Newsletter of the International Committee for the History of Technology ICOHTEC

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

Editorial

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

As you will get from the greetings of our president Timo Myllyntaus, our program committee has to work hard to prepare the Brasov symposium. James Williams, our past president and editor of ICON has good news, too.

It will be a pleasure to meet so many of you in summer.

Best wishes

Stefan Poser

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I. ICOHTEC

I.1 Greetings from the President

At first I want to express the gratitude of numerous responses to the Call for Papers to our Brasov symposium. The Programme Committee received 215 paper and poster proposals prepared by nearly 300 authors and co-authors, who represent 36 countries. The number of the received proposals has been exceeded only by our Barcelona symposium, when meetings organized only by ICOHTEC without co-organisers are included in the comparison. Proposals let us expect a stimulating symposium with an interesting mix of our regular participants and dozens of new contributors.

Nowadays Europe is living another transitional period both economically and technologically. The present economic stagnation has partly been caused by structural reasons. The entire continent lacks competitive export products which could generate sufficient and widely spread economic growth. Perhaps only Germany is an exception because it still manages to compete on the global markets with the high quality and reasonable prices of its devices, machines and other manufactured products which can meet the international demand. In contrast, the Finnish industry, for example, is also able to produce various high-tech goods such as paper making machines, icebreakers and luxurious cruising ships. Unfortunately, in this business cycle there is not enough demand for these kinds of conventional products on the global market. There is a great shortage for attractive modern products which have extensive demand round the world. Furthermore, there is a lack of path breaking inventions and innovations that fit the needs of the present world. Gloomy economists forecast that Europe has no chance to recover without innovative products and structural changes. In other words, there is a great quest for transition. In this respect the theme of the forthcoming symposium in Brasov will not be connected only to the transitional periods of the past but also to our future.

It is time to plan a trip to Brasov and the LOC’s website provides new information on the coming symposium. Brasov has versatile types of hotels and personates to offer within a broad room rate categories. In addition, the LOC is working to publish the 2nd Circular during the next few days. It includes updated information on excursions and social events.

Best wishes

Timo Myllyntaus

I.2 News from the Editor of ICON

ICON now indexed in Scopus. We received news from the Content and Selection & Advisory Board (CSAB) of Elsevier’s ‘Sciverse Scopus’ that ICON has been accepted for inclusion in its indexing and citation system. Scopus has the content of some 20,000 journals and, according to one source, a noticeable European bias.
We are particularly pleased with the comments of the Scopus reviewer, which were shared by the CSAB. The reviewer said that his/her recommendation that ICON should ‘be included in Scopus solely on the basis of the extremely high quality of the it publishes, nearly all of which are little gems to be savoured by historians of technology. Just delightful!’

In the meantime, ICON has also been accepted for inclusion in JSTOR, through which digital copies of all ICON issues available starting sometime in 2015, and ICON is being considered for inclusion in Thomson Reuter’s Web of Science, a decision to be reached sometime in, we hope, the near future.

**Manuscripts welcomed.** We are seeking manuscripts for the issue of ICON scheduled for December 2014. The final deadline submissions is 1 June 2014.

**Book reviewers sought.** We are looking for reviewers for books that are now on our desk. If you would be interested in reviewing a book in ICON, please email the book reviewer form that appears with this newsletter to the editor, James Williams, techjunc@gmail.com.

Please find the form as a separate attachment.

## II. Conference Announcements

### 7 – 8 March 2014
**Women, Work and Value: Definitions, Approaches, Conceptual Frameworks**
Bristol

This workshop will ask how we measure and define the value of work. How is work categorized (paid vs. unpaid, domestic/caring vs. work outside the home)? And how can we conceptualise the value of work (use value vs. exchange value, emotional, political, cultural, social values, value judgements etc.? Discussion will centre around position papers from scholars in a range of disciplines, kickstarting the interdisciplinary dialogue which will be at the heart of this network.

Attendance is free, but registration is necessary. Please email Hannah-Marie Chidwick (hc6198@bristol.ac.uk) if you would like to attend.

Please visit [www.bris.ac.uk/arts/research/women-work/](http://www.bris.ac.uk/arts/research/women-work/)

For further information, please contact Josie.McLellan@bristol.ac.uk, Maud.bracke@glasgow.ac.uk, or Hannah-Marie Chidwick, hc6198@bristol.ac.uk
10 – 12 April 2014
Tenth Biennial Automotive History Conference of the Society of Automobile Historians
Palo Alto, California

The 2014 Automotive History Conference continues the Society’s tradition of a biennial symposium of researchers and academic professionals who will present their recent work on the history of the motor industry, its products and their impact on social and cultural development.

A detailed program of presentations and information on conference registration may be found on the SAH website www.autohistory.org or call Arthur Jones, Conference Chair, at nomecos@verizon.net.

29 – 31 August 2014
LWL-Industriemuseum Henrichshütte in Hattingen, Germany
Please find more information soon on http://www.georg-agricola-gesellschaft.de/?cat=6
Please contact: Norbert Gilson, Geschäftsführer der Georg Agricola Gesellschaft, gilson.histec@t-online.de

12 – 14 September 2014
Munich, Germany
CFP – Deadline 20 April 2014
Please visit http://hsozkult.geschichte.hu-berlin.de/termine/id=23569
Please contact Susan Splinter, Schriftführerin der DGGMNT NDB, Historische Kommission b. d. Bayerischen Akademie d. Wissenschaften, splinter@ndb.badw.de

24 – 25 September 2014
Emotions and the Cultural History of the World Wars
Academy of Finland research project “Emotions and the Cultural History of War in Finland, 1939–51,”
University of Helsinki, Finland
CFP – Deadline 15 April 2014

The history of emotions and the cultural history of war are disciplines that have recently attracted expanding scholarship. During the last two decades the history of emotions has deepened our understanding on changing emotional norms, concepts and experiences and it has contributed to the debunking of the mind–body dualism and invested the emotions with historical agency. The roots of
the cultural history of war can be traced a little bit further down in historiography. Since the 1960s and 1970s it has added to our understanding of the interplay between crises and cultural and social change. The topics have included the literatures of war, the remembrance of war, myths and symbols and the traumas of war. Recently also the cultural representations of emotions and the histories of emotional experiences in war have received increasing scholarship, which has led us to rethink the significance of wartime to ever-evolving emotional styles and norms.

This two-day conference is dedicated to the exploration of emotions in twentieth-century world wars. The conference is premised on the hypothesis that the wartime emotions are not to be studied only as reactions to exceptional events but rather as actions causing these exceptional events. The conference seeks to address the following questions: what are the roles of emotional norms and emotional concepts at the front and in wartime society? How does the war affect the emotional cultures and how is this reflected both in wartime experiences and in the aftermath? Are the emotional experiences inherently embedded in culture or are there grounds for claiming certain emotional universalism in human wartime experience?

The scope of the conference covers histories of individual and group emotions from numb and unconnected trauma to collective displays of wartime elevation. We welcome especially proposals that address the wartime histories of:

- love and attachment
- hatred, aggression and fear
- honor, shame and mourning
- war enthusiasm and disillusionment

However, other emotional concepts and experiences are given consideration as well.

Application: Please submit a proposal of a maximum of 500 words to emotionsandwar(at)gmail.com by 15 April 2014. Please attach a short bio to the proposal. Successful applicants will be notified by 15 May 2014. The presentation of accepted papers should not exceed 20 minutes. The program of the small-scale event is scheduled without parallel sessions allowing everyone to participate in all the sessions.

Participation fee: 150 euros for full-waged/100 euros for graduate students. Registered participants are expected to cover their own travel and accommodation costs. Further details are provided upon acceptance of the proposals.

Confirmed keynote speakers:
Prof. em. Jay Winter, Yale University
Prof. Jan Plamper, Goldsmiths, University of London
Prof. Juha Siltala, University of Helsinki

Please visit http://blogs.helsinki.fi/emotions-and-wars/
Please contact Ville Kivimäki, University of Helsinki, emotionsandwar@gmail.com
24 – 26 September 2014
Scholars’ Monuments: Historical Meaning and Cultural Significance. International Conference at the Department for Art History, University of Vienna
Vienna
CFP – Deadline passed: 28 February 2014

At the occasion of the 650th anniversary of the founding of the University of Vienna in 2015 an international conference at the Department of Art History will focus on scholars’ monuments from an interdisciplinary point of view. Within this scope current research positions in art and cultural history will be presented and reflected in the context of the Arcaded Courtyard at the University of Vienna, one of the largest high quality halls of honour in university context.

This arcaded courtyard at the centre of the main building fulfils not only the function of a crossing point for communicative processes, but with its more than 150 professors’ monuments it is one of the most important memorial for the Austrian history of science and humanities. Despite its great significance as a commemorative space and the partly superior artistic quality of its exhibits, neither the site as a whole nor the individual busts have yet been made the subject of a comprehensive art-historical treatment. The same applies to numerous European university and academic "halls of honour".

The conference aims to highlight scholars’ memoria from an international and comparative point of view. Suggested topics may be approached from different methodological viewpoints (e.g. Art History, Contemporary History, History of Sciences, Cultural Memory Studies, Gender Studies). In this context not only the tradition of university halls of honour as “functional memory” becomes apparent, but also the practice of selecting (and excluding!) scientists becomes visible. Through this research strategies of ideological or gender motivated exclusion can be identified in particular. Another important aspect in this debate will be the historical and up-to-date significance of the monument for individuals and its future potential.

We welcome and encourage proposals to the following topics:

1. The origins and the characteristics of collective scholars’ memoria since early modern times. The development of specific types of halls of honour and pantheons. Which functions do these pantheons fulfil in the self-conception of scientific institutions? Which tasks do those scholars’ ensembles have in a social context, e.g. in comparison to military halls of honour?

2. Comparative case studies on scholars' monuments in Europe that are remarkable from the iconographic, typological or stylistic view. Which stylistic or iconographic forms are particularly suitable in order to highlight scientific achievements? Which role does the setting of monuments play in the estimation of sciences?

3. Scientific considerations on the future of scholars’ memoria. Is the bust an endangered species of monuments? What will monuments for (female and male) scientists look like in the 21st century?
400 words proposals for 30 minutes papers (in English or in German with a brief CV) should be submitted by March 15, 2014 to the organisation team: scholarsmonuments.kunstgeschichte@univie.ac.at

It is intended to publish a selection of the contributions in the Wiener Jahrbuch für Kunstgeschichte (peer-reviewed).

Please contact Prof. Dr. Ingeborg Schemper Institut für Kunstgeschichte, Universität Wien, scholarsmonuments.kunstgeschichte@univie.ac.at

23 – 25 October 2014
All Quiet on the Eastern Front? World War I in Central and Eastern Europe in the experience of soldiers, social groups and local communities
Institute of History, Jagiellonian University, Cracow,
CFP – Deadline 5 May 2014

For several years succeeding 1914, the world went through the first global military conflict. Undoubtedly, this experience left its mark on the population of Central and Eastern Europe too. However, both historiography and popular idea about WWI is heavily dominated by the perspective of the western front. At the same time, research on the realities of eastern front was, to some extent, neglected by scholars, especially in the fields of social and cultural history. Reconstructing a more detailed picture of Central and Eastern Europe in the times of the Great War can therefore significantly contribute to the better understanding of this unprecedented conflict and its aftermath, as well as the Europe’s contemporary history.

The “All Quiet on the Eastern Front?” research workshop aims at an exchange of practical and methodological experience between scholars form the different fields of historical studies who focus on social history of WWI in Central and Eastern Europe. The main research problem that should be addressed by the workshop participants is the question how WWI influenced the lives of individuals, social groups and local communities. This interaction, should, however, be deeply rooted in the specific (cultural, religious or familial) characteristics of the investigated subject. We are interested particularly in research projects capturing the phenomenon of WWI in broader cultural and chronological context, dealing with the war-connected aspects of social continuity and change, as well as comparing and contrasting the experience of groups and individuals across different regions of Europe.

Our research workshop will create the opportunity for the young scholars in different stages of research to present their projects to colleagues and experts as well as to obtain hints, criticism and feedback. The workshop proceedings in form of several papers are going to be published in a special issue of “Prace Historyczne” Zeszyty Naukowe UJ (‘Historical Works’ Academic Journal of the Jagiellonian University). The workshop is going to be accompanied by keynote lectures delivered by experienced scholars in the field, as well as a source studies seminar.
Abstracts, no longer than 300 words, including the title, research questions, description of sources and methods should be sent to: wielka.wojna@gmail.com. The deadline for abstract submission is May 5th, 2014. The results of the enrollment will be announced by the end of May 2014.

Abstracts accepted in: Polish, English, German
Applications to be sent at: wielka.wojna@gmail.com
Workshop fee: 100 PLN

6 – 9 November 2014
Annual Meeting of the Society for the History of Technology (SHOT)
Dearborn, Michigan
CFP – Deadline 31 March 2014

Call for Papers and Sessions: Formed in 1958, SHOT is an interdisciplinary and international organization concerned not only with the history of technological devices and processes but also with technology in history, the development of technology, and its relations with society and culture -- that is, the relationship of technology to politics, economics, science, the arts, and the organization of production, and with the role it plays in the differentiation of individuals in society.

Accordingly, the Program Committee invites paper and session proposals on any topic in a broadly defined history of technology, including topics that push the boundaries of the discipline. The Committee welcomes proposals for individual papers or complete sessions from researchers at all levels. We also welcome proposals from all researchers, whether veterans or newcomers to SHOT's meetings, and regardless of primary discipline. Submitters are encouraged to propose sessions that include a diverse mix of participants: multinational origins, gender, graduate students and junior scholars with senior scholars, significantly diverse institutional affiliations, etc.

For the 2014 meeting the Program Committee welcomes proposals of three formats:

* Individual papers
* Sessions of 3 or 4 papers.
* Unconventional sessions; that is, session formats that diverge in useful ways from the typical 3 or 4 papers with comment. These might include round-table sessions and workshop-style sessions with pre-circulated papers.

SHOT allows paper presentations at consecutive meetings but rejects submissions of papers that are substantially the same as previous accepted submissions. Submissions covering the same fundamental topic should explain the difference(s) with the prior presentation.

Specific instructions related to submissions (abstract, CV, etc.) are on the SHOT 2014 Call for Papers webpage

[http://www.historyoftechnology.org/call_for_papers/](http://www.historyoftechnology.org/call_for_papers/)  
[http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=00144tpJnU7yiURDWuEymdodRpqSrCDvlzXSvzBXwrVS469fXX2VNizJN71j](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=00144tpJnU7yiURDWuEymdodRpqSrCDvlzXSvzBXwrVS469fXX2VNizJN71j)
The Program Committee has established a Facebook page to facilitate collaboration in establishing sessions: https://www.facebook.com/login.php?next=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.facebook.com%2Fgroups%2F679068282131880

Alternatively, postings to the sci-med-tech listserv (http://www.h-net.org/~smt/) can also facilitate collaboration and session-forming.

The deadline for proposals is 31 March 2014.
This international and interdisciplinary event is organized by the Iron Library (Eisenbibliothek), Foundation of Georg Fischer Ltd. Responsibility for the content of the conference is in the hands of Kilian T. Elsasser (Museumsfabrik Lucerne), Prof. Reinhold Reith (University of Salzburg) and Prof. Friedrich Steinle (TU Berlin), and it is they who decide on the selection of the speakers.

We kindly invite interested persons involved in research, teaching and practice to apply to present a paper. Conference topic in 2014: "Products and Product Innovations".

Unlike process innovations, product innovations have attracted hardly any attention in the history of technology. Yet products and product refinements provide an interesting angle of approach from which to focus on the aspects of demand and consumption. During the past decade, historical consumer research has developed into a discipline capable of combining the study of cultural, economic and technological issues through time. Reflections on "innovation culture" can also be viewed in the context of (historical) innovation research. This includes the area of "failed innovations", though the reasons for failure are multifaceted and often unrelated to technology. The concept of the product line, which grew out of ecological considerations, that is to say, the evaluation of products and their life cycle, is yet another angle of approach. The expectations consumers have of products may change over time: price, design, durability, reparability, user friendliness and energy efficiency are only some of the parameters with which the historical change that products undergo can be defined. Sample or swatch books, catalogs or even product information directories offer an insight into product diversity. The museum sector provides the concept of "boundary objects", objects that represent entire product epochs and product cycles and symbolize changes in the way of life. The list of approaches to this open-ended topic can and should be explored from a variety of historical, social scientific and related disciplines.

**Format**

The papers may be delivered in German or English and should not be longer than 30 minutes (incl. the discussion time). Papers that have been prepared to scientific standards may be selected for publication in the specialized journal *Ferrum*, which is published annually by the Iron Library.

**Synopsis**

Interested applicants are kindly invited to submit a synopsis of their paper, electronically – no longer than two A4 pages – in German or English, along with an up-to-date resume, by 31 March 2014 to the Head of the Iron Library, lic. phil. Franziska Eggimann ([franziska.eggimann@georgfischer.com](mailto:franziska.eggimann@georgfischer.com)).

**Organizational matters**

The Iron Library, Foundation of Georg Fischer Ltd, will assume speakers' travel expenses and the cost of room and board during the Conference. We expect that speakers will attend the entire Conference.

**Timelines**

We request you to submit your synopsis by 31 March 2014.

The selection of the speakers will be completed by the end of May 2014 at the latest.

Please visit [www.eisenbibliothek.ch](http://www.eisenbibliothek.ch)
III. Awards

Young Scholar Price of the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Geschichte der Medizin, Naturwissenschaft und Technik /German Society for the History of Science, Medicine and Technology (DGGMNT)
Deadline for application: 15 March 2014
Please visit: http://www.dggmnt.de/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=122&Itemid=219
Please contact Andreas Fickers, Universität Luxemburg, Historisches Institut, Andreas.Fickers@uni.lu

Nachwuchspreis der Georg Agricola Gesellschaft für Geschichte der Naturwissenschaften, Technik und Industriekultur / Young Scholar Price of the Georg Agricola Society
Deadline for application: 31 March 2014
The society awards BA and MA thesis, PhD-thesis and habilitation thesis on topics of the history of science, technology and industrial culture.
Please visit: http://www.georg-agricola-gesellschaft.de/?page_id=25
Please contact: Norbert Gilson, Geschäftsführer der Georg Agricola Gesellschaft, gilson.histec@t-online.de

IV. Miscellaneous

80th Anniversary of the Eduardo Torroja Institute for Construction Science's, Madrid

The opening ceremony for the Eduardo Torroja Institute for Construction Science's 80th anniversary was held at the Spanish National Research Council's auditorium on 20 February. The anniversary will be commemorated throughout the year with the organisation of a number of activities: bibliographic exhibition, exhibition entitled Quienes somos, de dónde venimos (who we are, where we were), an international congress on rehabilitation, conservation and innovation, an open house day, experimental workshops in educational institutions, competitions for students and the Eduardo Torroja Institute for Construction Science Award.

For more information please visit: http://www.ietcc.csic.es/index.php/en/
V. Recently Published Books


Based on the assumption that scientists are participants in the culture in which they live, *Competing with the Soviets* looks beyond the debate about whether military influence distorted science in the Cold War. The idea that American science ever operated in a free zone outside of politics is, Wolfe argues, itself a legacy of the ideological Cold War that held up American science, and scientists, as beacons of freedom in contrast to their peers in the Soviet Union.

VI. Join ICOHTEC

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

The membership includes:

- Reduced fees for ICOHTEC’s conferences
- ICOHTEC’s reviewed journal ICON (published annually, ca. 200 pages)
- Electronic access to back issues of ICON (published since 1995)
- ICOHTEC’s electronic Newsletter (published monthly – available via mailing list and on the homepage)
Please share this subscription form with a colleague who is not a member or ask your library to subscribe!

ICOHTEC
International Committee for the History of Technology

Membership in ICOHTEC includes subscription to the journal ICON, access to back issues of ICON in electronic form on ICOHTEC’s web site, reduced registration at ICOHTEC’s annual symposium and a monthly newsletter.

ICOHTEC Subscription Form

I wish to become a member of ICOHTEC and pay my annual subscription:

- for an individual (30 € or 40 $ or equivalent per year)
- for a student (30 € or 40 $ or equivalent for two years)
- for a library (Europe: 36 € or 48 $, overseas: 39 € or 52 $ or equivalent per year)
- for an institution (75 € or 100 $ or equivalent per year)

for each year checked:

- 2012
- 2013
- 2014
- 2015

ICON 18 ICON 19 ICON 20 ICON 21

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ICON issues for the years you have checked and paid for will be sent to your mailing address. In the event it changes, please send your new address to our treasurer Yoel Bergman, yoelb@protalix.com, with “ICOHTEC new address” as the “Subject”

Please, return this form – and make an international money transfer to “ICOHTEC” at Commerzbank Bochum (Husemannplatz 3-4, D-44787 Bochum, Germany) : IBAN DE44 4304 0036 0390 2590 00 ; BIC COBADEFFXXX (members in Germany take Commerzbank Bochum BLZ 43040036, Nr. 390259000.