

# ICOHTEC NEWSLETTER



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

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

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

### Editorial

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

Our 40<sup>th</sup> ICOHTEC Symposium in Manchester (21 – 28 July 2013) will be held as part of the 24<sup>th</sup> International Congress of History of Science, Technology and Medicine. Please find updates of the program of the whole ICHSTM on <http://www.ichstm2013.com/programme/guide/>

and the timetable on <http://www.ichstm2013.com/programme/timetable.html>

In order to make ICOHTEC more democratic for its members, elections will be held online for the second time. Thus, in this Newsletter, our president James Williams introduces our online election process and provides statements by candidates who have been nominated.

In the next issue of the Newsletter, I want to give the bibliography of books published by ICOHTEC members during 2012-2013. Please submit the bibliographical information and a short summary (3-5 lines) of your new books by **15 June 2013**.

Best wishes  
Stefan Poser

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## I. ICOHTEC General Elections

Every four years, the year that ICOHTEC holds its annual symposium as part of the International Congress for the History of Science, Technology and Medicine, we hold a general election for all of our officers as well as for election for the executive committee.

The nominating committee is comprised of the executive committee and officers and chaired by the president. Names may be put forward for consideration by the committee by any member of ICOHTEC, and, of course, committee members actively suggest names. After two rounds of voting by the committee, a slate of nominees has been chosen, and they are offered herewith:

### **Officers (each for a term of four years):**

**President** – *Jeffery Larrabee, USA and Timo Myllyntaus, Finland*

**Vice President** – *Dick van Lente, The Netherlands (Incumbent)*

**Secretary General** – *Slawomir Lotsyz, Poland*

**Treasurer** – *Yoel Bergman, Israel*

**Journal Editor** – *James Williams, USA*

**Webmaster** – *Slawomir Lotsyz, Poland (Incumbent)*

**Newsletter Editor** – *Stefan Poser, Germany (Incumbent)*

### **Executive Committee (for a term of four years) (vote for three):**

*Maria Paula Diogo, Portugal*

*Francesco Gerali, Italy/Mexico*

*Barton C. Hacker, USA*

*Elena Helerea, Romania (Incumbent)*

*Sofia-Alexia Papazafeiropoulou, Greece*

### **Executive Committee (for a term of one year to fill recent vacancies) (vote for two)**

*Lars Bluma, Germany*

*Pierre Lamard, France*

*Roland Wittje, Germany*

The election will be held on-line via SurveyMonkey.com from 16 June to midnight 29 June. You will receive instructions that the voting is open by email. If you have opted out of SurveyMonkey.com or if you do not have an email address, please contact the nominating committee chair at [techjunc@gmail.com](mailto:techjunc@gmail.com) or by telephone at 001-650-575-9825 as soon as possible, and he will mail you a paper ballot. The results of the election will be announced in Manchester.

### **Nominee Statements:**

#### **Officers (4-year terms)**

##### **President (Vote for one)**

**Jeffery Larrabee.** I presented my first paper at ICOHTEC during the Budapest meeting in 1996 while a graduate student at Case Western Reserve University. I have been a strong believer of the mission and purpose of ICOHTEC ever since. My lasting first impression was one of collegiality, intellectual curiosity, lively discourse, and a genuine sense of serving a larger purpose. Attending subsequent ICOHTEC meetings has only reinforced this impression. I value my ICOHTEC membership greatly, and cheerfully accept nomination as a candidate for President of our association.

I have mostly worked as a public historian, having been a curator and project officer at the Henry Ford Museum and, since 2003, a military historian, public affairs officer, and strategic planner. Now serving as the Chief of Historical Services at the United States National Guard Bureau, my day-to-day duties focus on outreach to other government agencies, fifty-four states and territories, and non-profit history organizations, and on using organizational history to support policy development and decision-making. I have spent time teaching National Guard historians how to collaborate with private and international organizations, and advising local historians how they can collaborate with National Guard historians to tell the stories of their communities. I believe that my experience in coordinating support to so many different history organizations, along with collaboration with other federal agencies, translates into skills directly applicable to the management and direction of an international history organization like ICOHTEC.

I can see from our growing meeting attendance and membership, our re-energized journal, and our stronger web presence that ICOHTEC has grown due to a lot of hard work and enthusiasm on the parts of our officers, past and present, and the unqualified support of our membership. But our world has changed, not just the socio-economic, political, and environmental landscapes, but also the personal technologies with which we discourse. I would like for us to explore how we can build upon ICOHTEC's strength's to address global issues from international perspectives of the history of technology.

First, I would like to see us leverage the information technology we have available today to take care of most of the administrative business of our association, allowing us to accomplish routine business more efficiently for our members and more cost effectively for our association. I would then like us to then spend the valuable time that we have when we are together at our annual meetings to discuss topics of interest to the membership and technology-related issues that are relevant to ICOHTEC's mandate.

I stated before when I was nominated for the Executive Committee that I could contribute best to ICOHTEC by helping develop an outreach plan. I believe that we have solid opportunities for outreach to UNESCO sponsored or affiliated organizations that further ICOHTEC's aims. I would like to see an ICOHTEC publication program that builds upon our annual meeting program and *ICON* to target international advisory bodies and potential members who could benefit from learning some history of technology. I believe that the time is right for us to challenge our association to see how we can continue to adapt the mission of a ICOHTEC to the challenges of a globalized world – and have a lot of FUN doing it!

I am truly honored by this nomination and opportunity to further the aims of ICOHTEC.

**Timo Myllyntaus.** Educated in economic history at Helsinki University and London School of Economics, I am now history professor at the University of Turku, Finland. Specialised in the history of technology, I have extensively published on energy history, industrial history, forest history and technology of everyday life. I have participated in all ICOHTEC symposia since 1993 except two ones. From 2005 I have acted as Secretary General of the organisation, intensively participated in the preparation of eight ICOHTEC symposia, organised about dozen sessions in them and compiled as a guest editor the special issue (no 16) of *ICON* on “*Technology in Everyday Life*”, which has attracted hundreds of readers worldwide during a few months. I have also been closely involved in the preparation of the 41<sup>st</sup> ICOHTEC symposium “*Technology in Times of Transition*”, which will be hold in Brasov, Romania from 29 July to 2 August 2014.

Participating in developing ICOHTEC and its activities, I have learned a great deal, while I have had opportunities to build up my experience and expertise to run such a global and dynamic organisation as ICOHTEC is presently. During the past twenty years ICOHTEC has swiftly grown and restructured; now it is one of the most noteworthy organisations in the field of the history of science and technology and among the most active committees of the Division of History of Science and Technology of IUHPS, the umbrella organisation affiliated to UNESCO. While serving our present members and recruiting new ones, we should pay attention to improve our activities continuously. Focusing ever more on the needs of younger researchers, we can strengthen our organisation and keep it among the vanguards of the field. Transnational workshops, research projects, summer schools and scientific publishing are activities in which we could make significant contributions. It would be a great honour to participate as president in continuing the promising development path of ICOHTEC next four years.

## **Vice President**

**Dick van Lente (Incumbent).** Since 2009, I have been ICOHTEC's vice-president. The role of the vice-president is a limited one, which was a condition for accepting the position, since my teaching duties at Erasmus University are heavy, leaving very little time for research. I have participated in the discussions among officers on the society's business and have invested mainly in chairing the ICOHTEC committee for the book prize for young scholars, 2011 and 2012. I introduced sessions on the prize-winning books in those years, which attracted a good audience and seem to have been successful.

As before, I look forward to think and act with the other officers to keep ICOHTEC moving and make improvements where possible, as well as taking on limited extra tasks in the organization.

## **Secretary General**

**Slawomir Lotysz.** I have been with ICOHTEC since 2002, when I attended the meeting in Granada as a PhD candidate to deliver a paper drawn from my dissertation. That was my first time at an international conference, and I was immediately caught by the warm reception and friendly attitude of all whom I met there. Most importantly, the feedback I received and subsequent interaction with people within ICOHTEC network helped to develop my academic career. So, I wanted to give something in return. In 2006, I volunteered to redesign ICOHTEC website and to maintain it in the years to come. My commitment was appreciated by the community – as webmaster, I became part of the Executive Committee for the term 2008-2011, and collaborated closely with other officers for the good of our community. I learned a lot from them. Now, I wish to run for Secretary General to make my commitment even more fully.

As a Secretary General I want to stress two issues:

1) making ICOHTEC more attractive network for young and emerging scholars. The annual conferences are important but not the only form of activity. We must open ourselves for new ideas, and we must push more actively toward organizing a summer school, webinars, etc. A tool to reach this goal is making ICOHTEC more visible online and having the members more actively engaged in it.

2) re-building ICOHTEC's reputation and popularity in East European countries. Since its foundation in 1968, the Committee was dedicated to act as a bridge over the iron curtain. Now the barriers are happily gone, but East Europeans are less visible at annual meetings and in our journal *ICON* than in the darkest time of cold war. In larger perspective, it is about re-building popularity of history of technology as a scholarly field in that part of the continent.

As to other organizational matters, I will work with our programme and local arrangements committees on future symposia, and I will be firmly supporting *ICON* Editor in his efforts to finalize an agreement with JSTOR to have back and current issues of *ICON* available to scholarly community through this online database.

## **Treasurer**

**Yoel Bergman.** My education began in Technion, Haifa-B.Sc in Chemical Engineering (1982) and M.Sc in Technology (1988). Later, I decided to taste humanities so I became a student in the Cohn Institute for the History and Philosophy of Science and Ideas, Tel-Aviv University. My Ph.D dissertation, completed 2008 is named "*Development and production of smokeless military propellants in France 1884-1918*". Since then I am associated with the Institute and my publications continue with smokeless powders, mainly on Alfred Nobel. I am also interested in philosophy of technology and the questions that scientific developments induce. Lately, I have joined a project on physics and technology in the interwar years and have been working on a proposal to host ICOHTEC in Israel in 2015.

The M.Sc. and Ph.D. were achieved while working in the industry. I am currently a senior validation engineer in Protalix, a biopharmaceutical company. The plant is in the Galilee and I drive there each day 1.5 hours while listening to classical music. Some of my colleagues are local Arab

engineers and it is gratifying to work together on technological objectives that are good for all. We have put much effort to obtain regulatory approvals, as the production process is conceptually new.

I first came to ICOHTEC in Bochum 2004, after learning that there is an active academic group on powders. Brenda Buchanan and Patrice Bret both helped me later in my dissertation. The cordial atmosphere in ICOHTEC that also helps maintain the academic interests suits my preferences. We naturally have to move forward in digitizing and organizational clarity while preserving the communal spirit.

Last, I have been accompanied many times by my spouse Gali who is currently involved in implementing personal-finance studies in high schools across the country to meet the OECD standards. My older son is in post-production, my daughter in cinema and the youngest in math.

### **Journal Editor**

**James Williams**, Ph.D. (UC Santa Barbara, 1984), has been a member of ICOHTEC since 1986, serving over the years on the executive committee, as vice president and president. He taught history in the USA for 36 years and served the California History Center & Foundation (executive director, curator, book series editor and publisher), and is now a visiting research professor at Stetson University in Florida. He also was executive director and president of the California Council for the Promotion of History for several years, organized state and national conferences, was treasurer and on the executive council of SHOT for eight years and was co-founder of Envirotech.

Williams research interests range from energy history to technology and the environment and, recently, maritime topics. His publications include *Energy and the Making of Modern California* (Akron, OH, 1997) and many articles, book chapters, reviews and essays, among which recent ones are "Understanding the Place of Humans in Nature" in *Illusory Boundary: Environment and Technology in History*, eds. Steven Cutcliffe and Martin Reuss (Charlottesville VA, 2010), 9-25; "History of Energy," *Scientists and the Franklin Institute: Making Their Cases*, [www.fi.edu/learn/case-files/energy.html](http://www.fi.edu/learn/case-files/energy.html) (Philadelphia, 2006); "The American Industrial Revolution," in *Companion to American Technology*, ed. Carroll Pursell (Oxford, 2005), 31-51.

Since November 2011, he has been interim editor of *ICON*, stepping in when illness prevented the previous editor from continuing his duties. At the time, *ICON* was three years behind in its publication schedule, but when volume 18 (2012) appears in July 2013, it will be back on its regular publication schedule. He seeks a full term as editor in order to continue on the fine work of previous editors and to make *ICON* the best possible journal in the history of technology.

### **Webmaster**

**Slawomir Lotysz** (*Incumbent*). The current version of ICOHTEC website ([www.icohtec.org](http://www.icohtec.org)) is the second one that I designed since I volunteered to take that duty in 2006. Over the years I implemented several improvements and functionalities, including the Book Corner and Members Area. The latter one allows the members to access the back issues of *ICON*, our annual journal. My typical duties include: monthly updates of our Newsletter (with close collaboration with Newsletter Editor), occasional announcements provided by the President, Secretary General, and chairs of different grant and awards committees. I also regularly post on our profiles in different social networks, specifically Facebook and Linked-in. Each year I open a new subpage dedicated to our

annual meeting, where all the calls, announcement, and bulletins are posted, which requires a close collaboration with local organizing committees. Typically the Webmaster has to collaborate in setting up an online interface for software used for registration and evaluation of paper and session proposals. Running the Members Area entails sending out passwords to new members for access to the 'members only' pages and deleting access for those who do not renew. These changes occur occasionally, as the payments are made, and require constant collaboration with the Treasurer. All these duties require the knowledge of web designing, including graphic processing, HTML, PHP, and Java script coding.

Although I am running for Secretary General post this year, I wish to continue maintaining the website. The main reason for this is that I am aware of possible difficulties that may emerge while a website is transmitted to another person. Each webmaster has his/her own style and making a transition may or may not be easy. If a new webmaster would have to work with the existing template, it could present extra difficulties. Therefore I believe that such a transition is the most justified if a new design for the website is needed. You can go to [www.icohtec.org](http://www.icohtec.org) and decide whether we need one, and I should welcome your feedback. In the end, however, if duties of Secretary General prevent me from properly handling the task of Webmaster, I will resign from the latter and open the way for another person to take it over.

#### **Newsletter Editor**

***Stefan Poser (Incumbent).*** Dr. Poser is researcher and lecturer at Helmut-Schmidt-University, Hamburg. His main field of research is the playful approach to technology. Recently edited books include "Zukunft der Ingenieure", concerning engineering and the Association of German Engineers, VDI Berlin (2006 – together with S. Brandt), "Kalkuliertes Risiko", dealing with technology, play and risk (2006 – together with G. Gebauer, et. al.), and the exhibition catalogue "Spiel mit Technik" (2006) of the German Museum of Technology in Berlin, which analyses the playful approach to technology. He has been a member of ICOHTEC since 1998, and editor of the ICOHTEC Newsletter for eight years.

#### **Executive Committee (4-year terms) (vote for three)**

***Maria Paula Diogo*** is Full Professor of History of Technology at the Faculty of Science and Technology of the New University of Lisbon, Portugal (FCT/UNL). She holds a PhD in History and Philosophy of Science from the New University of Lisbon, where she specialized in the History of Technology. She is currently the Head of the Department of Social Sciences at the FCT/UNL and the Coordinator of the major research centre in Portugal in the field of the History of Science and Technology (CIUHCT). She pioneered the courses on History of Technology in Portugal, both to undergraduate and graduate students. She is currently working on Portuguese engineers and engineering, mainly during the second half of the 19th century and the first half of the 20th century. She coordinates two national projects (Science, Technology and the Empire and Popularization of Science and Technology in Portugal, 18<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> centuries), and she participates on several other projects concerning the Portuguese and the Iberian History of Science and Technology, both in

Portugal and in Spain. She is a founding member of STEP (Science and Technology in the European Periphery), an international research group which aims at studying science and technology in the European Peripheries and of INES (International Network on Engineering Studies). She is also a member of the Tensions of Europe -Technology in the Making of the 20<sup>th</sup> century Europe network. She is Associate Editor of the Journal of Engineering Studies and of HoST (History of Science and Technology Journal). She organized the ICOHTEC 1998 and the SHOT 2008 meetings.

When I decided to write my PhD thesis on Portuguese engineers, back in the late eighties, History of Technology was still an unknown discipline in Portugal. As a young student I knew very little about what had been written in the field but I was eager to learn and quite sure that I wanted to be an historian of technology. Professor Angus Buchanan, who then taught at the University of Bath, was the generous guide in my initiation into the field. The ICOHTEC and, later on, the SHOT meetings revealed to me a supporting, vivid and rich community of historians of technology that encouraged me to pursue my research work back home.

If elected to the ICOHTEC's Executive Council I hope to strengthen the relationship between ICOHTEC and other European networks of researchers, particularly within Southern countries. Using my personal network in Portugal, Spain, France, Italy and Greece I will commit myself to broaden the influence of ICOHTEC and to bring to our organization new historians of technology and to strengthen topics such as the relations between centre(s) and periphery(ies), between the local and the global and the circulation of technical knowledge, and the role of technology in colonial and post-colonial

I was truly honoured to be considered eligible for the ICOHTEC EC and I find a privilege to have the opportunity to serve.

**Francesco Gerali.** I come from La Spezia, a small gulf town facing the Ligurian Sea in North West Italy, and I studied my historian career at the University of Genoa, few kilometers northern. Since 2001 I had the great opportunity to follow the small school of history of science and technology founded by Carlo Maccagni, Nicoletta Morello, later headed by Grazia Biorci, hosted in the History department of that university, and sponsored by the Italian National Council of Research. I concluded my BA in Modern and Contemporary History with a thesis on the technological development of the oil industry up to the II World War; following, I got my MA in Methods and Instruments for the Historical Research, focusing on history of geosciences in 19<sup>th</sup> century. In 2006 I started my PhD studies at the University of Bari, South East Italy, but I could maintain the residency in La Spezia and develop my research project at the Lunigianese Academy of Sciences, also following to collaborate with my old department. Since 2005 I had the opportunity to work in a project aimed on book digitalization, and manage the reorganization and the inventory of the archive of a 19<sup>th</sup> century's Italian geologist, that is also the main topic of my PhD thesis.

In 2010 and 2011 I had two short post doc research experiences in Italy and US (University of Insubria, The Oklahoma University) focusing on oil geology and oil technology in 19<sup>th</sup> century; since June 2011 I'm working as post-doctoral research at the National Autonomous University of Mexico, running a research project on the development of the Mexican Oil industry in XIX.

I heard with interest about ICOHTEC's mission and activities since 2005, but only in 2010 I could finally find travel support and join the Tampere meeting. I was really attracted by the scientific dynamism and the 'colleague's agreement' atmosphere found in Finland, and since then I was already planning to join Glasgow appointment. Right in Scotland I proposed to the Board two ideas:



the first, to organize a page on ICOHTEC website where only members can access with username and password, and read ICON issues in pdf format; second, the creation of an information platform for young scholars, in which share grant announcements. Just after few months Slawomir Slotiz, our Web Master, was working to develop the ICOHTEC Members Area, and contacting me to set the PhD Corner, the web page that currently I manage the contents.

After I attended Barcelona meeting, now I'm going to participate to Manchester as panelist and symposia organizer.

I was surprised to receive this nomination from the Board after only so little service in ICOHTEC. What I can offer now to our Committee? Nothing different I did until now: attention, devotion, and the will to get the best result. I'm ready to participate more actively to the Committee management, conference organization and editorial activity. Right now I'm planning to develop a new project that involves young scholars in book review activity, to propose on ICOHTEC website. I'm working on the backstage; I already contacted some young colleagues and organizing issues and details. I really wish to get soon an effective team.

I conclude thanking the people that trusted in me and decide to propose my nomination, and I appreciate in advance the ones will consider my profile appropriate to give their preference.

**Barton C. Hacker**, Ph.D. (University of Chicago, 1968), has served as curator of armed forces history in the Smithsonian Institution, Washington DC, since 1998. The history of technology, especially military technology, has been central to a career that has included academic, corporate, and government positions; in 2003 he received the Leonardo da Vinci medal of the Society for the History of Technology. Hacker convenes the annual symposium on the social history of military technology as part of ICOHTEC and has edited several volumes of essays on the subject, culminating in 2013 with the founding of *Vulcan: The International Journal of the Social History of Military Technology*.

Among his most recent writings are: "The Machines of War: Western Military Technology 1850–2000." *History and Technology* 21 (2005): 255-300; *American Military Technology* (Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 2006; Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2007); "Submarines Transformed: From Type XXI to Polaris, 1945–1960," in Barton C. Hacker and Margaret Vining, eds., *Science in Uniform: Science, Technology, and American Military Institutions, from the Revolution to the Present* (Lanham, MD: Scarecrow Press, 2007); "Toward a History of Military Museums," in Robert Douglas Smith, ed., *ICOMAM 50: Papers on Arms and Military History 1957–2007* (Leeds: Basiliscoe Press, 2007); "Firearms, Horses, and Slave Soldiers: The Military History of African Slavery," *ICON: Journal of the International Committee for the History of Technology* 14 (2008): 60-81; "War and Technology," in Jan Kyrre Berg Olsen et al., eds., *A Companion to the Philosophy of Technology* (Oxford: Blackwell, 2009); "Horse, Wheel, and Saddle: Recent Works on Two Ancient Military Revolutions." *International Bibliography of Military History* 32 (2012): 175-91; "Military Museums and Social History," in Wolfgang Muchitsch, ed., *Does War Belong in Museums? The Representation of Violence in Museums* (Bielefeld: transcript Verlag, 2013).

As a longtime member of ICOHTEC, he is committed to maintaining ICOHTEC as a collegial organization, both intellectually stimulating and socially welcoming, that brings together veteran scholars and newcomers from as many nations as possible to exchange ideas, establish professional connections, meet old friends and make new ones.

**Elena Helerea (Incumbent)** is University Professor, PhD Eng, Transilvania University of Brasov, Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science. She received her Baccalaureate (1965) from the *Theoretical Secondary School*, Agnita; her Electromechanic Engineer (1970) degree from *Institutul Politehnic*, Brasov; and her Doctor in Electrical Materials (1978) from *Institutul Politehnic*, Bucuresti.

Her professional activities have included

- Engineer – professor, *Grupul Scolar Industrial* - Fagaras (1970-1975);

Design engineer, *Chemical Factory*, Fagaras (1975 – 1976);

- Teacher – assistant lecturer, *Universitatea Transilvania din Brasov*, Brasov (1977 – 1992);
- Associate professor, Materials for electrical engineering, *Universitatea Transilvania din Brasov*, Brasov (1992 – 1999);
- Professor, Electrical materials, Electromagnetic compatibility, Energy and environment, History of technology, *Universitatea Transilvania din Brasov*, Brasov (from 1999);
- Director, University Technical College (1992 – 1995);
- Vice-Rector with didactical activities, Transilvania University of Brasov (2004-2008);
- Director, Library of Transilvania University of Brasov (2008-2012);
- Coordinator, master program *Advanced Electrical Systems*;
- Coordinator of PhD thesis in electrical engineering (from 2004);
- Honorary Professor of Honorific, Pollack Mihaly Faculty of Engineering and Information Technology, University of Pecs, Hungary (from 2010).

Her professional associations include:

- International Committee for the History of Technology (ICOHTEC) (since 1997);
- Romanian Academia – Romanian Committee for History and Philosophy of Science and Technique of the Romanian Academy (member from 1996, secretary for Brasov Subsidiary);
- IEEE on Dielectrics, Magnetics, CEM, and Education (member from 2001);
- ACER – Romanian Association for Electromagnetic Compatibility (member in Executive Committee, from 2001);
- AGIR – Association of Engineers from Romania, member
- Negru Voda Cultural Foundation, project responsible.

Her achievements and refereeing include:

- 19 academic and monographic books published at the Transilvania University of Braşov, Lux Libris Brasov, Matrix Bucuresti Publishing Houses, as author or coordinator. Coordinator of the series *Hermeneutica Historiae et Philosophiae Technicae*.
- Over 40 scientific research and educational projects
- Over 130 scientific works, published in the international magazines and proceedings.
- Activities for technical heritage preservation through implementing of 6 EU and national projects
- Member of editorial boards (Scientific Bulletin of Transilvania University of Brasov, Pollack Periodica - An International Journal for Engineering and Information Sciences, Publisher: Akadémiai Kiadó, EPMagazine)

A short comment on how I could serve the ICOHTEC as member of the EC:

My involvement in the ICOHTEC activities will have three axis:

1. Enlargement of the sphere of activities, in accordance with the main objective of ICOHTEC
2. Attracting new members and promoting the ICOHTEC activities
3. Active participation to the meetings of EC

**Sofia-Alexia Papazafeiropoulou.** My first contact with ICOHTEC was at the 2012 conference in Barcelona, where I presented a paper based on my PhD thesis. Having already participated to a number of international conferences up to that time, I immediately appreciated the prominent role of ICOHTEC on the diffusion of the study of technology within a cordial as well as polyphonic environment that encourages fertile dialogue on an international level. Therefore I soon realized that I wanted to further contribute to the aims of this society.

Born in Athens in 1979, my fields of studies include History and Archaeology, as well as History and Philosophy of Science and Technology at the University of Athens (UoA) and the National Technical University of Athens (NTUA). I am currently working on my PhD thesis concerning Car Culture and Mobility Studies at the NTUA, funded by the Heraclitus scholarship. My research interests involve Public History, STS, Consumption Culture and Material Culture Studies. Publications I have made so far include the translation of STS articles in Greek. My working experience includes research projects on History and Science and Technology Studies, as well as participation as a tutor to projects concerning the immigrants' education, and coordinator on social and medical support programs for immigrants in Greece.

A considerable portion of my academic experience relates to my domestic community, for which Technology Studies is yet a field "under development". Therefore I am convinced of the necessity for the creative ideas' exchange among researchers who hold different academic experiences. Given this, I would love to become an active member of this process, and also contribute to the strengthening of ICOHTEC in Greece. I would also love to use my musical skills in the ICOHTEC jazz band!

## **Executive Committee (1-year terms) (vote for two)**

**Lars Bluma** is a senior researcher for mining history at the German Mining Museum Bochum. He is also an assistant professor at Ruhr University Bochum, Department of History, and Chairman of the Committee for the History of Technology at the Association of German Engineers (VDI).

His PhD thesis at Ruhr University Bochum in 2004 dealt with the history of cybernetics. Since 2005, he has been an active member of ICOHTEC, presenting a paper in Beijing on the history of information networks in the age of imperialism. From 2007 to 2008 Lars Bluma served as member of ICOHTEC's programme committee, 2009 he chaired the committee.

Fields of interest: mining history, pictorial turn, cybernetics and information technologies, history of industrialisation, workplace studies.

His latest edited book is „Kontrollierte Arbeit – Disziplinierte Körper?“ 2012. Recent publications in English include "The Hygienic Movement and German Mining 1890-1914" (European Review of History – Revue européenne d'histoire, 20, 2013, No. 2, p. 177-196), "History of the Workplace: Environment and Health at Stake – An Introduction" (together with Judith Rainhorn, in: European Review of History – Revue européenne d'histoire, 20, 2013, No. 2, p. 171-176), „Globalization and the

Rise of Telecommunication Networks” (Reiner Anderl/Bruno Arich-Gerz/Rudi Schmiede (Eds.): Technologies of Globalization, Darmstadt 2008, 249-261), “Science Images between Scientific Fields and the Public Sphere – An historiographical survey” (together with Sybilla Nikolow, in: Bernd Hüppauf/Peter Weingart (Eds.): Images of Science in Public Media, New York/London 2008, 33-51), “Heavy Snowfall, Elephants, Sabotage and other Little Incidents: The role of incident-innovations for the evolution of the German telephone system” (in: ICON 13, 2007, 35-49).

I will actively contribute to strengthening the collaboration between historians at universities and researchers in museums dealing with the history of technology. My long-standing aim is to position ICOHTEC as a main platform creating and promoting international networks, including universities and museums. Furthermore, I believe supporting junior scientists in the field of history of technology and especially within ICOHTEC is strongly needed enabling them to gain more international experiences and expertise.

**Pierre Lamard.** I am a member of ICOHTEC since 1996 and regularly attend its symposia. In August 1999, I organized with my colleagues (Alexander HERLEA, Robert Belot, Michel Cotte) ICOHTEC’s symposium on ‘Technological Choices’, the proceedings of which were published the following year. Finally, I was a member of the executive committee for four years from 2008 to 2012.

As a researcher, I have had two papers published in *ICON*, and I have chaired several symposium sessions. Among my recent publications are *La technologie entre à l’université : Compiègne, Sevenans, Belfort-Montbéliard*, en collaboration avec Yves-Claude Lequin, Montbéliard, Pôle Editorial UTBM, coll. Sciences humaines et technologie, 2006, 389 p. ; and *Peugeot à Sochaux : des hommes, une usine, un territoire*, en collaboration avec Robert Belot, Editions Lavauzelle, juin 2007, 371 p.

For four years, I served as a member of the jury Maurice Daumas Prize, which is under the current chairmanship of Andrew Butrica. (Les communications françaises à ce prix sont de plus en plus nombreuses.) The chairmanship of my University has agreed to sponsor the prize for four years with a payment of 500 euros per year.

ICOHTEC represents for me a very important organization which gives the history of technology international recognition. It is a place to meet and exchange vital ideas for young researchers. It seems essential to promote the activities of the ICOHTEC in France in memory of Maurice Daumas, one of the founding members, and to boost the discipline.

As a corresponding member of the International Academy of the History of Science, as a member of the National Council of Universities, of the Committee of Historical and Scientific Works, of the History Committee of the Company to Encouragement National Industry, I will continue to be an ambassador of activities ICOHTEC in France.

**Roland Wittje.** After graduating in physics at the Carl von Ossietzky University of Oldenburg, Germany, in 1996 I completed my Dr.philos dissertation in history of science at the Norwegian University of Science and Technology in Trondheim in 2003. Since 2007, I am lecturer (Akademischer Rat auf Zeit) at the History of Science Unit of the University of Regensburg. I am Vice-President of Universeum, European association for the academic heritage of universities, since 2011. Many of my research interests connect the history of science and the history of technology, as the history of technical acoustics and electroacoustics in the interwar period, history nuclear physics, scientific instruments and research technology, history of science teaching and engineering education and

material culture studies. To ICOHTEC I bring a strong link to history of science. History of technology is certainly underrepresented in scientific instrument studies. Engineering collections are also largely underrepresented in the debate about university heritage.

## II. Conference Reports

### Sounds of Space

Conference in Berlin, November - December 2012

Katja Rippert, Freie Universität Berlin, [katja.rippert@fu-berlin.de](mailto:katja.rippert@fu-berlin.de)

Voices whistling from deep space, a dull drumming rhythm, recurring high beeps – this ‘extraterrestrial’ music of the fictional alien race Krell formed an integral element of the first exclusively electronic soundtrack to “Forbidden Planet” (1956), one of the most iconic Hollywood science fiction movies. Released just one year before the launch of Sputnik, the movie took a prominent place in the popularization and imagination of outer space during the early Space Age.

The close relationship between moving pictures, electronic music and outer space in postwar culture became apparent during the workshop “Sounds of Space.” While ambient space sounds took participants on sonic adventures, their analysis proved to be a challenging expedition into an academic field hitherto largely uncharted, despite the recently much-debated ‘acoustic turn.’ Why do certain sounds evoke images of the universe even though humans cannot experience sound in outer space, due to the absence of sound waves in a vacuum? The variety of sounds explored, ranging from different music genres, environmental sounds, human voices and sound effects to sonified data, reflected the complexity of the subject. Three questions were at the core of this enterprise: First, what sonic forms and material encompassed imagined sounds of space? Second, what role did technology and actual space exploration play in developing such sounds? And third, how were these sounds of space embedded in the history of postwar astroculture?

Organized by William R. Macauley and the Emmy Noether Research Group “The Future in the Stars: European Astroculture and Extraterrestrial Life in the Twentieth Century,” the workshop gathered more than two dozen scholars at Freie Universität Berlin in late November 2012. It set out to investigate how outer space was sonically imagined between the late 1940s and 1980. Broadening academic work on astroculture – hitherto focused on visual aspects – into another sensorial dimension was the main objective, ALEXANDER C.T. GEPPERT (Berlin) explained. In his introduction, WILLIAM R. MACAULEY (Berlin) argued that postwar sonic ventures into space extended from the end of the Second World War, when new technologies such as radio astronomy fuelled sonic space fiction prior to successful spaceflights. The ‘Golden Age’ of comprehensive planetary exploration programs came to an end by 1980, simultaneously marking the limit of the workshop’s timeframe.

Keynote speaker JAMES WIERZBICKI (Sydney) suggested four analytical categories from science fiction – signals, technology, planets and space travel – that influenced twentieth-century music. According to Wierzbicki, the soundtracks of “2001: Space Odyssey” (USA 1968) and “Solaris” (USSR 1972), together with the music of the 1970s “Berlin School,” expressed a notion of timelessness and weightlessness. The music echoed human experience in outer space by breaking with traditional tonal music based on harmony and measured rhythm. Composer Arnold Schönberg first challenged the tonal ‘laws of gravity’ in his String Quartet No. 2 (1908), which had a soprano sing of “wind from other planets.”

French music theorist and composer Pierre Schaeffer was a key figure in the 1940s endorsing this critical stance on traditional music structure. TATJANA BÖHME-MEHNER (Leipzig) described his radio play “La Coquille à Planètes” (1944) as a crucial step in radiophonic art. For Schaeffer, radio constituted a powerful medium to create new art forms appealing solely to the sense of hearing. In his depiction of space travel Schaeffer experimented with recordings of ‘concrete’ sounds from nature, in addition to musical instruments and human voices. Similar sounds fascinated listeners of Karl-Birger Blomdahl's opera “Aniara” (Sweden, 1959), a rare example of an avant-garde opera set exclusively in outer space. JOHAN STENSTRÖM (Lund) gave a detailed account of the so-called Mima tapes, in which the goddess-like computer Mima informs evacuated humans on spaceship Aniara about the decline on war-ravaged Earth. In their sonic narration of the protagonists’ consciousness and dreams, Schaeffer’s and Blomdahl’s space journeys contemplated quests for human identity recently shaken in the Second World War. Employing new technologies for their ‘futuristic’ electronic sounds, both works aimed to modernize the genre.

Artists on the other side of the iron curtain drew upon progressive developments in electronic music. Numerous Soviet and Eastern European science fiction films followed in Sputnik’s footsteps as they advanced into space to the rhythm of their experimental soundtracks. KONSTANTIN KAMINSKIJ (Konstanz) analyzed the function of planet Venus’ voice in the film “Planet of Storms” (USSR 1962). The “Ensemble of Electro-Musical Instruments” had mixed recordings of Peruvian folklore singer Yma Sumac (1922-2008) with a melodic composition of a Theremin, an early electronic instrument. The ‘prehistoric’ and exotic notion of the traditional music style appealed to basic human knowledge and expressed ideas of colonial adventure at the same time.

The singing planet Venus illustrated how sound changed the appearance of objects. Similarly, giving museum spaces and their objects a ‘voice’ could enrich visitors’ experience in contemporary exhibitions. TIM BOON (London) criticized the lack of attention paid to noise and sounds in museums. However, in 2009, the London Science Museum celebrated the fortieth anniversary of the Apollo moon landings by staging a performance of Brian Eno’s “Apollo” album. Incorporating an ambient music score into his own presentation, Boon explained how spaces could embody sound – and thus transform historical thinking. Throughout the workshop participants integrated sound into scholarly practice, thus merging academic and acoustic performances while, at the same time, analyzing sonic sources as historical evidence.

In recent years, cultural historians have embraced a focus on sound and changing listening practices. Such analyses of auditive cultures proved especially fruitful in TREVOR PINCH’s (Ithaca, NY) examination of the role electronic music synthesizers played in the emergence of ‘spacy’ sounds in the 1960s and 1970s. Paradoxically, critique of technological and scientific progress prevailing in hippie counterculture was communicated with the help of new instruments such as Moog and Buchla synthesizers, providing a basis for psychedelic sound. Rather than celebrating advances into outer space, hippie culture embarked on a refuge into inner worlds. The fusion and exploration of inner and outer space constituted an integral element of their rationale and proved closely connected to psychoanalysis and the emancipation of the self. Outer space then functioned as a transcendental, utopian, spiritual or simply alternative site. Pinch emphasized how difficult it is to draw boundaries between outer space, inner space and utopian places.

As eminent instruments of auditive cultures, synthesizers seem to have influenced both the development and popularization of superstring theory in the 1970s. AXEL VOLMAR (Siegen) proposed that the speculative theory claiming the synthesis of all elements via strings offered a modern version of the cosmological ‘harmony of the spheres,’ a concept tracing back to Pythagoras’

organization of the cosmos in mathematical equations. However, Volmar clarified, relating string theory to synthesized music required further evidence.

Bringing the first day to a close, ELIAD WAGNER's (Berlin) stimulating musical performance passionately rejected the interpretation of the universe as a harmonic cosmos. Instead, the sonic structures, stories and scenes told by his synthesizer conjured images of chaos, disorder and unpredictable encounters. Musical harmony, melody and rhythm were mostly absent and no recognizable motif held the composition together. The sounds not only evoked mechanical processes and war-like events but also included beeps reminiscent of bird songs, appearing like familiar elements in the midst of an unknown space. The ambiguity of his impromptu composition demonstrated the potential of sonic forms to express one object or event under changing light and perspective.

The workshop's second day started with a focus on popular music. MICHAEL MOORADIAN LUPRO (Portland, OR) asked whether the exploration of space affected labor relations. He analyzed how promises of space tourism contrasted with the future of labor in outer space as depicted in David Bowie's "Ground Control" (1969) and Elton John's "Rocket Man" (1972). From the perspective of many artists, space exploration and its promotion in mass media collided with a plethora of problems faced by society during the 1960s and 1970s. Critics of capitalist labor conditions did not halt at earthly borders, but rather denounced the vast expenses allocated to space exploration over societal needs. CATHLEEN LEWIS (Washington, DC) demonstrated that musicians Bulat Okudzhava (1924–1997, USSR/Russia) and Gil Scott-Heron (1949–2011, USA) used irony as an effective artistic tool to articulate their political concerns. The integration of critical songs into entertainment media raised the social awareness of the public on the one hand and softened more radical protests on the other, Lupro and Lewis exemplified.

In the 1980s, governmental space programs of the two major space powers were in retreat. Parallel to this process reemerged the question whether outer space was, after all, a worthwhile place for human exploration. PAWEL FRELIK (Lublin) familiarized the audience with three contemporary musical subgenres: Space Ambient, Dark Ambient and Space Black Metal. The anthropocentric and hopeful cosmic vision promoted in popular Space Ambient differed from the dark existential agenda of Dark Ambient's misanthropic, empty cosmos and Space Black Metal's universe of human loneliness and desperation. Reflecting on problems of categorization, Frelik explained the plurality of genres as social phenomena, shaped by marketing strategies as well as identity politics.

Initiatives to sonify space were not limited to the spheres of art, but likewise extended into scientific research. The sonification of planets disclosed the thin line between art and science as well as deception and authenticity (ALEXANDRA SUPPER, Maastricht). Asteroseismologists use specific electronic sounds to represent planets in public presentations that aim at legitimizing and popularizing their research. To their lay audiences it remains unclear how these fictional planet sounds are technically produced, so that listeners get the false impression of listening to 'real' star movements. The power of audible data to increase belief in science also bolstered supporters of the Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence (SETI) to prove that extraterrestrials communicated in mathematical forms, which humans could 'hear' and decipher. Concentrating on the technoscientific practices of 'listening' and 'messaging,' KLARA ANNA CAPOVA (Durham) showed how attempts of SETI practitioners to ground their scientific credibility on audible evidence were smashed by a persistent silence from outer space. Exchange of language remained bound to human abilities and technologies, therefore complicating any allegations on communication with the extraterrestrial Other.

So we cannot hear aliens – but what if they hear us? Provoking questions rather than providing answers, STEFAN HELMREICH (Cambridge, MA) dug further into the field of communication by proposing another category: sounds as alien ears might apprehend them. Based on the “Scrambles of the Earth” music project, an alleged 2010 alien remix of the phonograph records launched on Voyager spacecraft in 1977, Helmreich qualified meaning of sound and models of audition. Throughout his presentation the lines between meaning and message, author and audience, sending and receiving became increasingly blurred. The effect, rethinking the possibilities and limits of communication, was achieved through music, an audio-visually distorted video interview and perspective-shifting irony.

Uncertainties about meanings attached to sounds of space reconnected with the initial paradox of the workshop’s theme. The absence of genuine sonic material has not stopped humans from imagining sounds inspired by the universe. On the contrary, the scarcity of sonic experiences has fueled fantasy and spurred the multiplicity of sounds associated with outer space. Perhaps the emergence of a common sonic language of space was a necessary cultural response to a lacking factual repertoire. In postwar culture, new technologies promised to have a decisive impact on future society, evoking curiosity and giving room to imagine their unknown potential. The exploration of outer space went hand in hand with a boost in electronic music and science fiction cinema. These media could create and alter space and time, presenting knowledge and ideas of the universe, and allowing an escape into other worlds. New, non-conventional musical elements, rooted in atonal music, developed into central ingredients of sonic space fiction.

The workshop demonstrated the significance of sound and music in the exploration and perception of outer space during the postwar period. The historical evolution of sounds of space, their roots in social, economic and political change as well as their place within the history of music, participants agreed, would be worthwhile topics for future ventures. Another would be the complex interplay between visual and sonic representations of space. “Sounds of Space,” an event both highly successful and innovative, finished with a question mark, echoing the last sounds of Eliad Wagner’s synthesizer performance on the first day: rhythm was not discernible until the very end, when a short sequence of beats faded into an accelerating sound seemingly rising into the air – like the inflection of a voice at the end of a statement expressing an impetus for further insight.

Please find the whole report and the program in: H-Soz-u-Kult, 26 April 2013,  
<http://hsozkult.geschichte.hu-berlin.de/tagungsberichte/id=4777>

### **III. Conference Announcements**

**28 – 29 June 2013**

**Gesellschaft für Bautechnikgeschichte - Gründungsveranstaltung / Foundation of the (German) Society for Construction History**  
Berlin Technical University

The announcement of the societies’ foundation, which is combined with a conference on the history of building construction, is published in the online-journal "momentum"

<http://momentum-magazin.de/de/aufufr-grundung-gesellschaft-fur-bautechnikgeschichte/>

The societies’ first annual meeting will take place in Aachen Technical University on 8 – 9 November 2013.



**25 – 27 September 2013**

**Scheitern /Failing Developments. Driburger Kreis 2013**

CFP- Deadline **31 July 2013**

Jena University

One topic of this workshop will be 'Failed Innovations', which has been discussed on many symposia of ICOHTEC.

Please visit: [www.dggmnt.de](http://www.dggmnt.de)

Please contact Verena Lehmbruck, Jena University, [verena.lehmbruck@uni-jena.de](mailto:verena.lehmbruck@uni-jena.de) and Timo Engels, Flensburg University, [timo.engels@uni-flensburg.de](mailto:timo.engels@uni-flensburg.de)

**3 – 5 October 2013**

**Cultural Research in the Context of "Digital Humanities"**

St. Petersburg, Russia

CFP – Deadline **15 June 2013**

### **What is "digital humanities"?**

Whereas humanities can be described as the investigation of different forms of human experience, digital humanities with respect to the subject of research, represent the way humanistic research exists in the digital age providing novel possibilities for information storage, transfer and dissemination. Digital humanities can be seen as a synthesis of several major research areas and practical activities.

*Firstly, it is the use of digital technologies in human research, foremost to process large arrays of information, from ancient manuscript analysis («digital paleography») to the research of literary works and documents of various epochs («distant reading» or «digital reading» as referred to by Franco Moretti). These are digital means of space and time data visualization, that are able to depict the most diverse types of processes, for example, a city architectural history, ethnic groups translocations, language transformations and the geographical expansion of an artistic style.*

*Secondly, DH are the new forms of accumulation and transfer of knowledge, and structuring of academic and educational societies. We currently live in the age of information, the so-called post-literate (M. MacLuhan) and post-print (R. Darnton) society. DH is the research of particular qualities of the new age, sociocultural consequences of digital technologies' implementation and critical analysis of their potential and restrictions. Research and project activity within DH is necessarily interdisciplinary and collaborative. DH educational framework inspires new modes of thinking, combining the achievements of the IT and humanistic field.*

*Thirdly, it is a format of creative work, journalism, enlightenment and interaction with cultural heritage: «digital art», new media, formation of digital libraries, archives, cultural heritage and museum collection databases, digital reconstructions involving the combined efforts of scholars and IT experts; this also includes issues with copyright and intellectual property.*

Digital humanities do not reject or replace traditional landscape of humanities, but become a superstructure over it. The border between scholars, who do not take the world of digital culture into consideration and those, who are already used to it, becomes clearer.

**The conference welcomes papers organized around the following topics:**

- Subject and methods of cultural research in the context of digital means of coding and decoding information, new algorithms for information analysis and synthesis, and digital modeling technology;
- Cultural history of digital technologies, ethics and esthetics of digital communications, network forms of interaction and the Internet.
- Prospects of digitizing libraries, museums, archives, and cultural and natural heritage;
- Digital technologies in research and the educational activity of cultural researchers.
- Transformation of cultural research and humanities in the digital age, functioning of internet communities and periodicals;
- Transformation of the essence and methods of humanitarian pedagogy in the digital age; challenges with new forms of cultural research disciplines;
- Artistic practices and curator activity in the digital age.

The conference will combine traditional and unconventional formats, including panels with paper discussions, workshops, presentations, and poster sessions.

**Publication:** Conference materials will be published prior to the conference. Working languages of the conference are English and Russian. Participation in the conference is free of charge.

To apply:

- Send an application to [dhconference2013@gmail.com](mailto:dhconference2013@gmail.com) with a copy to the chair coordinator [nikiforova\\_lv@list.ru](mailto:nikiforova_lv@list.ru) containing the title of the paper and your personal data (name, surname, institutional affiliation, telephone, and e-mail) by 15 June 2013.
- You will be notified of your participation by 30 June 2013.
- Participation in absentia is also available.
- Full text (10000 to 40000 printed characters) should be sent before 15 August 2013, tables and illustrations may be attached if needed.

The conference is organized by the Russian State Herzen University and co-organized by the Scientific and Information Technologies Center "Asterion." [www.herzendigitalhumanities.ru](http://www.herzendigitalhumanities.ru)  
Please contact Dr. Larisa Nikiforova, [dhconference2013@gmail.com](mailto:dhconference2013@gmail.com)

**12 – 16 March 2014**

**Crossing Divides**, Conference of the American Society for Environmental History, ASEH  
San Francisco, CA  
CFP – Deadline **1 July 2013**

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

The program theme, "Crossing Divides," calls attention to new scholarship in environmental history that bridges geographical and disciplinary differences. We seek panel and roundtable proposals that

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

#### Submission Guidelines

The committee invites proposals in formats beyond the typical paper session where presenters offer something other than verbatim recitals of written papers. To maximize participation, we encourage session proposals with more participants giving shorter presentations (e.g., four presenters at 12 minutes each). Please note that individuals can be a primary presenter in only one panel, roundtable, or other session proposal, but can also serve as chair or commentator in a second session proposal.

To submit a proposal, see:

<http://convention2.allacademic.com/one/aseh/aseh14/>

When you click the link above, you will be asked to create an account and login - you can then submit a proposal for a panel, roundtable, individual paper, or poster. This system also allows you to edit your proposal (before July 1, 2013).

All presenters and other participants are required to register for the conference. The online registration system will be posted on this website in the fall of 2013, after the sessions have been selected. If you have any questions:

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

**20 – 22 March 2014**

**Nineteenth Century Studies Association, Urbanism and Urbanity**

Chicago

CFP – Deadline **30 September 2013**

We seek papers and panels that investigate elements of urbanism and urbanity during the long nineteenth century, such as: urbanites (the flaneur, the prostitute, the detective, the criminal, etc.); urbanites and the rise of consumer culture; immigrants and urban communities: urban domesticity in literature and culture; architecture, urban design, and city planning; urban spaces and the gothic imagination; mobilities and forms of urban transport; the politics of urban space; the city and the natural environment; urban cartographies; urban crime and violence; urban spaces and urban peripheries (suburbs; ghettos, wastelands, industrial zones, dumps and other hybrid spaces); urbanism and public health; animals and urban environments; concert halls, opera houses, and other urban entertainment venues; restaurants, cafes, and urban eating and drinking; leisure and urbanism; city/country divides; and the anti-urban tradition in art and literature.

We welcome other interpretations of the conference theme as well. Please e-mail abstracts (250 words) for 20-minute papers that include the author's name, institutional affiliation, and paper title in the heading, as well as a one-page CV, by September 30, 2013 to: Maria K. Bachman and Maria Gindhart, Program Co-Chairs, [ncsa2014@gmail.com](mailto:ncsa2014@gmail.com).

Please note that submission of a proposal constitutes a commitment to attend the conference if the proposal is accepted. All proposals received will be acknowledged, and presenters will be notified in November 2013. Graduate students whose proposals are accepted may, at that point, submit complete papers in competition for a travel grant to help cover transportation and lodging expenses. Scholars who live outside the North American continent, whose proposals have been accepted, may submit a full paper to be considered for the International Scholar Travel Grant.

See the NCSA website for additional requirements — <http://www.ncsaweb.net/>  
Please contact Maria K. Bachman and Maria Gindhart, Program Co-Chairs, [ncsa2014@gmail.com](mailto:ncsa2014@gmail.com)

### **10 – 14 September 2014**

#### **New Directions, Examining the Past, Creating the Future, Textile Society of America's 14<sup>th</sup> Biennial Symposium**

Los Angeles

CFP – Deadline **1 October 2013**

TSA's Biennial Symposium will take place in Los Angeles, California on the campus of the University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA) and at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA). To encourage the maximum amount of scholarly interchange, TSA has devised a new format for 2014, and plans to hold two days of multiple, concurrent sessions at UCLA as well as a full day of plenary sessions at LACMA on the last day. In addition to the sessions, there will be a series of dynamic pre- and post-conference workshops and study tours to local and regional art institutions and collections, receptions, special programs and awards ceremony.

The theme of TSA's 14<sup>th</sup> Biennial Symposium *New Directions: Examining the Past, Creating the Future* will explore change and innovation in textiles in the past while looking at the state of the field of textiles, textile study, production and creativity, today and for the future. Where have we been and where are we going? What are the moments that encapsulate change? What are the shifts in direction for cultures, technology, creativity and knowledge? And how do these affect our understanding of textiles?

TSA seeks presentation proposals from all textile-related disciplines and interdisciplinary areas, including but not limited to anthropology, archaeology, art, art history, conservation, cultural geography, design, economics, ethnic studies, history, linguistics, marketing, mathematics, political science, and theater, among others. Participation of international and U.S. scholars, researchers, artists, museum professionals, and others is welcome. Submission of abstracts is open to TSA members.

Online submission process opens 1 May 2013. Deadline for submission 1 October 2013.

Please visit: <http://textilesocietyofamerica.org>

Please contact: [Newdirections@textilesociety.org](mailto:Newdirections@textilesociety.org)

## IV. Summer Schools

**15 – 19 July 2013**

**Agua, río y ciudad /Water, River, City (Summer Course)**

The Fundación Juanelo Turriano and the Madrid School of Architecture are organising a summer course entitled "Water, River, City", to be held at the School of Architecture.

Please visit <http://www.juaneloturriano.com/admin/archivo/docdow.php?id=350>

**11 – 12 October 2013**

**Schreib-Werkstatt für Technikhistoriker/-innen der Gesellschaft für Technikgeschichte (GTG)  
Workshop on Skills in Writing History of Technology of the (German) Society for the History of Technology**

Deutsches Museum, München

Deadline for application: **15 July 2013**

Please contact Nina Lorkowski, [nina.lorkowski@mzwgtg.mwn.de](mailto:nina.lorkowski@mzwgtg.mwn.de), and Hagen Schönrich [hagen@schoenrich.de](mailto:hagen@schoenrich.de)

## V. Awards

**Gracia Diego International Prize of the Turriano Foundation**

Deadline for application: **23 December 2013**

The Fundación Juanelo Turriano announces the 7th edition of its Gracia Diego International Prize of 12 000 euros for research in any of the branches of the history of technology. The prize is open to any individual or group submitting an original, unpublished paper in Spanish language.

Please find the announcement on:

<http://www.juaneloturriano.com/admin/archivo/docdow.php?id=348>

**Article Prize: Nineteenth Century Studies Association**

Deadline for submission: **30 September 2013**

The Nineteenth Century Studies Association (NCSA) is pleased to announce the 2014 Article Prize, which recognizes excellence in scholarly studies from any discipline focusing on any aspect of the long 19th century (French Revolution to World War I). The winner will receive a cash award of \$500 to be presented at the Thirty-fifth Annual NCSA Conference, "Urbanism and Urbanity" in Chicago, Illinois (20-22 March 2014).

Articles published between 1 September 2012 and 31 August 2013 are eligible for consideration for the 2014 prize and may be submitted by the author or the publisher of a journal, anthology, or volume containing independent essays. The submission of essays that take an interdisciplinary approach is especially encouraged. The winning article will be selected by a committee of nineteenth-century scholars representing diverse disciplines. Applicants are encouraged to attend the conference at which the prize will be awarded.

Send one PDF file electronically of published articles/essays, including the publication's name/volume/date etc. to the chair of the committee at the following email address: [guernsey@fiu.edu](mailto:guernsey@fiu.edu). All submissions via email will be acknowledged; queries should be addressed to Professor Daniel Guernsey at the same email address. Applicants must verify date of actual publication for eligibility, and one entry per scholar or publisher is allowed annually. Essays written in part or entirely in a language other than English must be accompanied by English translations. Deadline for submission is 30 September 2013.

**Emerging Scholars:** The Nineteenth Century Studies Association (NCSA) is pleased to announce the 2013 Emerging Scholars Award. The work of emerging scholars represents the promise and long-term future of interdisciplinary scholarship in 19th-century studies. In recognition of the excellent publications of this constituency of emerging scholars, this award recognizes an outstanding article or essay published within five years of the author's doctorate. Entries can be from any discipline focusing on any aspect of the long 19th century (the French Revolution to World War I), must be published in English or be accompanied by an English translation, and must be by a single author. Submission of essays that are interdisciplinary is especially encouraged.

Entrants must be within five years of having received a doctorate or other terminal professional degree, and must have less than seven years of experience either in an academic career, or as a post-terminal-degree independent scholar or practicing professional.

Only articles physically published between 1 September 2012 and 31 August 2013 (even if the citation date of the journal is different) are eligible for the 2013 Emerging Scholar Award. Articles published in any scholarly journal, including on-line journals, or in edited volumes of essays are eligible and may be submitted either by the author or the publisher of a journal, anthology, or volume containing independent essays. In any given year, an applicant may submit more than one article for this award.

The winning article will be selected by a committee of nineteenth-century scholars representing diverse disciplines. Articles submitted to the NCSA Article Prize competition are ineligible for the Emerging Scholars Award. The winner will receive \$500 to be presented at the annual NCSA Conference in Chicago, IL, 20-22 March 2014. Prize recipients need not be members of the NCSA but are encouraged to attend the conference to receive the award.

Send a PDF of published articles/essays to the committee chair, Professor Elif Armbruster, at [earmbruster@suffolk.edu](mailto:earmbruster@suffolk.edu). Address all questions to Dr. Armbruster at the same email address. Please note that applicants must verify date of actual publication for eligibility.

## VI. Miscellaneous

The Vlaamse Vereniging voor Industriële Archeologie, Flemish Association for Industrial Archeology, vzw, tries to prevent a maritime heritage the "Georg Büchner"(ex-Belgian vessel "Charlesville") from being scraped. The ship is the last one of the famous Belgian "Congoboats", an ocean liner build by Cockerill in Antwerp in 1950. The ship is anchored in Rostock/Germany and is still a listed as a monument of cultural heritage. Unfortunately, the Monuments Service of Rostock is now under a tremendous pressure to lift the protection status of the "Georg Büchner". If they do so, the ship will be sold immediately for scrap. Please find more information on [www.watererfgoed.be](http://www.watererfgoed.be) and [www.vvia.be](http://www.vvia.be) or contact Capt. Geert De Vriese on [geert.de.vriese@telenet.be](mailto:geert.de.vriese@telenet.be).

## VII. Recently Published Books

*Kornwachs, Klaus: Philosophie der Technik. Eine Einführung.* Beck-Verlag, München 2013.  
The author gives a really helpful introduction in philosophy of technology.

## VIII. 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)
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