

ICOHTEC NEWSLETTER

www.icohtec.org

N° 144, April 2017



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,

Our president Timo Myllyntaus invites to participate in our next symposium in Rio de Janeiro (23 – 29 July 2017). The dates of our 45th Symposium in St. Etienné are the 17th of July (Tuesday) to the 21 July (Saturday) 2018.

The editor of ICOHTEC's reviewed journal ICON, Hermione Giffard, welcomes submissions – especially those, based on papers which will be given on our next symposium in Rio. Keep this opportunity in your mind when preparing your paper.

A reminder: if you have not yet payed the annual fees of ICOHTEC, please do so now. Please find a membership (and payment) form on the last page of the Newsletter and a link to paypal on our homepage <http://www.icohtec.org/about-icohtec-join-us.html>

A short bibliography was add to the call for papers on agencies and labour regulation in building sites, 13th-19th centuries; it might be useful for some of you (see p. 8)

It will be a great pleasure to meet you in Rio!

Best wishes
Stefan Poser

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I. ICOHTEC

I.1 Greetings from the President

Preparations of the 25th International Congress of the History of Science and Technology have taken a big leap. Registration has been going on a couple of months and



Front line of Rio de Janeiro and Cristo Redentor



participants are making their travel arrangements. The Programmes of ICHST have traditionally been divided to two big parts: sessions organized by Commissions and Scientific Sections and sessions compiled from individual paper proposals by the International Programme Committee of the Congress.

Commissions and Committees are organizations operating under the umbrella of the [Division of History of Science and Technology](#) (DHST), which in turn works under the [International Union of History and Philosophy of Science and Technology](#) (IUHPST). According to the latest statistics, Commissions and Committees organize 113 sessions in the Rio Congress and more than 1113 papers are to be presented in these sessions. ICOHTEC, which belongs to the category “Scientific Sections” organizes 13 of these sessions, which consist of 74 papers. In this part, every tenth session will be organized by ICOHTEC.

Statistics are no available on the sessions composed of individual papers. My estimate is that they will not contain as many papers as those convened by Commissions and Committees. The total attendance will remain under 2000 participants. Nevertheless, once again ICHST will be a mega world congress. The hosts expect scholars from every continent to arrive at the 25th ICHST, which will be held in South America and the Southern Hemisphere for the first time.

I hope that a great many Icohtecians will participate in the Rio Congress. The early registration closes very soon, on **14 April**. However, it is possible to register to 30 June 2017 but then one has to pay a higher fee and will probably lose the right to present a paper in the congress. Therefore, it is very important to go to the website <http://www.ichst2017.sbhc.org.br/inscricoes/capa> and register as soon as possible.

See you in Rio de Janeiro!

Timo Myllyntaus

Photos are from common domain according to Google pictures:

Christo Redentor:

https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/c/co/Cristo_Redentor_-_Rio.jpg,

Rio: <http://img-aws.ehowcdn.com/400x400/ds->

img.studiod.com/Vista_do_Morro_Dona_Marta_1.jpg

(The author is responsible for publishing photos in his contribution to the newsletter)

I.2 ICOHTEC's Reviewed Journal ICON – Submissions

Send your paper to ICON! ICON welcomes submissions from everyone including especially those who will be presented at ICOHTEC's 2017 conference in Rio.

ICON publishes papers covering all aspects and periods in the history of technology, but devotes special attention to the discussion of contemporary problems of technology in their socio-economic and cultural settings. The journal's goal is to foster co-operation amongst scholars from all parts of

the world by providing timely review and circulation of ideas to an international audience of like-minded individuals.

ICON welcomes submissions from non-ICOHTEC members as well as members, and particularly encourages submissions from authors for whom English is not their first language. All papers are chosen by peer review, using a double blind process, and authors will be given editorial assistance to improve clarity and vigor of written expression.

Beside the printed version ICON is now available via JSTOR as well as ICOHTEC's website. Please send your manuscripts (paper plus abstract) to the editor Hermione Giffard, at editor@icohtec.org

For information about format, please consult our guidelines for contributors at <http://www.icohtec.org/publications-icon-guidelines.html>. Further information about the journal is also available at <http://www.icohtec.org/publications-icon.html>

II. Conference Announcements

5 – 8 July 2017

**Industrial heritage, environmental impacts and strategies for territorial regeneration,
7th Congress of TICCIH España**

As Pontes de García Rodríguez, La Corunna, Spain

Please visit

http://www.juaneloturriano.com/docs/dtter&utm_campaign=Newsletter+119+March+2017

Please contact ticcihaspontes2017@gmail.com

26 – 29 October 2017

Annual Meeting – Philadelphia (Pennsylvania, USA)

Extended Call for Papers and Sessions – new deadline 15 April 2017

The Society for the History of Technology (SHOT) is an interdisciplinary and international organization concerned not only with the history of technological devices and processes but also with technology in history and society. We explore the production, circulation, appropriation, maintenance and abandonment of technology under specific historical circumstances. And we scrutinize the epistemic, economic, social, cultural and political conditions of this development. Our approaches are

informed by a broad concept of technology encompassing knowledge resources, practices, artefacts and biofacts, i.e. artefacts in the realm of the living. 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. 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.

To pay tribute to the venue of the 2017 annual meeting - Philadelphia, where the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution were signed - we want to encourage proposals that engage topics related to technology, democracy and participation. The birthplace of the oldest participatory democracy is the ideal setting for reflecting on, and interrogating, the overlapping subjects of technology, democracy, and participation. Philadelphia was not only the first capital of the United States, but also an early capital of industrialization and the accompanying transformations of work, skill, creation and maintenance, all of which continue to shape modern participation in the world. Commercial systems, slave economies, and immigration patterns developed locally alongside complex technologies of production and infrastructure in Philadelphia. Industrialization also led to an era of increased human intervention in the environment, now referred to as the Anthropocene. City and region participated in the cyclical expansion and contraction of global trade and supply chains of commodities, labor, and cultures. As other urban and rural, industrialized and agricultural polities have historically contended with similar forces of change, and transnational networks have carried the impacts of modernization agendas to both willing and unwilling communities, the cultural embrace of technology, notions of democracy, and ideologies of participation have played out in myriad ways around the world. These cultural commitments and their interactions, as seen in Philadelphia's history and across a wide range of other global settings, thus form an appropriate theme for the 2017 SHOT meeting.

For the 2017 meeting the Program Committee welcomes proposals of three types:

* Traditional sessions of 3 or 4 papers, with a chair and a commentator. Deadline: March 31, 2017.

* Unconventional sessions, with 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. Deadline: March 31, 2017.

* Open sessions: Open Sessions descriptions, along with organizer contact information, can be found on the SHOT-website. To join a proposed panel from the Open Sessions

list, contact the organizer for that panel, not the Program Committee. Open Session organizers will then assemble full panel sessions and submit them to SHOT by the end of the regular call for papers on March 31, 2017. The Program Committee will review the resulting fully formed session proposals, whether traditional or unconventional, for quality and adherence to SHOT standards of gender, geographic, and institutional diversity.

In special cases, proposals for individual papers will be considered, but the Program Committee will give preference to organized sessions, either Traditional or Untraditional. Those scholars who might ordinarily propose an individual paper are instead requested to propose Open Sessions themselves or to join an Open Session that is posted on the SHOT website.

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.

The SHOT Executive Council formulated its response to US Presidential measures to restrict access to the United States for select foreign nationals, including to our annual meeting. This statement can be found on the SHOT website. Please keep an eye open for this statement and, if possible, do not be discouraged from submitting a paper by the current situation.

For more information on preparing and submitting a proposal and the Open Sessions List please visit the SHOT website at www.historyoftechnology.org

Jan Korsten
Society for the History of Technology

2 – 4 November 2017

Agencies and labour regulation in building sites (13th-19th centuries)

Appel à communication ELHN, Paris

Paris

CFP – Deadline **15 May 2017**

Through the historical process that western European societies have known since Middle age to the dawn of contemporary age, it has never been supposed that labour in the construction sector - although it is often acknowledged to have played a decisive role in

economic - may have been decided, controlled and managed by several institutions that overlapped their influence. Public entities, intermediate organizations and private actors performed in different ways in the labour market, for instance by cooperating, competing, or even conflicting. Nonetheless, they all were involved in labour regulation and workforce organization. An interesting question relates to the nature of regulating authorities, of the overlapping of their competences and their strength, considering the different nature of labour in building sites (free, forced, organized). Building sites are a privileged field for our structural questions, due to their importance in the economic sector, and to the abundance of publications at the European level in this field since 2000.

1. Public entities. Whatever the nature of the territory structure (administrative, fiscal, judicial) on which we are located, since Antiquity public institutions had always decided to control the administration of their properties, from the most vast city to the smallest rural village. De facto, royal councils, ministries, academies, and judicial courts have always ruled built - and non-built - spaces pleading questions of public order, hygiene and security and including both architectural, urban and constructive considerations. Public authorities have been involved in the regulation of construction works in several respects (as legislators, contractors and even employers of forced laborers). While prioritizing the public interest, public authorities acted in different ways, for instance by focusing on fixing wages, sometimes in order to standardize hiring or firing, sometimes to define standard contracts of hire, sometimes to control professional and geographical mobility of workers. Particularly in the public domain, will the plurality of institutions, a priori competent, lead to conflicts or to the recognition of specialization? How did actors react? If there were space and means for negotiation between the actors and the public authorities, did this institutional pluralism give more possibilities for maneuver to actors?

2. The "intermediate bodies" (communities, crafts, brotherhoods, unions, etc.). Irrespective of whether they were freely organized or regulated by statutes, the construction professions have benefited in many cases from an important power of self-regulation. The strength of professional groups - formalized or not, with hierarchical structures and quite decisive power - gives a priori to these communities the legitimacy to manage the organization of work for the affiliated. Do these associations defend a common interest or the private benefits of each member? Is the workforce part of this process? The solidarity shown is often paternalistic. How did the members of these groups perceive this labour regulation? In different historical periods, these professional associations became weaker. For example, under Turgot in France, the political principle of economic freedom leads the government to ban them, and to reduce their authority for a long time. One of the limits of the professional groups was certainly the aspiration to lock each of them into very specific competencies, i.e. through apprenticeships, licenses or bans. Have they ever been interested in regulating the mobility of labor? Did they only consider the workforce? We know the important movements of strikes in this

sector at the end of the Ancien Régime and in the XIX century. How could these intermediate bodies, put on hold by the State, continue to play an active underground role?

3. Enterprises and markets. Many situations acted in the world of construction, from the small family structure, reduced to a father and his children (or even only to the craftsman), to the industrial multinational companies that appeared in the nineteenth century. Since when and, importantly, how the enterprises have played a guiding role in the construction field? The geographical extension of the sites, their private, public or royal natures, the complementarity of associative competences, the ability to ensure financial advances, the entrepreneurial establishment of enormous structures are all important points to investigate the actions of business companies on markets, and in particular on the regulation of labor. Due to the nature of the construction sites, whose needs vary according to the seasons and the progression of the work, the workforce employed must have specific requirements to this sector (but not only): it must immediately be available, for temporary employment, by rapid turnover of workers. How did companies ensure the availability of manpower? How was mobility regulated and managed? How did the recruitment of workforce govern the (geographical and professional) dynamics of this mobility? Did it occur through migratory chains? What kinds of labor markets and which actors act in the building industry?

Papers focusing on any geographical ground are welcome on these topics by the 15 of May 2017. Please, send an abstract of 400 words (or 2500 signs) with a title, explaining your questioning and sources and a short bio with your institutional affiliation to bernardi.philippe@wanadoo.fr, rcarvais@noos.fr and nicolettarolla@gmail.com

Philippe Bernardi
Robert Carvais
Nicoletta Rolla

Brief bibliography on the topic

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12 – 14 April 2018

Making It Up: Histories of Research Integrity and Fraud in Scientific Practice

Office for the History of Science, Uppsala University, Sweden

CFP – Deadline **15 May 2017**

We announce a conference at the Office for the History of Science, Uppsala University to take place April 12-14, 2018 on the topic of “Making It Up: Histories of Research Integrity and Fraud in Scientific Practice.” We call for papers that explore the history of research integrity and fraud, including the question of how the meaning and consequences of these terms have changed over time and the quotidian work involved in the construction of 'clean' experimental data and identifiable artifacts. One or more special issues are planned for publishable versions of accepted contributions.

Since at least the publication of works such as *Leviathan and the Air Pump*, historians have demonstrated their sensitivity to the fact that categories such as 'integrity', 'fraud' and 'misconduct' are not natural. Rather they reflect historically situated consensus regarding what constitutes - at least the appearance of - acceptable conduct in the pursuit of research and modes of reporting. Some of the most iconic controversies in the history of science have centered on the question of acceptable scientific conduct. An examination of research integrity and fraud opens up to nothing less than the history of science's moral economy: How have its institutional landscape and constraints on individual practitioners changed over time? What sorts of concrete work has this led to in the daily pursuit of 'clean' experimental data, identifiable artifacts, etc.?

The 21st century has seen a rash of high-profile cases of scientists fabricating or misrepresenting results in fields from biotechnology to social psychology. These incidents have spawned a cottage industry of metastudies claiming a “replication crisis.” Politicians, government agencies, and national academies have invoked allegations of fraud in – sometimes disingenuously – questioning scientists’ expertise and calling for greater transparency in science. Yet the same actors seem reluctant to address structural conditions that encourage fraud: competition for scarce research funding, more demanding criteria for tenure and promotion, corporate partners who demand results that can be monetized.

Historians of science and scholars in science and technology studies (STS) have a unique perspective on research integrity and fraud. Constructivist studies show that scientific practice is more ambiguous and complex than today’s fraud hunters admit. Yet the constructivist toolkit is ill-equipped to deal with outright fraud. Hence, popular histories outnumber academic studies of science’s con artists. Historians and STS scholars have also specialized so much in micro-studies that they have been slow to appreciate how systemic conditions can incentivize misconduct – leaving the issue instead to scholars employing quantitative approaches. The present environment encourages historians and STS scholars to sharpen their concepts and show what qualitative studies can reveal about scientific fraud and misconduct, on one hand, and integrity on the other.

We invite papers that focus on any historical period between the second half of the seventeenth century and the present. Geographical focus is also open; non-Western topics and transnational studies connecting the Global North and South are especially encouraged.

Topics include, but are not limited to:

- Replication: how it has been constructed, theorized, contested, evaluated
- Attribution: disputes over authorship, plagiarism, priority
- Fraud: how it has been claimed, practiced, discovered, measured, dramatized
- Social movements and scientific “integrity”: e.g., anti-vivisection and anti-nuclear movements
- Tricksterism: enacting fraud to ostensibly expose fraud (e.g., N-rays or the Sokal hoax)
- Fraud, integrity, and changes in the research system, e.g. in patenting, funding, tenure review
- Thought experiments and discovery myths: historicizing experiments described but not done
- Fraudulent institutions: fake conferences, universities, and journals

- The ambiguous and evolving politics of transparency and “open data”

Abstracts of 250 words should be submitted by 15 May 2017. Some funding is available to support participation. A selection of papers from the conference will be included in one or more special issues to be published in *History of Science*.

Send inquiries and submissions to:

Cyrus Mody - c.mody@maastrichtuniversity.nl

Otto Sibum - otto.sibum@idehist.uu.se

Willem Halffman- w.halffman@gmail.com

Lissa Roberts - l.l.roberts@utwente.nl

III. Scholarships

University of Illinois Archives, British Library, American Philosophical Society, and MIT Receive NEH Grant to Preserve the History of Cybernetics

The University of Illinois Archives has been awarded a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) to develop a prototype web-portal and analysis-engine to provide access to archival material related to the development of the iconic, multi-disciplinary field of cybernetics. The grant is part of the NEH’s Humanities Collections and Reference Resources Foundations program. The project, entitled “The Cybernetics Thought Collective: A History of Science and Technology Portal Project,” is a collaborative effort among several academic units at the University of Illinois (U of I) and three other institutions that also maintain archival records vital to the exploration of cybernetic history: the British Library, the American Philosophical Society, and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. In addition to supporting the development of a web-portal and analysis-engine, the award will enable the multi-institutional team to begin digitizing some of the archival records related to the pioneering work of U of I Electrical Engineering Professor Heinz von Foerster and his fellow cyberneticians W. Ross Ashby, Warren S. McCulloch, and Norbert Wiener.

To learn more about the project, please visit “The Cybernetics Thought Collective” project website: <https://archives.library.illinois.edu/thought-collective/>

IV. Awards

2017 Dibner Award of the Society of the History of Technology, SHOT

Deadline of application **1 May 2017**

The Society for the History of Technology (SHOT) seeks nominations for the 2017 Dibner Award to recognize excellence in museums and museum exhibits that interpret the history of technology, industry, and engineering to the general public. Nominations are due by 1 May 2017, and exhibits must have been open to the public for no more than 24 months before that date. Complete information is available at: http://www.historyoftechnology.org/about_us/awards/dibner.html

John Scholes Prize of the Journal of Transport History – Essay Competition

Deadline for application **31 July 2017**

The John Scholes Prize, of up to €275 (275 Euros), is awarded annually to the writer of a publishable paper based on original research into any aspect of the history of transport and mobility. The prize is intended to recognise budding transport historians. It may be awarded to the writer of one outstanding article, or be divided between two or more entrants. Typically, the prize is awarded for research completed as part of a PhD.

Publication in the *Journal of Transport History* will be at the discretion of the Editor and subject to the normal refereeing process.

The prize is funded by the Transport History Research Trust in memory of John Scholes. John was the first Curator of Historical Relics at the British Transport Commission. The prize is administered by the International Association for the History of Transport, Traffic and Mobility (T2M – www.t2m.org).

Eligibility

Entry is limited to researchers who, at the time of submission, are not yet in or have just commenced a permanent / tenured academic (or equivalent) position, and who are just starting to publish research.

Entries

Essays (in English, double-spaced) should not exceed 8,000 words (including footnotes). Sources must be documented fully. Entries must be submitted electronically, to arrive no later than Monday 31 July 2017.

They must not bear any reference to the author or institutional affiliation. Senior scholars will judge entries against criteria of originality, thoroughness and excellence of argument, source use, composition and illustration. The process is ‘double-blind’. The judges will not enter into correspondence.

A cover letter and a one-page CV must demonstrate eligibility for the prize.

Entries for the prize should be sent to the *JTH* Editor at jth.editor@gmail.com. The subject line of the message must read 'John Scholes Prize entry 2017'.

For more information please visit:

http://www.historyoftechnology.org/media/news_2017/2017_John_Scholes_Prize_call_for_nominations.pdf

VI. Recently Published Books

Javier León and José María Goicolea (coordinators): *Los puentes de piedra (o ladrillo) antaño y hogaño*. = *Leccciones Juanelo Turriano de historia de la ingeniería*, 8. Fundación Juanelo Turriano, (Madrid) 2017, available online:

https://issuu.com/juaneloturriano/docs/puentes_de_piedra-issuu?e=1641776/46112240&utm_source=Newsletter&utm_medium=newsletter&utm_campaign=Newsletter+119+March+2017

The eighth book of the series *Lecciones Juanelo Turriano de Historia de la Ingeniería [Juanelo Turriano lectures on the history of engineering]* is now available from Fundación Juanelo Turriano's Digital Library. *Puentes de piedra o ladrillo antaño y hogaño [Stone (or brick) bridges, yesterday and today]* contains the lectures delivered during the eponymous course held in 2016 and organised jointly by the Madrid Technical University's School of Civil Engineering and Fundación Juanelo Turriano.

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 form with a colleague who is not yet a member or ask your library to subscribe



Form for annual membership renewals / registration of new members

Annual membership includes subscription to ICOHTEC's refereed annual journal ICON, access to all back issues of ICON in electronic form via the ICOHTEC website, a monthly Newsletter, and special registration rates at the annual ICOHTEC symposium.

I wish to renew my membership / to become a new member in ICOHTEC. (Tick below the appropriate description/rate):

- An individual. Rate: (40 \$ or 30 € or equivalent) per year
- A student. Rate: (40 \$ or 30 € or equivalent for two years)
- An institution. Rate: (100 \$ or 75 € or equivalent) per year
- A library. Rate: (Europe: 36 €, Overseas 39 € or 52 \$) per year

Tick the years of membership to be paid: 2014 2015 2016 2017

I submit the total amount: _____ €//\$

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Tick the method of your payment:

- Through the PayPal option on ICOHTEC website
- Through international money transfer: Make international money transfer to:

“ICOHTEC” at Commerzbank Bochum (Husemannplatz 3-4, D-44787 Bochum, Germany):

IBAN: DE44 4304 0036 0390 2590 00; BIC: COBADEFFXXX

Through a cheque. Send the check with the appropriate sum made out to “ICOHTEC” and send to:

Dr. Lars Bluma Otmarstrasse 5, D-45131 Essen, Germany.

After filling the form, please scan and send by email to Dr. Yoel Bergman, ICOHTEC Treasurer at yoelb@protalix.com or, send a hardcopy by regular mail to Yoel Bergman, 20 Haatzmaut St., Herzliya 46789, Israel. Your filled form will facilitate sending ICONs and allocating access privileges.