

ICOHTEC NEWSLETTER

www.icohtec.org

N° 89, August 2012



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,

Thanks to Elena Helerea and Angelo Rapisarda the Newsletter gives a report on an interesting project, a journal in the History of Science and Technology and Technologies for Green Energy, edited by European students. You are invited to join the project.

Best wishes for the last days of summer

Yours Stefan Poser

Contents

I. Presentation of a Student's Journal on History of Science and Technology and Technology for Green Energy, the <i>EPMagazine</i>	p. 2
II. Conference Announcements	p. 3
III. Recently Published Books	p. 11
IV. Join ICOHTEC	p. 11

I. Presentation of a Student's Journal on History of Science and Technology and Technology for Green Energy, the *EPMagazine*

Elena Helerea, coordinator of EPM Editorial Group of Brasov, Romania

Angelo Rapisarda, coordinator of EPM Editorial Group of Catania, Italy

The *EPMagazine* aims to be a tool for learning which will enable students to decide what they want to study. Students participating in the project develop abilities in scientific research and scientific experiments, so that other students may profit from their knowledge. The journal focuses on the History of Science and Technology; research in Technologies for Green Energy was introduced as a second topic in 2010.

Objectives

- To improve scientific studies through research in the given topics.
- To increase European cooperation among Universities and High schools.
- To create a database of articles written by students, easily understandable to their peers.
- To increase the passion for studies of History of Science and Technology and Technology for Green energy.
- To improve communication skills and academic editorial experience.
- To develop cultural understanding of the History of Science and Technology and the Technology for green Energy

The *EPMeetings*

The first *EPMeeting* was organised in Austria in 2002, the last one was in Fagaras and Brasov, Romania, in April 2012. *EPMeetings* took place in several countries as Austria, Bulgaria, Greece, Italy, The Netherlands, Poland, Romania and Turkey. The next meeting will be held in Catania, Italy, in September 2012.

About the *EPM* project

This project, originally encouraged by European Socrates Comenius Agency eleven years ago, is a tool of great interest concerning studying and teaching of *Science and Technology* and *Technology for Green Energy*. European students, ageing 14 - 24 years, have the opportunity to write contributions about a great number of scientific topics treated from a

historical point of view. Each student who decides to collaborate will **deal with research** about topics of interest, thus increasing his own knowledge about technical-scientific processes and contemporary societal developments. On the one hand the project activities lead to the creation and the continuous enlargement of a scientific data-base having good didactic targets as well as to enhance the student's skills in scientific expression. On the other hand, it is possible for teachers and/or groups of students to build up an Editorial Board, working to manage a few issues (one per year, normally). That means to collect articles, check them for suitability, organise a reviewing process and, then, paginate the approved articles making the issue in the three published versions:

Printed version: ISSN 1722-6961,

CD version: ISSN 1723-9001

Web version: ISSN 1722-6953.

Please visit the EPMagazine's website, www.epmagazine.org.

Please contact Elena Helerea, Brasov University, helerea@unitbv.ro.

II. Conference Announcements

14 September 2012

Acoustic Communication and Soundscape Design

Green College/University of British Columbia, Vancouver

Please contact the organizers:

Hans-Joachim Braun, Helmut Schmidt University, Hamburg, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, hjbraun@hsu-hh.de

Barry Truax, Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, truax@sfu.ca

16 – 18 September 2012

United Atoms in a Divided World: The Early History of the IAEA

Institut für Zeitgeschichte, Universität Wien, Vienna

In September 2012, the Department of Contemporary History at the University of Vienna will host an international conference on the history of the IAEA during the cold war years. The conference will cover a wide range of issues, including the creation of the Agency, its role in the nuclear non-proliferation regime, and the Agency's technical programs. Beyond that, the conference seeks to discuss the cultural, societal, and economic context of the IAEA's early history.

Please visit: <http://hsozkult.geschichte.hu-berlin.de/termine/id=19815>

Please contact: Elisabeth Röhrlich, Universität Wien, Institut für Zeitgeschichte, elisabeth.roehrlich@univie.ac.at

4 – 7 October 2012

Annual Meeting of the Society for the History of Technology, SHOT

Copenhagen

Please visit: http://www.historyoftechnology.org/copenhagen/copenhagen_meeting.html

4 – 11 November 2012

'Post-colonialism & the Reinterpretation of the Industrial Heritage' The XVth International TICCIIH Congress 2012

Taiwan

This is the first TICCIIH Congress to be held in Asia and the most significant international meeting on industrial heritage and archaeology ever organized in the region. Don't miss this historic meeting, bringing together major experts, teachers and authors on industrial heritage, tourism, conservation, education, museums, adaptive re-use and World Heritage from Asia, Europe and the Americas.

It will have five main events; the program of paper presentations, two important workshops, exhibitions, forums and post-congress tours, as well as the TICCIIH members' General Assembly and board elections. The themes for the two workshops are "Nomination of Industrial Heritage for Inscription on the World Heritage List" and "Digitising Industrial Heritage", an international program to share heritage databases on the Internet. A curriculum design competition on industrial heritage will be held before the congress. TICCIIH's authoritative new publication "Industrial Heritage Re-tooled" will be launched during the meeting.

Visit the Congress website for more details and kindly forward this information to your colleagues:

http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?e=00117xebNEjhkbp6UvN27ynGJ47e2Wxl0Ibe9xwFbPxK83B_XwlzERdY6-W7adZmsTPmqW9R2VGS67Uh1_sFEfHe9f7rk0j06GpQT-4gYd7f8Y51qngjiCZpZa0yh7Axz9orWrucLwFafNSRwujOQa4a_G5Bf_uBAakVbx_dhino=

Please contact the organisers by [ticcih2012taiwan@yahoo.com](mailto:ticch2012taiwan@yahoo.com)

30 November – 1 December 2012

Sounds of Space

Friedrich-Meinecke-Institut, Freie Universität Berlin

CFP – Deadline **10 September 2012**

The production of sounds from outer space involves collaborative work and extensive communication networks to support methods and technologies for rendering celestial objects into sonic forms that are not only discernible but can also be recorded, manipulated,

augmented, and reproduced. This workshop on 'Sounds of Space' will examine the fundamental role of technology, craft skills and situated knowledge for realizing outer space and space exploration in sonic forms that resonate through physical, perceptual and imaginary worlds. Focusing on the period extending from the late 1940s to 1980, the workshop will examine ways in which sonic technologies, sound and music production, soundscapes, media and listening practices have shaped and been shaped by knowledge and understanding of outer space. Participants will be invited to respond to the core question: How have sonic experiences been conceived, articulated and elided in cultural practice and discourse on outer space and space exploration in Western Europe and the US during the post-war period?

Key themes and questions to be examined include but are not limited to the following:

i.) Electronic instruments, music and sounds of space

Since at the early 1950s, tape machines, computers, synthesizers and other instruments have been used as sonic technologies for producing and conveying knowledge about outer space and simulating the experience of space travel. Contributions that critically engage with the work of composer-performers of electronic music including Oskar Sala, Laurie Spiegel, and Klaus Schulze and studies on the Berlin school of electronic music, space music and ambient soundscapes are especially welcome. How have composers and musicians employed and shaped communication technology and electronic instruments to create a vocabulary (literal and figurative) and sonic aesthetic for realizing the sound of space and future space travel?

ii.) Voices from space

Audio communications between ground based facilities on earth and humans in space have existed since the first crewed orbital flights around the Earth in the early 1960s. In addition to technical jargon created for communication between the flight team at mission control and crew on board spacecraft, stylistic features such as staccato and stilted dialogue, acoustic artifacts including quindar tones or beeps, static noise, echoes and temporal delays are routinely associated with electronically mediated vocal transmissions from space. How and why has the sound of the human voice from outer space changed over time?

iii.) Sounds of space in entertainment media

The tag line for 1979 film 'Alien' warned audiences 'In space no one can hear you scream', adding a dramatic edge to the observation that sound waves do not propagate in the near vacuum of space. Although aware of the silent conditions outside Earth's atmosphere this has not deterred media producers, musicians and sound artists from creating a vast repertoire of sound effects and music to convey not only the human voice but also space-related technology and natural objects in space most notably in science fiction programmes broadcast on radio and television as well as commercial films. From the dreamlike electronic score for the 1956 film 'Forbidden Planet' to Kubrick's audacious scoring of silence and

orchestral music in the 1969 classic '2001: A Space Odyssey', the medium of cinema has had a profound influence on our conception of the intricate relationship between sound, outer space and future space exploration. In what ways do sounds of outer space in entertainment media afford opportunities for exploring the interplay between science and popular culture in the history of spaceflight?

Confirmed speakers include Tim Boon (British Science Museum), Honor Harger (Lighthouse Digital Culture Agency), Konstantin Kaminskij (Universität Konstanz), Trevor Pinch (Cornell University) and James Wierzbicki (University of Sydney).

Proposals for twenty-minute papers are invited from researchers working in history, sonic studies, musicology, science and technology studies and other disciplines as well as artists and performers whose work engages with the historical relationship between sound and outer space. Please submit an abstract of no more than 300 words together with a short CV (up to two pages) before 10 September 2012 to the convener William R. Macauley (william.macauley@fu-berlin). The organizers will arrange and pay for accommodation in Berlin. Travel funds are available for invited participants unable to obtain funds from their host institution.

Please visit: <http://www.geschkult.fu-berlin.de/astrofuturism>

Please contact: Dr. William R. Macauley, Friedrich-Meinecke-Institut
Freie Universität Berlin, william.macauley@fu-berlin

5 – 8 April 2013

New Research in the Economic History of Central Asia (Call for Panel)

Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge

CFP – **Attention please: deadline 1 September 2012**

In recent years, research on modern Central Asia has grown both in quantitative and in qualitative terms. Nonetheless, it seems quite clear that the economy of this region in the Tsarist and Soviet periods remains somewhat less well known than other aspects of the life of its inhabitants. From another point of view, this also means that modern Central Asia is absent from most current research in global economic history, due to the comparative lack of literature on the economy of this region, if compared to China, India, or even the Ottoman Empire.

On the occasion of the next conference of the British Association for Slavonic and Eastern European Studies (BASEES), which will also be the European ICCEES congress (www.euroiccees2013.org/), on April 5-8, 2013, we intend to organise a panel where ongoing research on the economic history of Central Asia can be displayed and scholars working on this topic will start creating a network for further initiatives.

The panel constitutes an attempt to give some continuity to the effort of making Central Asian historians dialogue with mainstream economic history specialists, initiated at the last World Economic History Congress in Stellenbosch (July 2012).

This panel is jointly convened by Beatrice Penati (University of Manchester/Nazarbayev University) and Stephen G. Wheatcroft (Nazarbayev University).

It is open to scholars working about any aspect of the economic life of modern Central Asia, including business and trade. Its geographical scope will be the territory of the former Soviet Central Asian republics and Kazakhstan, as well as the neighbouring Russian regions whenever applicable. Papers about the economic history of Transcaucasia and Mongolia may also be considered.

The conveners strongly encourage potential participants to present abstracts and papers containing at least some attempt of quantification.

Abstracts (250 to 500 words) must be sent to Beatrice Penati (beatrice.penati@manchester.ac.uk) by September 1st, 2012. A decision will be made by September 10th, 2012.

By sending their abstracts the selected panellists engage themselves to submit their papers 15 days before the conference, so that some actual discussion can take place on their basis.

Inquiries can be sent to Beatrice Penati at the same address.
Please feel free to disseminate this CfP on your own mailing lists etc.

Please contact: Beatrice Penati, University of Manchester,
beatrice.penati@manchester.ac.uk

13 – 15 June 2013

'This is the Modern World' - For a Social History of Rock Music

Université Charles-de-Gaulle, Lille

CFP – Deadline **15 September 2012**

In Anglo-American countries, the history of rock music has been institutionalized since the 1970s, notably in musicology and cultural studies departments. In France, on the contrary, it has been considered, until recently, as a rather minor subject, abandoned to journalists and amateurs. Although French musicologists, sociologists and specialists of British and American literatures and civilizations did produce a large amount of work on popular music, French historians encountered rock and roll mostly by chance, while working on the history of

youth or the history of the record industry. Bertrand Lemonnier's pioneering work (*L'Angleterre des Beatles. Une histoire culturelle des années soixante*, Seuil, 1995) remained for a long time an exception. Things are beginning to change: Thesis and master's papers on the history of rock music are being defended, and history departments are more and more interested in these questions.

There are many possibilities for research in social, cultural, economic and political history. If the history of rock music implies the history of musical genres, it cannot be reduced to it. Rock music is a complex socio-musical phenomenon, revealing of social and cultural changes essential to the understanding of contemporary societies. This conference aims at offering an outline of the richness of the field, in an international and interdisciplinary way.

This conference welcomes scholars as well as PhD students working on the history of rock and popular music, whatever their discipline. Roundtables will be organized in order to confront the point of view of journalists, musicians and amateurs...

« Rock music » is used here as a blanket term for the different music styles that evolved from rock and roll. Papers dealing with jazz, folk music, hip hop or electronic music may be submitted, if they appear relevant to the history of rock music. Papers can cover a period from the 1950s until today.

The geographical area is not limited: although proposals dealing with the Anglo-American world (especially The United States and Great Britain) will be accepted, papers dealing with other European spaces (France, Germany, Benelux, Scandinavia, Mediterranean countries, Central and Oriental Europe) and extra-European spaces (Africa, Asia, Latin america, Oceania) will be particularly welcomed.

All submissions should be original pieces which are not published elsewhere. Paper presentations at the conference will be a maximum of 20 minutes long. They can be delivered in French or in English.

We invite papers on the following subjects:

- *Sources and methodologies:*

How to locate and create archives for rock music; private collections and collectors; oral history, sound and audiovisual archives

* historians and rock music, interdisciplinary, roles of journalists, professionals and fans in the history of rock music...

- *Cultural transfers and national identities:* papers dealing with the acculturation (or not) of rock music in different parts of the world, as well as papers focusing on specific and original national or local rock scenes will be especially welcomed. Approaches in terms of global

history, contrastive history, connected history and comparative history are particularly encouraged.

- *Social and economic history*: history of record labels and of the recording industry; history of rock music venues, clubs and tours; history of sound recording, history of music instruments...

- *Social and political history*:

Rock music and politics: counter-cultures, protest songs, rock music and youth culture, rock music and 1968, rock music and communism, rock music and the far-right, censorship, religion, rock music and public policies...

*gender studies: rock music and feminism, rock music and masculinities, rock music and sexualities, rock music and homosexualities, transgender/queer rock music...

*postcolonial studies: rock music and ethnicity, rock music and immigration, rock music and black cultures, rock music and islam...

- *Social and cultural history*:

Media history: rock music and the press, rock criticism, rock music on the radio and television, rock music and the internet

* popular culture, mass culture, « high » culture : rock music and literature, rock music and cinema, rock music and visual arts, rock music and comics, fanclubs, fandoms...

*visual studies : history of record covers, posters, videos ; history of stage performance

Proposals for papers (CV + abstract of no more than 300 words), in French or in English, should be submitted to Arnaud Baubérot (bauberot@u-pec.fr) and Florence Tamagne (ftamagne@noos.fr) by 15 September 2012. Response to authors by 15 October 2012.

Please contact Arnaud Baubérot, bauberot@u-pec.fr, and Florence Tamagne, ftamagne@noos.fr.

24 – 25 June 2013

Workshop on “Emerging Technologies”, Past and Future

UCSB, Santa Barbara, CA

CFP –Deadline **15 September 2012**

We are soliciting abstracts for a workshop that will be held in Santa Barbara, California on 24-25 June 2013, sponsorship provided by UCSB’s Center for Nanotechnology in Society.

The workshop’s goal is to develop a historical framework in which to understand the often-problematic category of “emerging technologies.” We see emerging technologies as those which are described (now or in the past) as technologies or technological systems that will

“change the game,” driving new markets, requiring new regulatory paradigms, and having broad and difficult to anticipate social “impacts.” They are often associated with risk, speculation, uncertainty, and the possibility of financial reward.

We particularly want the workshop to complicate the notion of emerging technologies by highlighting technologies which have already emerged, failed to emerge, or matured without ever being proclaimed as “emerging.” By examining the history of several specific once-emerging technologies, we want this workshop to both clarify and elaborate on the entire category.

We are planning on hosting 12-14 people (some invited, some chosen from a pool of applicants) who will write and pre-circulate article-length essays which address some aspect of emerging technologies. We are very interested in papers that move beyond the traditional U.S. and late 20th century-centric focus. Overall, we expect to have about two dozen people attend – small enough for easy sharing of ideas, yet large and diverse enough to keep things interesting.

Thus far, Ron Kline (Cornell), Steve Usselman (Georgia Tech), Amy Slaton (Drexel), Bill Leslie (Johns Hopkins), and Sarah Kaplan (U. Toronto) have agreed to serve as commentators and overall “synthesizers” for the meeting.

If you’re interested in attending, please send a (roughly) 250 word abstract to Patrick McCray (pmccray@cns.ucsb.edu) by 15 September 2012. Please describe the paper you will write and submit for circulation in advance of the workshop. The actual draft paper will be expected by 15 May 2013. A working draft is fine so long as it’s not “too drafty” — something akin to what you would submit to a journal for consideration. We are currently exploring options for collecting and publishing an edited volume based on papers from the workshop. Some funding is available to defray the cost of travel and lodging.

Please contact Patrick McCray, pmccray@cns.ucsb.edu.

20 – 24 August 2013

Circulating Natures: Water—Food—Energy. Seventh Biennial Conference of the European Society for Environmental History, ESEH
Munich, Germany

CFP – Deadline **15 October 2012**

The deadline of the ESEH 2013 Munich Conference was extended: the proposal submission system is open until 15 October 2012.

Please visit: <http://eseh2013.org/Call-for-Papers.html>

26 – 29 September 2013

40 Jahre Ölkrise? Öl und Energie als zeithistorische Herausforderungen / 40 Years after the Oil Crisis? Oil and Energy as a Challenge of Contemporary History

Zentrum für Zeithistorische Forschung, Potsdam

CFP – Deadline **30 September 2012**

Please visit: <http://hsozkult.geschichte.hu-berlin.de/termine/id=19802>

Please contact Frank Bösch, Potsdam University, boesch@zzf-pdm.de, und Rüdiger Graf, Ruhr University, Bochum, ruediger.graf@rub.de.

III. Recently Published Books

Trandafir, Maria: Române remarcabile mai ales în cercetare și în formare profesională.

Remarkable Romanian Women especially in Research and in Professional Education.

Editura Detectiv, Bucuresti 2012.

The presence of women in certain fields of activity was formerly a source of astonishment and indignation as well. Thanks to the socio-economic current dynamics, no one is shocked by the women performances, although prejudices still exist regarding the recognition of the role of women in professional life. In this respect, this is the first book in Romania regarding remarkable Romanian woman in research and professional education. It is structured in alphabetic order, signaling, on more than 280 pages, the performances of notable women in many domains as: anthropology, architecture, astronomy, aviation (where the author worked for 35 years), agronomy, biology, chemistry, constructions, education, engineering, ecology, environmental protection, geography, geology, humanistics, information technology, law, mathematics, medicine, pharmacy, physics, technique. This book, written in Romanian and English, is the result of relevant and difficult investigations during three years to discover so women of scientific excellence.

Notice by Elena Helerea

IV. Join ICOHTEC

An ICOHTEC membership makes you a member of the scholarly network of the UNESO-based International Committee for the History of Technology, ICOHTEC.

The membership includes:

- Reduced fees for ICOHTEC's conferences
- ICOHTEC's reviewed journal ICON (published annually, ca. 200 pages)
- Electronic access to back issues of ICON (published since 1995)
- ICOHTEC's electronic Newsletter (published monthly – available via mailing list and on the homepage)



ICOHTEC Subscription Form

I wish to become a member of ICOHTEC and pay my annual subscription

(tick an appropriate box):

- for an individual (40 \$ or 30 € or equivalent)
- for a student (40 \$ or 15 € or equivalent **for two years**)
- for an institution (100 \$ or 75 € or equivalent)

for the year **2012, 2013, 2014** (please, circle the year[s]). The total amount: _____ \$ / €

Your first name and surname:

Email:

Postal address with a postcode:

Country:

Please, return this form with a cheque of an appropriate sum made out to "ICOHTEC, Patrice Bret" and send it either to

Dr. Patrice Bret, IRSEM, Case 46, 1 place Joffre, F-75700 Paris SP 07, France

You can also transfer the dues by international money transfer to our ICOHTEC account:

"ICOHTEC":

IBAN : DE44 430400360390259000

BIC : COBADEFFXXX

N.B. Do not omit to indicate the membership year(s) together with your name and address.