



# Society for Military History

The Society for Military History joins with the American Historical Association and other scholarly organizations opposing proposals pending in the Wisconsin state legislature that threaten to undermine several longstanding features of the state's current higher education system: shared governance, tenure, and academic freedom.

The University of Wisconsin has played a significant role in the growth of the academic study of military history and the leadership of the Society for Military History. Over the past eighty years, the University of Wisconsin has produced some of the most prolific and influential military historians of the past several generations. These include renowned Civil War historians (T. Harry Williams, Richard Current, and Joseph Glatthaar); prolific and influential authors (Stephen Ambrose); a former chief historian of the U.S. Air Force (Richard H. Kohn), the current editor of *The Journal of Military History* (Bruce Vandervort), the editor of *The Papers of George Catlett Marshall* (Mark Stoler), military records archivists (Timothy K. Nenner) and four past presidents of the Society for Military History. Among these was Edward M. (Mac) Coffman, who has influenced the field both as a scholar and educator of graduate students. Dozens of uniformed military personnel have received graduate degrees in History at the University of Wisconsin, including GEN Montgomery C. Meigs IV, who ultimately became Commander of U.S. Army Europe/Seventh Army.

The contributions of the University of Wisconsin to the field of military history came from an environment that allowed students to develop critical reasoning skills within seminars taught by eminent professors who were both teachers and scholars and had the freedom to explore complicated and controversial questions in their classrooms and scholarship without fearing for their job security.

The Society for Military History, founded in 1933, is devoted to stimulating and advancing the study of military history. Its membership (today more than 2700) has included many of the world's most prominent scholars, soldiers, and citizens interested in military history.

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