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HoM Toolbox: Historiography and Methodology for Mathematicians

How and where do mathematicians learn to research and write history? How easily can they find out about current methods and discussions by historians of mathematics and science? MAA Convergence is helping address both questions with a new article series that will give an overview of professional practice in history and provide examples of how historians of mathematics have applied specific methods and theories of historical interpretation. The initial installment considers:

1. What is history? Why should readers want to research and write it well?
2. How do we know about the past?
3. How do we create history based on what we know about the past?
4. What is the history of the history of mathematics?
5. How can readers articulate their own philosophies of the history of mathematics?

This talk will focus on the fifth activity as an exercise that not only encourages researchers, educators, and students to consume quality scholarship in the history of mathematics but also calls them to join the effort to produce original research in this field. I will end the presentation by asking for audience feedback on what mathematicians new to the endeavor need to know to research and write the history of mathematics.