

# ICOHTEC NEWSLETTER



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

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### Editorial

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

Good news: the deadline for application for ICOHTEC Travel Grants 2013 was extended to **8 May 2013**. Please find the announcement on our homepage [www.icotec.org](http://www.icotec.org).

The local organizer of the ICHSTM in Manchester published a revised preliminary program on the conference homepage, <http://www.ichstm2013.com/programme/guide/index.html>. There are several search boxes integrated.

It will be a pleasure to meet you in Manchester!

Best wishes  
Stefan Poser

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## I. Conference Announcements

**3 May 2013**

**Frei-Raum unter dem Berliner Fernsehturm. Historische Dimensionen eines Stadtraums der Moderne / Urban Space below the Berlin TV Tower. Approaches to history of urban space in modernity**

Technische Universität Berlin

Please find the program on <http://hsozkult.geschichte.hu-berlin.de/termine/id=21712>

Please contact: Paul Sigel, TU Berlin, Institut für Kunstwissenschaft und Historische Urbanistik / Center for Metropolitan Studies, [info@metropolitanstudies.de](mailto:info@metropolitanstudies.de)

**14 May 2013**

**Ab Band: Ton- und Bildquellen als Gegenstand historischer Forschung / Audio and Audiovisual Sources as Subject of Research.**

Universität Zürich

Please find the program on <http://hsozkult.geschichte.hu-berlin.de/termine/id=21721>

Please contact, [Severin Rüegg](mailto:Severin.Rueegg), Projektleiterin Filmspur, [kontakt@severinrueegg.ch](mailto:kontakt@severinrueegg.ch),

**21 June 2013**

**Workshop „Actor-Network-Theorie und Stadtforschung“ / Actor-Network-Theory and Metropolitan Studies**

Hafen City Universität, Hamburg

CFP – Deadline **15 June 2013**

Please visit <http://hsozkult.geschichte.hu-berlin.de/termine/id=21719>

Please contact Martina Heßler, Chair for Modern Social, Economic and Technological History, Helmut-Schmidt-University, Hamburg, [mhessler@hsu-hh.de](mailto:mhessler@hsu-hh.de)

**5 – 7 July 2013**

**Tobacco Roads: Technology Transfer in the Tobacco Industry during the Early Twentieth Century**

Kavala, Greece

Please find the program on <http://tobaccoroads2013.ntua.gr/program.html>

Please contact: Maria Rentetzi, Associate Professor, National Technical University of Athens, [mrentetz@vt.edu](mailto:mrentetz@vt.edu)

**28 – 30 August 2013**

**Sámi Customary Rights in Modern Landscapes – Indigenous People and Nature Conservation**

Luleå University of Technology, Sweden

CFP – Deadline **15 May 2013**

For information on the program and the optional excursion in Lapponia please visit <http://www.ltu.se/research/subjects/Teknikhistoria/Konferenser/Sami-Customary-Rights-in-Modern-Landscapes?l=en>

### **6 – 8 September 2013**

**Energiespeicherung in Geschichte und Gegenwart / Energy Storage: Past and Present.** Jahrestagung der Georg-Agricola-Gesellschaft / Annual Conference of the Georg-Agricola-Society, GAG Technoseum Mannheim

Please visit <http://www.georg-agricola-gesellschaft.de/>

### **18 – 20 October 2013**

#### **International Health Organizations and the History of Health and Medicine, c. 1870-2012**

David Musto Centre at Shanghai University, CSHHH Glasgow at the University of Strathclyde  
CFP – Deadline **30 April 2013**

Recent studies of institutions as varied as the League of Nations Health Committee, the Rockefeller Foundation and the Medical Missionary Society have drawn attention to the multiple roles played by international organisations since the nineteenth-century in the fields of healthcare and medicine. Most obviously they have played important parts in addressing particular health crises and emergencies, by providing medical expertise, drugs and medicines, and more general aid. Longer term impacts, however, have included the establishment of lasting healthcare infrastructures, the dissemination of new ideas about health and medicine, and the emergence of major bodies that transcend national political, economic and professional interests. However, from the refusal of the East India Company to sanction medical missionary activity in the eighteenth-century, to the recent ban on the WHO by al-Shabaab in Somalia, such international organisations have often faced opposition and hostility.

While there are a number of studies of particular institutions and movements, the IHO has rarely been viewed as a distinct phenomenon in the history of health and medicine in the modern period. This conference seeks to address this by bringing together historians and those from related disciplines with relevant research interests. It aims to examine fresh insights into particular periods, organisations and case studies, but also to explore the potential of comparative perspectives, and of teasing IHOs out of the wider history of health and medicine in modernity.

#### **Key questions would include:**

What agendas and ideologies shaped the emergence of IHOs in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries?

How far have IHOs met their objectives and what shaped or prevented success? What impacts have IHOs had in the locales where they have been embedded? To what extent have locals worked with or against IHOs and what shaped their approaches? In what ways has the emergence of the IHO had wider impacts on international relations, and on domestic relations in contributing countries and cultures? What does the emergence of the IHO over the last two centuries tell historians about the history of medicine, and of modernity?

#### **Organisation and Arrangements**

The organisers are keen to consider all relevant institutions, contexts and perspectives in order to stimulate an inclusive event. Proposals for panels and papers of no more than 300 words per paper

are welcomed by April 30th 2013. Please submit by email to [zhangyongan@shu.edu.cn](mailto:zhangyongan@shu.edu.cn) and [zhouqish@126.com](mailto:zhouqish@126.com).

Those accepted will be notified by May 16 2013. Participation will require the submission of papers of no more than 5000 words by September 30 2013. The intention is to publish a collected edition of papers from the event. The conference will take place in Baoshan Campus at Shanghai University, Shanghai and accommodation will be provided for all participants. Some funding for travel may be available to post-graduate students and early career scholars.

Please visit: <http://www.strath.ac.uk/iho/>

Please contact: James Mills, CSHHH Glasgow University of Strathclyde, [jim.mills@strath.ac.uk](mailto:jim.mills@strath.ac.uk)

### **5 – 6 November 2013**

#### **Museum Metamorphosis - The Adaptable and Changing Museum**

University of Leicester

CFP – Deadline **31 May 2013**

This conference seeks to explore the phenomenon of metamorphosis - or change - in the museum. Museums are often perceived to arrest time, or go beyond it, yet they are not fixed or static entities. It has often been claimed that in order to become meaningful, museums should change by addressing and responding to the needs of society. Is this the case? Museum Metamorphosis -The Adaptable and Changing Museum will be the fifth conference organised by the PhD community at the School of Museum Studies, University of Leicester, and follows last year's highly successful Museum Utopias.

Please visit: <http://www2.le.ac.uk/departments/museumstudies/museum-metamorphosis>

Please contact: Sarah Hughes, Conference Secretary, [msphdconf@gmail.com](mailto:msphdconf@gmail.com)

### **8 – 9 November 2013**

#### **Naturwissenschaft und Illustration im 15. und 16. Jahrhundert / Illustration in 15th and 16th century sciences**

Philipps-Universität Marburg

CFP – Deadline **27 April 2013**

Please visit <http://hsozkult.geschichte.hu-berlin.de/termine/id=21716> for further information.

Please contact: Dominic Olariu, Philipps-Universität Marburg Kunstgeschichtliches Institut, [olariu@staff.uni-marburg.de](mailto:olariu@staff.uni-marburg.de)

### **15 – 16 November 2013**

#### **Rurality. New perspectives and themes**

Universität Bamberg

CFP – Deadline **31 May 2013**

From the backdrop of the advancing urbanisation of the global population, an interesting rural conjunction can be observed. The largest German weekly news magazine Der Spiegel describes this as a mega-trend that has come to determine, without equal, German style from home furnishings,

through eating, to fashion (Spiegel 44/2012: 81). Examples of this boom are recognisable in the rapid success of country magazines such as Landlust (Country Joy), Landidee (Country Idea) or Mein schönes Land (My Beautiful Countryside).

Despite this contemporary social development, profound conceptual arguments about the status of the rural have been rare in German geography: is the rural concerned with economic, population or settlement structures of particularly typify able spaces – by way of a contrast to the urban? Do semantics, ideas or discourses stand as proxies for the good, harmonious or authentic, but also oppositional themes of life? Are localised practices or lifestyles what are meant? Is the rural a selective destination for stressed city-dwellers, or a synonym for emptied regions suffering under shrinking infrastructures, poverty and the changing realities of life?

The heterogeneity and complexity of the rural lies at the centre of an international and interdisciplinary conference Rurality – New Perspectives and Themes, to take place at the Otto-Friedrich University in Bamberg, in cooperation with the Johannes-Gutenberg University of Mainz, the Friedrich-Alexander University of Erlangen-Nürnberg, the Royal Geographical Society/Institute of British Geographers, the IGU-Commission “The Cultural Approach in Geography” and the Arbeitskreis “Ländlicher Raum” (research group “rural space”, German Geographical Society [DGfG]).

The conference has two main emphases: firstly, rurality should be conceptually observed from differentiated social space relationships. How can the term conceptual be described? What does it mean to undertake geography(ies) of rurality (and rural space)? Through which indicators can rurality be described? How does the rural reflect the dialectic of the relationship between space and society?

Secondly, empirical themes and questions relating to rural research of a social- and cultural-geographical nature emerge: where and how does rurality reveal itself as a cultural constellation, as communicated and as practiced? What role does rurality play in the context of globalisation? Which future social and political-economy processes do rural spaces enhance in order to produce a diversity of ruralities? How does the composition of rural places change? Which contributions emanate from agriculture and land speculation in creating changes to the rural?

Please send an abstract (about 300 words) until the 31.05.2013 to the following email: [neuelaendlichkeit@uni-mainz.de](mailto:neuelaendlichkeit@uni-mainz.de).

In case of any questions or suggestions do not hesitate to contact us:

Christoph Baumann, [christoph.baumann@geographie.uni-erlangen.de](mailto:christoph.baumann@geographie.uni-erlangen.de)

Marc Redepenning, [marc.redepenning@uni-bamberg.de](mailto:marc.redepenning@uni-bamberg.de)

Julia Rössel, [j.roessel@geo.uni-mainz.de](mailto:j.roessel@geo.uni-mainz.de)

Dan Keech (for UK contributors), [mdk1g09@soton.ac.uk](mailto:mdk1g09@soton.ac.uk)

**28 – 29 November 2013**

**Ephemeral Architecture in Central-Eastern Europe in the 19th and 20th Centuries**

Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Budapest City Archives

CFP – Deadline **16 June 2013**

The Research Centre for the Humanities, Institute of Art History, Hungarian Academy of Sciences, in cooperation with CentrArt Association - New Workshop for Art Historians, is organizing an international symposium entitled Ephemeral Architecture in Central-Eastern Europe in the 19th and 20th centuries. This will be held in Budapest, 28-29th November, 2013.

It will focus on Central-Eastern Europe as a fluid geo-political conception and politically unstable territory with constantly shifting borders within the given timespan. Recognizing the growing interest in the latest research on ephemeral architecture, this conference will focus on temporary constructions erected for national and international exhibitions as a means of conveying ideas to an immediate audience. In this perspective the pavilion will be considered as a hub of architectural and artistic trends, political visions and cultural and social issues. Its complex political, cultural, social, economic and urban context will be analyzed: the exterior and interior design of an exhibition pavilion, along with its location within the exhibition park and neighboring edifices, its function as projecting regional, national or corporate representation.

After a long and sparsely documented history from ancient times to the 18th century ephemeral buildings appear in the course of 19th century architecture with new characteristics. Over the course of the 19th and 20th centuries ephemeral buildings have often offered the latest architectural solution for contemporary ideas, ideologies and trends. They were usually intended by architects to function as an autonomous experimental genre, providing new possibilities in terms of concept, planning, setting and display. They were also powerful means for nation building, mass entertainment as a new phenomenon, as well as they provided a "magic frame" for the latest achievements of the civilization in the 19th century. Later they were often appropriated and utilized by dictatorial regimes for their own needs; for demonstrations of power or, for performing the role of flagships of modernism. The research on ephemeral architecture calls into question the relationship between national/corporate buildings and their international critical reflections too. Papers also expected to address issues like the relationship between built-up environment of these temporary constructions and their perception, the reflection of their target audience.

The first conference in the series, entitled Progressive Tendencies in Ephemeral Architecture – Hungarian Case Studies was held in Budapest, on 29th January 2011, with a special focus on the Hungarian pavilion architecture of the 19th and 20th centuries. It raised questions concerning the link between architectural trends and national politics. The advanced aspect of a pavilion was analyzed as a primary architectural value in connection with national, regional and corporate policies.

The second conference aims to get together art historians, architectural historians and scholars from various academic disciplines (history, political history, history of design, anthropology, ethnography, cultural and visual studies) applying inter-disciplinary approach to the topic.

Papers addressing the following issues are welcome:

- Interaction between politics, location and architectural concepts
- National / corporate representation at national or international events
- The place of the construction within the exhibition territory
- Ephemeral architecture and the urban landscape
- approaches to interior design and exhibit display
- The role of pavilions in the nation building process
- The presence and/or the hidden aspects of social and gender issues in pavilions
- Social and political events in close relation to ephemeral architecture
- Understandings and misunderstandings in critical reflections upon ephemeral architecture
- The afterlife of the pavilion: transformation, rebuilding, musealization
- The memory of the pavilion

All kinds of approaches to this topic are welcomed. Papers can be case studies, or can be constructed around methodological and/or theoretical questions.

Please visit: <http://www.arthist.mta.hu/index.php/en/esemenyek-2>

Please contact: Miklos Szekely, Institute of Art History, Research Centre for the Humanities, Hungarian Academy of Sciences, [szekely.miklos@gmail.com](mailto:szekely.miklos@gmail.com)

**13 – 15 March 2014**

**The Virtues and Vices of Business – a Historical Perspective.** Business History Conference Annual Meeting

Frankfurt am Main, Germany

CFP – Deadline **15 September 2013**

The organizers invite papers and sessions proposals that address both the micro and macro levels of the virtues and vices of business in historical perspective. In keeping with longstanding BHC policy submissions need not be directly related to the conference theme. The 2014 Program Committee consists of: Ed Balleisen, Duke University (chair); Chris McKenna, University of Oxford; Andrea Schneider, GUG - Society for Business History (Germany); Per Hansen, Copenhagen Business School (BHC President), and Jan-Otmar Hesse, University of Bielefeld.

Is business good or bad, or both? Does business serve private or public interests, or both? A variety of theories from the social sciences furnish different answers to these questions and, by implication, different ideas about the role of the state in creating the good society. The 2014 BHC annual meeting aims to address these issues from a historical and empirical perspective by exploring the virtues and vices of business across societies from the early modern period to the present.

Business firms – large corporations, small and medium-sized enterprises and entrepreneurs – have been decisive in securing economic growth and development through the First, Second and Third Industrial Revolutions. By constantly innovating, imitating and competing, business has changed the lives of billions of people all over the world. Firms have brought forward new products and services that enrich and improve our lives. The wider business community, including not just companies but also trade associations and informal networks, have fashioned solutions to numerous pressing social problems, whether concerning the environment, health and safety, discrimination, social isolation, or other aspects of modern life. One can similarly point to examples of business as a progressive force enabling minorities and poor people to shape better lives.

Yet, four hundred years of business history are also replete with examples of abusive and dehumanizing business practices, against other firms, individuals, and entire peoples. In some cases, as with plantation slavery and imperial expansion, the offending enterprises worked closely with state authorities. In others, the actions of business entities prompted calls for aggressive state intervention to minimize or end the negative effects of business. The occurrence of business scandals amid extreme cases of financial crisis offers especially well known historical instances of this type. But history offers an abundance of examples where business enterprises have generated serious externalities, yet nonetheless privatized profits while socializing risks born by other stakeholders – and sometimes by shareholders as well. Around the industrialized world, business interests have also regularly interfered with politics, sometimes supporting non-democratic regimes, lobbying against the public interest and fighting organized labor. Should we view such episodes of corruption and abuses of economic power as regrettable costs that society must pay for increases in income and wealth? Do these unseemly aspects of capitalism merely represent the unavoidable process of Schumpeterian creative destruction? Or should we rather understand them as the result of specific, and contingent, institutional frameworks, business networks, and systems of corporate governance that increase the likelihood and occurrence of business scandals and crisis?

Another set of questions involve the evolution of societal understandings about “the good and virtuous,” or “the bad and the vicious,” that we use to praise or condemn particular markets, firms,

or business practices. To what extent should we attribute the more abject failings of business, as judged from any particular social vantage point, to the decline of old and the rise of new social regimes that entail changes in discourse, narratives, cultural values, and norms? How have societies tried to set moral boundaries to the domain of business

– either by prohibiting some businesses and markets outright, or by proscribing commercial practices as beyond the ethical pale? And how and why have those moral constraints on business activity changed over time? Must we endure the vices of business so that society may enjoy its virtues of business? Do they result from state intervention that disturbs the delicate balancing act of markets, or from too little regulation that allows private business actors to pursue their own interests regardless of the costs to society? Or should we abandon the dichotomy of state and market altogether and replace it with a more historically based view of markets as embedded in social and cultural relations? Even if one accepts the “embeddedness” of market relations, we continue to face complicated questions about how to strike the best balance between private and public interests. How have societies attempted to strike this complex balance? What business networks, systems of corporate governance, and cultural, political and social values have historically contributed to achieving this balance most constructively? The committee will consider both individual papers and entire panels. Individual paper proposals should include a one-page (300 word) abstract and one-page curriculum vitae (CV). Panel proposals should include a cover letter stating the rationale for the panel and the name of its contact person; one-page (300 word) abstract and author’s CV for each paper; and a list of preferred panel chairs and commentators with contact information. Graduate students and recent PhDs (within 3 years of receipt of degree) whose papers are accepted for the meeting may apply for funds to partially defray their travel costs; information will be sent out once the program has been set. Everyone appearing on the program must register for the meeting.

The BHC annual meeting has been organized locally by the GUG, and the GUG participates in the program committee. GUG members are encouraged to propose papers for this meeting. The language of the conference will be English. All sessions will take place at Goethe University in Frankfurt, and lodging will be in a number of area hotels.

The BHC awards the *Herman E. Krooss Prize* for the best dissertation in business history by a recent Ph.D. in history, economics, business administration, the history of science and technology, sociology, law, communications, and related fields. To be eligible, dissertations must be completed in the three calendar years immediately prior to the 2014 annual meeting, and may only be submitted once for the Krooss prize. If you wish to apply for this prize, please send a letter to the Krooss Prize Committee expressing your interest along with a one-page CV and one-page (300 word) dissertation abstract. After the Krooss committee has reviewed the proposals, it will ask semi-finalists to submit copies of their dissertations. Finalists will present summaries of their dissertations at a plenary session of the 2014 BHC annual meeting in Frankfurt and will receive a partial subsidy of their travel costs to the meeting. The *K. Austin Kerr Prize* is awarded for the best first paper delivered by a new scholar at the annual meeting of the BHC. A “new scholar” is defined as a doctoral candidate or a Ph. D. whose degree is less than three years old. If you wish to participate in this competition, please notify the BHC program committee in your proposal. Proposals accepted for the Krooss Prize are not eligible for the Kerr Prize.

The *CEBC-Halloran Prize in the History of Corporate Responsibility* is awarded for a paper presented at the annual meeting of the BHC that makes a significant contribution to the history of corporate responsibility. Corporate responsibility is understood to embrace the many ways in which the firm relates to the political realm and the wider society.

The **deadline** for receipt of all proposals (papers, panels, and Krooss Prize competition) is **15 September 2013**. Please send them to [BHC2014@Hagley.org](mailto:BHC2014@Hagley.org). Acceptance letters will be sent by 1 December 2013. Presenters are expected to submit abstracts of their papers for posting on the BHC



website. In addition, presenters are encouraged to post electronic versions of their papers prior to the meeting.

The *Oxford Journals Doctoral Colloquium in Business History* will be held in conjunction with the BHC annual meeting. This prestigious workshop, sponsored by BHC and funded by the Journals Division of Oxford University Press, will take place in Frankfurt Wednesday March 12 and Thursday March 13. The colloquium is limited to ten students. Participants work intensively with a distinguished group of BHC-affiliated scholars that includes at least two BHC officers. The colloquium will discuss dissertation proposals, relevant literatures and research strategies, and employment opportunities in business history. This colloquium is intended for doctoral candidates in the early stages of their dissertation projects. If you are interested in being considered for this colloquium, please submit to Roger Horowitz by 15 November 2013 to [BHC2014@Hagley.org](mailto:BHC2014@Hagley.org) a statement of interest, a CV, a preliminary or final dissertation prospectus of 10-15 pages, and a letter of support from your dissertation supervisor (or prospective supervisor). Questions about the colloquium should be sent to its director, Pamela Laird, [Pamela.Laird@ucdenver.edu](mailto:Pamela.Laird@ucdenver.edu). All participants receive a stipend that will partially cover the costs of their attendance at the annual meeting.

Please contact: Pamela Laird, colloquium director, [Pamela.Laird@ucdenver.edu](mailto:Pamela.Laird@ucdenver.edu)

#### **16 – 17 March 2014**

**State of the Art in World Business History - a first review**, World Business History Conference

Frankfurt/Main, Germany

CFP – Deadline **1 October 2013**

The globalisation of business has changed the landscape of academic enquiry into business activities. Business historians around the world engage in extensive research on the Business History of local economies, of regional economies and in many instances in the global operations of business. An initiative was launched in September 2012 to bring together Business Historians from around the world in a conference on WORLD BUSINESS HISTORY in 2014. The focus is the global scope of Business History as it is practiced around the world today. With attention on as many countries around the globe, the WORLD CONFERENCE ON BUSINESS HISTORY will focus on the exciting and new research in Business History as practiced in many countries of the world, in as many regions of the world and on all continents comprising the globe. The growing presence of Business History research in emerging economies and developing regions makes it imperative to bring all of those scholars together. The global integration of Business and Research call for academic engagement at a world conference dedicated to Business History. The multi-disciplinary nature of Business History enquiry across time and place offers a unique opportunity to bring scholars from all over the world together to deliberate on the entire scope of Business History disciplinary enquiry. A variety of topics such as the following can lead to exciting new insights and future collaboration especially when comparative:

- Business across the wide scope of different stages of globalization.
- Varieties of capitalism and the nature of business.
- Business history and Economic development in different regions and across centuries.
- Varieties of the forms of business organisations, business groups, industrial districts, clusters, cartels and small and medium sized enterprises, coops, etc.
- Entrepreneurs and entrepreneurial families
- Enterprises in sectors such as finance, agriculture, transport, tourism, teaching, medical care etc.

This is a call for papers - or panels of papers - on any of the topics outlined above, but also for new

innovative submissions that can assist us in expanding Business History research and global collaboration in the discipline.

An exploratory conference will be held in Germany 16-17 March 2014. This conference will follow on the joint BHC/Gesellschaft für Unternehmensgeschichte congress the week before. While the aim is to bring Business historians together from around the world, the language of deliberations will be English, but the participants will be from multi-lingual native-language and multi-cultural origin. The success of this pre-conference will take the initiatives forward to the WORLD CONGRESS OF BUSINESS HISTORY in June 2016 in Bergen, Norway!

Applications (for the World Business History Conference, 16 - 17 March 2014 in Frankfurt):  
Please send your application to: Dr. Andrea Schneider [ahschneider@unternehmensgeschichte.de](mailto:ahschneider@unternehmensgeschichte.de)

Deadline: 1st October 2013

Please visit <http://www.worldbhc.org/>

Please contact Dr. Andrea Schneider, GUG - Society for Business History (Germany),  
[ahschneider@unternehmensgeschichte.de](mailto:ahschneider@unternehmensgeschichte.de)

#### **Spring 2014**

#### **Dropping Out of Socialism: Alternative Cultures in the Soviet Bloc, 1956-1991**

University of Bristol

CFP – Deadline **1 June 2013**

Much emphasis has been placed in recent years on questions of conformity and everyday ordinariness in socialist societies. This project aims to look at increasingly forgotten elements in these societies: those who did not conform, did not live the ordinary life, yet were also part of the late socialist every day. Ranging from teddy boys, hippies and punks to non-conformist artists, Buddhists, yoga teachers or lesbian and gay communities, the list of 'drop-outs' is long and varied, yet in danger of being buried by histories that left better documentation and more archival traces. We intend to write these individuals and groups into the newly emerging history of late socialism and examine both their internal functioning as well as their complex relationship with mainstream society and socialist authorities. Was it possible to drop out from socialist society? How far could one distance oneself from the realities of late socialist life? What does the existence of alternative cultures and their daily practices say about the last three decades of socialism in Europe? Did they hasten its decline – or were they indeed a factor in its longevity?

We are calling for proposals for articles relating to subcultures, drop-outs and the underground in late socialist societies. Any group and any time period between 1956 and 1991 will be considered.

The workshop and subsequent publication of articles in a special journal issue is part of the AHRC sponsored project 'Dropping out of Socialism', which examines a variety of drop-out cultures in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union. We are planning to hold a workshop in Bristol, UK in the spring of 2014, when authors present their articles for discussion. A final manuscript will be expected by the summer of 2014.

Please send a short proposal (max 500 words) and a CV to [josie.mclellan@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:josie.mclellan@bristol.ac.uk) by 1 June 2013.

Please visit: <http://www.bristol.ac.uk/arts/research/dropping-out/events/conference/>

Please contact: Josie McLellan, University of Bristol, [josie.mclellan@bris.ac.uk](mailto:josie.mclellan@bris.ac.uk)

**7 – 8 April 2014**

**City Margins, City Memories**

Institute of Germanic and Romance Studies, London

CFP – Deadline **7 June 2013**

There is little doubt that cities are growing, often merging with each other, as they spread across the face of the planet, seeking to contain the needs of our increasing populations. The number of city dwellers has increased from just 3% of the global population in 1800, to 50% in 2008, rising to a prediction of 75% in 2050. Just last year, in 2012, 26 urban areas qualified as ‘megacities’ with populations of over 10 million. Such growth brings an inevitable increase in interactivity and communications between cities, accentuating at once a sense of community and isolation within its inhabitants. The intense urbanization of recent times has also brought into focus the need to assimilate disparate memories of the past into a landscape of the future. Despite the predominance of cities and the fact that they shape who we are and how we relate within the world, attempts to define and encapsulate their very nature remain elusive. City Margins, City Memories thus proposes to explore the multiplicity of meanings of the city, taking ‘margins’ and ‘memory’ as two important and, often, intersecting phenomena to orient this investigation of urban spatialities.

The organizers encourage submissions on all aspects of the city that involve the ideas of ‘margins’ and/or ‘memory’, and would particularly welcome interdisciplinary contributions. ‘Margins’ is to be understood broadly as encompassing any topic that addresses issues of boundaries (as an inhibiting force) or borders (as areas of intersection), while standing both for isolation and alterity, as well as for connectedness, communication and creativity. ‘Memory’ is similarly to be interpreted broadly, referring to the recall of ideas and cultures, to remembrance and its links with the imagination. The following questions suggest a number of themes to be explored, but wider interpretations of the conference theme are encouraged.

Where do cities begin and end? Is there a city ‘centre’? Where are city margins? To what extent can the margin be considered an unstable/mobile condition? Are margins boundaries or borders? What is the role of architecture in creating (or destroying) sites of community? Does the city have an ‘everyday life’? Where and what is ‘public space’? What does it mean for the margins to ‘belong’ in the city? To what extent is ‘home’ an imagined condition? How do alternative perspectives on the city alter urban understanding/experience? Do ‘marginal’ memories destabilize the histories of dominant groups at local, national and/or international levels? Is there such a thing as an urban body? What is the relationship between body and building? What is the relationship of the sensory to the cultural? Is architecture ever ‘beyond words’? Is architecture historical or mnemonic? What is the relationship of architecture to the imagination? Is the city archetypal?

The deadline for proposals is 7 June 2013

Proposals should take the form of a paper title and a 250-word abstract, accompanied by a brief biographical note, including institutional affiliation where appropriate. To submit a proposal, or for more information, please e-mail [cityconference@bangor.ac.uk](mailto:cityconference@bangor.ac.uk). It is planned to publish a selection of papers on ‘City Margins, City Memories’ after the conference.

Please contact: Anna Saunders, School of Modern Languages, Bangor University,  
[a.saunders@bangor.ac.uk](mailto:a.saunders@bangor.ac.uk)

**23 – 26 April 2014**

**Mass consumption society contested. The politics of consumer concerns from a global perspective (1945-2000). Panel of the European Social Science History Conference, ESSHC**

Vienna

CFP – **Attention please, deadline 30 April 2013**

The ever expanding production of standardized consumables was one of the most transformative powers in the modern period. It had a significant effect on politics, culture and notions of citizenship. A growing amount of historical research, which was not always free from ideological biases, has focused on consumer goods, consumption practices, or retailing and advertising. But the intersection of consumerism and social politics, or consumerism and collective action, spawned fewer research. Yet it is indisputable that the consumer, as a political category, has historical roots. Consequently, historians and social scientists need to investigate under which circumstances social groups have used consumer concerns to participate in what Tarrow and Tilly have called 'contentious politics'.

According to Frank Trentmann, episodes of war and rationing were of major importance in the development of a consumer consciousness in Western-Europe and the United States. Scarcity led to food riots, boycotts and eventually state-regulation. However, the political history of the consumer largely sidesteps the mobilizing potential of affluence, and thus the importance of the period after 1945 in the West. It also has not yet incorporated interactions on a global level, or the enduring conditions of scarcity in non-Western contexts. What about consumer claims in the Global South? How did debates on global inequality and 'stolen' affluence impact consumer activism in the West?

This panel welcomes papers that focus on the political and contested dimensions of consumption. Scholars and graduate students from the humanities and social and political sciences are invited to reflect on affluence and scarcity, debate and collective action. Consumerism is defined here very broadly in an attempt to overcome the very label of consumerism itself: the focus is not only on certain products or foodstuffs, but also on social services or on how citizenship and social respectability are defined through possessions. Case studies that focus on the colonial and post-colonial world (Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean) are specifically appreciated.

Possible lines of enquiry include:

- Consumption practices as a means for civic action, on local or on global level (e.g. Apartheid)
- Anti-colonial struggles and consumer concerns
- The rejection of 'Western' mass consumption society in the formation of a post-colonial identity
- Consumption, democracy and inclusion
- Collective action by working class movements, middle class movements and expert organization that focus on consumption

Please send abstracts (100-500 words) to [Giselle.nath@ugent.be](mailto:Giselle.nath@ugent.be) before april 30, 2013. The deadline for registration at the European Social Science History Conference is may 15, 2013. Papers in French and English are accepted. People who want to act as chair or discussant are kindly invited to respond. Please add full names, affiliation, postal address and e-mail, since they are needed to pre-register at the ESSHC.

Please contact: Giselle Nath, Ph. D. Fellow of the Resarch Foundation - Flanders (FWO),  
[giselle.nath@ugent.be](mailto:giselle.nath@ugent.be)

**23 – 26 April 2014**

**Technologies @ Home: use, practice and negotiations of new technologies in 19<sup>th</sup> century urban homes. Panel of the European Social Science History Conference, ESSHC**

Vienna

CFP – Deadline **13 May 2013**

The history of home technologies still conjures images of revolutions and heroics. A lot of research has drawn attention to the new machines and techniques that made the ‘Industrial Revolution’ possible, often written from the perspective of the innovative producers (engineers, tinkerers, inventors, businessmen, etc.). Instead it could be argued that precisely the flood of new technologies entering the home was truly revolutionary. At unprecedented speed, an increasing amount of technologies had an immense and pervasive impact upon the everyday practices of people at home (regarding garbage disposal, heating, illumination, water usage, connectivity, etc.). Therefore, it is remarkable that this large-scale breakthrough of technologies at home still warrants further scholarly attention.

In glossing over the momentous feats of the men that made industrial society (gender-bias intended!), work on the ‘long’ nineteenth-century (ca. 1750-ca. 1914) has most often ended up in narratives being constructed in a linear, almost teleological vein. New technologies entering urban homes were determined to succeed due to their supposedly superior intrinsic qualities, their capacity to enhance comfort, improve living conditions, and so on. Yet, technologies never operate in such one-dimensional way: they are being used in sometimes unintended and unforeseen fashion; they create new interactions and impact upon people’s practices, routines and habits of everyday life; and, last but not least, they generate political discourse, contestation and action. Foregrounding the ‘co-construction’ of nineteenth-century home technologies – the networked interplay between the market, households, civil society and the state – is the main goal of this session.

Of particular interest to the organizers is research into the plurality and fluidity of everyday practices and the creative behavior of the users of new home technologies. Even after the implementation of large-scale utility networks, there continued to be a parallel existence of diverse practices and modes of use and provision. To nuance the impact of new technologies on the home and its inhabitants, we welcome papers studying the myriad of ways through which these were made compatible with the day-to-day practice and their effect on resource use, household relations and so on. We also hope to include papers covering the divergences that arose through home technologies, between social groups, but also within the confines of the home. Despite their rapid spread across traditional class boundaries, the introduction of new home technologies tended to deepen social inequalities, since the majority of the lower ranks were being denied access to them. Moreover, the reinforcement of such social divergences around home technologies was supported by the changing requirements on what was considered a respectable and comfortable urban home, which can also be addressed.

**Practical details:** We welcome papers focusing on the session themes outlined above. Please send abstracts (500 words), including title, name, affiliation and contact details to [britt.denis@ua.ac.be](mailto:britt.denis@ua.ac.be) or [ellen.janssens@ua.ac.be](mailto:ellen.janssens@ua.ac.be) before May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2013. Accepted papers will be sent, together with this session proposal, to the organizers of the European Social Science History Conference.

The organizers hope to include this session in the “Material and consumer culture” network, and aim to reach out to the “Technology” and “Health and environment” networks as well.

For further information on the European Social Science History conference, please visit: <http://esshc.socialhistory.org>.

Please contact the session organizers: Britt Denis and Ellen Janssens, University of Antwerp, by [britt.denis@ua.ac.be](mailto:britt.denis@ua.ac.be) or [ellen.janssens@ua.ac.be](mailto:ellen.janssens@ua.ac.be).

## II. Summer Schools

**24 November – 1 December 2013**

**Summer Academy 'Free and Unfree Labour in Global History'**

Universit t Campinas, Brasil

Deadline for application **9 June 2013**

The international research center IGK Work and Human Lifecycle in Global History (Humboldt-Universit t zu Berlin) and the Centro de Pesquisa em Hist ria Social da Cultura (CECULT), University of Campinas (Brazil) will hold a Summer Academy exploring the historical and contemporary meanings and practices of work in relation to freedom and unfreedom in different socio-economic and cultural contexts. The Summer Academy is open for doctoral students working in the field of work/labour from historical as well as other social sciences' perspectives and will take place on the campus of the University of Campinas, 24 November - 1 December 2013.

“Free labour” represents a central concept through which worlds of labour have been thought and interpreted for the last centuries. In many parts of the world the distinction between “free” and “unfree” became essential, especially in post-slavery societies in Africa and the Americas. The Summer Academy will focus on the ambiguities of the concept of “free labour” without simply eliminating the distinction between “free” and “unfree” or referring to its “blurred character.”

The need for an intensive engagement with these issues arises from a fundamental redefinition of work that has emerged along with rapid globalisation. The Summer Academy shall focus methodologically on historical perspectives that investigate global interconnections and entanglements and/or employ methodologies of comparison. The critical reflection of general comparative notions such as “work and labour,” “freedom,” “slavery,” and “capitalism” should be part of the individual projects presented at the Summer Academy.

The following aspects, among others, should be central to the projects and discussions:

- Languages of free and unfree labour
- Slave emancipation
- Law and labour (contract)
- Capitalism and unfree labour
- Forced labour
- Child labour/children’s work
- International Organizations
- Contemporary forms of unfree labour
- Transnational labor migrations
- Gender differences and labour experiences

Moreover, the Summer Academy will also provide the venue for an in-depth discussion of methodological issues and the question of sources. The Summer Academy will be led by renowned historians and social scientists from around the world.

The language of the Summer Academy will be English. Within its framework, selected participants will present their research (40 minutes) and comment on a project of a peer (20 minutes).

Moreover it is obligatory that all participants hand in an essay on specific topics related to the Summer Academy's theme as well as answers to a set of key texts prior to the event.

#### Application

To participate in the Summer Academy research scholars at the doctoral level need to apply with a brief outline of their current project (max. 3 pages) and a two pages essay on how their work relates to the themes of the Summer Academy as well as how they can contribute to it. These should be submitted electronically along with their CV and the names/ email addresses of two referees. Proposed projects should assume a historical perspective and will be particularly pertinent if they take account of connections beyond the nation state and attempt to reflect upon the possibilities of connecting regional and systematic approaches. This does not exclude carefully contextualized case studies. Travel and accommodation costs of the selected participants will be covered by the organisers of the Summer Academy.

We welcome relevant applications from all parts of the globe. Candidates from Latin America are particularly encouraged to apply.

Please use the electronic form on our website: [rework.hu-berlin.de](http://rework.hu-berlin.de).

**WE CAN ONLY ACCEPT ELECTRONICALLY SUBMITTED APPLICATIONS!**

The deadline for applications is June 9, 2013.

Please send your application to:

Professor Andreas Eckert  
IGK Work and Human Lifecycle in Global History  
Humboldt University Berlin  
[rework-application@asa.hu-berlin.de](mailto:rework-application@asa.hu-berlin.de)

Please visit: <http://rework.hu-berlin.de>

Please contact: Felicitas Hentschke, re:work/ Humboldt Universität zu Berlin,  
[felicitas.hentschke@asa.hu-berlin.de](mailto:felicitas.hentschke@asa.hu-berlin.de)

### **III. Call for Articles**

#### **Histories of Transport, Mobility, and Environment**

Journal of Transport History, Special Issue December 2014

Deadline **5 August 2013**

In 1844 William Wordsworth wrote passionately about a railway that was desecrating the tranquility of the English Lake District, if not setting fire to woodland and dividing ancient fields and ecologies. Across the Atlantic in the same century, Henry Thoreau expressed gratitude that people could not yet fly "and lay waste the sky as well as the earth".

'Conquest', defilement and intrusion have been labels since pinned on many transport investments and mass traveling. Deforestation, air pollution, oil spills, noise, landscape leveling, water table lowering, and habitat change have all been associated with environmentally blind infrastructure expansion and mobility in the past. Conversely, there have been transport projects linked with

landscape beautification, and mobility may be said to have increased appreciation of the sanctity and fragility of wilderness. Some environmental activism has been directed at transport projects. Historians of transport and mobility as well as environmental historians have dealt with these issues, but more research is needed.

We invite scholarly contributions that examine the historical relationship between transport and mobility and the natural environment for a proposed Special Issue of the Journal of Transport History scheduled for December 2014 (vol 35 [2]). Contributions may be substantial library and archive-based research essays of 8,000 words (including endnotes and Abstract), or shorter pieces (1,500 words) for the Journal's 'Surveys & Speculations' and its 'Exhibitions & Museum Reviews' sections.

In existence for over 50 years, The Journal of Transport History publishes scholarly research and commentary on the history of transport, travel, tourism and mobility, including their relationship with planning and policy.

The Special Issue will be guest edited Thomas Zeller, author of *Driving Germany: the Landscape of the German Autobahn, 1930-1970* (2007). Together with JTH editor Gordon Pirie, he will select papers based on their originality and scholarly rigour, but will also strive for broad coverage of periods, themes, continents and transport modes. Papers will be subject to a double-blind review process. Conceptually progressive research is especially encouraged. A second call will be made in June 2013. Prospective authors should contact Thomas Zeller ([tzeller@umd.edu](mailto:tzeller@umd.edu)) and Gordon Pirie ([jth.editorial@gmail.com](mailto:jth.editorial@gmail.com)).

Final submissions for the JTH Special Environmental Issue should be lodged by 5 August 2013. More detail about the JTH, and back issues, are online at:  
<http://manchester.metapress.com/content/122747>.

Please contact: Thomas Zeller, [tzeller@umd.edu](mailto:tzeller@umd.edu); Gordon Pirie, [jth.editorial@gmail.com](mailto:jth.editorial@gmail.com)

#### **IV. Recently Published Books**

**Helerea, Elena; Mailat, Gabriela; Olteanu, Florentin (eds.):** *Rememberance in Time*. CD, published by the Transylvania University Press of Brasov, Brasov 2012.

“Rememberance in Time” analyses the development of Romania and Bulgaria in communist and post-communist periods. The sampler is the result of a cooperation of many European universities, research centers and museums. It combines Proceedings of the International Symposium “Communist Regimes – Recent memory for an open society” with a chronological approach to history since the beginning of the communist period.

**Mohun, Arwen:** *Risk: Negotiating Safety in American Society*. Johns Hopkins University Press, Baltimore 2013.

Arwen Mohun offers a thought-provoking study of danger and how people have managed it from pre-industrial and industrial America up until today. The author outlines a vernacular risk culture in early America, one based on ordinary experience and common sense. The rise of factories and machinery eventually led to shocking accidents, which, she explains, risk-management experts and the "gospel of safety" sought to counter. Finally, she examines the simultaneous blossoming of risk-taking as fun and the aggressive regulations that follow from the consumer-products-safety movement.



**Vahrenkamp, Richard:** Von Taylor zu Toyota. Rationalisierungsdebatten im 20. Jahrhundert. 2nd enlarged and revised edition, Eul Verlag, Köln 2013.

The author analyses discourses on rationalisation in the 20th century from an economist's point of view. He makes the point that Taylor's and Ford's concepts of mass production influenced thinking about rationalisation until the 1980s and investigates controversial discussions on different concepts which came up since those times.

## **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
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