

ICOHTEC NEWSLETTER

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Newsletter of the International Committee for the History of Technology ICOHTEC

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

Editorial

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

It was a great pleasure to meet many of you in Porto. Our president Timo Myllyntaus refers in his greetings to the symposium in Porto and to our 44th meeting in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, on 23-29 July 2017. The local organizers of the Porto meeting, Maria Elvira Callapez and Maria Paula Diogo want thank the participants and Hermione Giffard invites to publish your papers in ICOHTEC's peer reviewed journal ICON.

Vanessa Meikle Schulman received ICOHTEC's Young Scholar Price 2016 for very impressive books, William Rankin the Maurice Daumas Prize for excellent articles in the history of technology. This issue of the Newsletter gives the reports of the price committees and a short portrait of William Rankin.

We had a marvellous Jazz Night on our symposium in Porto. This one is not yet listed, but if you want to remember the ICOHTEC Jazz Nights in Tel Aviv and in Brasov 2015 and 2014, please visit youtube and search for "ICOHTEC Jazz Night".

Best wishes

Stefan Poser

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I. ICOHTEC

I.1 Greetings from the President

It was nice to meet old and new friends at our Symposium on the coast of the Atlantic Ocean. In Porto, one could feel being at the same time on the edge of “old Europe” but also at the gate to the “new world”. The City was an excellent site of for a symposium of an organisation such as ICOHTEC. The meeting was successful in various aspects. We had again a versatile programme and fairly high attendance. Thanks to the preceding Summer School in Lisbon, we also had quite many young scholars participating in this symposium. About two hundred twenty participants (220) from more than thirty countries have been registered in this symposium while the number of accompanying persons, too, exceeded the average of this decade’s meetings.

Important decisions of the General Assembly include that we agreed to free membership for two years for three categories of contributors: Those who presented their first paper in our Symposium, completed the Summer School successfully, and were among our prize-winners. These benefits will be provided eligible persons of the Porto symposium and later on. In addition, the General Assembly decided to include a special 50th anniversary session in the programme of our 2018 symposium.

The immediate duty is to continue the preparation of ICOHTEC’s symposium in conjunction of the International Congress of the History of Science and Technology (ICHST) to be held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, on 23-29 July 2017. Our session proposals were accepted by the International Programme Committee of the Congress. However, we have opportunities to modify our sessions but we cannot set up any new sessions. In a forthcoming announcement, I will tell more about our tasks and options related to the Rio Congress.

As mentioned in the General Assembly, due to unfortunate co-incidences we still lack a host for our 2018 symposium. We encourage our colleagues to consider their possibilities to host this meeting, where will celebrate the half century of ICOHTEC’s activities, and work out a hosting proposal if they end up to a positive conclusion. There are many countries, which are well-known on their research and education in the field of the history of technology but where we have not yet had our symposium as well as many other countries where would like to hold another meeting in the near future.

I.2 Post Conference Message of our Local Organizers in Porto

On behalf of the Local Organizing Committee we would like to express our thanks to each of you who attended the ICOHTEC 2016, sharing ideas and taking the time to be in Porto conference on "Technology, Innovation, and Sustainability: Historical and Contemporary Narratives". We also thank to our guest speakers.

If you wish to view photos from the event please visit the conference page, <http://icohtec2016.ciuhct.org/home/thank-you>.

Maria Elvira Callapez and Maria Paula Diogo

I.3 ICOHTEC's Reviewed Journal ICON – Submissions

Send your paper to ICON! ICON welcomes submissions from everyone including especially those who presented at ICOHTEC's 2016 conference in Porto.

ICON publishes papers covering all aspects and periods in the history of technology, but devotes special attention to the discussion of contemporary problems of technology in their socio-economic and cultural settings. The journal's goal is to foster co-operation amongst scholars from all parts of the world by providing timely review and circulation of ideas to an international audience of like-minded individuals.

ICON welcomes submissions from non-ICOHTEC members as well as members, and particularly encourages submissions from authors for whom English is not their first language. All papers are chosen by peer review, using a double blind process, and authors will be given editorial assistance to improve clarity and vigor of written expression.

ICON is now available via JSTOR as well as ICOHTEC's website. Please send your manuscripts (paper plus abstract) to the editor Hermione Giffard, at editor@icohtec.org

For information about format, please consult our guidelines for contributors at <http://www.icohtec.org/publications-icon-guidelines.html>. Further information about the journal is also available at <http://www.icohtec.org/publications-icon.html>

I.4 Report of the Chair of the ICOHTEC Book Prize Committee

This year a more extensive publicity campaign resulted in thirteen entries to this year's competition. Unfortunately, despite the best efforts of the Chair, the committee members failed to provide evaluations of the works until well into June. In February the entries were divided into two groups, two members of the committee undertook to evaluation the entries in English and German, while

the other two members, including the Chair, read those written in French. I set a deadline of mid-April for the return of individual evaluations.

When no members of the committee provided evaluations until June, I endeavored to also read the English and German language entries as well. There were two entries that stood out:

Vanessa Meikle Schulman's, WORK SIGHTS: The Visual Culture of Industry in Nineteenth-Century America, and

Eugénie Briot's, La Fabrique des Parfums: Naissance d'une industrie de luxe.

These two works were also highly rated by the other members of the committee. With the other members of the committee unable to give me any guidance to pick a clear winner between the two works, I have very reluctantly been forced to impose my own judgement here. By the narrowest of margins I have selected Schulman's work, although both are clearly prize-worthy.

I apologize about the lateness of this decision, and realize its implications for the prize winner's session in Porto. While I endeavored to make the committee effective, I must take full responsibility for the failure to provide a timely decision. As a result of this, I hereby tender my resignation from the committee.

I do, however, have the following suggestions to avoid a repeat of this year issues:

1. The chair must be provided with a clear set of guidelines, deadlines etc.
2. Assistance should be provided to assist the committee in spreading word of the competition. This year the use of the ICOHTEC's facebook page was an effective method of promoting the prize.
3. Committee members should be selected by the chair with input from the ICOHTEC executive. It would be useful to recruit the committee from people who regularly attend the annual conference. Language skills are crucial, I have been forced to stretch my own limited linguistic abilities. At least two committee members should be able to read French and German, in addition to English. Committee members must agree to be able to devote considerable time in February and March to reading manuscripts.

08 July 2016

David Zimmerman

My assessment of Schulman's work follows:

Schulman's work is an insightful merging of current historiography in the social and cultural history of technology, labour history, print history, and art history. Her work examines work of artists and engravers in illustrating technology for the general public in the period between the end of the American Civil War in 1865 and the start of the Progressive Era in the 1890s. She argues that "visual language of the imagery" of artists and engraver presented a hopeful view of technology and the work place that was lacking in the gray half-tone photographic reproductions that replaced the artistic skills of the illustrator. Schulman argues that this these artists helped shape American views of technology as the United States emerged as one of the world's centers of technological innovation and industrial production. Her work focuses on the visual representations contained in popular magazines such as *Harper's Weekly*. Schulman perhaps best explains her goals in the majestic study:

To ascertain some of the meanings these images held for their viewers, to explore how artists working in divergent visual media helped to shape American ideas about technology, and to consider hidden chains of association, teasing out how an image's visual armature creates rhetorical positions within a larger culture of debate and representation (p.2). Schulmans work represents the very best of this new approach, which fuses together these multiple fields of history. She provides a thoughtful analysis that forcefully proves the significant influence of the artist and engraver in shaping American perceptions of technology during the 2nd Industrial Revolution.

The Young Scholar Prize is sponsored by the Juanelo Turriano Foundation, Spain.

I.5 Report of the Daumas Prize Committee 2016

2016 is the sixth year of ICOHTEC's Maurice Daumas (Article) Prize and the second year in which the Daumas Prize is dedicated to the group of young scholars. The committee awarded the prize this year to:

William Rankin, Yale University, for his article "The Geography of Radionavigation and the Politics of Intangible Artifacts," which was published in *Technology and Culture*, Volume 55, Number 3, July 2014, pp. 622-674.

The author's methodological approach to think about differences and commonalities between artefacts and non-artefacts based on an example from the history of technology was decisive for the members of the committee.

The winning article was one of 23 applications, which came in from 11 different countries. They were published in English, French, German, Russian, and Spanish. Elvira Callapez kindly agreed to evaluate the papers written in Spanish and thus was appointed member of the prize committee in December 2015.

The committee evaluated many strong papers covering the cultural history of technology, the history of science and construction history. Some articles link the history of technology to social history, to economic history, to history of medicine and to history of politics. Some of these papers are very interesting and received quite good evaluation results. Several articles that deserve mention: *Frederik Meiton*, "Radiance of Jewish National Home: Technocapitalism, Electrification, and the Making of Modern Palestine," *Michael Alfred Kay*, "Troublesome telephony: how users and non-users shaped the development of early British exchange telephony," and *Eugenie Briot*, "Imiter les matières premières naturelles. Les corps odorants de synthèse, voie du luxe et de la démocratisation pour la parfumerie du XIXe siècle".

William Rankin's awarded article is part of his book project on the history of the mapping sciences, territory, and U.S. military globalism in the 20th century. In his paper the author argues that the networks of radio signals for navigation, which were enlarged during World War II, "should be seen no less as part of material culture" than artefacts to generate and measure radio signals (p. 623). Following Rankin "radio waves can sometimes act more like a stable physical artifact than a fleeting

communication signal”; thus he suggests “a broad reinterpretation of the importance of radionavigation in the mid-twentieth century” (p. 623). Rankin pursued a two-pronged approach: he investigates the “porous boundary between the tangible and the intangible” (p. 626) or – more common – between material and immaterial artefacts on the one hand and the history of radio navigation as part of material culture on the other hand. In order to do so he takes philosophy - namely “thing theory” - in account.

Concerning the history of navigation Rankin points out, that the major transitions in the development of radio navigation are not linked to the inauguration of the satellite based GPS system in the early 1990s: this was just to renew the existing electromagnetic infrastructure which was fully developed in the 1960s. A system of road-like aviation routes was developed in the United States in the 1920s; this system was based on the metaphor of railway lines in the air and likened to railway technology in some way. The European system of a net of electromagnetic waves was completely different, enabling a pilot or navigation officer to find the position of his plane in any point of earth’s surface. The concept was based on systems for navigation on the Sea, linked different countries and became a nearly global system in the post war period. Thus it was a step to technology-based Globalisation.

The author analysed the different ideas of immaterial technology behind these different concepts and technologies of navigation and demonstrated that the solutions were based in different concepts of space as well as on political and geographic conditions. Rankin demonstrates how strategies and geographies of “thingness” can change over time. He makes clear that his findings about material and non-material artefacts can be applied in quite different fields as debates on public health, environment or the role of government.

Rankin’s well designed, complex article is most impressive in his successful linking of methodological and subject related contents. In doing so he poses new questions for further research.

Stefan Poser, Dr., Chair

Helmut-Schmidt-Universität Hamburg, Germany

Maria Elvira Callapez, Prof.

CIUHCT, Faculdade de Ciências, Universidade de Lisboa, Portugal

Hermione Giffard, Dr.

University of Utrecht, The Netherlands

Eike-Christian Heine, Dr.

Technische Universität Braunschweig, Germany

Laurent Heyberger, Dr.

Université de technologie de Belfort-Montbéliard (UTBM), France

Susan Schmidt Horning, Prof.

St. John's University, Queens, NY, USA

Liliia Zemnukhova, PhD

Sociological Institute of the Russian Academy of Sciences (SI RAN), St. Petersburg, Russia

The Maurice Daumas Prize is sponsored by the Université de technologie de Belfort-Montbéliard (UTBM), France.

William Rankin – a Portrait

William Rankin is an assistant professor of history at Yale University; he holds a dual PhD in history of science and history of architecture from Harvard. His first book is *After the Map: Cartography, Navigation, and the Transformation of Territory in the Twentieth Century*, which was just published in summer 2016 by the University of Chicago Press. The book is a history of the mapping sciences in the twentieth century; it tracks the shift from the god's-eye view of the paper map to the embedded experience of GPS. It analyzes the role of mapping both in the macropolitics of US global power and in the micropolitics of everyday subjectivity and the unexpected uses of new technologies. Rankin is currently working on two new book projects. One is a spatial history of the environmental sciences since 1960 that explores the changing relationship between graph-like knowledge and map-like knowledge. The other is a methodological-theoretical book on mapping and visual communication.

Abstract of the Paper:

During the middle of the twentieth century, radionavigation systems became an important part of the built environment. They created a durable, semi-permanent spatial framework for a wide variety of tasks – everything from intercontinental air travel to new forms of high-precision surveying. This article argues that these systems constructed a new kind of transnational geography, even well before satellites, and that large-scale spatial integration followed more from political failure and commercial competition than from the kind of top-down military politics later associated with GPS. This article also sees radio as one of a broad class of related phenomena – *intangible artifacts* – that are undoubtedly material but only selectively visible, obstinate, or thingy. These artifacts share a particular spatial and temporal logic and have played a crucial role in the emergence of new forms of geographic power in the last hundred years.

Please find the article on: <http://history.yale.edu/sites/default/files/files/2014%20rankin%20-%20radionavigation%20and%20intangible%20artifacts.pdf>

II. Conference Reports

Futuring the Stars: Europe in the Age of Space

Conference of the Emmy Noether Research Group “The Future in the Stars: European Astroculture and Extraterrestrial Life in the Twentieth Century,” Friedrich-Meinecke-Institut, Freie Universität Berlin, March 2016

Constanze Seifert, Freie Universität Berlin

After more than half a century of human spaceflight, waves of anniversaries draw public attention to national and international milestones in space exploration and encourage debate about future expectations. It is worth considering that the search for new epoch-making enterprises and a shift in international spaceflight promotes a “New Space Age”, revealing a need for a joint future perspective

and historical self-assurance at the same time. The present development demands a closer look at the history of the "Space Age".

The Emmy Noether Research Group "The Future in the Stars: European Astroculture and Extraterrestrial Life in the Twentieth Century" set out to investigate the cultural history of outer space from the 1920s to the 1970s as a new perspective on the history of twentieth-century Europe. Their final conference "Futuring the Stars: Europe in the Age of Space"^[1] was a three-day event held as an interdisciplinary exchange by ALEXANDER GEPPERT (New York/Berlin), JANA BRUGGMANN (Berlin) and TILMANN SIEBENEICHNER (Berlin). Thirteen presentations organized in seven panels provided insight into the key questions of their research agenda on the cultural history of the European Space Age. The conveners also announced the publication of two forthcoming volumes: "Limiting Outer Space" and "Militarizing Outer Space", which will complete an "unintended trilogy" with the first volume "Imagining Outer Space".^[2] Half a decade of intense work created a community of interdisciplinary scholars who contributed to de-exoticizing the study of outer space and integrating it into mainstream historiography.

In his introduction, the director of the research group, ALEXANDER GEPPERT specified the accomplishments of this venture, which started in fall 2010 and comprised a series of yearly events covering a variety of themes: After a comprehensive film retrospective entitled "Weltraumkino" (2011), subsequent symposia examined topics such as "UFO-Geschichte" (2011) and "Envisioning Limits" (2012). With each conference, the group aimed to intervene in ongoing historiographical debates, including sound history with "Sounds of Space" (2012) or "Berliner Welträume" (2015) which focused on local urban history. The conference "Embattled Heavens" (2014) addressed the so-called "dark side of global astroculture" by examining the militarization of space.^[3] Geppert seized the opportunity to evaluate the group's main findings and achievements, emphasizing the pursuit of different perspectives and periodizations concerning the "transatlantic century" (Mary Nolan) and the "Space Age". He suggested deconstructing the latter, Cold War-centric periodization by considering the first successful launch of an A-4 rocket in Peenemünde on 3 October 1942 as the beginning, and the end of the Apollo program in 1972 as the decline of the Space Age.^[4] Having previously coined the conceptual tool "astroculture" as an umbrella term to analyze and mark interconnections between space-related products and their cultural significance, the research group's final conference "Futuring the Stars" featured presentations that paid specific attention to the ways in which outer space became implemented in different and competing visions of the future.

Addressing outer space as both an emotional encounter and mythological extension, the first panel approached astrocultural *lieux de memoires* and two sites of space enthusiasm in Germany. Focusing on Berlin and Jena before and after the Second World War, KATHERINE BOYCE-JACINO (Baltimore, MD) analyzed the astrocultural history of planetaria and located them at the intersection of science, education and entertainment. As a means to escape from the city, planetaria created a cosmic experience and attracted millions of visitors throughout Europe. By contrast, PHILIPP AUMANN (Peenemünde) addressed "miracle weapons" of the National Socialist regime, which expressed its belief in cultural superiority through technological progress and innovation. Disregarding the exploitation of forced laborers, former engineers and museum founders alike promoted the "Heeresversuchsanstalt Peenemünde" as the birthplace of space travel, thereby claiming a place for Peenemünde within the Space Age. Since 2001, the museum's permanent exhibition has encouraged

critical reflection about the ambivalence of rocket technology and is currently preparing a social and cultural history of the armament center.

The conference also identified contradictions concerning the belief in technological progress and the future of rocketry. DANIEL BRANDAU (Berlin) provided insight into the institutionalization of space research in the Federal Republic of Germany and the distrust in rocketry as a dual-use technology. He analyzed the work of various interest groups after 1945, such as the “Gesellschaft für Weltraumforschung” (GfW), the “Arbeitsgemeinschaft für Raketentechnik” (AFRA) and later the “Deutsches Zentrum für Luft- und Raumfahrt” (DLR). Interested in changing technological visions, Brandau showed how rocketry lost its utopian characteristics by 1960 due to the new democratic culture in Western Germany, the process of integration in Western Europe and the professionalization of networks. The panel also demonstrated the impact of space lobbyists and publicists on research and image-making. Drawing on new material from the Kubrick archive in London and the “Clarkive” in Washington, DC, ROBERT POOLE (Preston) read the work of the British science fiction writer Arthur C. Clarke (1917–2008) as a project of a visionary “techno-prophet” and space advocate with missionary ambitions. Clarke became an international celebrity after his breakthrough book “The Exploration of Space” (1951) and the joint film project “2001: A Space Odyssey” with American film director Stanley Kubrick in 1968.

Bringing the first day to a close, two presentations focused on the visual history of space exploration and the so-called “overview effect” (Frank White). Astronomical images of Earth have a long tradition in the Western imagination, dating back to the nineteenth century. These imaginations, such as cartographic images by the French astronomer Camille Flammarion in 1880, were replaced by the renowned photographs “Earthrise” (Apollo 8, 1968) and “Blue Marble” (Apollo 17, 1972). JANA BRUGGMANN (Berlin) investigated major shifts in how the “whole-Earth” motif was re-envisioned from the 1880s through the 1970s. Bruggmann argued that the perception of earth and space influenced the rise of global self-awareness, environmentalism and visions of the future in their time. A second presentation on “iconic” space imagery after 1961 connected their production contexts and public receptions with ideas about space travel by European philosophers, like Günther Anders, Hannah Arendt and Jacques Lacan. NATALIJA MAJSOVA (Ljubljana) drew attention to the technical requirements and emotionally-charged expectations behind space photography, like the first images of the Martian surface (Mariner 4, 1965) or “Pale Blue Dot” (Voyager 1, 1990), an icon of hypermodernity.

Further analysis of public perceptions of European and American space programs were presented on the conference’s second day, revealing major shifts from the 1960s to the 1980s and demonstrating how political contexts determined space policy and its reception during the Cold War. Exploring the spirit of the Space Age in West German television, RALF BÜLOW (Berlin) recalled the first German space documentaries by television journalist Rüdiger Proske (1916–2010) who became famous with the documentary series “Auf der Suche nach der Welt von morgen” (1961–1986) as well as “Zum Mond und weiter” (1966). Another big television hit was the seven-part “Raumpatrouille - Die phantastischen Abenteuer des Raumschiffes Orion” (1966), which aired before “Star Trek” in September 1966. In contrast to this “golden age” of spaceflight, TILMANN SIEBENEICHNER (Berlin) addressed the overlap of peaceful and military ambitions within the Post-Apollo Program. Analyzing the media coverage of the first Spacelab flights – a reusable space laboratory between 1983 and 1998 –, Siebeneichner discussed its role as a political prestige project in establishing European space

power and entry into manned spaceflight.[5] He showed how contemporary hopes of international cooperation collided with the American Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI) in 1983, stressing the dual-use character of space technology and its ambivalent political instrumentalization.

THORE BJØRNVIG (Copenhagen) occupied a special position in the final conference. As an historian of religion inspired by the concept of “dark green religion” (Bron Taylor), he introduced the concept of “outer space religion” as an interpretative tool for studying astroculture. In providing an analytical framework, he introduced different ways of extraterrestrial encountering through spaceflight, SETI, UFOs and psycho-occult religion. Bjørnvig discussed the idea of a mythological complex behind religious imaginations of outer space. To reinforce his argument, he addressed the impact of colonial and Judeo-Christian apocalyptic thinking and accentuated the experiences of astronauts.

The final panel revisited astroculture as an intellectual concept and historical category. The participants determined astroculture to be a useful label and “floating signifier” to de-exoticize and integrate the cultural history of outer space into mainstream historiography. In his commentary, MARTIN COLLINS (Washington, DC), suggested framing astroculture in relation to modernity and undertaking a more spatial and temporal demarcation of astroculture. DIRK VAN LAAK (Gießen) discussed similarities between European astroculture and colonial and imperial endeavors. In his opinion, astroculture originated in Europe but failed to garner public support and lasting enthusiasm as it could not prove its necessity to everyday life. In contrast, MICHAEL J. NEUFELD (Washington, DC) called attention to the ongoing expansion of space infrastructure and argued for a “New Space Age”. He suggested specifying astroculture as a cultural phenomenon by drawing boundaries with other concepts.

The final conference, “Futuring the Stars: Europe in the Age of Space”, was an extraordinary end to an exciting project. The panel discussion revealed new research directions. The audience suggested a more gendered view on female protagonists and space personae, more close readings from other geopolitical areas, movements and private initiatives, as well as further studies pursuing the rise of space powers in Asia. Seeing our planetized present as a direct consequence of the Space Age, Alexander Geppert argued for a more global view of astroculture, space thought and spaceflight. Indeed, the planetization of Earth and the making of a globally-imagined community are inextricably intertwined. Further research on a global astroculture should discuss historical dynamics of conflict and cooperation across regions and regimes beyond an emphasis on the Cold War.

In summary, the results of this final conference highlighted ongoing questions and challenges behind the conceptualization and periodization of astroculture and the Space Age. The final discussion drew much attention to the “New Space Age” and startup rocketry companies such as SpaceX, and how astroculture became a part of our everyday world. This conference successfully continued the interdisciplinary dialogue, adding new regional and thematic case studies and methodological approaches. Certainly, the work of the Emmy Noether Research Group, “The Future in the Stars: European Astroculture and Extraterrestrial Life in the Twentieth Century”, has led to the creation of a new research field in Germany and Europe, whose questions have become more global over time. Its symposia represent a transnational and global perspective and contributed to the interpretation of the twentieth century and crisis phenomena since the 1970s. There was an atmosphere of gratitude and strong support amongst the participants, a result of their six-year commitment to this endeavor. By giving different kinds of studies and interdisciplinary approaches the opportunity to engage in this

topic, the group ensured further individual and collective work on astroculture, promising, “It’s the final countdown, but we will be back” (Alexander Geppert).

Notes:

[1] <www.geschkult.fu-berlin.de/futuring> (05.06.2016).

[2] Alexander C.T. Geppert (ed.), *Imagining Outer Space: European Astroculture in the Twentieth Century*, Basingstoke 2012; idem (ed.), *Limiting Outer Space: Astroculture After Apollo*, London 2017 (forthcoming); idem / Daniel Brandau / Tilmann Siebeneichner (eds.): *Militarizing Outer Space: Astroculture, Dystopia and the Cold War*, London 2017 (forthcoming).

[3] Weltraumkino. Eine Retrospektive, 01.04.2011–08.05.2011 Berlin, in: H-Soz-Kult, 09.03.2011, <<http://www.hsozkult.de/event/id/termine-15935>> (14.07.2016); Conference reports: Ufugeschichte, 30.09.2011–01.10.2011 Berlin, in: H-Soz-Kult, 04.03.2012, <<http://www.hsozkult.de/conferencereport/id/tagungsberichte-4144>> (14.07.2016); Envisioning Limits: Outer Space and the End of Utopia, 19.04.2012–21.04.2012 Berlin, in: H-Soz-Kult, 09.07.2012, <<http://www.hsozkult.de/conferencereport/id/tagungsberichte-4303>> (14.07.2016); Sounds of Space, 30.11.2012–01.12.2012 Berlin, in: H-Soz-Kult, 26.04.2013, <<http://www.hsozkult.de/conferencereport/id/tagungsberichte-4777>> (14.07.2016); Embattled Heavens: The Militarization of Space in Science, Fiction, and Politics, 10.04.2014–12.04.2014 Berlin, in: H-Soz-Kult, 08.08.2014, <<http://www.hsozkult.de/conferencereport/id/tagungsberichte-5496>> (14.07.2016); Berliner Welträume im 20. Jahrhundert, 30.03.2015 Berlin, in: H-Soz-Kult, 14.10.2015, <<http://www.hsozkult.de/conferencereport/id/tagungsberichte-6204>> (14.07.2016).

[4] Alexander C. T. Geppert, „Die Zeit des Weltraumzeitalters, 1942–1972“, in: *Geschichte und Gesellschaft. Sonderheft 25* (2015), pp. 218–250; Catherine Radtka, *L’astroculture européenne, terrain de recherche. Entretien avec Alexander Geppert*, in: *Humanités Spatiales*, 13.05.2016, <<http://humanites-spatiales.fr/lastroculture-europeenne-terrain-de-recherche/>> (05.06.2016).

[5] Tilmann Siebeneichner, *Europas Griff nach den Sternen. Das Weltraumlabor Spacelab, 1973–1998*, in: *Themenportal Europäische Geschichte* (2015), <<http://www.europa.clio-online.de/2015/Article=739>> (05.06.16).

For more information please visit: www.hsozkult.de/conferencereport/id/tagungsberichte-6621

III. Conference Announcements

15 – 16 September 2016

Materielle Kultur und Perspektiven der Technikgeschichte / Material Culture and Perspectives of the History of Technology

Technisches Museum Wien, Austria

Please visit <http://www.technischesmuseum.at/event/materielle-kultur-und-perspektiven-der-technikgeschichte>

Please contact Edith Leisch-Prost, Vienna Technical Museum, edith.leisch-prost@tmw.at

22 – 24 September 2016

European Society for History of Science, 7th Conference

Prague

Please visit <http://www.7eshs2016.cz/> and <http://eshs.ens.fr/>

26 – 27 September 2016

“Urban Peripheries?” Emerging Cities in Europe’s South and East, 1850-1945

Barcelona

Please visit <https://www.herder-institut.de/go/Sb-185084>

Please contact Eszter Gantner, eszter.gantner@herder-institut.de

5 – 8 October 2016

And the Word Became Garden: Conception and Image in the History of the Landscape Culture

National Research University “Higher School of Economics” (Poletayev Institute for Theoretical and Historical Studies in the Humanities; School of Philology), Russian State University for the Humanities, Moscow

Please visit <http://www.gardenhistory.ru/page.php?pageid=443>

Please contact Julia V. Ivanova (Poletayev Institute for Theoretical and Historical Studies in the Humanities, HSE), juliaivanova@list.ru

3 – 4 November 2016

The Road to Global Inequality, 1945-Present Day: New Historical Perspectives

Aarhus University, Denmark

Please visit <http://conferences.au.dk/globalinequality2016/>

Please contact Christian Olaf Christiansen, School of Culture and Society, Aarhus University, globalinequality@cc.au.dk

3 – 4 February 2017

Commodity Trading Companies in the First Global Economy, 1870-1914

Rotterdam

CFP – Deadline **1 October 2016**

Industrialisation and economic liberalism caused a steep growth of the international trade in commodities during the First Global Economy. Trading companies shaped the emergent global value chains of commodities ranging from minerals to metals and food stuffs. At this highpoint of Britain’s economic dominance, British commodity trading companies were front runners. However, rapid growth and a growing need for raw materials and natural resources in the US, Germany and Japan opened up new trading opportunities and markets. Simultaneously, opening imperial trade systems offered opportunities for commodity trading companies in colonial Africa and Asia.

As risk takers, information gatherers and arbitrageurs, commodity trading companies not only shaped global value chains but also contributed to the integration of markets and the convergence of prices. As markets integrated, price spreads fell, reducing the trader's margins. Moreover, the first global economy witnessed the birth of the vertically integrated, multinational enterprise, replacing the role and services offered by merchants and trading companies. Theory suggests that falling margins and competition from manufacturing firms force trading companies to either disappear or diversify away from pure trading and turn into hybrid trading companies or even manufacturing multinationals. Nevertheless, commodity trading companies still exist, some with histories stretching back to the 19th Century. In spite of an abundance of scholarship on market integration, price convergence and the rise of the multinational enterprise, much less is known about the fates of the actual trading companies that shaped the emergent global economy in the first place.

This 2-day workshop aims to bring together scholars working on commodity markets and commodity trading companies during the first global economy. We also welcome papers that extend the period backwards into the early 19th Century or forwards into the 20th Century. The objective is to discuss and compare the role and fate of trading companies across a range of commodities and geographical regions. Who were these companies and traders that shaped global commodity chains? How did they organise their business across borders and continents? And how were they affected by the increasing integration of markets and the rise of multinational enterprises? Is it possible to identify phases of growth and decline, and how do different commodity markets compare? We aim to publish (a selection of) the papers either as an edited volume or a special issue of a peer-reviewed journal.

Proposals

We welcome proposals for papers on any commodity or region that engage with one or more of the above questions. Please send abstracts of max. 500 words and short CVs to Espen Storli (espen.storli@ntnu.no) or Marten Boon (marten.boon@ntnu.no) before 1st October 2016. Presenters are asked to send in an extended abstract of around 4,000 words prior to the workshop.

The workshop will take place in Rotterdam, and is jointly organised with Business History@Erasmus, the Erasmus University's centre for business history. Rotterdam is a fitting place to hold this workshop. The Port of Rotterdam has since the 19th Century been a global commodities hub. However, it's not just history that propelled Rotterdam into Lonely Planet's top 5 of cities to visit, exclaiming that "Rotterdam is the future....now". Its renowned Market Hall – sampling foods from all over the world and amazing modern architecture indeed make Rotterdam a great place to visit.

Please visit <https://www.ntnu.edu/ihs/traders/events>

Please contact Marten Boon, Department of Historical Studies Norwegian University of Science and Technology Trondheim, marten.boon@ntnu.no

17 – 19 April 2017

OPEC and the Global Energy Order from its Origins to the Present Day

Abu Dhabi

CFP – Deadline **15 September 2016**

Crude oil was a crucial natural resource for the industrial development of the last century and contributed to the rise of a new era that is now been called the Anthropocene. The history of the largest petroleum exporters is thus deeply intertwined with the evolution of the global political economy of the 20th century, with environmental changes and with shifting ideas about the management of natural resources.

We are especially interested in the social, cultural, institutional and political connections among the oil producing states in an historical perspective, with a focus on their international cooperation in OPEC.

The main themes (and some possible specific questions) that we hope to address include:

OPEC and the Making of Oil Policy

- OPEC members' shared identity as oil exporters has fostered contacts between them, even though they are separated by different languages, cultures and religions. Who were the protagonists of these contacts, and what kind of practical impact, if any, did they have on the policies of individual OPEC members?
- Associated with the emergence of OPEC, how Resource Nationalism refashioned the political culture in OPEC member countries?
- Has OPEC been able to coordinate oil policy when its member states are at odds with each other, and if so, how?
- Within the member states, how is authority over oil policy divided among rulers and prime ministers, ministers of Petroleum, officials in charge of economic policy, and national oil companies?
In writing the history of OPEC, is there any room for an approach from below? What sort of influence is exercised by actors in OPEC countries outside the realm of high politics, such as labor and environmentalist movements, religious institutions, and intellectuals?
- How has OPEC's strategy changed over time? What were the main decisions of OPEC and were they mainly driven by politics or by economics?
- Who were the most influential members of OPEC at different times? How did internal alliances change overtime?

OPEC, the Consumers and the Developing World

- What has been the relationship between OPEC and Third World institutions such as UNCTAD? Has OPEC been influenced by other Third World ideological and political projects? How has OPEC and its member states managed their relationships with oil-importing developing countries?
- How does OPEC compare with other commodity agreements?
- How has OPEC's relationship with the industrialized, oil-importing countries evolved over time?

- What can OPEC teach or learn from the management of natural resources in consuming countries?
- What were the most important moments of conflict and cooperation between OPEC and the consumers? How has OPEC dealt with consumer's organizations such as the IEA?
- What was the image of OPEC in public opinion and the media, both in industrialized and oil-importing developing countries, and how did this image changed overtime?

OPEC, non-OPEC and the International Oil Companies (IOCs)

- How has OPEC and its member states interacted with non-OPEC oil exporters such as Russia, Mexico and Norway?
- When have IOCs clashed with OPEC and when have they tried to cooperate? What influence did the IOCs exert over the governments of oil producing countries and how did this influence differ among different oil-producing countries?

OPEC and the Global Challenges of the 20th and the 21st Century

- How did OPEC approach the global economy and the environmental question at specific turning points: in the decade of the "oil shocks" and high prices as well as in the decades of the "countershock" and low prices.
- What did OPEC and individual OPEC countries think about consumerism, price instability, industrialization, the "limits to growth," global warming, and what was their policy response to these different challenges?
- How does the management of oil in OPEC countries compare to the management of other natural resources in other commodity exporting countries?
- What were the global academic debates on the role of OPEC as a positive (stabilization factor) or negative (cartel) force in the global economy?
- Who were the main protagonists of these debates and how did these debates change in time?
- Has OPEC really played a role in the main economic crisis of the 20th and 21st century and what was its role in "global warming"? How has OPEC reacted to the various UN conferences on climate change?

As for the time frame while we encourage contributions that explore thematically the entire history of the organization, a possible periodization for more specific contributions is the following:

WWII to 1960: the origins of OPEC

1960 to 1973: OPEC as a trade union for the producing countries

1973 to 1986: the period of OPEC's dominance

1986 to present: the ascendancy of the market

Selection Committee: Majid Al Moneef; Touraj Atabaki (Leiden University); Gopalan Balachandran (Graduate Institute, Geneva); Duccio Basosi (University Ca' Foscari, Venice); Juan Carlos Boué (Oxford

Institute for Energy Studies); Dag Harald Claes (University of Oslo); Giuliano Garavini (NYUAD); Sophia Kalantzakos (NYUAD); Einar Lie (University of Oslo); Victor McFarland (University of Missouri); Robin Mills (Qamar Energy).

Please send a proposal (500 words maximum) and a short CV by 15 September 2016 to Giuliano Garavini, gg82@nyu.edu

All expenses for the presenters will be covered by the organizers, plus a small number of travel grants will be available for applicants coming from less advantaged countries.

Please contact Giuliano Garavini, gg82@nyu.edu

4 – 6 May 2017

Reminder: 3rd Annual Meeting of the Gesellschaft für Bautechnikgeschichte / German Society for Construction History

Potsdam, Germany

CFP – Deadline **15 September 2016**

Please visit: <https://gesellschaft.bautechnikgeschichte.org>

Please contact the organizers by info@bautechnikgeschichte.org

18 – 20 May 2017

The 28th Baltic Conference on the History of Science

Tartu, Estonia

CFP – Deadline **28 February 2017**

The Estonian Association of the History and Philosophy of Science cordially invites you to the 28th Baltic Conference on the History of Science (BCHS), which will take place from May 18 to 20, 2017 in Tartu, Estonia. The conference is dedicated to the 250th anniversary of Georg Friedrich Parrot (1767-1852). Parrot was the initiator of the reopening of the University of Tartu in 1802 and the first Rector. He is known as an organizer, educator and scientist who was among the very first to introduce the ideas of the Enlightenment into the Baltic region. The Baltic conferences on the history of science share a long tradition, which stretches back to the year 1958 when the first conference took place in Riga. The following conferences were held in Estonia, Lithuania and Latvia. In 2014, the 26th BCHS took place in Helsinki, Finland. The 28th BCHS focuses at ideas of the Enlightenment and on various sciences in late 18th and early 19th century on the western border of the Russian Empire. However, papers on more recent developments will be welcome as well. The 28th BCHS covers a variety of topics, which divide into working sections:

- a) Enlightenment ideas in education in Europe;
- b) Philosophical ideas concerning the Enlightenment;
- c) Science and practice – utilitarianism and the Enlightenment;
- d) Science communication and science policy.

Detailed information about the conference programme, registration, abstracts, accommodation and other matters will be published on the website of the Baltic Association for the History and Philosophy of Science www.bahps.org in due course. Please send abstracts of 500 words maximum to tarmo.kiik@gmail.com by Feb. 28, 2017.

Please visit www.bahps.org

Please contact Tarmo Kiik, tarmo.kiik@gmail.com

31 May – 3 June 2017

Vernacular Architecture Forum 2017. Annual Meeting

Salt Lake City, Utah

CFP – Deadline **30 October 2016**

The Vernacular Architecture Forum (www.vafweb.org) invites paper proposals for its 36th Annual Conference in Salt Lake City, Utah, May 31-June 3, 2017. Papers may address vernacular and everyday buildings, sites, or cultural landscapes worldwide. Submissions on all relevant topics are welcome but we encourage papers exploring western American themes, including ethnic settlement, landscapes of ranching, mining, and agriculture, urbanization, religious expression, Native American identity, and the creation of vacation and recreation landscapes. Additionally, the VAF is launching a multi-year program of inquiry into the distinctiveness of the VAF and the vernacular architecture movement. To this end, we encourage papers that consider this field over time. How does the wide range of VAF projects (tours, guidebooks, book and article awards, field schools, annual conference papers, publications, etc.) demonstrate how our questions, concerns, and methods have changed and evolved? Where do we see evidence of that history in our current work, and what might our future look like? Proposals might focus on a particular building type (i.e. houses, barns), a research strategy (fieldwork), political or theoretical convictions (Gender, Marxism, the Everyday, etc), or particular approaches to presenting our work and engaging colleagues and the public.

Students and young professionals may also apply for the Pamela H. Simpson Presenter's Fellowships offering support of up to \$500 to presenting papers at VAF's annual conference.

Submitting an Abstract

Papers should be analytical rather than descriptive, and no more than twenty minutes in length. Proposals for complete sessions, roundtable discussions or other innovative means that facilitate scholarly discourse are especially encouraged. At least one session will be devoted to Field Notes – shorter papers (five to eight minutes in length) that introduce new techniques, innovations, and discoveries in documenting vernacular buildings and landscapes. Proposals should clearly state the argument of the paper and explain the methodology and content in fewer than 400 words. Make sure to indicate if it is a regular paper proposal or a shorter fieldwork proposal. Please include the paper title, author's name, email address, a one-page c.v. You may include up to two images with your submission. Note that presenters must deliver their papers in person and be VAF members at the time of the conference. Speakers who do not register for the conference by March 1, 2017, will

be withdrawn. Please do not submit an abstract if you are not committed to attending the papers session on Saturday, June 3rd.

The abstracts and c.v. should be emailed as a PDF attachment to the VAF Papers Committee Chair, Daves Rossell, at papers@vafweb.org.

Please visit www.vafweb.org/saltlakecity-2017

Please contact Alison Flanders at saltlakecity@vafweb.org

1 – 3 June 2017

Beyond Data: Knowledge Production in Bureaucracies across Science, Commerce, and the State

German Historical Institute, Washington, D.C.

CFP – Deadline **1 November 2016**

How do bureaucracies produce knowledge from the data they gather? This question has been raised not only in the history of science and technology, but also in colonial and postcolonial studies, business and administration history, media and organization studies. In recent years, practices of collecting and transforming data have become popular objects of study in these disciplines, yielding a rich literature on how knowledge was produced and applied in state administrations, academic institutes, businesses, religious institutions, and other public and private organizations. Practices of systematic knowledge production and utilization were thus not confined to one particular domain but rather emerged in science, commerce and state administration alike. Therefore, much can be learned by comparing and contrasting fact keeping in these different domains.

This workshop aims to bring together scholars from different fields to explore how practices of making and using knowledge emerged and evolved within and across science, commerce and state administration. In order to historicise assumptions about how bureaucratic knowledge production works, the workshop will also examine how actors of the time conceptualised these practices: how did they think that their bureaucracies gained and acted upon knowledge? Here, we will pay particular attention to knowledge transfers between western and non-western institutions and their perception in both transnational and (post-) colonial contexts. The papers will tackle the big question of knowledge production in bureaucracies through case studies and an emphasis on technologies and practices of knowledge making within larger frameworks such as governance, empire, and capitalism.

Bringing together researchers from various disciplines within and beyond history, the workshop will expand existing scholarship by exploring the methods and tools to compile and process data in a broad range of settings – from local administrations to mining offices, from colonial trade companies to insurance firms, and from the early modern period to the recent past. By juxtaposing examples from different periods and contexts, the workshop will address questions that are difficult to answer through individual case studies alone: Did the need to know shared by government, commerce and science result in similar material practices of collecting and transforming large amounts of data? Or did the divergent internal logics of these domains produce idiosyncratic approaches and tools? In what ways did methods and tools to classify, order, and process information migrate from one institutional context to another and change? And do we have to specify – and possibly diversify – our

notion of knowledge when the aim of information processing is not so much getting the facts straight but making decisions? The workshop will move the debate on knowledge practices from epistemic questions – how did actors acquire knowledge in spite of overwhelming environments? – to questions about the different rationalities and the corresponding material processes of knowledge production in institutional contexts.

The workshop will be held on June 1-3, 2017 at the German Historical Institute (Washington, D.C.) in cooperation with the Max Planck Institute for the History of Science, Berlin. We especially encourage submissions of work in progress.

The workshop will be conducted in English. The organizers will cover travel and accommodation expenses for invited participants. Please send a short abstract of a proposed contribution (no more than 400 words) and a brief academic CV with institutional affiliation as one PDF file to bureaucracies@mpiwg-berlin.mpg.de

Please visit www.hsozkult.de/event/id/termine-31697

Please contact Christine von Oertzen, Max Planck Institute for the History of Science, Berlin, coertzen@mpiwg-berlin.mpg.de

28 June 2017

Environmental Justice and Social Wellbeing: Utopian and alternative intellectual Ideas in the 19th and 20th century

University of Zagreb

CFP – Deadline **15 September 2016**

On February 17, 2016, some 40,000 people rallied in Washington. These protestors included eco-socialists marching under the banner “system change, not climate change”. Socialist and Marxist ideas – largely taboo since the Cold War ended – seemingly have gained momentum again, at least among environmentalists advocating structural changes. More broadly, environmentalists increasingly recognize that they should not just protect ecosystems, but also promote social well being and equality.

These ideas are not new. Different social groups, states and political systems in the last two hundred years experimented with and have seen utopian (environmental) ideas. The American poet, philosopher and naturalist Henry David Thoreau already in the 19th century explored simple living in natural surroundings, bringing together ideas of environmental justice and social wellbeing for all humans by calling for civil disobedience. Nature conservationists in socialist East Germany experimented with a life style in harmony with nature by integrating a communist political order and concepts of the reform-movement of the 19th century.

In the scholarship, environmental historians since the 1990s began to pay more attention to social conflict and environmental injustices as well as the environmental history of the Cold War. In particular, we have seen the appearance of several new works on Soviet bloc countries. Intellectual movements, like eco-criticism, draw on Marxian ideas in new ways, and post-structural critique of binary oppositions inform environmentalists seeking a ‚third way‘ beside capitalist and socialist

systems. Nonetheless, the environmental history of socialism remains surprisingly undeveloped when compared to the environmental histories of the non-socialist world.

What are the historical roots of contemporary eco-socialism? When have utopian ideas (such as community living) actually materialized? How have humans thought beyond binary oppositions to come up with a ‚third way‘? When have activists abandoned liberal reform to embrace radical structural change? How did socialist and capitalist states theoretically (and in reality) connect the needs of people to the environment?

For the ESEH 2017 conference in Zagreb, we are interested in papers on the meaning of environment for utopian movements or thinkers that come into contact with or confront other economic or social systems. Attention will be given to past and present utopian and philosophical ideas and their materialization of a sustainable, harmonious and just life for humans and nature in historical as well as literary accounts.

The following concepts might apply, though this list is not exhaustive:

- Utopian ideas of environmental and social justice and their historical materialization
- Philosophers and thinkers behind ideas of environmental and social justice
- Ideas of the reform movement in the 19th/20th century such as living in communities, vegetarianism, pacifism, free love libertarian philosophy, feminism, anarchism, free economy (Freiwirtschaft), etc.
- Eco-anarchism
- Environmental ideas or movements motivated by (fears of) Marxism
- Activists and activist’s actions
- Pros and cons of private property and the regulation of private landowners
- Central economic and social planning and its consequences / benefits
- Criticism of capitalist and/or socialist (communist) political orders and their consequences for the environment – concepts of a ‘third way’
- Critique of economic policies focused on growth and productivity (in West and East)

Please visit www.hsozkult.de/event/id/termine-31714

Please contact Astrid Kirchhof, astrid.m.kirchhof@hu-berlin.de or Scott Moranda, scott.moranda@cortland.edu

3 – 7 July 2017

Radical Hope: Inspiring Sustainability Transformations through Our Past

Rachel Carson Center, Munich, Germany

CFP – Deadline **1 November 2016**

We seek papers or presentations for an interdisciplinary workshop that will address the following question: How can we encourage hope for the future and foster human resilience and creativity as we grapple with potentially dramatic changes to our environment, our core social frameworks, and associated practices and values?

Potential participants from a wide array of fields are invited to submit papers or presentations that engage with narratives of **the past** (How have humans responded to major traumas and transformations such as the Black Plague, the AIDS epidemic, the “killing fields” of Cambodia, the Holocaust, as well as more nonspecific transformations associated with the effects of ecological imperialism, famines, mass extinction events, and natural or human-made disasters?); **the present** (What kinds of narratives of the environment currently permeate our everyday lives? What kinds of policies and practices are emerging in response? How are human-nature relations conceptualized and enacted?); and, **the future** (What will our planet, societies, food production methods, transportation networks, and technology—or even humanity itself— look like in 50, 75, or 100 years from now?). This workshop aims to bring together people from different disciplines and professions: scholars, scientists, architects, urban planners, poets, community activists, politicians, filmmakers, artists, policy makers, faith communities, and business leaders to spark conversations about the past, present, and future of the environment (from local to global) and our relationships with it.

The workshop aims to avoid overly pessimistic, trite, or sentimental conceptualizations of what it means to be hopeful; rather, it seeks to provide a space between naïve “wishful thinking” on the one hand, and “realistic dystopianism” on the other. We are interested in how realistic or even radical hope can: 1) reframe contemporary discussions, and 2) influence sustainability transformations that can help us think about how to be reactive and responsive in shaping those transformations in ways that are both feasible and hopeful. To quote Raymond Williams, “To be truly radical is to make hope possible rather than despair convincing.”

The conference will be global in scope; we encourage scholars with expertise in any region of the world or field of study to submit proposals.

Scholarly papers or written descriptions of other kinds of projects (4,000–5,000 words, not including footnotes) will be precirculated for discussion. Selected papers will be eligible for inclusion in a collection of essays that we aim to publish with a university press.

Applicants should send a one page abstract of their proposed paper or project and a curriculum vitae (no longer than two pages) via email to: conferences@rcc.lmu.de by November 1, 2016.

Accepted panelists will be notified in early January 2017.

Organizing Committee:

Erika Bsumek, University of Texas, Austin

John Barry, Queens University, Belfast

Christof Mauch, Rachel Carson Center, Munich

We encourage proposals that explore the general theme from various environmental history perspectives, such as:

- Environment in areas of contact among states, economic systems, cultures and religions
- Environmental history of post-socialist countries of Eastern Europe
- Environment shared among cultures: spatial and temporal dimension
- Environmental history of borders and borderland areas

- Environmental history of the Mediterranean
- Urban environmental history
- Forest history
- Industrial and post-industrial environmental history
- Production, consumption and waste: commodity chains in environmental history
- Cultural values and economic interests: retrospective environmental analyses
- Theories and methods in environmental history

The conference covers all periods and all areas of the globe. In keeping with a cherished tradition of the field, the conference is open to scholars from all disciplines and backgrounds. We especially encourage submissions from graduate students who will be offered a special reduced fee. The conference language is English; no submissions in other languages will be accepted. All proposals will be reviewed by a scientific committee.

All proposals should be submitted through our online submission system (see links under each submittal type). The deadline for submittals is 1 October 2016.

Please visit <http://eseh.org/event/next-conference/2017-conference-cfp/>

Please find two session proposals on the society's homepage

<http://eseh.org/session-proposal-eseh-2017-peasants-and-resilience-to-environmental-challenges/>

<http://eseh.org/session-proposal-eseh-2017-microscopic-views-of-the-world-sent-around-the-globe/>

Questions about proposals should be directed to the Programme Committee chair through the email conference@eseh.org

29 August – 2 September 2017

11th International Conference on the History of Chemistry

Trondheim

CFP – Deadline **31 January 2017**

In summer 2017, the fortieth anniversary of the creation of the Working Party (WP) on History of Chemistry of the European Association for Chemical and Molecular Sciences (EuChemS) will be celebrated. The general aim of the conferences organised by the WP is to facilitate communication between historically interested chemists and historians of chemistry, and to gather the community on a regular basis. Previous conferences organised by the WP were held in Rostock 2011 (Pathways of Knowledge), Uppsala 2013 (Chemistry in Material Culture), and Aveiro 2015 (Chemical Biography in the 21st Century).

The 11th International Conference on the History of Chemistry (11th ICHC) will take place from 29th August to 2nd September, 2017 in Trondheim, a city founded in 997 which served as Norway's capital during the Viking Age. The Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU), which has been the country's centre for technology education since 1910, will host the conference. The conference is sponsored by NTNU, the Research Council of Norway, the Norwegian Chemical Society and the Chemical Heritage Foundation.

The conference programme will include scientific sessions, key-note lectures, the WP business meeting, as well as social events such as excursions, receptions, and a banquet. For more information about preparing your submission and the conference presentation, please consult the proposal guidelines. The key-note lectures will be given by:

- Hasok Chang (University of Cambridge): "What history tells us about the nature of chemistry"
- Maria Rentetzi (National Technical University of Athens): "Revising the concept of safety culture in nuclear settings"
- Anders Lundgren (Uppsala Universitet): "Science in chemical industry – what did it do?"

The programme committee especially encourages the submission of panel/session proposals, but also welcomes the submission of stand-alone papers. Session organisers and contributors are free to send their proposals on any topic on the history of chemistry, broadly constructed as the cluster of molecular sciences, industry, technology and engineering. A non-exhaustive list of possible sessions could include historical papers on the historical development of all aspects of material and life sciences, such as:

- Chemistry, professors, textbooks and classrooms
- Teaching and didactics of history of chemistry
- Chemistry and law: controversies, expertise, counter-expertise, fraud and activism
- Toxics regulation, risk assessment and public health
- Environmental chemistry, energy and regulation
- Chemistry, industry, and economy
- Spaces and sites of chemistry
- Instruments, collections and material culture
- Biographies and prosopographies, and databases
- Chemistry, war and exile
- Representation of chemistry, and visual cultures
- Alchemy, Chemistry and Early Modern Science and Medicine
- Gender and chemistry

The programme committee consists of Christoph Meinel, Universität Regensburg, and Ignacio Suay-Matallana, Centro Interuniversitário de História das Ciências e da Tecnologia, Lisbon (chairs of the Advisory Committee), Annette Lykknes (chair of the Local Organising Committee) and Brigitte Van Tiggelen (Mémosciences, Chemical Heritage Foundation, and chair of the WP).

Important Dates:

Deadline for submitting proposals (both panels and individual papers): January 31st, 2017.

Notification of acceptance: March 31st, 2017.

Early Registration: May 31st, 2017.

Conference dates: 29th August – 2nd September 2017.

Proposal guidelines:

All proposals must be in English, the language of the conference. Submitted abstracts and session proposals will be subject to review by a scientific committee. Although the conference is open to individual paper submissions, preference will be given to organised sessions with three or more papers. All proposals must use the templates provided on the conference web site. Session proposals must also include (1) an abstract of the session topic (150 words maximum), the name(s) of the organiser(s), and the proposed papers; (2) abstracts for each paper (200 words); (3) a short CV of the organiser(s). All proposals should be submitted by email (by January 31st, 2017) to: 11.ichc.trondheim@gmail.com

Contact information for practical questions: 11ICHC@videre.ntnu.no

Conference web site: <http://www.ntnu.edu/11ichc>

11 – 14 September 2017

Rural History 2017. 3rd Biennial Conference of EURHO (the European Rural History Organisation)

Leuven, Belgium

CFP – Deadline for panel submissions **15 October 2016**

Deadline for individual papers **31 January 2017**

The EURHO conferences aim at promoting the exchange of research questions and results, fostering co-operation between scholars engaged in the history of rural Europe and of its interaction with other parts of the world, from ancient times up to the present. Consequently the conferences are open to all interesting proposals within a broad range of themes and covering different historical periods and regions.

More detailed information is available on <https://kuleuvencongres.be/ruralhistory2017>

Please contact ruralhistory2017@kuleuven.be

IV. Recently Published Books

Braun, Hans-Joachim (ed.): Creativity: Technology and Music. In collaboration with Susan Schmidt Horning. = Studien zur Technik-, Wirtschafts- und Sozialgeschichte, 16. Peter-Lang Verlag, Frankfurt/M. u.a., 2016.

Creativity, by which something new, original, and valuable is formed, has positive connotations. This volume features essays on creative processes in technological invention, engineering design, architecture, music composition, improvisation, sound recording, authenticity in music, and computer music. They deal with significant present-day as well as with historical issues of creativity. They explore what creative processes in different domains have in common, to what extent cognitive science can shed light on them and how they can be modelled. Contrary to some approaches in creativity studies, the authors, if ever possible, try to avoid speculation and come to empirically valid conclusions.

Poser, Hans: Homo Creator. Technik als philosophische Herausforderung. Springer, Wiesbaden 2016.

The author gives a comprehensive philosophy of technology: he analyses the history of scientific approaches to technology as well as questions concerning contemporary developments. The ontology and anthropology of technology are discussed as well as questions of technology and awareness, the role of construction and of the theory of scientific approaches to technology in technosciences. One chapter is dedicated to human values shaping technological development.

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)

Please share this form with a colleague who is not yet a member or ask your library to subscribe



Form for annual membership renewals / registration of new members

Annual membership includes subscription to ICOHTEC's refereed annual journal ICON, access to all back issues of ICON in electronic form via the ICOHTEC website, a monthly Newsletter, and special registration rates at the annual ICOHTEC symposium.

I wish to renew my membership / to become a new member in ICOHTEC. (Tick below the appropriate description/rate):

- An individual. Rate: (40 \$ or 30 € or equivalent) per year
- A student. Rate: (40 \$ or 30 € or equivalent for two years)
- An institution. Rate: (100 \$ or 75 € or equivalent) per year
- A library. Rate: (Europe: 36 €, Overseas 39 € or 52 \$) per year

Tick the years of membership to be paid: 2014 2015 2016 2017

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Tick the method of your payment:

- Through the PayPal option on ICOHTEC website
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“ICOHTEC” at Commerzbank Bochum (Husemannplatz 3-4, D-44787 Bochum, Germany):

IBAN: DE44 4304 0036 0390 2590 00; BIC: COBADEFFXXX

Through a cheque. Send the check with the appropriate sum made out to “ICOHTEC” and send to:

Dr. Lars Bluma Otmarstrasse 5, D-45131 Essen, Germany.

After filling the form, please scan and send by email to Dr. Yoel Bergman, ICOHTEC Treasurer at yoelb@protalix.com or, send a hardcopy by regular mail to Yoel Bergman, 20 Haatzmaut St., Herzliya 46789, Israel. Your filled form will facilitate sending ICONs and allocating access privileges.