

School hosts Midlands History Forum

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The School of Education was proud to host the annual Midlands History Forum Conference in October with the keynote speaker, Professor Simon Schama.

The **Midlands History Forum (<http://mhfonline.info>)** is a voluntary organization that supports teachers in Birmingham. It aims to support everyone involved in the teaching of history - teachers in state and private schools; university and college lecturers and students in Initial Teacher Training; LEA advisers and private consultants; and other providers such as museums officers and publishers. Their activities cover a wide range of educational provision from the Foundation Stage, through to AS/A level.

The theme of this year's conference was *A Brighter Future for History* and focused on the present state of history teaching in schools and possible future developments.

Professor Schama attended the conference and addressed the forum in the morning. In the afternoon he attended the 'History Subjects Associations' meeting; both events enabled him to listen and respond to the views of academic historians as well as trainee and practicing teachers of history.

Professor Shama, who has been asked by The Secretary of State for Education to oversee a review of the History National Curriculum, expressed how useful this experience had been and how it would influence his final report.

To find out more about the this event and the Midlands History Forum, please contact **[Russell Manning](/staff/profiles/education/manning-russell.aspx)**.

