

ICOHTEC

NEWSLETTER



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Newsletter of the International Committee for the History of Technology ICOHTEC

Editor: Stefan Poser, Helmut-Schmidt-University Hamburg, Modern Social, Economic and Technological History, Holstenhofweg 85, D-22043 Hamburg, Germany, poser@hsu-hh.de

Editorial

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

Today I have sad news: Ahmad Yousef Hassan Gabarin, who was an ICOHTEC member for many years, passed away. The Newsletter gives an obituary.

In order to make ICOHTEC more democratic for its members, ICOHTEC's Executive Committee elections were held on-line for the first time. Our president James Williams informs about the results. In order to prepare our Barcelona symposium (10-14 July 2012) the Newsletter publishes a bibliography of books edited or written by ICOHTEC members since last year. Thank you for your submissions!

We still have some copies of early issues of ICON; please feel free to order them by the attached form.

It will be a pleasure to meet many of you soon!

Best wishes

Stefan Poser

Contents

I. Ahmad Yousef Hassan Gabarin	p. 2
II. ICOHTEC – Election results and Bibliography	p. 2
III. Conference Reports	p. 8
IV. Conference Announcements	p. 8
V. Awards	p. 17
VI. Recently Published Books	p. 17
VII. Join ICOHTEC	p. 17

I. Ahmad Yousef Hassan Gabarin

Ahmad Yousef Hassan Gabarin, ICOHTEC member and professor of mechanical engineering scholar in the history of Arabic and Islamic science, former President of the University of Aleppo and former Minister of Petroleum, Electricity and Industry in Syrian governments prior to 1971, passed away on April 28 in Toronto at age 86.

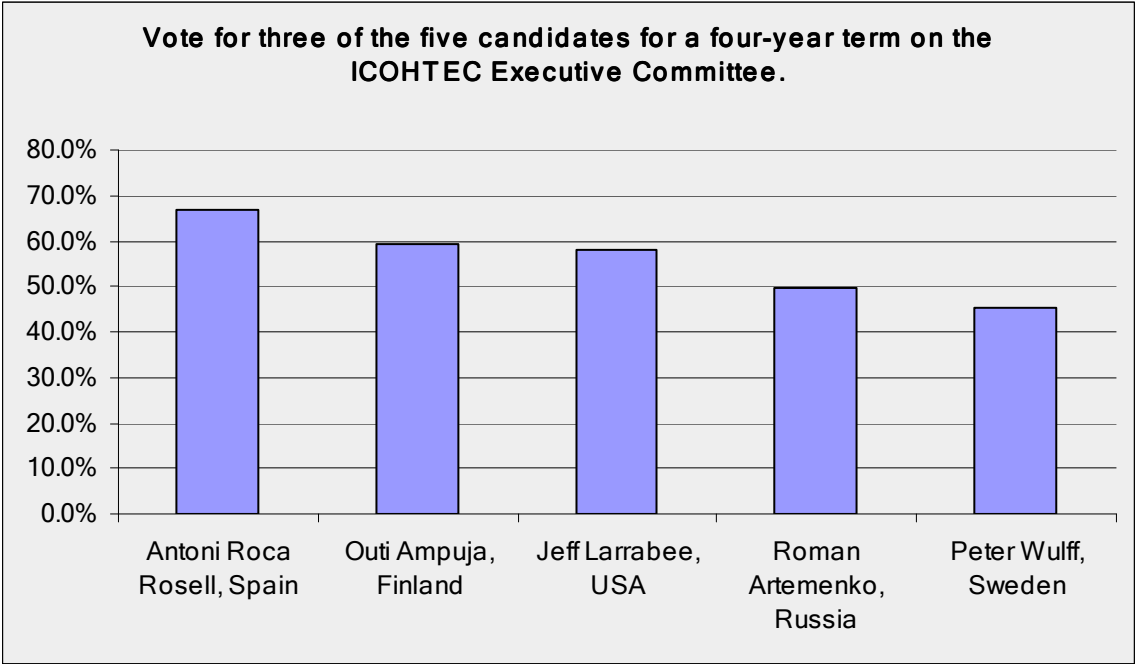
Dr. Hassan was born June 25, 1925 in Mcherfe, Palestine, to Yousef and Salha of the Gabarin clan. From 1968 to 1971 he served in the Syrian government as Minister of Petroleum, Electricity and Industry. From 1973 to 1978 he served as president of the University of Aleppo. In 1974, he established the Institute of Arabic Science at the University of Aleppo. In 1982 he immigrated to Canada. His scientific endeavors earned him many awards including the Ordre National de la Legion D'Honneur from the French Republic. He was a noted author on the subject of history of science and technology and his books were translated into many languages. He served on the advisory committee of the United Nations University, was a Member of the International Scientific Committee of UNESCO on The Different Aspects of Islamic Culture, and the chief editor of Science and Technology in Islam, a visiting professor at the Department of History and Philosophy of Science at University College, London, and a visiting professor at the Department of Middle East and Islamic Studies, University of Toronto.

II.1 ICOHTEC – Executive Committee Election Results

The nominating committee offers its sincere thanks to the five candidates who ran for the three open seats on EC: Outi Ampuja (Finland), Roman Artemenko (Russia), Jeff Larrabee (USA), Antoni Roca-Rosell (Spain) and Peter Wulff (Sweden). It is a leap of faith to put oneself on a competitive ballot, and the entire nominating committee extends its sincere gratitude to each one of our candidates for agreeing to run for office.

Candidate statements were published in the June newsletter and sent out by email to voting members. Because many of our members are in the habit of paying their dues at the annual symposium, voting members included those who had paid dues in either 2011 or 2012 and which had been received by the treasurer by June 15 this year. Balloting for the three open seat on the EC was held using Survey Monkey, an on-line service, with balloting beginning on Sunday, June 17 and ending at midnight GMT on Friday, June 22. The results were most gratifying, with a 59 percent voter turn out (91 of 154 members voting). During the course of the balloting week, one email reminder was sent to all members and two additional reminders only to those who had not yet voted.

2012 ICOHTEC Executive Committee Election Results



Vote for three of the five candidates for a four-year term on the ICOHTEC Executive Committee.		
Ballot Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Antoni Roca Rosell, Spain	67.0%	61
Outi Ampuja, Finland	59.3%	54
Jeff Larrabee, USA	58.2%	53
Roman Artemenko, Russia	49.5%	45
Peter Wulff, Sweden	45.1%	41
Total members voting		91
Percent voter turn out		59
Voting for 1 candidate		8
Voting for 2 candidates		4
Opted out		1
Inaccurate Email Address		1
Not voting		61

II.2 ICOHTEC Bibliography 2011 – 2012

The bibliography gives information about books, edited or written by ICOHTEC members since our last conference.

Balbi, Gabriele: Le origini del telefono in Italia. Politica, economia, tecnologia, società. Bruno Mondadori, Milan 2011 [an English paper can be found in the "International Journal of Communication": <http://ijoc.org/ojs/index.php/ijoc/article/view/1033>].

This book aims at identifying the turning points in the early history of Italian telephone (1877-1915) considering political, economical, technical, and social dimensions and trying to reconstruct conflicts and connivances among relevant social groups. The early history of the Italian telephone can be subdivided into four periods: the urban networks building during the 1880s; the nationalization attempt, concentration process and failed building of the long-distance network during the 1890s; the nationalization process between 1903 and 1907; and the failure of public management and return to private operation between 1907 and the First World War. This analysis helps identify some characteristics of Italian telephone history that configure a kind of Italian style in telecommunications: the relevance of old media (electric telegraph in particular) for the new one, political uncertainties, foreign investments, difficulties in interconnecting different systems, a lively and overlooked demand.

Bluma, Lars / Uhl, Karsten (eds.): Kontrollierte Arbeit → disziplinierte Körper? Zur Sozial- und Kulturgeschichte der Industriearbeit im 19. und 20. Jahrhundert. Transcript, Bielefeld 2012.

The process of industrialization caused a deep transformation of workplace configurations, which is characterized by increasing mechanization and the rationalization of workflow. At the same time the sociality of work fundamentally changed as workers' interactions with their industrial environment were being redefined: formal and informal work practices were constantly adjusted to new technical and organizational innovations of the workplace. This edited volume focus on industrial workplace environment, analyzing its spatial, ecological and technical order. The articles explore in what way changes in workplace environment influenced the social control of workers and their bodies.

Braun, Hans-Joachim: The German Economy in the 20th Century. Routledge, Abingdon, New York (1990), reprint: 2011.

This book traces the logic and the peculiarities of German economic development through the Weimar Republic, Third Reich and Federal Republic. Providing a comprehensive analysis of the period, the book also assesses controversial issues, such as the origins of the Great Depression, the primacy of politics or economics in the decision to invade Poland and the future risks to the Weltmeister economy of the Federal Republic oppressed by unemployment, the huge debts of some of its trading partners, and the possibility of worldwide protectionism.

Casinello, Pepa / Bögle, Anette / Schmal, Peter Cachola / Schlaich Bergermann und Partner (eds.): Estructuras ligeras: Schlaich Bergermann und partner. Escuela Técnica Superior de Arquitectura, Universidad Politécnica de Madrid, Schlaich Bergermann und Partner, Madrid 2011.

The first book published in Spanish about the work of the engineering firm Schlaich Bergermann und Partner, milestone of contemporary structural design.

Cassinello, Pepa / Revuelta Pol, Bernardo (eds.): Ildefonso Sánchez del Río: el ingenio de un legado [exposición]. Fundación Juanelo Turriano, Madrid 2011.

Exhaustive review of the life and work of one of the most distinguished engineers of the so-called Generation of 1927, a pioneer in the field of reinforced concrete for long span structures.

Ceruzzi, Paul E.: Computing: a Concise History, will be published by MIT Press in June 2012.

In this concise account of the invention and development of digital technology, Paul Ceruzzi identifies four major threads that run throughout all of computing's technological development: digitization; the convergence of multiple streams of techniques, devices, and machines; the steady advance of electronic technology; and the human-machine interface. Ceruzzi guides us through computing history, telling how a Bell Labs mathematician coined the word "digital" in 1942, and recounting the development of the punch card. His account traces the world-changing evolution of the computer from a room-size ensemble of machinery to a "minicomputer" to a desktop computer to a pocket-sized smart phone. He describes the development of the silicon chip, which could store ever-increasing amounts of data and enabled ever-decreasing device size. He visits that hotbed of innovation, Silicon Valley, and brings the story up to the present with the Internet, the World Wide Web, and social networking.

Christensen, Benny / Thorndahl, Jytte: Fra husmøller til havmøller. Vindkraft i Danmark i 150 år. Energimuseet - Nordisk Folkecenter for Vedvarende Energi - Poul la Cour Museet og Danmarks Vindkrafthistoriske Samling. Skjern 2012.

A book in Danish covering 150 years of windpower in Denmark: 150 years ago the Royal rights to run a windmill in Denmark were cancelled, and any farmer was now allowed to build a windmill at his own farm if he wanted to do so. This was the start of a long technological development leading Denmark into a unique place within the area of wind power. Many illustrations.

Gerali, Francesco: L' opera e l' Archivio Spezzino di Giovanni Capellini, un geologo dell' ottocento. Museo Geologico Giovanni Capellini. Alma Mater Studiorum – Università di Bologna. Editrice Himolah, Bologna 2012.

This study about the Italian geologist Giovanni Capellini (1833 - 1922) started during the process of restoration and reorganization of his unpublished archive preserved in the city of La Spezia, North West Italy. This collection, 2197 papers, is named *Archivio Spezzino* to distinguish it by the other two Capellini's documentary funds preserved in Bologna. The first part of this contribution examines the years of the youthful education and the main stages of the professional of Giovanni Capellini. Following this, I present his main scientific assumptions on geology, paleontology and prehistoric archeology, matured during fifty years of work. The second part of this study is comprised of a bibliography of Capellini's works from 1858 to 1922, and the complete inventory of his personal archive stored today at the Academy Lunigianese of Science of La Spezia. This inventory is intended to be an effective tool for the researchers interested in natural science. These papers have remained forgotten for many decades, but are now restored, cataloged and organized, ready to be investigated by historians.

Gorokhov, Vitaly: Philosophy and History of Science (Textbook for postgraduate students of the Joint Institute for Nuclear Research). JINR, Moscow 2012 (in Russian language).

The history of science can be interpreted in the different ways. That is why it is important to develop by postgraduate students the reflexive capability to interpret the history of science from the philosophical point of view. In Russia from 2006 all postgraduate students from all specialities must write the paper about the history of science and take an examination in the philosophy of science in the first school year. In this text book in the first part are represented the various conception of the development of science in the philosophy of science with the illustration on the example of the Galilean scientific revolution. In the second part analysed a different conception of the philosophy of technology. The third part of the text book is about the special features of the modern stage of the science and technology and about the necessity of the technology assessment. In special chapter of this part is represented the ethical problems of science and technology in the nuclear era.

Impagliazzo, John / Lundin, Per / Wangler, Benkt (eds.): History of Nordic Computing 3: Third IFIP WG9.7 Conference, HiNC 3, Stockholm, Sweden, October 18-20, 2010: Revised Selected Papers. Springer, Heidelberg 2011.

This book constitutes the refereed post-proceedings of the Third IFIP WG 9.7 Conference on the History of Nordic Computing, HiNC3, held in Stockholm, Sweden, in October 2010. The 50 revised full papers presented together with a keynote address and a panel discussion were carefully reviewed and selected from numerous submissions. The papers focus on the application and use of ICT and ways in which technical progress affected the conditions of the development and use of ICT systems in the Nordic countries covering a period from around 1970 until the beginning of the 1990s. They are organized in the following topical sections: computerizing public sector industries; computerizing management and financial industries; computerizing art, media, and schools; users and systems development; the making of a Nordic computing industry; Nordic networking; Nordic software development;

Nordic research in software and systems development; teaching at Nordic universities; and new historiographical approaches and methodological reflections.

Lundin, Per: *Computers in Swedish Society: Documenting Early Use and Trends*. Springer, Heidelberg 2012.

The book describes a historiography aimed at addressing the question of how computing shaped and transformed Swedish society between 1950 and 1980

- Presents a user-centered perspective on the history of computing
- Examines the documentation of users, describing novel and innovative documentation methods

In order to understand the role of computers in society, it is important to consider the complex relationship between the design and use of computers from the perspective of the user. *Computers in Swedish Society* reviews this shift in the historiography of computing from inventors and innovations to a user-perspective, and examines how the relevant sources can be created, collected, preserved, and disseminated. The text describes and evaluates a collaborative project in Sweden that documented the stories of around 700 people, and obtained extensive donations of archival records and artifacts. The book also provides a critical discussion on the interpretation of oral evidence, presenting three case studies on how this evidence can inform us about the interaction of computing with large-scale transformations in economies, cultures, and societies.

Sierra, Carlos / Osorio, Sergio: *Historia y filosofía de la ciencia. Antecedentes epistemológicos e históricos para comprender el surgimiento de la Bioética Global*. = Colección Bioética, vol. 5. Universidad Militar Nueva Granada, Bogotá 2011.

The origins of the global bioethics are not very known, above all when we investigate prior to Van Rensselaer Potter's seminal intuition. Thus, the ethics reading of the history and philosophy of science and technology offers some valuable keys in order to understand the roots of the global bioethics and the ulterior criticisms to this one, especially Ivan Illich's thought, who is considered as the brightest critic of the industrial civilization.

Vahrenkamp, Richard: *The Logistic Revolution? The Rise of Logistics in the Mass Consumption Society*, Cologne 2012.

The book discusses the political and economic factors which have led to the rise of logistics in Europe in the 20th C. in the context of the mass consumption society. First, it shows the ascent of truck transport in the 1920s to satisfy consumer needs and the importance of the European motorway infrastructure for the development of modern logistics in the 1960s and 70s, also the dimension freight transport has acquired in Europe, and which organizations had been created in Europe to enable and facilitate cross border goods transports.

Yagou, Artemis: *Fragile Innovation: Episodes in Greek Design History*. CreateSpace, 2011.
"Fragile Innovation" suggests a reading of Greek modernisation from a design history perspective. By focusing on selected examples from the 19th century until today, the book

discusses the difficulties and controversies surrounding local design development and illustrates the «incomplete project» of Greek industrial design; please visit <http://yagou.gr/2012/04/fragile-innovation-now-published>.

III. Conference Reports

Due to our international cooperation the following conference report might be interesting for many ICOHTEC members although the conference has nothing to do with the history of technology. I give the introduction; please find the whole report in H-Soz-u-Kult.

Academic Culture and International Relations – A Transatlantic Perspective

A Conference of the Lasky Center for Transatlantic Studies, Center for Advanced Studies (CAS) and the Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München in May 2012.

Jana Weiß, Historisches Seminar, Westfälische-Wilhelms-Universität Münster
weissjana@uni-muenster.de

While research on transatlantic history and the transfer of culture and ideas often focuses on the middle of the 20th century, the international conference "Academic Culture and International Relations – A Transatlantic Perspective" sought to extend this focus by looking both back into the early 20th century and beyond the 1960s. Held at the Munich *Center for Advanced Studies* the conference explored the interplay of academic culture and international relations centering on three main dimensions: academic and cultural exchange as well as diplomacy, and the accumulation of social, cultural, and academic capital.

That official national interests and internationalism are by no means incompatible results of academic exchanges is common knowledge. However, the conference participants – in highly complementary papers – analyzed how the process of negotiation between on the one hand promoting national ideals and on the other hand contributing to mutual understanding and maintaining academic integrity actually played out.

Please find the whole report in: H-Soz-u-Kult, 18.06.2012, <http://hsozkult.geschichte.hu-berlin.de/tagungsberichte/id=4272>.

IV. Conference Announcements

2 – 3 November 2012

The Social and Economic History of Mardin and the Region

Mardin, Turkey

CFP – Deadline **30 July 2012**

The Hrant Dink Foundation, the Turabdin Syriac Culture and Solidarity Association, the Mardin City Council, the Mardin Bar Association, the Mardin Chamber of Physicians and KAMER Foundation Mardin Branch announce a conference on the topic of “the Social and Economic History of Mardin and the Region”. The meeting will take place in Mardin on 2-3 November 2012.

In the course of the 19th century and the first quarter of 20th century the Ottoman Empire and the Republic of Turkey have undergone a significant social and economic transformation. While academic interest to study these developments has been quite substantial regarding western provinces of these states, academic curiosity regarding eastern provinces has largely lagged behind. Although eastern provinces certainly experienced similar processes, scholarly works on their economic and social life as well as their transformation are few. Rather, a sharp neglect and amnesia can be observed regarding eastern Anatolia in the 19th and early 20th century. Likewise, records, archives and monographs on its economic and social life, as well as records on the social movements that took place in the region are very limited.

The aim of this workshop, similar to conferences previously organized by Hrant Dink Foundation on Adana region and Diyarbakir region is to understand and analyze in detail the social and economic transformations between 1838 and 1938 in Mardin province, a province which embraced a variety of religion, language and culture over centuries, and to promote and publicize recent academic research on the subject.

The meeting will be held in Mardin, the venue will be communicated in due course; Working languages of the meeting will be English and Turkish. Transportation and accommodation expenses of participants from outside Mardin will be covered if institutions they belong to cannot ensure coverage.

The meeting is organized from an interdisciplinary perspective. It is open to the participation of researchers working on the history, economic history, sociology, political science and demography of Mardin and its region between 1838 and 1938. Papers that would focus on the interaction between the various communities living in the area at the time are encouraged. Researchers who would like to participate in this meeting should submit by 30 July 2012 a 250-word summary of their papers, along with a CV to the address below:

Hrant Dink Foundation / Hrant Dink Vakfı
Halaskargazi Cad. Sebat Apt. No: 74/1 34371 Osmanbey - Şişli İstanbul / Turkey
or via e-mail to eminekolivar@hrantdink.org

25 February – 1 March 2013

Wissenstransfer in der Geschichte der Physik / Knowledge Transfer in the History of Physics

Jena, Germany

CFP – Deadline **30 November 2012**

Please visit <http://hsozkult.geschichte.hu-berlin.de/termine/id=19459> for further information.

Please contact: Christian Joas, Max-Planck-Institut für Wissenschaftsgeschichte, cjoas@mpiwg-berlin.mpg.de; Christian Forstner, IGMNT, Christian.Forstner@uni-jena.de

7 – 9 March 2013

Loco/Motion, 34th Annual Conference of the Nineteenth Century Studies Association

Fresno, California

CFP – Deadline **30 September 2012**

The long nineteenth century set the world on the move. Travel became increasingly important for business and pleasure, for war and peace. At the same time, new forms of moving people arose: the balloon, ships, undergrounds, funiculars, the railroads. Each carried riders to great distances, different locales, and novel pursuits. But motion wasn't purely spatial; new movements arose as well, sweeping the inhabitants of the period into fresh vistas of thought and endeavor. We seek papers and panels that capture the sense of movement at work and at play during the long nineteenth century (1789-1914). Papers may address the intersections of movement/s, focus on technologies of motion in isolation, or reveal the desires—for gain, glory, greed—that set the world on its feet.

Some suggested topics:

- Gold Rushes (Mineral Manias and Speculative Destinations)
- Literature of the Sea
- Maps and Cartography
- The Science of Exploration (Darwin's Voyages)
- Narratives of Time Travel, Travel into Space (Jules Verne, Arthur Conan Doyle)
- The West as Destination and Concept
- Celebrity Performance Tours
- Movement of Goods and Ideas
- Migration and Relocation
- Expeditions
- Concepts of Motion and Stasis

- New Forms of Creative Motion and Locomotion (Moving Pictures, Photography, Dance, Music)

We also welcome other interpretations of the conference theme.

The campus of California State University, Fresno, will host us in 2013. Its setting makes it the perfect place to explore the conference theme, since Fresno is ringed by the original Gold Rush towns and three superb national parks (Yosemite, Sequoia, and Kings Canyon), two of which are nineteenth-century creations. As a result, Fresno still bears evidence of the vast changes caused by the movements of the nineteenth century. The library of CSU Fresno houses the Donald G. Larson Collection on International Expositions and Fairs; material from this archive will be featured in a special exhibition for the conference, as will material from the Robert Louis Stevenson Silverado Museum.

Please e-mail abstracts (250 words) for 20-minute papers that provide the author's name and paper title in the heading, as well as a one-page cv, to Prof. Toni Wein at NCSA-2013@sbcglobal.net by September 30, 2012. Please note that submission of a proposal indicates intent to present. Presenters will be notified in November 2012. Graduate students whose proposals are accepted may, at that point, submit complete papers in competition for a travel grant to help cover transportation and lodging expenses.

Please contact Prof. Toni Wein at NCSA-2013@sbcglobal.net

11 – 13 April 2013

From utopian Teleologies to sporadic Histographies: Interfaces of Art and Cybernetics. Session of the 39th Annual AAH Conference

Reading, UK

CFP – Deadline **12 November 2012**

It has been more than six decades since cybernetics was introduced to the English-speaking world by Norbert Wiener, Claude Shannon, and Warren Weaver. Stimulated by the information explosion in the 1950s, it grew as an international phenomenon that challenged disciplinary boundaries and preconceptions. Cybernetic models of “self-reproducing automata” brought about an enhanced understanding of informational and communication systems, engendered artificial intelligence and machine-biological interfaces (cyborgs), and impacted game theory. In the West, cybernetics had a lasting effect on art and popular culture from interactive art, performance, and computer art, to telematic art and American Idol. The “new science,” however, received a different reception in USSR. After its initial hostility, the Soviet government endorsed cybernetics as a panacea ensuring the rational control

of a failing centralized economy. The interdisciplinary umbrella of Soviet cybernetics protected underground art—from kinetic constructions and installations, to conceptual art and performance. The session redresses a lack of attention to cybernetics globally. It invites presenters in the visual arts and from non-art disciplines to reconsider or generate new knowledge about generations and geographies of art and cybernetics, including practices that create, distribute, and theorize art forms, concepts, and histories. Papers may explore cybernetic phenomena in artistic environments; examine artistic play on logic and reason; consider how art or non-art agents treat cybernetics as a social and cultural paradigm, or question how cybernetics is presented in historiographies of recent art and what interfaces of cybernetics and art bode for intra- and inter-disciplinary research and practice.

Please send your proposal to both Maia Toteva (mtt235@gmail.com) and Jennifer Way (jway@unt.edu) by 12 November 2012. Every proposal should include: 1. Preliminary abstract of one to two double-spaced, typed pages; 2. Letter explaining speaker's interest and expertise in the topic; 3. CV with home and office mailing addresses, email address, and phone numbers. 4. Documentation of work when appropriate, especially for sessions in which artists might discuss their own work. We are working on publishing the session papers. The session is accepted for the 39th Annual AAH Conference & Book fair University of Reading, UK, 11 – 13 April 2013. AAH2013 represents the interests of an expansive art-historical community by covering all branches of its discipline/s and the range of its visual cultures. Academic sessions reflect a broad chronological range, as well as a wide geographical one. The conference addresses topics of methodological, historiographical, and interdisciplinary interest as well as ones that open up debates about the future of the discipline/s. AAH2013 will take place over three days at the historic University of Reading, Berkshire. For more information about this forthcoming event:

Please visit: <http://www.aah.org.uk/annual-conference/2013-conference>.

Please contact: Maia Toteva, mtt235@gmail.com and Jennifer Way, jway@unt.edu

22 – 25 May 2013

Gender in the European Town: Medieval to Modern

University of Southern Denmark, Odense

CFP – Deadline **26 October 2012**

As places which fostered and disseminated key social, economic, political and cultural developments, historically towns have been central to the creation of gendered identities and the transmission of ideas across local, national and transnational boundaries. The Gender in the European Town Network invites

proposals for papers of 20 minutes, completed panels (3 papers, chair and commentator), and poster sessions.

The Conference will be organised in three main strands. We encourage papers that address one of the strands, or proposals that cross the theme boundaries. They should also explore what influence gender has on the shape of towns themselves, as a force for change. We welcome local studies as well as more comparative approaches and encourage historiographical, theoretical and empirical considerations.

Political culture and Civic Identity:

We want to discuss how civic identity and citizenship were negotiated and used in the urban space and how these were established and institutionalized. Proposals could include:

- Gendered civic identity in different periods of time
- Gender and different sites of political actions
- Political culture and political actions
- Religion as politics
- Relations between local civic identity and national political development
- Intersectional discussions of how changing social conditions interacted with gender and citizenship

Space Place Environment: Rethinking Space:

The role of gender in shaping, and being shaped by, space and place, particularly in the urban environment, provides historians and cultural geographers with the opportunity to look afresh at the changing nature of the town and its inhabitants over time. Proposals could include:

- Historiography of spatial studies
- Gendered urban environment in historical process
- Meanings of space
- Urban places as gendered meaning makers
- New directions in the study of gendered urban space

Stretching the urban economy:

The aim of this strand is to explore the influence of gender on the economic shape of towns and the ways in which men and women articulated their relationship to the urban economy. We encourage papers that stretch the traditional idea of economy by exploring different types of markets and nexus. Proposals could include:

- Workplace organisation / relationships
- Consumption and production interfaces
- Networks (urban rural links, family businesses ...)
- Cosmopolitanism in economic systems

- Influence of econo-political debates
- Gendered illicit economy

Keynote Speakers:

Professor Elisabeth Cohen, York University, Toronto, Canada

Professor Rachel Fuchs, Arizona State University, USA

Professor Hannu Salmi, University of Turku, Finland

Professor Pamela Sharpe, Hobart University, Tasmania, Australia

Professor Amanda Vickery, Queen Mary, University of London, UK

Proposals of 200 words for papers or posters should be submitted to geneton@sdu.dk by 26 October 2012.

Please visit:

http://www.sdu.dk/en/Om_SDU/Institutter_centre/lhks/Forskning/Forskningsnetvaerk/Gender_in_the_European_Town

Please contact: Wiebke Kolbe, Lund University, Department of History,
wiebke.kolbe@hist.lu.se

7 – 8 June 2013

Madness on Stage – Staging Madness. Techniken der Inszenierung von 'Krankheitsbildern' und 'Gefühlstönen'

Berlin

CFP – Deadline **30 September 2012**

Please visit <http://hsozkult.geschichte.hu-berlin.de/termine/id=19472> for further information.

Please contact: Sophie Ledebur, Institut Geschichte der Medizin, Berlin,
sophie.ledebur@charite.de

26 – 28 September 2013

Between Education, Commerce and Adventure. Tourist experience in Europe since the Interwar Period

Berlin

CFP – Deadline **31 July 2012**

Over the course of the twentieth century, tourism in Europe experienced a veritable earthquake: it ceased to be confined to the upper and middle classes and became increasingly accessible to the working class. This trend was certainly facilitated by the fact that national legislation in many Western European countries from the mid-1930s onwards granted the right to paid vacation for employees, in addition to rapidly rising standards of living in post-1945 Western Europe. Mass tourism took on many

forms, among which commercial tourism featured prominently. According to Furlough and Baranowski, by the onset of the 1960s commercial tourism had created a “full-throttle global industry”. Still, numerous seemingly antagonistic models of mass tourism have emerged in Europe since the 1930s: social tourism undertaken by non-profit enterprises, state-sponsored tourism in Nazi Germany as well as in socialist European countries involved thousands of tourists and aimed at endowing their vacation with “purpose” and “meaning”. Moreover, the 1960s also witnessed the emergence of a mobile youth, appreciating both domestic and cross-border trips; some of these youths engaged in so-called “alternative” tourism, as opposed to mass and package tourism.

The aim of the conference is twofold: First, in order to better illuminate the diversity of tourist experience, it seeks to critically investigate the argument of the prevalence of commercial tourism. It intends to further scrutinize interconnections among the abovementioned and seemingly competing tourist models. A telling case is the growing appropriation of “alternative” tourist patterns by commercial tourism providers in West Germany in the late 1970s. Moreover, the conference aims to help rethread the scholarly analysis of a plethora of profound economic, social, cultural and political transformations that shaped Europe in the 20th century through the needle of mass tourism as a diverse phenomenon. It seeks to approach tourism from the perspective of the experiences of the tourists as well as of the discourses that tourists employed to lend meaning to these experiences. It intends to examine tourists of differing background with regard to social class, gender, age, nation and ethnicity, and to illuminate how travel was experienced and conceptualized by tourists who lived in various political regimes across Europe. It also wishes to closely examine the entanglements between tourism and other forms of cross-border mobility, such as migration and student exchange. Therefore, even though research investigating single countries may certainly be fruitful and is welcome, we would like to encourage the submission of papers which employ a transnational and/or comparative perspective. We would like to test the significance of Europe as a terrain, in which transnational mobility posed challenges to national borders.

Potential topics to be investigated in the conference include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Cold War and tourism. Tourist mobility across the Cold War blocs.
- Tourism, gender and sexuality.
- Cross-border tourism and “European integration”.
- Tourism as a generational experience. Young tourists inside and outside commercial tourism. Youth hostels across Europe. Youth politicization and tourism in the 1960s and the 1970s.
- Tourism and migration in post-World War II Europe. Discourses and experiences of the immigrants as tourists. Interweavings of tourism and migration affecting

consumer cultures in both the native and the host areas of the immigrants. Tourism, migration and the forging of transnational spaces.

Potential contributors are encouraged in their presentations to combine empirical data with reflections on theoretical and methodological issues. The conference aims to stir further interdisciplinary discussion on conceptual issues concerning the ways in which tourism was experienced and construed. It wishes to touch upon two issues in particular, albeit not exclusively: first, the concept of the “tourist gaze”, as introduced by John Urry and employed by various historians, sociologists and social/cultural anthropologists. Is a binary model, discerning between a “romantic” and a “collective” gaze, too simplistic, as Rüdiger Hachtmann has recently argued? How could the concept be employed in a more nuanced way? Moreover, we wish to address the mobilities paradigm, which has recently appeared and which tries to emphasize “complex interdependencies” – according to Buescher, Urry and Witchger – between diverse mobilities, such as the “corporeal travel of people”, the movement of objects and interaction via diverse means of communication. In discussing this paradigm, we wish to assign the importance of the primary sources that can be used in the scholarly analysis of tourism. Therefore, the conference welcomes interdisciplinary approaches in various fields of the humanities, including history, social/cultural anthropology, sociology, cultural studies, media studies and political theory.

The conference is organized by Professor Dr Thomas Mergel and Dr Nikolaos Papadogiannis (Institut für Geschichtswissenschaften, Humboldt Universität zu Berlin) as well as by PD Dr Maren Möhring (Zentrum für Zeithistorische Forschung, Potsdam). It is scheduled to take place on 26-28 September, 2013 in Berlin and will be held in English and German. Proposals for a paper should be either in English or in German and should not exceed 400 words for presentations of an approximate duration of twenty minutes. Please send an abstract by 31 July, 2012 to Nikolaos Papadogiannis (papadogn@hu-berlin.de, npapadogian@gmail.com). A publication of the results is planned.

Please contact: Nikolaos Papadogiannis, Institut für Geschichtswissenschaften, Humboldt Universität zu Berlin, npapadogian@gmail.com, papadogn@hu-berlin.de

V. Awards

Conrad-Matschoß-Preis für Technikgeschichte 2013

Deadline for application **31 August 2012**

The Association of German Engineers, VDI, awards the 4th Conrad-Matschoß-Prize for the History of Technology.

For more information please visit:

http://www.vdi.de/44033.0.html?&tx_ttnews%5Btt_news%5D=57799&cHash=7a805a1e9ad771946d8ea4002463299b

Please contact Fritz Neußer, VDI, neusser@vdi.de

VI. Recently Published Books

Beck, Stefan / Niewöhner, Jörg / Sörensen, Estrid: Science and Technology Studies. Eine sozialanthropologische Einführung. Transcript, Bielefeld 2012.

The authors give an introduction the STS-Studies from a social anthropological point of view.

VII. Join ICOHTEC

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