

# 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,

It is a pleasure to publish the 100<sup>th</sup> ICOHTEC Newsletter today. The history of this small journal is dating back to the 1970s; early issues were edited by the Secretary General, had about four or six pages and were written by typewriter. It was necessary to word their information acceptable for scholars on both sides of the iron curtain. The 100<sup>th</sup> ICOHTEC Newsletter aims to look backward by studying the history of ICOHTEC and to look forward to our next meetings in Romania and in Israel.

Our new president, Timo Myllyntaus, discusses aims of ICOHTEC for the next years. Thanks to Hans-Joachim Braun and Timo Myllyntaus the Newsletter gives a report of our 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Session in Manchester. The report demonstrates that ICOHTEC's history has become an interesting topic of research.

ICOHTEC's Young Scholar Prize was awarded to Laura Ann Twagira for her study of women's development of food technology in early 20<sup>th</sup> century colonial West Africa, *Women and Gender at the Office du Niger (Mali)*. Nathan Ensmenger received the Maurice Daumas Prize for his article *Is Chess the Drosophila of Artificial Intelligence? A social history of an algorithm*. The Newsletter gives the laudations.

It will be a pleasure to meet you on our 41<sup>st</sup> ICOHTEC Symposium *Technology in Times of Transition* in Brasov, Romania, from 29 July to 2 August 2014.

Best  
Stefan Poser

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## I. ICOHTEC's Leadership Corner

Dear Colleagues and Companions,

At first, I sincerely wish to thank for the broad support in the presidential election; the adherence was really international extending far beyond the Nordic Countries. Such a backup gives a good start for the following four-year term, which will be most interesting. It seems that during the next few years ICOHTEC will take a new leap in its globalization process – at least if we consider sites of our next symposia. In 29 July – 2 August 2014 we will meet in Romania at our Brasov symposium to elaborate the main theme *Technology in Times of Transition*. It will be followed by a conference in Israel where we will work on the general theme *History of High-Technologies and Their Socio-Cultural Context*. That meeting will take place at the Tel Aviv University in 16 – 21 August 2015. We still wait for bids to host our 2016 symposium whereas the site for the following ICHSTM has already been decided. The next International Congress will be held in summer 2017 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

In Manchester at the General Assembly we discussed new plans. If we will succeed in completing them, another new leaf will be opened in the history of ICOHTEC. One of them will be a supplementary issue of *ICON* on the basis of papers presented at the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Symposium held in the past ICHSTM. In order to build up our articles and statistics on reliable sources, we would welcome scanned replicas or photocopies of programme booklets of the ICOHTEC symposia before the one in Vienna 1991 – especially those prior to the meeting at Smolenice, Czechoslovakia, in 1981. If you have any of those publications, please, dispatch its copy to me ([timmyl@utu.fi](mailto:timmyl@utu.fi)) and/or to our new Secretary General Slawomir Lotysz ([s.lotysz@gmail.com](mailto:s.lotysz@gmail.com)).

Now when a new board of officers is starting its work, it is a good time to send us your ideas, suggestions and plans for developing ICOHTEC. You find the names and contact information of the present officers at our website (<http://www.icohtec.org/about-icohtec-governing-bodies.html>). We look forward to cooperating with you.

Yours cordially,  
Timo Myllyntaus  
President, ICOHTEC

## II. ICOHTEC's 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Session – Report

The 40<sup>th</sup> Symposium of the International Committee for the History of Technology (ICOHTEC).  
As part of the 24th International Congress of the History of Science, Technology and Medicine,  
Manchester, UK, 22–28 July 2013

Organisers: Timo Myllyntaus, Hans-Joachim Braun and Stefan Poser

### II.1 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Symposium: Get Socialised – ICOHTEC in the Big Picture

This special session examined the series of symposia that the International Committee for the History of Technology (ICOHTEC) has held since 1968 and dealt with the various features of these meetings. Its Part One focused on placing ICOHTEC's symposia in a broader context and analyzed their social aspects. It contained four papers, which concentrate on the ICOHTEC's style of organizing academic meetings, combining excursions to factories, museums, and other technological sites with scientific sessions, and entertaining participants.

ICOHTEC was set up to build bridges to connect the divided world during a particularly “freezing” period of the Cold War. Its founders realized that ordinary scientific communication was not enough; it was vital to enable participants to socialize with each other, to help them get to know other delegates personally, converse informally, and learn to understand each other, as well as to work together, despite possible ideological or political differences. In sum, the ultimate objective was to implement *détente* in academic research.

In his presentation *Building up an Image: ICOHTEC Symposia as Social Construction*, Timo Myllyntaus claimed that ICOHTEC has put a special effort to achieve its versatile goals while it has attempted to respond to changing expectations and circumstances. The end of the Cold War became the major turning point in ICOHTEC's history and it led to several organizational changes. He called this period (1986 – 1995) as a transition from internationalism to transnationalism and considered that ICOHTEC succeeded in its adjustments to the new era fairly well. The standards of symposia were raised and participation kept on rising although some setbacks took place in the first decade of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Because ICOHTEC's goal is to promote the understanding within the community of historians of technology, the vital objective in the Cold War period was to achieve close interaction between the major political camps. Vasily Borisov examined in his presentation *Cooperation between East and West: History of Technology in the USSR and the ICOHTEC* how Semyon Shukhardin became a prominent figure both among the Russian historians of technology and within the pioneers of ICOHTEC. Shukhardin's dedicated participation in ICOHTEC's activities, among other things hosting two ICOHTEC symposia in the USSR in the 1970s, contributed a real breakthrough for the Soviet historians of science and technology. When some key Russian publications in these fields were published also in English, technological development both in tsarist Russia and the Soviet Union became better known in the West.

Besides exchanging ideas, experiences and research results, ICOHTEC has always attempted to promote interpersonal connections. Therefore its symposia provided to participants versatile social

programmes from various group visits, welcome parties, farewell dinners to informal discussions during breaks. In his paper *After Work Hours: Excursions, Receptions, and Social Atmosphere* Slawomir Lotysz described how delegates from different countries got along with each other and how they experienced facing their foreign colleagues. Using reports written by participants after each symposium as his sources, Lotysz concluded that interpersonal networking has been considered the most important yield of ICOHTEC symposia both for delegates themselves as well as for their employers. The best stories on symposia experiences were transferred from one generation of participants to other both in East and West.

Idiosyncratic jazz clubs have been a specialty of ICOHTEC symposia since the Budapest meeting of 1996 Susan Schmidt Horning reported in her presentation *Swinging the Symposium: ICOHTEC's Jazz Evenings and Other Musical Events*. When music has been played by the society's members wearing another hat, these events have been relaxed and entertaining. Hence ICOHTEC has used many ways to accomplish the mission for which it has received a mandate from the UNESCO and it has succeeded in achieving the atmosphere of working together in its 40 symposia.

Timo Myllyntaus

## II.2 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Symposium: the History of ICOHTEC

### From hardware to software: changes in the ICOHTEC research agenda

R. Angus Buchanan talked about the theoretical and practical components of technological education and ICOHTEC's role. ICOHTEC devoted a large session to this theme (Technological Training and Education – National Comparisons) as part of the IUHPS/DHS congress in Berkeley in 1985. The papers of this session were later edited by Melvin Kranzberg in the volume "Technological Education – Technological Style (1986). During the following ICOHTEC symposia this topic played a minor role but was taken up again in a large session with 18 papers on the institutional organization of engineers at the ICOHTEC symposium in Bath 1994. At the symposia in Liege, Lisbon, Belfort and Prague there were papers on the educational culture of technology but those had partly been integrated into the issue of the institutional and environmental consequences of modern technology.

The ICOHTEC annual symposium on the social history of military technology was the topic of Barton C. Hacker's paper. Since 2006 he has organized these symposia in collaboration with Margaret Vining. So far, more than 100 papers have been presented at ICOHTEC symposia. Contrary to conventional approaches to the history of military technology stressing weapons or fortifications they emphasize the social and cultural context of military technology and the question how military technology affected society and culture. A selection of relevant papers were published as a special volume of ICON; moreover, the Dutch publisher Brill has started publishing its new journal "Vulcan. The Social History of Military Technology" with papers from ICOHTEC symposia and from other sources.

"Energy, technology and the environment" was the topic of James C. Williams's paper. Research on the history of energy has received considerable attention from the 1970s onwards. ICOHTEC joined the debate holding a symposium on "Energy in History" in Lerbach near Cologne in 1984. This resulted in a two volume publication with 40 papers plus a special volume containing the Czechoslovakian contributions. The next decade and a half experienced an increasing differentiation of the topic which was reflected in papers given at ICOHTEC symposia. From the 1990s onwards emphasis shifted towards questions of the environment, often linked to those of energy. In 2000, ICOHTEC members made a significant contribution to the foundation of "Environtech", a scholarly organization which investigates the relationship between technology and the environment.

Because of health problems, Stefan Poser was unable to present his paper on "Playing with Technology". But in the discussion, this ICOHTEC research theme was mentioned. Key topics were sports, annual fairs and amusement parks as well as technical toys. Over the years, several ICOHTEC sessions analyzed the relationship between technology and play since early industrialization. ICON vol. 19 will be devoted to "Technology and Play", publishing contributions from ICOHTEC symposia.

In the discussion on the session stressing methodological issues, the playful element in scholarly work was pointed out. (heuristics, finding research themes, etc). Playing with a theme and with analytical approaches can be of great help in avoiding the danger of being too closely attached to certain analytical approaches. Heuristics should have a "playful element" in it.

Although there had been some publications on technology, music and sound before, this topic received more widespread attention only in the 1990s. In this context, the large ICOHTEC session on technology and music as part of the 1996 ICOHTEC symposium in Budapest made a contribution, as Hans-Joachim Braun pointed out in his paper "All Ears: ICOHTEC, music and sound." Revised versions of the papers in this session were published in 2000 and 2002. ICOHTEC returned to this theme again and again, absorbing trends and impulses from scholars from neighboring fields but also making suggestions for tackling new research projects. Among the latter are the relationship between seeing and hearing, training the ear, testing and simulation and the relationship between sound and language.

Howard Mumford Jones suggested dealing with the badly neglected topic of failed innovations already in 1959. He argued that concentrating only on successful innovations led to a distorted picture of technological development. Still, for various reasons, not much happened on this issue during the following years. In his paper "Failed innovations: five decades of failure?" Reinhold Bauer assessed the contribution of ICOHTEC to this much neglected theme. He referred to the ICOHTEC session on "Failed Innovations" as part of the IUHPS/DHS congress in Hamburg in 1989 which lead to the often quoted publication with the same name as a volume of "Social Studies of Science" in 1992. His own work and his book on failed innovation (2006) deserves mentioning here.

Studying the history and technology of gunpowder in an international context has been an ICOHTEC speciality for a long time. Brenda J. Buchanan, who has been the driving force behind this, gave a paper on "Gunpowder studies at ICOHTEC" and reported on the rapidly growing network of specialists on the history of gunpowder which held their sessions as part of the ICOHTEC symposia. Their efforts resulted in two favorably received volumes on the topic, published in 1996, rev.ed.2001, and in 2006, and edited by Brenda Buchanan. Recently the sessions on the social history of military

technology mentioned above have benefited considerably from the contributions on gunpowder by scholars from ICOHTEC.

“Science-technology relationships in historical perspective” was title of the concluding paper by Alexandre Herlea. He pointed out that this topic had already played an important role in the first ICOHTEC symposium in 1968 and that many of the subsequent symposia had dealt with aspects of this topic. He mentioned among others the Dresden symposium of 1986, the 1990 Paris Symposium on “Science-Technology Relationships” (ed. by Alexandre Herlea in 1993) and the ICOHTEC session on materials in conjunction with the IUHPS/DHS congress in Liege 1997 (ed. H. J. Braun and A. Herlea 2002). More than with most other ICOHTEC research themes it became clear that the issue of science-technology relationships is everything but clear-cut and is, as a side topic, often woven into other themes.

Looking at the session topic as a whole, it seems that, in varying degrees, ICOHTEC’s contribution to research in the history of technology was substantial. Its precise amount is, of course, impossible to determine. After all, the individual contribution of a scholar cannot be reduced to his or her activity in just one scholarly organization. There is a constant give and take and ICOHTEC members don’t live in isolation. But one thing is clear: The intellectually and emotionally stimulating atmosphere at ICOHTEC symposia has significantly fostered the possibility to turn ideas into projects, into symposia sessions, into books, or even into founding a new journal.

Hans-Joachim Braun

### **III.1 ICOHTEC’s Young Scholar Prize 2013**

ICOHTEC awarded the 5<sup>th</sup> Young Scholar Prize in Manchester. The Prize Committee received 18 entries, many of them of very high quality, requiring, of course, difficult decisions by the committee. The members have chosen Laura Ann Twagira’s study of women’s development of food technology in early 20<sup>th</sup> century colonial west Africa, *Women and Gender at the Office du Niger (Mali)*. Twagira’s Rutgers University dissertation successfully characterizes and contextualizes the technological *gestalt* of a mundane and routine, but absolutely necessary task: putting acceptable food on the family table. She sets this daily chore, for which historically women in Niger/Mali were responsible, not only into what she calls the “foodscape” of the natural environment, but also into the context of efforts at colonial development that mainly targeted men’s activities. Twagira makes us sharply aware that cookware, containers, heating equipment, and agricultural hand implements, plus the tacit knowledge of how to make successful products using these tools, is no less a technological system than is farming with a tractor or the manufacture of semiconductors. One of the committee members correctly observes that Africa is “a space much underexposed in studies of technology.” Twagira’s work is exemplary in its framing of women as decision makers and significant actors under a colonial regime that recognized economic and technological development only in male-dominated forms of work.

The committee consisted of Nina Möllers, Peter Jakab, and Rachel Maines (chair).

### **III.2 Maurice Daumas Prize 2013**

ICOHTEC's article prize, the Maurice Daumas Prize, has been awarded for the third time. 35 articles had been submitted for consideration. The committee decided to award the article "Is chess the drosophila of artificial intelligence? A social history of an algorithm" written by Nathan Ensmenger as this year's winner of the Maurice Daumas Prize.

Nathan Ensmenger has been an Associate Professor in the School of Informatics and Computing at Indiana University in Bloomington since 2012. His article was published in the journal *Social Studies of Science* in 2012. "Is chess the drosophila of artificial intelligence?" attempts to fit the algorithms developed to enable computers to play chess into a research paradigm defined by an organism used for genetics research in a way parallel to that developed by Robert Kohler for twentieth-century biology.

Nathan Ensmenger argues that the decision to focus on chess as a measure of both human and computer "intelligence" had important and unintended consequences for research into artificial intelligence (AI). The article is of high relevance to the history of technology in general and for the history of AI in particular. It deals with a core problem with which AI still struggles today: the imitation of human intelligence. Ensmenger shows how the decision to adopt chess as its drosophila led to a dead-end. He attempts to link an internal history of software with cultural history (chess) and to explain software as a cultural concept.

The Prize Committee consisted of Dr. Andrew J. Butrica, USA, chair, Professor Martina Hessler, Germany, Professor Pierre Lamard, France, Professor Susan Schmidt Horning, USA

ICOHTEC's Prizes are sponsored by the Fundación Juanelo Turriano, Spain, and the Université de technologie *Belfort-Montbéliard*, France.

## **IV. ICOHTEC General Elections – Results 20 July 2013**

### **The elected officers:**

#### **Office**

President: Timo Myllyntaus

Vice President: Dick van Lente

Secretary General: Slawomir Lotysz

Treasurer: Yoel Bergman

ICON Editor: James Williams

Newsletter Editor: Stefan Poser

Webmaster: Slawomir Lotysz

## Executive Committee

*New members, elected for a four year term*

Paula Diogo, Bart Hacker, Elena Herelea

*New members, elected for a one year term*

Lars Bluma, Pierre Lamard

## The Results in Detail:

For President (Vote only for one)					
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count			
Jeffery Larrabee	41.3%	33			
Timo Myllyntaus	57.8%	48			
Write in:		2			
		<b>answered question</b>	<b>83</b>		
For Vice President			For Secretary General		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count	Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Dick van Lente	100.0%	78	Slawomir Lotysz	100.0%	80
Write in:		1	Write in:		0
		<b>answered question</b>			<b>answered question</b>
		<b>79</b>			<b>80</b>
For Treasurer			For ICON Editor		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count	Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yoel Bergman	100.0%	78	James Williams	100.0%	81
Write in:		0	Write in:		0
		<b>answered question</b>			<b>answered question</b>
		<b>78</b>			<b>81</b>
For Newsletter Editor			For Webmaster		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count	Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Stefan Poser	100.0%	77	Slawomir Lotysz	100.0%	78
Write in:		0	Write in:		0
		<b>answered question</b>			<b>answered question</b>
		<b>77</b>			<b>78</b>

## Executive Committee

For a four-year term on the Executive Committee (Vote only for three)		
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Paula Diogo	75.9%	63
Francesco Gerali	51.8%	43
Bart Hacker	60.2%	50



Elena Herelea	56.6%	47
Sofia-Alexia Papazafeiropoulou	37.3%	31
Write in:		1
<b>answered question</b>		<b>83</b>
<b>For a one-year term on the Executive Committee (Vote only for two)</b>		
<b>Answer Options</b>	<b>Response Percent</b>	<b>Response Count</b>
Lars Bluma	68.4%	52
Pierre Lamard	84.2%	64
Roland Wittje	39.4%	30
Write in:		1
<b>answered question</b>		<b>76</b>
<b>skipped question</b>		<b>6</b>

Thank you to all candidates.

## V. Conference Announcements

**9 – 11 September 2013**

**Accidents & Emergencies: Risk, Welfare and Safety in Europe and North America, C. 1750 – 2000**  
**Oxford, UK**

Please visit the conference website (including programme):

<http://www.history.brookes.ac.uk/conferences/2013/accident-emergencies/>

**3 – 5 October 2013**

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

Please find the program on <http://studyofcapitalism.harvard.edu/global-thompson-program>

Please contact Rudi Batzell, [rbatzell@fas.harvard.edu](mailto:rbatzell@fas.harvard.edu)

**10 – 13 October 2013**

**Annual Meeting of the Society for the History of Technology, SHOT**  
**Portland, Maine**

The preliminary program for SHOT 2013 [[http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?e=001f4gyBkKfnLbOjvIAnh-ZVtzxQi1\\_xSw5a-JZKUpfEhihrXGV46Q\\_Jlzm0-Ww-EWwqnIkU6U9\\_MRln7CfARL19vaTGgXEKfEmoA9hqaLJy0O6Uhr6K8OIfuEYAaEZ1VPAfpvzWbijTZSEjerXW12ReppkbGGfL\\_XROQ6iVbWV1jVdPW31AXhLeA==](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?e=001f4gyBkKfnLbOjvIAnh-ZVtzxQi1_xSw5a-JZKUpfEhihrXGV46Q_Jlzm0-Ww-EWwqnIkU6U9_MRln7CfARL19vaTGgXEKfEmoA9hqaLJy0O6Uhr6K8OIfuEYAaEZ1VPAfpvzWbijTZSEjerXW12ReppkbGGfL_XROQ6iVbWV1jVdPW31AXhLeA==)]

is now available on the Society's website

[[http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?e=001f4gyBkKfnLYteUsF8arNI9qHYqMr8kQv147KsNoKyYJB1R7iVaM\\_G6ObHlz\\_qhZaH2nt1TB5QscFfo0SIDkg\\_v\\_O8GyM0CngRga7cixxk62g-J1EZbBZyJOhwZ6OgXzdYoFtKmJUL4U=](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?e=001f4gyBkKfnLYteUsF8arNI9qHYqMr8kQv147KsNoKyYJB1R7iVaM_G6ObHlz_qhZaH2nt1TB5QscFfo0SIDkg_v_O8GyM0CngRga7cixxk62g-J1EZbBZyJOhwZ6OgXzdYoFtKmJUL4U=)].

Information about registration and the conference hotel will be posted on the website shortly.

Please contact Bernie Carlson, Executive Secretary, Society for the History of Technology, [shotsecy@virginia.edu](mailto:shotsecy@virginia.edu)

### **8 – 9 November 2013**

#### **Erste Jahrestagung der Gesellschaft für Bautechnikgeschichte / First Annual Conference of the German Society for Construction History**

RWTH Aachen

CFP- Deadline **30 August 2013**

Please find a report on the new society in the chapter 'Miscellaneous', p. 21.

Please contact the organisers by [info@trako.arch.rwth-aachen.de](mailto:info@trako.arch.rwth-aachen.de).

### **15 – 16 November 2013**

#### **Protest Culture – Cultural Protest**

Collegium Polonicum in Stubice, Poland

CFP – Deadline **15 August 2013**

Recent protest movements in different parts of the world are characterized by aesthetic intervention and artistic creativity while it becomes more and more difficult to explain these protests in political terms or by using the standard concepts which the theory of social movements has to offer. The workshop focuses on such recent phenomena as (post)migrant and (post)feminist art forms and activism. We seek to analyze different forms of protest as manifestations of cultural spaces and practices which are less grounded on social identities and political claims, and more so on explorative or challenging visions of national culture, gender and secularity. Such critical interventions tend to highlight agency in diverse ways of life rather than the fact of being marginalized or stigmatized.

We invite participants to explore the analytical frameworks by which these new kinds of culture-based protest can be described. We propose to focus on the notions of the postmigrant, the queer and (post)feminist as well as the post- or aseccular for describing new phenomena of cultural protest that cuts across the binaries associated with the migrant, the feminist and the secular.

Cultural practices and artistic interventions of the postmigrant, (post)feminist and post- or aseccular may be understood as remaining bound to binary orders of migration, gender and secularity, and at the same time interrupting or changing the conditions and effects of such orders of difference. In Berlin, for example, the actors of the 'Postmigrant Theatre', or the protagonists of the 'Club of Polish Losers', are provocatively, or ironically, challenging ascriptions migrants have traditionally been

confronted with by retelling their life-stories and, thus, displaying the normalcy of experiences such as being displaced and of multiple belonging. With the notion of the (post)feminist we suggest to think about phenomena such as slutwalk, Pussy Riot or Femen which create new publics of transnational collectivity and solidarity that depend mainly on the global circulation of images and knowledge. The notions of the post-secular or aseular could be used to reflect on forms of protest by religious groups under secular conditions or, more generally, on forms of protest that challenge the religious/secular dichotomy.

We invite participants to reflect on forms of critical and subversive engagement with national culture, gender and secularity in the field of artistic practice and visual culture. Papers should take empirical phenomena as a point of departure for their reflections on the post-migrant, (post)feminist or post- or aseular. Central questions may concern

- 1) the aesthetics of cultural protest and the notion of political art that is being affirmed or put into question by these protests
- 2) the media of cultural protest and the impact of global or transnational media and new media formats for protest and political art
- 3) the ethics of cultural protest and the kind of political visions, social norms and moral values linked to recent forms of protest

The workshop will take place in November 15-16, 2013, at the Collegium Polonicum in Stubice; it is organized jointly with the Department of Comparative Social and Cultural Anthropology at the European University Viadrina in Frankfurt/Oder.

Please submit an abstract of max. 500 words and a short biographical note until August 15, 2013 to [protestkultur@europa-uni.de](mailto:protestkultur@europa-uni.de)

Please visit <http://hsozkult.geschichte.hu-berlin.de/termine/id=22375>

Please contact Katharina Blumberg-Stankiewicz, Sarah Dornhof, Jennifer Ramme, Comparative Social and Cultural Anthropology, European University Viadrina, [protestkultur@europa-uni.de](mailto:protestkultur@europa-uni.de)

**20 – 21 February 2014**

**The Soviet Arctic: Exploration, Investigation, Representation**

German Historical Institute Moscow

CFP – Deadline **30 September 2013**

A white space of silence, the magic glance of ice, the darkness of the polar night, convoys of icebreakers floating in the vast arctic desert. At all times the Arctic seemed to be severe and heartless to a human being, and man has always tried to explore and conquer this ice power. No wonder that the area beyond the Arctic Circle has been in the focus of attention of different

countries and peoples for several years, encouraging various historical, political and environmental disputes and discussions.

The history of the Arctic is rich in well-known episodes and events, but also contains a lot of gaps to be filled. The focus of the up-coming conference is the Soviet Arctic with its numerous myths and legends, which in the opinion of the organizing committee deserve careful consideration.

The goals of the conference „The Soviet Arctic: Exploration, Investigation, Representation” are the following: to present new and little studied issues of the Soviet Arctic history, to interpret relevant facts and sources, as well as to discuss the issues concerning promotion and popularization of the history of Arctic studies.

In accordance with the general conference goals the presentations to be delivered are split into the following subject sections:

- 1) Man and the force of nature at the Polar Circle
- 2) Science and technology in the space of coldness
- 3) The Arctic as deployment zone
- 4) The Arctic in fiction, myths and legends
- 5) Representations of the Arctic in Soviet Art

The conference „The Soviet Arctic: Exploration, Investigation, Representation” will be held at the German Historical Institute (GHI) in Moscow. The institute will bear all corresponding travel and accommodation costs.

We are looking forward for applications of interested scholars including an exposé (max. 500 words) in Russian, German or English and a short CV to the following e-mail: [2014@arktis.su](mailto:2014@arktis.su) by 30.09.2013.

Applicants will be notified of the chosen proposals by 31.10.2013. The participants are expected to submit the texts of their lectures (6000–8000 words incl. footnotes) by 15.01.2014. The papers will be spread among all the participants to prepare for the discussion during the conference in advance.

The lecture should not exceed 20 minutes, in order to leave enough time for an elaborate discussion. The selected papers are to be published within a series edited by the GHI.

Organizing Committee: Alexander Ananyew (GHI), Dr. Matthias Uhl (GHI), Prof. Dr. Klaus Gestwa (University of Tübingen), Prof. Dr. Susanne Frank (Humboldt University of Berlin), Prof. Dr. Eduard Sarukhanyan (Geneva)

The website of the conference: [www.arktis.su](http://www.arktis.su)

Please contact Alexander Ananyew (GHI), [alexander.ananyew@dhi-moskau.org](mailto:alexander.ananyew@dhi-moskau.org)

**11 – 12 April 2014**

**Wirtschaft und Erinnerung. Industrie, Gewerbe und Handwerk zwischen Traditionalismus und Identitätsbildung (1763-2013). 7. Kolloquium zur Unternehmens- und Wirtschaftsgeschichte**

Sächsisches Industriemuseum Chemnitz, Germany

CFP – Deadline **15 October 2013**

Please visit <http://hsozkult.geschichte.hu-berlin.de/termine/id=22399>

Please contact Veronique Töpel, Sächsisches Wirtschaftsarchiv e.V, [toepel@swa-leipzig.de](mailto:toepel@swa-leipzig.de)

**3 – 5 June 2014**

**Russia in the First World War**

Higher School of Economics, Moscow

CFP – Deadline **15 September 2013**

The organizers are pleased to announce an international conference on Russia in the First World War to be held on 3-5 June 2014 in Moscow, Russia, at the Higher School of Economics.

The conference marks the centenary of the First World War, this “suicide of Europe” that shaped the history of the 20th century. The Russian Empire shared the experiences of other European nations in a war that profoundly affected its economy, social relations, politics and culture. At the same time, in Russia the consequences of war were markedly different. The war launched a series of cataclysmic events, including the collapse of the old regime, the upheaval of February 1917, the Bolsheviks’ rise to power and the bloodshed of the Civil War. For many decades, Russia’s experience in the First World War was overshadowed by the “revolutionary myth” that lent legitimacy to the Soviet state. Only recently, scholars started to analyze this war on its own account as a crucial event in Russian history, not just as a prelude to the revolution. Russia’s war experience is now studied in its contemporary European context, but also as a political testing ground. Ideologies and practices that emerged in the conditions of the First World War later persisted through the interwar period and found their deadly application during the Second World War.

This conference will bring together scholars of various scholarly and national traditions who study Russia’s experience in the First World War. The objectives of the meeting are to share recent research, to expand knowledge and understanding of the country’s participation in the war, and to stimulate further research. Our aim is both to discuss Russia’s particular experience in the war and to contextualize it as a part of broader European conflict. Papers are invited to engage with one or several of the following themes: economic and financial aspects of the war; social and gender dynamics; ethnic cleansings in the rear and on the occupied territories as well as wartime violence against civilians in Russia and other countries (including the Armenian Genocide); history of nationalisms, national movements and the Jewish question; Russia’s occupation policy in Galicia and German occupation of Russian imperial territories; POW and concentration camps; history of wartime diplomacy; the role of ideas and ideologies during the war. We also aim to discuss the memory of the First World War as represented in diaries, memoirs, fiction, art and film. Papers that

discuss the influence of practices and ideologies of the First World War on the interwar period as well as on the Second World War are particularly welcome. Other topics may also be considered.

This conference is conceived as multidisciplinary, papers are welcome from scholars of Russian history, as well as scholars of other disciplines working in related fields. Both established scholars and advanced graduate students are invited to submit proposals. Conference participants are expected to be currently engaged in research on one of the topics mentioned above. Papers should be previously unpublished and dwell on original research. Papers of the selected participants will be pre-circulated one month in advance to maximize the usefulness of the meeting.

The working languages of the conference will be Russian and English. The deadline for submitting paper proposals is 15 September 2013. Successful applicants will be notified by 15 October 2013.

Submissions should include (1) name of the applicant, institutional affiliation, postal and electronic addresses; (2) a brief statement explaining how the applicant's research relates to the study of Russia's experience in the First World War; (3) a CV; (4) a one-page outline of the paper. Proposals are invited in Russian or English and can be for both individual papers and panels. Proposals should be sent by e-mail to Liudmila G. Novikova at [lnovikova@hse.ru](mailto:lnovikova@hse.ru)

The Higher School of Economics will assist international participants with obtaining Russian visa invitations. Meals (coffee breaks, lunches and a conference dinner) will be provided. As a result of support from a number of sources, including the HSE, the German Historical Institute Moscow, the Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies and the Kennan Institute, the organizers have limited funds to cover (partially or in full) participants' airfare and accommodation costs for the duration of the conference. We ask prospective participants who will need financial assistance to indicate this in their submissions.

Please contact Liudmila Novikova, [lnovikova@hse.ru](mailto:lnovikova@hse.ru)

**18 – 20 June 2014**

**Books and Techniques Across the Globe Before the 20th Century**

Bibliothèque centrale du Conservatoire national des arts et métiers

Cité des Sciences et de l'Industrie

Ecole des Ponts ParisTech

Collège de France (Institut des civilisations, site cardinal-Lemoine)

CFP - Deadline **15 September 2013**

The history of technical books constitutes a new field of historical study, and one that has received little scholarly attention, owing to the marginal place to which the history of technical knowledge has been relegated. Consider the Descriptions of the arts and crafts commissioned by the highest levels of the French state during the old regime, or the manuals for public servants that circulated in the Chinese empire, or the multiple treatises used to train generations of engineers, or the various

technical guides aimed at improving the practices of artisans and farmers. Such examples suggest that technical books make up an extraordinarily rich category of literature whose common characteristics can be identified, and which circulated across the globe

The goal of this conference is to address the lacuna in the historiography and to examine the relationship between the economy of the book trades and the world of technical knowledge and skills. In so doing, we will analyze the category of the technical book in its multiple forms, functions, modes of diffusion and appropriation in all periods before the 20th century.

A closer examination of technical literature and its relation to specific practices in different fields offers an opportunity to challenge traditional historical categories and established typologies. Works that seem very specific – practical how-to books, instruction booklets, and commercial brochures – share characteristics with other forms for communicating knowledge, including published course lectures, textbooks, lithographs, mimeographs, treatises, dictionaries, encyclopedias, journals, travel literature, etc. This diversity invites us to study the place of these publications in the wider publishing world as well as their relationship to the book as a material object through a closer examination of their form and content.

What is the role of these publications in shaping knowledge? Who are the principal actors involved? What activities lead them to formalize technical practices so that they may be transcribed and diffused in book form? Why make technical knowledge public and why use a format of broad diffusion intended for a wider readership? What are the conditions of production and distribution of these publications? Who reads them and how? What type of a reception and what kind of a public do they find? This conference will seek answers to all of these questions.

Contributions must be limited to periods before the 20th century, without geographical restrictions. Preferably, they will focus on one of the following themes:

- *Technical Books and Knowledge in Action, between Intentions and Uses*

This theme will cover two issues: first, the analysis of the illustration as a vehicle of knowledge. In other words, it examines the intrinsic link between image, “technology,” and the codification of practical knowledge. Secondly, it focuses on the uses of prescriptive literature and how-to books. Studies of this literature, including books of secrets and recipes, have shown how practices became formalized and codified. But what impact did these books actually have on those whose practices they were designed to shape? How did practitioners actually use them?

- *Markets and Actors*

The goal of this theme is to better understand the range and coordination of the actors involved in the economy of the technical book and to deepen our understanding of how the trade operated. Studies of the authors of these books (including practitioners) and their relationship to other kinds of authors would be welcome, as would studies of the consumer market for these books. Other relevant inquiries would center on publication of techniques, the uses of the written word as a form of protection, the place of the book in the economy of invention, and on entrepreneurial strategies.

- *Technical Books and Education*

This theme concerns the birth of the printed course lecture in the form of treatises; as a part of broader education policies; the creation of libraries in engineering schools and other technical establishments; the varied fates of textbooks (as written course lectures, lithographs, series of woodcuts, published and republished works sometimes with copious notes). Contributions could consider the international circulation of certain works, the opening of libraries to books in foreign languages, or the evolution of textbooks in different disciplines (why, for example, do the names of authors disappear in certain works, while others are identified with their original author for generations?).

- *Technical Books: Sequences, Networks, Variants*

This theme will analyze the relationships (of competition, of complementarity, of imitation...) that link the technical book with other forms of technical writing such as the manuscript, the technical periodical, the decorative book, etc. The goal is also to explore the motives and the reasons behind these variations, as well as the range and multiplicity of the forms of technical books. The similarities between certain technical books and decorative books and luxurious compilations in particular raises questions about the way historians tend to understand the relationship between certain categories of books and art (understood in its modern sense).

Article proposals (title and summaries accompanied by a CV) should be sent to the following address, before 15 September 2013: [livreettechniques@gmail.com](mailto:livreettechniques@gmail.com)

Organisational committee : Thérèse Charmasson (CRHST-Universciences), Konstantinos Chatzis (LATTS/ENPC-UMLV-CNRS), Isabelle Gautheron (ENPC), Liliane Hilaire-Pérez (Univ. Paris-7-ICT/EHESS-CAK), Soline Lau-Suchet (BULAC), Catherine Masteau (ENPC), Emmanuelle Minault-Richomme (Cnam-Service commun de la documentation), Valérie Nègre (ENSAPLV-AUSser), Allan Potofsky (Univ. Paris-7-LARCA), Delphine Spicq (Collège de France-Bibliothèque IHEC), Koen Vermeir (SPHERE CNRS/Univ. Paris-7).

Please contact the organizers by [livreettechniques@gmail.com](mailto:livreettechniques@gmail.com)

## **11 – 13 September 2014**

### **Science in the Nation-State: Historic and Current Configurations in Global Perspective, 1800-2010**

Universität Tübingen, Germany

CFP – Deadline **30 August 2013**

The conference allows for the exploration of the relationship between science and the nation-state from a new perspective. In nation-states that have traditionally been known to support research science (such as England, France, Germany, and the US), the profession evolved under the protective wing, and as an ally, of the political sovereign. Academic professions have played a significant role in the consolidation of national states. The conference focuses on historical configurations of science and the nation-state in Europe and in North America in order to compare these configurations to emerging science-oriented states such as China and India – countries that have significantly



expanded their science budgets in recent decades. The relationship between science as a profession and the national state will provide an analytical framework for discussing important historic developments in different countries. What has been the public role of the academic professions? And what are the effects on research of “national policy decisions”?

During the past two decades, national systems of research science have been exposed to radical transformations. Changes have included a reorganization of institutions of higher education, an implementation of administrative tools for the regulation and supervision of research, and they have also involved an unprecedented internationalization of science.

During the course of a career, researchers today move back and forth between laboratories in Europe, the US, and Asia. The sheer number of international research projects and the extent of collaboration across national boundaries have probably never been greater and their expansion is actively supported by national science organizations. Through its “Bologna Process” (1999) and “Lisbon Strategy” (2000), the EU has sought to implement a “European Higher Education Area” and a “European Research Area,” and fields such as astronomy have taken the lead. Universities are urged to increase their international visibility and they compete for promising students. Traditions of research and education in European or American countries no longer seem to provide an advantage over fast-growing university systems in China, South Korea, Brazil or the United Arab Emirates. Global rankings have established new international criteria for competition. Such measures have emerged from global management methods. Through organizations such as the OECD, they exert a standardizing pressure on traditional and national approaches to supporting science and education.

The internationalization of research also affects the composition of teams in laboratories. Scientists move between an increasing number of research centers around the world and their experience has changed the way they communicate. International meetings and English-speaking online publications provide research communities with an exchange of ideas and developments that is both global and immediate.

These observations suggest that researchers are increasingly detached from their national research cultures and that leading scientists abandon such links altogether. Similar to developments in business, there emerges a type of researcher disconnected from any national community. The case of stem cell research illustrates that researchers go where they find conducive legal and financial conditions for their work. In all of these ways, research science seems to approach the ideal of an “international community” and in the context of theories about the waning role of nation-states, this leads to the thesis that the nation-state plays a diminishing role in research science.

One obvious way to counter this assessment is to point to the aforementioned efforts by China and other nation-states. Many countries aim to strengthen their educational self-reliance by nurturing elites of academics and engineers in local universities and other research institutions. And national interests have guided science and education policy in Europe and in North America as well. Aware of training future competition, for example, some American universities have considered restricting the number of PhD-students in certain fields of engineering. The EU has sought to keep up with

developments in the US and in Asia by coordinating and pooling research efforts among its member states.

We would like to create an opportunity for bringing together historians, sociologists, and scholars in neighboring disciplines to reconsider the relationship between science and the nation-state. We are particularly interested in an analysis of the relationship between the profession of science and the nation-state since 1800 and in how this relationship has shifted in recent decades.

While the peculiar political context of a national state has been relevant for the profession of science in any country, the profession has also played an important role in evolving national states. From the founding of the Royal Society in seventeenth-century England, research science has evolved into the authoritative discourse for solving questions of knowledge. Science was institutionalized through an alliance with the political sovereign that came with legal and financial protection and support. This also enabled science to institute against competing world views a discourse based on experience, experiment, and methodology. By supporting science, nation-states have dedicated themselves to universalistic values associated with research science. The political sovereign bequeathed on science the authority to identify relevant topics and questions and to assess the relevance and quality of contributions to the scientific discourse. States frequently provided a budget for research and for hiring scientists. (They have also, of course, tried to influence science.) In return, the academic professions became an important pillar of modern national states – of their economies and their education and health care systems.

In recent cultural-studies-approaches to the history and sociology of science, the reciprocal relationship between science and the nation-state has frequently been neglected. It remains important, however, for analyzing the evolving role of science since 1800. At a time when old nation-states seem to delegate or surrender sovereignty, what new sources arise for legitimizing and empowering the scientific discourse? Questions such as these are of relevance given the supra-national support of science by the EU and given the rise of scientific institutions in countries with limited democratic legitimacy.

The conference provides room for a diachronic and international comparison for the period since 1800: 1) What are founding constellations (and founding myths) of national states in Europe and in North America that have traditionally supported research science and what are essential structures of national systems of science today? 2) What is the relationship between science and the nation-state in countries with evolving institutions of science such as China, Brazil, or India? 3) Against this backdrop, what are key developments in Europe and North America in the most recent past since about 1970?

These perspectives open up questions such as the following:

*1) "Old" science-oriented nation-states*

What was the role of the profession in important reforms of national systems of science, such as the reform period of universities in German states after 1810 or in the transformation of American

universities in the late nineteenth century? Also of interest are debates about science policy as well as important institutional decisions (such as the founding of the Kaiser-Wilhelm-Gesellschaft, the National Science Foundation and the National Institutes of Health, etc.). How has an increased interest in technology development by the national states transformed structures and options for basic scientific research in the nineteenth century and in the context of war since 1914 and 1940? What are some of the implications of the relatively late interest in science-related technology and research science by the US government? Relevant topics also include debates within the research profession concerning changes in its political environment in the context of such issues as war and economic competitiveness.

## *2) "New" science-oriented nation-states*

What are the key motives driving national and institutional policies in countries such as China, the United Arab Emirates, or Brazil? What is the significance of technology-development and national prosperity when compared to other motives for (basic) research? What have been founding moments for a national dedication to science, and how have they shaped peculiar national cultures and structures of science in a given country? Many researchers from India, China, and other countries are trained abroad, and some continue to work there. What is the significance of such diaspora communities for national states with emerging institutions of science? How much leverage do research academies and universities have in conflicts with the state? How do countries such as China legitimize supporting research in the humanities and social sciences as well as basic research in the natural sciences? What is the political role of scientific associations, and how does the science profession's long-standing claim for autonomy play out in emerging democratic countries?

## *3) "Old" science-oriented nation-states since 1970*

To what extent does the EU limit its efforts to support research to issues related to its administrative responsibilities? What is the role of autonomous basic research on the European level? (The field of astronomy may provide examples.) What efforts have been underway for an institutional development of research on a European scale (such as an academy of sciences, scientific associations, and universities) and what have been the motives driving the creation of new institutions? What have been the implications of efforts to define a "European research area" for national traditions of research? For example, what is the significance of the Lisbon-strategy for national scientific institutions such as the German Research Foundation (DFG), Agence Nationale de la Recherche, and others? Are there historic models for a convergence of national systems of research, such as the American or the German states during the nineteenth century? To what extent do developments in Europe prefigure a European national state? Or do these developments instead point to an emerging supra-national elite that has other historic precursors?

Organiser: PD Dr. Andreas Franzmann, Institut für Soziologie, Universität Tübingen; PD Dr. Axel Jansen, Seminar für Zeitgeschichte, Universität Tübingen; AR Dr. Peter Münte, Fakultät für Soziologie, Universität Bielefeld

Please contact Axel Jansen, Seminar für Zeitgeschichte, Universität Tübingen,  
[science.nationstate@gmail.com](mailto:science.nationstate@gmail.com)

**17 – 19 September 2014**

**Thinking with History from the XXIst Century. XIIth Congress of Contemporary History**

Association of Contemporary History (AHC), Spain

Recinto CSIC, Madrid

CFP – Deadline **15 September 2013**

The Association of Contemporary History has agreed to hold its XII Congress in Madrid to be organized by the Departamento de Historia Contemporánea. Universidad Complutense (UCM). Departamento de Historia Contemporánea. Universidad Autónoma de Madrid (UAM) on the days: 17th, 18th and 19th of September 2014. In order to encourage academic discussion as well as debate and the coming together of all those attending, the congress will be run along the lines of workshops-seminars and round tables.

The topics to be analyzed at the workshops-seminars will be those proposed by the participants. Proposal shall include a title and a brief justification (no more than 300 words) and shall be presented by, at least, one member of the AHC. The Organizing Committee will evaluate all proposals taking into consideration the criteria of quality and scientific interest. The Organizing Committee encourages participants to bring up topics not discussed at previous congresses of the AHC and to draw up transversal and interdisciplinary approaches. Likewise, proposers are invited to ensure that the workshops are coordinated by persons from different Academic and Research Centers.

Proposals should be sent by email to the following address until the 15th of September 2013: [congreso2014@ahistcon.org](mailto:congreso2014@ahistcon.org)

Once the period for the reception of proposals has closed, the Organizing Committee will evaluate all proposals and determine which topics are chosen for the workshops, seminars and the round tables. This information and the deadline for the presentation of communications will be published in a second Conference Letter by the end of September 2013.

ORGANIZED BY: Association of Contemporary History (AHC)

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE: Departamento de Historia Contemporánea. Universidad Complutense (UCM). Departamento de Historia Contemporánea. Universidad Autónoma de Madrid (UAM)

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

Please contact Juan Carlos Pereira (UCM) and Pilar Folguera (UAM) by [ahistcon@ahistcon.org](mailto:ahistcon@ahistcon.org)

## VI. Call for Contributions

**BBQ - Grillen eine Wissenschaft für sich. Antworten der Forschung auf ein Massenphänomen /  
Barbecue – Preparing Food Outdoor as a Topic of Interdisciplinary Research**

CFP – Deadline **30 October 2013**

Please contact Sacha Szabo, Institut für Theoriekultur, Freiburg, [kontakt@institut-theoriekultur.de](mailto:kontakt@institut-theoriekultur.de)

## VII. Summer Schools

**22 – 25 August 2013**

**History of Science in Islam as Universal Heritage. 2. International Summer School at the Prof. Dr.  
Fuat Sezgin Foundation for the History of Science in Islam in Istanbul**

(Deadline: please apply immediately)

The Summer School will analyse the history of astronomy, mathematics, medicine and biology.

Please find the program on: <http://detlevquintern.wordpress.com/projects/>

Please contact:

Dr. Detlev Quintern

Director for Development and Training

Prof. Dr. Fuat Sezgin Research Foundation for the History of Science in Islam

Gülhane Parkı Yçi, Eminönü, Fatih

34122 İstanbul (Turkey)

[cdquintern@ibtav.org](mailto:cdquintern@ibtav.org) / [cdq@uni-bremen.de](mailto:cdq@uni-bremen.de)

## VIII. Miscellaneous

**Founding of “Gesellschaft für Bautechnikgeschichte”**

A German society devoted to the history of construction, the “Gesellschaft für Bautechnikgeschichte” has now been set up. Some 100 enthusiasts from various disciplines followed the call to establish such an organization and attend the inaugural meeting held on 28 June 2013 in Peter Behrens Hall, TU Berlin, on the historical AEG site in Berlin’s Wedding district. Unlike the UK, Spain, Italy and France, up until now there was no equivalent history association in Germany, despite the especially diverse and intensive activities of German researchers.

The aim of the new society is to promote involvement in the history of technology and design in the building industry, for both teaching and research at the universities and for the public at large. The by-laws agreed in Berlin lay down specific tasks: fostering the exchange of and support for scientific

work in this field, integrating German activities into international contexts, collaborating in the conservation and documentation of structures and other witnesses to the history of construction and establishing construction history themes in construction engineering curricula.

The founding ceremony was accompanied by a brief, instructive talk by *Andreas Kahlow* (Potsdam University of Applied Sciences), a commemorative address by *Eugen Brühwiler* (EPFL) and numerous welcoming speeches by *Karl Heinrich Schwinn* (Federal Chamber of Engineers), *Bill Addis* (Construction History Society), *Santiago Huerta* (Sociedad Española de Historia de la Construcción), *Robert Carvais* (Association Francophone d'Histoire de la Construction), *Jürg Conzett* (Gesellschaft für Ingenieurbaukunst), *Annette Bögle* (IngenieurBaukunst e.V.) and host *Wolfgang Huhnt* (TU Berlin). Three construction history tours took place on the following days. The visits to the Pergamon Museum, Alte Nationalgalerie and Neues Museum in Berlin included areas that are rarely opened. These tours provided participants with a good idea of how varied and interesting the range of themes of the new society will be. The participation of well-known figures such as *Jörg Schlaich* and *Jörg Haspel* (Conservator for Berlin) also underlined the diversity of the disciplines from which future members should and will be drawn.

The following persons have been elected to the board of the new society: *Werner Lorenz*, Brandenburg University of Technology (chairman), *Klaus Tragbar*, University of Innsbruck (deputy chairman), *Friedmar Voormann*, Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (secretary), *Christoph Rauhut*, ETH Zurich (deputy secretary), *Ines Prokop*, German Association of Consulting Engineers (treasurer). *Martin Trautz* and *Rolf Gerhardt* will oversee the first annual conference, which will take place on 8 and 9 November 2013 at RWTH Aachen University. Paper proposals for the first annual conference should be received by 30 August: [info@trako.arch.rwth-aachen.de](mailto:info@trako.arch.rwth-aachen.de).

For more information please visit [www.bautechnikgeschichte.org](http://www.bautechnikgeschichte.org).

## IX. Recently Published Books

**Technisches Museum Wien and Naturhistorisches Museum Wien (eds.):** *achtung strom!* Stefan Jellinek und das Elektropathologische Museum in Wien. Redaktion: Andreas Kroh und Helmut Lackner. Mit Beiträgen von Gerda Habersatter, Reinhard Hirtler, Hans-Georg Hofer, Christian Klösch, Helmut Lackner, Günther Luxbacher, Beatrix Patzak, Gerhard Rabitsch, Peter Reichel, Sophie Weichhart, Martina Wetzenkircher und Eduard Winter. Wien 2013.

At the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century electricity appeared as a symbol of progress in the modern world. But risks of electricity were underestimated. When Stefan Jellinek established electricity-based accidents as a new field of research at the turn of the century, there were only a few of studies in this field. This book analyzes life and work of Jellinek and keeps records of his collection. Jellinek created a new academic discipline, the Electric Pathology. He habilitated in 1908 and was appointed as Professor of Vienna University. Jellinek contributed to the development of safety devices and committed himself to the education in safety of electricity. He established a big museum's collection; furthermore he published a lot of medical and popular science books and papers. When he lost his professorship and his collection due to the national socialists he and his family immigrated in the United Kingdom in August 1939 and lived in Oxford.

## **X. Join ICOHTEC**

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