CONTRIBUTORS

Patrick Manning is Andrew W. Mellon Professor of World History and Director of the World History Center at the University of Pittsburgh. From a base in African economic history he became a world historian focusing on demography, migration, and overviews of world history. His recent books include *The African Diaspora: A History through Culture* (Columbia University Press, 2009) and *Big Data in History* (Palgrave Pivot, 2013). He is President-Elect of the American Historical Association, to serve as president during calendar 2016.

Qiyao Wang is a fourth-year doctoral student in the Department of Statistics at the University of Pittsburgh. Before arriving in Pittsburgh, she received her Bachelor of Science degree from Wuhan University in China. She is currently a graduate student researcher in the CHIA project, World History Center, working on silver data and African slave population projects. Her dissertation focuses on creating statistical test procedures in the field of functional data analysis.

Bowen Yi is a fourth-year PhD student in the Department of Statistics at the University of Pittsburgh. His main research area is stochastic modeling. Over the last two summers he has been working on developing a program for modeling African populations. His contributions to this project include revising the program and running simulations for different needs.

Vladimir I. Zadorozhny is an Associate Professor in the School of Information Sciences, University of Pittsburgh. He received his Ph.D. in 1993 from the Institute for Problems of Informatics, Russian Academy of Sciences in Moscow. Before coming to the USA he was a Principal Researcher in the Institute of System Programming, Russian Academy of Sciences. His research interests include networked information systems, heterogeneous information fusion, complex adaptive systems, crowdsourcing technologies, scalable personalized learning, wireless and sensor data management, query optimization in resource-constrained distributed environments, and scalable architectures for wide-area environments with heterogeneous information servers. Dr. Zadorozhny has chaired and served on program committees of multiple database and distributed computing conferences and workshops.

Yun Zhang is a fourth-year doctoral student in the Department of Statistics at the University of Pittsburgh. Before she joined Pitt, she received her Bachelor of Science degree from Wuhan University in China. She previously studied at the Ohio State University and Zhejiang University. In 2013 she served as a research assistant at the

University of Pittsburgh World History Center, designing and executing MCMC analysis. Her dissertation focuses on cluster analysis and network community detection with application to neuroscience.