



## **DR. CARLA J MULFORD**

Dr. Mulford, a scholar of British and American studies and founding president of the Society of Early Americanists, has taught at Penn State University for nearly 40 years. She has won two major Penn State teaching awards, in addition to receiving research fellowships for her scholarship from the American Council of Learned Societies, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the Alexander von Humboldt/Yale Macmillan Center History Network, and the New Jersey Historical Commission. In addition to publishing nearly two dozen essays and book chapters on Franklin, Dr. Mulford published "The Cambridge Companion to Benjamin Franklin" in 2009 and a well-received monograph, "Benjamin Franklin and the Ends of Empire" in 2015. A new book under the title "Benjamin

Franklin's Electrical Diplomacy" is currently being reviewed for publication. Continuing her work on Franklin's diplomacy, she has undertaken a new book tentatively titled, "Benjamin Franklin, Mediterranean Piracy, and American Slavery."

---

## **DR. MICHELLE CRAIG McDONALD**

Dr. McDonald is the Librarian/Director of the Library & Museum at the American Philosophical Society, founded by Benjamin Franklin in 1743, and holder of over 80 percent of Franklin's correspondence. She has worked for nearly three decades as an educator and administrator. McDonald is the author of "Coffee Nation: How One Commodity Transformed the Early United States," published in 2025, and co-author of "Public Drinking in the Early Modern World: Voices from the Tavern," which appeared in 2011. Her research focuses on early American trade and consumer behavior, and has received support from the Fulbright Foundation, National Endowment for the Humanities, Harvard Business School, McNeil Center for Early American Studies, Library Company of Philadelphia, the Winterthur Museum, Garden and Library, and the New Jersey Historical Commission. She has served on the governing boards of the Association of Caribbean Historians, the Society for Historians of the Early American Republic, and the Independent Research Library Association.

