

ICOHTEC NEWSLETTER

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Newsletter of the International Committee for the History of Technology ICOHTEC

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Editorial

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

James Douet, the editor of the *TICCIH Bulletin*, and I agreed to make TICCIH's Bulletin and the ICOHTEC Newsletter available to members of both societies, the International Committee for the Conservation of Industrial Heritage, TICCIH, and the International Committee for the History of Technology, ICOHTEC. The TICCIH Bulletin is published four times a year; you will receive the next issue via mailing list, soon. Back issues are available on the website <http://ticcih.org/publications/>. We would be happy if this new service is fruitful for members of both organizations.

This issue of the ICOHTEC Newsletter gives a report of ICON's editor, James Williams. Please find an *ICON Reviewer and Referee Interest Check-list* as separate attachment. Thank you to answer it and send it back to James Williams.

The Post-1989 deindustrialisation and reindustrialisation of Eastern Europe will be a sub theme of our 41th Symposium *Technology in Times of Transition* in Braşov, Romania (29 July – 2 August 2014). Thus the conference report 'Loopholes in the Iron Curtain. Economic Contacts between Eastern and Western Europe since the 1970s' might be interesting although the meeting's focus was on economic history.

Best wishes
Stefan Poser

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I. ICOHTEC

I.1 From the Editor of *ICON*

In the wake of our 40th Symposium in Manchester, I should like to update the membership on activities of *ICON*.

Publication schedule. *ICON* will be caught up in its normal publication schedule when volume 19 (2013) is issued in January 2014. Final submissions and revisions for this volume are now in process, and I am hopeful that we indeed will have the issue to the printer in January.

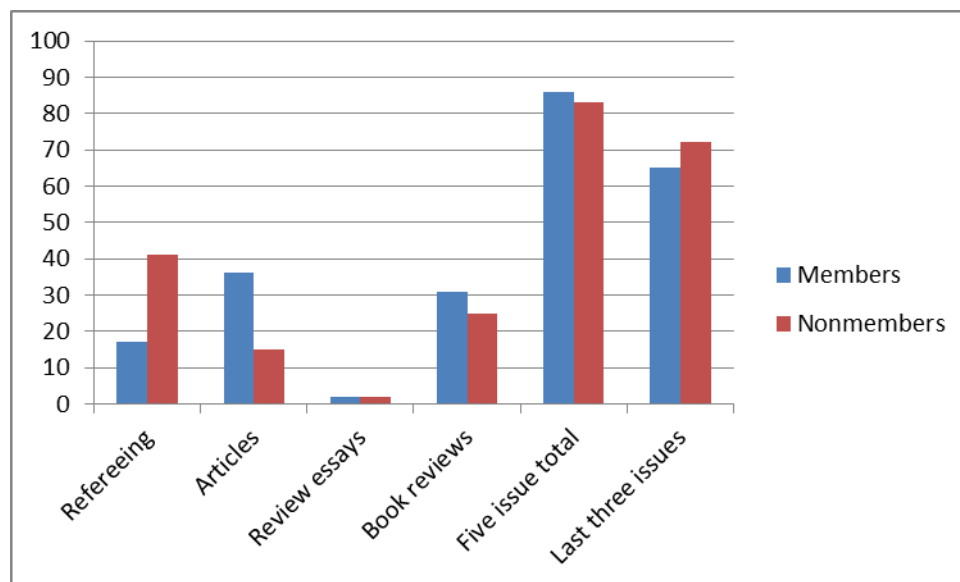
We also will be producing a special anniversary issue based on papers delivered in the anniversary session at our symposium, as well as featuring an article on Mel Kranzberg's role in ICOHTEC, which is being prepared by our fellow ICOHTEC member and past-editor of *Technology and Culture*, Robert Post. My hope is to have this volume in members' hands prior to our 41st symposium in Brasov. And, in the future, we may have more special issues as contributions merit them.

Editorial board to be elected. Members of *ICON*'s editorial board in Manchester met to get an update on the status of *ICON*'s publication schedule and to discuss journal operations. We agreed that the editorial board positions should henceforth be elected ones, and we agreed to set the number of board members to eight, each serving a four-year term. This was also agreed to in principle by ICOHTEC's Executive Committee. The ICOHTEC Nominating Committee, in consultation with *ICON*'s editor, will be responsible to recruit editorial board candidates. In next year's elections, we will begin this process.

***ICON* soon to be in JSTOR.** In July, we signed a contract with JSTOR, a not-for-profit service that includes full-text content of more than 1,400 academic journals, as well as thousands of primary sources. They are digitizing all our back issues, and we should appear in their new science and technology collection beginning sometime in 2014. Current members of ICOHTEC, of course, have access to all back issues of the journal through the password protected members area of our website <http://icohtec.org>.

Book review editor chosen. In Manchester, I was in the search for an book review editor for *ICON*, someone to relieve Alex Keller, editor emeritus of *ICON*, who graciously has helped me out over the past two years by handling books for review. I'm pleased to say that, with the full approval of the editorial board, Katariina Mauranen from Finland agreed to accept the position of book review editor. Katariina already has excellent experience in scholarly publications, serving as the editor of Finland's journal in the history of technology, *Tekniikan Waiheita*, and working with other scholarly publications. She will be looking for people interested in reviewing books for *ICON*, and has other ideas about media reviews as well. You can contact her directly at katariina.mauranen@gmail.com.

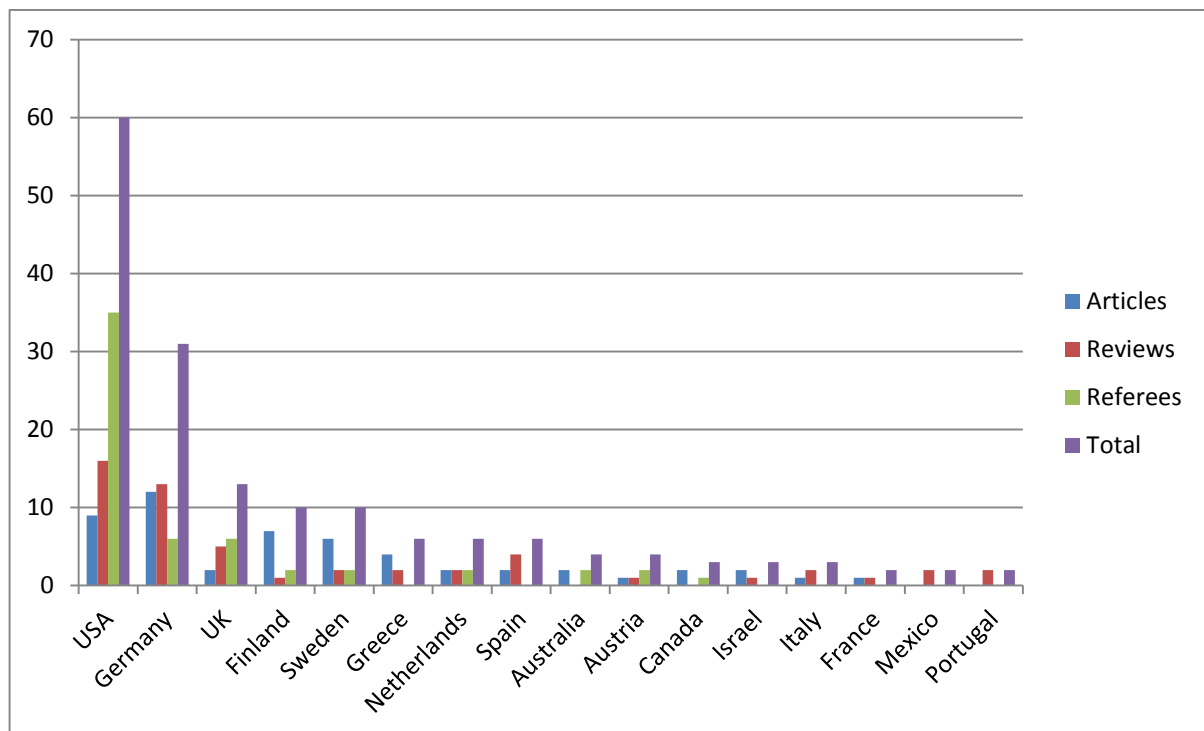
Recent *ICON* statistics. Following our symposium, I took some time to pull together some statistics on who is writing articles and book reviews for *ICON*, as well as refereeing the articles appearing in the journal. With publication of volume 19, we will have published five issues of *ICON* since I became editor, and the divide between members and non-members in contributions to *ICON* is, on the surface, fairly even. The chart below summarises the divide in raw numbers.



For the full five issues, 86 contributors or 51 per cent of total contributions came from members and 83 contributors or 49 per cent from non-members. Members led in authorship of articles, 71 to 29 per cent, and 55 to 45 per cent in book reviews. Since I do not have the data for refereeing of volumes 15 and 16, data for article referees applies only to the last three issues, and non-members accounted for 71 per cent of article referees.

In addition to membership of contributors over the past five issues, I have tracked from what countries resided authors of articles and reviews (including essay reviews) and referees. As the next chart illustrates, the USA and Germany led the combined totals of all other countries in authorship of reviews (29 to 23) and in numbers of referees (41 to 12). Germany led in authorship of articles (12), followed by the USA (9), Finland (7) and Sweden (6). The top five countries providing contributors overall to *ICON* were the USA, Germany, the UK, Finland and Sweden, with a combined total of 124, which far exceeds the total of 47 individuals from 17 additional countries in contributions. Not

appearing on the chart are Denmark, New Zealand, Poland, Russia and Switzerland, each of which had one contributor.



So, what do these statistics mean for *ICON*? I think some good things as well as some not-so-good things.

One, because scholars outside of ICOHTEC's membership are willing article referees and book reviewers, our journal appears to hold a good measure of respect. This is a healthy situation, and I hope that some of these non-member contributors will find their way to ICOHTEC membership.

Two, it would be equally healthy if more ICOHTEC members would serve as article referees and, similarly, as book reviewers. To this end, I ask members to let me and Katariina know they are interested in 1) refereeing articles and 2) reviewing books. Because we commission book reviews, review essays and referees, I urge members to complete and email the check-list that is attached to this Newsletter to me (James Williams, techjunc@gmail.com), so that we can consider each member for forthcoming reviews and refereeing opportunities.

Three, I would urge members to encourage contributions to *ICON* from colleagues at your institution, in your country and in your region. The greater the national diversity of our *ICON*'s contributors, the better we become as a transnational organisation. Invite colleagues to submit the Reviewer and Referee Interest Check-list as a way of introducing them to ICOHTEC, and give them a membership form as well.

Finally, our journal is only as good as the contribution to it, and we are always on the look-out for high-quality articles. If you have one in the works, please consider *ICON*.

I.2 ICOHTEC Prize for Young Scholars 2014

The ICOHTEC-Book Prize is sponsored by the Juanelo Turriano Foundation and consists of 3,000 Euro. The prize winning book will be presented and discussed at a special session of the next ICOHTEC symposium, **Braşov, Romania, 29 July – 2 August 2014**.

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

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

For the ICOHTEC Prize 2014, please send a copy of the work you wish to be considered for the prize to each of the three Prize Committee members. **Your submissions must be postmarked not later than 7 February 2014.** You may also submit an electronic version of the book or Ph.D. thesis by 24:00 o'clock of your local time on the same day. If your book is in Spanish or Russian, please also supply a summary in English, French or German of about 4500 words. In that case, the prize committee will find additional members, who are familiar with the language in which your book is written. **Please also include an abstract of no more than a half-page in length.**

If the work is a Ph.D. thesis, it should have been accepted by your university in 2012 or 2013; if it is a published work, the year of publication should be 2012 or 2013. The submission should be accompanied by a CV (indicating also the date of birth) and, if applicable, a list of publications. Applicants are free to add references or reviews on the work submitted.

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

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

Dr. Rachel Maines, Prize Committee Chair
School of Computer & Electrical Engineering
726 University Avenue Rm. 311

Email: rpm24@cornell.edu

Cornell University
Ithaca NY 14853
USA

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

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Dr. Klaus Staubermann
Principal Curator of Technology
National Museums of Scotland
Chambers Street
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EH1 1JF
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I.3 Maurice Daumas Prize for Articles

The *International Committee for the History of Technology*, ICOHTEC, welcomes submissions for the *Maurice Daumas Prize*, which aims to encourage innovative scholarship in the history of technology. ICOHTEC is interested in the history of technological development as well as its relationship to science, society, economy, culture and the environment. The history of technology covers all periods of human history. There is no limitation as to theoretical or methodological approaches.

The Maurice Daumas Prize will be awarded to the author of the best article submitted on the history of technology and published in a journal or edited volume in 2012 or 2013. Submissions are welcomed from scholars of any country, and their focus can be the technological past of any period or part of the world. Eligible for the prize are original articles published in any of the official ICOHTEC languages (English, French, German, Russian or Spanish). If the language of publication is not English, applicants must include a three-page English summary.

For the *Maurice Daumas Prize 2014*, please send your submission to *each* of the five Prize Committee members **no later than 5 January 2014**. **Electronic submissions are preferred**. The winner will be contacted in late May 2014.

The prize will be awarded at our 41st Symposium, to be held 29 July – 2 August 2014 in Brasov, Romania. The winner will receive a cash prize of Euro 500 as well as a travel grant of Euro 300 (if

needed) to attend the ICOHTEC Symposium of 2014. Additionally, the ICOHTEC Symposium will feature a special panel organized around the winning article.

Susan Schmidt Horning, Prof., Chair

St. John's University

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Centre Alexandre Koyré/CNRS-EHESS-MNHN

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Thank you for distributing both announcements among your colleagues.

II. Conference Reports

Loopholes in the Iron Curtain. Economic Contacts between Eastern and Western Europe since the 1970s. A Conference in Vienna, Austria in April 2013

Sarah Lemmen, University of Vienna, sarah.lemmen@univie.ac.at

The history of the Cold War has been predominantly narrated as a history of conflicts, confrontation, and competition: according to the doyen of American Cold War Historiography, John Lewis Gaddis, the détente was doomed to fail with the renewal of the armament race and the proclamation of various boycotts. In contrast, the growing economic relations between Eastern and Western Europe

since the 1960s tell a different story. Despite changing political conditions, the contacts between companies and individual economic agents in Eastern and Western Europe developed dynamically until 1989 and beyond, thereby stressing the endurance of mutual exchange, cooperation, and influence.

Based on these observations, the international workshop explored the dynamics of East-West trade, investment, and small scale economic exchange, whereby investigating two levels of economic interaction: the first concentrated on official economic relations, which were generally based on bilateral contracts. The case studies introduced German, Italian, British, as well as Austrian companies and their eastern contacts. The second focused on unofficial areas of economic exchange such as retail trade, bartering, smuggling, or tourism. The countries dealt with on the eastern side of the permeable Iron Curtain were the GDR, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Estonia, and the Soviet Union.

In the introductory session, the two conveners mapped out the central topics of this workshop. PHILIPP THER (Vienna) first developed a counter-narrative to the common confrontational interpretation of the Cold War. He argued for a “relational history of the Cold War”, which focuses on mutual perceptions and exchanges beneath the political or diplomatic level. He pointed to the relevance of economic contacts for this period, specifically mentioning the Pipeline Deal (“Gas gegen Röhren”) between West Germany and the Soviet Union. The problem of this counter-narrative is its lack of heroes and dramatic peaks of action, while it rests upon endless negotiations, backroom deals and a – morally sometimes questionable – rapprochement. Second, little is known about the eastern activities of major western companies. Even less is known about small trade, services and the sphere of the grey economy. And thirdly, referring to research on 1989, Ther criticized the understanding of the breakdown of state socialism and of the Soviet Empire as an “hour zero”, and claimed that late Cold War Contacts were relevant for economic cooperation after 1989.

WŁODZIMIERZ BORODZIEJ (Warsaw/Jena) concentrated on the agents who were able to cross the Iron Curtain: the exchanges were not limited to the elites, as the prior research project “‘Schleichwege’. Inoffizielle Begegnungen sozialistischer Staatsbürger zwischen 1956 und 1989” had already shown. Borodziej then asked whether the East-West-contacts contributed to the stabilization or destabilization of the Communist system. This question remained an issue of dispute throughout the workshop: on the one hand, the import of technology and of scarce consumer goods helped to alleviate the chronic deficits of the planned economy. On the other hand, the rising contacts with the West demonstrated the deficits of state socialism.

The first three case studies concentrated on large scale economic co-operations by British, Italian and Austrian companies with Eastern Bloc countries. While Great Britain conducted more trade with Eastern Europe than any other Western European country in the 1960s, it fell to a backseat position in the 1980s. ANGELA ROMANO (London) explained this decline by the lack of a clear government policy concerning trade relations with the East, and by the loss of competitiveness. This points to a major first result of the workshop: The Eastern markets were indeed seen as very competitive, and included global players such as Japan. This also is true for European car-production, which was

analysed by VALENTINA FAVA (Helsinki/Milano). She introduced yet another “deal of the century”, namely the license production of Fiat cars in the Soviet Union. With political interests behind the cooperation and even American support, active Italian communists were mostly excluded from the decision making and the delegations to the Soviet Union. Fava also showed how conflicts over authority between the factory in Togliatti and various Soviet government institutions were an obstacle for enlarging this promising cooperation.

MAXIMILIAN GRAF (Vienna) covered the case of VÖEST-Alpine, which delivered an entire converter steelwork to Eisenhüttenstadt in the GDR, thus also securing the survival of the company during the steel crisis in the 1980s. These deals were made on a basis of western credits and guarantees, thus creating a rising dependency on the West. It was then lively debated whether the foreign debts made the Communist regimes softer and more reform-oriented. WOLFGANG MUELLER (Vienna) gave an insight into the political framework behind those deals and the strategy of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CMEA) towards the West. While the European Community was originally seen as a ploy of US-imperialism, it was later accepted as a trading and political partner in its own rights. Here the smaller member states of CMEA proved to be the motivating forces, as they were dependent upon mainly agrarian exports to Western Europe. The commentator KIRAN KLAUS PATEL (Maastricht) concluded that the economic contacts were not as subordinated to politics as the Cold War historiography suggests. He also questioned the caesura of the 1970s as set in the conference title, and indeed many large scale deals were planned or conducted already in the 1960s. Still, the 1970s mark the period when most business contacts bore fruit, and also the economic contacts “from below” acquired a different dimension due to the beginnings of mass tourism.

What were the effects of the official East-West contacts on the public at home? PAVEL SZOBI (Prague) concentrated on the role of Intershop and Tuzex shops in the GDR and the CSSR: Originally established to collect foreign currency, they increasingly provided an ever growing, if still restricted consumer public with products that were under shortage in regular stores, but also with “Western” products which were often licensed and produced in the Communist countries themselves. GYÖRGY PETERI (Trondheim), on the contrary, showed that the World fair of hunting in Budapest in 1971 – the only world fair in a socialist country – boosted the national pride of a vast number of Hungarian visitors: having the “world at home” convinced them of the international competitiveness of Hungary. The commentator Wolfgang Mueller highlighted the attempts of the communist regimes to increase the living standards of the population as a measure of political appeasement. The accessibility (at least for some) of foreign goods and their comparison to the home-made production could both stabilize and discredit the ruling regimes.

The section was completed by a roundtable discussion with practitioners of East-West economic exchange during the Cold War, presenting the former or still active CEOs PÉTER FELCSUTI (Budapest), OSKAR GRÜNWALD (Vienna), GRZEGORZ KORYTOWSKI (Poznan) and the former Austrian minister of finance FERDINAND LACINA (Vienna). The panelists, chaired by JÁNOS M. KOVÁCS (Vienna), were asked to state their best and worst experiences made during their career. Grünwald referred to the spectacular contracts won by the ÖMV since 1968, but also showed how bureaucratic incompetence prevented other large scale contracts. Felcsuti and Lacina both stressed positively the integration of

Hungary into the global financial markets and its accession to the IMF, while Lacina also referred to Western obstacles such as the Cocom-list of technologies forbidden for export. Korytowski, at the time involved in the import of computers, explained how import restrictions could be circumvented: Computer chips were removed from the computers which were imported to Poland in parts, resulting in the computerization of communist Poland with more than 100.000 imports. Both small scale business experiences and the large deals support the argument that the transformation and the function of Eastern Europe as a workbench of Western, especially German companies were indeed pre-formed prior to the changes of 1989.

The next section dealt with “Economic contacts from below”, concentrating on economic exchange both on the black and the grey markets. JERZY KOCHANOWSKI (Warsaw) discussed the role of foreigners on the black market in Poland. “Foreigners” were considered those with the “right” foreign passport and therefore with the legitimate means to cross borders, which included not only tourists, truck-drivers, diplomats, sailors or other relatively regular visitors to Poland, but also Polish emigrants who had acquired a “Western” passport, as well as foreign students from Ghana, Congo, or Ethiopia. Concerning the import of Western goods, the Iron Curtain proved quite brittle, especially so in border towns or harbors as well as the big cities and transport hubs. ANNA PELKA (Munich) concentrated on the blue jeans and youth fashion in general and their political impetus in Poland and the GDR: In the early 1970s, “consumer socialism” was extended also to youth fashion, which implied the appearance of new textiles in the GDR, the loosening of the ban for “Western-style” clothing, and finally the quadrupling of youth clothing warehouses in Eastern Germany. This liberalization was to disinterest young people from politics and avoid protests such as those in 1968. Due to the growing economic shortages from the 1970s on, and enhanced by the political crisis in Poland leading up to 1981, the production of fashionable clothes came to a hold again.

The import of technology was a different matter. As PATRYK WASIAK (Warsaw) explained, the computerization of Poland developed in the 1980s both legally and illegally, by way of individual or small-scale import of personal computers, until Poland was the most computerized country in the Soviet Bloc. The personal computers were imported from either West Germany or the Far East, mainly Singapore or Taiwan. A network of “intermediary sellers” and computer bazaars handled the distribution in Poland. The availability of PCs prepared large sections of the private business sector for the leap into the technologically advanced economical system of the 1990s. In his comment, DIETER SEGERT (Vienna) concentrated on the missing link between formal institutions and informal practices, and pointed at the importance of state representatives as generally under-researched agents both for smuggling and the black market.

EVA KOVÁCS (Vienna/Budapest) went beyond the year 1989 and offered an interpretation of how shadow economy and the skills trained in the shadow proved quite useful in the transition period and actually led to successful businesses both in communist and in capitalist societies. Her interviewees in the Hungarian village Villány had all started producing wine for the black market already in the 1970s. These businesses taught not only a proto-entrepreneurship, but enabled a preliminary accumulation of capital and increased the knowledge as well as network resources, which enabled them to build their businesses according to the new rules of the capitalist game

already early in the transition period. LARS FREDRIK STÖCKER (Tallinn), on the other hand, presented a bi-national example of breaching the Iron Curtain by concentrating on the steamship connection between Estonia and Finland. The ferry undertaking flourished despite all difficulties created especially by the Soviet representatives, making Finns in Tallinn a rather common sight by the late 1960s. By the 1980s, 100.000 tourists per year used the ferry connection, letting the influx of Western consumer goods into Estonia grow to a quite significant level and therefore creating a de facto uncontrollable channel of goods between East and West.

The final discussion brought up the question whether these considerations should be framed by a larger discussion on globalization: Although the case studies concentrated on relations between Eastern and Western Europe, it was striking how other parts of the world, mostly the so called “Third World”, was present in these stories, often as an alternative to the two-Blocs narrative. Kiran Patel asked whether Western Europe may have considered Eastern Europe as only one of many available markets next to Africa or South America, while Joachim von Puttkamer (Jena) suggested a framework of interpretation on a global scale. In his final comment, Włodzimierz Borodziej concluded that the presentations modified the originally posed assumption of the early 1970s as a caesura for East-West contacts. Except for the internationalization of fashion in the GDR and Poland, the other case studies offered mostly earlier dates for mutual contacts, while some exchange, such as the import of computers, began only in the 1980s. At the same time, the question remains open if and how both formal and informal economic exchange between East and West contributed to the dissolution of the communist regimes, and if it had trained the agents in some way for the transition period in the 1990s. Thereby, the relevance of individual agents was stressed: Especially the role of emigrants became highly visible as mediators and transmitters both of knowledge and of goods in both directions, and as central figures in networks necessary for formal or informal trade. Contacts and cooperation may not only be analyzed as a form of understanding and agreement, but also with a view on obstacles, frustration and negative experiences. Focusing on emigrants, smugglers, tourists, or small entrepreneurs, the heroes of this alternative story of the Cold War might be found at last.

Organiser: Institute for Eastern European History, University of Vienna; Imre-Kertész-Kolleg, University of Jena; in cooperation with the Institute for Human Sciences in Vienna and supported by Osteuropaforum, University of Vienna

The report was published first in: H-Soz-u-Kult, <http://hsozkult.geschichte.hu-berlin.de/tagungsberichte/id=4996>

III. Conference Announcements

8 – 9 November 2013

Wissensformen der Technik. Technikgeschichtliche Tagung der Eisenbibliothek

Eisenbibliothek, Stiftung der Georg Fischer AG

Schlatt, Switzerland

Please contact: Britta Leise, Eisenbibliothek , britta.leise@georgfischer.com

14 – 15 November 2013

Papier im Mittelalter. Herstellung und Gebrauch / Paper in the Middle Ages. Production and Use

SFB 933 "Materiale Textkulturen", Institut für Fränkisch-Pfälzische Geschichte und Landeskunde,
Universität Heidelberg

Please find the program on: <http://hsozkult.geschichte.hu-berlin.de/termine/id=23171>

Please contact: Carla Meyer, SFB 933 / Institut für Fränkisch-Pfälzische Geschichte und Landeskunde,
Universität Heidelberg, carla.meyer@zegk.uni-heidelberg.de

8 – 10 January 2014

BSHS Postgraduate Conference of the British Society for the History of Science

University of Leeds

CFP – Deadline **8 November 2013**

The 2014 BSHS Postgraduate Conference is seeking individual papers and sessions for the upcoming conference at the University of Leeds on 8-10 January 2014. We welcome proposals both for papers from individuals and for sessions. For individual papers, please send your name, university affiliation, paper title, 5-6 key words, and an abstract (no more than 300 words) to: bshspg2014@gmail.com

We would also appreciate it if you could indicate whether or not you would be prepared to chair a session (not a very difficult job, mostly involving time keeping and being smiley). When proposing a session, please collect all of the required information above, and the abstracts for each of the papers (no more than four papers in a panel) into a single document, and include an abstract for the session itself, explaining its aims and value. We would also like to take the opportunity to encourage submissions from the philosophy of science, or better still, papers that manage to do a little bit of both. One last point, in order to be eligible for the Butler-Eyles travel grant, applicants will also need to be members of the BSHS. The society encourages that members join both from the UK and internationally.

The 2014 Annual Conference of the BSHS will take place at the University of St Andrews, 3-6 July 2014.

Please visit <http://www.bshs.org.uk/2nd-cfp-bshs-postgraduate-conference-university-of-leeds-8-10-january-2014>

21 – 22 February 2014

Von Knoten und Kanten? Netzwerktheoretische Ansätze zur Untersuchung der osmanischen und deutschen Geschichte im 19. und 20. Jahrhundert / What about the nodes and links? Approaching Nineteenth- and Twentieth-Century Ottoman and German History through Network Theory

History Department, Heidelberg University

CFP – **Deadline 31 October 2013**

With presentations by:

- Prof. Dr. Adelheid von Saldern (University of Hannover)
- Prof. Dr. Christoph K. Neumann (LMU Munich, tbc)

Chairs:

- Prof. Dr. Katja Patzel-Mattern (Heidelberg University)
- Johannes Zimmermann, M.A. (Heidelberg University, tbc)
- Dr. Stefanie van de Kerkhof (University of Mannheim)

The workshop will explore possibilities to use network theory for the historical analysis of political, economic, and social processes. It is our goal to ‘test’ network-theoretical approaches by debating their applicability to selected research projects concerning German and Ottoman history in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The workshop will host two prominent guest researchers: Prof. Dr. Adelheid von Saldern (University of Hannover) will give a lecture concentrating on the German context, whilst Prof. Dr. Christoph K. Neumann (LMU Munich, tbc) will deal with late Ottoman history. We would like to invite historians and social scientists to deliberate the possibilities and limitations of network theory for historical research in this workshop.

In the context of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, the German Confederation and the later German Reich, as well as the dominions of the Ottoman State, are particularly interesting research objects for ‘testing’ and applying network-theoretical approaches. In both the Ottoman and the German contexts, researchers find themselves dealing with territories, which were heterogeneous politically, socially, and culturally. Moreover, both political entities were experiencing a time of transition in this period. This transition was characterized by political and economic instability, which went hand in hand with the erosion of institutional arrangements as well as traditional structures. Viewed in a larger context, such developments can be connected to the fact that both polities were confronted with globally connected ideas and developments that manifested themselves especially in the context of a European vision of ‘modernity’ conceptualized through buzz words such as nationalism, imperialism, and industrialism. What is interesting here is how agents in the Ottoman as well as in the German contexts reacted to and dealt with these notions. When compared to e.g.

France as an early nation state or England as a pioneer among industrialized countries, both polities underwent their very own peculiar paths of development. It is this similarity between the Ottoman and German cases which makes a parallel examination of their histories a worthwhile endeavour. Indeed, comparative analysis of the Ottoman Empire and the German territories becomes even more appealing when considering that, despite their similarities, both historical spaces differed significantly in terms of their political and economic configurations. Finally, an engagement with both spaces is absolutely necessary when addressing research questions which attempt to go beyond German-Ottoman 'interdependencies' in processes of state building in order to investigate potential parallels on economic and social levels. Here, it is also possible to ask if convergences between the Ottoman and German contexts were supported, or even caused, by particular structures and paths of development within each space.

These research objectives raise questions about the actors and authorities who were active in various political, economic, and social processes and also direct the researchers' attention to different agents' ways of interaction and cooperation. In this framework, networks as social or institutional constructions, their emergence, and their functioning become the main focus of analysis. Today, the 'social network' as such represents an omnipresent – not to say 'en vogue' – concept, which has become part of our everyday language. However, 'social network' also refers to a theoretical concept that has gained popularity within historical research during the last two decades. Nevertheless, in order to be able to use the 'network' concept as an analytic tool in historical studies, it arguably becomes necessary to formulate a clear definition of the term with respect to the particular research projects. In this regard scholars not only need to delineate the notion of the 'network' in order to distinguish it from concepts of other social phenomena, but they also strive to find tailor made ways to operationalize and to adapt theoretical models of interest for the needs of their historical research projects. The workshop will offer an opportunity for discussing such undertakings.

We therefore invite researchers in history and the social sciences undertaking research in German and late-Ottoman history to present their projects and the theoretical and methodological concepts underlying their work. The joint discussions about the projects presented shall serve to address the functionality and utility of network theory by exemplifying models of its operationalization whilst dealing with two culturally and linguistically different spaces – each possessing their very own societal, governmental, and economic characteristics and development processes. Additionally, the workshop aims to discover possible similarities and reciprocities between the German and the Ottoman contexts as a step towards a "histoire croisée" of these two regions. Finally, the focus on these polities will create an opportunity for young scholars of Ottoman and German studies to network.

The workshop is directed primarily, but not exclusively, at doctoral students and postdoctoral researchers, whom we would like to invite to discuss their research projects and their theoretical and methodological concepts in this workshop. It is possible to present projects, which deal with both Ottoman and German history, or which concentrate solely on one of the two polities. If the latter case predominates, the comparative analysis of both polities will take place in the joint discussions.

The projects presented may be at an early conceptual stage. It is crucial, however, that a theoretical and methodological approach, which may be still preliminary in character, has been formulated for each project. Presenters will receive a small allowance for their participation. The organizing team will help you find accommodation and provide directions upon request.

We invite researchers and students interested in presenting their work to send a short outline of their projects (2 pages), including a title for their presentation by 31 October 2013 to ws-netzwerk-2014@zegk.uni-heidelberg.de.

The workshop will be open to those who only wish to participate in discussion, rather than present papers of their own. We kindly request interested attendants to register via email by 31 January 2014.

Please visit: www.vonknotenundkanten.wordpress.com/

Please contact: Katja Patzel-Mattern, Historisches Seminar der Universität Heidelberg, ws-netzwerk-2014@zegk.uni-heidelberg.de

8 – 10 April 2014

Annual SHS Conference: New Strand on Global and Transnational Approaches

Newcastle upon Tyne

CFP – **Deadline 31 October 2013**

The annual Social History Society Conference is the largest gathering of social and cultural historians in the UK. The next conference will take place from 8 to 10 April 2014, with Northumbria University in Newcastle upon Tyne serving as the host venue.

Proposals for individual papers and panels are warmly invited from new and established researchers in the field. To submit an abstract and for further details of the conference strands and of the Social History Society, please visit our website at www.socialhistory.gellius.net/annualconference.php.

The conference is organised around seven conference strands that cover a broad range of topics, themes and approaches. 2014 will see the launch of a new strand on Global and Transnational Approaches.

This conference strand looks beyond individual nations or regions, placing the emphasis on connections, crossings and circulations. We invite papers that deal with people on the move, from refugees and labour migrants to missionaries and revolutionaries. We also welcome contributions on social movements, groups or associations that transcended national boundaries. Taken together, the papers in this strand shed light on individual agency and experience, but also on the dissemination and movement of concepts and ideas.

Proposed papers may be transnational or global in nature – or both. The strand is informed by an inclusive understanding of the ‘social’: speakers may, for instance, address commodities, disease or ecology, as they transcend national/regional boundaries and often drive the movement of bodies and ideas.

As a whole, the strand involves a questioning or reassessment of categories such as nationhood, empire or ‘the West’. Within this wider framework, proposals may deal with any given period. We also accept proposals for panels in which the ‘global’ dimension may be provided by the sum of the individual papers. We anticipate contributions from scholars at different stages of their careers (PhD students, postdoctoral researchers, established academics) and hope that this new strand will create a new forum for historians working on global and transnational themes.

We look forward to reading your proposals. If you have any questions about this specific strand, feel free to contact one of the strand convenors:

Daniel Laqua, daniel.laqua@northumbria.ac.uk

Pierre Fuller, pierre.fuller@manchester.ac.uk

Emma Hunter, elh35@cam.ac.uk

7 – 9 May 2014

ReClaiming Participation. Technology, Mediation & Collectivity

Zürcher Hochschule der Künste

CFP – Deadline 31 December 2013

Participation has become the key issue in popular, economic, and academic notions of New Media. The conference seeks to examine and unravel the debates of the “Participation Age”, rejecting a mere appraisal of the impact of contemporary media on participation. Instead of perpetuating euphoric visions of social “all-inclusion”, web democracy and collaboration as well as pessimistic views of exclusion, top-down hierarchy and the “digital divide”, we aim to reclaim collectivity as an effect of technological, historical and political conditions and practices.

We are seeking papers that offer a wide array of perspectives on the processes of collectivization and individuation in media environments. Topics may range from analyses of participatory objects and technological arrangements to the reciprocity and entanglement of formerly theoretically separated positions. We are welcoming contributions from theoretical considerations to case studies and examinations in the field of the arts. We particularly encourage PhD candidates and early career researchers to submit proposals.

Jean-Luc Nancy (Professor emeritus at Marc Bloch University in Strasbourg, France) and Claus Pias (Professor at Leuphana University of Lüneburg, Germany) have confirmed as two of the three conference’s keynote speakers.

We accept abstracts up to 500 words that should address topics and questions relating to one of the sessions. Please add a short CV to your proposal. The deadline for the submission of abstracts is 31 December 2013. Please send abstract and CV to CFP@RECLAIMINGPARTICIPATION.COM. If you have any questions please refer to our Blog at reclaimingparticipation.com or send an email to info@reclaimingparticipation.com.

22 – 25 May 2014

Migration und Technikgeschichte / Migration and History of Technology

XXXIII. Gesprächskreis Technikgeschichte

Stuttgart, Germany

CFP – Deadline **6 January 2014**

Please contact: Michael Hascher, michael.hascher@rps.bwl.de

22 May 2014

3. Technikhistorisches Forum der Gesellschaft für Technikgeschichte (GTG) / 3rd Forum for Young Scholars of the German Society for the History of Technology, GTG

Stuttgart, Germany

CFP – Deadline **6 January 2014**

Please contact: Hagen Schönrich, hagen.schoenrich@tu-dresden.de and Nina Lorkowski, nina.lorkowski@mzwg.mwn.de

23 – 25 May 2014

Produzieren, Herstellen, Fabrizieren: Neue Perspektiven auf die Produktionstechnik. Jahrestagung der Gesellschaft für Technikgeschichte, GTG. New Perspectives of Production Technology, Annual Meeting of the German Society for the History of Technology, GTG

Stuttgart, Germany

CFP – Deadline **6 January 2014**

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

Please contact Prof. Dr. Reinhold Bauer, reinhold.bauer@hi.uni-stuttgart.de, and Prof. Dr. Dorothea Schmidt, dorothea.schmidt@hwr-berlin.de

15 – 18 July 2014

23rd Annual World History Association Conference: "Environmental History" and "Latin America in World History"

CFP – Deadline **15 December 2013**

The World History Association eagerly invites proposals from students, scholars, and teachers around the world on topics related to the scholarly and/or pedagogical aspects of the conference's themes:

- Panels (up to 3 panelists, one chair, and optionally, one discussant) - Individual papers, maximum of 20 minutes in length
- Single papers
- Roundtables (between 4 to 6 participants) -5 minute opening statements from participants and then conversational dialogue with the audience
- Workshops on specific teaching techniques or practices
- Mixed panels of K-12 teachers, students, university professors, and independent scholars examining cutting-edge scholarship and its classroom integration
- Panels devoted to research in progress (and potential for classroom integration)
- Sessions dealing with the current scholarship of "big issues" in world history (and potential for classroom integration)
- Proposals for poster displays and presentations
- Meet the Author sessions-an excellent opportunity for exchanges between authors and end-users of books and texts, explanations of methods, and suggestions for use

Prearranged panels are given priority in the program and receive earlier notification of acceptance. Individual papers will also be considered and, if accepted, are arranged into suitable panels by the Program Committee.

Each proposal should include: a maximum 250-word abstract for each paper, a one page curriculum vitae for each participant, and biographical details for use in the introduction by the chair. All papers should be presented in English (if this is a concern please indicate as much and the committee will take the matter under consideration). Please be thoughtful of A/V requests, while we should have ideal technological facilities, A/V is subject to failure, regardless of location. As always, handouts are welcome. Proposals must be submitted using the forms and guidelines available at www.thewha.org.

Information regarding key dates, registration, accommodations, keynote speakers, optional tours, and all related issues are posted, and regularly updated, on the WHA website: www.thewha.org

Please contact the organizers by thewha@hawaii.edu

6 – 9 November 2014

2014 Annual Meeting of the Society for the History of Technology, SHOT

Dearborn, Michigan

A call for papers will be published later. Please visit <http://www.historyoftechnology.org/>

13 – 15 November 2013

Amerika-Euphorie – Amerika-Hysterie. Populäre Musik made in USA in der Wahrnehmung der Deutschen 1914–2014 /Germans Listening to American Popular Music 1914 - 2014

Deutsches Volksliedarchiv, Freiburg im Breisgau

CFP – Deadline **31 March 2014**

Please visit <http://hsozkult.geschichte.hu-berlin.de/termine/id=23177>

Please contact Michael Fischer, michael.fischer@dva.uni-freiburg.de and

Christofer Jost, christofer.jost@dva.uni-freiburg.de

20 – 23 November 2014

Panel: Consumption in Transition: Material Cultures 1980-2000 on the Convention of the Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies 2014

San Antonio (USA)

CFP – Deadline **15 December 2013**

In 1989, the Polish lifestyle magazine Pan (The Gentleman), which openly promoted affluent consumption, published an interview with a successful craftsman who belonged to *prywaciarze*, a new income elite of private entrepreneurs. The craftsman stated “in our poor country a color TV set is a luxury and we have to acknowledge that only the chosen can acquire it.”

This statement excellently captures consumer culture in transition. First, it sheds light on broader social trends of shaping new lifestyles through the possession of material artifacts. Secondly, it shows the radical change in consumer culture occurring in the late 1980s. In the political discourse of state socialism, a color TV was an item of “international modernity.” Despite “temporary difficulties,” state planners were desperate to introduce color TV to all Polish household. But economic and social realities in Poland in the late 1980s was such that the ideology of mass consumption was replaced by the individualistic ethos of new social classes which openly acknowledged social inequalities.

The aim of this panel is to discuss cultural practices related to consumption shortly before and after the demise of state socialism in East Central Europe. We are especially interested in two themes. First is the analysis of consumer infrastructure, including studies of the development of modern-day “bazaars”—that is, the sites of informal economy, trader tourism, the rise of private retail trade, local dealers and representatives of western manufacturers. Who was successful in the fight for new consumers and why? What tactics—potentially from the communist era—were used to gain the upper-hand in markets where the consumer was frequently poor and impressionable? The second, related theme of the panel is the connection between cultural practices of consumption and rapid social change—such as the rise of new classes of private owners and entrepreneurs with a significant dispensable income. Who were the new rich, and (given the transformation) how “new” were they? In other words, was capitalism merely another springboard for the party cadre to get rich with, or were the new rich socially and culturally distinctive?

We welcome abstracts from all fields of research (history, sociology, political science, literary studies, etc.). It is our expressed interest to explore the culture of consumption with an interdisciplinary approach. Advanced graduate students and young professionals are also encouraged to submit. Please send a short abstract and brief CV by 15 December 2013 to keck@europa-uni.de

Please note: we are unable to provide funding to the annual convention. The convention will take place in San Antonio, November 20-November 23, 2014.

For information on the whole congress please visit: <http://aseees.org/>

Please contact:

Mark Keck Szajbel, Center for Interdisciplinary Polish Studies, Europa-Universität Viadrina,
keck@europa-uni.de

Patryk Wasiak, Ph. D., Institute for Cultural Studies, University of Wrocław, patrykwasiak@gmail.com

IV. Courses

15 – 17 November 2013

Course on Renaissance Engineers in Segovia

The course entitled Ingenieros del Renacimiento (Renaissance engineers), organised by the Spanish National Distance University (UNED) and Fundación Juanelo Turriano, will be held at UNED's associate facility in Segovia on 15 to 17 November. The course is intended for history, engineering, architecture, art history and urban planning students, as well as geographers, heritage experts and the interested public. Course participants will be introduced to the subject by experts in the field of Renaissance engineering through academic classes as well as a visit to Segovia's Royal Mint Museum. Organizers: Alicia Cámara Muñoz (UNED) and Bernardo Revuelta Pol (Fundación Juanelo Turriano)
Please visit: <http://www.juaneloturriano.com>

V. Scholarships

IEEE Fellowship in the History of Technology, 2014-2015

The IEEE Life Members Fellowship in the History of Electrical and Computing Technology supports one year of full-time graduate work in the history of electrical and informational sciences and technologies at a college or university of recognized standing, or up to one year of post-doctoral research for a scholar in this field who has received his or her Ph.D. within the past four years. The stipend is \$17,000, with a research budget of up to \$3,000. This fellowship is funded by the IEEE Life Members' Committee and supports historical research in **any** area covered by an IEEE technical

society or council. IEEE has thirty-eight separate societies and seven technical councils covering a broad range of electrical and computing engineering. For a complete list, see:

www.ieee.org/membership_services/membership/societies/index.html).

Reimbursable research expenses include economy class travel to visit archives, libraries, historical sites, or academic conferences, either to hear papers or to present one's own work. Hotel stay, meals while travelling, copying costs, reprints of scholarly articles, and books directly pertaining to research are reimbursable. Any research trip expected to cost more than \$1000 must be approved in advance by IEEE History Center Staff. Examples of non-reimbursable expenses include, but are not limited to: licensing fees for images for book version of thesis, computers or computer peripherals, digital cameras, clothing, and office supplies. Recipients are normally expected to take up the Fellowship in the July of the year that it is awarded. Fellowship checks are normally mailed to the Fellow quarterly in July, October, January, and April. For Fellows in the southern hemisphere who follow the southern hemisphere academic year, arrangements can be made to mail the checks in December (two quarters worth), March, and June.

Candidates with undergraduate degrees in engineering, the sciences, or the humanities are eligible for the fellowship. For pre-doctoral applicants, however, the award is conditional upon the candidate's good standing in an appropriate in an appropriate PhD granting graduate program. In addition, pre-doctoral recipients may not concurrently hold other fellowships, but they may earn up to \$10,000 for work that is directly related to their graduate studies. Pre-doctoral fellows must pursue full-time graduate work and evidence of satisfactory academic performance is required. These restrictions do not apply to post-doctoral applicants. Post-doctoral applicants must be no more than four years from the award of their PhD on the date the application is due. The Fellow is selected on the basis of the candidate's potential for pursuing research in, and contributing to, electrical, engineering and/or computing history. Applicants pursuing technical topics should demonstrate they possess the necessary skills, for example: knowledge of programming languages or mathematical discipline. Such knowledge can be demonstrated through course work or experience.

Application forms are available on-line at

http://www.ieee.org/web/aboutus/history_center/about/fellowship.html. The deadline for completed applications is 1 February 2014. Applicants will be notified of the results by 1 June 2014.

IEEE Internship 2014

Scholars at the beginning of their career studying the history of electrical technology and computing are invited to contact the IEEE History Center to be considered for a paid Internship at the Center's offices on the Rutgers University campus in New Brunswick, New Jersey, in summer 2014.

The intern program seeks to provide research experience for graduate students in the history of electrical and computer technologies, while enlisting the help of promising young scholars for the Center's projects. The Intern generally works full-time for two months at the History Center on a Center project that is connected to his or her own area of interest. This time is usually during the

summer, but other arrangements will be considered. Interns are also encouraged to consult with the Center's staff and its associates, and guided to research resources in the area. The internship is designed for those near the beginning or middle of their graduate careers, but advanced undergraduates, advanced graduates, and, on rare occasions, recent Ph.D.s will also be considered. Special consideration is often given to scholars from outside the United States who might not otherwise have an opportunity to visit historical resources in this country.

The stipend paid to the intern is US\$3,500, but additional funds may be available to defray travel costs, depending on the intern's circumstances. This internship is supported by the IEEE Life Members Committee.

There is no formal application form. To apply, please mail a curriculum vitae showing your studies in electrical history along with a cover letter describing the sort of project you would be interested in doing (see contact information below). The deadline for contacting the IEEE History Center is 1 March 2014.

IEEE and Rutgers are AA/EO employers. Women and minorities are encouraged to apply for all positions. The IEEE History Center is cosponsored by the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Inc. (IEEE)—the world's largest professional technical society—, and Rutgers—the State University of New Jersey. The mission of the Center is to preserve, research, and promote the legacy of electrical engineering and computing. The Center can be contacted at: IEEE History Center, Rutgers University, 39 Union Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901-8538, ieee-history@ieee.org, http://www.ieee.org/web/aboutus/history_center/index.html

VI. Miscellaneous

Exhibition “Ars Mechanicae” in Murcia, Spain

The travelling exhibition entitled *Ars Mechanicae*. Ingeniería medieval (*Ars Mechanicae*. Medieval engineering), curated by the Fundación Juanelo Turriano in cooperation with the Spanish Centre for Public Works Studies and Experimentation-Centre for Historic Studies on Public Works and Urban Planning (CEDEX-CEHOPU), have been opened on 27 September at Murcia's Science and Water Museum. It will be on display there until 2 March 2014.

Exhibition “Félix Candela: Mastering Slenderness”, in Segovia

The exhibition *Félix Candela, mastering slenderness* was opened at Segovia's Royal Mint Museum on 11 October. The exhibition is a tribute to this Spanish architect, internationally renowned in his lifetime as one of the most prominent architects of the modernist movement and a specialist of reinforced concrete shells. Most of his oeuvre was erected in Mexico in the nineteen fifties and sixties. In Madrid, he participated in the designs for Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe church and, much

later, for the Puerta del Sol underground station. The exhibition will be presented until 6 January 2014.

For more information on both exhibitions please visit: Please visit: <http://www.juaneloturriano.com>

VII. Join ICOHTEC

An ICOHTEC membership makes you a member of the scholarly network of the UNESCO-based International Committee for the History of Technology, ICOHTEC.

The membership includes:

- Reduced fees for ICOHTEC's conferences
- ICOHTEC's reviewed journal ICON (published annually, ca. 200 pages)
- Electronic access to back issues of ICON (published since 1995)
- ICOHTEC's electronic Newsletter (published monthly – available via mailing list and on the homepage)

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