Association “Great Teacher” Award (Selected February 2004)  
University Provost’s Award for Teaching (April 2006)  
University’s Sturgill Award for Outstanding Faculty Contribution to Graduate Studies (May 2014)  
Outstanding Research Award (Association for the Study of Higher Education) (ASHE) Awarded November 19, 2011  
Exemplary Research Award (American Educational Research Association, Division J: Postsecondary Education) (April 2007)  
National Education Association Award for Article of the Year on Higher Education and Democracy (March 2008)  
National Collegiate Athletic Association: Charter Member, Research Advisory Board and Symposium Co-Chair on the Economics of College Sports (2008-11)  
Council for the Advancement & Support of Education (CASE) Award for Outstanding Published Research on Philanthropy & Education (2013)

1993-1996: Indiana University (Bloomington, Indiana)

Professor, History of Higher Education & Philanthropy  
Center for Philanthropy: Faculty Executive Committee  
American Studies Program Faculty

1981-1993: The College of William & Mary (Williamsburg, Virginia)

Chancellor Professor (Selected 1987)  
Professor, School of Education (promoted August 1986)  
Phi Beta Kappa Award for Faculty Advancement of Scholarship (1986)  
Director, Higher Education Doctoral Program (1981-92)  
Member, American Studies Program Faculty (1981-93)  
Member, Public Policy Studies Program Faculty (1987-93)  
President, Faculty Assembly (1990-91)

1979-1981: Association of Independent California Colleges & Universities  
Research Director and Assistant Director, and,  
Claremont Graduate School, Higher Education Program Faculty

Major Research Grants: Principal Investigator

The Spencer Foundation: “Games Colleges Play: Scandal and Reform in Intercollegiate Athletics, 1890 to Present,” (1988-1991)

The Spencer Foundation: “Research Universities in the South since 1890” (1999-2002)

The Kentucky Humanities Council: “Campus and Commonwealth: Town and Gown in Kentucky” (2004-2005)

The Aspen Institute: “Time is of the Essence: Foundations and the Policies of Limited Life Endowment Spend-Down” (2008-2009) (with Richard Trollinger).

Publications: Books and Monographs

A History of American Higher Education (Baltimore and London: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 2004; second edition, 2011; third edition, 2019)

Going to College in the Sixties (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2018).

American Higher Education: Issues & Institutions (New York and London: Routledge, 2017) 366 pages.

Essential Documents in the History of American Higher Education (Baltimore and London: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 2014).

Philanthropy and American Higher Education (New York: Palgrave Macmillan 2015) co-author with Richard W. Trollinger.

The Rising Costs of Higher Education (Santa Barbara, California; Denver, Colorado; and Oxford, England: ABC CLIO Publishers, 2013).

The Attrition Tradition in American Higher Education: Connecting Past and Present,” AEI Future of American Education Project (Washington, D.C.: American Enterprise Institute Monograph 2009).

Time is of the Essence: Foundations and Policies of Limited Life and Endowment Spend Down (Washington, D.C.: The Aspen Institute, October 2009) co-authored with Richard Trollinger.

One Hundred Classic Books About Higher Education: A Compendium and Essays (Bloomington, Indiana: Phi Delta Kappa, 2001) co-author with Cameron Fincher, George Keller, and E. Grady Bogue).

Games Colleges Play: Scandal and Reform in Intercollegiate Athletics (Baltimore and London: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1994) (second edition, 1997).

The Uneasy Public Policy Triangle in Higher Education: Quality, Diversity and Budgetary Efficiency (New York: American Council on Education and Macmillan, 1991) (co-editor with David H. Finifter and Roger G. Baldwin).

The Old College Try: Balancing Academic and Athletics in Higher Education (Washington, D.C.: ASHE-ERIC Higher Education Series, 1989, co-author with Lawrence Wiseman)

Higher Education and Its Useful Past: Applied History in Research and Planning (Cambridge, Massachusetts: Schenkman Publishing Company, 1982).

The Cultivation of Ivy: A Saga of the College in America (Cambridge, Massachusetts: Schenkman Publishing Company, 1976)

#### Publications: Books Translated

**美国高等教育史** (Author) **約翰·特林**

A History of American Higher Education – translated into Chinese and published jointly by the University of Beijing Press and the Johns Hopkins University Press (2014)

#### Publications: Articles in Scholarly Journals

“Academic Experts and the Enterprising University: The Transformation of Policies and Purposes in Higher Education after World War II,” Society (December 2019) vol. 56, no. 6. pp. 635-647.

“An Embarrassment of Riches: Admissions and Ambition in American Higher Education,” Society (July 2019) vol. 56, no. 4.

“Games Colleges Play in Presidential Searches,” Inside Higher Ed (August 22, 2019).

“Missions Impossible: Prospects and Planning in American Higher Education,” Society (December 2018, Volume 55, Issue 6, pp 556–559.

“Why Did College Cost So Little?: Affordability and Higher Education a Century Ago,” Society (November/December 2015) vol. 52, no. 6, pp. 585-589.

“Regional Pride and Prejudice in Programs and Policies: Higher Education in the West,” History of Education Quarterly (May 2015) vol. 55, no. 2. Pp. 248-253.

“From Sports Page to Front Page: Intercollegiate Athletics and American Higher Education,” in Eddie Comeaux, editor, Introduction to Intercollegiate Athletics (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2015) pp. 3-13.

“Success and Excess: The Contours and Character of American Higher Education Since 1960,” Society (February 20, 2013) pp. 1-9.

“Numbers, Please!,” History of Education Quarterly (Spring 2013) vol. 53, no. 2., pp. 150-156.

“Princeton in the Nation’s Spotlight: Woodrow Wilson and Princeton in the Era of the University Builders, 1880 to 1910,” in James Axtell, Editor, The Educational Legacy of Woodrow Wilson (Charlottesville, Virginia: University of Virginia Press. 2012) pp. 74-96.

“‘Forever is a Long Time:’ Reconsidering Universities’ Perpetual Endowment Policies in the Twenty-First Century,” History of Intellectual Culture (vol. 9, no. 1) 2010/11 (published 2012), pp. 1-17. Co-authored with Richard W. Trollingier.

“Universities in North America,” in Fernando Tejerina, Editor, The University: An Illustrated History (Madrid, Spain: Santander Publishers of Turner Libros, and Overland Press in the United States, 2011) pp. 214-243.

“Research Universities in the South” in Clarence Mohr, Editor, Education -- vol. 17 of The New Encyclopedia of Southern Culture (Chapel Hill, North Carolina: University of North Carolina Press. 2011) co-authored with Amy E. Wells Dolan, pp. 114-119.

“All That Glittered Was Not Gold: Rethinking Higher Education’s Golden Age, 1945 to 1970,” in Joseph Hermanowicz, Editor, The American Academic Profession: Transformation in Contemporary Higher Education (Baltimore and London: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 2011) pp. 332-349.

“Higher Education and Public Policies,” in Paul J. Quirk and William Cunion, Editors, Governing America: Major Decisions of Federal, State and Local Governments from 1789 to the Present (New York: Facts on File Books, 2011) pp. 481-488.

“College Sports Since World War II: An Essay Review,” History of Education Quarterly (August 2011) vol. 51, no. 3, pp. 389-396.

“Horizontal History and Higher Education,” in Marybeth Gasman, Editor, The History of U.S. Higher Education: Methods for Understanding the Past (New York and London: Routledge. 2010) pp. 71-83.

“Talk is Not Cheap: The University and the National Project – A Historical Perspective,”

David Feith, Editor, Teaching America: The Case for Civic Education ( New York: Rowman & Littlefield Education, 2010 ) pp. 151-160.

“College Students and the Curriculum: The Fantastic Voyage of Higher Education, 1636 to the Present,” The Journal of the National Academic Advising Association (Fall 2009) vol. 29, n o. 2, pp. 9-17. co-authored with Amy S. Hirschy.

“Historical Over-View of American Higher Education,” chapter for The Student Services Handbook (Jossey-Bass: San Francisco, 2010) (5<sup>th</sup> edition) (co-authored with Prof. Mary Beth Gasman of the University of Pennsylvania) pp. 3-23.

“Foreword” to William Weston’s. Centre College: Gentlemen, Scholars, and Christians (Danville, Kentucky: Centre College, 2010) pp. 1-v.

“Campus Life Revealed: Tracking Down the Rich Resources of American Collegiate Fiction,” (co-authored with Christian K. Anderson), The Journal of Higher Education (January/February 2009) vol. 80, no. 1, pp. 106-113).

“Access and Excess: A Historical Perspective on Selective College Admissions,” The Journal of Higher Education (January-February 2008) vol. 79, no. 1, pp. 113-123.

“Expectations & Reality in American Higher Education,” Thought & Action: The National Education Association Higher Education Journal (Fall 2007), pp. 1-12.

“Higher Education’s Student Financial Aid Enterprise in Historical Perspective,” in Frederick M. Hess, Editor, Footing the Tuition Bill: The New Student Loan Sector (Washington, D.C.: American Enterprise Institute, 2007) pp. 19-41.

“La Place du Sport Universitaire aux Etats-Unis,” in Francoise Hiraux, editor, Les Engagements Etudiants: Des Pratiques et des Horizons ans Un Monde Globalise (Louvain-LaNeuve, Belgique: Academia Bruylant, 2008) pp. 61-76.

“Small By Design: Resilience in an Era of Mass Higher Education,” in John R. Thelin, Alvin Sanoff, and Welch Suggs, Meeting the Challenge: America’s Independent Colleges and Universities since 1956 (Washington, D.C.: Council of Independent Colleges, 2006) pp. 3-36.

“The Best of Times, the Worst of Times: Sports Programs and Educational Institutions in the United States,” Journal of the Study of Sports and Athletes in Education (Winter 2007) vol. 1, issue 1, pp. 7-14.

“Higher Education and the Public Trough,” in Edward St. John and Michael Parsons, Editors, Public Funding of Higher Education: Changing Contexts and New Rationales (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2004) pp. 22-39.

"Higher Education's Best Made Plans: A Historical Perspective," The Review of Higher Education (Winter 2003) vol. 26, no. 2, pp. 267-274.

"Academics on Athletics: Review Essay," Journal of Higher Education (May/June 2002) vol. 73, no. 3, pp. 409-419.

"Historical Overview of American Higher Education," in Susan Komives and Dudley Woodard, Editors, Student Services: A Handbook for the Profession (San Francisco: Jossey-Bass, 2003) (Fourth edition) pp. 3-21.

"Campus and Community: A World Turned Inside Out?," The Review of Higher Education (Fall 2001) vol. 25, no. 1, pp. 1-14 (ASHE Presidential Address).

"Good Sports?: A Historical Perspective on the Political Economy of Intercollegiate Athletics in the Era of title IX, 1972 to 1997," The Journal of Higher Education (July/August 2000) vol. 71, no. 4, pp. 391-410.

"Picture Perfect: Postcards and the Images of the American Campus," in John B. Hawley & Craig Kridel, editors, "Having a Great Time:" The Hawley Higher Education Postcard Collection (Columbia, S.C.: University of South Carolina, 2001) pp. 13-40.

"Institutional History in Our Own Time: Higher Education's Shift from Managerial Revolution to Enterprising Evolution," The CASE International Journal of Educational Advancement (June 2000) vol. 1, no. 1, pp. 9-23.

"A Legacy of Lethargy?: Curricular Change in Historical Perspective," Peer Review (Journal of the Association of American Colleges & Universities) (Summer 2000) vol. 2, no. 4) pp. 9-14.

"Thanks for the Memories: The Fusion of Quantitative and Qualitative Research on College Students and the College Experience," in John C. Smart, Editor, Higher Education: Handbook of Theory and Research (Vol. VI) (New York: Agathon Press, 1990), pp. 337-360 (with R. Baldwin).

"Higher Education's Odd Couple: The Campus Archives and the Office of Institutional Research," Higher Education: Handbook of Theory and Research (Vol. V) (New York: Agathon Press, 1989) (with M. V. Krotseng), pp. 180-197.

"Fiction to Fact: College Novels and the study of Higher Education," Higher Education: Handbook of Theory and Research (Vol. IV) (New York: Agathon Press, 1988) (with Barbara K. Townsend), pp. 183-211.

#### Publications: Op-Ed Essays

"Turbulence for Boeing: A Crisis of Corporations and Curriculum," The EvoLLLution (January 30, 2020) co-authored with Eric Weber.

"Games Colleges Play in Presidential Searches," Inside Higher Ed (August 22, 2019).

“More Lore than Law: The Dartmouth College Case and the Myth of the Purely Private College,” HistPhil (July 30, 2019).

“Long considered a high honor, the valedictorian tradition faces an uncertain future,” The Conversation (May 14, 2019)

“Admissions, Athletics and the Academic Index,” Inside Higher Ed (April 3, 2019).

“Beyond Blackface: How College Yearbooks Captured Protest and Change,” Inside Higher Ed (March 13, 2019).

“Lots of Lots of People Won New Rights in the 1960s, but Not College Women Athletes,” Washington Post(History News Network) January 13, 2019.

“Mysteries of Ivy League Admissions, Past and Present,” Inside Higher Ed (November 5, 2018).

“Thanks for the Memories: College Yearbooks as a Historical Source,” Inside Higher Ed (October 24, 2018).

“Why College Costs Soared as More Students Enrolled,” Washington Post (October 14, 2018) History Perspectives Op Ed.

“Paying College Athletes: How Will Colleges Afford the Price?,” Inside Higher Ed (February 12, 2018).

“California Higher Education: From American Dream to American Dilemma,” The Conversation (November 1, 2017).

"The Campus Buildings Name Game: Unfinished Business," Inside Higher Ed (February 27, 2017).

“Forever Is a Long, Long Time: Colleges Should Re-Think Perpetual Endowments,” Inside Higher Ed (November 3, 2015).

“An American Dilemma: Rising Costs and Prices of Higher Education,” in The European (February 24, 2015).

“The Big Book,” The Chronicle of Higher Education in “The Chronicle Review” (November 10, 2014).

“A Prophet of Higher Education’s Financial Woes,” The Chronicle of Higher Education (October 8, 2014).

“The Gates Foundation’s Uncertain Legacy,” The Chronicle of Higher Education (July 14, 2013) Special Report section.

“The Diversity of College Diversity,” History News Network (June 19, 2011).

“State Universities’ Tradition of Attrition.” Inside Higher Ed (October 15, 2009)..

“How To Bail Out Public Universities,” Chronicle of Higher Education (October 18, 2009)..

“Lexington Man Opened Doors George Wallace Tried to Block,” Lexington Herald-Leader (17 January 2006) p. A7.

"Higher Education's Odd Couple: The Campus Archives and the Office of Institutional Research," Higher Education: Handbook of Theory and Research (Vol. V) (New York: Agathon Press, 1989) (with M. V. Krotseng), pp. 180-197.

"Fiction to Fact: College Novels and the study of Higher Education," Higher Education: Handbook of Theory and Research (Vol. IV) (New York: Agathon Press, 1988) (with Barbara K. Townsend), pp. 183-211.

#### Book Reviews published since 2000

Review of Winton Solberg’s Creating the Big Ten: Courage, Corruption, and Commercialization in the Journal of American History, Volume 106, Issue 1, (June 2019) Pages 222–223,

Review of James Hunt, University of Nike: How Corporate Cash Bought American Higher Education for Philanthropy & Education (Spring 2019) vol. 2, no. 2, pp. 111-113.

Review of Steven J. Diner. Universities and Their Cities: Urban Higher Education in America in History of Education Quarterly (November 2018) vol. 58, no. 4, pp. 599-602

Review of LaDale C. Winling’s Building the Ivory Tower: Universities and Metropolitan Development in the Twentieth Century. In The American Historical Review, Volume 123, Issue 4, October 2018, Pages 1330–1333.

Essay Review, “From ‘Wisdom’s Workshop’ to ‘The Knowledge Factory’” in Academe (American Association of University Professors) (January-February 2017) pp. 41-42.

Review of Margaret Summer’s Collegiate Republic: Cultivating an Ideal Society in Early America Journal of Interdisciplinary History (Summer 2015) ( co-authored with David M. Brown).

Review of Simon J. Bronner’s Campus Traditions: Folklore from the Old-Time College to the Modern Mega-University in History of Education Quarterly (August 2013) vol. 53, no. 3, pp. 301-304 (co-authored with David M. Brown).



“Legacies of the Land Grant Universities: The Politics of Populism and American Higher Education” Essay Review of Scott Gelber’s The University and the People, published in Educational Researcher (March 2012) vol. 41, no. 2, pp. 71-72.

Review of Martin Trow with Michael Burrage, Twentieth-Century Higher Education: Elite to Mass to Universal published in the Journal of Higher Education (May/June 2011) (vol. 82, no. 3) pp. 347-349.

Review of John B. Boles’ University Builder: Edgar Odell Lovett and the Founding of the Rice Institute published in History of Education Quarterly (November 2010) vol. 50, no. 4, pp. 546-549.

Review of Jonathan Cole’s The Great American University published in the Journal of American History (in press 2011).

Review of Charles Martin’s Benching Jim Crow: The Rise and Fall of the Color Line in Southern College Sports, 1890 to 1980 to be published in the Journal of Southern History

Review of Blake Gumprecht’s The American College Town for the History of Education Quarterly (August 2010) vol. 50, no. 3, pp. 402-404.

Review of Jim Downs and Jennifer Manion, Editors, Taking Back the Academy: History of Activism, History as Activism, The Journal of American History (June 2007) pp. 344-346.

Review of Robert Birnbaum’s Speaking of Higher Education: The Academic’s Book of Quotations in The Review of Higher Education (Winter 2006) pp. 251-253.

Review of Andrew Schlesinger’s Veritas: A History of Harvard in The Register of the Kentucky Historical Society (Autumn 2005) vol. 103, no. 4, pp. 780-781.

Review of Christopher Newfield’s Ivy and Industry: Business and the Making of the American University, 1880-1980 for Journal of American History (March 2005) vol. 91, no. 4., pp. 1502-1503.

Review of William Bowen and Sarah Levin, Reclaiming the Game: College Sports and Educational Values for Journal of Higher Education (January 2005) vol. 76, no. 1, pp. 107-109.

Review of Clark Kerr’s The Gold and the Blue: A Personal Memoir of the University of California, 1949-1967 in Academe (American Association of University Professors) (July-August 2003) pp. 65-67.

Review of Thomas Neville Bonner’s Iconoclast: Abraham Flexner and a Life in Learning in The Journal of Higher Education (May-June 2003) pp. 362-363.

Review of Morton Keller and Phyllis Keller, Making Harvard Modern: The Rise of America's University for American Historical Review (December 2002) pp. 1578-1579.

Review of Eric Anderson and Alfred A. Moss's Dangerous Donations: Northern Philanthropy and Southern Black Education, 1902-1930 in History of Education Quarterly (Winter 2000) vol. 40, no. 4.

#### Selected Papers and Presentations since 2000

"The Land Grant Act in Perspective," The Cato Institute (Washington, D.C.) February 12, 2019.

"The Higher Education Act," Congressional Briefing (Washington, D.C.: The Rayburn Building, February 16, 2018) (Sponsored by the National History Center).

"Brown University and the Education of America: Brown's Dynamic Duo of Meiklejohn and Wriston as Public Intellectuals," Brown University 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration forum (April 23, 2015) Providence, Rhode Island.

"Why Did College Cost So Little? Affordability and Higher Education a Century Ago," scholarly research paper presented at the Association for the Study of Higher Education national conference (November 12, 2014) Washington, D.C.

"Academic Procession: Presidents and Professors from Past to Present," The 24<sup>th</sup> Annual McBee Lecture on Higher Education, University of Georgia (November 1, 2012).

"Success and Excess: The Contours and Character of American Higher Education Since 1960," research paper presented at The Manhattan Institute symposium (The University Club of New York City, October 26, 2012)

"Forever is a Long Time: Reconsidering Universities' Perpetual Endowment Policies in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century," scholarly research paper presented at the national conference of the Association for the Study of Higher Education (ASHE) in Indianapolis, Indiana. (November 19, 2010)

"Princeton in the Nation's Spotlight: Woodrow Wilson and Princeton in the Era of the University Builders, 1880 to 1910," Scholarly Research Paper presented at Symposium on the Educational Legacy of Woodrow Wilson, at Princeton University (October 14, 2009)

"A Part But Apart: Academics and Athletics in the American College and University," keynote address for the NCAA Research Colloquium, National Collegiate Athletic Association Annual Conference (Nashville, Tennessee) (January 11, 2008).

"Archives and the Campus: Our Past, Present and Future," keynote address for the annual conference of the New England Archivists Association (University of Connecticut: Storrs, Connecticut) (October 12, 2007).

“Higher Education’s Sacred Ground: The Land Grant Legacy,” Invited Speaker for The Stokes Lecture, College of Agriculture, University of Kentucky (December 8, 2006)

Paper Presentation, “Higher Education’s Student Financial Aid Enterprise in Historical Perspective,” American Enterprise Institute Conference, Washington, D.C. (September 24, 2006).

“L’Engagement extra-academique des etudiants aux Etats Unis,” Conference at L’Universite de Louvaine La Neuve (Belgium) October 18-19, 2006.

“Historians and American Higher Education,” keynote address for the Institute of Higher Education, University of Georgia 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Symposium (September 10, 2004) (Athens, Georgia).

"The Ivy League," keynote address for Harvard Athletic Association Sesquicentennial Colloquium (September 20, 2002) Harvard University: Cambridge, Massachusetts.

“How the South Won the Civil War (of Federal Research & Development): S.U.R.A. and Competition for Applied Physics Grants, 1979-1989,” Southern History of Education Society Conference (March 17, 2000) Columbia, South Carolina.

“Building Support for the University,” for Herman B Wells Celebration, Indiana University (September 21, 2000) Bloomington, Indiana.