

# 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](mailto:poser@hsu-hh.de)

### Editorial

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

If you like to remember our last meeting: SHOT published a conference report on our Barcelona symposium in *Technology and Culture*, 54 (January 2013), pp. 158-166. The report was prepared by Bahar Emgin, Georgina Ruff, Matteo Serafini, and Jytte Thorndahl.

Best wishes  
StefanPoser

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## I. Conference Announcements

**14 – 16 March 2013**

### **Afghanistan, the Cold War, and the End of the Soviet Union**

Helmut-Schmidt-University, Hamburg

Please find the program on: <http://hsozkult.geschichte.hu-berlin.de/termine/id=21189> for further information.

Please contact: Esther Meier, Helmut-Schmidt-Universität, [emeier@hsu-hh.de](mailto:emeier@hsu-hh.de)

**21 – 23 March 2013**

### **4th Transnational Rhine Conference: Crossing the Rhine. Globalisation and the Impact of War on the Rhine Economy**

Maritime Museum, Rotterdam

Please find the program on <http://hsozkult.geschichte.hu-berlin.de/termine/id=21119>

Please contact: Ralf Banken, Goethe-Universität Frankfurt/M, [Ralf.Banken@t-online.de](mailto:Ralf.Banken@t-online.de)

**3 – 6 April 2013**

### **Confluences, Crossings, and Power**, 2013 conference of the American Society for Environmental History, ASEH

Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Please find the program on <http://aseh.net/conference-workshops/toronto-conference-2013>

**10 – 12 May 2013**

**Die Sinnlichkeit der Technik / Sensuality of Technology**. 22. Jahrestagung der Gesellschaft für Technikgeschichte / 22th Annual conference of the German Society for the History of Technology (GTG) in Kooperation mit dem DFG-Sondersammelgebiet Technikgeschichte der SLUB, Dresden, Sächsische Landesbibliothek - Staats- und Universitätsbibliothek Dresden

Please find the program on <http://www.gtg.tu-berlin.de/ws/index.php/tagungen/tagungsankuendigungen>, soon.

**21 – 22 August 2013**

### **Grand Hotels at the Fin de Siècle: global perspectives, local experiences**

Center for Metropolitan Studies, Technische Universität, Berlin

CFP – **ATTENTION** please, deadline **1 March 2013**

By the turn of the 20th century, Grand Hotels had emerged as a symbol of the modern metropolis. To boast a Grand Hotel meant for any city or a country to be part of the modern world, of progress and of civilization. The growth of Grand Hotels across the world was a product of industrialization, urbanization, globalization and imperialism. This is why they are

an excellent window into the history of these processes in distinct regional contexts. Despite their (for a contemporary eye) somewhat uniform appearance, they conceal distinct stories: stories of the relationship between old aristocratic elites and the new capitalist bourgeoisie, between the state and growing civil society, between the metropolis and the colonies and between metropolitan cities themselves.

Grand Hotels reflected and forged new forms of metropolitan experiences. As products and motors of global change, they were unique liminal places and spaces that contested traditional urban orders. They were neither private homes nor traditional public spaces. They were freshly inclusive (e.g. a wealthy non-noble could become part of a novel “palace” society), yet stratifying in new ways. They demonstrated the power and wealth of the hosts, while claiming to serve and treat their guests as new kings and queens. They were private businesses in which governments held a vested interest (and vice versa). They displayed fantastic wealth, but concealed extreme poverty and inequality. They were intrinsically international and cosmopolitan, but also national and local in regard to claims to and celebration of power and prestige.

Despite their central role in advancing the understanding of urban development at the turn of the century, Grand Hotels have so far received little scholarly attention. Yet, due to their role as 'hosts' to mobile elites across continents, Grand Hotels became an important part of the metropolitan city topography and a world map. As a key urban industry in the transfer of global knowledge, technology and fashion, they should be treated as a central development of modern, global metropolitan culture. As institutions that provided opportunities for mobility and discovery, comparison and competition, which necessarily entailed a process of definition and redefinition of the local “self” and the global “other,” Grand Hotels should be considered as pivotal in understanding local interpretations, appropriations and generation of globalizing processes.

We are looking for contributions that deal with the social production of the “world” in Grand Hotels, and also look at spatial elements both within the context of the buildings themselves, and within the wider environment of the city. By examining the history of Hotels within their cities, we aim to trace the history of their urban locations and show how the Hotels transformed these spatially and structurally. Exploration of the interior planning and design, will contribute to the history of urban technological, structural and architectural innovation. In other words, how did Hotels fashion the new understanding of a living space, of the city structure and experience and of global inter-city connections? Additionally, we aim to discover how Grand Hotels contributed to and transformed the urban experience through display and social encounters, consumption, international trade, the entertainment market, and social and technological mobility.

The aim of the three-day workshop in Berlin is to fill the current research gap on the role of Grand Hotels in modern urban topographies. It is intended to offer an international comparative perspective on the global and local dimensions of the history of Grand Hotels. Our objective is to understand how Grand Hotels brought the “world” – broadly defined – to

their locations? We are interested both in Grand Hotels, located in metropolitan centers, and resorts around the world.

We aim to publish a volume comparing histories of Grand Hotels internationally. We are interested in the following themes:

- Grand Hotels as exemplars of structural and technological innovation;
- Spatial relationships within the built environment - the significance of the Grand Hotel's 'place' in the city, and of its interior spaces;
- Grand Hotels and urban economies;
- Grand Hotels as a status symbol and a social focus point;
- Architecture of Grand Hotels and the urban imagery;
- Grand Hotels as an urban industry;
- International vs. local in the décor, style and staffing;
- Grand Hotels and the world of business and tourism;
- Grand Hotels in imperial cities and colonial contexts;
- City life and the Riviera.

Please submit a 500 word proposal to Botakoz Kassymbekova (botakoz.kassymbekova@metropolitanstudies.de) by March 1st 2013. The deadline for the submission of a volume chapter, which will be discussed at the workshop, is June 30, 2013.

Please contact: Botakoz Kassymbekova, [botakoz.kassymbekova@metropolitanstudies.de](mailto:botakoz.kassymbekova@metropolitanstudies.de)

## **25 – 28 September 2013**

**International Association for the History of Transport, Traffic and Mobility**, Annual Conference

Kouvola, Finland and St. Petersburg, Russia

CFP – Deadline **15 April 2013**

The Local Organising Committee of The International Association for the History of Transport, Traffic and Mobility (T2M), (The Centre for Railway Culture REILIA of the University of Helsinki and The Petersburg State Transport University) invite all academic researchers and practitioners working on history, sociology and politics of transport, traffic and mobility, border studies and transportation technology to participate in the Conference, a scientific meeting dedicated to the study of transport and borders in all parts of the world.

The Conference will take place in Kouvola, Finland and St. Petersburg, Russia, on 25-28 September 2013. These cities provide an ideal setting for discussing the role of borders in transport, travel and mobility research. The conference will include an opportunity to visit two countries; in and outside of the European Union. The conference will start in Kouvola on 25

September. On 27 September the conference will move by train from Kouvola to St. Petersburg to embark on the second part of the conference.

The T2M Annual Conference is open to papers and sessions on any field or topic of historical and social science mobility studies. However, we especially invite the submission of single papers or full sessions (three papers) on any topic related to “transport and borders”. Besides physical and national-state borders, many other kinds of borders impede and shape mobility: cultural borders, which can divide cities and regions, mental borders, which limit individual space of manoeuvre and technical borders.

This Cross-border Conference therefore invites scholars to examine past and current reconfigurations of borders and mobility from the perspective of one or multiple disciplines. Papers could, for example, examine borders as zones of contact and interaction, as zones consisting of both the flows of people and goods across as well as those flows blocked by the borders between states. Views from the borders will give us fresh insights into the relationship between transport and society, centre and periphery, security and insecurity; museums and universities, politics and identity and researchers and enthusiasts.

The 20th Century has encountered the parallel rapid development of transport technologies and mobility devices and the closing of borders, the erection of iron curtains, the isolation of whole continents against migration and escape. In these ways borders have become more perceptible and sensible. Social science mobility scholars have emphasized the individual and collective horizon of possibilities in order to understand and explain the cultural boundaries of physical travel and mobility.

Passing borders and customs has often been experienced, witnessed and described as a partly risky step of transcending boundaries. The Conference will discuss these individual and collective appreciation of borders and boundaries and its impact on and interaction with travel and mobility.

Transport infrastructure have for long times been established and maintained mainly by governmental institutions and corporations. Border regions and borders are regions of thinning out transport infrastructures and schedules. Georg Simmer has used the term of deserted border regions (*Grenzwüste*) to describe the border as cordon sanitaire. The conference will discuss the development, function and the end of borderlands as marginal regions and fringe.

The T2M Conference offers opportunities to use cross-disciplinary approaches to refocus on crossing the borders in new and innovative ways, such as

- Maritime on land and sea boundary issues
- Mobile and hyper borders
- Mental and cultural borders
- Natural environment and shifting borders

- Spaces beyond the state
- Borders, migration and Diasporas
- Travelling on and across borders
- Transcending borders
- Technical borders and technical compatibility

In order to advance collaboration between universities and policy makers, both academic researchers and practitioners working on transport and border issues are most welcome to attend.

It is a T2M tradition that paper and session proposals are not limited to the general topic. We ask for paper and session proposals for all themes in the field of transport, traffic and mobility can be proposed. By this, the annual conference will give, in a broad way, an up-to-date overview on the field of historical transport and mobility studies.

The Conference language is English. No interpretation into Russian or other languages is provided.

**Deadlines:** The final deadline for proposals is 15 April 2013. The proposal must include a short abstract, the title of the presentation, the name of the presenter(s), CV, e-mail address of the author(s), contact number and information on audiovisual needs. Papers must be sent to: [submissions@t2m.org](mailto:submissions@t2m.org). Once the proposal has been accepted, we shall notify participants before 15 May 2013. **For complete information**, see: <http://t2m.org/conferences/2013-kouvola-st-petersburg-transport-and-borders/>

The deadline for the full paper (6-8 pages) is 15 August 2013 for we shall distribute all papers beforehand in an online version. Individual presentations at the Conference are therefore to be limited to a fifteen-minute summary to allow for debate and discussion within the session.

Please visit: <http://t2m.org/conferences/2013-kouvola-st-petersburg-transport-and-borders/>

**26 – 28 September 2013**

**Traces of Early America, an interdisciplinary Graduate Student Conference**

University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia

CFP – Deadline **15 March 2013**

Scholars encounter early America through its traces, the vestiges and fragments left behind. And in reconstructing the fleeting and ephemeral, scholars also attempt to trace early American encounters. This conference will bring together graduate students from a wide variety of disciplines to explore the various meanings of traces—as material objects, cultural representations, and academic practices. Papers might consider how people deliberately and unwittingly left traces as they moved through space and time; what traces or remnants of the

past get privileged while others are marginalized or occluded; how written, visual, and other texts are both material objects and traces of lives and experiences; and where we look for the traces of different communities and conflicts in early America. More generally, papers might address tracing as a method of historical inquiry, one that both uncovers and constitutes objects and archives, as well as the methodological traces that have reconfigured early American studies, such as Atlantic history, diaspora studies, hemispheric studies, and circum-Caribbean and Latin American studies.

We welcome applicants from a wide variety of disciplines—among them history, literature, gender studies, ethnic studies, anthropology, archeology, geography, art history, material culture, religious studies, and political science—whose work deals with the histories and cultures of North America and the Atlantic world before 1850. **Applicants should email their proposals to [mceas.traces.2013@gmail.com](mailto:mceas.traces.2013@gmail.com) by 15 March 2013.** Proposals should include an abstract of no more than 250 words along with a one-page c.v. Paper presentations should be no more than 20 minutes. Limited financial support is available for participants' travel expenses. Decisions will be announced by 15 May 2013.

Please contact: [mceas.traces.2013@gmail.com](mailto:mceas.traces.2013@gmail.com)

### **3 – 5 October 2013**

#### **The Global E. P. Thompson: Reflections on the Making of the English Working Class after Fifty Years**

Harvard University, Cambridge, MA

CFP – Deadline **15 May 2013**

Fifty years ago E. P. Thompson published *The Making of the English Working Class*, one of the most influential social history works ever. Its approach to the history of common people, its arguments and its methods came to influence several generations of historians and others all over the world. To trace Thompson's influences, and with it the larger story of the varied approaches to social history that have come out of them, the Program on the History of Capitalism and the Weatherhead Initiative on Global History at Harvard University seek to initiate a global conversation among researchers across the humanities and social sciences to reflect critically on Thompson's impact on the writing of history and his enduring significance for future research.

At a time of global economic crises, as scholarship returns to themes of class, inequality and political economy with renewed interest, urgency, and moral purpose, the fiftieth anniversary of the *Making of the English Working Class* offers a welcome opportunity to both critically reflect on Thompson's scholarship and consider the ways in which his ideas, methods and commitments can still inspire intellectual frameworks and research programs that speak to present global problems.

The conference, to be held at Harvard University from 3rd-5th of October, 2013 invites critical engagement with Thompson's legacy. The Making has been at the center of many controversies in the writing of social, political, cultural, and labor history over the past decades, and we welcome papers that trace these debates. We are also interested in papers tracing Thompson's influence in various fields of history, and in various parts of the world. Moreover, we are seeking contributors who address issues such as

- Translating E. P. Thompson: English Idioms and Traditions in Global Context
- Class Formation: An Important Category of Analysis in History?
- Moral Economies and Political Economy: Culture, Economy and Politics
- Spatially Situating Social Processes: Communities, Regions, Nations, World-Systems

We are committed to making this a global conversation. With translations of the Making into many languages, including Chinese, Japanese, Turkish, Portuguese, Spanish, French and German, Thompson's work has had a global audience. Middle Eastern, Asian, African and Latin American scholars are especially encouraged to apply.

Finally, we encourage graduate students to submit paper proposals. We hope to provoke an inter-generational dialogue, involving established scholars who have long drawn inspiration from Thompson's work as well as aspiring practitioners starting their academic careers.

Please submit paper abstracts of no more than 500 words, along with a CV, to Jessica Barnard at the email address:  
[jbarnard@wcfia.harvard.edu](mailto:jbarnard@wcfia.harvard.edu) with the subject line "E. P. Thompson 2013"

Paper Proposals are due May 15th, 2013

We will notify applicants in June, 2013. If accepted, we will ask you for a draft paper by September 1st. We will cover all (economy class) travel costs, accommodation and meals.

Organizers

Rudi Batzell, PhD Candidate, History, Harvard University  
Sven Beckert, Laird Bell Professor of American History, Harvard University  
Andrew Gordon, Folger Fund Professor of History, Harvard University  
Gabriel Winant, PhD Candidate, History, Yale University

Please visit: <http://studyofcapitalism.harvard.edu/thompson-conference>  
Please contact: Jessica Barnard, [jbarnard@wcfia.harvard.edu](mailto:jbarnard@wcfia.harvard.edu)

**4 October 2013**

**New Thoughts on Old Things: Four Centuries of Furnishing the Northeast**  
Museum of fine Arts, Boston



### CFP – **Deadline 3 June 2013**

Conference for emerging scholars co-sponsored by the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston; the Massachusetts Historical Society; and the Colonial Society of Massachusetts will be held 4 October 2013.

Over the last fifty years, the study of furniture and domestic interiors has extended into a broad range of disciplines and embraced a wide variety of theoretical and methodological approaches. The *Four Centuries of Massachusetts Furniture Initiative*—a collaborative of eleven institutions celebrating furniture and furniture-making in Massachusetts through an extensive series of exhibitions and programs, as well as an educational website ([www.fourcenturies.org](http://www.fourcenturies.org))—will feature advances in the field, while encouraging new perspectives and ideas. This conference will bring together staff and patrons from Massachusetts institutions and emerging scholars, affording a unique opportunity to highlight dynamic new scholarship on the history of furnishings and interiors in the Northeast region of North America. The geographic and chronological scope of the symposium is intentionally broad—the Northeast region of North America from approximately 1600-2000—in order to attract as wide a variety of subjects and approaches as possible.

The conference organizers seek proposals for 30-minute papers that address any aspect of the design, production, and circulation of furnishings; the creation and modification of domestic interiors; the social and cultural meaning imposed on or embodied in these objects and the spaces they occupied, or the role of furniture and interiors in the creation and maintenance of family, community, or political identities. Papers can be historical, critical, or theoretical in nature.

Please submit a 250-word proposal and a C.V. via electronic mail to Nonie Gadsden at [ngadsden@mfa.org](mailto:ngadsden@mfa.org). Proposals should include the title of the paper and the presenter's name. You may also attach 2-3 relevant images. Priority will be given to emerging scholars. Final papers should be approximately 30 minutes long. The symposium offers a travel stipend.

For further information, please contact Nonie Gadsden at [ngadsden@mfa.org](mailto:ngadsden@mfa.org). The deadline for submissions is 3 June 2013.

### **10 – 13 October 2013**

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

Portland, Maine

### CFP – **Deadline 31 March 2013**

The Society for the History of Technology will hold its annual meeting in Portland, Maine, 10–13 October. The Program Committee invites paper and session proposals on any topic in the history of technology, broadly defined. The Committee welcomes proposals for individual

papers or sessions from researchers at all levels (including graduate students, chaired professors, and independent scholars). It welcomes proposals from those new to SHOT, regardless of discipline, as well as those familiar with the field. Applicants are encouraged to propose sessions that include a diverse mix of participants: multinational origins, a mix of men and women, a balance of professional ranks (i.e., mixing graduate students and junior scholars with senior scholars), etc. Strong preference will be given to panels whose presenters have diverse institutional affiliations. Please see the instructions below for submitting a proposal on-line.

For the 2013 meeting the Program Committee continues to welcome unconventional sessions; that is, session formats that diverge in useful ways from the typical three/four papers with comment. These might include round-table sessions, workshop-style sessions with papers that are pre-circulated electronically, or "author meets critics" sessions. We also welcome poster proposals for presentation in poster sessions.

Please visit: <http://www.historyoftechnology.org/shot2013cfp.html>

**16 – 17 January 2014**

**Eating at Work 18<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> Centuries**

Université de Dijon, France

CFP – Deadline **31 May 2013**

Eating at work, considered in the broad sense as all food consumption practices related to an employed occupation, both everyday and exceptional, in times of strike or during celebrations, constitutes a privileged observatory of social practices, whether they relate to hierarchical power relations or to horizontal, egalitarian sociability in the world of work. The last three centuries (XVIII-XXI centuries) have seen profound changes in the ways in which food is consumed at work, exposing the transformation of societies and their relationship to work, nutrition and taste. The movement seems to concern Europe and beyond, a dimension to be explored in our work, even so we assume that its rhythms varied widely

To address this question, we wish to examine the times and places where people eat, with whom they eat and what they eat, issues that surely overlap, but on which it is possible to construct and initiate some further reflections.

- Where and when do we eat at work? Eating place and eating time are linked, and the varied practices experience many changes. This well-known observation can be illustrated and discussed: in the nineteenth century the home is preferred, but with the growing distance of the workplace and the changing rhythms of activity, the meal is more often taken outside the home, in a corner of the shop or the office (with a bowl or basket meal), on a park or street bench (a snack purchased in a grocery or dairy), as a beverage or a "broth", standing at the corner of the street, in a soup kitchen or a cooperative restaurant. In general, the constraints related to work cover a variety of situations: the obligation for miners to eat

underground, the need to adapt to many forms of outdoor work elsewhere. The appearance of the canteen and catering places at the end of the nineteenth century are contemporary to a profound transformation of the industrial production and the organization of work, but they increase rather than diminish the diversity of practices. It is therefore possible to consider the variety of practices in the workplace and issues of change in terms of acculturation and resistance, which allows us to reopen the debate on the autonomy of the actor. This issue was important in the work of sociologists in the early twentieth century, such as Maurice Halbwachs when discussing Engel's law. By examining individual strategies, these analyses nuanced the thesis of class determinism. The transition from domestic eating to eating in the workplace also leads us to consider the nature of the supply and the management of eating places that throw new light on the debate on the independence of the working world (charity, philanthropy, paternalism...).

- With whom do we eat at work? Nicolas Hatzfeld's study of the "break for a snack" at Peugeot in the 1990s offered a number of important observations on sociability at work. It contributed to the debate on social determinism and the autonomy of actors. The inquiry uses the "break for a snack" as an opportunity to observe how the society of workers, in seeking to constitute itself, organizes and splits. It shows companionship and teasing, exclusion mechanisms, but also the choice of isolation made by some. It confirms the idea, developed by Martin Bruegel, that "if drinking together seems like a practice widely followed in labour circles, eating together is generally the exception". The study of the sociability of the world of labour at mealtime can therefore help to investigate the relationship between occupational groups, generations, genders and people of different national or ethnic origins, and draw a map of the worlds of work, their cultures and making of social consciousness.

- What do they eat at work? The issue of practices and recommendations is important because it raises questions about eating habits, acculturation and resistance to dietary injunctions, about what determines taste, whether it is some form of social conditioning or responds to the pleasure principle. We must turn our gaze on the actors who prepare the meals, investigate the identity of those behind the stove as well as of the experts who produce dietary standards. The nineteenth century saw the birth of a hygienist discourse prohibiting alcohol and promoting meat, linked with the rationalization of work, philanthropy and food science. Nutritional advice has been subject to noticeable inflections over time: dairy products and vegetables have been increasingly promoted. Considering the reception of these discourses and the mechanisms of diffusion of new models is useful to understand the overall functioning of society. At this point, a comparison between liberal democracies and authoritarian regimes will be useful as the idea of shaping an ideal man belongs to every ideological project, just as it collides with reality and the state of the economy or society everywhere.

#### Bibliographie

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Recommendations Proposals for papers, in French or English, may be monographs or comparative approaches, covering long or short periods of time. The conference, open to all social sciences, intends to promote approaches that allow comparisons over time (XVIII-XXI centuries), space (Europe and beyond), situation (the factory, the office, the city, the country) and regimes (liberal democracies and authoritarian regimes, colonial situations).

Terms of submission

Deadline: May 31st, 2013.

Communications may be in French or English.

Proposals, including a title, an abstract of 300 words and a short curriculum vitae, in French or English, should be sent to the address below.

[mangerautravail@u-bourgogne.fr](mailto:mangerautravail@u-bourgogne.fr)

Organization

Thomas Bouchet (Centre Chevrier, Université de Bourgogne), Martin Bruegel (INRA ALISS), Stéphane Gacon (Centre Chevrier, Université de Bourgogne), Nicolas Hatzfeld (LHEST-IDHE, université d'Evry-Val d'Essonne), François Jarrige (Centre Chevrier, Université de Bourgogne), Anne Lhuissier (INRA ALISS), François-Xavier Nérard (IRICE, Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne), Xavier Vigna (Centre Chevrier, Université de Bourgogne).

Please contact : Stéphane Gacon, Centre Chevrier, Université de Dijon, [mangerautravail@u-bourgogne.fr](mailto:mangerautravail@u-bourgogne.fr)

**12 – 16 March 2014**

**Crossing Divides**, 2014 conference of the American Society for Environmental History, ASEH

San Francisco

CFP – Deadline **1 July 2013**

The ASEH invites proposals for its 2014 conference that will convene 12-16 March in San Francisco, California. Ever since its founding as a Spanish port in 1776, San Francisco and the surrounding Bay Area have served both as a crossroads for Asian, European, Latin American, and African immigration, bringing together diverse cultures across continental and oceanic divides, and as a site for spectacular disasters, from mercury pollution and violence against indigenous peoples during the gold rush to the earthquake of 1906. The U.N. Charter was signed here in 1945 “to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war,” and since the 1960s it’s been an international leader for the organic food movement, sustainable urban design, transnational trade, the anti-war, environmental, and gay-rights movements, iconic bridges and digital innovation.

The program theme, "Crossing Divides," calls attention to new scholarship in environmental history that bridges geographical and disciplinary differences. We seek panel and roundtable proposals that engage with this theme in creative ways: studies in environmental history from comparative regional and cultural perspectives; investigations in such topics as food culture, urban and rural sustainability, labor and migration, bodies and toxicity, and the past and future of political ecology. The program committee seeks to further discussions that cross disciplinary or conceptual divides in new ways. We especially invite proposals that span gender, generational, and geographic differences among presenters as well as topics. We see the location of the conference in San Francisco as a special opportunity to encourage panels that study the wider Pacific world, and we welcome proposals that involve non-historians with shared interests.

### **Submission Guidelines**

The program committee invites panel, roundtable, individual paper, and poster proposals for the conference. We strongly prefer to receive complete session proposals but will endeavor to construct some sessions from proposals for individual presentations. Sessions will be scheduled for 1.5 hours. Please note that it is ASEH policy to allow at least 30 minutes for discussion in every session. No single presentation should exceed 15 minutes, and each roundtable presentation should be significantly shorter than that, as roundtables are designed to maximize discussion among the speakers and with the audience. Commentators are allowed but not required.

The committee invites proposals in formats beyond the typical paper session where presenters offer something other than verbatim recitals of written papers. To maximize participation, we encourage session proposals with more participants giving shorter presentations (e.g., four presenters at 12 minutes each). Please note that individuals can be

a primary presenter in only one panel, roundtable, or other session proposal, but can also serve as chair or commentator in a second session proposal.

Proposals can be submitted electronically beginning in late April 2013. See [www.aseh.net](http://www.aseh.net) "conferences" in late April.

Deadline for submissions: July 1, 2013

All presenters and other participants are expected to register for the annual meeting. If you have any questions, please contact: David Biggs, UC-Riverside, program committee chair, [dbiggs@ucr.edu](mailto:dbiggs@ucr.edu) or Lisa Mighetto, ASEH director, [director@aseh.net](mailto:director@aseh.net).

Please visit: [www.aseh.net](http://www.aseh.net)

Please contact: David Biggs, UC-Riverside, program committee chair, [dbiggs@ucr.edu](mailto:dbiggs@ucr.edu) or Lisa Mighetto, ASEH director, [director@aseh.net](mailto:director@aseh.net).

## **15 – 16 August 2014**

### **The Academic World in the Era of the Great War**

Trinity College Dublin

CFP –Deadline **31 July 2013**

The Great War could neither have been fought nor won without scientific knowledge. Academic expertise in various fields, from history and law to chemistry and medicine, proved crucial to its prosecution. New links were forged with government that would alter forever the ways in which universities functioned and their relationship with the state. As communities, universities were at the heart of the societal and cultural mobilization for the war (through the activities of their staff, the roles played by students and alumni and the use of university facilities for hospitals, public meetings and war-time education). In some cases they sheltered opposition to the war. Academics and universities also played an important role in defining the meaning of the war and refashioned the very notion of international communities of scholarship in order to take account of the polarization produced by the conflict. In this, they foreshadowed the political engagement of learning that would become a marked feature of the 'short twentieth century.' For all these reasons, the war cast a long shadow over attempts to return to some kind of 'normality' once the conflict was over.

The Academic World in the Era of the Great War is a major international conference that will address these issues. Co-organised by the Centre for War Studies at Trinity College Dublin and the Centre canadien des études allemandes et européennes at the Université de Montréal, it will be held at Trinity College Dublin on August 15th-16th 2014 to mark the centenary of the outbreak of the Great War. It will be the first attempt to examine this subject systematically and in a comparative and trans-national fashion. It is hoped that it will result in an innovative edited volume. The conference will be inter-disciplinary, and the organisers welcome submissions from the humanities, social sciences and natural sciences.

While the conference will address a broad range of questions, particularly relevant are:

1. How did engagement in the Great War impact the development of different disciplines?
2. How did the mobilization of academic expertise into growing state bureaucracies shape the relationship between higher education and the state?
3. How did the war change the relationship between scholarship and industry?
4. How did scholarly engagement in war-related issues challenge traditional understandings of academic function and academic freedom?
5. What impact did war have upon the international community of scholars which had flourished before 1914? How did academics deal with the breakdown in international relations, and what mediating techniques were utilised?
6. How was scholarship utilised to achieve a lasting peace and how were academics used as agents of demobilization?
7. How did the war impact student life and identity?
8. To what extent did the war change traditional gender roles in academic communities?
9. In what ways did academic communities nurture pacifism?

Proposals should include the following elements, preferably in PDF format

1. A one page abstract of the proposed paper, including the title and an overview of the argument, as well as indicating whether you have any audio-visual requirements.
2. A one page C.V.

Submission of proposals

Please submit abstracts to the following email address:

academicworldconference@gmail.com no later than the 31st of July 2013

Organising Committee

Marie-Eve Chagnon, Université de Montréal

Tomás Irish, Trinity College Dublin

Scientific Committee

Andrew Barros, Université du Québec à Montréal

Martha Hanna, University of Colorado, Boulder

John Horne, Trinity College Dublin

Norman Ingram, Concordia University, Montréal

Alan Kramer, Trinity College Dublin

William Mulligan, University College Dublin

Jay Winter, Yale University

Please visit: <http://www.tcd.ie/warstudies/>

Please contact: Tomás Irish, Trinity College Dublin, [irisht@tcd.ie](mailto:irisht@tcd.ie)

**11 – 14 September 2014**

**Fourth European Congress on World and Global History: Encounters, Circulations and Conflicts**

Paris

CFP – Deadline **31 March 2013**

After the successful congresses of the European Network in Universal and Global History in Leipzig (2005), Dresden (2008) and London (2011), the next ENIUGH-congress will take place in Paris at the École normale supérieure and supported by the Labex TransferS. Under the theme “Encounters, Circulations and Conflicts”, the problematic opposition of centres and peripheries, which is still influential in historical research, will be challenged. The multitude of places and centres from where history is written and the plurality of the languages in which historical artefacts are conveyed will be analysed. We hope to stimulate a discussion on the meaning and relevance of relations, comparisons, transfers, and entanglements between states, peoples, communities, and individuals in a ‘long durée’-perspective.

We especially aim to involve colleagues from former colonies. In addition, the centenary of the beginning of the First World War provides the opportunity to address the destructive effects of international and global connectivity. We further seek to integrate the historical interactions between man and environment, including cultural and economic processes as well as the various aspects of material and social life. The history of empires belongs to core topics, as do large-scale crises and the consequences of political, technological, and ideological revolutions.

Generally, our intension is to transcend the confines of national history writing. While the majority of the contributions will deal with particular historical subjects, some will concentrate on questions of theory and methodology. Besides the panels in the thematic sessions, roundtables and plenaries will offer room for joint discussions. We look forward to welcoming to Paris historians interested in transnational and global history, from European as well as from non-European countries, and representing various disciplines involved in the field, which range from political science to archaeology, from economic to art history.

Conference languages will be English, French and German.

Proposals: We invite proposals for panels comprising 3-5 participants, or double-panels with 5-7 participants, in both cases including commentators. In addition to the names, affiliations and email addresses of the participants, proposals should include titles and abstracts of the panel as a whole (200-600 words) and of each individual paper (100-300 words).

Please note that, at this stage, it is only proposals for whole panels, rather than for isolated papers, that are sought. After the Steering Committee of ENIUGH and the Paris Programme Committee have selected panels in May 2013, there will be a second Call, inviting proposals for individual papers which either can take up vacant slots in the already-accepted panels or form additional panels.



Submission: All proposals must be received by 31 March 2013 and submitted electronically through the congress website: [www.eniugh.org/congress/call-for-panels](http://www.eniugh.org/congress/call-for-panels)

*Dates and deadlines:*

31 March 2013: Deadline Call for Panels

15 June 2013: Panel-proposers will be notified of the outcome of the selection. A Call for Papers will be issued, inviting proposals for individual papers, mainly to complete panels already accepted (deadline 30 September 2013).

30 June 2013 Invitation of press houses to the publishing exhibition, registration until 15 September 2013.

31 October 2013: Paper-proposers will be notified of the outcome of the selection.

15 November 2013: Congress registration and reservation of accommodation opens (through the congress website). It will be possible to reserve accommodation to suit different needs and pockets.

30 November 2013: Publication of the Conference Program

Members of the ENIUGH Steering Committee:

Michel Espagne (president), ENS, Paris; Attila Meleghe (vice-president), Corvinus University, Budapest; Matthias Middell (vice-president), University of Leipzig; Gareth Austin, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies Geneva; Carlo Marko Belfanti, University of Brescia; Giovanni Gozzini, University of Siena; Regina Grafe, Northwestern University; Margarete Grandner, University of Vienna; Frank Hadler, University of Leipzig; Michael Harbsmeier, Roskilde University; Markéta Křížová, Charles University Prague; Marcel van der Linden, International Institute of Social History, Amsterdam; Barbara Lüthi, University of Basel; Mikhail Lipkin, Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow; Patrick O'Brien, London School of Economics and Political Science; Yuval Harari, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Juan Carmona Pidal, Universidad Carlos III de Madrid; Hagen Schulz-Forberg, University of Aarhus; Alessandro Stanziani, EHESS/ CNRS (Paris); Eric Vanhaute, University of Ghent; Peer Vries, University of Vienna

Please visit: [www.eniugh.org/](http://www.eniugh.org/)

Please contact: Michel Espagne, Steffi Marung and Katja Naumann at:  
[congress@eniugh.org](mailto:congress@eniugh.org)

## **II. Summer Schools**

**17 – 21 August 2013**

**Mountains Across Borders – A Summer School in environmental history**

Lavin, Switzerland

Deadline of application **22 March 2013**

This four-day ESEH graduate student Summer School will convene immediately before the European Society for Environmental History conference in Munich to offer intermediate to advanced graduate students the opportunity to present and discuss their work, to network with other researchers from across the world, and to witness and learn from eastern Switzerland's complicated alpine environment.

Detailed information on the program and how to apply may be found in the <http://eseh.org/wp-content/uploads/Mountain.Summer.School.pdf>

### **III. Awards**

#### **2013 ESST European Award for Aspiring Undergraduates in Science, Technology and Society (STS)**

Deadline for application **30 June 2013**

The European Masters Programme in Society, Science and Technology (ESST) is sponsoring an award of 1,000 Euro for the best undergraduate paper or essay related to Science, Technology and Society (STS). Undergraduates of all fields studying at any European university are eligible to apply.

Papers or essays must be between 2,000 and 3,000 words on any topic that falls under the Science, Technology, Society agenda (for example, from environmental, ICT or innovation policy to the relationship between science, technology and gender) and must be written in English.

The members of the 2013 award committee are:

- \* Ericka Johnson, Linköping University, Sweden
- \* Faidra Papanelopoulou, University of Athens, Greece
- \* Juan Carlos Salazar, Autonomous University of Madrid, Spain

Past Winners:

2012, Alina Marktanner, Maastricht University

2011, Miklós Horváth, Eötvös Loránd University

2010, André Feldhof, Maastricht University

**Deadline: 30 June, 2013**

For more information: [www.esst.eu](http://www.esst.eu)

How to apply:

Applications should consist of a cover sheet (available at [www.esst.eu](http://www.esst.eu)), completed and scanned, and a double-spaced pdf copy of the student paper or essay. Applicants may not submit more than one piece of work. Applications should be emailed to Aristotle Tympas, the

2013 ESST Award coordinator, at: [tympas@phs.uoa.gr.E?mail](mailto:tympas@phs.uoa.gr.E?mail) your application by the 30th of June of 2013 and expect a confirmation of its reception within a week.

## IV. Miscellaneous

Catarina Caetano da Rosa, Darmstadt Technical University, and Marcus Popplow, Salzburg University, received the Conrad-Matschoss-Prize of the Association of German Engineers (Verein Deutscher Ingenieure [VDI]) for two quite different books:

By means of Actor-Network-Theory, *Caetano da Rosa* describes how the invention process for two surgical robots evolved: Robodoc and CASPAR. Both were used in Germany between 1994 and 2004 in the fields of hip and knee surgery. These medical robots raised the hope that the durability of implants in the bone would lengthen if they were milled out with automatic instead of manual precision. But the question of whether a robotic intervention would actually be a medical advantage or be harmful for patients brought about a discussion between engineers, medical doctors, journalists, patients and judges. Her thesis shows how different actor constellations were formed in the course of time. In some situations, they led to success and in other cases, to failure. The attempt to apply the logics of industrial robots to human biology remains controversial to this day. Her book will be published in May: *Operationsroboter in Aktion. Kontroverse Innovationen in der Medizintechnik.* transscript, Bielefeld May 2013.

Life in the Middle Ages was profoundly shaped by technical devices from artisans' tools for daily usage to weapons, ploughs and grain-mills. *Marcus Popplow's* "Technik im Mittelalter" (Munich: C.H. Beck, 2010) is the first comprehensive survey of European medieval technology since "Cathedral, Forge, and Waterwheel" by Frances and Joseph Gies (1994). Besides discussing "classic" innovations from mechanical clockwork over firearms to printing – which often received decisive impulses from the Near and Far East –, the book as well calls attention to still open questions regarding the dynamics of medieval technology. The author is Visiting Professor at the History Department of Salzburg University (Austria).

## V. Recently Published Books

*Rabinivitz, Lauren:* *Electric Dreamland. Amusement Parks, Movies and American Modernity.* Columbia University Press, New York 2012.

The author analysed the development of amusement parks and movies in early 20<sup>th</sup> century United States. She brings two leisure time activities together, searches for similarities and demonstrates how they contributed to modernity.

## **VI. Join ICOHTEC**

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

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ICOHTEC's electronic Newsletter (published monthly – available via mailing list and on the homepage)

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Membership in ICOHTEC includes subscription to the journal ICON, access to back issues of ICON in electronic form on ICOHTEC's web site, reduced registration at ICOHTEC's annual symposium and a monthly newsletter.

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