

# ICOHTEC

## NEWSLETTER

[www.icohtec.org](http://www.icohtec.org)

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## Newsletter of the International Committee for the History of Technology ICOHTEC

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### Editorial

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

The Newsletter gives the first call for papers of a session organiser: Bart Hacker, who is an ICOHTEC member since many years, will organize his 10<sup>th</sup> session on Social History of Military Technology in the frame of our 42<sup>nd</sup> symposium in Tel Aviv (16–21 August 2015); the deadline is **25 January 2015**. Please feel free to contact me for publishing your call, if you intend to organize a session, too. Second, ICOHTEC announces the Young Scholar Prize 2015, the society's book prize. The deadline for application is **7 February 2015**.

The Local Organising Committee of our Tel Aviv symposium designed a homepage, <http://icohtec-histelcon.tau.ac.il/>. It will give information about the congress and link to ICOHTEC's submission system for paper proposals in about two weeks.

The next Newsletter will be published in January.

Merry Christmas, if you celebrate it and best wishes for a happy New Year!  
Stefan Poser

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## I. ICOHTEC

### **I.1 Tenth Annual Symposium of the Social History of Military Technology on the Annual Meeting of the International Congress of the History of Technology, Tel Aviv, Israel, 16–21 August 2015**

Organiser: Bart C. Hacker

Proposals are sought for papers to be presented in the Tenth Annual Symposium of the Social History of Military Technology, scheduled as part of the program for the annual meeting of the International Congress of the History of Technology (ICOHTEC), Tel Aviv, Israel, 15–21 August 2015. The general theme selected for the 2015 ICOHTEC meeting is: *History of High-Technologies and their Socio-Cultural Contexts*. In submitting a proposal for the symposium, you are encouraged to address the ICOHTEC themes, but that is not required. For more information about the 2015 ICOHTEC conference as a whole, including subthemes, travel grants, and this year's co-organizer, a branch of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), see: <http://www.icohtec.org/annual-meeting-2015.html/>.

The history of military technology usually centers on weaponry, warships, fortifications, or other physical manifestations of warfare, emphasizing how they were made or how they worked. Historians have also tended to assume a strictly utilitarian and rational basis for military technological invention and innovation. However necessary they may be, such approaches largely ignore some very important questions. What are the contexts of social values, attitudes, and interests, non-military as well as military, that shape and support (or oppose) these technologies? What are the consequences of gender, race, class, and other aspects of the social order for the nature and use of military technology? Or, more generally: How do social and cultural environments within the military itself or in the larger society affect military technological change? And the indispensable corollary: How does changing military technology affect other aspects of society and culture? In brief, this symposium will address military technology as both agent and object of social change, taking a very broad view that encompasses not only the production, distribution, use, and replacement of weapons and weapon systems, but also communications, logistics, medicine, and other technologies of military relevance as well as sciences of military interest.

We seek papers about: (1) representations of weapons as well as weapons themselves, about ideas as well as hardware, about organization as well as materiel; (2) ways in which social class, race, gender, culture, economics, or other extra-military factors have influenced and been influenced by the invention, R&D, diffusion, or use of weapons or other military technologies; (3) the roles that military technologies play in shaping and reshaping the relationships of soldiers to other soldiers; soldiers to military, political, and social institutions; and military institutions to other social institutions, most notably political and economic; and/or (4) historiographical or museological topics that discuss how military technology has been analyzed, interpreted, and understood in other fields, other cultures, and other times. Pre-modern and non-Western topics are particularly welcome.

Although papers may be presented in English, French, German, Russian, or Spanish, ICOHTEC will not provide simultaneous translation. **All proposals must be submitted in English** and should include three elements:

(1) A short descriptive title.

(2) An abstract of at least 200 words but no more than 350. It should include (a) your name and email address, (b) a concise statement of the thesis, (c) a brief discussion of the sources, and (d) a summary of major conclusions. **Please do not include notes or bibliography.**

(3) A 1-page CV or résumé with your educational and professional employment histories, plus a list of significant publications and/or presentations. You may include other relevant information in the CV, as long as you do not exceed the 1-page limit. **Be sure to specify your present institutional affiliation (or independent status).**

Please keep in mind that conference presentations are not complete research papers. You will be allotted no more than 20 minutes to speak, and possibly as little as 16 minutes. Precise times available to speakers will be determined after the program is complete. All participants are encouraged to submit the full, annotated versions of their papers as articles to *Vulcan: The International Journal of the Social History of Military Technology*. Articles should be submitted to Editor-in-chief Bart Hacker at: [hacker@si.edu](mailto:hacker@si.edu).

Do not send your proposal to ICOHTEC. The symposium is being co-organized by Bart Hacker and Ciro Paoletti. Send your proposal to Bart Hacker at: <[hackerb@si.edu](mailto:hackerb@si.edu)>, no later than **25 January 2015**, but earlier is better. He will assemble and submit the complete symposium. Please feel free to distribute this CFP to anyone you believe may be interested and qualified.

## **I.2 ICOHTEC Prize for Young Scholars2015**

The ICOHTEC-Book Prize is sponsored by the Juanelo Turriano Foundation and consists of 2,500 Euro. The prize winning book will be presented and discussed at a special session of the next ICOHTEC symposium, in **Tel Aviv, 16 – 21 August 2015**. An additional 500 E is available to the winner in support of travelling to the conference to receive the prize.

ICOHTEC, the International Committee for the History of Technology, is interested in the history of technology, focusing on technological development as well as its relationship to science, society, economy, culture and the environment. The history of technology covers all periods of human history and all populated areas. There is no limitation as to theoretical or methodological approaches.

Eligible for the prize are original book-length works in any of the official ICOHTEC languages (English, French, German, Russian or Spanish) in the history of technology: published or unpublished Ph.D. theses or other monographs written by scholars who, when applying for the prize, are not older than 37 years. Articles and edited anthologies are not eligible.

For the ICOHTEC Prize 2015, please send a copy of the work you wish to be considered for the prize to each of the three Prize Committee members. **Your submissions must be postmarked not later than 7 February 2015.** You may also submit an electronic version of the book or Ph.D. thesis by 24:00 o'clock of your local time on the same day. If your book is in Spanish or Russian, please also supply a summary in English, French or German of about 4500 words. In that case, the prize committee will find additional members, who are familiar with the language in which your book is written. **Please also include an abstract of no more than a half-page in length.**

If the work is a Ph.D. thesis, it should have been accepted by your university in 2013 or 2014; if it is a published work, the year of publication should be 2013 or 2014. The submission should be accompanied by a CV (indicating also the date of birth) and, if applicable, a list of publications. Applicants are free to add references or reviews on the work submitted.

Any materials sent to the prize committee will not be returned.

Send a complete application **by regular mail services or by email** to each of the following Prize Committee members:

Dr. David Zimmerman, Prize Committee Chair  
Professor of Military History at the University of Victoria  
Department of History  
University of Victoria  
P.O. Box 1700 STN CSC  
Victoria, B.C. V8W 3P4  
Canada

Email: [dzimmerm@uvic.ca](mailto:dzimmerm@uvic.ca)

Dr Peter L. Jakab  
Associate Director for Collections and Curatorial Affairs  
National Air and Space Museum  
P.O. 37012, MRC 312  
Smithsonian Institution  
Washington, DC 20013-7012  
USA

Email: [jakabp@si.edu](mailto:jakabp@si.edu)

Dr. Klaus Staubermann  
Principal Curator of Technology  
National Museums of Scotland  
Chambers Street  
Edinburgh  
EH1 1JF  
UK

Email: [Staubermann@nms.ac.uk](mailto:Staubermann@nms.ac.uk)

### **I.3 News about ICOHTEC Members**

Good news for ICOHTEC: our Secretary General, Sławomir Łotysz, changed to Warsaw and is a Professor at the Institute for the History of Science of the Polish Academy of Sciences, now.

## **II. Conference Announcements**

**16 – 17 December 2014**

**History of Railway Catering: a worldwide perspective**

François-Rabelais University, Tours, France

Travellers had to deal with the problem of feeding themselves as soon as they started going on longer journeys. The coming of the railway continued this demand for food, but also changed it as railway transport brought about new kinds of services and additional technical constraints. The aim of this conference is to examine the development over time of the specific operations and innovations related to the evolution of this mode of transport.

Register for free by emailing [colloque-restofe@univ-tours.fr](mailto:colloque-restofe@univ-tours.fr)

More information at:

<http://msh.univ-tours.fr/article/colloque-international-histoirede-la-restauration-ferroviaire-dans-le-monde>

**16 – 17 January 2015**

**Sea Ships – Evidence for Cultural Exchange in Global Historical Perspective**

Deutsches Schifffahrtsmuseum, Bremerhaven

German Maritime Museum, Institute of the Leibniz Association

Please find the program on: <http://www.hsozkult.de/event/id/termine-26528>

Please contact Simone Kahlow, Deutsches Schifffahrtsmuseum, [kahlow@dsm.museum](mailto:kahlow@dsm.museum)

**7 – 9 May 2015**

**Beobachten - Darstellen - Vermitteln. Der wissenschaftliche Blick in der Neuzeit / Observing -  
Depicting - Disseminating. The Scientific Perspective in the Modern Period**

Karl Franzens University, Graz,

CFP – Deadline **1 February 2015**

Celebrating its 10th anniversary, the interdisciplinary Centre for the History of Science at the University of Graz is organising a two-day conference on the topic of "Observing, Depicting and Disseminating" and its relevance for the history of science.

In 1776 the Protestant pastor, librarian and naturalist Jean Senebier (1742-1809) described his ideal of a naturalist in his essay concerning the practices of scientific observation as follows:

"For the observer who seeks to enlighten people, it is not sufficient to have noticed a phenomenon. It is necessary that he reveals it to the senses of those who are not observing and that he, by his own example, instructs all those who are unaware of it."

(Senebier, Jean: *L'art d'observer*, Vol. 2, Geneva 1775, S. 2. Own translation.)

Even though scientific work has changed significantly since the 18th century, three components can be found in this quote that still shape our understanding of science today and that have provided the key words for this congress.

#### Observing

Observing – as the foundation of any empirical science – is a fundamental human ability used to encode and understand the natural world. Systemizing scientific observations, theoretically questioning them and finally drawing rule-governed conclusions from them distinguishes scientific observations from everyday experiences. The act of observation played a key role in the emergence of empirical sciences. This ocularcentrism in western sciences is not only based on the established methods of empirical observation and research but also on concepts of epistemology and the perception theories of philosophers like Francis Bacon or John Locke. Inextricably linked to this are the invention, development and usage of scientific instruments that enhanced human perception and opened up new vistas, questions and problems within the realm of scientific observations. To what extent do theory and practice correlate in terms of perception and observation? Which ways of observing can be reconstructed in the history of science? What problems of justification arise due to the usage of scientific instruments? How much does the "scientific perspective" change the way we look at the world?

#### Depicting

The many different ways of depicting the visible and the invisible world have always been central to the development of the sciences. They represent comprehensive theoretical concepts, serve as epistemic tools or epitomize the coherences of a natural order. Without depicting the results of scientific work it would be impossible to spread these findings for the purpose of scientific progress. Various forms of depiction and techniques of (re-)presentation – from artistic drawings to computer-

generated imaging – illustrate the scientific genesis and refer to a dialectic between observer and the observed. How did the relation between perception and depiction take shape in the course of the history of science? What were the aims of documenting and were these aims fulfilled? How much did documenting influence scientific thought?

#### Disseminating

Passing on and explaining scientific knowledge has always been necessary both within and outside the scientific community. The results of scientific thinking and activity have always been communicated within scientific institutions, such as universities, academies or scientific societies but also in the wider areas of social life. Therefore, questions concerning the various ways of conveying information arise, as well as questions about the target audience. What forms of conveying information were developed in the course of the history of science and which were actually used? In what way did the active conveying of scientific information influence scientific attitudes and opinions? How did the various ways of disseminating information influence the information itself?

The symposium welcomes scholars of all disciplines interested in the history of science, so that the "scientific perspective" can be approached in an interdisciplinary context from different theoretical standpoints. Questions concerning the general field of observing, depicting and disseminating can be considered as possible contributions, but other suggestions are welcome as long as they address the genesis of sciences and their methods of operating and thinking.

The conference will be opened by the renowned scientist, author and inventor of the contraceptive pill Prof. Carl Djerassi who will deliver his keynote address titled "Beobachten, Darstellen und Vermitteln durch das Theater" (Observing, Depicting, Disseminating through theatre) at the city hall of Graz.

The Centre for the History of Science Graz asks interested parties to sign up for the symposium at [bdv@uni-graz.at](mailto:bdv@uni-graz.at) by February 1st 2015. Participants are invited to give a 15-20 minute talk with following discussion on ongoing or completed research projects and papers. Please send your suggestion for a presentation (400 words max.) and a short academic CV along with your application to the address above.

Please contact: Zentrum für Wissenschaftsgeschichte, Universität Graz, [bdv@uni-graz.at](mailto:bdv@uni-graz.at)

#### **8 – 10 May 2015**

**Moralische Produkte -- Politik und Ethik von Artefakten. Gemeinsame Jahrestagung der Gesellschaft für Technikgeschichte und des Gesprächskreises Technikgeschichte 2015 / Products and Ethics. Joint conference of the German Society for the History of Technology, GTG, and the Working Group History of Technology**

Zentrum für Zeithistorische Forschung, Potsdam, Germany

CFP – Deadline **18 January 2015**

The aim of the symposium is to analyse to two questions: "Do artifacts have politics?" (Langdon Winner, 1980s) and "Do artifacts have ethics?"

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

Please contact Anne Sudrow, Zentrum für Zeithistorische Forschung, Potsdam, [sudrow@zzf-pdm.de](mailto:sudrow@zzf-pdm.de)

## **Summer 2015**

### **Symposium of the Central Commission for the Navigation of the Rhine, CCNR**

University of Strasbourg, France

CFP – Deadline **15 November 2014**

The Central Commission for the Navigation of the Rhine (CCNR) will celebrate its 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2015. Set up at the Vienna Congress in 1815, the CCNR is the oldest among the contemporary international organizations. Since the beginning, the CCNR has had the objective to watch over the freedom of navigation on the Rhine and the non-discrimination between its nautical flags. Its intervention was also crucial for the space planning of the river and the improvement of its navigability. It contributed to turn the Rhine into a major transport axis and to spurt off the economy of the bordering states. Its governance, which was very early characterized by supra-nationality, turned it into an institution largely ahead of its time. Furthermore, it plays an important role in European diplomacy, where it has been used from time to time as an instrument by a dominant power, but also as a means of cooperation for political decision-makers and economic actors of the borderlands. However, the history of the CCNR is, for large parts, not well known at all.

The celebration of its 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2015, with its different events, will thus present the occasion to trace back the history of the CCNR and to explore its rich, complex past, which is deeply rooted in the heart of the history of the European continent, at the crossroads between institutional topics, economic questions and geopolitical stakes. In order to make this possible, the CCNR and the University of Strasbourg will organize in June 2015, in cooperation with the universities of Rotterdam and Düsseldorf, an international conference on the history of the CCNR. The paper proposals should be presented on one of the following four major research topics.

The first topic goes back to the organization of the CCNR itself. The aim is to analyze, especially from a legal point of view, the institutions of the CCNR and their functioning, to explore the partially supra-national governance of the Commission, to confront it, at least as far as the 19<sup>th</sup> century is concerned, with the "era of nationalism" where its activities took place. Another aspect of the institution's history leads us to focus on important personalities who have directed it. What type of political culture, education and professional background did they have? Have they marked the organization during their lead time? Were they in turn influenced by the organization and convinced by its purpose? Following the same line of thought, paper proposals could also deal with the national delegations represented at the CCNR, either by examining certain moments of history or when studied in a long-term perspective. The decision-making system within the CCNR also deserves to be explored and analyzed. The idea is mainly to better understand the degree of independence of the

institution with regard to the member states. Finally, the CCNR has undoubtedly played a model function for the administration of other river docks in Europe, but also on other continents. Which influence the Commission has it exercised over these organizations created afterwards? One has to question here the transfers operating in terms of governance and administration from one institution to another. At the same time, the differences between these organizations should also be highlighted.

A second set of questions focusses on the missions of the CCNR and their economic impact. A first approach would consist in illustrating the action of the CCNR in favor of the freedom of navigation on the Rhine, its role to guarantee the liberty and the security of navigation on the river and to ensure the equal treatment of ships of all nautical flags. The action of the CCNR was also crucial for the organization of the river space planning, for the canalization projects on the Rhine tributaries, for construction works, for the regularization of the water levels – these are all questions that should be tackled. It should also be considered to study its role as police of navigation, as preceptor of regulations and, by this means, of normalization of standardization. Besides, contributions could also deal with the legal functions of the CCNR as it has been charged, at certain times, with the arbitration of conflicts concerning fluvial traffic or space planning schemes and the Rhine maintenance. The economic dimension was just as much at the heart of the CCNR's missions. Its role in setting-up exchange between industrials, merchants and ship-owners should be examined, as well as in stimulating certain forms of cross-border cooperation. These economic topics invite us to further investigate on the organization of the Rhine traffic and the forms of exchange that the CCNR has initiated. One of the debates after the War was for example to choose between two radically different options: either to adapt the number of transport firms to the volume of goods or to leave the largest possible liberties to the different economic actors. In the same line of thought it would be worth analyzing and interpreting the policies carried out by the CCNR in reaction to the competition that the development of rail and later road transport created for the fluvial navigation. Finally, attention should be drawn to the role of the CCNR in thematic fields linked with the preservation of the environment and the emergence of ecological questions regarding the growing Rhine pollution.

These different forms of competition and cooperation clearly place the CCNR into the center of geopolitical and diplomatic stakes. The CCNR has been first of all confronted with the interest of its member states. Its degree of independence with regard to its "tutors" reveals the importance of international power relations. At least during two periods, from 1871 to 1918 and after the First World War, Germany and France developed real power politics, the CCNR being one of their instruments. Contrarily, at other times, the CCNR became the symbol of reinforced cooperation between the bordering states. Especially after 1945, the CCNR was no longer the only organization to be in charge of transport issues. It therefore developed relations with a whole set of international organizations and European institutions – ECSC, EEC/EC, ECITO, ECMT, OEEC. The opposition between the CCNR and the EEC/EU is a good example in this respect. Finally, the role of the CCNR needs to be clarified concerning the organization of the European continent: which role did it play for the emergence of the European idea during the era of nationalism and for the formation of a European identity in the 20<sup>th</sup> century? During the process of European Integration, did it have a vision at regional level – the Rhine axis- and did it articulate a particular project based primarily on

economic principles? In the wake of globalization, which strategy does the CCNR develop with regard to the articulation of different territorial levels (nation, European regionalism and globalization)?

A last research topic is dedicated to questions of networks and transfers. The CCNR in itself constitutes a network that deserves to be examined. Within the organization, members occupy different functions – diplomats, administrators, engineers and experts-, they have a different educational and cultural background. Within their career, the passage to the CCNR has not necessarily had the same importance. In other words, the study of existing networks within the Central Commission would allow for a better understanding of its functioning. The members of the CCNR are in fact integrated into numerous networks. They are in relation with professional associations, for example of the ship-owners or navigation firms, with national or international private organizations such as the Union of the Rhine Chambers of Commerce, with the governments of the member states and, finally, with the already mentioned other European and international organizations. The aim here is to analyze the interactions and connections between these actors, whether they are linked to lobbying activity on the CCNR, different forms of cooperation/competition which structure the relations between these actors or, finally, to the dissimulation of norms, standards and knowledge by the CCNR. On this last point, the dissimulation canals should be examined – journals, specialized reviews, centers – which are used by the CCNR to reach its target « public », as well as the impact of its decisions on normalization and the unification of the navigation on the Rhine.

Conditions for submission of proposals for papers

Proposals for papers should be sent **before November 15, 2014** in English, French or German at: [martial.libera@unistra.fr](mailto:martial.libera@unistra.fr); [C.Hurbourque@ccr-zkr.org](mailto:C.Hurbourque@ccr-zkr.org); [s.schirmann@unistra.fr](mailto:s.schirmann@unistra.fr)

Proposals should include a title and an abstract not exceeding 400 signs, the coordinates of the private and professional speaker, and a short CV including making out the publications involved in connection with the conference theme.

The Scientific Committee of the conference will respond to the authors of proposals no later than December 15. Authors of accepted proposals will deliver to the Scientific Committee of the conference, at least one month prior to the conference, or May 20, 2015, a summary containing the main theses and major axes of their papers (2-3 pages). Papers may be given in French, German or English. The organizing committee of the conference will cover the costs of transport, accommodation and food stakeholders.

Please contact [martial.libera@unistra.fr](mailto:martial.libera@unistra.fr); [C.Hurbourque@ccr-zkr.org](mailto:C.Hurbourque@ccr-zkr.org); [s.schirmann@unistra.fr](mailto:s.schirmann@unistra.fr)

**3 – 6 September 2015**

## **"Technology and Environment". 7th Tensions of Europe Conference**

**Stockholm**

**CFP – Deadline 15 February 2015**

The 7th Tensions of Europe Conference will have as its main theme the interaction between technology and the environment. One way of understanding the environment is to think of it as nature appropriated by humankind through technological, scientific and representational means. From farming to space travel, we use technologies and natural resources to sustain our lives. Our use of technologies leaves traces behind in the form of altered environments. Changes at global historical and geological scales are accumulated as heritage and geophysical strata respectively. The intersection of technology and the environment can also be understood culturally or socially. We use technology in our understanding and appreciation of nature (religious, poetic or physical), in monitoring it, assessing it representing it. Further, technology can be a lens and a tool in shaping our relation to the environment. Technologies not only assist in shaping and transforming nature, they also assist us to perceive, observe, record and communicate natures and environments, including imaginative representations of techno-natures in art, literature and film.

The conference also invites scholarship in the general themes of the Tensions of Europe network, such as trans-border flows, common resources, conflicting interests, hidden integration and cultural practices.

We not only invite traditional panel-sessions with a number of papers and a commentator, but also strongly encourage different formats and new ideas. As long as quality can be demonstrated, the program committee will not prioritize between formats. By quality we mean suggestions that promise constructive, stimulating and engaging discussion.

We invite scholars from all relevant fields to submit proposals to: [7toe-2015@kth.se](mailto:7toe-2015@kth.se)

by 15 February 2015. All proposals should include a title, a short abstract, the academic title and affiliation of the applicant(s) and a short bio. Please name your file with your surname.

Abstracts for individual papers and posters should be no more than 300 words. For panels, we ask for a description of the theme of the panel (max 300 words) together with shorter abstracts (max 150 words) of the individual papers. If you wish to suggest a presentation of a different format, please use these word limits as guidelines. We will inform applicants by 1 April 2015 whether their contribution has been accepted.

A second call for papers, with information about keynote speakers and the conference website, will be distributed before the end of 2014.

Welcome to Stockholm in September 2015!

Nina Wormbs

Head of Division of History of Science, Technology and Environment, KTH Royal Institute of Technology

Tensions of Europe is a network of historians of technology that biannually arranges a conference trying to engage scholars also in nearby disciplines and with complementing, disagreeing and engaging interests (<http://www.tensionsofeurope.eu/>). The 7th Tensions of Europe conference will be organized by the Division of History of Science, Technology and Environment, KTH Royal Institute of Technology together with the KTH Environmental Humanities Laboratory (<http://www.kth.se/abe/inst/philhist/historia/>).

Please contact Sabine Höhler, Division of History of Science, Technology and Environment, KTH Royal Institute of Technology Stockholm, [sabine.hoehler@abe.kth.se](mailto:sabine.hoehler@abe.kth.se)

### **7 – 10 September 2015**

#### **Time and Culture. Symposium of the International Society for Cultural History**

Bucharest

CFP – Deadline **10 December 2014**

Time is all-around us, as an invisible but always present frame of our existence: we live in time, we change and learn to adapt to its fluidity, and we organize our life and our relations with others – from daily agendas to life projects – depending on Time. Even if Time is a physical reality, our impossibility to perceive it by senses generated a multitude of cultural solution, that in fact transformed Time in probably the most culturally mediated physical dimension of the reality. Across cultures, measuring, structuring, explaining and valuing time takes various forms, from language to technology, from mythology to arts, politics, philosophy, ideology or rituals. History itself, as an intellectual demarche, is ultimately a reflection about time and its variables. Equally perceived with personal and social instruments and concepts, awareness of time is a universal cultural fact, but time and its representations, use and value may vary from one culture to another, and from that perspective we are ourselves products of time. We propose a discussion about time and its multitude of cultural aspects, as culture is our main instrument in interpreting Time:

1. Time, history and memory
2. Time and Heritage: past, present and future
3. Time and power. Time and dimensions of time in ideology, legitimation and propaganda
4. Perception of time: dimensions, representation, interpretation
5. Social time - Personal time.
6. Technology and material culture of time.
7. Time, arts and esthetics
8. Time, myth and cultural imaginary
9. Conscience and Time
10. True memory, false memory

11. Methodological aspects of the study of time
12. Time regimes and regimes of historicity

Presentations should be no more than 20 minutes in length and will either be delivered in English or in French. Each researcher can either submit a proposal or a panel composed of 3 to 4 presentations.

All the proposals should be submitted to the following e-mail address: [bucharest2015@culthist.org](mailto:bucharest2015@culthist.org), before 10.12.2015:

- For a presentation: an abstract (not exceeding 1,500 characters) and a short CV of the author, including his or her publications and articles.
- For a panel: name of the organizer, an overview of the panel (not exceeding 1,000 characters), abstracts of the presentations (not exceeding 1,500 characters) and short CV of the authors, including their publications and articles.

Speakers will be notified of the acceptance of their proposals on (or soon after) 15 January 2015. All the delegates must be members of the ISCH (<http://www.culthist.org/membership/>) and pay the fees specified at the time of registration.

Please contact the organisers by [bucharest2015@culthist.org](mailto:bucharest2015@culthist.org)

#### **14 – 17 September 2015**

#### **The Future of Mobilities: Flows, Transport and Communication. Joint conference of the International Association for the History of Transport, Traffic and Mobility (T2M) and the Cosmobilities Network**

Santa Maria C.V. (Caserta), Italy

CFP - Deadline **1 March 2015**

The International Association for the History of Transport, Traffic and Mobility (T<sup>2</sup>M) and the Cosmobilities Network invite proposals for panels and papers to be presented at their first joint conference. The conference will be hosted by the “Dipartimento di Lettere e Beni Culturali” of the Second University of Naples, Italy on 14-17 September, 2015.

Papers may address the conference theme, or any social, cultural, economic, technological, ecological and political perspectives on the history, present, and especially future of transport, traffic and mobility. The conference openly aims to bridge research approaches, welcoming proposals from different disciplines dealing with mobility studies (history, sociology, anthropology, geography, economy, planning studies, business history, architecture, design, communication, etc.) While the organizing association are rooted in history and sociology, we particularly encourage the submission of interdisciplinary panels.

The conference language is English (only).

The conference theme offers several lines of investigation:

- The future of mobilities in terms of both the future of mobilities studies as well as the future of mobilities *itself*.
- The question of time-frames, e.g. how research concerning the past and the present of mobility can be linked to the future.
- Mobility in the broader horizon of flows and emergent connections between transport, communication and movements.
- Trans-disciplinary research paths, and related theoretical and methodological issues.

Mobility studies have developed out of different disciplinary trajectories, with some studying mainly the past (e.g., transport history, travel writing), others concerned especially with the present (e.g., geography of mobility, mobile media), and still others looking towards the future (e.g., the new mobilities paradigm, transition studies). Yet these historical, contemporary, and future-oriented perspectives may all be diachronic in character, interested in processes and projects, rhythms and articulations, transitions and transformations, evolutions and revolutions. This conference proposes to investigate how we might bring these three streams together into an over-arching project of mobility studies.

Established in the 1950s and 1960s, future studies have been taken more seriously within economic fields, which have had the greatest influence on public policy. Although the action of forecasting often relies on the elaboration of historical and current trends, too often social scientists and humanities scholars have played a marginal role in futurology. Additionally, planning and policy in the mobilities field is still largely dominated by the “technological fix” approach, in which social sciences and humanities remain peripheral. Yet the emerging interdisciplinary mobilities studies suggest that learning lessons from the past and paying attention to the path dependency of developments provides a deeper understanding. In practice, a richer perspective on past and present mobilities could help inform visions of the future and enable more sustainable, equitable, and holistic future oriented solutions.

The conference aims, however, not only to debate the future of mobilities *per se* and the risks and chances of the mobilization of modern worlds. It also considers – in a self-reflexive way – the future of mobility studies as well as the opportunities and limits of a wider trans-disciplinary cooperation among the different research “tribes”.

The 2015 conference theme also openly challenges the traditional division of study among transport, communication and flows (e.g., of water and sewage, of knowledge and money, of rubbish and debris etc.). The entangled relation among those elements calls on scholars to extend our investigations in multiple directions, while also being cognizant of the greater interdependency we expect they will have in the future. As we breach traditional disciplinary boundaries and tread on others’ territory, we raise new theoretical and methodological questions, presenting opportunities and challenges.

The questions linked to the conference theme include (but are not limited to):

- How do we envision and perceive the future of mobilities?
- What economic, technological, and policy perspectives should we adopt?
- What role will be played by environmental issues?

- How will gender and other social disparities shape mobility futures and inform mobility studies in the future?
- What is the role of social science and humanities research scholarships and education in relation to policy makers, industries, governments and civil society?
- How relevant can an inquiry into retrospective futures be, e.g. an historical study of the future envisioned in the past, including fiction and science fictions?
- How can – or even should – comprehensive mobility studies shape future mobility landscapes and lives and in what directions?
- What methods would improve our study of the intertwined connections of flows, transport and communication?

Participants are encouraged, though not required, to organize panels on these or any other related themes. A panel consists of a chair and normally up to three speakers (see below for further information on papers and panels).

#### Venue

The Conference will be hosted by the Dipartimento di Lettere e Beni Culturali (Department of Arts and Cultural Heritage) of the Seconda Università di Napoli (the Second University of Naples).

The Seconda Università di Napoli is a comprehensive global research university that is ranked the top among the universities of South Italy. The Department promotes the development of competences allowing deeper knowledge of the complexity of world's cultural heritage and all forms of interaction with disciplinary areas linked to similar research frameworks. It thus promotes scientific, technological and IT competences for the study, protection, conservation, restoration, and enhancement of the cultural heritage.

The Department hosts an Environmental Policies Watch that aims at encouraging the creation of a network among scholars (not only Italian) who concern themselves with environmental issues.

Santa Maria Capua Vetere is the town hosting the meeting, and it is located approximately 200 km from Rome International Airport, and about 40 km from Naples International Airport.

Field Trips will include the near The Royal Palace of Caserta, and they will be detailed soon.

#### Submission format

**Paper:** The submission of a paper includes one-page resume regarding the presenter and one-page abstract regarding the paper itself. Individual presentations at the Conference are therefore to be limited to a fifteen-minute summary to allow for debate and discussion within the session. The full paper (usually 6,000-8,000 words) has to be submitted in a later stage of the process, and only after the selection outcomes.

**Panel:** A panel consists of a chair and normally up to three speakers; no discussant is required. We especially encourage transnational, comparative and interdisciplinary approaches, and welcome

proposals exploring theoretical or methodological issues as well as those of a more empirical nature. We invite recent entrants to the profession and graduate students to submit proposals. A panel submission should include an abstract of one-page, and one-page presentation regarding the papers included. A short biography of the presenters is also required.

Other: Any other innovative way of presenting research outcomes are welcome. In this case, the submitter(s) are invited to contact the local committee via [federico.paolini@unina2.it](mailto:federico.paolini@unina2.it)

#### Deadlines

The deadline for the submission (max. 1 page each; Word or rich text format only) is 1<sup>st</sup> of March 2015. Send proposals to: [submissions@t2m.org](mailto:submissions@t2m.org).

A notification of acceptance will be sent by April 15 2015. The full text of papers accepted must be submitted by 1 August 2015. The conference will be held on September 14-17, 2015

All participants are required to register.

#### Travel grants and Awards

T2M offers a number of travel grants for young scholars, who are heartily welcome to apply. T2M has also a long tradition of “best-paper” awards. Further information will be posted on [www.t2m.org](http://www.t2m.org)

#### Contacts

For details please visit: [www.t2m.org](http://www.t2m.org) and <http://www.cosmobilities.net>. Further details of the 2015 conference will be posted there in due course.

For enquiries about the program, please contact Sven Kesselring, [sven@plan.aau.dk](mailto:sven@plan.aau.dk) or Massimo Moraglio, [massimo.moraglio@tu-berlin.de](mailto:massimo.moraglio@tu-berlin.de). For information about local arrangements, please contact Federico Paolini, [federico.paolini@unina2.it](mailto:federico.paolini@unina2.it)

#### **25 – 27 September 2015**

**Praktisches Wissen / Tacit Knowledge. Gemeinsame Tagung der Deutschen Gesellschaft für Geschichte der Medizin, Naturwissenschaft und Technik (DGGMNT) und der Gesellschaft für Wissenschaftsgeschichte (GWG) / Joint Conference of the German Society for the History of Medicine, Science and Technology, DGGMNT, and the (German) Society for the History of Science, GWG**

Technische Universität Berlin

CFP – Deadline **20 February 2015**

Please visit <http://www.dggmnt.de/>

Please contact Susan Splinter, Schriftführerin der DGGMNT, NDB, Historische Kommission b. d. Bayerischen Akademie d. Wissenschaften, [splinter@ndb.badw.de](mailto:splinter@ndb.badw.de)

**5 – 8 November 2015**

**RE-CREATE 2015 The 10th anniversary and 6th international conference on the histories of Media, Art Science and Technology**

Montréal, Quebec, Canada

**CFP – Deadline 7 December 2014**

Re-Create 2015, the sixth international Conference on the Histories of Media, Art Science and Technology will mark the 10th Anniversary of the Re conference series. Re-Create 2015 is devoted to exploring what theories, methodologies and techniques can be used to understand past, present and indeed, future paradigms of creative material practice involving technologies within research contexts from a historical and critical point of view.

The title Re-Create is an abbreviation for the term “research-creation”, part of a growing international movement which goes by many names: “practice-led research,” “research-led practice,” and “artistic research,” among others. While the link between research and practice seems to be a new horizon, the media-based arts have long been at the intersection of the humanities, sciences, and engineering and present a critical site in which to take up the changing relationships between knowledge, power, and economy.

Research normally signifies modes of acquiring new knowledge that coherently and systematically advance a field and is grounded and validated by both social frameworks (peers) and existing bodies of knowledge. Similarly, research in conjunction with material practice demands that making be historically, theoretically and methodologically framed and valorized.

Re-Create 2015 seeks to interrogate the historical entanglement of research and making within a wide and diverse set of international sites, disciplines and contexts: from non-institutional creative research initiatives driven by artists and designers in the streets, to the labyrinths of industry funded research labs and universities. From unknown or ignored histories of research-based practices in Latin America, Asia and Indigenous communities to government funded initiatives, the conference will thus critically explore the ongoing and productive tensions between theory, method and making in the histories of media, art, science and technology.

Potential contributors to the conference should focus thematic panel sessions or individual papers on one of the following areas of concentration: <http://moodle.donau-uni.ac.at/recreate/openconf.php>

**LAB STUDIES** : Studies on how artists and designers have historically worked in industry, universities and collective, grass roots-based research environments

**CURATORIAL ACTIONS AND PRACTICES** : How have research paradigms historically entered into curatorial practices and how have they been framed, exhibited and articulated?

**ANTI-INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH** : Historical profiles of non-institutionally based research-driven

explorations.

**THEORETICAL FRAMEWORKS** : How have theoretical paradigms in media, art, science and technology historically evolved structuralism in the 1960s or media studies to current work in affect theory, media archaeology, critical post-humanist approaches derived from STS, appropriation and remix aesthetics, feminist new materialism, queer and postcolonial studies, enactive and distributed cognition?

**METHODOLOGIES** : What can methodological tools emerging from the human and social sciences like ethnography, historiography, archaeology, genealogy and other qualitative techniques provide to the historical and critical positioning of practice?

**INTERDISCIPLINARY INTERSECTIONS AND IMPACTS** : Exploration of the formation and rise of interdisciplinary research fields (image science, sound studies, science studies, sensory studies, environmental studies) and their impact on the construction of media art histories.

**DIGITAL HUMANITIES** : What is the historical relationship between the digital humanities and the histories of media, art, science and technology?

**SITES**: How historically have sites of research and practice in media art, science and technology evolved outside of the predominant spheres of Europe and North America and what forms have they taken?

#### SUBMISSIONS

250 word abstracts of proposals, panel presentations and posters should be submitted in either Text, RTF, Word or PDF formats. Texts can be submitted in French and in English. The DEADLINE for submissions is December 7, 2014. Submitters will be informed by mid February 2015. INFORMATION about the submission process and general information can be found at Re-Create Submission Site: <http://moodle.donau-uni.ac.at/recreate/openconf.php>

**30 March 2016 – 2 April 2016**

**Network of Health and Environment of the European Social Science History Association  
Conference, ESSHC**

Valencia, Spain

CFP – Deadline **15 May 2015**

Proposals are invited for panels or individual papers of any subject dealing with the social history of health and with environmental history. Papers may but do not have to address the connection between health and the environment. While individual papers are welcome, panels consisting of three or –preferably- four contributors and one chair and discussant (who can be the same person) have a higher chance of being accepted. We particularly encourage panels organised around a central theme with a comparative approach, bringing together contributions on different regions and/or time periods. Panel participants must come from different institutions and should come from different countries. We reserve the right to re-arrange panels and contributors as appears necessary in view of the incoming applications.

Suggestions are particularly encouraged on the topics listed below. But proposals on other topics from the entire range of environmental history and of the history of medicine and health are welcome.

1. Global Health - Possible sub-themes: travels of disease; the ecological imperialism revisited; globalisation; plague, cholera, aids, ebola ...
2. Global Resources, their use and impact on well-being: soil, fuels, water...
3. Temporary issues: the emergence and disappearance of perceived health and/or environmental topics.
4. Occupational Health in Resource Extraction: accidents, insurance, long-term health hazards ...
5. Health and/or Nature as Commodity – Themes: developments of the market for medication, health foods and other health products; interaction between physicians, scientists and businessmen
6. Environmental Changes and Impact on Public Health – positive, negative, or both
7. Warfare: how has the situation of warfare affected the physical wellbeing of nature and people in it?
8. Normality – how have common conceptions changed about healthy people or a healthy environment?

Panel chairs can also act as discussants. Discussants have an important role in stimulating discussions, which should take up a substantial part of the panel time. They can identify central issues of the papers, point to similarities and differences, raise individual or general questions or otherwise broaden the perspective on the overall themes of the panels

The deadline is May 15, 2015.

Visit <http://www.iisg.nl/esshc> for:

- General information on the biannual conferences
- The organising institution
- Registration (including paper proposal procedures)

For questions, suggestions etc., please write to:

Iris Borowy, Institute for the History, Theory and Ethics of Medicine, RWTH Aachen University,  
[iborowy@ukaachen.de](mailto:iborowy@ukaachen.de)

and/or

Enrique Perdiguero-Gil, History of Science, Universidad Miguel Hernández de Elche (Alicante, España), [quique@umh.es](mailto:quique@umh.es)

### **III. Scholarships**

#### **New Scholar in Residence Program of the Eisenbibliothek / Iron Library, Schaffhausen, Switzerland**

Now accepting applications!

Starting in 2015, the Iron Library will twice a year offer a scholar the possibility of intensive study of its holdings as Scholar in Residence (SiR). The program is addressed to both established researchers and younger scholars or advanced students from Switzerland and abroad.

#### **Aim of the Program**

In keeping with the Iron Library's specialization, preference will be given to applications from scholars with research projects on the history of metallurgy and mining and the history of technology and materials science, which are the focal points of the Iron Library's collection. Topics from the history of chemistry, the history of science or industrial history and culture will also be given consideration. Innovative research projects that draw on the Library's historical holdings in depth are particularly welcome. Research on the history of the Georg Fischer Corporation is especially welcome because projects that are based wholly or in part on the Corporate Archives of Georg Fischer Ltd will also be supported by the SiR Program.

#### **What the Iron Library offers**

The Iron Library, located in the former Clarissan convent Paradies, is an attractive place for focused research and creative writing. The research period may last from two to three weeks, and the precise dates and modalities will be arranged individually with the successful applicants. The Iron Library will assume the costs of a hotel for the SiR near the Library during the research period, will pay an allowance for the cost of meals during this time and will make a one-time contribution to the costs of travel to and from the Iron Library. The employees of the Iron Library will assist the SiR in his/her research work and in obtaining the relevant literature. The SiR Program is expressly not a full scholarship; any further claims on the Iron Library are excluded.

#### **What we expect from the Scholar in Residence**

It is expected that the SiR will work intensively with the Library holdings during the period of research and will take up residence near the Library. The research period may come at the beginning of a research project or may serve to complete an existing project. The results of the research period must be incorporated into a publication (print or online) and/or a degree (master's, Ph.D. or "Habilitation"), in which the use of the Iron Library is mentioned expressly. When the publication has been completed, the SiR will send the Iron Library two copies without being requested. The SiR undertakes, in addition, to write a short report on the research period in the Iron Library and gives his/her consent for this report to be published on the Iron Library's website, in its Annual Report and,

if appropriate, elsewhere (e.g. social media). The same shall apply to the abstract of the research project (see below).

## Applications

Applicants are requested to submit the following documents:

- an abstract describing the research project (maximum 150 words)
- a curriculum vitae (resume)
- a detailed description of the project that makes it clear which holdings in the Iron Library are to be consulted (maximum 1000 words).

The application documents may be written in English or German and may be submitted by mail or by e-mail. The Governing Board of the Iron Library will decide on the selection of the scholar in residence.

Application deadlines: applications may be submitted at any time.

Please address any questions and your application to:

Franziska Eggimann, Head Iron Library and Corporate Archivist Georg Fischer Ltd

Iron Library, Klostersgut Paradies, 8252 Schlatt, Switzerland, [franziska.eggimann@georgfischer.com](mailto:franziska.eggimann@georgfischer.com)

## IV. Summer Schools

**12 – 25 July 2015**

**2015 Summer Institute: Standards in Society**

Drexel University, Philadelphia

Supported by Drexel University and the National Institute of Standards and Technology

Deadline for application **31 December 2014**

The program in History at Drexel University invites applications from graduate students in all disciplines for participation in a two-week summer institute, "Standards in Society," to be held in Philadelphia, July 12-25, 2015. Participation in the institute, which involves no cost to students and includes housing and meals on Drexel's campus, is open to masters and doctoral students at any stage, working in all science, engineering, social science and humanities fields. Through seminars, field trips and conversations with scholars and practitioners, this innovative two-week course will support students' critical inquiry around the performance, safety, and materials standards that have shaped industry and consumerism worldwide.

Standards have played a role in historical and contemporary debates on environmental risk, public health, economic competition, workforce preparation, and other emergent global concerns and this institute will enhance students' understanding of the technical, legal and ethical aims of standards. Exploring a wide range of scientific and regulatory episodes, we will draw on international examples

of standardization efforts in food-related, agricultural, infrastructural, biomedical, pharmaceutical, electronics and other sectors. Institute participants will learn to detect the legal and political interests that have shaped technical standards across different sectors and to trace the role of standards in broader patterns of global economic and social change. In a series of hands-on exercises students will analyze standards and policy documents and consider implications for practice.

Throughout, we will approach standards as building blocks of modern societies, helping students to frame future standards-related research inquiries in engineering, natural and social sciences, or the humanities.

Applicants should provide a letter explaining their interest in attending the institute, a CV, and the names of two persons who may be asked to provide letters of reference; materials should be submitted by email by **December 31, 2014**. Participants will be notified by February 1, 2015. Applications and requests for further information should be sent by email to Prof. Amy Slaton, Department of History and Politics, Drexel University, at: [slatona@drexel.edu](mailto:slatona@drexel.edu)

## V. 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.

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)

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### **ICOHTEC Subscription Form**

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